



THE
LUTHERAN
WORLD
FEDERATION

Office of the
General Secretary

lutheranworld.org

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CLIMATE JUSTICE: TIME TO RAMP UP EFFORTS

Statement from the LWF General Secretary

10 October 2018

GENEVA, Switzerland

The Lutheran World Federation (LWF) has received with alarm the report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) which conveys the urgency to ramp up and accelerate action to meet the Paris Agreement target of limiting mean warming to 1.5°C.

The LWF gathers from the report that although the difference between 1.5 and 2°C of warming seems small, the implications in terms of impact are dire.

According to the report, a fundamental shift in mindset and in our societies' structures and systems is needed to avert the impacts of climate change and protect the most vulnerable.

Ours are the first generations experiencing the impacts of climate change, and the last ones that can avert its worst consequences.

The LWF is committed to ramp up its own efforts to address climate change. It has a strong mandate from the Twelfth Assembly to be a part of the solution as the human family finds ways out of this crisis. It will continue to engage with climate justice as a matter of intergenerational justice.

The LWF will focus on inspiring and engaging its member churches, on direct climate mitigation, and on strengthened advocacy for climate justice. Creation is not for sale!

The LWF calls upon its member churches to:

- Pray for the fundamental conversion of hearts and minds to embrace sustainable lifestyles,
- further raise awareness about climate change and motivate their constituencies to act,
- promote low-carbon alternatives through creative and innovative practices,

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- advocate with their governments to face the reality of climate change and take urgent and bold action.

The LWF calls upon the community of states to:

- Ramp up action to the needed scale, speed and ambition, in the contexts of achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, and respecting Human Rights,
- make COP24 a success by delivering a robust “rulebook” of the Paris Agreement,
- commit and deliver the resources necessary to mitigate climate change and adapt to its adverse effects.

*The earth is the Lord’s and all that is in it,
the world, and those who live in it. (Psalm 24:1)*

*Geneva, 10 October
Rev. Dr Martin Junge,
General Secretary of The Lutheran World Federation*

The Lutheran World Federation is a global communion of 148 churches in the Lutheran tradition, representing over 74 million Christians in 99 countries. The LWF acts on behalf of its member churches in areas of ecumenical and interfaith relations, theology, humanitarian assistance, human rights, communication and the various aspects of mission and development.

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