Just transition plans

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Special Envoy on Climate, Poland
Paris Agreement has been agreed:

- Taking into account the imperatives of a just transition of the workforce and the creation of decent work and quality jobs in accordance with nationally defined development priorities
Solidarity and Just Transition
Silesia Declaration

We, the Heads of State and Government,

Emphasizing that climate change is one of the greatest challenges of our time and a common concern of humankind and that Parties to the Paris Agreement recognized the need for an effective and progressive response to the urgent threat of climate change on the basis of the best available scientific knowledge;

Stressing that addressing climate change requires a paradigm shift towards building a low greenhouse gas emission and climate resilient economies and societies for all that offers substantial opportunities and ensures continued high growth and sustainable development, while ensuring a just transition of the workforce that creates decent work and quality jobs;

Reaffirming that Parties to the Paris Agreement on climate change are taking into account the imperatives of a just transition of the workforce and the creation of decent work and quality jobs, in accordance with nationally defined development priorities, and also reaffirming that the Paris Agreement emphasizes the intrinsic relationship that climate change actions, responses and impacts have with equitable access to sustainable development and eradication of poverty;

Recognizing the specific needs and special circumstances of developing countries, especially those that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change and that natural disasters and other exogenous shocks, exacerbated by climate change, bring devastating effects to vulnerable workers and people living in poverty with limited savings and no social safety net, increasing the challenges of and the obstacles to just transition, especially for countries characterized by fragile environmental conditions and least developed countries;

56 signatories, including: Albania, North Macedonia, Macedonia, Serbia and the European Union
6. Highlight the importance of further work on the just transition of the workforce and the creation of decent work and quality jobs, including:

i. Sharing experiences from Parties, relevant international organizations, observer organizations, as well as other stakeholders, in supporting workers, cities and regions in the transition towards low-greenhouse gas emission and climate-resilient development;

ii. Encouraging taking into consideration the issue of just transition of the workforce and the creation of decent work and quality jobs, while preparing and implementing nationally determined contributions, national adaptation plans and national long-term low greenhouse gas emission development strategies;

iii. Encouraging support for developing countries to promote low greenhouse gas emission and sustainable economic activities that will create quality jobs in regions, cities and non-urban areas;

iv. Encouraging that the transition to low greenhouse gas emission and climate-resilient development is in line with the UN Sustainable Development Goals;

7. Invite all relevant United Nations agencies, including the International Labour Organization, and international and regional organizations, observer organizations including social partners as well as other stakeholders and interested Parties to implement this Declaration.
JUST TRANSITION INITIATIVE

OUTCOME:
To date 46 national governments have signed onto the commitment, pledging to develop a just transition strategy, including:

Albania, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia and Ukraine

FOLLOW UP:
- ILO to conduct outreach to new target countries and monitor progress achieved by signatory countries in 2019/2020 and beyond, including during COP25.
- ILO will support developing countries through a Just Transition Partnership focused on programmatic response and operational support, which is to be set up in Q4 2019:
  - Several developed countries have expressed interest (Spain, France, Germany) in financing the partnership.
  - The partnership would be guided by an advisory board: ILO, ITUC, Spain, Peru, potentially two other governments plus EOSG)
  - It would further provide a platform for the exchange of good practices among signatory countries.

INSTITUTION: ILO
Updated: New Just Transition agreement for Spanish coal miners called a model for others

The new government of Spain, in power since May 2018, has reached a new Just Transition agreement with coal miners, to further the coal phase-out which has been underway since the early 2000s. Approximately 1,000 miners and contractors at 10 mines will lose their jobs at the end of 2020, but according to a report in The Guardian (Oct. 28) “Unions hailled the mining deal – which covers Spain’s privately owned pits – as a model agreement. It mirrors early retirement schemes for miners over 45, with environmental restored areas being used as training and skills for cutting-edge green industries.” The agreement is worth 400 million euros.

UPATED: For the most detailed summary of this new agreement from IndustriALL: "Spanish coal unions win landmark transition agreement" includes a link to the 13-page actual agreement – in Spanish – Sustainability Director of IndustriALL, who states that this is a precedent for responsible transition through social dialogue.

Spain’s coal industry employed more than 100,000 miners and 150,000 per year, not counting the country’s electricity is powered by coal. The country’s electricity is powered by coal. The country’s economy is dependent on coal. The country’s industry is dependent on coal.

The report draws on Spanish language, 13-page actual agreement – in Spanish – Sustainability Director of IndustriALL, who states that this is a precedent for responsible transition through social dialogue. The report draws on Spanish language, 13-page actual agreement – in Spanish – Sustainability Director of IndustriALL, who states that this is a precedent for responsible transition through social dialogue. The report draws on Spanish language, 13-page actual agreement – in Spanish – Sustainability Director of IndustriALL, who states that this is a precedent for responsible transition through social dialogue.

EU coal regions

Coal regions in transition

The EU is committed to supporting coal regions to ensure that the clean energy transition is fair and no region is left behind.

Platform for coal regions in transition – Secretariat

Assisting regions in preparing, developing and implementing transition-related activities.

I believe that what is good for our planet must be good for our people, our regions and our economy. We will ensure a just transition for all.

We will support the people and regions most affected through a new Just Transition Fund. This is the European way: we are ambitious and we leave nobody behind.

Source: A Union that strives for more. My agenda for Europe. By candidate for President of the European Commission
Coal Regions in Transition and the Energy Community

High Level Policy Talk
Warsaw (Natolin)
September 13, 2019