



RECLAIMING  
GROUND:  
**WINNING**  
A NEW DEAL  
FOR HEALTH

SIPTUHEALTH.IE

## Health Division Biennial Delegate Conference

Liberty Hall, Dublin 1  
13th-14th October 2016

**FINAL AGENDA**



# RECLAIMING

## GROUND:

### WINNING A NEW DEAL FOR HEALTH

#### Day 1 – 13th October 2016

- 10.30 a.m. Registration of Delegates
- 11.20 a.m. Membership Consultation Initiative Workshop
- 12.45 p.m. Tea/coffee sandwiches
- 1.30 p.m. Divisional President, Padraig Peyton, welcomes delegates to Conference
- 1.35 p.m. Screening of Health Division video
- 1.40 p.m. SIPTU Divisional Organiser, Paul Bell to address Conference
- 2.00 p.m. SIPTU General Secretary, Joe O'Flynn to address Conference
- 2.25 p.m. Presentation to Eileen Murphy on behalf of SIPTU Health Division (appreciation of Pat Murphy)
- 2.30 p.m. Screening of Ambulance video
- 2.35 p.m. Motions 1, 2, 3, 4 Proposed, Seconded, Debated
- 3.35 p.m. Calais Jungle Volunteer, Federica Pipolo, to address Conference
- 4.00 p.m. Ilias Kondylis, Senior Lecturer, The London School of Medicine, to address Conference on the impact of austerity and privatisation in Greece
- 4.25 p.m. Motions 5, 6, 7 Proposed, Seconded, Debated
- 4.55 p.m. Honorary National Secretary of SIPTU Retired Members Section, Paddy Moran to address Conference
- 5.00 p.m. Mathias Maucher, EPSU Policy Officer, Health and Social Services, to address Conference on TTIP/CETA and its potential impact on public health services
- 5.30 p.m. Dr Guillermo Ruben, La Federación de Asociaciones de Trabajadores de la Sanidad Argentina (FATSA), to address Conference on multinationalisation of health services in South America
- 6.00 p.m. Conference closes with screening of "Supporting Quality" Video

*Conference adjourns no later than 6.00 p.m.  
Dinner available from 6.30 p.m. in the Social Hall*

#### Day 2 – 14th October 2016

- 9.00 a.m. Pre-Registration
- 9.20 a.m. Screening of Cuban Solidarity video
- 9.30 a.m. *sharp* Motions 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 Proposed, Seconded, Debated
- 10.25 a.m. Screen of ID Sector video
- 10.30 a.m. Patricia King, ICTU General Secretary, to address conference on the Future of Health Care in Ireland
- 11.00 a.m. Joe Cunningham, SIPTU Head of Organising to address Conference and launch SIPTU Health App.
- 11.30 a.m. Natalie Swan, UniCare Policy Officer, and Adrian Durtschi, Director of UniCare, to address Conference
- 12.00 p.m. Gene Mealy, SIPTU Vice President to address conference on Public Service Pay Commission
- 12.25 p.m. Screening of HCA video
- 12.30 p.m. Professor Karen Spilsbury, Investment Chair in Nursing Research, University of Leeds, to address Conference
- 1.00 p.m. Jack O'Connor, SIPTU General President, to close Conference
- 1.45 p.m. Special Screening of 1916 Centenary video

*Conference closes no later than 2.00 p.m.*



# Motions

## MOTION 1

Conference calls on the National Executive Council to confront the Government on the issues of Pay Restoration and Pay Progression in future negotiations aimed at agreeing a successor agreement to the Lansdowne Road Agreement and that such negotiations must commence in the first half of 2017 in recognition of the national economic recovery which our members' sacrifices made possible.

**Submitted by the Divisional Committee**

## MOTION 2

Conference calls on the National Executive Council to insist that future negotiations on a successor agreement to the Lansdowne Road Agreement must achieve the elimination of the two tier pay system and full restoration of allowances and also the re-establishment of overtime rates to that prior to the implementation of Public Sector Agreements negotiated under the auspices of the FEMPI legislation.

**Submitted by the Divisional Committee**

## MOTION 3

Conference calls on the National Executive Council to immediately engage the HSE and the Government for the purpose of securing the right of members employed in Support Staff Grades and all health workers to have the right to remain in employment beyond the stated retirement age of 65 in recognition of the Government policy to eliminate the national transition pension, without the destruction of their existing contract of employment.

**Submitted by Support Sector Committee**

## MOTION 4

That the National Ambulance Sector Committee and its members fully support the Health Divisions' campaign on winning a new deal for health workers. To reward SIPTU Ambulance professionals for the contribution they make to society and to end the two-tier pay-scale for recently recruited ambulance professionals in all grades. We call on the National Executive Council to support our members campaign for pay restoration, pay progression and pay justice for all our Ambulance members.

**Submitted by the National Ambulance Sector Committee**

## MOTION 5

While Conference acknowledges that some progress has been made, Conference remains extremely concerned about the proposed Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) free trade treaty. Conference has similar concerns over current negotiations for the proposed Trade in Services Agreement (TISA), and the recently agreed, Comprehensive Economic Trade Agreement (CETA). Conference calls on the National Executive Council to resist TTIP in its present form and to campaign for the protection of public services from the multinationalisation and to promote decent jobs and growth and safeguard labour, consumer, environmental and health and safety standards, and that these values will be the cornerstone to any potential agreement. Conference calls for continuation of lobbying, campaigning and negotiating on these matters, in alliance with the ICTU, ETUC and AFLCIO and other civil society organisations with similar views.

**Submitted by the Divisional Committee**

## MOTION 6

Conference calls on the NEC to make all representations possible, both nationally and internationally, to help address and resolve the plight of refugees. In particular, it must be highlighted that steps need to be taken to assist refugees in terms of their health and living conditions, to speed up the process whereby they can achieve official refugee status within the EU and to urgently address the precarious position of unaccompanied minors by ensuring asylum status is granted to members of this group in a swift manner. We also call on the NEC to call upon our own government to honour its commitments to house and assist those left homeless and without a nation due to brutality and war.

**Submitted by the Divisional Committee**

## MOTION 7

The Retired Members' Section of SIPTU calls on the Health Division to actively support their lobbying of Government to initiate the development of community nursing homes that will be under the control/ownership of the HSE and to ensure that the investment for the upgrading of existing facilities and the building of new facilities is to be a priority in the capital programme.

**Submitted by the Retired Members' Section**



## MOTION 8

Conference calls on the National Executive Council to support a campaign demanding that the Government give priority to the regulation of Health Care Assistants supported by the necessary investment in ongoing education and training in recognition of the role and responsibilities they carry out in the various healthcare settings.

**Submitted by the Care Sector**

## MOTION 9

Conference calls on the National Executive Council to invest in a Long Term Organising Strategy to build collective strength through organising new and existing Health Care Assistants so we can become the leading contributor to the professionalisation of their role in a national European and international context.

SIPTU cannot rely on the organised public sector alone to create density among Health Care Assistants, and with the potential for new types of services to spring up, run and staffed by the private sector we need to meet the Health Care Assistants where they are educated and trained.

We believe we should have a core group of specially trained Organisers to visit each Health Care training/education facility to create a data base of student members, with appropriate follow up and support, so we can build long term SIPTU association with Health Care Assistants – increasing collective strength and ensuring density and influence in the SIPTU Health Care Sector for years to come.

**Submitted by the Care Sector**

## MOTION 10

As a result of policies pursued over the last eight years, the Irish public health system has not been able to retain our world class educated nurse, midwife and allied health professional graduates. Conference calls on the National Executive Council to pursue a claim for a robust review of all entitlements, including supports for further education, afforded to these grades to ensure that they are competitive with those offered and rewarded both within the private sector and abroad.

**Submitted by the AHP & Nurse and Midwife Sector**

## MOTION 11

Conference calls on the National Executive Council to campaign for a systematic review of medical, surgical, IT and diagnostic equipment to ensure that investment for replacement and upgrade are prioritised and appropriate to the needs of the service.

**Submitted by the AHP Professional Sector**

## MOTION 12

Owing to the various damning reports from monitoring bodies such as HIQA, through issues such as training deficits, inadequate staffing levels or inappropriate care environments, conference calls on the National Executive Council to demand an urgent review of existing funding levels and workforce planning activity to ensure that services within acute, primary and social care services are appropriate to the needs of the public and necessary supports for staff.

**Submitted by the Nursing and Midwifery Sector**

## MOTION 13

Conference calls on the National Executive Council to insist that the HSE and the Government create and implement policies to ensure that Section 39 Organisations adopt transparent governance systems and that such organisations conform with HSE norms in the area of employee contracts and employment rights.

**Submitted by Support Sector Committee**

## MOTION 14

Conference calls on the National Executive Council to support a campaign by SIPTU members employed in the Intellectual Disability Sector to force employers to recognise, respect and value their role. This campaign would include inter alia

- Setting up of a joint review of the operation by the employers of the Trust in Care Policy.
- Setting up of a joint review of the Assault at Work scheme for I.D. workers and the provision of proper protections and support for staff in the workplace.
- An evaluation of the work carried out by support staff within the I.D. Sector, together with agreement on registration and minimum standards and educational opportunities for those employed within the Sector.
- An agreed protocol for the decongregation of residential settings and adequate funding for same.

**Submitted by the ID Sector**



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