

# Catalysing thoughtful mainstream commitment to solving global warming

Dear Laurence and Hakima,

You are to be applauded for seeking new ideas for the Road map. I am on the Board of Be The Change Australia, a small NGO. This email is to introduce a critical dimension (well, we think it's critical) that is largely absent from discussions about how to solve climate change. Our suggested additions are in red.

## 1. The current situation

The sense of urgency that led to the Paris Agreement and sustained the work on workstream 2 (pre-2020 ambition) throughout the whole of 2015 must be sustained. The high-level champions need to make sure that we do “more, faster and now” on enhanced pre-2020 action. Pre-2020 action is a key element for the implementation and success of the Paris Agreement, equally for adaptation, mitigation and means of implementation. Notably, there is a need to quick-start implementation with a sense of urgency and ambition; create an interface with the real world and solutions, particularly the involvement of non-Party stakeholders; and maintain the political momentum.

In addition, collaborating with non-Party stakeholders to communicate with their networks about the systemic changes necessary to solve global warming is critical for mobilising the public will that is essential for success.

*Is this general presentation an accurate description of the current state of play?  
If not, what can we do more?*

## 2. The role of the high-level champions

As champions of global climate action, we believe that we need to be an interface between action on the ground and the UNFCCC negotiation process, between non-Party stakeholders and Parties. We intend to track implementation of existing initiatives to demonstrate credibility, promote best practices and enhance delivery. We will also support new initiatives focusing on adaptation, with a view to broadening the country coverage and including more initiatives coming from developing country Parties and non-Party stakeholders.

*Is this an accurate description of the role the high-level climate champions should play with regard to the mobilization of non-state actors?  
Is there anything else they should do, or are there things mentioned here that they should not do?*

In addition, the high-level champions will encourage non-state actors to conduct citizen education about the systemic changes needed to solve global warming.

## Background for this submission

Solving global warming involves much more than government policy and technological change, as important as these are. Solving global warming means changing *all* the factors that make global warming worse. These are the same factors that increase industrial production (along with industrial agriculture, deforestation, filling in estuaries, and the like). So we are looking at really uncomfortable drivers such as the big trade agreements and devotion to economic increase itself, as well as the psychology of excess consumption.

The necessary systemic changes are unlikely to happen without informed passionate public will. If so, in addition to action on the ground education to enable ordinary people to grasp why transformative changes necessary – and how beneficial it can be – is essential.

Who might conduct such education? It is unlikely that governments will do so. The natural people to conduct such education are the members of the millions of NGOs who care about climate change, the larger environment, and community well-being.

Be The Change Australia has developed a scalable platform for conducting such education. It is called [Inspiring Transition](#). It has a simple communication strategy that can align thousands of organisations without requiring a cumbersome administrative apparatus. It has imaginative communication tactics, and ready-to-use communication tools for personal conversations and social media. We are organising a [Great Transition Communication Blitz](#) for March 2017.

Sincerely,

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*Accelerating the Great Transition to a life-sustaining society!*