

Van: Media@etuc.org <Media@etuc.org>

Aan: veerle.solia@amsab.be

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Onderwerp: ETUC welcomes EU Parliament decisions on trade and sustainable development



**ETUC WELCOMES EU PARLIAMENT
DECISIONS ON TRADE AND SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT**

26 November 2010

**European Trade Union Confederation [ETUC]
Confédération européenne des syndicats [CES]**

The European Trade Union Confederation

(ETUC) welcomes the call by the European Parliament for clauses on human rights, social rights and environment standards to be included in all international trade agreements.

John Monks, ETUC General Secretary, said: "The European and international trade union movement has long called for the inclusion of social clauses in international trade agreements. The massive majority given by Parliament yesterday to three ground-breaking reports linking EU trade policy to the respect of labour and environmental standards and Corporate Social Responsibility is a great step in the right direction. The powers extended to the Parliament by the Lisbon Treaty will also help it ensure that trade agreements negotiated by the Commission are in line with our objectives. This is a strong message to third countries currently negotiating Free Trade Agreements, notably India, as well as to the Commission, that the respect of International Labour Organisation standards and the inclusion of Decent Work objectives must be at the centre of those agreements".

The ETUC exists to speak with a single voice, on behalf of the common interests of workers, at European level. Founded in 1973, it now represents 82 trade union organisations in 36 European countries, plus 12 industry-based federations.

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For more information :

Patricia Grillo.

ETUC Head of Press and Communications

+ 32 (0)2 224 04 30

+ 32 (0)477 770 164

E-mail : Pgrillo@etuc.org

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