



PARLIAMENTARIANS FOR GLOBAL ACTION

GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT WORKSHOP  
FOR  
PARLIAMENTARIANS

*“Global Warming: North–South and  
The Planetary Partnership”*

COMMUNIQUE:  
THE BELLAGIO STATEMENT

Bellagio, Italy

31 May – 2 June, 1990

PARLIAMENTARIANS FOR GLOBAL ACTION

BELLAGIO STATEMENT

"GLOBAL WARMING: A PLANETARY PARTNERSHIP"

1. We, members of Parliamentarians for Global Action, having met at Bellagio, Italy, from 31 May to 2 June, hereby establish a "Planetary Partnership for Environment and Development". This partnership is a coalition of parliamentarians from an initial thirteen countries and many different political parties dedicated to co-ordinated political action across national frontiers.

2. At this first meeting of the coalition, we have addressed the problem of climate change, recognised as a common concern of humanity. We accept the broad scientific consensus that the Earth's average surface temperature has increased 0.3-0.6° C during the last century. A warming of 2° C above the 1950-1980 average level over the next century would be a more rapid and extreme climatic change than anything occurring during the last 10,000 years. Such a warming would carry the planet to temperatures higher than any experienced during the past 100,000 years. We believe that, given the risks associated with rapid climate change, it is imperative that temperature increases over the next century not exceed 2° C above the 1950-1980 global average.

3. We note that the principal effects of global warming are flooding, loss of farm and forestland, drought, desertification, species extinction, crop failure, disease, environmental refugees and in consequence economic, social and political disorder.

4. The risks of rapid global warming cannot be reduced through national action alone. The response must be global, based on co-operation by all nations and regions of the planet. In the interests of inter-generational equity, a new environmental ethic must be embraced by all societies. A planetary partnership of all nations, North and South, is needed now to promote sustainable development based on equity among nations and the environmental integrity of the Earth.

5. We therefore call for a 50% global cut from 1988 emissions in the combined level of greenhouse gases by 2010. This will require alleviative measures in the case of each greenhouse gas by 2010, such as:

- a 20% cut in global carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions through fossil fuel burning;
- a 50% cut in the rate of global deforestation, to further reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions;
- global reforestation of 12 million hectares (30 million acres) per annum to increase the planet's absorptive capacity of CO<sub>2</sub>;
- a 10% cut in global emissions of methane;
- a 100% cut in global production and use of CFCs.

6. We recognise the need for an integrated approach to achieving the above-stated goals. This should include the following:

- a 20% cut in global CO<sub>2</sub> emissions through fossil fuel burning will require a relatively greater contribution from industrialised nations. In aggregate, they will need to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by an amount equal to 20-40% of 1988 emissions by 2010. We recognise that, given the difference in national circumstances, some developed countries will be able to achieve such goals relatively easily through domestic policy measures. Other developed

countries may choose to achieve an equivalent reduction by financing improved technologies in developing countries.

- developing countries, for their part, should be free to develop their economies with initial emission increases, provided their carbon intensity factor is improving and there is acceptance of the goal of ultimate emissions stabilisation.
- a 50% cut in the rate of global deforestation will be required particularly of tropical countries, whose rain forest areas are of vital importance to the planet's environment. Developed countries will be expected to reduce net deforestation to zero.

each country should state at the Second World Climate Conference what areas of reforestation it plans to undertake over the next five years with a view to achieving the global goal of 12 million hectares; and what agro-forestry, and forest preservation measures it intends to undertake in the future.

- the cut in global production and use of CFCs must be borne by all nations, developed and developing alike. Adequate assistance for introducing substitutes must be extended to developing countries.

7. The 50% global greenhouse gas reduction by 2010 should form the basis of a global agreement on climate change. Nations should immediately begin the task of assessing the specific measures that would have to be taken to meet their national responsibilities to contribute to the achievement of this goal. We call for appropriate assistance to developing countries to ensure that they play a full role in the negotiation process.

8. National action should precede the completion of a global climate change agreement. Measures to control greenhouse gas emissions can be taken immediately that are sound and beneficial in themselves. These measures should be seen not as national sacrifices, but as in the national interest over the long term through economic as well as ecological benefits. The achievement of such measures will be facilitated by the use of new national accounting principles encompassing all ecological aspects.

9. A global climate change agreement should include effective emission control protocols. We advocate a key role for a strengthened and expanded United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) within this regime including a permanent status for the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, which could play an important role in a global warming agreement. A technology evaluation centre could be established to identify and promote technologies that are environmentally sound.

10. A synthesis of interest between North and South is necessary for the convergence of global economic and environmental policy. Fundamental improvements in the economic relationship between North and South should include a fairer international financial system and terms of trade. The new era of cooperation between East and West should facilitate that goal.

11. Recognising that unprecedented population growth, poverty, environmental strains and sustainable development are all interrelated, we recommend greater priority for socio-economic programmes that contribute to population stabilisation; including education, improvement in the role and status of women, and the strengthening of family planning services.

12. Within the context of sound environmental practices, the development interests of the South will require substantial financial

and technological flows from the North, including promotion of endogenous capacity for research and the development of technology. A Global Marshall Plan from the North to the South should involve a commitment by all developed countries to contribute the equivalent of 0.1% of GNP annually (over and above existing official development assistance programmes) into a special fund to promote sustainable development. This initiative must take into account the fundamental relationship between international debt and environmental degradation. The imposition of a tax or user fee on greenhouse gas emissions in the North as a source of assistance for the South should be implemented immediately.

13. The developed nations should substantially increase funding for research, development and investment in energy efficiency and selective, renewable energy sources (solar, hydro, wind, geothermal, biomass) as a means of achieving both greenhouse gas reductions and cost-effective sustainable development. The developing nations should equally benefit from these efforts through technology transfer arrangements established for that purpose.

14. All nations should take action to improve or develop the capability for systematic national reporting and information exchange on greenhouse gas emissions and other data relevant to global warming, such as forest management. Many developing countries will need assistance in this area.

15. We encourage our parliaments and governments to move expeditiously toward these goals. There should be active parliamentary involvement in preparations for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, to be held in Brazil in 1992, including parliamentary representation on official delegations to the Conference. We recommend that Parliamentarians for Global Action convene regional meetings that would form the basis of a global parliamentary meeting in advance of the 1992 Conference.

16. We undertake to remain in contact with one another for co-ordinated action as the core of a broader network of Parliamentarians for Global Action members working to control climate change. We invite other members of parliament to join us in this planetary partnership.

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Hon. Warren Allmand,	International President, Parliamentarians for Global Action; MP, Canada
Senator Sartaj Aziz,	Member, Senate Committee on Agriculture, Forestry, and Rural Development, Pakistan
Dr. Jaime Castrejon	Diez, President, Science and Technology Commission, Member of Ecology Commission, Mexico
Dr. Salah El. Hammady,	Chair, Environment and Health Committee, Egypt
Dep. Fabio Feldmann,	Member, Environment Committee, Brazil
Mr. Takashi Kosugi,	Director, Standing Committee on Environment, Japan
Mrs. Thenjiwe Lesabe,	Deputy Minister for Environment and Tourism, Zimbabwe
Hon. David MacDonald,	Chair, Environment Committee, Canada
Ms. Jeanette McHugh,	Chair, Environment Committee, Australia
Drs. H.J. Mokoginta,	Member, Commission V (Industry, Mining, Energy, Oil, Labour and Investment), Indonesia
Mr. Francesco Rutelli,	Member, Foreign Affairs Committee, Italy
Hon. Claudine Schneider,	Member, Science & Technology Committee, U.S.A.
Mr. Yashwant Sinha,	Member, Environment Committee, India
Mr. Jacob van der Vaart,	Member, Environment Committee, Netherlands