

MESSAGE FROM THE COUNCIL OF CHRISTIAN CHURCHES OF FRANCE (CÉCEF) FOR THE COP 21

The Council of Christian Churches of France (CÉCEF), alarmed by climate change and its impact on humanity and the environment, addresses this message to their Christian brothers and sisters, to all people of good will and to the leaders gathered at the COP21.

We believe that humanity and the earth it inhabits are the result of God's creative plan. We are aware of the grave threats facing the world due to climate change caused by the misuse by human beings of the resources with which they have been provided. We feel compelled to tackle the causes of such destruction. We see the immeasurable suffering it causes. We are particularly concerned for the weakest and poorest among us.

Aware of the impact of the lifestyle of the most developed countries, we need to call into question the logic of our consumption and to allow our attitudes and actions to experience conversion, practising restraint and simplicity, not as a form of heroic renunciation but as a form of joyful sharing¹.

We call on political and economic decision makers, especially those gathered at the COP21, to take the decisions necessary to limit warming to 2°C so that the most vulnerable of our brothers and sisters and future generations do not suffer more.

Our hope as Christians rests in our belief that that our world is not destined to disappear but to be transformed², and that human beings capable of self-destruction are also able to unite and to choose that which is good³.

Pastor François CLAVAIROLY Metropolitan EMMANUEL Archbishop Georges PONTIER

Co-Presidents of the Council of Christian Churches of France

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Time for creation

¹ Fédération protestante de France, *Les Changements Climatiques* Olivétan 2014, p.22

² Revelation 21.1

³ Pope Francis, *Laudato Si'*, encyclical §205