

Dear president,

My name is Francis Stuart from the Scottish Trade Union Congress. I am speaking on behalf of the global workers movement, represented by the ITUC. We represent 207 million workers from 165 countries.

What we have seen in the last two weeks is nothing short of a disgrace. Unions are bitterly disappointed.

We were hoping to see governments agreeing ambitious climate justice policies that responded to the climate emergency that is threatening our lives, jobs, livelihoods, communities and dignity. What we have is the polar opposite.

Civil society has been locked out – while Governments backtrack on what has been negotiated over the years.

What we have seen is nothing less than parties trying to dismantle the Paris Agreement. They are much more interested in trading emissions and making money from it, instead of actually reducing them. There is no respect for the science, no respect for human rights, no social justice, no ambition and no commitments to action.

This failure cannot be disentangled from the crises we see around the world.

- The rich getting richer while the poor suffer. This is exacerbated by climate change.
- Trade unionists under attack.
- Governments – including the Chilean Government - attacking their own people.

We need bold transformative action from Governments to pave the way for a Just Transition. Next year's COP will be in my home city of Glasgow. We need to see climate measures to protect workers rights and create decent jobs.

- Workers have to be at the table to negotiate enhanced NDCs, to be ready to be presented in Glasgow, not waiting for other governments to go first or delaying to see how it turns out;
- We want social protection policies for people that will be impacted;
- And we want the rich countries to pay up for the climate finance they have committed to for so many years.

None of this is reflected in this COP.

This COP has failed the people and the planet. People power, climate Justice!