**An Interfaith Submission - respecting the boundaries of Mother Earth and caring for ecological systems, the most vulnerable communities and all future generations.**

Question 2 - Where do we want to go?

*Submitted by World Council of Churches, ACT Alliance, Brahma Kumaris, Green Faith, Franciscan International, QUNO (Quaker United Nation Office) Islamic Relief Worldwide, Dominican for Justice and Peace, Aytzim Ecological Judaism, CIDSE, Bumi Project, CYNESA (Catholic Youth Network for Environmental Sustainability in Africa) Bishop Andrus The Episcopal Diocese of California, Inter-religious Climate and Ecology (ICE)Network, WSCF ( World Student Christian Federation)*

**Where do we want to go?**

*Vision of the future for your organization and/or sector in terms of its possible role in achieving the 1.5/2 degrees’ goal and a net-zero emission world by this mid-century [Maximum 300 words]*

|  |
| --- |
| As faith communities, we seek a future where human activities driving rising temperatures are sufficiently transformed, and the consequences to the most vulnerable are addressed. The Paris Agreement offers Governments worldwide a framework for national and international action on reducing greenhouse gas emissions, including support to those in need. Its goal, to pursue efforts to limit temperature rises to 1.5C above pre-industrial levels, is critical to avoid profound suffering. Yet our global GHG emissions remain on track to raise global temperatures above 4C, threatening human civilization as we know it. Faith communities therefore call for urgent revisions to NDCs from the main emitting countries, to help place the world on a towards a 1.5 degree limit trajectory. In addition, we call for robust and comprehensive long term strategies for all countries to achieve complete decarbonisation by mid century, noting that decarbonization benefits the health of citizens in developed and developing countries. We also call for massive investment into renewable energy worldwide, for the protection of forests and the restoration of degraded forests so they support biodiversity while also acting as carbon sinks. Land use in agriculture must also be transformed so that carbon emissions from food production will be significantly lower. Respecting the rights of indigenous people of the world must be a part of the transition to a net-zero emission world. We call for sufficient levels of climate finance, capacity and technology transfer to developing countries, particularly the most vulnerable, to enable their adaptation, resilience building, and in addressing loss and damage. |

*Possible and potential new commitments and pledges of to achieve the 1.5/2 degrees’ goal and a net-zero emission world by this mid-century [Maximum 300 words]*

|  |
| --- |
| * Faith communities envisage a more just and equitable world, respecting the boundaries of Mother Earth and caring for ecological systems, the most vulnerable communities and all future generations. * Faith communities respect the wisdom of ancestors, and strive for a sustainable and just future promoting peaceful co-existence. Long-term perspectives must overcome the short term wants for maximised economic profit and political re-election. * Faith communities seek a new way of living together on this earth that requires a new way of thinking and a new way of understanding. Humanity must live together as one; the economy must serve the planet and redistribute the resources of the Earth instead of accumulating unhealthy riches to the few. * Faith communities practise compassion and reflection on what it means to live together on this planet. Fasting and taking care of the most vulnerable is a virtue in all world religions. To pursue a 1.5C temperature limit, the world needs to ‘carbon fast’ and finance adaptation and mitigation, in our personal, community and national lives. |

*Foreseen positive impact of these commitments once they are realized, including contributions to the sustainable development agenda [Maximum 300 words]*

|  |
| --- |
|  |