



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. Global Initiative for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
15. Global Witness
16. Greenpeace
17. Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy
18. International Network for Sustainable Energy (INFORSE)
19. Islamic Relief Worldwide
20. Oxfam International
21. Parents For Future Global
22. Peace Boat
23. Soka Gakkai International (SGI)
24. Unitarian Universalist Service Committee
25. World's Youth for Climate Justice
26. WWF International
27. Youth for Ecocide Law

National and Regional Organizations

28. 350 Otautahi/Christchurch
29. 350 Pacific
30. AbibiNsroma Foundation ANF
31. Acção Florestal
32. Action for Nature
33. Action Jeunesse pour le Développement
34. Africa Climate and Health Alliance
35. African Coalition on Green Growth
36. Africans Rising
37. Ahetaha Water Conservation Association
38. ALECIF
39. ALECIF Chile
40. Alpha Action for Social and Economic Development-AASED
41. American Friends Service Committee
42. American Football For African Mission
43. Arab Peace League Organization, Branch Manager MOROCCO
44. ARAYARA.org
45. Asamblea Comunitaria
46. ASEDE
47. Asociación Interamericana para la Defensa del Ambiente (AIDA)
48. Asociación La Ruta del Clima
49. Australian Health Promotion Association

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

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

137. Jve Cote D'ivoire
138. Klimadelegation E.V.
139. Kmun
140. Legambiente
141. Lets Green The Future
142. LITIGA.org
143. Mai-Maasina Green Belt
144. Main Line Unitarian Church
145. Mapala Pawana Fmipa Universitas Tadulako (Pawana Nature Lovers Students Faculty Of Mathematics And Natural Sciences Tadulako University)
146. Mom Loves Taiwan Association
147. Movimiento social y asociacion VIH renacer de neiva
148. Mujeres Modatima
149. Natural Justice
150. Nature Palace Foundation
151. Net Balance Foundation
152. Northern Beaches Climate Action Network
153. Observatório do Clima
154. observatorio iberoamericano de Discapaidad.AR
155. OCM Observatório do Carvão Mineral
156. OPG Observatório do Petróleo e Gás
157. Oxfam UK
158. Ozeanien-Dialog
159. Pacific Islands Climate Action Network
160. Pacific Islands Students Fighting Climate Change
161. Peoples Climate Assembly
162. Peoples Federation for National Peace and Development (PEFENAP)
163. Permafrost Pathways at Woodwell Climate Research Center
164. Pivot Point
165. Plan International Australia
166. Plataforma Boliviana Frente al Cambio Climático
167. Plataforma CIPÓ
168. Polluters Out
169. Project Dryad
170. Promotion of Sustainable Development in Donga Mantung Association (PROSDOMA)
171. Raise Your Voice Saint Lucia Inc
172. Reacción Climática
173. Rebelión o Extinción Bolivia
174. REDE GTA
175. Rehoboth initiative for Africa
176. Right Livelihood College Bangkok
177. Rise Up WV
178. Rodzice dla Klimatu - Parents For Future Poland

179. Roreaita Biodiversity Rainforest Conservation Association
180. Ruma
181. Sauti Ya Wanawake
182. Save & Plant Trees!
183. Save the Children Vanuatu
184. SAYCC
185. SCIAF (Caritas Scotland)
186. SDS-Shariatpur Development Society
187. Smart Youth Network Initiative
188. SMRC
189. Solomon Islands Climate Action Network
190. Southern Africa Climate Change Coalition
191. SSF | Sustentabilidad Sin Fronteras
192. Stamp Out Poverty
193. Sustainable Development Council
194. Sustainable Ocean Alliance (Hub Ecuador)
195. Talanoa
196. Tearfund
197. Terra de Direitos
198. Texas Impact
199. The ChariTree Foundation
200. The Climate Reality Project - Australia and Pacific
201. The University of the South Pacific
202. Tomorrow Green DR Congo
203. Tunza Eco-Generation
204. Uganda Coalition for Sustainable Development
205. Uma Gota No Oceano
206. Union of Concerned Scientists
207. UNISC International
208. UPM
209. Vanuatu Climate Action Network
210. Viernes Por El Futuro Colombia
211. Vostile Creatives Trust
212. Vote Earth Now
213. Vuku Zenzele Development Forum
214. WECF International
215. Wo-Mi Women Migrants
216. Women In Communities Zimbabwe
217. World Friends for Africa Burkina Faso
218. World's Youth for Climate Justice
219. Young Friends of the Earth Norway
220. Youth and Environment Europe (YEE)
221. Youth for Environmental Law Indonesia (Youthfel Indonesia)
222. Youth Meeting

223. Youth Network for the Sustainable Development Goals
224. Youths and Environmental Advocacy Centre (YEAC-Nigeria)
225. Zimbabwe Climate Change Coalition