



Dear Mayor Hidalgo,

**Re: Letter of Commitment to 'Deadline 2020' Climate Action Planning to support the implementation of the Paris Agreement**

In 2016, nations of the world ratified a historic global agreement on climate change, the Paris Agreement, committing to keep rises in global average temperatures within 2°C of pre-industrial levels, and to pursue efforts to limit temperature rises even further to only 1.5°C. The Agreement also commits to strengthening the ability of countries to deal with the unavoidable impacts of climate change through adaptation. All of this is set within the context of sustainable development and on the basis of inclusivity for all communities. According to research by C40 and partners, concrete action in the years to 2020 is necessary to achieve the ambition of the Paris Agreement and prevent catastrophic climate change. [Deadline 2020: How Cities Will Get the Job Done](#) provides a roadmap outlining the pace, scale and prioritization of action needed by C40 member cities, and identifies C40 cities' share of the remaining global carbon budgets to 2100 that would keep us on a climate safe path.

To support the implementation of the Paris Agreement, I commit the City of Helsinki to develop and begin implementing a climate action plan (or series of plans) before the end of 2020 that will deliver action consistent with the ambitions of the Paris Agreement, and addresses both the need to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and adapt to the impacts of climate change.

Specifically, I commit the City of Helsinki to deliver a GHG emissions neutral and climate resilient city by 2050, with a public plan or series of plans to:

1. Develop a pathway to deliver a GHG emissions neutrality by 2050 at the latest, and set an interim target for 2030.
2. Demonstrate how the city will adapt and improve its resilience to climate hazards that may impact the city now, and in future climate change scenarios.
3. Outline the wider social, environmental and economic benefits derived from implementing the plan, and improve the distribution of these benefits throughout the city's population.
4. Outline how the city will approach implementation of the plan (or series of plans), using available powers, resources and partners.

We will also consider how we can engage and collaborate with our citizens, business leaders, institutions and other cities to develop and deliver on this critical agenda.

Furthermore, I commit to supporting the C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group and other international networks to encourage and inspire other cities to commit to helping deliver the Paris Agreement.

Yours Sincerely,

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Jan Vapaavuori  
Mayor of Helsinki