An appeal to the world's foundations and philanthropists by the world's environmental prize winners

Aghast that the Earth is heading for 4 to 6 degrees Celsius of global warming, given current policies on the burning of coal, oil and gas;

Terrified that we will lose our ability to feed ourselves, run out of potable water, increase the scope for war, and cause the very fabric of civilization to crash as a consequence of the climate change that global overheating will bring about;

Devastated that our governments have not succeeded yet in slowing, much less stopping, the flow of greenhouse gases into our thin atmosphere, in the full knowledge of these risks, despite a quarter century of trying;

Aware that the UN Climate Summit in Paris in December 2015 may be the last chance to agree a treaty capable of saving civilization;

Believing that the world's philanthropic foundations, given the scale of their endowments, hold the power to trigger a survival reflex in society, so greatly helping those negotiating the climate treaty;

Recognizing that all the good works of philanthropy, in all their varied forms, will be devalued or even destroyed in a world en route to 6 degrees of global warming or more, and that endowments that could have saved the day will end up effectively as stranded assets;

We, 160 winners of the world's environmental prizes, call on foundations and philanthropists everywhere to deploy their endowments urgently in the effort to save civilization. ***

Ibrahim Abouleish, Egypt, Right Livelihood Award, 2003; Ekwoge Abwe, Cameroon, Whitley Award, 2013; Badria Al-Awadi, Kuwait, UNEP Global 500 Award, 1988; Martin Almada, Paraguay, Europa Solar Prize, 2005; Karl Amman, Kenya, TIME Magazine Hero of the Environment, 2007; Dipal Chandra Barua, Bangladesh, Zayed Future Energy Prize, 2009; Nimmo Bassey, Nigeria, Right Livelihood Award, 2010; Sergei Bereznuk, Russia, Rolex Award, 2012; Heide Bergmann, Germany, Trophée de Femmes, 2007; Andreas Bett, Germany, German Environmental Prize, 2012; Richard Bradford, UK, Ashden Award, 2006; Hildegard Breiner, Austria, The Nuclear-Free Future Award, 2004; Helen Caldicott, Australia, The Nuclear-Free Future Award, 2011; Wang Canfa, China, TIME Magazine Hero of the Environment, 2007; Aimee Christensen, USA, Hillary Laureate, 2011; Terence Collins, USA, The Heinz Award for the Environment, 2007; Aimee Christensen, USA, Hillary Laureate, 2011; Terence Collins, USA, The Heinz Award for the Environment, 2007; Aimee Christensen, USA, Hillary Laureate, 2011; Terence Collins, USA, The Heinz Award for the Environment, 2007; Aimee Christensen, USA, Hillary Laureate, 2011; Terence Collins, USA, The Heinz Award for the Environment, 2007; Aimee Christensen, USA, Hillary Laureate, 2011; Terence Collins, USA, The Heinz Award for the Environment, 2007; Aimee Christensen, USA, Hillary Laureate, 2011; Terence Collins, USA, The Heinz Award for the Environment, 2007; Aimee Christensen, USA, Hillary Laureate, 2011; Terence Collins, USA, The Heinz Award for the Environment, 2007; Aimee Christensen, USA, Hillary Laureate, 2011; Terence Collins, USA, The Heinz Award for the Environment, 2007; Aimee Christensen, USA, Hillary Laureate, 2011; Terence Collins, USA, The Heinz Award for the Environment, 2007; Aimee Christensen, USA, Hillary Laureate, 2011; Terence Collins, USA, The Heinz Award for the Environment, 2007; Aimee Christensen, USA, The Heinz Award for the Environment, 2007; Aimee Christensen, USA, The Heinz Award for the Environment, 2007; Aimee Christensen, 2007; Aimee Chr ment, 2010; Stuart Conway, USA, UNEP Sasakawa Prize, 2009; John Corkill, Australia, The Peter Rawlinson Conservation Award, 2001; Clive Crouch, Australia, The Peter Rawlinson Conservation Award, 2006; Erika Cuéllar, Bolivia, Rolex Award, 2012; Ashild Dale, Norway, Europe - Norway Laureate, 2000; Franz Daschner, Germany, German Environmental Prize, 2000; Juliet Davenport, UK, OBE for services to renewables; Patricia Davis, UK, Future for Nature Award, 2012; Rolf Disch, Germany, World Energy Globe, 2013; Ofir Drori, Cameroon, Future for Nature Award, 2012; Desmond D'Sa, South Africa, The Goldman Environmental Prize, 2014; Patrick Duffy, Canada, IAIA Outstanding Service Award, 2013; Jiří Dusík, Czech Republic, IAIA Individual Award, 2007; Raoul du Toit, Zimbabwe, The Goldman Environmental Prize, 2011; Michael Eckhart, USA, Skoll Award, 2008; Barbara Ehringhaus, Switzerland, Trophée de Femmes, 2009; Dieter Ewringmann, Germany, Adam Smith Prize, 2005; Malin Falkenmark, Sweden, The Rachel Carson Prize, 2005; Volker Finke, Germany, Umweltpreis Öko Plus, 2004; Barbara Galletti Vernazzani, Chile, Future for Nature Award, 2011; Debesai Ghebrehiwet, Eritrea, Ashden Award, 2003; Paola Ghillani, Switzerland, Binding Prize for Nature and Environment, 2009; Paul Gilding, Australia, Tomorrow Magazine Environmental Leadership Award, 1997; Dener Giovanini, Brazil, UNEP Sasakawa Prize, 2003; Herbert Girardet, UK, UNEP Global 500 Award, 1992; Adolf Goetzberger, Germany, Becquerel Prize, 1997; Monika Griefahn, Germany, BAUM Environmental Award, 2014; Rainer Griesshammer, Germany, German Environmental Prize, 2010; Edeltraud Günther, Germany, International BAUM Environmental Award, 2008; Paul Gundel, Germany, Einstein Award, 2011; Evan Haigler, USA, Ashden Award, 2013; Mathilde Halla, Austria, The Nuclear-Free Future Award, 2005; Marion Hammerl, Germany, Bruno H. Schubert Prize, 2013; Harish Hande, India, The Ramon Magsaysay Award, 2011; Edeltraud Haselsteiner, Austria, ÖGUT Environmental Award, 2005; Klaus Hasselmann, Germany, Frontiers of Knowledge Award, 2010; Hans Herren, Switzerland, Right Livelihood Award, 2013; Abul Hussam, USA, NAE Grainger Challenge Prize for Sustainability. 2007; Claus-Peter Hutter, Germany, BAUM Environmental Award, 2008; Dave Irvine-Halliday, Canada, Rolex Award, 2002; Wes Jackson, USA, Right Livelihood Award, 2000; Bianca Jagger, UK, Right Livelihood Award, 2004; Daniel Janzen, USA, Blue Planet Prize, 2014; Huev Johnson, USA, UNEP Sasakawa Prize, 2001; Tony Juniper, UK, Rothschild Medal, 2009; Danny Kennedy, USA, Global Green's Corporate Environmental Leadership Award 2013; Ashok Khosla, India, Zayed International Prize for the Environment, 2014; Elias Kindle, Liechtenstein, Binding Prize for Nature and Environment, 2014; Karel Kolomaznik, Czech Republic, Rolex Award, 1998; Lenelis Kruse-Graumann, Germany, BAUM Environmental Award, 2012; Nadezhda Kutepova, Russia, The Nuclear-Free Future Award, 2011; Frances Moore Lappé, USA, Right Livelihood Award, 1987; Jeremy Leggett, UK, Hillary Laureate, 2009; Daniel Lotoiye, Kenya, Whitley Award, 2013; Simon Levin, USA, Tyler Prize for Environmental Achievement, 2014; Louis Liebenburg, South Africa, Rolex Award, 1998; Gene Likens, USA, Blue Planet Prize, 2003; Peggy Liu, China, Hillary Laureate, 2012; Ahmet Lokurlu, Germany, TIME Magazine Hero of the Environment 2007; Claude Lorius, France, Blue Planet Prize, 2008; Thomas Lovejoy, USA, Blue Planet Prize, 2012; David Lowry, UK, The Nuclear-Free Future Award, 2001; Mindy Lubber, USA, The American Bar Association's Award for Excellence in Environmental, Energy, and Resource Stewardship, 2012; Angela Maldonado, Columbia, Whitley Award, 2010; David Manalo, Philippines, The St. Andrew's Prize for the Environment, 2007; Teresa Manera de Bianco, Argentina, Rolex Award, 2004; Charlie Mathews, UK, MIT Climate Colab Popular Choice Award, 2013; Csaba Mátyás, Hungary, Hungarian Academy of Sciences Fellow, 2010; Mardi McBrien, UK, The Sheila McKechnie Foundation Campaigner Award, 2013; Bill McKibben, USA, The Sophie Prize, 2013; Bernard McNelis, UK, Robert Hill Award, 2006; Julien Meyer, France, Rolex Award, 2006; Charudutt Mishra, India, Whitley Award, 2005; Judith Molnár, Romania, ÖGUT Environmental Award, 2005; Sidsel Mørck, Norway, The Rachel Carson Prize, 1991; Reuben Mtitu, Tanzania, Ashden Award, 2008; Tsetsegee Munkhbayar, Mongolia, The Goldman Environmental Prize, 2007; Maggie Muurmans, Indonesia, Future for Nature Award, 2009; Nancy Lee Nash, USA, UNEP Global 500, 1993; Ramesh Kumar Nibhoria, India, Ashden Award, 2005; Louis Nkembi, Cameroon, Whitley Award 2010; Placide Nzisabara, Rwanda, Ashden Award 2011; Regula Ochsner, Switzerland, Trophée de Femmes 2007; Caleb Ofori, Ghana, Future for Nature Award, 2014; Antonio Oposa Jr, Philippines, International Environmental Law Award, 2008; Juan Pablo Orrego, Chile, Right Livelihood Award, 1998; David Osborne, UK, Empowering People Award, 2013; Balgis Osman-Elasha, Sudan / Tunisia, UNEP Champion of the Earth Award, 2008; George Outa, Kenya, The St. Andrew's Prize for the Environment, 2001; Billy Parish, USA, Ashoka Fellow, 2007; Jeunesse Park, South Africa, UNEP Sasakawa Prize, 2007; Daniel Pauly, Canada, Volvo Environment Prize, 2006; Stuart Pimm, USA, Dr. A. H. Heineken Prize for Environmental Sciences, 2006; Jonathon Porritt, UK, UNEP Global 500 Award 2000; Igor Prokofev, Russia, Whitley Award, 2011; Dailan Pugh, Australia, The Peter Rawlinson Conservation Award, 2001; Franz-Josef Radermacher, Germany, Goldener Baum 2010; Denise Marçal Rambaldi, Brazil, Bruno H. Schubert Prize, 2007; Florence Reed, USA, Shriver Award for Distinguished Humanitarian Service, 2012; William Rees, Canada, Blue Planet Prize, 2012; Eckard Rehbinder, Germany, Bruno H. Schubert Prize, 2004; Huguette Reynaerts, France, Trophée de Femmes, 2008; Uwe Riecken, Germany, Binding Prize for Nature and Environment, 2010; Marie-Monique Robin, France, The Rachel Carson Prize, 2009; Mario Robles del Moral, Spain, US Arbor Day Foundation Award, 2000; Martha Isabel Ruiz Corzo, Mexico, UNEP Champion of the Earth Award, 2013; Jamal Safi, Palestine, Zayed International Prize for the Environment, 2004; Thomas Scheurer, Switzerland, Binding Prize for Nature and Environment, 2007; David Schindler, Canada, Tyler Prize for Environmental Achievement, 2006; Franco Schlegel, Switzerland, Binding Prize for Nature and Environment, 2007; David Schindler, Canada, Tyler Prize for Environment, 2004; Thomas Scheurer, Switzerland, Binding Prize for Nature and Environment, 2007; David Schindler, Canada, Tyler Prize for Environment, 2004; Thomas Scheurer, Switzerland, Binding Prize for Nature and Environment, 2007; David Schindler, Canada, Tyler Prize for Environment, 2004; Thomas Scheurer, Switzerland, Binding Prize for Nature and Environment, 2007; 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Ignace Schops, Belgium, The Goldman Environmental Prize, 2008; Andy Schroeter, Laos, UNEP Sasakawa Prize, 2008; Oliver Schultz-Wittman, USA, Junior Einstein Award, 2006; David Schweidenback, USA, Rolex Award, 2000; Khop Narayan Shrestha, Nepal, UNEP Sasakawa Prize, 2011; Ursula Sladek, Germany, Goldman Environmental Prize, 2011; Tim Smit, CBE, UK, The RSA Albert Medal, 2003; Ian Smith, UK, Ashden Award, 2005; Andreas Speich, Italy, Binding Prize for Nature and Environment, 2013; John Spengler, USA, Heinz Award, 2005; Andreas Speich, Italy, Binding Prize for Nature and Environment, 2013; John Spengler, USA, Heinz Award, 2005; Andreas Speich, Italy, Binding Prize for Nature and Environment, 2013; John Spengler, USA, Heinz Award, 2005; Andreas Speich, Italy, Binding Prize for Nature and Environment, 2013; John Spengler, USA, Heinz Award, 2005; Andreas Speich, Italy, Binding Prize for Nature and Environment, 2013; John Spengler, USA, Heinz Award, 2005; Andreas Speich, Italy, Binding Prize for Nature and Environment, 2013; 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Andreas Speich, Italy, Binding Prize for Nature and Environment, 2013; John Spengler, USA, Heinz Award, 2015; Andreas Speich, 2003; Heinz Stockinger, Austria, The Austrian Konrad Lorenz State Award, 1991; Michael Succow, Germany, Right Livelihood Award, 1997; David Suzuki, Canada, Right Livelihood Award, 2009; Taro Takahashi, USA, UNEP Champion of the Earth, 2010; Tessa Tennant, UK, Joan Bavaria Award, 2012; Riki Therivel, UK, IAIA Global Environment Award 2003; Jean Thomas, Papua New Guinea, Future for Nature Award, 2010; Jim Thomas, Papua New Guinea, Australian Geographic Conservationist of the Year, 2014; Casson Trenor, USA, TIME Magazine Hero of the Environment, 2009; Samson Tsegaye, Ethiopia, Ashden Award, 2009; Sander van der Leeuw, Netherlands, UNEP Champion of the Earth, 2012; Els van Lavieren, Netherlands, Future for Nature Award, 2010; Carlos Vasquez, Guatemala, Whitley Award, 2012; Dale Vince, UK, OBE for services to the environment, 2004; Ernst von Weizsäcker, Germany, German Environmental Prize, 2008; Tim Wahl, USA, Environmental Hero Award, 2007; Paul Walker, USA, Right Livelihood Award, 2013; Mingying Wang, China, Ashden Award, 2006; Eicke Weber, Germany, Einstein Award, 2013; Beate Weber-Schuerholz, Germany, German Environmental Prize, 2007; Keith Wheaton-Green, UK, South West Sustainable Energy Champion, 2008; Jean Wiener, Haiti, Erick Eckman Award, 2014; Ellen Zimmerman, Canada, Yves Rocher International Foundation Terre de Femmes, 2006.