

## **KOSC (Korean Street Vendors' Confederation), South Korea**

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Formed in October 1988.

**Membership:** Street and market vendors. Organised by regions (a region has more than 50 members) and branches (less than 50 members). KOSC was formed after street vendors held a Convention to Protect Street Vendors' Right to Live in Seoul in 1988. The KOSC is composed of more than 30 local federations which have their own branches, with 5 681 members. Members pay their fees to branches, branches pay a portion to their local federations, and local federations to the centre of the KOSC.

### **Objectives:**

- To stop the repression against street traders and obtain the legal rights of street vendors to earn a living;
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- To build street vendors' unity and the legal recognition of NFSVK;
- To obtain free medical service for the poor;
- To obtain social security for the elderly;
- To acquire permanent rental housing for street vendors without homes;
- To acquire a cost of living allowance from the government for those selling their goods for less than 180 days or who earn below minimum cost of living;
- To realise the free education for the children of street vendors;
- To acquire free credit as street vendors' seed money from the government;
- To eliminate all laws, institutions and traditional practices which oppress street vendors and deny them their right to free political activity;
- To eliminate underemployment which continuously creates street vendors and the poor;
- To support social responsibility of street vendors ie 1 stall for 1 family, prohibiting the buying or selling of a stall, cleaning near the stall;
- To work for the democratisation and unification of Korea and progress of the society.

**Office Bearers:** Chairperson - Lee Pil-du; Co-ordinator - Shin Hie-Chul.

KOSC website: <http://www.nojum.org/2010/>