



September 27th 2022

To the attention of: His Excellency, Minister Shoukry, COP27 President

Copy sent via diplomatic channel to :

S.E. M. Ahmed Ihab Abdelahad GAMALELDIN - AMBASSADEUR
Mission permanente de la République arabe d'Égypte auprès de l'Office des Nations Unies et des autres
organisations internationales à Genève
261, Route de Lausanne, 1292 Chambesy, SWITZERLAND

Email copied to: H.E. Mahmoud Mohieldin, High-Level Climate Action Champion; H.E. Antonio Guterres, UN Secretary General; H. E. Simon Stiell, Executive Secretary United Nations Climate Change Secretariat, H.E. Yasmine Fouad, Minister of Environment; Mr. Nigel Topping, High-Level Climate Action Champion

Your Excellency,

We congratulate President El-Sisi on the representation of women within his government. We therefore respectfully request equal and visible representation of women leaders in the COP27 Presidency team. We also ask for a transparent decision process at the highest level to show that women's perspectives have been considered in the final decisions on climate negotiations. Diversity and inclusiveness are essential for COP27 to be a collective success and secure a brighter future for a **just environmental transition** for humanity on Earth.

We have actively reached out to the COP27 team, but no new women have been formally appointed as part of the COP27 Presidency high-level team - despite several female Egyptian Ministers that are well qualified - or at least this is not currently visible anywhere on the COP27 Presidency official website as of now.

We assembled a **COP27 Friends** group focusing on inclusiveness and diversity comprising women leaders from the region. They were ready to support the Climate Champions as well as the COP President. There have been a few exchanges with the Champions but the promise of a regular dialogue with the COP President has been very slow to get started - less than 100 days from the start of COP27.

We submit this open letter, as we did for the COP26 Presidency, for publication today at the end of the UN General Assembly and Climate Week on **September 27 in New York**. Our last [letter](#) was signed by over 400 influential women leaders and celebrities, and amplified by the Financial Times, Newsnight and the BBC and other significant global media outlets. Our social media campaign reached 154 million impressions.

Our asks to the COP27 Presidency in particular are:

1. The COP27 Presidency to list on its website all appointed leaders, Ministers, Ambassadors, and distinguished representatives who have now been appointed as part of the COP27 Presidency leadership team, in addition to the COP President, H.E. Shoukry and the High-Level climate champion Dr Mahmoud, and to make this list available online for transparency and accountability to all partners;

2. Assure and showcase a 50:50 balanced representation of men and women at the high-level team for COP27: embracing women's equal participation, supporting gender equality, and ensuring a transparent and accountable COP27 process;
3. Demonstrating global leadership by ensuring Egypt's updated Nationally Determined Contribution includes a gender analysis and commitment to tackling gender inequality via action on reducing emissions and calling on all Parties to do the same in line with the Lima Work Program on Gender established in 2014;

and our asks to the UNFCCC Parties:

1. Ensuring close to 100% of climate and nature positive finance is gender-inclusive and developing minimum standards to increase accessibility to finance for women-led and women's rights organizations that address climate change and other interrelated crises on the front lines, as an enabler of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;
2. Phasing out fossil fuels and committing to net zero by 2050 and thus ensuring a just transition;
3. Including women in peace negotiations, because women empowerment, peace and conflict resolution and climate adaptation are inextricably linked.

We encourage you to act urgently on this fundamental gender balance crisis as the COP27 summit in Sharm-El-Sheik is less than 2 months away and are **very much open to dialogue with you** to give you some support and make some progress on this issue together in a collaborative way.

We would like to request a meeting with you and your Executive Office before COP27, and then in person at COP27.

We are already working well with the Champions Team on the preparation of the online Summit on November 4th and would be very much open to collaborating with you and your team for the preparation of the COP27 official events, including for the Leaders gathering and for the **Gender day taking place during COP.**

Please be assured that we all want to make COP27 a collective and inclusive success for the world.

We look forward to hearing from you and thank you for your consideration and response.

Yours Sincerely,

[SHE Changes Climate](#) team and partners

This letter was signed by more than 500 leaders from around the world

Signatories include:

Christiana Figueres - Host Outrage and Optimism podcast, Former Executive Secretary UNFCCC

Laurence Tubiana - President & CEO, European Climate Foundation

Mary Robinson - Former President of Ireland, Chair of the Elders, former UN High Commissioner for Human Rights

Prof Mary McAleese - Former President of Ireland, Professor of Children, Law and Religion, Glasgow University

Evelyne Huytebroeck - Former Brussels Minister of Climate, Co-chair European Green Party

Izabella Teixeira - Former Minister for the Environment, Brazil and Co-Chair IRP/UNEP

Neema Namadamu - Executive Director, Hero Women Rising

Coumba Toure – Board Chair, TrustAfrica Foundation

Wanjira Mathai - Managing Director, Africa and Global Partnerships, WRI

Emma Thompson OBE - Actor and Activist

Alison Sudol - Actress, Musician, Activist

Ellie Goulding - Singer/Songwriter, UN Global Goodwill Ambassador

Bianca Jagger - Founder, President and Chief Executive, Bianca Jagger Human Rights Foundation

Princess Esmeralda de Belgique – Journalist and Activist

Sandrine Dixson-Deceleve – Co-President, The Club of Rome

Emma Howard Boyd CBE - Former Chair Environment Agency UK

Sumita Singha OBE - RIBA Chartered Architect, Ecologic Architects

Judy Ling Wong OBE - Honorary President, Black Environment Network

Dr Anjhula Mya Singh-Bais - Chair, International Board, Amnesty International

Katharine Wilkinson - Co-founder & Executive Director, The All We Can Save Project

Ingmar Rentzhog – Founder and CEO, We Don't Have Time

Anette Nordwall – Chairwoman, We Don't Have Time

Dr Michael Mann - Professor of Earth & Environmental Science University of Pennsylvania

Rachel Kyte – Dean, The Fletcher School, Tufts

Kate Raworth - Renegade Economist, University of Oxford

George Monbiot - Author, Journalist, Environmental Activist

Liz Bonnin - Science, Natural History and Environmental Broadcaster

Lily Cole - Model, Author, Social Entrepreneur

Maria Furtwängler – Actress, Activist producer MaLisa Foundation

Dr Mya-Rose Craig – President, Black2Nature

Joycelyn Longdon - Climate Justice Educator and Activist & Forest Conservation Technology PhD Researcher, ClimateInColour

Xiye Bastida - Co-Founder Re-Earth Initiative

Mercedes Bustamante - Full Professor University of Brasilia

Alice Aedy – Co-Founder, Earthrise

Farhana Yamin - Climate Lawyer, Climate Justice & JustTransition Donor Collaborative

Runa Khan - Founder & Executive Director, Friendship

Bella Lack - Writer, Reserva Youth Land Trust

Alexandria Villasenor - US climate activist, Earth Uprising

Anuna De Wever - Climate Activist, School Strike for Climate

Charly Young MBE - CEO and Co-founder, The Girls' Network

Adélaïde Charlier - Climate and Human Right Activist and co-founder of Youth For Climate, Belgium Youth For Climate

Valerie Rockefeller -Chair, Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors

Tanya Steele – CEO, WWF UK

Jojo Mehta - Co-Founder & Executive Director, Stop Ecocide International

Reem Al Saffar - Co-Founder & Executive Director, MENA Youth Network

Silvana Koch-Mehrin – President, Women Political Leaders

Melanne Verveer - Director of Georgetown Institute for Women, Peace & Security Former US Ambassador for Global Womens' Issues

Baroness Mary Goudie - House of Lords, Founding Member 30% Club

Halla Tomasdottir - CEO & Chief Change Catalyst, The B Team

Dominique Brustlein-Bobst - Philanthropist, Swiss Ambassador for SHE Changes Climate

Julia Steinberger - Professor in Ecological Economics, University of Lausanne,

Sierra Quitiquit - Founder & CEO, Plastic Free Fridays + Time for Better

Gail Bradbrook - Co-Founder Extinction Rebellion

Clare Farrell - Co-Founder Extinction Rebellion

Cherie Blair – Human Rights Lawyer

Andre Hoffman – Philanthropist, Former International VP WWF

Dr. Gunhild A. Stordalen - Founder & Executive Chair, EAT

Paul Polman - Business Leader, Campaigner, Co-Author of Net Positive

Kim Polman - Co-Founder and Chair, Reboot the Future

Bill McKibben - Co-Founder of [350.org](https://www.350.org)

*See here the full list of signatures, click here: [SHE Changes Climate List](#)

Warmest regards,

Mrs. Elise Buckle, Caroline Mair, Antoinette Vermilye, Bianca Pitt

Co-Founders & CEO of SHE Changes Climate

www.shechangesclimate.org

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