

CONCLUSIONS AND CLOSING CEREMONY

Tuesday 17th January



Willy Madisha, President of COSATU (South Africa) outlined the importance of this Assembly for the labour movement. He expressed his hope that this Assembly would contribute to a better integration of the battles against poverty, for social justice, and for the protection of the environment.

The Environment Minister of Spain, Cristina Narbona expressed her thanks to the Assembly participants for their work. She announced she would attend the Global Ministerial Environmental Forum/UNEP Governing Council next month, and she would convey the outcome document at that meeting to her colleagues, and seek their support in the follow-up phase.

To conclude, UNEP Executive Director Dr. Klaus Toepfer expressed his satisfaction that the meeting had gathered so many committed participants. He said that he was encouraged to see the concrete outcome document that had just been adopted, and that UNEP would follow up on it. He said the Assembly outcome confirmed his initial conviction that it was indispensable for UNEP to work with organisations that are down to earth. In closing, and referring to the title of this Assembly, Dr. Toepfer reminded the Assembly of the English saying: **“Where there is a WILL, there is a way”**.

