



December 1, 2010

U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20520

Re: The Establishment of a Global Climate Fund at the 16th Conference of Parties

Dear Ambassador Stern:

As development, environment, and science organizations, we are writing to you regarding the urgent need to establish an equitable and effective global climate fund at the upcoming climate negotiations in Cancun, Mexico. We thank you for your engagement on the creation of the global climate fund, and urge you to take a number of points into consideration as you continue your negotiations in Cancun.

We view the establishment of a Global Climate Fund which embodies the principles of transparency, accountability, representative governance, and meaningful participation of affected communities as absolutely essential. We believe that such a fund should be established in Cancun. Moving forward with the establishment of the Global Climate Fund in Cancun will help to build trust in the negotiations, which will in turn advance the interests of both the United States and of developing countries.

Additionally, we strongly believe that the Global Climate Fund must be designed within the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), as this will be key to its credibility, political acceptability, and ultimate success. Similar to the model which established the Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol, the fund could be designed in an open and transparent process by a working group which is established by and under the authority of UNFCCC Conference of Parties. It is also essential that the working group that designs the fund is composed of individuals with a range of expertise, including in finance, adaptation, and mitigation, and that the design process is completed by COP 17.

Finally, we urge you to support a global climate fund which is managed and governed independently from the international finance institutions and multilateral development banks. We support a fund which is under the UNFCCC but with an independent secretariat, similar to that of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB, and Malaria, and which is governed by an independent board under the authority of the UNFCCC. Such a board should include balanced and equitable representation from developed and developing countries, additional seats for countries most vulnerable to climate change, representatives from civil society in the North and South, and at least one representative from an affected local community in a developing country.

We thank for you for your attention to this issue and look forward to working with you on the establishment of an equitable and effective global climate fund.

Sincerely,

ActionAid USA
Church World Service
Friends of the Earth US
Greenpeace
Institute for Policy Studies

National Wildlife Federation
Oxfam America
Sierra Club
Union of Concerned Scientists
World Wildlife Fund