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In reply please quote:

Circular N° 23(2013)

**To all affiliated organisations**  
**To all Global Union Federations and TUAC**  
**To all Youth Committee Members**

*For information:*

**To all General Council Members**  
**To all Women's Committee Members**

EQ

7 August 2013

## **International Youth Day – 12 August 2013 - “Get Organised!” Platform**

Dear Colleagues,

In the current context of scarcity of jobs, young people are the group of workers most hard hit by unemployment and underemployment. Worldwide 74 million young people are without jobs while 150 million young people in developing countries are considered working poor. For those who have a job, they are often trapped in short-term, low-paid jobs or in the informal economy. An entire generation of young people is being left behind and the consequences of this for societies and the young people themselves will be severe. We cannot afford a lost generation. Young workers are our future and we need to offer them the right place where they can voice their demands.

The ITUC would like to mark International Youth Day by mobilising all its affiliates to reiterate their commitment and efforts to the organising and recruitment of young workers. We also kindly ask you to re-focus your programmes and budget for organising young workers.

To support these efforts, on August 12, the ITUC will launch the “Get Organised!” Platform, endorsed by the 7th ITUC Youth Committee (Brussels, 11-12 April 2013). The objective is to promote the organisation and recruitment of young workers in unions by mapping, sharing and promoting innovative and successful strategies and activities. The Platform aims to build a global network of young trade union activists and organisers from the ITUC affiliates who are willing to:

- Share their experiences and best practices on organising/recruiting young workers;
- Strengthen their current organising campaign(s) targeting young workers;
- Launch organising campaign(s) for young workers

The Platform will also encourage all unions to be more responsive to the needs and interests of young workers, including in bargaining agendas and decision-making bodies.

The expected outcomes of the “Get Organised!” Platform include:

- An increase in the number of young women and men joining the union;
- An increase in the number and quality of collective agreements covering young people’s particular needs;
- An increase in the number of young workers taking part in decision-making processes including in collective bargaining teams.

Organising young workers is and will remain a crucial issue of relevance to the future of our movement and the “Get Organised!” Platform will contribute to the achievement of our common goal of **Building Workers’ Power** as agreed by the 10<sup>th</sup> General Council meeting (Amman, 30 October – 1 November 2012).

“Get Organised!” updates will be shared on the ITUC webpage and on a “Get Organised!” Facebook page.

I kindly invite you to join the “Get Organised!” Platform by filling in the attached sign-up form, responding to the short questionnaire and returning it to [youth@ituc-csi.org](mailto:youth@ituc-csi.org)

Counting on your support,

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'A. B...', written in a cursive style.

General Secretary

Encl.