

UNITED NATIONS

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12 January 2009

Dear UN Global Compact Participant,

The United Nations Secretary-General has called 2009 the “Year of Climate Change” – and for good reason. This year, crucial negotiations are scheduled related to the forging of a new global framework for climate change.

Indeed, climate change has risen to the top of the international agenda – with scientific consensus now joined by ever-growing public concern.

As a key stakeholder in this global crisis, the business community is mobilizing, understanding that any meaningful progress must involve the private sector – acting individually, and collectively in partnership with governments, civil society, and other key interests.

The *Caring for Climate* initiative – co-launched by the UN Global Compact, UNEP, and the World Business Council for Sustainable Development – is designed to provide a strategic platform for companies to address climate change. Endorsed by more than 300 companies from over 60 countries, *Caring for Climate* assists companies in the development of effective climate-change policies while also providing a channel for the business community to contribute inputs and perspectives to key governmental deliberations. One important forum in this regard will be the World Business Summit on Climate Change, co-convened by the UN Global Compact and other partners and taking place on 24-26 May 2009 in Copenhagen.

As we begin 2009, the Year of Climate Change, we wish to take this opportunity to encourage your organization to endorse *Caring for Climate* and contribute to this critical undertaking.

Caring for Climate requires the endorsement of the Chief Executive Officer or Chair in a letter addressed to climatechange@unglobalcompact.org. Please note that there is no membership fee, and that no prior level of performance is required. Endorsing companies commit to undertake serious efforts to address climate change, and to report on their progress in the spirit of continuous improvement.

We hope you will join this historic call-to-action.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Georg Kell in black ink.

Georg Kell
Executive Director
UN Global Compact Office

Handwritten signature of Claude Fussler in black ink.

Claude Fussler
Programme Director, Caring for Climate
UN Global Compact Office