



Paris 14th-15th September 2015
Trade Union Summit on Climate changes

CISL's contribution: the run-up to Paris 2015.

The primary objective of this conference is to conclude a universal, legally binding agreement regarding the commitments made by each country to limit and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

In order to meet this target, we believe it is vital to propagate our firm belief that Europe and other rich Western countries can make a substantial contribution in terms of economic, financial and technological support to poorer countries, to help them fulfil their commitments and deal with the damage caused by climate change. As such, both the European and international trade unions fully agree that certain practical actions need to be executed, as follows:

1. Provide poorer countries with resources to help them combat desertification, deforestation, floods, hunger, poverty and illiteracy, through the following measures:
 - A- A nominal tax (€1 per passenger) on all flights provided by all airline companies in the airspace of rich countries. This tax will be gradually extended to the airspace of other countries according to their rate of economic growth.
 - B- A nominal tax (€0.01) on all financial and economic transactions which take place in rich countries, to be gradually extended to other countries according to their rate of economic growth.
2. Introduce a progressive carbon tax scheme at international level, with minimum levels applied to CO₂ (€5 per ton) payable by producers and importers, and implement a traceability tool for CO₂ based on the sectoral benchmarks already available for energy-intensive sectors in Europe, and for CO₂/km in motor vehicles.
This tax should replace the current European ETS (Emissions Trading Scheme) measures.

Finally, in addition to discussing purely environmental issues, the assembly in Paris should also formally reaffirm the universal principles which are to progressively become binding conditions for the provision of aid. These include:

- Respect for fundamental human and labour rights as enshrined in the UN texts.
- Protection for and extension of civil society democratic participation in the fight against climate change, reaffirming the decisions of Agenda 21 signed in Rio de Janeiro, giving the nine Major Groups, including Workers and Trade Unions, full rights to take the floor.
- Inclusion of employment concerns in the major environmental pact, with a guarantee that all governments will commit to the transition to a low-carbon economy as the best means of ensuring a just transition for workers and jobs.

We call upon the Italian government to actively support the requests of the international trade union movement, which are shared and subscribed to by the Italian trade union organisations, at the Paris summit.