

**ACCION International • ActionAid USA • CARE USA
Church World Service • Conservation International • Earth Day Network • Earthjustice
Friends Committee on National Legislation • Friends of the Earth U.S.
International Rescue Committee • Islamic Relief USA
Jubilee USA Network • Leadership Conference of Women Religious
Mennonite Central Committee U.S. Washington Office
Mercy Corps • National Advocacy Center of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd
Natural Resources Defense Council • National Audubon Society
National Peace Corps Association • National Wildlife Federation
Pew Environment Group • Population Action International
Progressive National Baptist Convention • Sierra Club
Sisters of Mercy of Americas (Institute Leadership and Justice Teams)
Sojourners • Oxfam America • United Church of Christ, Justice and Witness Ministries
Virginia Interfaith Center • Women's Environment and Development Organization**

May 30, 2008

Re: International Adaptation Funding in the Climate Security Act of 2008

Dear Senator:

On behalf of the millions of members and supporters of our development, faith-based, environmental, and other organizations, we are writing to express our support for the “International Climate Change Adaptation and National Security Program” in the Lieberman-Warner Climate Security Act of 2008, S. 3036, and for robust funding for its implementation.

Impoverished countries will be the hardest hit by the devastating consequences of global warming, including water scarcity and drought in some areas and floods and sea-level rise in other areas, degradation of natural systems that support livelihoods, decreased agricultural productivity, and increased disease and other negative health impacts. They have the least capacity to cope with these adverse consequences. Climate change is quickly becoming a driver of poverty around the world, as well as a contributor to insecurity due to natural resource conflict and migration.

According to the UN Development Program, developing countries will need more than \$80 billion annually to cope with these impacts. We therefore believe a comprehensive climate policy must address these consequences of global warming. Doing so will help to build international consensus on climate change by engaging developing countries for whom adapting to climate impacts is a vital concern.

The Climate Security Act ensures funding to help vulnerable communities in poor countries adapt to the unavoidable impacts of climate change. The International Climate Change Adaptation and National Security Program provides for assistance to communities in the most vulnerable developing countries to build their resilience to climate change impacts.

We strongly support the commitment in the legislation to provide substantial international adaptation support over the lifetime of the bill. In the near term, efforts to help vulnerable communities adapt to the serious impacts of climate change are desperately needed as soon as possible. We therefore believe it is vital to significantly increase the funding for this program before 2018 by increasing the percentage of allowances devoted to it.

Climate change poses one of the greatest challenges to efforts to promote development around the world and reduce global poverty. As the legislation moves forward, we look forward to working with you to

support and strengthen the adaptation provision in the bill and to ensure that it promotes our national interests, while fulfilling our responsibility to the rest of the world.

Sincerely,

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