



WORLD FEDERATION OF UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATIONS
FEDERATION MONDIALE DES ASSOCIATIONS POUR LES NATIONS UNIES

A peoples' movement for the United Nations

**Suggestions for UNA Advocacy
“Let the UN in on the Climate Funds”**

What is the issue?

In the event of a successful agreement at the UN Climate Change conference in Copenhagen taking place now, many governments will be offering significant amounts of funding towards climate action in poor countries. WFUNA is proposing that the United Nations is a logical mechanism for providing governance for some of these finances for the following reasons:

- The UN's scope and proven ability to deliver on the ground will enable financial flows to reach the countries that need them through dependable programs and partners
- The UN has demonstrated experience in managing such monies successfully, through the UN Multi-Donor Trust Funds, i.e. MDG Achievement Fund, Peacebuilding Fund
- The UN has the capacity for the rapid disbursement of funds for an issue where there is no time to waste
- The UN has the expertise to handle the climate change issue in the context of sustainable human development
- The International Financial Institutions such as the World Bank and the Global Environment Facility seem to be the default option recipients for these funds. However they are often criticized for being driven by the donor countries only. A structure through which the UN collaborates with these Institutions would guarantee representation from all countries in decision making about climate funds.
- It is not yet clear if all relevant decisions on this will be taken at COP15, but time is of essence.

Why are we taking it up?

On 9 November WFUNA leadership met with UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon. During this meeting, the topic of the UN taking the lead in a financial architecture for climate change funds was raised, and the Secretary-General welcomed WFUNA's offer to advocate for this.

What can UNAs do?

- Local and national media – send out a press release or submit an Op-Ed to newspapers using the attached sample provided by WFUNA
- Civil society partners – inform partner organizations about this issue and encourage them to advocate for it together with the UNA
- Government officials – lobby government (Ministers of Finance/ Environment/ Foreign Affairs) to promote this idea through their official delegation to the Copenhagen conference.

In January, the WFUNA Secretariat will be checking-in with all UNAs to evaluate activities done on this topic, and report back to the UN Secretary-General.

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