



Joint Statement of Inuit Circumpolar Council, the Government of Greenland and the Government of Nunavut on Climate Change

Whereas the Conference of Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change is convening its 21st meeting in Paris November 30 to December 11, 2015.

Recognizing that current greenhouse gas concentrations are caused by industrialized nations from activities that have taken place outside the Arctic, and that all Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change have committed themselves to apply the principle of common but differentiated responsibility in tackling climate change.

Recognizing that the people of the Arctic, and especially Indigenous Peoples, are experiencing acute impacts related to climate change including permafrost thaw, extreme increases in temperatures, loss of glacier and sea ice, extreme weather events and disruptions to Arctic wildlife.

Recognizing that for thousands of years, the Arctic environment has provided Inuit with the tools we require to survive.

Recognizing the investments made in the Arctic to reduce emissions and to promote cleaner energy production, technology and innovation.

Recognizing the high cost of energy in the Arctic.

We stand together in our call for the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Conference of the Parties to deliver a Paris Agreement that:

- Strongly reconfirms the principle of a common but differentiated responsibility in tackling climate change.
- Takes enhanced measures to stabilize global greenhouse gas (GHG) concentrations below ~450 parts per million by volume to make certain global temperature increases will remain between 1.5°C and 2°C.
- Recognizes and protects the rights of Indigenous Peoples and the values, interests, culture and traditions of the Peoples of the Arctic.



- Ensures equal access to the right to development, also for the Peoples of the Arctic.
- Acknowledges the extremely high cost of living in the Arctic and does not impose further financial burden to Arctic regions.
- Advocates the development and expansion of energy solutions that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, also for areas like the Arctic, where infrastructure is significantly underdeveloped compared to other parts of Canada and Greenland.
- Ensures that Inuit food security is protected.
- Promotes the need for adaptation action in areas that are disproportionately affected by climate change, such as the Arctic, and for funding to support such initiatives.
- Recognizes the importance of Indigenous knowledge, its significant contribution to our understanding of climate change, and acknowledges its value being on par with scientific data.