



Public Statement

Quakers join world-wide call to Stop Excluding Military Pollution from Climate Agreements

Quakers Australia, in unity with their witness to peace and earthcare, have added their support to a petition addressed to the COP26 which meets in Glasgow, November 2021. The petition urges all nations to include all greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions generated by the military into global greenhouse gas reduction standards (text of petition below).

According to the UN Secretary General António Guterres, the recent report from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) "is a code red for humanity". Although almost every nation on Earth signed up to the goals of the Paris climate agreement in 2015, reporting on annual GHG emissions by nations is voluntary and often incomplete.

There must be no more exception for military pollution. The COP26 meeting is an opportunity to address this exception and strengthen the basis for addressing urgent action on climate change.

Text of Petition

As a result of final-hour demands made by the U.S. government during negotiation of the 1997 Kyoto treaty, military greenhouse gas emissions were exempted from climate negotiations. That tradition has continued.

The 2015 Paris Agreement left cutting military greenhouse gas emissions to the discretion of individual nations.

The UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, obliges signatories to publish annual greenhouse gas emissions, but military emissions reporting is voluntary and often not included.

NATO has acknowledged the problem but not created any specific requirements to address it.

There is no reasonable basis for this gaping loophole. War and war preparations are major greenhouse gas emitters. All greenhouse gas emissions need to be included in mandatory greenhouse gas emission reduction standards. There must be no more exception for military pollution.

We ask COP26 to set strict greenhouse gas emissions limits that make no exception for militarism, include transparent reporting requirements and independent verification, and do not rely on schemes to "offset" emissions. Greenhouse gas emissions from a country's

overseas military bases must be fully reported and charged to that country, not the country where the base is located.



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Further information

https://actionnetwork.org/petitions/stop-excluding-military-pollution-from-climate-agreements-2/?link_id=4&can_id=9e025b53f166c3059853df239471cbe4&source=email-one-step-that-could-work-wonders-for-climate-and-peace&email_referrer=email_1265545&email_subject=planning-for-peaceclimate-week

<https://ceobs.org/governments-must-commit-to-military-emissions-cuts-at-cop26/>