



**Representation of Foreste Per Sempre  
to the United Nations Climate Change Conference  
15<sup>th</sup> Session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 15)  
Copenhagen – 7-18 December 2009**

Foreste Per Sempre (FpS- <http://www.forestepersempre.org>) is a Non Governmental Organization (NGO) which operates in the field of international cooperation for the protection and conservation of natural ecosystems and biodiversity. It also provides support to the communities living in such environments in order to enable them achieve an environmentally sustainable development. Furthermore FpS works for the conservation and recreation of forests with the objective of reducing the serious threats posed by Climate Change and by anthropogenic Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions, along with the targets set by the Kyoto Protocol and the findings of the IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change).

**Recognizing**

That, according to the 4<sup>th</sup> Assessment Report (AR4) of the IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change), global warming is unequivocal and that there is 'very high confidence' that one of its main causes resides in human activity, in particular in the combustion of fossil fuels, deforestation and land use change

That without any intervention to limit the emissions of the 21<sup>st</sup> century the global temperature could rise between 1.8° C and 4° C and the level of the sea could rise up to 59 cm

That among the consequences there will be a serious loss of biodiversity, including the disappearance of 15% to 40% of the endemic species present in biodiversity hotspots in case of a rise of temperature of 3.5°C

That biodiversity provides free services for humankind such as watershed protection, carbon sequestration, biodiversity protection, landscape beauty, etc.

That at the 14<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties in Poznan the urgency of tackling Climate Change has been recognized through the adoption of a road map set to reach a global agreement on the main relevant issues

That changes in our climate systems are currently taking place and that there is no new phenomenon or trend that can deny the observations and forecasts of the scientific community

That apart from the problems relating to our climate system, the industrialized world will have to face the current or imminent challenge of the period following the global 'oil peak' (Hubbert's peak)

## Foreste per Sempre

Deems it necessary to stabilize the concentration of CO<sub>2</sub> within the threshold of 450 ppmv, to avoid that the rise of global temperatures exceeds the critical level of 2° C compared to the preindustrial era

Expresses its great expectations in relation to the outcomes of the 15<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties held in Copenhagen in December 2009

Stresses the importance of achieving a new international agreement that reaches targets beyond those set by the Kyoto Protocol and by the European Union energy policy '20 20 by 2020'

FpS in particular has great expectations on the efforts that the European Union and other developed countries will undertake for

- providing incentives to citizens, enterprises and institutions to invest on energy saving and efficiency measures, on the use of renewable sources, on sustainable mobility and in general on the reduction of GHG emissions
- avoiding, on the other hand, initiatives and investments that encourage the use of fossil fuels and of nuclear energy
- focusing efforts to the use and promotion of bio-fuels, assessing their actual direct and indirect impact and their Energy Return on Energy Investment (EROEI)
- supporting environmental education and scientific research, in particular through international cooperation and by supporting projects that involve developing countries
- committing to transfer cleaner technologies to developing countries
- preserving forests as key factor for tackling Climate Change and reducing deforestation, which to date is responsible for 17% of the global GHG emissions
- recognizing the environmental services provided by forests, in particular primary and tropical forests and by biodiversity
- preserving indigenous communities, their cultures and their languages through the protection of their habitats and by promoting international cooperation
- reaching an international mandatory agreement for a global reduction of GHG emissions of at least 20% by 2020 and 50 % by 2050

FpS commits on its part and along with its mission to

- develop initiatives to preserve forests and biodiversity in order to ensure the resilience of the planet and of humankind over time
- sensitize public opinion on the related threats and possible solutions
- involve the populations that live in forests in particular through environmentally sustainable projects for the improvement of their life conditions and welfare
- implement projects to restore and recreate forests and woodlands
- promote eco-volunteerism and eco-tourism
- allocate Payments for Ecosystem Services (PSE) as a voluntary application of international agreements to finance re-forestation projects