

Statement

GREENPEACE

Greenpeace applauds entry into force of Paris Agreement

October 5th 2016 (Toronto) – The landmark Paris Agreement, adopted last December, has passed the threshold required for it to become internationally legally binding.

When the EU deposited its instrument of ratification with the UN, we passed the 55% emissions threshold for entry into force. The threshold of 55 countries had already been passed on September 21st, and now stands at 72 with 56.75% of emissions covered. The Agreement will come into force on November 4th 2016, making its ratification one of the fastest of any international treaty in history.

Jennifer Morgan, executive director of Greenpeace International, said:

“The unprecedented speed of the entry into force of the Paris Agreement demonstrates that Paris was not a one-off deal, but rather a long-term commitment to climate action. Now that a truly global binding climate agreement is in place, governments should have the confidence to not only meet but also beat their national climate targets and provide support to the poorest countries. There is a tremendous opportunity for clean energy and a fair outcome for local communities that Paris signaled.”

Keith Stewart, head of the Climate and Energy campaign at Greenpeace Canada said:

“The Paris Agreement marked the beginning of the end for fossil fuels. The agreement’s goals leave no room for new coal or gas plants, tar sands mines or pipelines. Canada should be a leader in launching a managed decline of the fossil fuel industry and ensure a just transition for the workers and communities that depend on it. As a priority, all levels of governments must eliminate the obstacles that stand in the way of a full transition to 100% renewable energy for all.”

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For more information:

Keith Stewart, head of the Climate and Energy campaign, 416-659-0294,
keith.stewart@greenpeace.org