

# Dear President Obama,

As Gulf Coast residents in the United States who survived Hurricane Katrina, we have experienced how strong storms and coastal erosion can kill and injure, make people homeless, and separate children from parents.

You have traveled more than 4,000 miles (6500 km) to Copenhagen. We are counting on you to take 10 more steps for a climate change treaty that protects our human right to a healthy environment.



*Advocates for Environmental Human Rights*  
New Orleans, Louisiana, USA  
[www.ehumanrights.org](http://www.ehumanrights.org)

1. Recognize and protect our human right to live in a healthy environment.
2. Reduce atmospheric carbon dioxide to below 350 parts per million.
3. Transition to a clean energy economy that supports alternatives for workers employed in carbon-intensive industries and communities that rely on such industries.
4. Prioritize improving the environmental, health, educational, and economic conditions in communities that suffer from the impacts of carbon-intensive industries.
5. Ensure that vulnerable communities, and women from vulnerable communities, are included in all levels of decision-making on climate change policies.
6. Support the climate resiliency of indigenous and poor communities in the U.S. and around the world by fostering sustainable land use and building materials.
7. Ensure that climate change adaptation policies are aligned with the *U.N. Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement*.
8. Prohibit racial and ethnic discrimination and gender inequity that can result from governmental preparation and response to disastrous weather events.
9. Require best practices in coastal restoration, reforestation, flood protection, and disaster mitigation in the U.S. and around the world.
10. Require best practices in water resource management to remedy the depletion and impairment of this resource from rising temperatures and unsustainable development.

