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CO11/MOP1 Trade Union Statement

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Secrétaire Confédéral, Fédération Des Syndicats De Belgique

The Global Unions

Thank you Chair and honorable delegates. I am pleased to address you today on behalf of Global Unions¹ and their 180 million members. Workers in all parts of the world support the measures resulting from the work done at COP11 and afterward.

The largest-ever trade union delegation (60-members) joined the proceedings of the last two weeks to organize the following:

- A **country-by-country lobby** of delegations, which translated into meetings with individual governments or groups of governments;
- A news briefing to highlight the unified position of Global Unions with our U.S. counterparts, calling for **strong climate change targets for Kyoto's 2nd period**;
- A Side-Event on "National Frameworks for the World of Work" to highlight **model agreements between trade unions and the governments of Argentina, Belgium, Spain and the UK**;
- With the support of SustainLabour – an international trade union foundation - a one day orientation meeting with **trade unions from 15 countries** to clarify our climate change priorities and actions; and
- A series of caucus meetings with Major Groups and other representatives to better understand the **barriers and challenges for developing countries** to set and implement their own targets.

COP/MOP must integrate employment and social transition in future negotiations. At COP11 trade unions:

- Provided examples showing why the **world of work and the world's workplaces** need to be a focus for implementing strong targets;
- Showed why workers & trade unions must become involved with employers in setting **workplace targets & be engaged in monitoring, reporting and making change**;
- Highlighted employment displacement and livelihood loss as the most significant barriers to worker engagement, pointing to the need for **'Just Employment Transition'** measures to be integrated into national policy.

The trade union statement for COP11 is available:
http://www.global-unions.org/pdf/ohsewpP_8h.EN.pdf .

A compilation of COP11 trade union news statements:
http://www.global-unions.org/pdf/ohsewpP_8j.EN.pdf

In preparation for COP12/MOP2 we and our members at the national level will:

- Provide input to national governments about the recently adopted report by non-Annex 1 countries, with respect to national communications and sustainable development. Income generation, employment, access to vital resources and services, as well as participation issues of Agenda 21 will be matters of priority;
- Become involved in the SBSTA five-year work programme and upcoming workshops by bringing into scope the work of the recently announced EU government/trade union research undertaking on the employment implications of climate change;
- Provide input into the New Delhi work programme concerning the skills and activities of trade unions related to training, education and public awareness;
- Participate in any review process under Article 9 of the Kyoto Protocol by providing input to national governments and the Secretariat, as they compile relevant scientific, social and economic information;
- Integrate the trade union country-by-country profiles on climate and energy within the new UNFCCC Information Network Clearing House (INCH).

We trade unions call on governments to:

Incorporate social & employment provisions within implementation plans for the current and 2nd commitment periods;

Foster worker & trade union participation, through tangible steps for education, training & awareness raising, and

Agree on strong climate change targets for Kyoto's 2nd period.

¹ At COP11 Global Unions include the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU), Trade Union Advisory Committee to the OECD (TUAC) and European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC).