UN Leadership Forum on Climate Change  
22 September 2009, United Nations New York

DECLARATION
by
Business, Investors and Civil Society
to
Governments

Our world is at a critical juncture. Governments must take collective action now to address climate change. Failure to do so will result in catastrophic damage to the planet, people and the global marketplace. Future advances in global integration, wealth creation, poverty reduction and peace building will all critically depend on our ability to address this challenge. We – leaders of business, the investment community and civil society – have come together at the UN Leadership Forum on Climate Change to convey to Heads of State and Government our explicit support for the negotiation of a balanced and effective global climate agreement. Our call for action is based on the following rationale:

Climate change is the test of leadership in the 21st century. Reaching an effective climate agreement will require a new level of leadership. The right decisions and actions will not come easily and resistance is strong. Leaders in a position to make key decisions must be committed and unyielding in their support for a global agreement. Just as business has had to manage a paradigm shift in the wake of the global economic crisis, Governments are called upon to put long-term sustainability ahead of short-term constituent politics.

The future of the global marketplace hangs in the balance. A global agreement on climate and a sufficient price for carbon will help ensure the continuation of a global marketplace based on openness and competition. Strong markets are needed to diffuse climate solutions. On the other hand, failure to find agreement would result in trade tensions and competitive distortions that not only threaten the foundations of our global economy, but also any future advances in sustainable economic and social development.

Effective climate action can trigger an era of sustainable prosperity. It is indisputable that the cost of inaction will be far greater than the cost of addressing climate change now. Transition to low-carbon production and consumption presents a tremendous value creation opportunity. By retooling the global economy in this way, opportunities will arise in new markets, products and industries. Only through regulatory certainty can an engine of green growth emerge which drives innovation, spurs massive global investments and enhances efficiencies, allowing climate mitigation and adaptation approaches to reach full scale. However, a lack of a global climate agreement and clear pricing on carbon will undermine existing investments and projects and lead to higher costs for business.

Transformation is possible and viable. Business has already made significant progress in identifying and innovating solutions for climate adaptation and mitigation. Investors are steadily building climate change into their decision making. The transition to a low carbon economy is well within reach. Now what is needed are the right incentives and regulatory certainty.

Climate action is integral to human security. Each of us has an obligation to prioritize climate change. Climate change is not a stand-alone issue. It is intimately connected to a host of critical security issues linked to food, water, health, poverty, migration, displacement, and energy, among others. We all - business leaders, investors, consumers and citizens - must adapt our value system to these realities. Above all, world leaders from all nations are called upon to set an example by enacting an ambitious climate change agreement that protects the future of the earth and all people.
PARTICIPANTS OF THE UN LEADERSHIP FORUM ON CLIMATE CHANGE*

AB SKF
ABB Intl.
ABSA Bank
Abu Dhabi National Energy Company TAQA
Acciona
Action Aid International
Africa Investor
Aja Partners
Alcoa
Allianz Climate Solutions GMBH
AP7
APG Asset Management US Inc
Areva
Asahi Shimbun Newspaper
Barilla
Beijing Rong Zhi Institute of CSR
Better Place
BP plc
Bring CityMail Sweden AB
British Airways
Broad Air Conditioning
Bunengi Group
C Change Investments
CalSTRS-California State Teachers’ Retirement System
Calvert Investments
Carbon Disclosure Project
CARE International
Ceres
Cerrejón
Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, Research Centre for Sustainable Development
Cisco Systems
Climate Action Network – International
Climate Change Capital
ClimateWorks Foundation
Clinton Climate Initiative
Committee Encouraging Corporate Philanthropy
Conservation International
Copagaz Distribuidora de Gas
Copenhagen Climate Council
CropLife International
Danfoss
De Beers Family of Companies
Deloitte
Deutsche Bank Group
Duke Energy Corporation
DuPont
E3G
Emirates Environmental Group
ENEL S.p.A.
ENI
Environmental Capital Group
Ericsson
ESB
Eskom Holdings Ltd
ESRC Centre for Climate Change Economics and Policy
European Climate Foundation
FESCO Transportation Group
First Solar Inc
Fuji Xerox Co., Ltd.
Generation Investment Management
Global Alternative Energy Foundation
Global Campaign for Climate Action
Global Environment Fund
Global System Mobile Association
Global Wind Energy Council
Goldman Sachs
Green for All
Greenpeace International
HESTA Super Fund
Hindustan Construction Company
IIASA and TU Wien
ING U.S. Retirement Services
Instituto Ethos de Empresas e Responsabilidade Social
International Air Transport Association/Air Transport Action Group
International Business Leaders Forum
International Fertilizer Industry Assoc
International Hotels and Restaurants Assoc
International Organisation of Employers
International Trade Union Confederation
International Transport Workers Federation
Investor Group on Climate Change
Islamic Foundation for Ecology & Environmental Sciences
Junior Chamber International
Kenya Electricity Generating Company Ltd.
Korea Energy Management Corporation
Kraft Foods Inc
LG Electronics
Mandag Morgen/Monday Morning
Manpower
MAP International
Marocaine Industrielle, Financiere et Agricole (MIFA)
Masdar
McKinsey & Company
Mitsui Sumitomo Insurance Group Holdings
Nand & Jeeet Khemka Foundation
Natura
New Energy Solutions Financing
Nextel de Mexico, S.A. de C.V.
Norwegian Refugee Council
Novozymes AS
Oando PLC
ONE
Oxfam International
Postcode Lotteries
Praj Industries Ltd
PricewaterhouseCoopers International
Public Services International
Qatar Airways
Randhill Berhad
Realizing Rights: The Ethical Globalization Initiative
Red Española del Pacto Mundial de Naciones Unidas
Repsol YPF
Restaurantes Toks
Rockefeller Foundation
Roman Catholic Archdiocese of St. Andrews and Edinburgh
Rotary International and The Rotary Foundation
Royal Dutch Shell plc
Royal Philips Electronics
SAP AG
SAS Group
Sea Change Foundation
SEKEM
Siemens Renewable Energy
Sompol Japan Insurance Inc.
Soros Climate Fund Management LLC
Statoilhydro ASA
SunRice
Suntech Power Holdings
Sustainable Living Fabrics
Swiss Re
Tata Chemicals
Tata Group
Telefónica International
TERI
The Climate Group
The Prince of Wales's Corporate Leaders’ Group on Climate Change
Tonutti Group
Transparency International
UN Foundation
Unified Technologies Group, Inc
US Council for International Business
US Renewables Group
Vattenfall
Vestas Wind Systems A/S
Vestergaard Frandsen
Visao Sustentável
World Agriculture Forum
World Business Council for Sustainable Development
World Economic Forum
World Vision International
World Wide Fund for Nature

* List of participants as of 20 September 2009 from: business and investment community, business associations, civil society, foundations and workers’ organizations. Of the companies attending the Forum, approximately 40 percent report their greenhouse gas emissions (c.630 MTCO2e of direct emissions in 2008) and strategic climate change data to the Carbon Disclosure Project.