

TO: COP26 heads of state
FROM: The Scotia Group Fellows

11 November 2021

A Communique from the Scotia Group Fellows

Dear COP26 heads of state,

We ask you to put intergenerational justice at the center of climate negotiations for this year and for the years to come.

We acknowledge, as other Scotia Group members did earlier this year, that the world is facing an international diplomatic emergency.

We must change course and fast.

We have two requests:

First: Give us and our communities the power to hold you accountable for the commitments you make in Glasgow.

We ask you to *create and strengthen provisions in national law that enshrine emissions reduction pledges.*

We ask you to *practice and require radical transparency at the company, national and international level.*

We ask you to *commit to shorter national implementation horizons.*

We firmly believe that knowing that you will be held accountable will make many of your choices easier.

Second: Empower us and future generations to take part in decision-making.

We ask for *a seat at the table of our future* to hold you accountable for all the promises made in Glasgow.

We ask you to support the design and implementation of global and national youth networks and to establish institutional vehicles that allow us to take part in negotiations.

We come from many regions - from Latin America, Europe, Africa, North America, and Asia.

We all want to be part of the solution to our future, and we support the Scotia Group's call for there the world to adopt an all-hands-on-deck mentality.

Communities, cities, regions, indigenous peoples, not-for-profits, trade unions and businesses are already contributing to the solutions.

It is crucial that every government finds ways to empower networks of these non-state actors to drive transformative climate action around the world.

In return, we promise to help you in developing innovative ideas and new approaches.

We discussed and debated with Scotia Group experts in a Majlis setting to explore ways to advance negotiations where gridlock is preventing progress.

We learned that we could help develop new ideas and were proud to present a wide range of proposals to the Scotia Group membership in September.

The steps we propose in this Communique are simply a start.

They certainly cannot address the global climate crisis on their own.

But they offer a way to embed the larger principle of fairness in how we tackle the most pressing public policy challenge the world has faced in our lifetimes.

We need fairness between you and us and future generations.

We end with our promise to future generations:

We will not take decisions that force harder decisions on you in the future.

We sign the intergenerational contract.