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Policy Responses to the Jobs Crisis: Universal Social Protection is Key to Restoring Sustainable Growth with Equity

**United Nations Headquarters
25 June 2009, 1:15 p.m. – 2:45 p.m., Conference Room 9**

Welcome Ms. Sara Burke, Policy Analyst, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung New York Office

Panelists Mr. Heraldo Muñoz, Ambassador, Permanent Mission of Chile to the UN

Mr. Augustine P. Mahiga, Ambassador, Permanent Mission of Tanzania to the UN

Ms. Sonia Lipio, Vice President, Trade Union Congress of the Philippines (TUCP)

Mr. Stephen Pursey, Director of the Policy Integration Department and Senior Adviser to the Director-General of the International Labour Organization

Mr. Luis Miguel Fernandez, Chief Business Officer for Corporate Administration, Gamesa USA

Moderator Ms. Barbara Crossette, UN Correspondant, *The Nation*

The UN High Level Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and its Impact on Development, is a follow-up event to the Doha Review Conference of November to December 2008. From the standpoint of trade unions, it has become urgent to highlight the importance of policy responses to the jobs crisis as an important dimension of responding to the global financial and economic crisis, as this is an area that has not gained the attention it deserves in the current policy dialogues. At present, the impacts on the real economy are particularly stark, as measured in increasing unemployment, poverty, and gloomy prospects for decent livelihoods. Shifting to redistributive policies – including those that address the jobs crisis – is key. This Panel will explore appropriate policy responses, including those that prioritize employment creation, social protection, achieving gender equality, and promoting decent work and green jobs in the context of shifting to low carbon economies, both in terms of stimulus packages in the short term, and systemic changes over the longer term.