

# **GENERAL EXECUTIVE BOARD RESOLUTION ON THE KYOTO PROTOCOL**

*(Adopted January 2001)*

**Whereas**, the Kyoto Protocol, the climate treaty negotiated under the auspices of the United Nations, would create a severe requirement for the United States to reduce emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases to seven percent below the levels of 1990 in the period 2008-2012;

**Whereas**, the Kyoto Protocol cannot be effective in stabilizing greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere because it does not require developing countries to limit or reduce their emissions, and developing countries will surpass industrial countries in greenhouse gas emissions around 2020;

**Whereas**, the exemption of developing countries from the requirements of the Kyoto Protocol will create a perverse incentive for companies to move jobs and production to developing countries, in search of cheap labor and lax regulations;

**Whereas**, carbon taxes and carbon emission trading programs being discussed in the context of the Kyoto Protocol would result in significant increases in electricity, fuel, and other energy prices paid by Teamster working families and other consumers;

**Whereas**, economic studies, including those done by the Energy Information Administration of the Department of Energy, show that implementation of the Kyoto Protocol would cause the loss of more than one million jobs, with damage to all sectors of the economy;

**Whereas**, the Kyoto Protocol requirements would complicate our nation's efforts to provide an adequate and affordable energy supply for a growing economy and could reduce the diversity of fuel use; and

**Whereas**, the Kyoto Protocol fails to meet the standards for a treaty as set forth and adopted by the AFL-CIO Executive Council, which the International Brotherhood of Teamsters Union serves on.

## **Therefore, be it resolved:**

- That the International Brotherhood of Teamsters will oppose the Kyoto Protocol and any like treaty, legislative or regulatory action that causes job loss and mandates internationally disproportionate greenhouse gas reductions.
- That the International Brotherhood of Teamsters will urge the Bush Administration and Congress to develop a short- and long-term comprehensive energy strategy that will assure that energy is adequate and affordable for American families and that prevents energy shortfalls that destabilize the economy.
- That the International Brotherhood of Teamsters will continue to work with the AFL-CIO and Unions for Jobs and the Environment to educate Teamster members on the negative effects of such extreme environmental and energy policies.