



**Climate Action Network
Réseau Action Climat
Canada**

412-1 Nicholas Street,
Ottawa, Ontario, K1N 7B7
Tel: (613) 241-4413
email: aajb@magma.ca
www.climateactionnetwork.ca

Tuesday, June 14, 2005

Right Honourable Paul Martin
Prime Minister
House of Commons
Prime Minister's Office
111 Wellington St.
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6

Via Fax: (613) 941-6900

Dear Prime Minister Martin,

The G8 meeting in Scotland is fast approaching and we in the Climate Action Network/Réseau Action Climate Canada first wish to say that we appreciate the Chair's initiative to include the issue of climate change on the agenda. We call on you to take leadership with your G8 counterparts and wisely use this opportunity to:

- stress the urgency of the threat posed by climate change;
- re-commit to the goals of the U.N. Framework Convention on Climate Change (FCCC) recognizing that all G-8 members are parties to that binding treaty;
- work toward strategies and actions that will further the implementation of the agreements in the Kyoto Protocol;
- further clarify some of the goals and expected outcomes from the upcoming Montreal UN Climate Change Conference; and
- give a concerted emphasis on direction beyond 2012.

We are deeply concerned by the growing impact of human induced climate change on our planet, its inhabitants and ecosystems. The peoples in the Pacific and in the Arctic who are beginning to experience the effect and consequences of global warming cannot wait. We call for justice for those people and environments that are most vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change.

We are alarmed emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases are still on the increase. We recognize that voluntary efforts and present policies are not enough to prevent disasters resulting from climate change.

The G8 countries must accept responsibility for record emissions over decades and for about 80% of the

increase in concentration of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere since the industrial revolution and for the current emissions that are almost 50% of the total global emissions.

We urge you as one of the G8 leaders to seize this opportunity to influence your counterparts to agree:

- to trust and take seriously the science of climate change;
- to urgently take decisive action for rapid greenhouse gas emission reduction;
- to accelerate GHG reduction targets by imposing an aviation fuel tax, and a carbon tax as New Zealand has done; and
- to develop a strategic plan for committed global action in a new regime post 2012 when the first commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol will end, including sharp reduction of GHG emissions in the G8 countries and financial commitments for adaptation measures in the South.

We look for a strong outcome from Gleneagles in order to bring forward a robust commitment to Montreal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "J. Baird", written over a light grey horizontal line.

Executive Director