

## **Towards a Global Climate Fund**

### *Principles for Poznan and Beyond*

In a world long plagued by poverty, the climate crisis is now terrifyingly urgent. We, the undersigned groups and organizations, understand that to meet these crises, the global community will have to rapidly mobilize at least on a scale comparable to recent responses to the global financial crisis. In the face of the economic meltdown, over four trillion US dollars were mobilized in a mere two months. To successfully face down the climate crisis, a similar level of ambition is needed.

Today, despite international commitments to address deepening impoverishment and the food crisis, the developing world is still forced to use much needed resources to pay for illegitimate debt. Wealthy nations continue to provide hundreds of billions of US dollars in subsidies for rich companies that produce fossil fuels. In order to signal new priorities, these practices must be stopped, immediately. Debts must be cancelled. Public subsidies to dirty energy must end.<sup>1</sup>

Taking into account historical and current contributions to global warming, nations will need to make deep cuts in greenhouse gas emissions. Developed countries must fulfill their obligations to lead in reducing emissions and to provide significant financial and technological resources to developing countries with the complementary goals of enabling nations, communities and people to effectively deal with current and unavoidable climate impacts and to make a rapid transition to clean-energy possible. As agreed in the UNFCCC, the extent to which developing countries fulfill their obligations will depend on effective implementation by developed countries of their binding commitments, particularly relating to financing and technology.

In this context, we call for an enhanced financial architecture including a new Global Climate Fund<sup>2</sup> to be set up under the control of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) that adheres to the following principles:

***Substantial, obligatory and automatic funding*** In order to finance programs for dealing with the impacts of climate change (adaptation) and the shift to a clean energy low-carbon development path (mitigation) in developing countries hundreds of billions of

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<sup>1</sup> Except subsidies designed to improve local access to energy and transportation by the poorest, with the lowest possible carbon content for all options supported.

<sup>2</sup> This call for a new Global Climate Fund recognizes and builds on the recent proposal by the broad grouping of developing countries (the "Group of 77 and China") for a new climate financing regime, and supports the demand that no funds outside the UNFCCC process, particularly noting those of the World Bank, be counted toward binding commitments of financial support by developed to developing countries. This proposal supports the G77 and China proposal and goes further by elaborating just and fair principles that must be at the core of any climate funds.

new and additional US dollars will need to be provided annually.<sup>3</sup> The Global Climate Fund needs to be large enough to sustain distinct financing windows for mitigation, adaptation, and reducing emissions from deforestation and degradation. The core financing of this Global Fund must be obligatory and automatic rather than voluntary. Diverse sources will be required to generate the volume of funding needed, and they must be established on the UN principle of “common but differentiated responsibilities” based on countries’ historical and current contribution to global warming and their respective capabilities.<sup>4</sup>

***Representative Governance*** The governance of the Global Climate Fund must be democratic, transparent, and accountable to all, especially the impoverished and vulnerable communities most affected by global warming. Developing countries should have strong, direct equitable representation in decision-making and technical bodies. Civil society groups, social movements and indigenous peoples, from developing and developed nations, must be formally represented within all governance structures.

***Participatory Planning*** The Global Climate Fund must assist countries with financial and technical support to carry out national climate action plans designed by countries through a sovereign and democratic process that ensures the full participation of climate impacted peoples. Plans will include actions and policies that will enable people and communities to deal with the impacts of global warming and ensure the shift to low-carbon economies (addressing the energy, transportation, and agricultural sectors among others).

***Capacity Building*** Financing must be made available to developing countries for the development, application, transfer and dispersal of sustainable and equitable technologies, practices and processes according to developed country obligations. In addition, resources should be directed to building local capacity and expertise, and to developing appropriate technologies and people-centered strategies for coping with a shifting climate.

***Access for the Most Vulnerable*** Climate finance must go to government agencies, but we insist that people’s organizations, social movements, NGOs and community-based groups

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<sup>3</sup> On mitigation, the Stern Review estimated that stabilization at 500 CO<sub>2</sub>-equivalent – an ambitious but still extremely dangerous level – would cost about 2% of Gross World Product (currently \$1.2 trillion) annually. (Nicholas Stern, Towards a Global Deal on Climate Change, UNECOSOC, June 30, 2008). The actual costs of mitigation may be higher because the necessary stabilization level is likely to be more demanding than Stern’s 500 CO<sub>2</sub>-e level (a level of 400 CO<sub>2</sub>-e, or 350 in CO<sub>2</sub> terms, would be far safer). Further, on adaptation, cost projections are radically uncertain, but likely to rise to hundreds of billions of US dollars per year (UNFCCC, Investment and Financial Flows to Address Climate Change, gives an upper bound of \$171 billion, but this is a preliminary estimate). All told, the total costs of the necessary global effort will likely be measured in the trillions, and some significant fraction of this would need to be distributed through the Global Climate Fund. Accomplishing this effectively would require properly staffing the UNFCCC secretariat and its operating entities.

<sup>4</sup> Possible financing for Global Climate Fund requires further exploration, creativity and debate, but could include: Taxes on bunker fuels, aviation, fossil fuel exports and other sources of greenhouse-gas emissions; levies on Gross National Product and historical responsibility; carbon debits on investments for their contribution to greenhouse gas emissions; auctions of national and international greenhouse gas emissions permits; currency transaction taxes (CTT); and bonds.

also have direct access to funds.<sup>5</sup> In particular, climate-related activities on indigenous lands, like forest protection and restoration, should go directly to those representative indigenous organizations to strengthen their sustainable territorial management programs. Women must have equitable decision-making power with respect to how funds are accessed, used and evaluated. The process for accessing resources from the Global Climate Fund should be clear, transparent and simple to encourage the most vulnerable communities to take advantage of available support.

***Strengthens Rights*** The activities and policies of the Global Climate Fund must underscore key global agreements, such as the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. It must uphold the right to sustainable development - with full cost support for non-fossil fuel based, truly renewable energy<sup>6</sup> - to ensure that impoverished and vulnerable people are protected from the burdens of shifting to a clean-energy economy. The fund should strengthen peoples' right to food and energy sovereignty, and gender justice.

***Address Root Causes*** The climate crisis is spurred by the rampant and inequitable over-consumption of the earth's limited resources and the race for profits at great cost to people and the environment. A modest percentage of the fund's resources should be dedicated to activities like South-South information sharing on best practices and techniques, and education of industrialized countries' peoples on sustainable lifestyles and the need to limit undifferentiated growth toward the goal of reducing global inequality.

**We, the undersigned, firmly believe that establishment of a Global Climate Fund with adherence to and incorporation of these principles is vital to the success of any global climate regime.**

*This statement was originally drafted by a working group at the International Forum on Globalization's Climate Strategy Session on Copenhagen's Economic Architecture in Washington, D.C. on November 15-16, 2008, in preparation for the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change negotiations.*

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<sup>5</sup> The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM) serves as a model for a Global Climate Fund in its provisions to allow civil society organizations to directly apply for money from the Fund. However, it is important to note that other impediments, such as poor communication with civil society and lack of government experience with and/or commitment to work with civil society, have impeded the access of civil society to the GFATM.

<sup>6</sup> Renewable energy financing should exclude sources that degrade the environment, threaten human health, and cause massive community dislocation like nuclear energy, agrofuels and large hydropower projects.

## **Signatories as of December 9, 2008**

(the statement in several languages and full list of signatures, including individuals, is available at <http://www.choike.org/campaigns/camp.php?3>)

### **Global**

ActionAid  
Friends of the Earth-International  
Forum for Indigenous Perspectives and Action  
Global Call to Action Against Poverty  
Oxfam International  
Solidarity Workshop  
Third World Network  
World Rainforest Movement

### **Asia**

Agrarian Reform, Empowerment and Transformation, Inc. (CARET, Inc), Philippines  
Aniban ng Mangagawa sa Agrikultura (AMA), Union of Workers in Agriculture, Philippines  
Anti Debt Coalition (KAU) Indonesia, Indonesia  
Asia Europe Youth Network for Sustainable Development, Pakistan  
Asia Indigenous Women's Network  
Attac Japan, Japan  
BanglaPraxis, Bangladesh  
Bukluran ng Manggagawang Pilipino (BMP) – Solidarity of Filipino Workers, Philippines  
Centre for Organisation Research and Education (CORE), India  
Economic Justice and Development Organization, Pakistan  
Equity and Justice Working Group Bangladesh, Bangladesh  
Freedom from Debt Coalition, Philippines  
India Institute for Critical Action - Centre in Movement – CACIM, New Delhi, India  
Institute for Essential Services Reform, Indonesia  
Jatiyo Sramik Jote (Workers Alliance), Bangladesh  
Jubilee Australia, Australia  
Jubilee South-Asia/Pacific Movement on Debt and Development  
Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation (JPIC) for the Columba, Korea  
KALAYAAN (Katipunan Para sa Pagpapalaya ng Sambayanan) - Movement for People's Freedom, Philippines  
Katarungan Kalikasan – Environmental Justice Movement (EJM), Philippines  
Koalisyon Pabahay ng Pilipinas (KPP) - Housing Rights Coalition of the Philippines, Philippines  
Kongreso ng Pagkakaisa ng Maralitang Lungsod (KPML) Unity Congress of the Urban Poor, Philippines

Makabayang Alyansa ng Magbubukid ng Pilipinas (MAKABAYAN-Pilipinas),  
Nationalist Alliance of Peasants in the Philippines, Philippines  
Missionary Soc. of St. Columban Ctr. Justice Peace & Integrity of Creation, Hong Kong  
Nepal Network for Sustainable Development (NNSD)/ NEFEJ, Nepal  
NGO Forum on Asian Development Bank  
North East Peoples Alliance on Trade, Finance and Development, India  
Philippine Network on Climate Change, Philippines  
Philippine Rural Reconstruction Movement, Philippines  
River Basin Friends (NE) India, India  
SANLAKAS, Philippines  
SOLJUSPAX, Philippines  
Tebtebba (Indigenous Peoples Int. Center Policy Research and Ed.), Philippines  
Women Workers Resource Center (WWRC) – Philippines  
Yamog, Inc, Philippines  
Youth for Sustainable Development Assembly – Philippines, Philippines

### **Africa**

Africa Internally Displaced Persons Voice (Africa IDP Voice)  
Africa Jubilee South  
Africaine de Recherche & de Cooperation pour l'Appui au Developpement Endogene  
(ARCADE), Senegal  
African Forum on Alternatives, Senegal  
Biowatch (South Africa) and the Trade Strategy Group, South Africa  
Daughters of Mumbai Global Resource Center, Kenya  
Girls' Power Initiative (GPI) Nigeria, Nigeria  
Human Rights Defenders Network, HURIDEN, Nigeria  
Jeunesse Horizon, Cameroon  
Jubilee South Africa, South Africa  
Labour, Health and Human Rights Development Centre, Nigeria  
Southern Africa Peoples' Solidarity Network (SAPSN)  
WLSA Mozambique, Mozambique  
Woman and Children Empowerment Association, Ethiopia  
World Federation of United Nations Organizations, Ghana  
Zimbabwe Coalition on Debt and Development (ZIMCODD), Zimbabwe

### **Latin America and Caribbean**

Acción Ecologica, Ecuador  
Acción Ambiente A.C., Mexico  
Agenda Politica de Mujeres, Costa Rica  
Articulação de Mulheres do Amazonas – AMA, Brazil  
Asociacion Civil Casa del Paso del Peregrino, Argentina  
Asociacion de Estudiantes de Ingenieria en Construccion, Costa Rica  
Associação de Mulheres "Vitória-Régia - Cidadania, Educação Ambiental, Cultura,  
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 Centro Ecologista Renacer, Argentina  
 Centro de Educacao Popular e Formacao Social – CEPFS, Teixeira, PB, Brazil  
 CETA, Montevideo, Uruguay  
 Chile Sustentable, Chile  
 Consejo de Uwishin Shuar (CUWISH)  
 Corporación País Solidario "CPS", Bogota, Colombia  
 Corporación Red Pais Rural, Colombia  
 Cronicon.net Observatorio Latinoamericano, Colombia  
 Ecoa, Brazil  
 Ecologia Socio Ambiental da Amazonia – ECOSAAM, Bacarena, Para, Brazil  
 Ecoportal.Net, Argentina  
 Eco Sitio, Argentina  
 FASE - Solidarity and Education, Brazil  
 Fundação Vitória Amazônica – FVA, Manaus, AM, Brazil  
 Fundación Agora S. L., Argentina  
 Fundación Amazonia Eware, Colombia  
 Fundación Pachamama, Ecuador  
 Grupo Ecológico Rio das Contas – GERC, Brazil  
 Institute Alternative Policies for the Southern Cone, Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil  
 Institute of Social and Economic Studies (INESC), Brazil  
 Instituto Andino y Amazonico de Derecho Ambiental, Peru  
 Instituto Caraguata, Caraguatatuba, SP, Brazil  
 Instituto de Pesquisa e Desenvolvimento Amazonico, Brazil  
 Instituto Ecoar para Cidadania, Sao Paulo, SP, Brazil  
 Instituto Ipanema, Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil  
 Jubileo Peru, Peru  
 Latindadd  
 Llamado Mundial a la Accion contra la Pobreza – Peru, Peru  
 Mater Natura - Instituto de Estudos Ambientais, Curitiba, PR, Brazil  
 Motirõ, Brazil  
 Organizacao Patrimonial, Turistica e Ambiental – OPTA, Sao Joao Del Rei, MG, Brazil  
 Organização VIDA Viva, DF, Brazil  
 Organization of Indigenous People (O.I.S), Suriname  
 PAPDA (Plateforme Haïtienne de Plaidoyer pour un Développement Alternatif), Haiti  
 Periodico El Espejo, Argentina  
 Periodico Sebastian, Colombia  
 Ponto de Cultura Voluntário"Vitória-Régia”, Porto Alegre, RS, Brazil  
 REBRIP - Brazilian Network for the Integration of Peoples, Brazil  
 Red de Coordinacion en Biodiversidad, Costa Rica  
 Rede Brasil sobre Instituições Financeiras Multilaterais, Brazil  
 Servindi, Peru  
 Sindicato Médico do Rio Grande do Sul – SIMERS, RS, Brazil  
 Sub4-Cela, Mexico  
 Unidad Ecologica Salvadorena UNES, El Salvador

Union de Desempleados del Ecuador (UDE), Ecuador  
Union Juntas Vecinos y Lideres Comunitarios de San Pedro de Maco, Dominican Republic  
Unit Salvadorian Ecological, El Salvador  
Vitae Civilis Institute for Development, Environment and Peace, Brazil

## **Europe**

ACASC - Associació Ciutadana Anti-Sida de Catalunya, Spain  
ARCI (Associazione Ricreativa Culturale Italiana), Italy  
AMYCOS – ONGD, Spain  
Attac France, France  
Campagna per la Riforma della Banca Mondiale (Italy), Italy  
CEE Bankwatch Network, Czech Republic  
Dreikönigsaktion der Katholischen Jungschar – DKA, Austria  
Ecologistas en Acción, Spain  
Educación para la Acción Crítica, Spain  
Eurodad, Belgium  
FNF\_Comunicaciones, Austria  
FinnChurchAid, Finland  
Forests and the European Union Resource Network (FERN)  
Institute for Public Policy Research, United Kingdom  
Jubilee Debt Campaign, United Kingdom  
Jubilee Scotland  
LDC Watch and the South Asia Alliance for Poverty Eradication, Belgium  
Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), Rome, Italy  
Oxford Climate Policy, United Kingdom  
People & Planet, United Kingdom  
PLATFORM, United Kingdom  
Quien Debe a Quien Granada, Spain  
SLUG, The Norwegian Coalition for Debt Cancellation, Norway  
Tax Justice Network, United Kingdom  
Transnational Institute, Netherlands  
The World Development Movement, UK, United Kingdom  
World Development Movement, United Kingdom

## **North America**

Amazon Alliance, United States  
Bangladesh Development Research Center (BDRC), United States  
BC Sustainable Energy Association, Canada  
Canadian Council for International Co-operation, Canada  
Center of Concern, United States  
Church World Service, United States  
Columban Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation Office (USA), United States

EcoEquity, United States  
8th Day Center for Justice, United States  
Environmental Justice Climate Change Initiative, United States  
Essential Action, United States  
Freirean Pedagogy.org and Paulo Freire Special Interest Group, United States  
Global Exchange, United States  
Halifax Initiative Coalition, Canada  
Indigenous Environmental Network  
Institute for Policy Studies' Sustainable Energy and Economy Network, United States  
International Forum on Globalization, United States  
Jubilee USA Network, United States  
Medical Mission Sisters, United States  
Nuclear Information and Resource Service, United States  
Oil Change International, United States  
Polaris Institute, Canada  
Rainforest Action Network, United States  
Tri-Valley CAREs, United States