



PUBLIC SERVICES INTERNATIONAL

ASIA-PACIFIC REGIONAL ORGANISATION

Regional Secretary: KATSUHIKO SATO E-mail: katsuhiko.sato@world-psi.org

SOUTH EAST ASIA SUB-REGIONAL OFFICE

Sub-Regional Secretary: KATHERINE LOH E-mail: katherine.loh@world-psi.org

Address: Wisma AUPE, 295 Upper Paya Lebar Road, Singapore 534929

Tel: (65) 6282 3219 Fax: (65) 6280 4919 Website: www.world-psi.org

11 February 2009

Community & Public Service Union
State Public Services Federation Group
(CPSU-SPSF)
Level 4/160 Clarence Street
Sydney, NSW 2000
Australia

Dear Colleagues,

I am writing to you as a result of the news received on the devastating bush fires that have caused great hardship in the State of Victoria thus affecting the PSI Affiliates across the Asia Pacific Region.

The PSI in the Region and Globally wish to express their deepest sympathy to Australia, PSI Affiliates, their Members, and the Community, for the great loss of life and property as well as the challenges you now face, our thoughts and prayers are with you all.

The PSI has also been reminded of the many actions of the Australian Union Movement's membership, and PSI Union affiliated membership, who have volunteered as Rural Fire Services members fighting the bush fires to protect their communities. We understand that these volunteer bush fire fighters make up the majority of fire fighters, along with added support from the full-time professional services.

The PSI is mindful of the great support and assistance which PSI affiliates in the Region have received from Australian Unions in the past, in particular the work of the ASU/CEPU/CPSU-SPSF. It is now time for these Unions and the PSI in general to both express our condolences and thoughts at the time of tragedy. PSI wishes to make a contribution to the Community relief efforts and emergency fund by way of financial contribution to the ACTU Victorian Bush Fire Appeal. We will arrange this contribution in the name of PSI amounting to 10,000 Euro. We are also asking PSI Affiliates to forward letters of condolences to the Australian Affiliates, the ACTU and financial donations direct to the ACTU fund.

PSI Affiliates also express their condolences and thoughts to PSI Affiliate members and officers who have been injured or suffered a loss as a result of the fire. It would be greatly appreciated if you could ensure that your membership and leaders are aware of our thoughts.

Yours in Sympathy,



Katsuhiko Sato
Regional Secretary
PSI-APRO

cc:

Peter Waldorff, PSI General Secretary

Annie Geron, Co-chair of APREC

Kenji Okabe, Co-chair of APREC

Daisuke Yoshikawa, Coordinator for the PSI Asia Pacific Firefighters & Ambulance
Workers Network