

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr.
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

September 25, 2023

Dear President Biden,

On behalf of the millions of members and supporters of our 114 diverse business, development, environmental, health, science, faith-based, and foreign policy organizations, **we strongly urge the Biden Administration to announce an ambitious pledge to the Green Climate Fund's second replenishment.**

The Green Climate Fund (GCF) is the world's largest multilateral fund dedicated to investing in developing countries to address the climate crisis. The GCF has raised over \$20 billion in commitments from 46 contributing countries, including nine developing countries, since its inception in 2010.¹ These vital investments have been put to work supporting 228 climate mitigation and adaptation projects in 129 developing countries. The GCF also has a robust catalytic impact: for every dollar it provides in direct financial support, it mobilizes nearly three times more from other public and private sources, giving it an overall portfolio of over \$48 billion.²

The GCF is a lynchpin of the political bargain underpinning the Paris Agreement: that all countries need to do much more to tackle the climate crisis, but that the poorest countries, who did the least to cause the problem and are hit first and worst by its impacts, require concerted support from the richest and most polluting countries to act. The GCF's innovative design helps boost clean technology markets and supply chains (including for American manufacturers), fortifies vulnerable countries to reduce the risk of instability and conflict, and spurs other countries to accelerate their climate commitments and investments.

We fully support the Administration's efforts to deliver on your pledge to "recommit the United States to the Green Climate Fund, fulfilling America's pledge," including this year's announcement of a further \$1 billion contribution towards the initial \$3 billion pledge in 2014. This funding helps meet the Administration's commitment to provide \$11.4 billion per year in climate finance by Fiscal Year 2024, as well as \$3 billion in adaptation support per year through the PREPARE initiative as half of the GCF's portfolio are earmarked for adaptation efforts.

On October 5, Germany will host a high-level pledging conference for the GCF's second replenishment. Fourteen countries, including G7 members Germany, France, Canada, and the United Kingdom have announced increased pledges,³ and other major economies are expected to announce contributions. The previous administration did not contribute to the GCF's first replenishment in 2019, undermining the U.S.'s role in the GCF and broader climate diplomacy and leaving U.S. partners to fill the shortfall.

Key developing country leaders are underscoring the stakes of a strong GCF replenishment. As Kenyan President Ruto and African Union Commission Chair Mahamat recently stressed, “Developed countries must deliver on their historical commitments, including [...] ensuring a strong replenishment of the Green Climate Fund.”⁴ The Climate Vulnerable Forum, a partnership of 68 highly climate vulnerable countries, emphasized in its July 2023 High-Level Communiqué that a strong GCF replenishment for vulnerable countries “would send a powerful signal that developing nations are not being forgotten amidst competing and interrelated global crises.”⁵

We underscore the imperative for the U.S. to renew its commitment to the GCF by making an ambitious pledge. Failure to pledge would severely weaken America’s standing in the world, undercut its negotiating position at COP28 and other diplomatic venues, hamstringing efforts to encourage new donors to contribute climate finance, and send a troubling signal to developing and developed country partners alike about the U.S.’s commitment to multilateral climate progress.

Our groups stand united in our conviction to support the Administration and Congress in delivering an ambitious GCF investment to spur climate action across the world.

Sincerely,

Accelerate Global
Accelerate Neighborhood Climate Action
Action Against Hunger
ActionAid USA
Alabama Interfaith Power & Light
Alight
Alliance of Nurses for Healthy Environments
American Jewish World Service
Anthropocene Alliance
Bank Information Center
Bread for the World
Brighter Green
Buddhist Tzu Chi Foundation
Business Council for Sustainable Energy
Businesses for a Livable Climate
Cadasta Foundation
Call to Action Colorado
Care About Climate
Catholic Climate Covenant
Catholic Relief Services
CatholicNetwork US
CDA Collaborative Learning

CEEJH
Center for American Progress
Center for Biological Diversity
Center for Climate and Energy Solutions
Center for International Environmental Law (CIEL)
Ceres
Church Women United in New York State
Coalition on the Environment and Jewish Life
Community for Sustainable Energy
Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd, U.S. Provinces
Conservation International
Creation Justice Ministries
E2
E3G
EcoEquity
Elders Climate Action
Environmental Defense Fund
Faiths for Safe Water
Foreign Policy for America
Friends Committee on National Legislation
Friends of the Earth U.S.
Global Communities
Greater New Orleans Housing Alliance
Green House Connection Center
Health Care Without Harm
Heinrich Böll Foundation Washington, DC
Hip Hop Caucus
iMMAP
Indivisible Ambassadors
Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy
Institute for Policy Studies Climate Policy Program
InterAction
Interfaith Power & Light
International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW)
International Sustainable Resilience Center, Inc.
Interstate 70 Citizens Advisory Group
Islamic Relief USA
Justice is Global

Larimer Alliance for Health, Safety, & Environment
League of Conservation Voters
Littleton Business Alliance
MADRE
Maryknoll Office for Global Concerns
MedGlobal
Mennonite Central Committee U.S.
MN Interfaith Power & Light
National Advocacy Center of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd
National Wildlife Federation
Natural Resources Defense Council
North Range Concerned Citizens
Nuclear Information and Resource Service
Oil Change International
One Earth Sangha
Our Sacred Earth
Oxfam America
Partnership for Policy Integrity
Passionist Solidarity Network
Pennsylvania Interfaith Power & Light
Physicians for Peace
RapidShift Network
Save the Children
Save the Environmental Protection Agency
Sierra Club
Sisters of Mercy of the Americas Justice Team
Small Business Alliance
Spirit of the Sun
St. Columban Mission for Justice, Peace and Ecology
Sustana Cooling Partners, LLC
System Change Not Climate Change
The Climate Group
The Climate Reality Project
The Episcopal Church
The Imani Group
The Nature Conservancy
The People's Justice Council
The United Methodist Church - General Board of Church and Society

Trickle Up
Union for Reform Judaism
Union of Concerned Scientists
Unite Metro North Denver
United Church of Christ, Justice and Local Church Ministries
United Women in Faith
Wall of Women
WaterAid
Western Slope Businesses for a Livable Climate
Wildlife Conservation Society
Win Without War
Women's Environment and Development Organization (WEDO)
Womxn from the Mountain
Working for Racial Equity
World Learning
World Wildlife Fund - US

CC:

Vice President Kamala Harris
Antony Blinken, Secretary of State
Janet Yellen, Secretary, Department of the Treasury
John Kerry, Special Presidential Envoy for Climate
Jake Sullivan, National Security Advisor
Shalanda Young, Director, Office of Management and Budget
Ali Zaidi, National Climate Advisor
John Podesta, Senior Advisor, Clean Energy Innovation and Implementation
Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer
House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries
Senate Appropriations Committee Chair Patty Murray
House Appropriations Committee Ranking Member Rosa DeLauro
Senate Appropriations Committee State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs
Subcommittee Chair Christopher Coons
House Appropriations Committee State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs
Subcommittee Ranking Member Barbara Lee

¹ <https://www.greenclimate.fund/document/status-pledges-all-cycles>

² <https://www.greenclimate.fund/document/gcf-glance>

³ <https://www.greenclimate.fund/about/resource-mobilisation/gcf-2>

⁴ <https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/joint-statement-on-climate-action-between-president-of-kenya-he-william-samoei-ruto-cop28-president-designate-dr-sultan-al-jaber-he-and-african-union-commission-chair-moussa-faki-mahamat-301916805.html>

⁵ <https://thecvf.org/activities/program/declarations/high-level-communique-of-the-climate-vulnerable-forum/>