



June 4, 2010

The Honorable Todd Stern  
Special Envoy for Climate Change  
U.S. Department of State  
2201 C Street NW  
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Mr. Stern:

On behalf of the BlueGreen Alliance, our ten national partners, and the over 8 million people we represent, we write to you in regards to the upcoming meeting of the convention bodies for the Bonn Climate Change talks. Coming off the outcome in Copenhagen we urge you to continue to move the process toward a strong, effective, and enforceable international agreement that addresses climate change and begins a just transition toward the clean energy economy.

Since the establishment of the Copenhagen Accord, over 120 countries have officially associated, or will likely support and engage with the Accord. Countries representing over 80% of the world's emissions have also formally registered actions to reduce their emissions. For the first time, major developing nations are on record as active partners in a global effort to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, which includes important provisions to increase the transparency of reporting on countries' emissions and actions, as well as, provisions for a transparent review of their progress towards their emissions pledge. We look forward to working with you as the details of the agreement are further defined and as new texts are put forward.

We hope that the meeting in Bonn lays out a firm and clear path forward on the goals and agreements to be achieved in Cancun and beyond. We understand the importance of U.S. action on emission reduction from the international community, and are committed to working with the U.S. Senate to achieve passage of comprehensive climate change legislation that reduces greenhouse gas emissions while putting millions of Americans back to work building a clean energy economy. We are also committed to ensuring that the legislation includes programs and funding for international adaptation, reduced emissions from deforestation, and clean energy exports.

A cornerstone of any global effort is the ability to regularly assess the actions of key countries and hold them accountable for achieving their actions. We need a means for those countries that are achieving their commitments to be recognized as good global partners, and we also need mechanisms to ensure that those countries not living up to their commitments are recognized as such. The Copenhagen Accord committed the countries to

work on transparency, but a lot more details need to be worked out in the agreement. We urge you to make it a priority in Bonn and into Cancun to further detail the monitoring, verification, and review commitment as outlined in the Accord. A future international agreement must include strong provisions towards these objectives so we can regularly assess and hold accountable the progress of all countries towards their commitments and achievement of the environmental objectives. Without these it will be unfair to the spirit and goals of an agreement and could put the U.S. at an unfair disadvantage if we play by the rules, while others do not.

We were pleased that the Copenhagen accord makes no reference to domestic border actions. Such language would have been damaging to the prospect of both our domestic process and the international negotiations, as well as to the feasibility of a true global emissions reduction effort. The lack of damaging trade language combined with the transparent review process should give us hope that we can and will avoid unfair trade consequences. We are however concerned that the Chair's text included problematic language on such measures as options in Chapter VII of the Text to Facilitate Negotiation. From the perspective of the Blue Green Alliance, it is critical that a global agreement not restrict international trade and competitiveness measures from being implemented by the United States. Some of the options listed in this Chapter would run counter to this principle. We urge you to make sure that no reference is made.

An item that we were pleased to see in the text that was put forward by the Chair to facilitate negotiations among Parties was language on just transition and decent work and quality jobs in the shared vision section. As you are well aware, this language is very important to the U.S. and international labor movement, and to the Blue Green Alliance. Unfortunately, the Copenhagen Accord did not include mention of just transition and decent and quality jobs; however, due to the work of the global labor delegation, many governments, and the U.S., it appears that a significant step in the right direction has been taken towards incorporating this principle. We hope that as discussions move forward such language on just transition and decent work is included in the final agreement. We also believe that it is important to include labor representation in advisory bodies on climate change to ensure that the worker perspective to this critical issue is always under consideration.

Lastly, we recognize the opportunity and responsibility to help fund a clean energy economic development model for developing and emerging economies. The United States is a global leader in technological innovation and has much to gain from new initiatives to promote U.S. clean energy exports. We see this investment as a way to grow America's manufacturing base and help American companies export products and technologies that help solve climate change. International efforts must also be designed to strengthen rather than weaken international implementation of intellectual property rights and find innovative means to speed up technology transfer. Again, there are some concerns and a lot of questions about the draft that the Chair put forward for discussion in the area of intellectual property. The United States has made it clear that our ability to protect our intellectual property is not negotiable. We appreciate your continued strong stance on this

issue.

We look forward to working with you on all of these important issues to achieve a strong, effective, and enforceable international climate change agreement. Attached for your reference are our principles on an international agreement on climate change that we released last December. Please let us know if we can provide you with any additional insight.

Sincerely,



Leo W. Gerard, International President  
United Steelworkers



Michael Brune, Executive Director  
Sierra Club



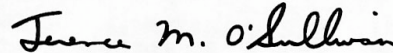
Larry Cohen, President  
Communications Workers of America



Frances Beinecke, President  
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Michael J. Sullivan, General President  
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David Foster, Executive Director  
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