



Letter of Bishops from Germany, UK, Austria, Belgium and Ireland to facilitate breakthrough in Copenhagen for a fair, effective and binding agreement

17 December 2009

To:
President of the European Commission
European Presidency
EU Heads of State

Dear European Leaders,

We as Catholic Bishops from around Europe call on EU leaders to be morally courageous at this crucial time within the climate change talks in Copenhagen. The EU has a position which allows it to move to a 30% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2020. It should make this move now and unilaterally. It should also ensure its finance is additional to money for the aid budget. Such actions show a genuine solidarity with the lives of the poorest people already affected by climate change.

Sincerely Yours,

Most Rev Werner Thissen, Archbishop of Hamburg, Germany
Rt Rev John Rawsthorne, Bishop of Hallam, England and Wales
Rt Rev Ludwig Schwarz SDB, Austrian Episcopal Conference
Rt Rev Aloys Jousten, Bishop of Liège Belgium
Rt Rev John Kirby, Bishop of Clonfert, Ireland