

INTERNATIONAL TRADE UNION CONFEDERATION

ITUC calls on workers to join climate rallies in support of Paris climate talks

Brussels, Belgium 19 November 2015 (ITUC OnLine): With the climate summit taking place in ten days in Paris, the ITUC issues a renewed call to all its members to take to the streets for climate justice in countries around the world.

"The cancellation of Paris marches and demonstrations based on security concerns adds one more reason for workers to show that no wall can be built between immediate problems and so-called long-term ones: climate change is already happening and destroying jobs and communities," said Sharan Burrow, ITUC General Secretary.

The union movement is heavily involved in the organisation of the 28-29 November marches in Spain, the Netherlands, New Zealand and Australia, and dozens of national centres, sectoral federations and local unions are bringing workers together to show social justice is climate justice.

"Workers and their unions stand for decent jobs, social justice and prosperity for all, and the fight against climate change is about all those," said Burrow.

Trade unions from around the world will still come to Paris and join its French counterparts as well as other social movements and organisations in the COP21 as well as for the Trade Union Climate Forum, part of which will be held in the Citizens' Summit in Montreuil.

"Even without the Paris demonstrations, politicians will not be left of the hook. Our voices will be stronger than ever in calling for a climate deal that must protect people and the planet," concluded Sharan Burrow.

Union members are asked to wear green hard hats in the rallies to show support for jobs and climate action. Hard hats can be personalised with stickers available from the ITUC.

The ITUC represents 180 million workers in 162 countries and territories and has 333 national affiliates.

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