Business Leaders Call for Universal Recognition of the Human Right to a Healthy Environment

As the UN General Assembly is called upon to consider a resolution on the Human Right to a Healthy and Sustainable Environment, a global initiative of more than fifty businesses and business organizations have united to call for its adoption.

We, the undersigned, are a group of business leaders who seek to catalyse a movement of business for a better world, one in which both people and nature can thrive. We call on Member States at the UN General Assembly to unite in support of universal recognition of the human right to a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment because we recognise it as fundamental to the functioning of our businesses, our societies and our economies.

Businesses rely on nature for resources such as food, fibre, minerals and building materials; ecosystem services such as pollination of crops, water filtration, waste decomposition, climate sequestration and climate regulation; and healthy and prosperous societies that give them their customers and workforces. A UN resolution on the right to a healthy environment would serve as an important catalyst to protect our natural capital and create the conditions through which business and communities can thrive sustainably.

We welcome the leadership shown by the “Core Group” of countries (Costa Rica, Maldives, Morocco, Slovenia and Switzerland) and appreciate the significance of the un-opposed adoption of Human Rights Council Resolution 48/13. We wish to express our support for this process and our thanks for the commitment to serve the best interests of present and future generations.

We too are committed to this common work. We recognise that the realisation of the targets contained within the Sustainable Development Goals, the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Paris Agreement on Climate Change requires the steadfast commitment of the business community and we are rising to that challenge.

We wish to stand alongside states, civil society organisations, environmental defenders and UN entities calling for the UN General Assembly to recognise the right to a healthy and sustainable environment, so that we can ensure no one is left behind in a just transition to an equitable, nature-positive and carbon neutral world.

Signed,
List of (51) signatories to the HR2HE Business Statement (as of 26 April 2022):

- ACCEDO
- adidas
- Agroveli SAC
- Allianz SE
- Banka BioLoo Limited
- Beaumont People
- Better2Earth
- Business for Nature
- BZLW GmbH.
- Don Maslow Coffee
- EcoCoast Consultancy
- Ellers Farm Distillery
- Environment Bank
- Future Super
- Futureproof
- FWE WESTERN ENERGY
- Global Conservation Solutions
- Green Touches
- Green Urbanics
- H&M Group
- Holcim
- IMAGINE WORLD LTD
- Ingka Group
- Junxion Strategy
- Lab Toekomstige Generaties
- Lateral Agency | VDF
- Lightbridge Corporation
- Marca LIMA
- Natura &Co
- OBERLAND INC
- On Purpose
- Organic & Regenerative Investment Cooperative
- PACCOR Packaging GMBH
- Quorn Foods
- Renewal Funds Management Company
- S Group/SOK Corporation
- Safaricom PLC
- Sailmon bv
- Salesforce.com, Inc.
- SANIPODI Singe Member PC
- Seas The Opportunity
- Singular.live
- Symrise
- The 99% Organisation
- The B Team
- The Cause Effect
- Toast Ale
- Unearth Technologies Pty Ltd
- Unilever
- Vantage Communications Ltd
- World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD)