



TRADE UNION PRIORITIES FOR THE NEGOTIATING TEXT OF THE UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE (UNFCCC) JULY/AUGUST 2009

For more information, please contact the ITUC on: +33 6 77 69 94 29 or anabella.roseberg@ituc-csi.org

This document is available at <http://climate.ituc-csi.org/IMG/pdf/COP15-TUdemands2.pdf>

We call on governments to:

1 Support the references to the need for a “just transition of the workforce” that appear in the current negotiating text¹

- › **SUPPORT** paragraph 4 in the “Shared Vision” section, page 9

“An economic transition is needed that shifts global economic growth patterns towards a low emission economy based on more sustainable production and consumption, promoting sustainable lifestyles and climate-resilient development while ensuring a just transition of the workforce. The active participation of all stakeholders in this transition should be sought (...)”

- › **SUPPORT** the preambular paragraph to the section on economic and social consequences of response measures, page 143

“Mechanisms should be developed to allow for mitigating the impact of the response measures on the productive workforces, promoting a gradual and just transition in the most impacted economic sectors and contributing to building new capacities for both production and service related jobs”.

2 Add a definition for “stakeholders” or “civil society”, following agreed definitions for Agenda 21 Major Groups or UNFCCC constituencies

- › **ADD A PARAGRAPH**, defining “stakeholder” as in previously agreed UN decisions, as follows:

“Stakeholder” means an organization representing one of the Agenda 21 Major Groups of civil society, namely: (i) business and industry, (ii) children and youth, (iii) farmers, (iv) indigenous people, (v) local authorities, (vi) NGOs, (vii) scientific and technological community, (viii) women, and (ix) workers and trade unions. All of them are relevant stakeholders regarding climate change and climate-related policies.

- › **SUPPORT** proposals which introduce the need for consultation with, participation and /or an implementation role of civil society in the different sections of the text, i.e.:

Paragraph 4, in the shared vision (page 9); Paragraph 18-19, and 30-(d) on adaptation (page 26, 29 and 52); Paragraph 108 on REDD+ (page 113); Paragraph 129, add consultation with civil society in Sectoral approaches (page 130); Paragraph 174/ option 1 for the chapeau on finance (page 160)

ON ADAPTATION

3 Strengthen social protection systems as a key strategy for reducing vulnerability and adapting to climate change and mention precarious workers as vulnerable populations

- › **ADD A SUBPARAGRAPH** (f)3 under paragraph 24: “To promote enabling activities to support adaptation action, all developing country Parties should” (Page 42):

Identify and establish measures and mechanisms to link micro-insurance with the need for creating and/or reinforcing existing social protection measures, especially at the community level²

- › **ADD A REFERENCE** to precarious workers in Paragraph 22 (j) (ii) (Page 35)

[The implementation of the adaptation framework shall (j) address the concerns and/or build resilience of, inter alia, (ii) [[Particularly vulnerable populations, groups and communities], especially women, children, the elderly and indigenous peoples, local communities, rural populations, [precarious workers], (...);]

4 Support investment in public infrastructure and decent work promotion as part of adaptation strategies

- › **INSERT A REFERENCE** to public infrastructure and decent work in Paragraph 30 (d) (page 52)

Funding on adaptation should be provided for (d) Resilience-building activities (...) including for sustainable livelihood [and decent work], (...) building community capacities and [public] infrastructures, access to technologies and innovations, etc.

¹ All references in this circular apply to the June 2009 negotiating text: <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2009/awglca6/eng/inf01.pdf>

² Recommendation coming from the workshop organized under the Nairobi Work Programme on “Increasing Economic Resilience to climate change and reducing reliance on vulnerable economic sectors, including through economic diversification”, held in Cairo, April 2009

5 Include the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work

- › **INSERT A REFERENCE** to the ILO Declaration On Fundamental Principles And Rights At Work in Paragraph 19 – Subparagraph 22 (a) Alternative 4 (page 32)

[The implementation of the adaptation framework shall (a) [Be undertaken in the context of:]

Alternative 4

(iii).4 The respect for, protection and promotion of fundamental human rights and basic rights as outlined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, International Covenant on Cultural and Political Rights, the [ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work], and other relevant conventions and treaties.

ON MITIGATION

6 Include the need for developing long-term industrial policies & access to energy for all when implementing low-carbon strategies

- › **INSERT A NEW PARAGRAPH** under the new section on objectives, scope and guiding principles (Page 69)

All parties, when putting in place low-carbon strategies, shall/ should develop long-term sustainable industrial policies, in order to retain and create good and “green” jobs, modernize industry and develop and deploy technology.

- › **INSERT A REFERENCE** to energy access for all in Paragraph 70 (Page 86)

NAMA’s should be undertaken (...) in conformity with prior needs of sustainable development, eradication of poverty [and ensuring energy access for all citizens]

7 Promote the sound regulation of market mechanisms

- › **INSERT A NEW SUBPARAGRAPH** under Paragraph 139 (Page 134)

Market mechanisms must be transparent, with active public oversight and function with a rational but strong regulatory system

8 Focus work on consequences of response measures on vulnerable communities

- › **INSERT A REFERENCE** to communities in Paragraph 160 (Page 144)

Adverse economic and social consequences (...) paying particular attention to the needs and concerns of the poorest and most vulnerable developing country Parties [and communities]

- › **INSERT A REFERENCE** to civil society in Paragraph 164 (Page 145)

A forum shall be established (...) and shall be open to participation from all Parties, intergovernmental organizations [and civil society]

- › **INSERT A REFERENCE** to social protection and labour market assessment tools in Paragraph 165 (Page 145)

The forum should implement a work programme that includes (c) economic diversification [and labour market assessment] (c.6) [social protection and decent work programmes]

ON TECHNOLOGY & CAPACITY BUILDING

9 Support references to the need for workers’ education and vocational training when dealing with technology absorption, energy services and adaptation activities

- › **SUPPORT THE REFERENCE** to training (in bold below) under the “New section on national actions to enhance the development, application and diffusion of technologies” (page 176)

x.1 Parties will (...):

(e) Establish training, information and workforce development programmes to build capacity, including national centres of excellence, to ensure that all market actors understand the costs, performance and benefits of climate change technologies;

- › **INSERT A REFERENCE** to workers’ education and training under paragraph 185, when establishing the “technology assessment needs” (page 182) 185. Parties should develop technology road maps (...) which should include

b) capacity building, [including workers’ education, training and retraining activities providing the required skills to promote technology absorption]

ON FINANCING

10 Commit developed countries to providing public funds for mitigation and adaptation actions in developing countries

- › **INSERT A REFERENCE** to public oversight and support the reference to public sector funding in paragraph 172 (page 154)

(...) [Additional public funding with appropriate public oversight will be needed]. The public sector shall be the major source of funds, while market mechanisms and other private sector sources would play a complementary role in addressing climate change.

TRADE UNIONS FURTHER CALL ON YOUR SUPPORT FOR THE FOLLOWING:

PARAGRAPH 2 (page 8)

- 1) **WE SUPPORT THE PARAGRAPH**, as currently worded, because of the importance of its reference to human rights and to the negative impacts climate change will have on vulnerable populations of the world and the risks it poses to the attainment of sustainable development and MDG as well as to human health and security.
- 2. Recalling that (...) [The adverse effects of climate change will be felt most acutely by [those segments of the] population particularly in developing countries who have contributed least to climate change but [who are already in vulnerable situations [owing to factors such as geography, poverty, gender, age, indigenous or minority status and disability]]. These adverse effects (...) have a range of direct and indirect implications for the full and effective enjoyment of human rights including the right to self determination, statehood, life, food and health and the right of a people not to be deprived if its own means of subsistence, particularly in developing countries (...). The AR4 demonstrates clearly that negative impacts of climate change are already evident and widespread, in particular in vulnerable regions of the world, and are increasingly posing a risk to ecosystems, food productions, the attainment of sustainable development and of the Millennium Development Goals as well as to human health and security.

PARAGRAPH 9 (page 13)

- 1) **WE SUPPORT** the inclusion of this paragraph, currently in brackets, because it provides reference to social progress as one of the pillars of sustainable development
- 9. [The shared vision for long-term cooperative action (...) [aims to address climate change and achieve the mutually supportive and intertwined pillars of sustainable [and climate-resilient] development, that are economic development, social progress and the protection of the environment, as well as the survival of all states (...)]

PARAGRAPH 25 (e) (page 45) - on activities related to migration or displacement

- 1) **WE SUPPORT** alternative 3, because it includes socio-economic aspects of climate change and knowledge sharing on economic diversification and economic resilience.

PARAGRAPH 108 (page 113)

- 1) **WE SUPPORT** Alternative 4, option 2, as it refers to the inclusion of social and environmental benefits in the context of REDD-plus

Alternative 4 – Option 2

REDD-plus actions should promote sustainable development, including social and environmental benefits, such as biodiversity.

PARAGRAPH X.3, under Means of Implementation (page 117)

- 1) **WE SUPPORT THIS PROPOSAL** because it makes reference to a fair distribution of REDD-plus benefits

x.3 A REDD-plus mechanism should be transparent, efficient, and equitable; and it should ensure a fair distribution of REDD derived benefits among all relevant stakeholders and indigenous peoples and local communities, in response to their efforts in REDD activities.

PARAGRAPH 131 (page 131)

- 1) **WE SUPPORT THE EXISTING TEXT** regarding the prioritisation of certain sectors in "Sectoral Approaches"

131. (...) The most climate-sensitive sectors, including GHG-intensive and climate-vulnerable sectors, shall be fully considered for the development, transfer and deployment of environmentally sound technologies.

PARAGRAPH 199 (page 197)

- 1) **WE SUPPORT THE ALTERNATIVE** to paragraph 199, as education and awareness-raising at the local and community levels are essential if we want to successfully address the cultural transformations which have to take place.

Alternative to paragraph 199. (d) To strengthen communication, education and awareness-raising at all levels, especially at the local and community levels;