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Onderwerp: Progress on climate and just transition in Cancun, but unions demand greater Government efforts on the way to Durban

**PROGRESS ON CLIMATE AND JUST
TRANSITION IN CANCUN, BUT UNIONS
DEMAND GREATER GOVERNMENT
EFFORTS ON THE WAY TO DURBAN**

13 December 2010

Trade unions have welcomed the final agreement reached at the UN climate conference in Cancun, one that includes trade union demands for a just

transition, while calling on all governments – particularly the most developed - to raise their sights by the time of the next meeting in Durban, South Africa in one year's time.

"In particular, we want developed countries to commit to ambitious emission reductions under a legally binding framework. Climate finance needs to respond to the needs of the poorest of the world", said Sharan Burrow General Secretary of the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC). "Millions of workers and their families face destruction of their lands and livelihoods from extreme weather events and some 220 million are unemployed and desperate for a secure, decent and green job."

"We must act at once to introduce instruments that can secure the necessary funding, including a tax on financial transactions. This will in turn help give concrete shape in Durban to the sustainable development goals enshrined in the Cancun agreement, as well as to tackle proactively both global warming and social inequalities," John Monks, ETUC General Secretary, declared.

Trade unions particularly welcome the references in the text to Just Transition which creates decent work and good quality jobs, a crucial concept for building workers' support for climate action.

"At the same time, governments must raise the level of ambition" concluded Sharan Burrow. "They must return to the negotiating table as soon as possible, and rectify the imbalances and omissions following Cancun. Durban must be the destination for serious climate action with a fair ambitious".



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

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 83 trade union organisations in 36 European countries, plus 12 industry-based federations.

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