A Shared Quaker Statement
Facing the Challenge of Climate Change

“It would go a long way to caution and direct people in their use of the world, that they were better studied and knowing in the Creation of it. For how could [they] find the confidence to abuse it, while they should see the great Creator stare them in the face, in all and every part of it?” -- William Penn, 1693

As Quakers, we are called to work for the peaceable Kingdom of God on the whole Earth, in right sharing with all peoples.[1] We recognize a moral duty to cherish Creation for future generations.

We call on our leaders to make the radical decisions needed to create a fair, sufficient and effective international climate change agreement.

As Quakers, we understand anthropogenic climate change (climate change due to human activities) to be a symptom of a greater challenge: how to live sustainably and justly on this Earth.

We recognize that the current rise of greenhouse gas emissions is leading to an unprecedented rate of increase in global average surface temperature of extreme detriment to the Earth’s ecosystems and species, including human beings.

We recognize that catastrophic global climate change is not inevitable if we choose to act urgently.

We recognize a personal and collective responsibility to ensure that the poorest and most vulnerable peoples now, and all our future generations, do not suffer as a consequence of our actions. We see this as a call to conscience.

We recognize the connections between climate change and global economic injustice as well as unprecedented levels of consumption, and question assumptions of unlimited material growth on a planet with limited natural resources.

We recognize that most greenhouse gas emissions are created by fossil fuel combustion. We recognize that our increasing population continues to pursue fossil fuel-dependent economic growth. We recognize that the Earth holds more fossil fuel reserves than are safe to burn, and that the vast majority of fossil fuel reserves must remain in the ground if we are to prevent the catastrophic consequences of climate change. We therefore question profoundly the continued investment in, and subsidizing of, fossil fuel extraction.

We seek to nurture a global human society that prioritizes the well-being of people over profit, and lives in right relationship with our Earth; a peaceful world with fulfilling employment, clean air and water, renewable energy, and healthy thriving communities and ecosystems.

As members of this beautiful human family, we seek meaningful commitments from our leaders and ourselves, to address climate change for our shared future, the Earth and all species, and the generations to come. We see this Earth as a stunning gift that supports life. It is our only home. Let us care for it together.
- Quakers in Ghana
- Quakers in Britain
- Living Witness, UK
- EcoQuakers Ireland
- Quakers in Australia
- Quakers in Denmark
- Norway Yearly Meeting
- Quaker Service Australia
- Baltimore Yearly Meeting
- Netherlands Yearly Meeting
- Miami Friends Meeting, USA
- Quaker Institute for the Future
- Northern Yearly Meeting, USA
- Memphis Friends Meeting, USA
- New York Yearly Meeting, USA
- Storrs Friends Meeting, CT, USA
- Quaker Concern for Animals, UK
- Quaker Earthcare Witness (QEW)
- Newtown Monthly Meeting, USA
- Croton Valley Meeting, NY, USA
- Quakers in Aotearoa New Zealand
- FWCC- Asia West Pacific Section
- Cookeville Monthly Meeting, USA
- Eugene Friends Meeting, OR, USA
- Winnipeg Monthly Meeting, Canada
- Lafayette Friends Meeting, IN, USA
- Princeton Friends Meeting, NJ, USA
- Nashville Friends Meeting, TN, USA
- Trenton Meeting of Friends, NJ, USA
- Honolulu Monthly Meeting, HI, USA
- Humboldt Friends Meeting, CA, USA
- Santa Fe Monthly Meeting, NM, USA
- Westtown Monthly Meeting, PN, USA
- Woodbrooke Quaker Study Centre, UK
- Quaker United Nations Office (QUNO)
- Sacramento Friends Meeting, CA, USA
- Twin Cities Friends Meeting, MN, USA
- Chena Ridge Friends Meeting, AL, USA
- Salmon Bay Friends Meeting, WA, USA
- Belgium & Luxembourg Yearly Meeting
- FWCC - Europe and Middle East Section
- Prospect Hill Friends Meeting, MN, USA
- Northampton Friends Meeting, MA, USA
- Chesapeake Quarterly Meeting (BYM)
- Yellow Springs Friends Meeting, OH, USA
- Delta Monthly Meeting, Stockton, CA, USA
- Canadian Friends Service Committee (CFSC)
- American Friends Service Committee (AFSC)
- Quaker Council for European Affairs (QCEA)
- Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting, CA, USA
- Société Religieuse des Amis (Quakers), France
- Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL)
- Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC)
- South Central Yearly Meeting (TX, OK, AR, LA), USA
- HOMEWOOD FRIENDS MEETING, USA
Please contact Lindsey Cook at lfcook@quno.ch if you need more information, or wish to add your Quaker group.