



MEDIA RELEASE

WORLD'S FIRST GLOBAL CITIZENS' ASSEMBLY CALLS FOR ECOCIDE TO BE ENFORCED

Strict Embargo 1300 UTC 1 Nov 2021

The Global Citizens' Assembly has voted that the crime of Ecocide should be enshrined in international and national laws, and that it should be firmly enforced. The Global Assembly's declaration, which is being presented to world leaders at the COP26 Climate Conference, says Ecocide should be "firmly enforced alongside existing environmental protection laws."

The assembly defines Ecocide as: "Unlawful or wanton acts committed with knowledge that there is a substantial likelihood of severe and either widespread or long-term damage to the environment being caused by those acts." It could possibly make some governments, corporations and individuals guilty of an international crime.

The Global Assembly is supported by UN Secretary General António Guterres and COP26 President Alok Sharma MP. It is a new piece of infrastructure, which ensures everyday people have a seat at the global governance table. The Global Assembly consists of a Core Assembly and Community Assemblies. The Core Assembly is 100 citizens who are an accurate snapshot of the world's population by gender, age, geography, education and attitude to climate change, selected by a global lottery based on Nasa population data, meaning that anyone on earth could be chosen. Anyone in the world, can participate through running or attending a Community Assembly. All participants are supported by world class experts to understand the climate and ecological crisis.

The Global Assembly resolved to endorse the Paris agreement, which aims to limit global heating to 1.5 degrees. The assembly resolved that: "The [Paris] Agreement has to be strictly enforced and monitored by the United Nations, in collaboration with the relevant actors at all levels of governance."

But the assembly says mitigation should be equitable. "Developed countries should assist developing countries in building up autonomous capabilities for climate action, particularly in financial and technological terms," the declaration says.

The Global Assembly's full declaration for action will be released at an event in the COP26 Green Zone Imax Theatre at 1300 UTC on 1 November, 2021. **Ugandan climate activist Vanessa Nakate, Scottish First Minister Nicola Sturgeon, former UN IPCC Chair Sir Bob Watson and Laurence Tubiana, Architect of the Paris Agreement** will join Global Assembly organisers at the event, and a large number of actual Global Assembly members from around the world are available to interview online.

\$500 Grants Announced for People to Run Community Assemblies

The Global Assembly will be sitting until 28 Feb 2022, grants of \$500 are being offered for people to run Community Assemblies. For more details see: <https://globalassembly.org>

Today's declaration has been prepared by the Assembly Members specifically for COP26. The final submission will be published in March 2022. It will contain a broader set of statements providing a full response to the framing question: how can humanity address the climate and ecological crisis in a fair and effective way?

Global Assembly member Chom Chaiyabut from Thailand said: "As a leader of my village who fights for Mother Nature in my community for all my life, I believe the power of citizens' assemblies such as the Global Assembly will pave the way for the fair and effective action we wish to see towards climate change."

Link to the embargoed declaration:

https://globalassembly.org/declaration?x-craft-preview=MvIGANONfC&token=vf9VF_TEfEb55ElmphLqz1g2G6gnxguJ

Global Assembly contacts can arrange interviews for media:

Sarah +44 7817 538206

Flynn +44 7899 952714

(Asia time zone) Jeff +61 498 111 261

Global Assembly Members are available to interview, in a variety of languages, in the following countries: DRC; Morocco; Cote d'Ivoire; Nigeria; Sierra Leone; China; USA; India; Germany; Nepal; Indonesia; Thailand; Zambia; Brazil; Syria; Ecuador; Dominican Republic; France; Spain; Madagascar; Pakistan, and Singapore.

High resolution photographs of assembly members are available for media usage.