



Letter to Foreign Ministers and Heads of Delegations:

Support the Climate Change & Human Rights Resolution at the UN General Assembly

Background: On 29 November 2022, Champions Nations calling for an International Court of Justice Advisory Opinion on Climate Change sent their draft Resolution to all UN member states to kickstart the inclusive consultation process, culminating in a final draft Resolution which has been to date been co-sponsored by 119 nations¹. **The final step will be the tabling and adoption of the Resolution during the 77th session of the UNGA on March 29th.**

The International Court of Justice is the only UN Principal organ which has not yet been given an opportunity to address and contribute constructive solutions towards the climate emergency.

The legal clarity contained within the Advisory Opinion will help states improve their Nationally Determined Contributions to the Paris Agreement, as well as strengthen domestic policies and legislations with human rights protections. It will offer clarity on state action under international treaties and general international law. This is a really important process to ensure that we consider the Paris Agreement in a more holistic manner across treaties and enshrined in the rule of law. It will also further the understanding of climate change as a human rights crisis. As such this will be an important tool as we continue to seek climate justice for current and future generations.

Please refer to the draft resolution here: <https://www.vanuatuicj.com/resolution>

Translations of this Letter can be found below:

[Spanish Translation](#)

[Arabic Translation](#)

[French Translation](#)

To the Attention of Foreign Ministers and Heads of Delegations negotiating on behalf of their governments and constituted groups,

Amidst the urgency to address climate change, bold and purposeful action remains wanting. COP27 did not deliver the progression we need to give us a chance to stay with 1.5C. In a future where we succeed in limiting warming to 1.5C, whole reef systems will die off, storms, heat waves and droughts will be more extreme, coastlines will disappear and millions will be

¹ As of March 23rd 2023

displaced. For every tenth of a degree of warming, the impacts will get worse, but for every tenth prevented the extent of future damage will be limited.

In this critical decade, humanity has a last chance to change a long course of massive and unbridled environmental degradation, highlighted by the challenge of climate change. Future generations will look back at what present generations did or failed to do to rise to this challenge.

The Government of Vanuatu, with champion countries, are rising to this challenge by seeking a constructive route through which to enhance ambition in line with the Paris Agreement. They will do so by tabling a resolution to seek an advisory opinion from the International Court of Justice during the 77th Session of the UN General Assembly.

An Advisory Opinion on climate change sought from the International Court of Justice is the most authoritative avenue available for an independent clarification of the legal implications of climate change under international law. By supporting the resolution by co-sponsoring, or in the event it goes to vote, voting 'Yes' would reinforce your country's dedication to climate ambition, to intergenerational equity, and a climate safe future for all.

The draft Resolution (which can be read here: <https://www.vanuatuicj.com/resolution>) does not single out any one State or government, but ensures that *all* States' obligations are considered. It does not seek reinterpretation of the Paris Agreement but brings consistency and coherence to a range of international laws and principles to address one of the world's most complex problems.

Endorsing this resolution as it is tabled would send a clear signal to present and future generations that their governments did not leave any stone unturned to address the climate crisis. We implore you to be a champion for climate justice and for our collective future by voting yes on the UNGA resolution for an Advisory Opinion from the International Court of Justice (ICJ) on climate change.

Civil Society is watching. There is no climate justice without human rights. Vote yes for ambition and for climate justice.

Sincerely,

International Organisations

1. 350.org
2. ActionAid International
3. Amnesty International
4. Care About Climate
5. CARE International
6. CBM Global Disability Inclusion
7. Center for Economic and Social Rights (CESR)
8. Center for International Environmental Law (CIEL)

9. Child Rights International Network (CRIN)
10. Climate Action Network International
11. Environmental Justice Foundation
12. Franciscans International
13. Fridays for Future MAPA
14. Fridays for Future International
15. Global Initiative for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
16. Global Witness
17. Greenpeace
18. Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy
19. International Network for Sustainable Energy (INFORSE)
20. Islamic Relief Worldwide
21. Not1More
22. Oxfam International
23. Parents For Future Global
24. Peace Boat
25. Soka Gakkai International (SGI)
26. Unitarian Universalist Service Committee
27. World's Youth for Climate Justice
28. WWF International
29. Youth for Ecocide Law

National and Regional Organizations

30. 350 Otago/Christchurch
31. 350 Pacific
32. AbibiNsroma Foundation ANF
33. Acção Florestal
34. Action for Nature
35. Action Jeunesse pour le Développement
36. Africa Climate and Health Alliance
37. African Coalition on Green Growth
38. Africans Rising
39. Ahetaha Water Conservation Association
40. ALECIF
41. ALECIF Chile
42. Alpha Action for Social and Economic Development-AASED
43. American Friends Service Committee
44. American Football For African Mission
45. Arab Peace League Organization, Branch Manager MOROCCO
46. ARAYARA.org
47. Asamblea Comunitaria
48. ASEDE
49. Asociación Interamericana para la Defensa del Ambiente (AIDA)

50. Asociación La Ruta del Clima
51. Auroramållet
52. Australian Health Promotion Association
53. Australian Parents for Climate Action
54. Barranquilla+20
55. Cairns and Far North Environment Centre (CAFNEC)
56. CAN Latin America
57. CAN South Asia
58. CAN Tunisia
59. Caribbean Youth Climate Council
60. Catholic Agency for Overseas Development
61. CBM Ireland
62. CBM UK (Global Disability Inclusion)
63. Center for Participatory Research and Development-CPRD
64. Centre for Citizens Conserving Environment & Management (CECIC)
65. Centre for Law, Justice & Policy (Denning Law School)
66. Centro de Desarrollo Humano.CDH
67. Centro Mexicano de Derecho Ambiental A.C.
68. Christian Aid
69. Christian Aid Ireland
70. Church of the Larger Fellowship (Unitarian Universalist)
71. Climate Action Network - Réseau action climat Canada
72. Climate Action Network Arab World
73. Climate Action Network Australia
74. Climate Action Network Japan
75. Climate Action Network Southeast Asia
76. Climate Action Network UK (CAN-UK)
77. Climate Action Network Zimbabwe
78. Climate Action Nurses
79. Climate and Health Alliance
80. Climate Emergency Australia
81. Climate Justice Programme
82. Climate Justice Taranaki
83. Climate Refugees
84. CNCD-11.11.11
85. Coordination Office of the Austrian Bishops' Conference for International Development and Mission (KOO)
86. Coalizão Negra Por Direitos
87. COESUS - Coalizão Não Fracking Brasil
88. Comité Ambiental Comunal de la comuna de Paine
89. Comite de dd.hh. y ecologicos de Quilpue.
90. CONECIFM Chile
91. Conscious Consultants Worldwide
92. Consejo de Jóvenes de Oaxaca - México

93. Derecho Ambiente y Recursos Naturales
94. Dibeem For Environmental Development
95. Diplomats for Climate Action Now
96. Dunia Salama Foundation
97. EcoEquity
98. Ecologistas en Acción
99. Edmund Rice Centre for Justice and Community Education
100. Emmaus International
101. Environmental and Conservation Organisations of New Zealand
102. Environmental Investigation Agency (EIA)
103. Environmental Protection Society Malaysia
104. European Environmental Bureau
105. Faith for the Climate
106. Fast For the Climate
107. FECOFUN
108. Finnish Climate Grandparents
109. Finnish development NGOs
110. Fridays for Future Digital
111. Fridays for Future Ecuador
112. Fridays for Future Indonesia
113. Fridays for Future Sierra Leone
114. Fridays for Future Sweden
115. Fridays for Future Zambia
116. Fridays for Future NYC
117. Fundação SOS Mata Atlântica
118. Fundación ARAYARA
119. GenderCC SA - Women for climate justice
120. Global Climate Activists
121. Global Focus
122. Global Pact Coalition
123. Grandmothers Advocacy Network
124. Grata Fund
125. Green Alternative
126. Habitat Sivar
127. Health Care Without Harm Southeast Asia
128. Human Rights Watch
129. Iceland Nature Conservation Association
130. ILAJUC - Latin American Institute for Collective Justice
131. Italian Climate Action Network
132. Indigenous Environmental Network
133. Indigenous Peoples' Organisation-Australia
134. Indigenous Strategy and institution for development
135. INSEDA (Integrated Sustainable Energy and Ecological Development Association)
136. Instituto de Referência Negra Peregum

137. Instituto Internacional Arayara
138. Instituto Marielle Franco
139. International Climate Change Development Initiative
140. International helping for young
141. Islamic Society of North America (ISNA)
142. Jeunes Volontaires pour l'Environnement
143. Jubilee Australia Research Centre
144. Jve Cote D'ivoire
145. Klimadelegation E.V.
146. Kmun
147. Legambiente
148. Lets Green The Future
149. LITIGA.org
150. Mai-Maasina Green Belt
151. Main Line Unitarian Church
152. Mapala Pawana Fmipa Universitas Tadulako (Pawana Nature Lovers Students Faculty Of Mathematics And Natural Sciences Tadulako University)
153. Miljöjuristerna
154. Mom Loves Taiwan Association
155. Movimiento social y asociacion VIH renacer de neiva
156. Mujeres Modatima
157. Natural Justice
158. Nature Palace Foundation
159. Net Balance Foundation
160. Northern Beaches Climate Action Network
161. Observatório do Clima
162. observatorio iberoamericano de Discapaidad.AR
163. OCM Observatório do Carvão Mineral
164. OPG Observatório do Petróleo e Gás
165. Ozeanien-Dialog
166. Pacific Islands Climate Action Network
167. Pacific Islands Students Fighting Climate Change
168. Peoples Climate Assembly
169. Peoples Federation for National Peace and Development (PEFENAP)
170. Permafrost Pathways at Woodwell Climate Research Center
171. Pivot Point
172. Plan International Australia
173. Plataforma Boliviana Frente al Cambio Climático
174. Plataforma CIPÓ
175. Polluters Out
176. Project Dryad
177. Promotion of Sustainable Development in Donga Mantung Association (PROSDOMA)
178. Raise Your Voice Saint Lucia Inc

179. Reacción Climática
180. Rebelión o Extinción Bolivia
181. REDE GTA
182. Rehoboth initiative for Africa
183. Right Livelihood College Bangkok
184. Rise Up WV
185. Rodzice dla Klimatu - Parents For Future Poland
186. Roreaita Biodiversity Rainforest Conservation Association
187. Ruma
188. Sauti Ya Wanawake
189. Save & Plant Trees!
190. Save the Children Vanuatu
191. Saving Tuvalu
192. SAYCC
193. SCIAF (Caritas Scotland)
194. SDS-Shariatpur Development Society
195. Smart Youth Network Initiative
196. SMRC
197. Solomon Islands Climate Action Network
198. Southern Africa Climate Change Coalition
199. SSF | Sustentabilidad Sin Fronteras
200. Stamp Out Poverty
201. Sustainable Development Council
202. Sustainable Ocean Alliance (Hub Ecuador)
203. Talanoa
204. Tearfund
205. Terra de Direitos
206. Texas Impact
207. The ChariTree Foundation
208. The Climate Reality Project - Australia and Pacific
209. The University of the South Pacific
210. Tomorrow Green DR Congo
211. Tunza Eco-Generation
212. Uganda Coalition for Sustainable Development
213. Uma Gota No Oceano
214. Union of Concerned Scientists
215. UNISC International
216. UPM
217. Vanuatu Climate Action Network
218. Viernes Por El Futuro Colombia
219. Vostile Creatives Trust
220. Vote Earth Now
221. Vuku Zenzele Development Forum
222. WECF International

223. Wo-Mi Women Migrants
224. Women In Communities Zimbabwe
225. World Friends for Africa Burkina Faso
226. World's Youth for Climate Justice
227. Young Friends of the Earth Norway
228. Youth and Environment Europe (YEE)
229. Youth for Environmental Law Indonesia (Youthfel Indonesia)
230. Youth Meeting
231. Youth Network for the Sustainable Development Goals
232. Youths and Environmental Advocacy Centre (YEAC-Nigeria)
233. Zimbabwe Climate Change Coalition