

Frau  
Bundeskanzlerin Dr. Angela Merkel  
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Warsaw, 19 November 2013

**German climate leadership?  
Open letter from global civil society to German coalition negotiators**

Dear Chancellor Merkel,

As representatives of global civil society, we are writing this letter from Warsaw today to urge you to show true leadership on climate policy.

In the last two weeks, the world has experienced extraordinary weather events in the Philippines, Vietnam and Somalia that have caused enormous human suffering. This is a further wake-up call for strong climate leadership. But at the United Nations climate negotiations in Warsaw, this leadership is lacking.

We look to Germany as a country that with its *Energiewende* has taken bold steps in the right direction. We applaud your success in rapidly developing renewable energy sources and your plans for increasing their share and energy efficiency further. Many countries around the world are inspired by this example. To ensure the *Energiewende*'s continued success and create a new dynamic at the international level, we urge you to set a strong and ambitious framework domestically and at the European Union level.

In March of next year, EU heads of state and government will decide on 2030 climate and energy targets. We expect you to support the necessary targets to ensure the EU makes a fair contribution to keeping temperature rise below 2°C while keeping 1.5°C within reach. **What is needed is an EU target of at least 55% domestic emissions reductions by 2030** below 1990 levels, combined with ambitious and binding renewable energy and energy consumption targets. A target of 40% would fall short of EU's fair share of the global effort, and could in practice mean only 33% actual domestic emission cuts by 2030, due to the amount of surplus allowances in the system. An ambitious 2030 target should be the basis for the needed structural reform of the EU emissions trading scheme (ETS) and an adjusted climate target for 2020. Developed countries have agreed to take the lead until 2020 in the international efforts to combat climate change. The willingness to adopt strong EU targets for 2030, an increased target for 2020 and a reform of the ETS' structure can be the urgently needed signals that bring new dynamic to this UN process. It would also show that you respect your moral obligation to the millions of people already suffering from devastating climate change in the Philippines and elsewhere.

Ambition can not only be measured in terms of climate targets. Climate finance plays a crucial role too on the way to a worldwide treaty which includes commitments of all countries with relevant emissions. We need a strong signal that Germany will increase budget expenditures for climate change adaptation and mitigation through to 2020 as promised in Copenhagen.

At the national level, a **climate change act** is needed that uses the climate and energy targets of the Energiewende as a framework for innovation. This decision could be a strong driver for success in the international process where 2014 is going to be "the year of ambition". It should be agreed in your coalition negotiations now and be presented at the Ministerial in June in Bonn where pre-2020 ambition will be the main issue. Such a climate change act would provide certainty to investors, enable a smooth transition domestically, and would build trust and credibility internationally. It shows to your partners that you take your targets seriously and that they will be achieved.

We need countries, which inspire the global transformation of our energy systems. Germany could and should do this. The world is watching you.

We have sent an identical letter to Sigmar Gabriel and Horst Seehofer.

Kind regards,

Representatives of the undersigned organizations

#### **Global**

1. ACT Alliance - Action of Churches Together
2. ActionAid International
3. BirdLife International
4. CARE International
5. Cetacean Society International
6. Climate Action Network International, representing 850 organizations from more than 100 countries, including Greenpeace, Christian Aid, Oxfam, Care and others
7. Greenpeace International
8. LWF – Lutheran World Federation
9. Oxfam International
10. WCC - World Council of Churches
11. WWF International\*

#### **Africa**

12. ABN - African Biodiversity Network
13. Pan-African Climate Justice Alliance
14. We Have Faith Campaign
15. AFPAT - Association des Femmes Peuples Autochtones du Tchad, Chad
16. Children of the Farmers Club, Nigeria
17. Clean Beach and Development, Ghana
18. Jeunes Volontaires pour l'Environnement-International, Togo
19. ONG Développement pour un Mieux Etre « DEMI-E », Niger
20. SAFCEI – Souther African Faith Communities' Environment Institute, South Africa

#### **Asia**

21. Amihan – National Federation of Peasant Women in the Philippines, Philippines
22. Beyond Copenhagen Collective, India
23. Bharat Jan Vigyan Jatha, India
24. Centre for Education & Documentation, India

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\* Signature was added after original letter was sent

25. Center for Participatory Research and Development (CPRD), Bangladesh
26. Clean Energy, Nepal
27. Coastal Development Partnership (CDP), Bangladesh
28. Community Aid Alliance , India
29. Council of Professional Social Workers, India
30. CSE – Center for Science and Environment, India
31. DHARA, India
32. Environics Trust, India
33. greenovation hub, China
34. IBON International - People's Movement on Climate Change, Philippines
35. ICOR - Institute for Community Organisation Research, India
36. INECC – Indian Network on Ethics and Climate Change, India
37. Integrated Rural Development of Weaker sections in India, India
38. IPPHTI - Ikatan Petani Pengendalian Hama Terpadu, Indonesia iSquareD, India
39. Janakalyan Pratisthan, India
40. Laya Resource Centre, India
41. Lok Sanjh Foundation, Pakistan
42. Nabolok, Bangladesh
43. NCC, B - Network on Climate Change, Bangladesh
44. NCPERD - Negros Center for People Empowerment & Rural Development, Phillipines
45. North-East Social Research Centre, India
46. Paryavaran Mitra, India
47. Pipal Tree, India
48. Pro Public/Friends of the Earth, Nepal
49. Pusbinlat – Church of Toraja, Indonesia
50. Samuham India
51. South Central India Network for Development Alternatives, India
52. Water Initiatives Odisha, India
53. Gujarat Forum On CDM, India

#### **Oceania**

54. PCC – Pacific Conference of Churches

#### **Latin America and the Carribean**

55. CMJC - Campana Mesoamericana de Justicia Climatica, Central America
56. CESTA/Friends of the Earth - El Salvador\*
57. Diaconia Bolivia, Bolivia
58. MOCICC - Citizen Mouvement on Climate Change, Peru
59. reEarth, the Bahamas
60. UNES - Unidad Ecologica Salvadorena, El Salvador

#### **North America**

61. SustainUS

#### **Europe**

62. APRODEV - Association of Protestant Development Organisations
63. CISDE - Coordination of Catholic Development Organisations
64. Climate Action Network Europe
65. WECF - Women in Europe for a Common Future
66. Afri, Ireland
67. ASTM - Action Solidaité Tiers Monde, Luxemburg
68. Christian Aid, Ireland

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69. Climate Secretariat of Russia – Socio-Ecological Union, Russia
70. Community Workers' Co-operative, Ireland
71. DVI - Sustainable Development Initiatives, Lithuania
72. Energies 2050, France
73. ForUM - The Norwegian Forum for Environment and Development, Norway\*
74. Friends of the Irish Environment, Ireland
75. German Russian Exchange, Russia
76. German Russian Office of Environmental Information, Russia
77. Grian - Greenhouse Ireland Action Network, Ireland\*
78. Irish Natural Forestry Foundation, Ireland
79. Irish Seal Sanctuary, Ireland
80. Irish Whale and Dolphin Group, Ireland
81. Just Forests, Ireland
82. Legambiente, Italy
83. Nature Code, Austria
84. Polish Climate Coalition, Poland
85. Progressio, Ireland
86. Quercus – Associação nacional de Conservação da Natureza, Portugal
87. Réseau Action Climat - France
88. Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, United Kingdom
89. VOICE of Irish Concern for the Environment, Ireland

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