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Arkivsak: 19/04777-1

**Saksdokumenter:**

[www.faithsforforests.com](http://www.faithsforforests.com)

<https://www.interfaithrainforest.org/>

Deklarasjonen <https://faithsforforests.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/Faiths-for-Forests-Declaration-English.pdf>

## Interfaith Rainforest Initiative - Tilslutning til “Faiths for Forests campaign”

### Sammendrag

**Emne:**

Den norske kirke har fra starten av vært involvert i *Interfaith Rainforest Initiative* og lanseringen på Nobelsenteret i Oslo i 2017. Mellomkirkelig råd er representert i en norsk arbeidsgruppe med blant annet Regnskogsfondet og Klima- og miljødepartementet som begge er sentrale aktører her. Regnskogsfondet feirer for øvrig 30 år i disse dager. Tidligere Oslo-biskop Gunnar Stålsett sitter i det internasjonale styret og spiller en aktiv rolle i konkretiseringen av planene som skjer på flere kontinent. Blant internasjonale partnere finner vi FN Miljø (UNEP), Religions for Peace, Green Faith og KV.

Formålet med initiativet er å styrke samarbeidet mellom religiøse aktører og urfolk for en forsterket og forenet kamp for å beskytte de store regnskogene.

#### ***Faiths for Forests campaign***

Som et ledd i å skape bredere eierskap, bevisstgjøring og engasjement, er det lansert en ***Faiths for Forests campaign***, som også MKR formelt bes om å stille seg bak.

Kampanjen og deklarasjonen ble tidligere i høst lansert både på Religions for Peace sin generalforsamling i Tyskland i august og under UN Secretary-General's Climate Action Summit i New York i september, begge med Gunnar Stålsett i en nøkkelrolle. Se blant annet <https://www.globallandscapesforum.org/glf-news/faiths-for-forests-campaign-gains-traction-at-u-n-climate-action-summit/>

*Kampanjen handler om å tilslutte seg deklarasjonen under for den måten å gi tyngde til en forsterket innsats for å redde regnskogen. Dernest handler det om å være med å spre informasjon om initiativet og ressursene som er utviklet. I materiellet finnes blant annet a new library of IRI educational materials på både regnskogstema/ulike land og ulike religiøs/etiske ressurser.*

Representanter for Den norske kirke er som tidligere nevnt allerede med på ulike nivåer i dette arbeidet. Økt oppmerksomhet på bærekraftsmålene (særlig mål 15), «grønn dialog», biodiversitet, urfolksrettigheter/miljøforkjemper, samarbeid med vår brasilianske søsterkirke

IECLB om tema, er eksempler på at dette arbeidet gjøres på flere områder. En formell tilslutning til *Faith for Forests* kan forsterke og utvikle dette arbeidet.

## Faiths for forests declaration

We begin from a place of profound concern for the state of the world's rainforests, which are a sacred trust, an irreplaceable gift and essential to life on Earth.

From the Amazon to the Congo Basin to the rainforests of Southeast Asia, deforestation is rampant and it is accelerating. This destruction is an affront to all faiths and spiritual traditions. It is driving species loss, deepening poverty, undermining sustainable development, creating conflict and insecurity, and robbing humanity of the best solution we have to climate change.

We recognize that outdated and unsustainable patterns of development, production and consumption are driving deforestation and that a major, fundamental shift in values, lifestyles and public policies is needed to protect rainforests. Agriculture is now the primary driver of deforestation – an unnecessary trade-off, as we can feed a growing population with the land we already have.

We recognize tropical deforestation as an existential threat that demands urgent and decisive action. We share a profound moral obligation to make care for tropical forests a top spiritual priority. From all regions of the planet, and from all of the world's religions and spiritual traditions, we commit to respond, together.

We pledge to mobilize our religious communities, from the grassroots to the most senior leadership, to join up with the coalition of indigenous, government, civil society, business and United Nations partners already working to protect forests. We will bring our spiritual resources to bear on this issue.

We commit to raise awareness about the deforestation crisis within our communities, places of worship and congregations as an expression of our care for the Earth and to advance religious teaching and education that reflects a moral commitment to protect rainforests. We will make ending deforestation a high spiritual calling.

We commit to advocating for governments to adopt, fulfill and expand upon commitments to protect forests and the rights of indigenous peoples. We will cast our ballots for those that stand for rainforests and environmental defenders.

We pledge to exert influence on the private sector and extractive industries that are converting tropical forests for agricultural land, commodities like beef, soy, palm oil and pulp and paper, and for mining, logging and oil and gas. We will change our consumption patterns and divest from businesses that profit from the destruction of tropical forests.

We commit to standing in solidarity with indigenous peoples and forest communities, to offer sanctuary and protection from threats of intimidation, violence, and incursion into their lands. We see that protecting rainforests is part of a larger moral fabric that includes social and economic justice, respect for human rights and human dignity, and achieving peace and equality.

Where we began with concern, we conclude with hope. We acknowledge that tropical deforestation can be stopped. We are guided by a shared reverence for nature and a resolve that, together as people of faith and part of one human family, we can end tropical deforestation.

## Forslag til vedtak

Mellomkirkelig råd slutter seg til Faiths for Forests-kampanjen og deklarasjonen.

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**Emne:** Lars and Jon: Announcing the Faiths for Forests campaign

Dear Lars and Jon!

We are proud to say that we launched the Faiths for Forests campaign ([www.faithsforforests.com](http://www.faithsforforests.com)) yesterday as an official contribution to the UN Secretary-General's Climate Action Summit during a high-level event at the UN.

Inger Andersen, Executive Director of UN Environment Programme made the announcement along with Sonia Guajajara.

Later in the day, Olav Fykse Tveit, General Secretary of the World Council of Churches joined Sonia to make the announcement at the Nature Climate Hub.

We are really pleased with the Faiths for Forests campaign site and hope that you are too!

See that it contains [a new library of IRI educational materials](#) that is being launched as a part of the campaign.

The site provides faith-based organizations, networks and places of worship around the world a space to:

1. Endorse the *Faiths for Forests Declaration*
2. Access educational materials for religious leaders and faith communities on forests – issue primers, country fact sheets and faith toolkits
3. Share the campaign with others on social media

Below is a Faiths for Forests campaign toolkit, which contains some materials to support RFN with outreach through your social media networks and beyond.

<https://faithsforforests.com/toolkit>

See here an article on the Global Landscapes Forum site covering our launch:

<https://www.globallandscapesforum.org/glf-news/faiths-for-forests-campaign-gains-traction-at-u-n-climate-action-summit/>

More soon, but wanted to get you this update right away!

Let us know which other RFN colleagues to work with to get this out globally and in our five program countries?

Very best,

Joe

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