



DECLARATION OF THE FEDERATED STATES AND REGIONAL GOVERNMENTS ON CLIMATE CHANGE

1. **RECOGNIZING** that climate change is an urgent, global problem that requires a coordinated, collaborative response to reduce greenhouse gas emissions for the benefit of present and future generations;
2. **RECOGNIZING** that due to historic emissions, some climate change is already occurring;
3. **RECOGNIZING** the important role of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and, for many of us, the Kyoto Protocol and the G8 Plan of Action in the global effort to combat climate change;
4. **RECOGNIZING** that there is an urgent need to negotiate a future global strategy to prepare for post-2012, in order to reverse the current rise of CO₂ emissions;
5. **RECOGNIZING** that building a low GHG economy involves collaboration by all orders of government, the private sector and non-governmental organizations such as the Climate Group as well as approaches that address the unique challenges that exist in different parts of the world;
6. **RECOGNIZING** that reducing greenhouse gas emissions will also reduce other air pollutants and therefore have positive effects on human health.

7. **RECOGNIZING** that actions being taken by federated states and regional governments as well as private corporations are already benefiting the environment by reducing emissions, fostering clean and renewable energy development, and bolstering the economy by creating a new marketplace for cutting-edge technologies and green industries;

8. **RECOGNIZING** that federated states and regional governments are directly affected by the impacts of climate change and that many are at the forefront in taking action on this issue, ***we will further commit to:***
 - a. Set achievable short and long term targets and objectives within our own jurisdictions for overall emission reductions through a range of solutions including, but not limited to:
 - market mechanisms;
 - improved energy efficiency in buildings, consumer equipment and appliances;
 - research and development;
 - new industrial processes and technologies;
 - sustainable mobility;
 - sustainable agriculture and forestry including maintaining healthy biological sinks;
 - better waste management;
 - and the use and promotion of cleaner and greener forms of energy.

 - b. Pursue the development, exchange, and implementation of best practices and strategies on emission reductions and emerging green industries as part of a sustainable development approach.

 - c. Develop and share communications and educational strategies that increase public awareness of climate change issues and solutions, in order to engage citizens directly in actions that bring about change.

 - d. Work collaboratively with other jurisdictions to commercialize more broadly clean technologies that will be needed to bring about greater emission reductions.

- e. Implement procurement policies within our own government operations that encourage and create greater demand for the uptake of climate-friendly technologies and thereby influence the marketplace.
 - f. Develop, implement, and share strategies to enhance adaptive capacity and knowledge to enable sectors and communities to respond to issues related to the changing climate.
 - g. Promote existing and new regional partnerships on climate change to implement these measures.
 - h. Meet again in 2008, in parallel to the 14th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), to measure our progress. Other meetings may occur as required.
9. **THEREBY** we encourage other federated states and regional governments to work with us on measures that both mitigate climate change and build green economies;
10. **FURTHERMORE** we also pledge to work with different orders of government, businesses and international research and academic institutions on realistic, achievable initiatives that will benefit our climate and our global economy in the long term.
11. **BY ENDORSING** the declaration, we demonstrate that federated states and regional governments have an important role in addressing climate change with efforts that build our economy and provide our citizens and future generations with a cleaner environment.

Signatories

Québec

Manitoba

Northwest Territories

Nunavut

Endorsed on behalf of

State of Bavaria

British Columbia

Brussels-Capital

California

Catalonia

Connecticut

Maine

New Brunswick

New South Wales

Nova Scotia

Ontario

Scotland

South Australia

Upper Austria

State of Vermont

Victoria

Wallonia

Western Cape

Alberta

Newfoundland and Labrador

São Paulo

Saskatchewan