G7 Leaders: Stop Pushing All Fossil Fuels & Invest in the Clean Energy Transition

As governments gather for the G7 Summit to discuss how to build a "strong, sustainable, balanced and inclusive recovery," it is critical that G7 governments put "global ambitions on climate change and the reversal of biodiversity loss at the centre" of their plans[1] and stop financing fossil fuels.

We are at a pivotal moment in the climate emergency. The devastating local, regional, and global impacts of climate change are already disproportionately affecting frontline communities, Indigenous people, women, youth, social movements, workers, unions, urban movements, and farmers in the global South. The longer action is delayed, the harder it will be to avoid the worst climate impacts and ensure a just transition for workers, communities, and countries. At the same time, the economic and health impacts of the COVID-19 crisis, combined with the increasing impacts of climate change, have created devastating situations for countries in the global South.

We Can't Afford More Fossil Fuels

The currently planned production and expansion of fossil fuels globally is not compatible with globally agreed climate targets.[2] In its May 2021 report, the International Energy Agency has confirmed that new oil, gas, and coal projects anywhere in the world are not compatible with limiting global warming to 1.5°C and that governments need to urgently step up their ambition in phasing out existing production.[3] Northern countries must pay their fair share for a global transition and move first and fastest in phasing out fossil fuels. This also means the continued and deliberate proliferation of coal, oil, and gas in Africa, Asia, and Latin America is contrary to scientific evidence that calls for an urgent halt to fossil fuel expansion due to debilitating impacts on the climate, livelihoods, public health and the environment.

Gas is Dirty, Expensive, and Unnecessary for Development

G7 governments and other northern countries continue to promote reliance on gas and other fossil fuels in the global South. G7 and other northern government financial institutions are supporting the expansion of gas projects not just at home but overseas with huge sums of public money. Continued investment in fossil fuels, including gas, will lock in emissions and create stranded assets that will particularly burden developing countries into the future. Instead of seeking loopholes to prop up dirty gas development, financial institutions — and the governments that back them — should explicitly end all financing and support for fossil fuels. This would in turn free up significant sums of public money to invest in building back better from the coronavirus and increase support for developing countries.

A Just Recovery Must Alleviate Debt Burdens

The COVID-19 crisis has led to instability in oil prices, less investment, and falling government revenues, and as a result global South debt payments have become even more unsustainable,

especially in fossil fuel producing countries. These debt payments are mounting at the same time that countries need to expand healthcare and social protections to deal with the effects of the pandemic. G7 governments must pursue debt cancellation to alleviate this burden.

What our governments decide now will set the course for whether we cut global carbon emissions by 2030, stop harming communities with dirty fossil fuel projects, and keep people whole — or fail to protect our planet and communities.

We, the 353 undersigned organizations from 58 countries, call on the leaders of G7 governments to listen and respond to the voices of global citizens calling for climate justice, debt cancellation, and an end to fossil fuel extraction, and take the following actions:

- Cancel debt payments in global South countries grappling with COVID-19 and climate impacts;
- Stop all fossil fuel finance from bilateral and multilateral funding sources, and encourage other governments to do the same;
- Support mechanisms for countries in the South that will speed up a just transition, and discourage international trade arbitration mechanisms that protect fossil fuel investors;
- Pay their fair share of climate finance to global South countries for climate adaptation, the development of renewable energy technologies, a just transition to clean energy for workers, communities, and countries, and access to energy for those who currently lack it;
- Put an end to fossil fuel development in your own countries, including by ending fossil fuel subsidies; manage the decline of existing production of oil, gas, and coal; and rapidly initiate a just transition to clean and safe renewable sources of energy involving extensive engagement with oil, gas, and coal workers, their unions and affected communities.

The climate crisis poses the greatest existential threat to our planet and our communities. The IPCC has warned that we must cut global greenhouse gas emissions roughly in half by 2030 to avert the most catastrophic impacts. Continued support for fossil fuels undermines global climate action and puts local communities' health at risk.

At this critical moment, we demand G7 governments demonstrate meaningful climate leadership and stop fueling the climate crisis with continued support for fossil fuels, including fossil fuel production and consumption in countries of the global South.

References:

[1] <u>G7 February Virtual Summit Commitments</u>

- [2] See <u>Production Gap</u> and <u>The Sky's Limit</u> reports
- [3] <u>IEA: Roadmap for the Global Energy Sector</u>

Signed,

AbibiNsroma Foundation - Ghana Action Center on Race & the Economy - United States Action for Nature - Zambia ActionAid Denmark - Denmark ActionAid International - International

ActionAid USA - United States Africa Coal Network - Africa Africa Institute for Energy Governance - Africa Africa Network for Environment & Economic Justice - Nigeria Aitec - France

Akad Cultural Institute - Iraq Alianza Mexicana contra el Fracking - Mexico Alliance for Empowering Rural Communities - Ghana Amazon Watch - United States Amnesty International - International

Andy Gheorghiu Consulting - Germany Animal Save Movement - Canada Animals Are Sentient Beings - United States Anti-Slavery International - United Kingdom Arab Watch Coalition - Middle East & North Africa

Asamblea por el Agua y la Tierra de Fiske Menuco - Argentina Asian Energy Network - Philippines Asian Peoples' Movement on Debt & Development - Asia Association La Siesta Mohammedia - Morocco Association pour l'Autopromotion des Communautes de Base - Togo

Association pour la Taxation des Transactions Financières et pour l'Action Citoyenne France -France Association Talassemtane pour l'Environnement et Développement - Morocco Association Tunisienne de Droit du Developpement - Tunisia Association Tunisienne de Gouvernance Locale - Tunisia Australasian Centre for Corporate Responsibility - Australia

Australian Religious Response to Climate Change - Australia Automation Control Quality Identification - Belgium Aytzim: Ecological Judaism - United States Bank Information Center - United States BankTrack - Netherlands

Bellagram Telegrams - United States Berks Gas Truth - United States Big Shift Global - International Blue Future - United States Bold Alliance - United States

Bond - United Kingdom Both ENDS - Netherlands Bretton Woods Project - United Kingdom Businesses for a Livable Climate - United States California Businesses for a Livable Climate - United States

Call to Action Colorado - United States Campaign Against Climate Change - United Kingdom Canadian Health Association for Sustainability & Equity - Canada Care for the Elderly Intellectuals - Azerbaijan Care on Call - New Zealand

Carrizo/Comecrudo Tribal Nation - United States Catherine Park Bushcare - Australia Catholic Agency For Overseas Development / CAFOD - United Kingdom CatholicNetwork US - United States Center for Biological Diversity - United States

Center for International Environmental Law - International Center for Natural Resources Governance - Zimbabwe Centr za Ekologiju i Energiju - Bosnia & Herzegovina Centre de Recherche et d'Action sur les Droits Economiques, Sociaux et Culturels - Senegal Centre for Citizens Conserving Environment & Management - Uganda

Centre for Climate Safety - Australia Centre for Environmental Rights - South Africa Change The Chamber - United States Chatham Research Group - United States Christians For Future Germany - Germany

Clean Air Action Group - Hungary Clean Energy Action Colorado - United States Climate & Health Alliance - Australia Climate Action Network Europe - Europe Climate Action Network South Asia - India Climate Action Network United Kingdom - United Kingdom Climate Action Now Western Mass - United States Climate Emergency Institute - Canada Climate First! - United States Climate Reality Project Silicon Valley Chapter - United States

Climate Reality Project Chicago Chapter - United States Climáximo - Portugal Coalition to Protect New York - United States Coastal Livelihood & Environmental Action Network - Bangladesh Colorado Businesses for a Livable Climate - United States

Colorado Small Business Coalition - United States Columban Center for Advocacy and Outreach - United States Comisión Interdisciplinaria de Medio Ambiente - Argentina Comité Nacional de Lucha Contra el Cambio Climático - Dominican Republic Conejo Climate Coalition - United States

Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd, U.S. Provinces - United States Consumers' Association of Penang - Malaysia Coordination des Associations et ONG Féminines du Mali - Mali Coordination Office of the Austrian Bishops' Conference for International Development & Mission - Austria COP26 Climate Action Plan - United Kingdom

Corporate Accountability & Public Participation Africa - Nigeria Corporate Europe Observatory - Europe Council of Canadians - Canada Council of Canadians Nelson Chapter - Canada Cultura Ecológica - Mexico

Defensores do Planeta - Brazil Derecho Ambiente y Recursos Naturales - Peru Dibeen For Environmental Development - Jordan Divest Hackney - United Kingdom Divest Strathclyde - Scotland

Dublin Friends of the Earth - Ireland Earth Action / Earth Ethics - United States Earth Day Initiative - United States Earthlife Africa - South Africa Eat for the Earth - United States Echo Public Association - Kazakhstan Eco Action Families - United Kingdom Eco World - Azerbaijan eco-union - Europe EcoEquity - United States

EcoFair Trading - Canada Ecological Party of Uganda - Uganda Economic Justice Network of Fellowship of Christian Councils in Southern Africa - South Africa Elmirans & Friends Against Fracking - United States Empower Our Future - United States

Energy & Environmental Initiative of Colorado Democratic Party - United States Environics Trust - India Environmental Defence Canada - Canada Environmental Justice Foundation - United Kingdom Environmental Rights Action / Friends of the Earth Nigeria - Nigeria

Environmental Smart - United Kingdom EnvironmentaLEE - United States Espace de Solidarité et de Cooperation de l'Oriental - Morocco Ethical Markets Media - United States Eurodad / European Network on Debt & Development - Belgium

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Fresh Eyes - United Kingdom FreshWater Accountability Project - United States Fridays For Future Angola - Angola Fridays For Future Bangladesh - Bangladesh Fridays For Future India - India

Fridays For Future Kyoto - Japan Fridays for Future MAPA - Global South Fridays for Future USA - United States Friends of the Earth England, Wales & Northern Ireland - United Kingdom Friends of the Earth Europe - Europe

Friends of the Earth International - International Friends of the Earth Japan - Japan Friends of the Earth Scotland - Scotland Friends of the Earth Togo - Togo Friends of the Earth U.S. - United States

Fund Our Future - International Fundación Ambiente y Recursos Naturales - Argentina Fundación Quantum - Costa Rica Gender Action - United States Glasgow Calls Out Polluters - Scotland

Glasswaters Foundation - Canada Global Catholic Climate Movement - International Global Greens - International Global Justice Now - United Kingdom Global Witness - International

Good Energies Alliance Ireland - Ireland Grand(m)others Act to Save the Planet - Canada Green 13 - Canada Green Christian - United Kingdom Green Education & Legal Fund - United States

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Groupe de Recherche et de Plaidoyer sur les Industries Extractives - Côte d'Ivoire Health of Mother Earth Foundation - Nigeria Hellard Media - Australia Inland Ocean Coalition - United States Institute for Policy Studies Climate Policy Program - United States

Instituto Brasileiro de Análises Sociais e Econômics - Brazil Instituto Talanoa - Brazil International Marine Mammal Project - International International Network for Sustainable Energy East Africa - Uganda Japan International Volunteer Center - Japan / Asia

Jubilee Australia - Australia Jubilee Scotland - United Kingdom Just Earth Toronto - Canada Justiça Ambiental / Friends of the Earth Mozambique - Mozambique KAIROS: Canadian Ecumenical Justice Initiatives - Canada

Kitsap Climate Team - United States Klimadelegation - Germany Law & Policy of Sustainable Development Research Center - Vietnam Legambiente - Italy Les Amis de la Terre / Friends of the Earth France - France

Lesy Čekanová - Czech Republic Let There Be Light International - International Liberty Tree Foundation - United States Madhvi4EcoEthics - United States Magyar Természetvédők Szövetsége / Friends of the Earth Hungary - Hungary

Managers For Future - Belgium Maryknoll Office for Global Concerns - United States Medcall Health - New Zealand MediCorner - Canada Mekong Watch - Japan

Methane Action - United States Milieudefensie - Netherlands Mineral Inheritors Rights Association - India National Advocacy Center of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd - United States Natural Justice: Lawyers for Communities & the Environment - International

Nature & Youth / Young Friends of the Earth Norway - Norway New Brunswick Anti-Shale Gas Alliance - Canada New Energy Economy - United States North American Climate, Conservation & Environment - United States North Range Concerned Citizens - United States Nuclear Information & Resource Service - United States Nurture The Children - United States Observatori del Deute en la Globalització - Spain Ocean Conservation Research - United States Oil Change International - International

Oilwatch Africa - Africa Operation Noah - United Kingdom Our Part Foundation - United States Parents For Future Austria - Austria Parents For Future Global - International

Parents for Future United Kingdom - United Kingdom Peace Boat - Japan Peace Point Development Foundation - Nigeria People for a Healthy Environment - United States People's Climate Movement Greater Toronto - Canada

Periodistas por el Planeta - Argentina Petrocultures Research Group - Canada Philadelphia Solar Energy Association - United States Physicians for Social Responsibility Arizona - United States Physicians for Social Responsibility Pennsylvania - United States

Plastic Pollution Coalition - United States Platform - United Kingdom Portage Community Rights Group - United States Powershift Africa - Africa Progressive Democrats of America - United States

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Réseau des Organisations pour la Transparence et l'Analyse Budgetaire - Niger Resonate! Yemen - Yemen Respecting Aboriginal Values & Environmental Needs - Canada Robin Hood Tax - United Kingdom Sahabat Alam Malaysia / Friends of the Earth Malaysia - Malaysia

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Seventh Generation Initiative - Canada Sisters Health & Wellness Collective - United States Social Eco Education-Los Angeles - United States Sociedad Amigos del Viento - Uruguay Society of Native Nations - United States

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