

Appeal

Climate march

7th June 2008

Milan, Italy

World climate is changing, but policy decisions to face this worldwide emergency have not yet been taken. It is up to us therefore to demand them, and above all to try to bring about a profound cultural and political change which will influence production and consumption methods, in order to halt the world fever.

We must do this for ourselves and for all living beings, to preserve all the natural beauties both of Italy and the entire world, which are already suffering from the consequences of climate change; we have to protect our landscapes and our biodiversity and safeguard the riches of the lands, of the sea, and of our agriculture regarding both quality and quantity, to resolve the geological and water supply problems. We must do it so that everyone can live in peace, in cities that are more beautiful and hospitable, to stop wars and conflicts which have arisen over the control of the non-renewable energy resources in short supply, of the food resources, and of common goods such as water. We must do it to give our children and young people a desirable future to grow up for.

We can do it because today technical knowledge allows us to re-think the ways to produce energy and to use it to move, live, and produce without any waste of common resources such as water, soil, air and life on Earth. We can do it because we can collaborate with the education and training sectors, where there are great professional skills and sensibilities.

We want to obtain a revolution by 2010: to decrease energy consumption by 20%, to increase the use of renewable resources by 20% and to lower greenhouse gas emissions by 30%.

Up to now Italy has been going in the opposite direction, increasing fossil fuels consumption. Now we have to prove to the world that we can reverse the tendency, that we can join in with the new progress, and that we can go forward starting from our wealth of knowledge, our young people, our territories and our experiences such as biological agriculture and retail markets.

This change seems to us to be desirable because it could immediately improve our wellbeing and quality of life, improving social cohesion, peace and international security and facilitating a fair distribution of world resources, guaranteeing access to everybody. By uniting our forces we can win over economic lobbies, wastage, inertia and the conservation of bad habits. We should invest our knowledge and resources in this change because it could produce great benefits for the quality of work, both of men and women, and bring about a more fair and sustainable globalization.

We can change development standards by promoting people's participation in choices regarding environment, infrastructures and common goods, and motivating productive, industrial and agronomic methods which respect the environment and are orientated towards high-quality objectives and towards the wellbeing of people and the communities. This is a perspective in which the world of production can make an important contribution towards new methods, to make the country more competitive.

We will change our lifestyle, our choices as consumers, our everyday habits and our transport methods, giving more value to human energy, demanding and rewarding at the same time the exchange of new goods, the use of new services, capable of re-launching employment, of guaranteeing social cohesion, of improving relationships between all men and women, in order to have cities and towns less polluted, and a more beautiful Italy.

Many, many people are necessary to start the change we want to achieve, to sign this contract with the World and to commit ourselves to decreasing greenhouse gas emissions; each one starting from their own every day choices and from their own community.

Circulate this appeal in cities, countries, workplaces, schools and universities

Promote together the "Climate March", 7th June 2008 in Milan

Create a new "climate alliance" to build a better future

Promoted by: Legambiente, Acli, Acli Ambiente, Anni Verdi, Adoc, AIAB, Altreconomia, Ambiente e Lavoro, Amici della Terra, Arci, Arcicaccia /CSAA, Arciragazzi, Arci Servizio Civile, Associazione Ong Italiane, Auser, Banca popolare Etica, CGIL, CIA, CISL, CittadinanzAttiva, Civitas, Coldiretti, Comitato Italiano Contratto Mondiale sull'Acqua, Comitato Italiano Sovranità Alimentare, Contratto Mondiale per l'Energia, Ctm, CTS, Ecologia e Lavoro, FAI, Fairtrade, Federazione nazionale Pro Natura, Federconsumatori, Federparchi, FIAB, FOCSIV, Forum Ambientalista, Forum Terzo Settore, Greenpeace, LAV, Lega Consumatori, Lega Pesca, Libera, LIPU, Lunaria, MCE, MDC, Medici per l'ambiente, Movimento Consumatori, Slow Food Italia, Tavola della Pace, Terre di mezzo, UIL, Uisp, Umanisti per l'ambiente, Unione degli Studenti, VAS, WWF.