



A New Suncorp Agreement 2010

INFORMATION SHEET

The current Suncorp Working Together Agreement expires on June 30 and the FSU is currently in negotiations for a new Enterprise Agreement at Suncorp Group. This is the first time that Suncorp will bring together all employees across the Group under the one set of conditions with the potential for change for many.

Your Enterprise Agreement is the legally enforceable document that sets out your pay and conditions (including hours of work and leave arrangements), workloads and how your targets operate, and what happens if your position is made redundant or affected by off shoring.

This time the FSU will be at the negotiating table.

The new workplace laws, the Fair Work Act that replaced old unfair Work Choices legislation provides a much fairer framework for bargaining and means for the first time that employers, including Suncorp have to bargain with Unions in 'good faith'.

But to get the Agreement that Suncorp Group employees deserve we need to do more than just be at the table, we need as many people as possible to join the FSU and participate in the campaign.

Steps to a new Agreement

The following is a list of the stages involved in getting a new Agreement. We are now at stages 3 and 4.

1 Consultation:
Talking with members and collating the issues that matter to you and will form the Union's claim for a new Agreement.

2 Endorsement:
Presenting the results of the consultation in meetings of members to make sure that what the Union will be pursuing is what members want.

3 Negotiations:
The Unions negotiation team will consist of full-time FSU officials and Suncorp Group FSU Representatives. Negotiations can be expected to take some months.

4 Campaigning:
During negotiations we will be asking members to participate in activities to support the key issues. We have to demonstrate how strongly members feel about particular issues. Whether its pay, workloads, targets or job security we need to highlight the merits of our claim.

5 Ballot:
The ballot is the final stage of the process. All employees are given an opportunity to vote to decide if they accept the proposed Agreement. If the majority of employees support the Agreement is then filed with Fair Work Australia for approval.

At every stage of the campaign we need to be building a stronger, more inclusive and active Union. A stronger Union will result in a better Agreement at Suncorp.

This requires that we build the Unions network of Reps and contacts so that we can ensure as many people as possible have a chance to contribute to the process.

We also need to encourage non-members to join the Union and support the campaign. By joining the Union non-members will be able to have a say in the new Agreement.

FSU membership includes your right to have the Union represent you in bargaining. We have an opportunity to negotiate an Agreement that will preserve the best conditions from all the Agreements across the Group. However, we can not do it without your support.