



23<sup>rd</sup> February 2012

Mr. Enda Kenny TD,  
An Taoiseach,  
Department of the Taoiseach,  
Government Buildings,  
Upper Merrion Street,  
Dublin 2

Dear Taoiseach,

As the members of Stop Climate Chaos, we are writing to you to urge you to attend the UN Conference on Sustainable Development, Rio+20, in June this year as the representative for Ireland.

Rio+20 is a critical opportunity to reset and reinvigorate the global commitment to the principles of sustainable development agreed in 1992. The eradication of poverty will not be possible unless development models respond to the earth's ecological limits. At the heart of this issue is the need for increasing global equity in the access to resources. A guiding principle needs to be that of common but differentiated responsibility, as outlined in the Rio Declaration. Without strong political commitment, cooperation and participation from leaders across the world this reinvigoration cannot happen.

Ireland has recently had first hand experience of the potential negative impacts of an unsustainable model of development. Our contribution to this is reflected in the disproportionately high levels of emissions that Ireland is currently producing. However, the Programme for Government commitment to and roadmap for a climate law, and the comprehensive Framework for Sustainable Development for Ireland are clear indications that Ireland is now striving to take a more sustainable path.

Ireland is a small country, but has shown that it is a global leader in international development. Ireland should seek to express this commitment to the world's poorest and most vulnerable by playing a leadership role in the global sustainable development debate.

Your presence at Rio +20 would demonstrate Ireland's commitment to and support for sustainable development. It would also send a clear signal of solidarity to leaders in developing nations, who are currently suffering the consequences of unsustainable development practices. There is a moral imperative for us in the developed world, who have benefited so much from our development to date, to become leaders in the search for a more sustainable future. However, it is also directly in our interests to seek global solutions to problems that will have disastrous impacts for us all.

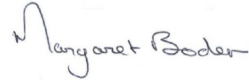
The Stop Climate Chaos coalition believes that Ireland should demonstrate leadership in relation to sustainable development and strongly encourages you to attend the Rio+20 Summit in June. We would also like to invite you to meet with us at a time that is convenient to you before the UN Conference on Sustainable Development in Rio in June.

cont.


Yours sincerely,



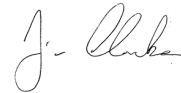
Tom Arnold  
Chief Executive  
Concern Worldwide



Margaret Boden  
Chief Executive  
Christian Aid Ireland




Catherine Brennan  
Chairperson  
Eco Congregation Ireland



Jim Clarken  
Chief Executive  
Oxfam Ireland



Oisín Coghlan  
Director  
Friends of the Earth Ireland



Justin Kilcullen  
Director  
Trócaire



Brian Hanratty  
CEO  
Gorta



Alan Lauder  
Chief Executive  
BirdWatch Ireland



Deirdre Murray  
Director  
Comhlámh



Joe Murray  
Director  
Afri



Ruth McGrath  
Director  
V.O.I.C.E.



Elaine Nevin  
CEO  
ECO UNESCO



Tom Roche  
Director  
Just Forests



David Rose  
Director  
Presentation Ireland



Charles Stanley-Smith  
Chair  
An Taisce

Charles Stanley-Smith  
Chair  
An Taisce

Judith Turbyne  
Director  
Progressio Ireland



The members of Stop Climate Chaos are: Action Aid, Afri, BirdWatch Ireland, Christian Aid Ireland, Climate Action Ireland Platform, Comhlámh, Concern, Cultivate, Dublin Friends of the Earth, Eco Congregation Ireland, ECO UNESCO, Feasta, Friends of the Earth, Gorta, Just Forests, Kimmage Development Studies Centre, Latin America Solidarity Centre (LASC), Methodist Church of Ireland-Council of Social Responsibility, Mountmellick Environmental Group (MEG), National Youth Council Ireland, Oxfam Ireland, Presentation Ireland, Progressio Ireland, Sustain West Cork, Trócaire, An Taisce, VITA, V.O.I.C.E