

MEDIA STATEMENT

For immediate release

CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS WARN GOVERNMENTS: *STAND WITH US, OR STEP ASIDE*

(*BONN, Germany - 6 June 2014*) More than 100 people held a demonstration in Bonn today, outside the hotel where the Ministers of Environment were meeting at the UN climate negotiations.

Organisations from every continent – including trade unions, social movements, environmental groups, gender and youth groups, indigenous groups and NGOs –are demanding action by the more than 198 member governments of the [UN Framework Convention on Climate Change](#) (UNFCCC).

A [Declaration](#) was handed over¹ to the Minister for the Environment for Peru Manuel Pulgar-Vidal; Laurence Tubiana, recently nominated special envoy for the French Foreign Affairs Minister, and Venezuela Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs Claudia Salerno Caldera, listing demands.

[International civil society organisations](#) demonstrated their rising dissatisfaction with the direction of the UN climate negotiations in Warsaw last November, staging an unprecedented mass walkout.

The demonstration in Bonn is intended to show the growing public support for climate action and a just energy transformation. The groups held a banner: “We Choose: Renewable Energy. People’s Power now!”

Anabella Rosemberg, International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) climate advisor said, *“In Warsaw, we left because governments were not taking their responsibilities to tackle climate change seriously. We came together again here in Bonn, across very diverse groups to tell them we’ll not surrender until we build the strong climate movement we need, one that pushes for a just world, for the jobs of the future, and for a planet that is preserved for future generations.”*

The Declaration continues that, *“the walk out was an act of protest and indignation over governments’ continued failure to take decisive and swift action against the biggest threat*

¹ Peru is host of the COP20 in December 2014; Paris is host of COP21 in December 2015 and Venezuela is host of the Social Pre-COP in November 2014. COP is the *Conference of Parties* to the United Nations Framework on Convention on Climate Change.

to both people and the planet, and an act of condemnation of continued domination and sabotage of the international climate talks by powerful corporate interests.”

Lidy Nacpil, Director of Jubilee South – Asia Pacific Movement on Debt and Development, from the Philippines said, *“These negotiations are a matter of life and death for many who live in vulnerable countries – where worse typhoons and droughts mean much more suffering. We will continue to take action against those who claim to be leaders, calling on them to take up our solutions and beat back the vested interests that want business as usual and dress it up as progress.”*

“We have come together to reiterate to all “leaders” in the UN climate negotiations that they are dangerously off track in addressing the climate emergency. We are calling on them to listen to the demands and solutions of people,” the Declaration says. “We are back, far more strengthened in giving voice to those who are already acting with the urgency needed to avoid the worst impacts of climate change. People are mobilizing everywhere and taking to the streets in bigger numbers and increasing intensity to stand up to vested interests and fight for their future and those of the next generations.”

The Declaration lists 7 specific of the groups, and then concludes, *“the global climate movement is building its strength and power in every country of the world. We call on those who claim to represent us to either act in our interests or step aside.*

ends

Notes for Editors

1. Read the full Declaration on the [website](#)
2. List of organisations who have signed the Declaration:
 1. ActionAid
 2. Aksi! for gender, social and environmental justice
 3. Alianza Hondureña ante el Cambio Climático (AHCC)
 4. Alyansa Tigil Mina Philippines
 5. ANWA
 6. Aniban ng Manggagawa sa Agrikultura
 7. Bangladesh Krishok Federation (BKF)
 8. Beyond Copenhagen (India)
 9. BUNDjugend
 10. Campaña Mesoamericana por la Justicia Climática
 11. CAN France
 12. CAN SA
 13. Carbon Market Watch
 14. CARITAS Intl Org
 15. CCN Nigeria
 16. Center for Environmental Justice/FOE Sri Lanka
 17. CEO

18. CIEL
19. Clean Energy Nepal
20. Climate Justice Programme
21. Coastal Livelihood and Environmental Action Network (CLEAN)
22. Construyendo puentes - Redes Latinoamericanas frente al Cambio Climático.
23. Earth in Brackets
24. Ecological Society of the Philipines
25. EcoWaste Coalition Philippines
26. Ekoloji Kolektifi
27. ENGAJAMUNDO
28. EquityBD –
29. ESI
30. Federation of young European Greens
31. Foro Buen Ayre
32. Friends of the Earth Europe (network of 31 organisations across Europe)
33. Friends of the Earth Curacao
34. Friends of the Earth US
35. Freedom from Debt Coalition Philippines
36. Fundacion Solon
37. Germanwatch
38. Greenpeace
39. Global 100% RE campaign
40. IBON International
41. Indian Social Action Forum (INSAF)
42. Institute for Policy Studies (IPS)
43. ITUC
44. Jubilee South Asia Pacific Movement on Debt and Development (JSAPMDD)
45. LDC Watch
46. Migrant Forum Asia (MFA)
47. MOCICC
48. NECU
49. Oxfam
50. PACJA
51. Pakistan Fisherfolk Forum
52. Peru COP20
53. Philippine Movement for Climate Justice
54. Philippine Rural Reconstruction Movement (PRRM)
55. Plataforma Boliviana frente al Cambio Climático Practical action
56. Pro Vida
57. Public Advocacy Initiatives for Rights and Values in India (PAIRVI)
58. PushEurope
59. Reacción Climática
60. Red SUSWATCH-Latinoamérica
61. Rural Reconstruction Nepal
62. Solidaritas Perempuan
63. South Asia Alliance for Poverty Eradication (SAAPE)
64. Sudanese Environment Conservation Society
65. Sustainlabour
66. Third World Network

67. UK youth Climate Coalition
68. Vasudha Foundation
69. WECF
70. What's Next Forum
71. Woman Health Philippines
72. WWF
73. Young Friends of the Earth Europe

For interviews and further information on the stunt or media statement, please contact

Mandy Jean Woods +27 72 393 0027 mwoods@wwf.org.za

Alex Rafalowicz +49 01520 4560 896 alex.rafalowicz@gmail.com

Tina Loeffelbein +49 151 167 209 15 tina.loeffelbein@greenpeace.org