

- **T.Union COP10 Submission**  
[http://www.global-unions.org/pdf/ohsewpP\\_8a.EN.pdf](http://www.global-unions.org/pdf/ohsewpP_8a.EN.pdf)
- **TU Country-by-Country Climate/Energy Profiles**  
[http://www.global-unions.org/pdf/ohsewpP\\_9a.EN.pdf](http://www.global-unions.org/pdf/ohsewpP_9a.EN.pdf)

## ***COP10 T. Union News***

*(accumulation of all – from most recent)*

[http://www.global-unions.org/pdf/ohsewpP\\_8b.EN.pdf](http://www.global-unions.org/pdf/ohsewpP_8b.EN.pdf)

COP10-December 11, 2004

### **TRADE UNIONS APPLAUD ARTICLE 6 INITIATIVES FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING AND PUBLIC AWARENESS ON CLIMATE CHANGE**

BUENOS AIRES: Trade union delegates attending COP 10, the Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in Buenos Aires, Argentina welcomed the Secretariat proposals to promote action on Article 6, the section of the Convention that addresses capacity-building in the form of education, training, public awareness, participation, information access and international cooperation.

Speaking after an Article 6 Side Event at COP 10, a representative of trade unions said they intend to be active in both the Regional Workshops being organized by the UNFCCC for this purpose; one in Uruguay in March 2005, and another to follow in Japan later in the year. As well, they look forward to assisting in the construction of a model database for an ‘Article 6 Information Clearing House’, as part of the 5-Year Programme of Work established in 2001 at COP 8 in New Delhi, India.

Speaking for the trade union delegation, Winston Gereluk said that far too little attention has been given to this Article, which consists of only two sub-sections in the Convention.

Education, training and public awareness are critical to attempts in reforming patterns of production and consumption that are contributing to global climate change, he said. They are the basic ingredients for building political momentum for change, which will only take place on the basis of an informed and politically active population.

“Workers and trade unions are important in this process as key players in debates that have pitted jobs against progress – totally erroneously in many cases,” said

Gereluk. He emphasized the core work of unions in the area of education, training, public awareness and participation”.

“Trade unions are particularly interested in working with the Secretariat, both to construct a model of a clearing house, and later on, in the second phase, to supply information as partners and as registered users. We have been building our own version of an ‘Article 6 Clearing House’ as a part of our involvement with the Commission on Sustainable Development, and more lately, with the UNFCCC.”

Earlier this month the trade unions released a new version of country-by-country climate/energy profiles that they are circulating at COP10. These can be viewed at:

**English:**

[http://www.global-unions.org/pdf/ohsewpP\\_9a.EN.pdf](http://www.global-unions.org/pdf/ohsewpP_9a.EN.pdf)

**Spanish:**

[http://www.global-unions.org/pdf/ohsewpP\\_9a.SP.pdf](http://www.global-unions.org/pdf/ohsewpP_9a.SP.pdf)

Gereluk said these are of particular interest because they include indicators for socio-economic security issues associated with climate change adaptation and mitigation. “We have shown how useful a flexible and scalable database can be as a driver for information gathering, sharing and as a basis for action campaigns.”

### **Trade union side event 6pm Thursday 16 December at COP10**

The Trade Union delegation at COP10 invites country delegates, representatives of international agencies, NGO’s and other actors to a side event on “The World of Work and Climate Implementation and Adaptation” to discuss their initiatives and ideas, including the Trade Union Energy/Climate Change Profiles. The side event will be hosted by the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU), European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC) and Trade Union Advisory Committee to the OECD (TUAC).

A new labour foundation **SustainLabour** will be conducting a workshop on Clean Development Mechanisms for trade union leaders during the last week of COP10.

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COP10-November 30, 2004

## **TRADE UNIONS TO CIRCULATE COUNTRY-BY-COUNTRY PROFILES AT COP10 GLOBAL CLIMATE MEETING IN ARGENTINA**

Trade unions attending the climate change COP10 meeting in Buenos Aires, Argentina will be presenting delegates with a first draft of country-by-country profiles on energy and climate change, thereby initiating a process in which national governments will be invited to participate to develop social and employment measures to deal with mitigation and adaptation impacts on workers and other vulnerable groups.

These profiles are intended to provide a basis for comparable national information to facilitate dialogue in each country between the governments, trade unions and other groups on the social dimension of climate change and related sustainable consumption-production issue (SCP). They grew out of a broader country profiling process begun at the UN Commission on Sustainable Development last year.

Government representatives and other actors in climate change meetings are invited to join trade unions around the world to provide inputs that will improve the long-term usefulness of these profiles. After COP10, a new version of the profiles will be produced and released, with a fuller version for COP11 in one year's time, and at each subsequent COP thereafter. At this time, the profiles have been tabled with the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in draft form, and can be viewed at:

English:

[http://www.global-unions.org/pdf/ohsewpP\\_9a.EN.pdf](http://www.global-unions.org/pdf/ohsewpP_9a.EN.pdf)

Spanish:

[http://www.global-unions.org/pdf/ohsewpP\\_9a.SP.pdf](http://www.global-unions.org/pdf/ohsewpP_9a.SP.pdf)

The current profiles represent that culmination of a decade-long process of measurement, reporting and evaluation on each country's climate change performance according to social and employment indicators. Although yet in an incomplete form, they currently contain country-by-country information on:

- a) Ratification or adoption of selected international Instruments;
- b) Provisions to facilitate trade union and worker participation in climate related decisions;

c) Initial data towards a framework for social and employment transition programmes to address climate change and mitigation impacts;

d) Baseline information on Parties' performance on production and consumption issues, as well as on Kyoto obligations;

e) An initial framework for employer accountability and corporate social responsibility related to climate change; and

f) National trade union reporting to UNFCCC on climate and energy issues.

The Trade Union Energy/Climate Change profiles were produced by the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU) and the Trade Union Advisory Committee to the OECD (TUAC) for SUSTAINLABOUR, a new labour foundation promoting trade union interests in sustainable development. SustainLabour will also be conducting a trade union workshop on Clean Development Mechanisms during the last week of COP10.

### **Notice: Trade union side event 6pm Thursday 16 December at COP10**

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### **The trade union submission to COP10:**

"SECURING CONSENSUS THROUGH SOCIAL & EMPLOYMENT TRANSITION FOR CLIMATE CHANGE" is available at:

[http://www.global-unions.org/pdf/ohsewpP\\_8a.EN.pdf](http://www.global-unions.org/pdf/ohsewpP_8a.EN.pdf)

### **All previous trade union information releases for COP10:**

Are also available at:[http://www.global-unions.org/pdf/ohsewpP\\_8b.EN.pdf](http://www.global-unions.org/pdf/ohsewpP_8b.EN.pdf)

## **TRADE UNIONS CHALLENGE COP10 TO INSPIRE PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR CLIMATE MEASURES BY ADDRESSING SOCIAL & EMPLOYMENT ISSUES**

BRUSSELS/PARIS – Three of the world’s largest trade union bodies are urging government representatives attending the next climate change Conference of the Parties (COP10) 6-17 December in Argentina to firmly entrench social and employment transition measures in their negotiations, as a way of preventing further slippage from WSSD commitments, and in particular to arrest a trend toward confining climate change responses to disaster management at the national level.

Guy Ryder, General Secretary of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU), John Evans, General Secretary of the Trade Union Advisory Committee to the OECD (TUAC) and John Monks, General Secretary of the European Trade Union Confederation are convinced that an insufficient focus by past COP’s on social issues has led to a situation where effective mitigation and prevention responses are in danger of being sidelined by countries in favour of more limited crisis management approaches.

The world’s trade unions, they say, want to work with governments and other stakeholders to reverse this trend – and this especially as a lead up beyond the first commitment period after 2012.

The trade union submission to COP10 is attached:

**“SECURING CONSENSUS THROUGH SOCIAL & EMPLOYMENT TRANSITION FOR CLIMATE CHANGE”.**

It is also available at:  
[http://www.global-unions.org/pdf/ohsewpP\\_8a.EN.pdf](http://www.global-unions.org/pdf/ohsewpP_8a.EN.pdf)

According to Ryder, the coming into force of the Kyoto Protocol provides COP10 negotiators with a significant opportunity to widen the scope for mitigation, adaptation and greenhouse gas reduction measures, and to lead national response strategies that go far beyond the type of risk management

objectives that are narrowly defined by private insurance and trading schemes.

“As important as these may be, much more must be done to highlight the role of the State, especially in regard to investment, procurement, regulation, employment transition and overall coordination of activities” said the union leaders. “We therefore encourage a much broader and more balanced approach towards mitigation, adaptation and response measures”.

### **EMPLOYMENT AND SOCIAL TRANSITION: KEYS TO EFFECTIVE RESPONSE**

In their Submission, trade unions make the case for outcomes that encourage nations to give full attention to livelihood, equitable access, human displacement and social security issues within their terms of references. All of these, they argue, require that employment transition be incorporated as a central component of any scenario for change, and as THE means of addressing world poverty.

“Positive advances towards these ends at COP10 could finally provide trade union and community leaders with the concrete tools they need to convince the public that support for UNFCCC will translate into positive employment impacts in the long term, and with assurances that their members’ livelihoods will not be jeopardized by measures to adapt to or combat climate change,” said the labour leaders. “Proper employment transition programmes must be a basic ingredient of any national and international strategies, supported by trustworthy financial and economic instruments which are integrated with emissions trading and related Kyoto mechanisms.”

“Far too little has been done by UNFCCC meetings in the past to assure working people that their employment and broader social concerns are being addressed. As a result, public support for action on climate change continues to be inhibited by fear of loss of livelihood, lowering of living standards, and perceived threats to vital support systems and other elements of the social fabric. The social impacts of climate change and mitigation measures continue to be misunderstood, and it is hard to expect trust and acceptance in such a climate.”

“With the ratification of the Kyoto Accord by the Russian Federation, COP10 has been granted an historical opportunity to inspire new approaches for sustainable development. Negotiators can best capitalise on this by working in a determined fashion to integrate social and employment factors into mitigation programmes for climate change, as well as adaptation and response measures.”

**TRADE UNION WORKSHOP AND SIDE-EVENT  
TO PROMOTE DISCUSSION OF CLIMATE  
CHANGE, THE WORLD OF WORK & TRADE  
UNION ACTION**

On Thursday 16 December, trade unions will host a side event at COP10, in which country delegates, experts, and representatives of international agencies will join with trade union delegates to discuss climate change issues affecting the world of work. The event, entitled Climate Change and the World of Work, will feature proposals for cooperative endeavours that would allow trade unions to play a more positive role in building support for climate change measures, at the same time as they protect the interests of working people.

The Side Event will also mark the culmination of a 3-day workshop that will equip trade unionists from across the South American continent with some of the tools they need to play a proactive role in negotiations involving the Clean Development and other Kyoto Mechanisms. The workshop will be sponsored by SustainLabour, an international trade union-based foundation dedicated to strengthening the social and labour dimension, and to promoting the effective involvement of trade unionists in sustainable development.