

Statement

GREENPEACE

Greenpeace Canada response to UN push for ratification of Paris agreement

21 September 2016 (New York) – The historic Paris Agreement, adopted last December, passed another milestone today with a formal ratification by 31 countries at the UN in New York.

With 60 countries representing 47.62% of global emissions now on board, the Paris Agreement has passed one of the two thresholds required for its entry into force. The other threshold looks very likely to be passed later this year, with Canada being one of the countries that has indicated it will ratify in 2016.

Climate campaign head for Greenpeace Canada, Keith Stewart said:

“If the Trudeau government is to be taken seriously when they say ‘Canada is back’ in the fight against climate change, then ratification must be accompanied by action to accelerate the phase out of fossil fuels here at home and that means saying no to the oil lobby’s push for more tar sands pipelines.”

Global Climate Policy Leader for Greenpeace Nordic, Kaisa Kosonen said:

“Countries on the vanguard of rapidly bringing the Agreement into force include the world’s biggest polluters as well as those that are most at risk. This shows how climate change unites us all, and so must our response.

“Signing papers is the easy bit, but as it stands, current targets won’t reach the Paris Agreement’s goals. We must start phasing out fossil fuels and move the world to a new and safe energy system without any delay. We must also ensure that those already facing the impacts of climate change are supported and protected.”

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