

“Addressing Climate Change”
December 7-13, 2009 in Copenhagen, Denmark
A Program of the Global Peace Initiative of Women

Delegation of religious and spiritual leaders to gather in Copenhagen during the Climate Summit COP15:

Zarko Andricevic, Croatia

Founder of the Buddhist Center in Zagreb, Croatia.

Benki da Silva Pianco, Ashaninka, Amazonia, Brazil

President of the Apiwtxa Association and the Vice President of the Organization of the Indigenous Peoples of the Juruá River (*Organização dos Povos Indígenas do rio Juruá – OPIRJ*).

Moises Pinhanta Ashaninka, Amazonia, Brazil

Representative of the Indigenous Peoples of the Juruá River (*Organização dos Povos Indígenas do rio Juruá – OPIRJ*).

Lalit Bakshi, India

President of ITRI's youth leadership summit program.

Swami Veda Bharati, India

Leading Vedic scholar and meditation teacher. Spiritual director of The Sadhana Mandir Ashram in Rishikesh, India.

Venerable Bhikkhu Bodhi, USA

Chairperson of Buddhist Global Relief, an inter-denominational organization of Buddhists dedicated to providing aid to those afflicted with poverty and hunger. Author of “The Time to Act is Now: A Buddhist Declaration on Climate Change.”

Venerable Bhikku Buddharakkhita, Uganda

Founder of the Uganda Buddhist Centre in Kampala, the first Buddhist Center in Uganda.

Rev. Dr. Joan Brown Campbell, USA

Chair, Global Peace Initiative of Women

One of the founders of the Religious Partnership for the Environment. Served as the Executive Director of the U.S. office of the World Council of Churches and was the first woman Secretary General of the National Council of Churches in the United States.

Venerable Guo Chan, USA

Works the interfaith and NGO sector of DD MBA to continue the legacy of the late Venerable Master Sheng Yen of sharing the wisdom and compassion of Buddhism with people around the world.

Benedictine Sr. Joan Chittister, OSB, USA

Co-Chair, Global Peace Initiative of Women

Benedictine nun, renowned author, prominent voice in Interfaith affairs.

Past-president of the Leadership Conference of Women Religious, President of the Conference of American Benedictine Prioresses. Founder and director of Benetvision, a center for contemporary spirituality in Erie, Pennsylvania.

Phrakhrupalad Suvathanavachirakhun (Phramaha Sawai Chotiko), Thailand

Director for the Buddhist Research Institute in Thailand, Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of International Buddhist Studies, and Secretary of the Rector at Mahachulalongkornrajavidyalaya University. He also serves as assistant Abbot at the Temple of Dawn in Bangkok.

Reverend Richard Cizik, USA

Fellow at the Open Society Institute and President of the "New Evangelical Partnership."

Ven. Prof. Dr. Phra Dharmakosajarn, Thailand

Senior monk in Thai Sangha (monastic order) and Rector of Mahachulalongkornrajavidyalaya University (MCU), Chairman of the International Association of Buddhist University, the Ecclesiastical Governor of Region II, Chief Abbot of Wat Prayurawongsawat in Bangkok, and a member of the Secretariat to the Executive Committee for the Supreme Patriarch of Thailand.

Bhikkhu Dharmeswar, Bangladesh

Acting General Secretary to the Supreme Patriarch of Buddhists of Bangladesh, His Holiness Sangharaja Dharmasen Mahathero taking active involvement in civil advocacy to spread awareness about the critical impact of climate change on the environment in Bangladesh.

Rev. Doju D. Freire, Italy

Zen Buddhist Nun, Educator and Author
Coordinator, GPIW Italia

Andrew Harvey, UK/USA

Mystical scholar, Rumi translator, spiritual teacher, and author. Founded the Institute of Sacred Activism in Chicago, which proposes the union of spiritual practice and socially transformative action as the key to creating a more humane humanity.

Sensei Alan Imai, Japan

Spiritual teacher of Shinji Shumeikai.

Sister Jayanti, UK/India

European Director of the Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual University, and the official Brahma Kumaris representative to the United Nations in Geneva.

Venerable Chang Ji, USA

International Affairs Representative for Dharma Drum Mountain Buddhist Association. Served as Special Assistant to the late Master Sheng Yen.

Kuki Gallmann, Kenya

Philanthropist, leading conservationist and environmentalist. Founder and director of the Gallmann Memorial Foundation & Nature Preserve.

Sveva Gallmann, Kenya

Founder and director of the Four Generations Project at the Gallmann Memorial Foundation in Kenya, which monitors and records significant rituals, songs and oral traditions of the local tribes.

Michael Kagan, Israel

Co-founder of the Jewish Climate Initiative (JCI) an organization that is exploring the tenants of Judaism and the values and abilities of the Jewish People to climate change and environmental catastrophe.

Acharya Judith Lief, USA

Preeminent American teacher of Buddhist meditation and formerly the Dean of Naropa Institute.

Hiroshi Matsumoto, Japan

Mr. Hiroshi Matsumoto is the President of Inner Trip Reiyukai International (ITRI), the oldest lay Buddhist organization in Japan.

Prof. Wangari Maathai, Kenya

Environmental Conservationist and Founder of the Green Belt Movement – a project aimed at poverty reduction and environmental conservation through tree planting. Elected to the Kenya Parliament in 2002 and served as the Assistant Minister for Environment and Natural Resources until 2007. Nobel Peace Prize recipient in 2004.

Sheikh Saliou Mbacke, Senegal

Coordinator of the Inter-Faith Action for Peace in Africa (IFAPA) fostering dialogue in conflict and post-conflict Africa. Belongs to the Muridiya Sufi order of Senegal and is the grandson of the Caliph of the Murid community.

Marti Mueller, US/India

United Nations ECO-SOC Auroville Representative to Geneva, former Chair of the International Advisory Council of the Global Eco-Village Network, and a resident of Auroville (a community dedicated to human unity in South India).

Sufi Rehman Muhaiyaddeen, Pakistan

Established and directs the Bawa Muhaiyaddeen Sufi Center in Lahore, Pakistan, for which he serves as director. Founder of the Green Living Association – focused on environmentalism building a responsible, peaceful, and globally aligned future generation of Pakistan.

Swamini Pramananda Saraswati, India

Teacher of Vedanta and developer of educational materials on Vedic culture for over two decades. Preeminent Conservationist and strong advocate of a free-flowing Ganga.

Sraddhalu Ranade, India

Scientist, educator and leading scholar on the teachings of late Indian sage, Sri Aurobindo.

Balbir Singh Seechewal, India

Spiritual teacher and outspoken environmentalist working on water restoration and preservation restoring the purity and pristine beauty of the Guru Nanak Dev Ji's sacred river.

Dr. Vandana Shiva, India

Ecological community activist. Leader of the International Forum on Globalization. Trained-Physicist, Ph.D. University of Western Ontario, Canada and known philosopher, eco feminist and author of several books including *Vedic Ecology*.

Rabbi Awraham Soetendorp,

Award winning human rights advocate, lecturer, writer, environmental activist and champion of civil society worldwide. Earth Charter Commissioner and a Founding Board Member Green Cross International.

Rabbi Warren Stone, USA

Founding and current Chair of the Central Conference of American Rabbis' Committee on the Environment

Hanne Strong, Denmark/Canada

Founder of the Manitou Foundation that has over 30 years granted over 2000 acres of land to spiritual, educational and environmental groups and land stewardship program. Started the Earth Restoration Corps preparing young people for a meaningful sustainable livelihood restoring threatened eco-systems.

Dr. Maurice Strong, Canada

Former Secretary General of the 1972 United Nations Conference on the Human Environment in Stockholm, first Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), and Secretary General of the 1992 Rio Earth Summit - United Nations Conference on the Human Environment.

Ingvar Villido (Ishwarananda), Estonia

Founder of Lilleoru (Valley of Flowers), a spiritual-ecological community, Self-Awareness-Training-Center, the oldest and largest community of its kind in Estonia.

Dr. Tho Ha Vinh, Switzerland/Vietnam

Head of Global Training in the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in Geneva. Meditation teacher in the lineage of the Venerable Tich Nhat Hanh leading annual meditation retreats in the Vietnamese Zen tradition.

Lisi Ha Vinh, Switzerland

Director, Eurasia Foundation: an NGO developing educational projects in Vietnam to foster the development and social integration of mentally and physically disabled individuals and children; and to promote an ecological awareness.

Dr. Sakena Yacoobi, Afghanistan

Founder and Executive Director of the Afghan Institute of Learning serving 350,000 women and children each year and employs about 415 Afghans, over 70% of which are women. Recipient of the 2007 Gleitsman International Activist Award.

Andrea Zeller Mayer, Germany/Israel

Intercultural trauma therapist healing individuals in need on the basis that healing the individual can have tremendous healing impact for the earth and environment.

Delegation from Bangladesh to the COP15

Bhikkhu Dharmeswar, Bangladesh

Acting General Secretary to the Supreme Patriarch of Buddhists of Bangladesh

Ven. Tona Barua, Bangladesh

Student at the Mahamukut University in Thailand and member of The Supreme Sangha Council of Bangladesh as well as an executive member of Jaldhi Youth Association in Bangladesh.

Ven. Ratana Sree Sraman, Bangladesh

Student at the Mahachulalongkorn Rajavidyalaya University in Thailand and member of the Supreme Sangha Council of Bangladesh, as well as Religious Secretary to Ariya Vangsha Bhikkhu Sangsad.

Ven. Shipana Sree Bhikkhu, Bangladesh

Student at the Mahachulalongkorn Rajavidyalaya University in Thailand and member of the Supreme Sangha Council of Bangladesh, and Co-Editor of Religion and Culture Magazine "SAMMYOK".

Local/European Delegates

Hildur Jackson, Denmark

Lawyer, cultural sociologist, and permaculture designer. Co-initiator of LOS and GEN the Danish and global network of eco-villages and Gaia Education. Authored two books: "Creating Harmony, Conflict Resolution in Community" and "Ecovillage Living, restoring the Earth and Her People."

Ross Jackson, Denmark

Founder and Chairman of Gaia Trust, a Danish foundation supporting over 300 sustainability products in over 40 countries, especially the ecovillage movement (GEN) and education for sustainable design (Gaia Education). Owner of Urtekram International, the largest organic foods wholesaler in Scandinavia.

Sonja Ohlsson, Denmark

National Coordinator of Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual University in Denmark. Teacher of meditation and positive thinking in the Brahma Kumaris centre in Copenhagen as well as in prisons and in the local community. Co-founder of United Religions Initiative in Denmark.

Ave Oit, Estonia

Chairwoman of Lilleoru (Valley of Flowers), a spiritual-ecological community and self-awareness training center, which is the oldest and largest community of its kind in Estonia.

Marie Louise Lefèvre, Denmark

Trained script-writer from The Danish Film School, producer of the film "Invitation from God" with father Thomas Keating, a renowned American Cistercian monk and founder of the Contemplative Outreach movement. Practitioner of meditation and contemplation for over 20 years and is a member of URI - United Religion Initiative in Denmark.

Dr. Lars Erik Juul Martiny (Vinay)

Dentist and an Ayurveda Physician (Indian Medicine). Practitioner and teacher of Ayur Veda, Indian Philosophy, Meditation, Stress and Life Management for 35 Years.

Inger Moeller, Denmark

Healing minister in the Church of the Resurrected Life - a theosophical church working for World Peace. Teaches healing practices and meditation in Denmark for the past twenty-five years and in Estonia for 6 years.

Partners and Supporters

ITRI Japan
Kalliopeia Foundation
DDMBA, USA
Gaia Trust, Denmark

Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual University
Sahaj Marg Meditation Center, Denmark
Heartflow Meditation Center, Denmark