

RESOLUTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE

THIS YEAR WE SHAPE OUR FUTURE: SAVING OUR NEXT GENERATIONS TOMORROW BY COMMITTING TO FIGHT CLIMATE CHANGE TODAY

It is beyond dispute that climate change will be one of the biggest threats to humanity in the coming decades, with a disproportionate impact on the vulnerable developing countries. The effects of global warming are already visible today: the last decade was the warmest decade on record, with 2014 the warmest year ever recorded. As a result of rising temperatures, we see melting of ice sheets, significant losses of mountain glaciers and rising sea levels. Higher CO₂ concentration in the world's oceans is causing ocean acidification threatening the marine ecosystems, especially the coral reefs. The changing weather patterns are further affecting our environment, nature, biodiversity and natural habitats, causing loss of life, adverse health effects, damages to property and infrastructure, with serious negative impacts on agriculture and access to water, food and arable land for the farming-dependent communities, often resulting in conflicts and migration. This year marks a great opportunity to shape and change our future for the better and we must not miss it.

We, the CDI, remain devoted to our founding principles of Christian or integral humanism, safeguarding peace, freedom, justice and solidarity while promoting sustainable human development. The CDI is committed to limiting the global warming to below 2 degrees Celsius from pre-industrial levels and curbing the levels of manmade CO₂ emissions. As outlined in the most recent IPCC Report, the 2 degree target can be achieved at acceptable cost, but global action against climate change needs to start now.

In view of the upcoming international climate conference COP21 in Paris we, the CDI:

- Call on all actors and especially the **major emitting economies to outline their commitments** and help secure an ambitious comprehensive binding agreement adapted to the complex global environment;
- Underline that any global climate deal must be accompanied by **well-functioning financial instruments**;
- **Welcome the recent G7 pledges** by the world's major economies to limit their emissions and to continue their efforts to provide and mobilise increased climate finance;
- Call for **full deployment of renewable and carbon-free energy sources** as principal instruments to reduce our dependency on fossil fuels and further **disconnect economic growth from hydrocarbon use** is imperative in order to achieve our climate objectives;



- Emphasise the benefits of regional **cap-and-trade emissions schemes** as most cost-effective instruments to lower CO2 emissions and we support initiatives to **develop sectoral links** on a global level to effectively **prevent carbon leakage**;
- Note that well-designed carbon price is paramount in order to drive **investments** in research and development of **innovative clean green technologies** and enhancing energy efficiency.