

Resolution Date: 13th October 2015

Resolution Title: Support The People's March For Climate, Justice and Jobs

29th November London or 28th November Cardiff And Edinburgh

The Unite Housing Workers Branch notes that unless action is taken to limit global warming to a maximum 2 degrees Celsius – and some argue it should be 1.5 degrees – we will be heading towards catastrophic climate change. This will manifest itself in extreme weather events such as the wettest winter ever in 2013/14 in the UK, Hurricane Katrina that ripped through New Orleans in 2005 or Typhoon Yolanda/Haiyan which ravaged the Philippines in 2013.

This union also notes that the same global inequalities of our economic system are replicated through the impacts of climate change. Countries emitting the fewest greenhouse gases face the greatest risk from rising sea levels for example. In industrialised countries it is often the poor who are hardest hit as they cannot just leave town when the storms roll in.

In December world leaders meet in Paris to reach a global agreement on reducing greenhouse gas emissions. But these are not just another round of climate talks. Last year the authoritative UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) released a number of reports that set out in stark detail the challenge facing the planet and human activity – the main cause of global warming.

Unfortunately there is little confidence that world leaders will put aside their power and profit driven politics to reach the scope and level of agreement needed to avert rampant climate change. Therefore we need to show that people are prepared to act where our leaders are not.

The Unite Housing Workers Branch resolves to pass the resolution onto the Regional Committee and RISC and:

- i. Support and encourage participation in the UK wide demonstrations for climate, justice and jobs on 28th November in Cardiff and Edinburgh and 29th November in London and Belfast including bringing our union banner and joining the trade union bloc on the marches;
 - ii. Support and encourage participation in activities around the climate talks in Paris including the end of the talks demonstration on 12th December;
 - iii. Explore with the Regional union the possibility of organising coaches to the demonstrations including contributing to their cost and travel to Paris;
 - iv. Affiliate to the Campaign against Climate Change.
 - v. Sign-up to the One Million Climate Jobs Campaign to ensure a transition for workers into clean, well paid and unionised jobs that lower greenhouse gas emissions rather than add to them;
 - vi. Hold a branch or invite a speaker to a branch meeting to highlight climate change issues and need for action;
 - vii. Find out what your union is doing on climate change and raise it within the union;
 - viii. Participate in and help build the wider climate movement beyond Paris into 2016 and continue to take action on climate change.
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