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Press Release

With Only 25 Days to Glasgow, CEOs Call for Stronger Government and Corporate Commitments

October 6, 2021

With Only 25 Days to Glasgow, CEOs Call for Stronger Government and Corporate Commitments



28 CEOs and Corporate Leaders Sign Full-Page Ad in Today's New York Times

Companies Span Across Sectors, Including: Airline, Consumer Goods, Health, Financial Services, Real Estate, Retail, Tech, Utilities

October 6, 2021—Today, with only 25 days until the upcoming United Nations **26th Conference of the Parties (COP26)** in Glasgow, United Kingdom, 28 CEOs and corporate leaders joined in an open letter urging business and government leaders to make meaningful commitments to reduce emissions this decade and announce them before the Glasgow meeting. The letter was released as a full-page ad in the New York Times.

In the letter, the signers urge governments all over the world and other corporate leaders to match their ambition and announce, ahead of COP26 this November, pledges to achieve significant emissions reductions by 2030 in line with net-zero emissions by 2050 targets.

The letter reads:

We have entered the decisive decade for addressing the climate crisis—and our time to solve it is running out. There are just 25 days until the pivotal 26th UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26) in Glasgow.



we believe that solving climate change is a must, not a maybe, and we believe that everyone from every sector—has a role to play. That is why our companies have pledged to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050 or sooner, and to achieve significant emission reductions in pursuit of that goal by 2030.

We urge governments and corporate leaders around the world to join us in making meaningful commitments and progress in drawing down emissions this decade and announce them ahead of the Glasgow meeting.

No company and no country can do it alone. Only by working together can we hope to solve the most existential crisis humanity has faced. That's why Glasgow is our business—and why all the world will be watching.

The open letter ad was organized by Glasgow Is Our Business (GIOB), an initiative to elevate and coordinate high-level business voices in public debate ahead of COP26. Leslie Dach, a Board member of the Environmental Defense Fund and a former member of the global executive committee of Walmart Inc., and David Wade, chief of staff to John Kerry while he was Secretary of State and for four years before that as Senate Foreign Relations Committee Chairman, serve as co-chairs to GIOB.



Meeting the climate challenge is a monumental task — one that will require a transformation across all parts of our economy and society if we are to meet our targets. That means it's fundamentally a human capital challenge. We need to equip workforces all across the globe with the green skills that will deliver a sustainable transition for organizations of all sizes and a just and resilient future for workers," **said LinkedIn CEO Ryan Roslansky**. "At LinkedIn, we stand ready to mobilize our community of nearly 800 million professionals to be the catalyst for that transformation in jobs and skills."

- "Climate change is already impacting the planet and people's lives. The scale of global intervention must be bolder and faster. The science tells us net zero targets must be broad in their reach, capturing emissions across the entire value chain. And plans need to have material, interim targets. We can't wait decades to see progress," **said Mars, Inc. CEO Grant F. Reid**. "To deliver meaningful impact and ensure it is fit for purpose, our Mars net zero target covers our entire GHG footprint, from how we source materials through to how consumers use our products and, we're mobilizing our entire business around taking action now and hitting interim targets every five years."
- "Prioritizing environmental action and climate risk management is essential to helping communities, and our business, thrive now and in the future," **said Chris Kempczinski, President & CEO, McDonald's Corporation**. "McDonald's is thrilled to be standing shoulder to shoulder with other leading companies who understand that Glasgow is our business because this moment demands immediate action from every business and every government on Earth."



we need to do more, faster when it comes to solving climate change,” said United Airlines CEO **Scott Kirby**. “That’s why at United we are taking real steps to create lasting solutions like holding more than twice the publicly announced sustainable aviation fuel commitments than the rest of the global airlines combined. We look forward to collaboratively working with the global business community to underpin the national targets set at COP26 with concrete actions and investments.”

- “2021 is a critical year for climate action. Science shows we need to move fast to avoid the worst impacts of climate change. The Glasgow is Our Business initiative is a critically important opportunity for businesses to put roadmaps forward to cut greenhouse gas emissions and to help ensure the success of the COP26 climate conference scheduled for November in Glasgow,” said **George R. Oliver, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Johnson Controls**. “Johnson Controls is fully committed to using our voice to encourage governments around the world to take action on climate, and raise our collective efforts and ambition. We know that decarbonization of buildings is part of the solution as buildings represent some 40 percent of global greenhouse gas emissions. Through science based targets, Johnson Controls will cut our own emissions by 55 percent and our customers’ emissions by 16% by 2030. We will go further too and achieve zero net emissions by 2040. We are ready to lead the charge with technologies that exist today that put us solidly on the path to net zero and encourage more businesses to follow suit.”
- “These business leaders have stepped up to meet the challenge of Glasgow by committing to bold emissions reductions by 2030 — but others must do the same,” said **Glasgow Is Our**



BUSINESS CO-CHAIRS BOBIE DUCH and DAVID WAGNER At this code red for humanity juncture, where there's still time for hope, we also need governments and companies to strengthen their 2030 targets and plans and do so quickly."

List of signers is below, quotes from other signers are available [HERE](#), and a copy of the ad is available [HERE](#).

Ajay Banga, Executive Chairman, Mastercard

Andy Jassy, President and Chief Executive Officer, Amazon

Antonio Neri, President and Chief Executive Officer, Hewlett Packard Enterprise

Brad Smith, President and Vice Chair, Microsoft

Brendan Wallace, Co-Founder and Managing Partner, Fifth Wall

Chris Kempczinski, President and Chief Executive Officer, McDonald's Corporation

Christoph Schweizer, Chief Executive Officer, Boston Consulting Group

Curtis A. Morgan, Chief Executive Officer, Vistra Corp.



Doug McMillon, President and Chief Executive Officer, Walmart, Inc.

Ester Baiget, President and Chief Executive Officer, Novozymes

Fabian Garcia, President, Unilever North America

George R. Oliver, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Johnson Controls

Grant F. Reid, Chief Executive Officer, Mars, Incorporated

Jesper Brodin, Chief Executive Officer, Ingka Group (IKEA)

Julie Sweet, Chair and Chief Executive Officer, Accenture

Kevin Johnson, president and chief executive officer, Starbucks Coffee Company

Lisa Jackson, Vice President for Environment, Policy and Social Initiatives, Apple

Lord Gregory Barker, Executive Chairman, En+

Mark Schneider, Chief Executive Officer, Nestlé

Owen D. Thomas, Chief Executive Officer, Boston Properties



Ralph Izzo, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, PSEG

Ramon Laguarta, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, PepsiCo

Rod Hochman, MD, President and Chief Executive Officer, Providence

Ryan Gellert, Chief Executive Officer, Patagonia

Ryan Roslansky, Chief Executive Officer, LinkedIn

Sheryl Sandberg, Chief Operating Officer, Facebook

Scott Kirby, Chief Executive Officer, United Airlines

Sundar Pichai, Chief Executive Officer, Google and Alphabet



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