

Workers and Trade Unions

Air pollution/Atmosphere – 1 May 2007

Thank you Mr. Chair.

To day its May Day and we hope from the Trade Union that you will remember that after my statements and the react on what I am saying

Trade Unions agree with the Chairman's text linking air quality to human health. The following proposals are agreed to: support for the Marrakesh process to address issues of sustainable production and consumption; promoting public and mass transport systems and to enhance capacity building, strengthen institutions and involve all stakeholders in improving air quality. The following policy options should be included in the CSD Outcomes:

- ❖ Tackle indoor air pollution at the workplace. The US DOE estimates that improvements to indoor environments could reduce Sick Building Syndrome symptoms by 20-50%.
- ❖ Adopt sustainable mobility strategies, by ensuring, e.g. sustainable transportation to and from workplaces, where public transportation does not reach production zones. Highlight available best practice examples as models for cooperative and successful worker-employer initiatives.

The reason why we are interesting in air pollution is also because we had a lot of member who are working in areas where the air pollution from i.e. cars and lorries, and that's the workers on the street and the drivers in the cars who are sitting waiting in the cue with the aircon on and they are breathing this polluted air into there lungs.

Giving the poor family in a poor countries access to cheep energy will minimise the air pollution from upon fire that will give them a better life and they will have the possibility to use there personal energy for a better job instead of using there energy for thinking how to get energy for the next meal for heating there houses etc. And when they having a job where they get salary they will have the possibility to bay products that we in the rich countries produce, and then we still will have the possibility to safe these jobs and then the economy in the countries all over the world, so it is a win-win situation.

We was hearing that many of the speakers today talks about stakeholders, and we hope that you will remember that the workers are the next biggest stakeholder in the word, the biggest are the consumers which all of us are, and the most of us are workers also you who are sitting in this room, don't forget that, so we also try to take care of your interest as a stakeholder.

And inviting the workers into the discussion and listing carefully to our opinion and give the capacity building we all are in a better position for a sustainable development world in the future.

Best Regards

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