

CSD 14

Conference room 2, Monday 1. May 2006, 15.00-18.00 **Thematic Discussions:** Improving access to reliable, affordable, economically viable, socially acceptable and environmentally sound energy services

Speech by, Mr. Jesper Lund-Larsen from United Federation of Danish Workers, here represent Major Groups Workers and Trade Unions (ICFTU).

ICFTU support what we have heard from Dr. Parikh, Kjørven, the EU delegates and others delegates about access to energy and electricity, we also support what we have heard from USA about involving stakeholders in building up access to energy and electricity. We will just remind you that the workers are a very important stakeholder and it's therefore important that you involve them.

The reason why we support the access to energy is because many of our members are women who had been working the whole day, and when they return to their home in the evening, they often must cook over open fire, after first they have to use time for picking up the wood for the fire.

Many of our members do not have light in their house so they can't see what they are doing, and in the night it can be cold, because they do not have the possibility to heat the home.

If we are looking at the men in the same area they may be unemployed because there are no accesses to electricity so therefore it is not possible for them to build up some small industry or business, so they can get a work,.

With those examples I want to stress that it is important that there is access to energy and electricity in all areas, because it will give the possibility to create jobs in these areas, and give the women an easier life too. And for the men it means that they can have a job and by that way have the possibility to earn money so they can buy food for their family.