



The °Climate Group Principles

We are deeply concerned that greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from human activity have already modified the world's climate, and that failure to act now is likely to result in more widespread, irreversible changes to the climate with profound negative consequences for human society, the global economy, and the world's natural systems.

We recognise the urgency of addressing human-induced climate change and declare our common desire and commitment to work diligently and creatively to adopt solutions.

A. We believe;

1. That the atmosphere is fundamentally important as a global commons for all, held in stewardship for present and future generations, and that the climate plays a critical role in shaping human society, the global economy, and the natural world.
2. That present and future generations have the right to a climate that does not diminish socioeconomic opportunities or negatively impact on the functioning of natural systems as a result of human activity.
3. That climate change is an urgent problem that requires an internationally coordinated, collaborative response directed at substantially reducing global GHG emissions within a timeframe that minimises the risk of serious impacts.
4. That the transition to a low GHG economy will involve all levels of government, the private sector, non-governmental organisations and others and require a diversity of approaches reflecting the range of environmental and economic challenges involved.
5. That whilst fossil-fuel based industrialisation has brought benefits to large parts of human society, much of the world still lacks access to sufficient energy and hence the need for global emissions reduction must be pursued in a manner which equitably reconciles development goals and climate protection.

6. That whilst individuals, companies and governments share the responsibility to use energy efficiently and to strive to minimise GHG emissions, we should be guided by the principles of:
 - a. *Common but differentiated responsibility* i.e. those first to emit GHGs and to benefit from the processes that gave rise to them should act first to reduce emissions.
 - b. *'Polluter pays'* i.e. those with greater emissions have a greater onus upon them to show leadership.

B. We will therefore strive;

7. To achieve significant reductions in GHG emissions, doing the most we can given our circumstances, and exploring the full range of solutions available to us to facilitate the transition to a low GHG economy, including greater energy efficiency, renewable energy, the use of less greenhouse-gas intensive forms of energy, environmentally sound technologies, protection and enhancement of carbon sinks and reservoirs, sustainable agriculture, and improved waste management.
8. To prioritise the most cost-effective measures to reduce emissions, exploring mechanisms such as emissions trading, policies and laws to facilitate this.
9. To set clear and challenging yet achievable targets for emissions reductions for the short, medium and long term.
10. To make information publicly available on direct and indirect emissions of GHGs, and on progress made in reducing emissions.
11. To use our individual and collective influence to promote actions by others to reduce GHG emissions.
12. To support other serious international initiatives to combat climate change and its impacts.
13. To promote investment and participation in public education on the climate change threat and the solutions available in order to build the case for change.
14. To share lessons learned with others and keep apprised of best practices, policies and new innovations.

We call on others to join us in taking urgent action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and protect the climate.

On behalf of (*Applicant Organisation*).....

I hereby endorse the principles of The Climate Group listed above.

Signature:

Name:

Position within Organisation:

Date: