

25 May 2015

**For the attention of the Finance Ministers of the Group of Seven (G-7)**

As institutional investors responsible for managing the retirement savings and investments of millions of people or managing endowments, we believe climate change is one of the biggest systemic risks we face. With the right market signals from policy makers, investment in low-carbon and climate resilient opportunities can flow and climate impacts and resulting economic damages can be mitigated. An ambitious agreement in Paris with the aim to limit average global temperature increase to 2°C, as agreed previously by UN countries in Cancun, is a critical first step in this direction.

**We therefore urge you to support:**

- 1. A long-term global emissions reduction goal in the Paris agreement;**
- 2. The submission of short to medium-term national emissions pledges and country level action plans.**

The benefits of addressing climate change outweigh the costs. According to the IEA, using today's technologies it is possible to set the global energy and transport system on a 2°C pathway at no net cost. Marginal upfront costs in energy efficiency are offset by savings over time. This decoupling of energy use and economic growth is possible and already happening in certain regions.

However additional investment is needed and this requires well-designed policies that shift incentives from high to low carbon and climate resilient investments and ensure the deployment of available technologies, while achieving a just transition for workers and communities. Delaying action will require more stringent policies later if we are to remain within the 2°C emissions budget, exacerbating risks associated with energy investments and potentially stranding assets.

An agreement in Paris, including a long-term emissions reduction goal and strong national plans, will set a clear pathway in favour of a low carbon future and give investors clarity. This will serve to reduce policy risk, incentivise R&D, facilitate the deployment of new technologies and ultimately create new jobs.

As set out in last year's Global Investor Statement on Climate Change, the global investor community is clear on the need for strong action on climate change, including an ambitious global deal, carbon pricing and phasing out of fossil fuel subsidies.

With the appropriate policies in place we will be able to accelerate our investments in low carbon assets and advance the shift to a low carbon economy.

Yours sincerely

**Jacob de Wit**  
*Chief Executive Officer, Actiam*

**Richard Trumka**  
*President, AFL-CIO*

**Katherine Garrett-Cox**  
*Chief Executive Officer, Alliance Trust*

**Kevin C. Weinmann**  
*Chief Financial Officer, Amherst College*

**Stephen Dunne**  
*Chief Executive Officer, AMP Capital*

**Yves Perrier**  
*Chief Executive Officer, Amundi*

**Johan Magnusson**

*Chief Executive Officer, AP1*

**Eva Halvarsson**

*Chief Executive Officer, AP2*

**Kerstin Hessius**

*Chief Executive Officer, AP3*

**Mats Andersson**

*Chief Executive Officer, AP4*

**Richard Gröttheim**

*Chief Executive Officer, AP7*

**Eduard van Gelderen**

*Chief Executive Officer, APG Asset Management*

**Carsten Stendevad**

*Chief Executive Officer, Arbejdsmarkedets Tillægspension (ATP)*

**Phillip Vernon**

*Chief Executive Officer, Australian Ethical Investment*

**Ian Silk**

*Chief Executive Officer, Australian Super*

**Euan Munro**

*Chief Executive Officer, Aviva Investors*

**Daniel Simard**

*Chief Executive Officer, Bâtirente*

**Andy Watkins**

*Assistant Chief Executive Officer & Chief Finance Officer, Bedford Borough Council*

**Philippe Marchessaux**

*Chief Executive Officer, BNP Paribas Investment Partners*

**Geeta Aiyer**

*President, Boston Common Asset Management*

**Bill Apfel**

*Managing Director and CIO, Boston Trust/Walden Asset Management*

**Steve Barnett**

*Acting Chief Executive Officer, British*

*Columbia Investment Management Corporation (bcIMC)*

**Eileen Haughey**

*Chief Executive Officer, BT Pension Scheme*

**Anna Stausboll**

*Chief Executive Officer, California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS)*

**Jack Ehnes**

*Chief Executive Officer, California State Teachers' Retirement System (CalSTRS)*

**John Streuer**

*President and Chief Executive Officer, Calvert Investments*

**Frank Pegan**

*Chief Executive Officer, Catholic Superannuation Fund*

**Michael Quicke**

*Chief Executive Officer, CCLA Investment Management*

**Bill Seddon**

*Chief Executive Officer, Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church*

**Peter Murphy**

*Chief Executive Officer, Christian Super*

**Andrea Panaritis**

*Executive Director, Christopher Reynolds Foundation*

**Andrew Brown**

*Chief Executive Officer, Church Commissioners for England*

**Anders Thorendal**

*Chief Investment Officer, Church of Sweden*

**David Atkin**

*Chief Executive Officer, Construction & Building Industry Super (Cbus)*

**James Laing**

*General Secretary, Council of Lutheran Churches*

**Guenther Kastner**

*Managing Director, C-Quadrat Asset Management*

**Niels-Ulrik Mousten**

*Chief Executive Officer, Danske Capital*

**Louise Gallahue**

*Provincial, Daughters of Charity, Province of St Louise*

**Michele Faissola**

*Head of Deutsche Asset & Wealth Management, Member of the Deutsche Bank Group Executive Committee, Deutsche Asset & Wealth Management*

**Søren Kolbye Sørensen**

*Chief Executive Officer, DIP*

**Dawn Turner**

*Head of Pension Fund Management, Environment Agency Pension Fund*

**Patrick Sheehan**

*Managing Partner, Environmental Technologies Fund*

**Bill Seddon**

*Chief Executive Officer, Epworth Investment Management Ltd*

**Dr. Dominique Biedermann**

*Chief Executive Officer, Ethos*

**Bob Kelly**

*Chief Executive Officer, Eureka Funds Management*

**Richard Wilson**

*Chief Executive Officer, F&C Asset Management*

**George R. Gray**

*Chief Executive Officer, First Affirmative Financial Network*

**Jeffrey W. Perkins**

*Executive Director, Friends Fiduciary Corporation*

**David Blood**

*Senior Partner, Generation Investment Management*

**Wayne Wachell**

*Chief Investment Officer & Founding Partner, Genus Capital Management*

**David T. Abbott**

*Executive Director, George Gund Foundation*

**Robert Beauregard**

*Chief Investment Officer, Global Alpha Capital Management*

**Councillor Kieran Quinn**

*Chair, Greater Manchester Pension Fund*

**Leslie Samuelrich**

*President, Green Century Capital Management*

**Andrew Miller**

*Chief Executive Officer, Guardian Media Group*

**Stephen Blyth**

*President and CEO, Professor of the Practice of Statistics, Harvard University, Harvard Management Company*

**Andrew Formica**

*Chief Executive Officer, Henderson Global Investors*

**Colin Melvin**

*Chief Executive Officer, Hermes Equity Ownership Services*

**Saker Nusseibeh**

*Chief Executive Officer, Hermes Investment Management*

**Debbie Blakey**

*Chief Executive Officer, HESTA*

**Ian Simm**

*Chief Executive Officer, Impax Asset Management*

**Dr. Matthew Kiernan**

*Chief Executive Officer, Inflection Point Capital Management*

**Abdallah Nauphal**

*Chief Executive Officer, Insight Investment Management (Global)*

**Hendrik du Toit**

*Chief Executive Officer, Investec Asset Management*

**Torben Visholm**

*Chief Executive Officer, JOP*

**Nick Perks**

*Trust Secretary, Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust*

**Sean Hawkshaw**

*Chief Executive Officer, Kleinwort Benson Investors*

**Mark Zinkula**

*Chief Executive Officer, Legal & General Investment Management*

**Kieran Quinn**

*Chairman, Local Authority Pension Fund Forum*

**Peter Lambert**

*Chief Executive Officer, Local Government Super*

**Kate Wolford**

*President, McKnight Foundation*

**Michael Dempsey**

*Director, Mercer Global Investments Europe*

**Michael D. Connelly**

*President and CEO, Mercy Health*

**Bryan J. Pini**

*President & Chief Investment Officer, Mercy Investment Services*

**Lowell G. Miller**

*Chief Investment Officer, Miller/Howard Investments*

**René van de Kieft**

*Chief Executive Officer, MN*

**Scott Stringer**

*New York City Comptroller, New York City Pension Funds*

**Thomas P. DiNapoli**

*Comptroller, New York State Common Retirement Fund*

**Christian Hyldahl**

*Chief Executive Officer, Nordea Asset Management*

**Jagdeep Singh Bachher**

*Chief Investment Officer, Office of the CIO of the Regents, University of California*

**Johan Malm**

*Chief Executive Officer, Öhman Jr*

**Diane Radley**

*Chief Executive Officer, Old Mutual Investment Group*

**Ron Mock**

*President and Chief Executive Officer, Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan*

**Hugh O'Reilly**

*Chief Executive Officer, OPSEU Pension Trust*

**Joe Keefe**

*President and Chief Executive Officer, Pax World Management*

**Torben Möger Pedersen**

*Chief Executive Officer, PensionDanmark*

**Mike Ramsey**

*Chief Executive Officer, Pensions Trust*

**Peter Damgaard Jensen**

*Chief Executive Officer, PKA*

**Hans van der Windt**

*Chief Executive Officer, PME*

**Bene van Popta**

*Chief Executive Officer, PMT*

**John David**

*Head of Rathbone Greenbank Investments, Rathbone Greenbank*

**Mal Smith**

*Chief Executive Officer, Rei Super*

**Philippe Defosses**

*Chief Executive Officer, Retraite Additionelle de la Fonction Publique (ERAFP)*

**Roderick Munsters**

*Chief Executive Officer, Robeco*

**Guy Monson**

*Chief Executive Officer, Sarasin & Partners*

**Peter Harrison**

*Chief Investment Officer, Schroders*

**Catherine Howarth**

*Chief Executive Officer, Share Action*

**Peter Martin**

*Executive Director, Sierra Club Foundation*

**Andrew Petter**

*President and Vice-Chancellor, Simon Fraser University*

**Assaad Razzouk**

*Chief Executive Officer, Sindicatum Group*

**Robert Goldstein**

*Chief Executive Officer, Sonen Capital*

**John Hattersley**

*Fund Director, South Yorkshire Pensions Authority*

**Deborah Proctor**

*President and Chief Executive Officer, St. Joseph Health*

**Denise L. Nappier**

*Treasurer, State of Connecticut*

**Seth Magaziner**

*General Treasurer, State of Rhode Island*

**Corien Wortmann-Kool**

*Chairman, Stichting ABP Pensioenfond*

**Else Bos**

*Chief Executive Officer, Stichting Pensioenfond*  
*Zorg en Welzijn (PGGM)*

**David Watson**

*Chief Executive Officer, Temporis Capital*

**Nora Sanders**

*General Secretary, The United Church of Canada*

**Marcus Robertson**

*Board Chair, The United Church of Canada Pension Plan*

**Reverend John Proctor**

*General Secretary, The United Reformed Church*

**Matthew Patsky**

*Chief Executive Officer, Trillium Asset Management*

**Niels Erik Petersen**

*Chief Executive Officer, Unipension Fondsmæglerselskab*

**Bill Galvin**

*Chief Executive Officer, Universities Superannuation Scheme (USS)*

**Tomas Zsolnay**

*President, University of Victoria Foundation*

**Michael Dundon**

*Chief Executive Officer, VicSuper*

**Stephen Rowe**

*Chief Executive Officer, Vision Super*

**Jeremy Farrar**

*Director, Wellcome Trust*

**Barbara Boigegrain**

*General Secretary/Chief Executive Officer, Wespath Investment Management*

**Rob Wyle**

*Chairman, WHEB*

**Sonia Kowal**

*President, Zevin Asset Management*

**Martin Senn**

*Chief Executive Officer, Zurich Insurance Group*