

Winning a pay rise: Unions securing minimum living wages

ITUC Global Meeting – 15 November 2023

Background

Raising wages is a longstanding objective of the global labour movement, and a key component of the New Social Contract. Global wage growth has stagnated, the share of wages as a proportion of national GDP has been declining, and real wages have stalled compared to inflation, eroding workers' purchasing power and leading to huge economic insecurity for most workers. Ensuring minimum living wages is vital to addressing these challenges, along with strengthened collective bargaining.

In this virtual Global ITUC meeting, trade union participants will be able to explore the main trends experienced globally in relation to wages, including minimum wages, as well as share unions' experiences in adjusting and campaigning for pay rises. The meeting will review the results of the ITUC Global Survey reviewing trade unions' priorities and activities in relation to negotiating and campaigning for minimum living wages.

Agenda

13.30-13.45	Introduction Eric Manzi, ITUC Deputy General Secretary
13.45 – 14.30	Presentation of the results of the ITUC Global Survey on Wages Presentation by Beatrice di Padua, Economic Justice Officer, ITUC Followed by reactions from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CSTP Perú • MTUC Malaysia • Sindicatos Globales Followed by open discussion
14.30 – 15.00	Negotiating a minimum living wage - key determinants for wage setting Presentation by Daniel Kostzer, Economist, ITUC Followed by open discussion
15.00 – 15.15	Break
15.10 – 16.45	Exchange of priorities and experiences at national level: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RENGO Japan • NCL Nigeria • CATUS Serbia Followed by open discussion <i>Moderator: Beatrice di Padua, Economic Justice Officer, ITUC</i>
16.45– 17.00	Next steps and closing Alison Tate, Director, Economic and Social Policy Department, ITUC

Interpretation will be available in BSCM – EN – ES – FR

Background documents:

Report of the ITUC Global Survey on Minimum Living Wages

[Study report – Winning a pay rise](#)

[L20 brief - Addressing the cost-of-living crisis: The need to raise wages](#)