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Media Release

For immediate release

FINLAND'S ANNOUNCEMENT ON NEW CLIMATE LEGISLATION ADDS TO GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE MOMENTUM

(GLAND, Switzerland, 5 June 2014) - Finland is the latest country to announce significant climate change legislation in the past month, following the US, China, and Mexico, adding impetus to the global climate change momentum building ahead of the new global climate deal in 2015.

Today, Finland announced its national Climate Change Act. Among other things, the Act puts into law a long-term climate change mitigation target of at least 80% emissions reduction by 2050.

Commenting on the news, **Samantha Smith, leader of WWF's Global Climate and Energy Initiative**, said, "Yet another country has shown new, national commitment to act on climate change. Finland's long term goal is a step in the right direction, and will be an example for many others. Now we would like to see concrete short-term steps to increase the share of modern renewable energy in Finland's energy sector, and an improvement in their energy efficiency."

Environmental ministers meeting this week in Bonn, Germany, at the UN Climate Change conference, are discussing the most urgent issues in global climate policy, including domestic actions necessary to sharply reduce global emissions.

Tasneem Essop, leader of WWF's UN climate negotiating team in Bonn says, "The announcement by Finland is timely, demonstrates leadership and commitment. It should send a strong signal to other countries to also act urgently and contribute to the global effort to fight climate change."

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Notes for Editors:

1. The Finnish Ministry of Environment [website](#)

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About WWF - WWF's mission is to stop the degradation of the earth's natural environment and to build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature. The Global Climate & Energy Initiative (GCEI) is WWF's global programme addressing climate change, promoting renewable and sustainable energy, scaling up green finance, engaging the private sector and working nationally and internationally on implementing low carbon, climate resilient development.

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