

# **Tongji –Global Youth Declaration on Environment and Sustainable Development**

*June 8, 2012*

*International Student Conference on Environment and Sustainable Development*

*Tongji University, Shanghai, China*

We, the youth, from 42 different countries come together at 2012 international student conference on environment and sustainability in Shanghai, China because we believe that we have innovative ideas, and abundant energy and capabilities to confront the sustainable development challenges posed by climate change.

We extend our sincere gratitude to UNEP and Tongji University for providing an optimal platform to promote the important role of youth in large-scale decisions and raised awareness and promoted responsible action, through education, cross-cultural interaction and interdisciplinary cooperation.

We realise that our past and current economic structures and processes are not environment friendly and socially inclusive and resulted in perverse market structures and mechanisms with negative social and environmental externalities due to misallocation of both human and financial capital.

We also realise that the current economic and production trends, at the expense of the natural capital assets, have increased the natural resource consumption patterns without considering the limitations of the ecosystem services and resulted in the overall social disparities and environmental losses including biodiversity loss, deforestation, water scarcities and soil degradation.

We find that the world commitments to achieve sustainable development in 1972 at Stockholm, in 1992 Earth Summit with defined guiding principles in the form of Agenda 21, in 2002 Johansberg Summit with a defined plan of implimentation in the form of Millenium Development Goals's, failed to achieve the sustainable development objectives.

We appreciate the notion of green economies and strengthening of institutions put forth by the global leaders at the Rio+20 conference to change the current global economic models into new economic paradigms that allow to alleviate the poverty and sustianbale development while reducing ecological scarcities and social inequalities.

We believe that our individual choices and behaviours in certain sectors of energy, transportation, agriculture, forestry, water and tourism would contribute positively to the challenges that lie ahead in transitioning the brown economies towards green economies while mitigating and adapting to climate change through principles of efficient resource use and social equity.

We, therefore, urge the global leaders at Rio+20 conference to level the grounds for the greener products and services by reforming their fiscal policies and founding regulatory laws based on contracts between the countries, redirect their public investments towards green sectors, reduce or stop the antiquated subsidies, improve the market infrastructure and mechanism by considering the perverse incentives that result in the social and environmental externalities, create green job opportunities for the youth in the green sectors through youth specific policy considerations, improve and enhance the existing knowledge base at grass root level by incorporating special courses on sustainable development in the curriculum, and promote the international cooperation and knowledge sharing by establishing ethical and technological bridges.

We make a strong commitment and assure the global leaders that we will support in their efforts towards a sustainable world by: -

- Promoting advocacy on different environmental, social and climate change issues at local, regional, national and international level.
- Sharing our creative, innovative and sustainable ideas based on learned experiences and knowledge with politicians, society, students, business and other groups.
- Promoting the campaigns on the use of green votes to support the green policies.
- Practicing low carbon activities at the individual level to reduce our carbon footprints.

# 环境与可持续发展环球青年同济宣言

2012年6月8日

国际学生环境与可持续发展大会

中国，上海

我们是来自 42 个国家的青年一代，因为有着共同的信念而相聚在中国上海，相聚在 2012 年国际学生环境与可持续发展大会。我们相信，凭借我们的创新思想、青春活力和实践能力，我们必将能够应对环境变化带来的可持续发展的挑战。

我们衷心感谢联合国环境规划署和同济大学，感谢他们提供了一个绝好的平台，使青年通过教育、跨文化交流及跨学科合作，在重大决定中扮演更为重要的角色，增强青年人的环境保护意识，促使他们采取更为有效的行动。

我们认识到，过去和现行的经济体制对环境无利，也不能惠及大众，结果导致不正常的市场结构，以及由于人才和资源的不合理配置而造成了社会和环境的负面效应。

我们还意识到，现有的经济和生产趋势是以自然资源的损耗为代价的，在不考虑生态系统具有可容纳限度的情况下，无节制地使用资源，造成了社会差距的扩大和许多环境资源的流失，包括生物多样性的剧减、森林的减少、水荒和土壤退化等。

我们看到，在 1972 年，世界各国在斯德哥尔摩共同许下承诺，全世界应共同努力推进可持续发展；在 1992 年的地球峰会上，以《21 世纪议程》为雏形的指导原则顺利通过。但是，我们还看到，在 2002 年的约翰内斯堡峰会上，以千年发展目标为框架的实施计划没有达到最初的可持续发展目标。

我们赞同绿色经济理念，也赞同即将在里约大会讨论的由各国领导人提出的加强经济体制建设的决议，后者的目标正是改变现有的全球经济模式，建立新的经济模式，从而在降低生态不和谐和减少社会不平等现象的同时，对抗贫困，实现可持续发展。

我们相信，我们的个人选择和行为，有助于某些领域积极应对未来从“褐色经济”转型为“绿色经济”所带来的挑战，例如，能源，交通，农业，林业，水利和旅游，同时在有效利用资源和社会公平的原则下，减缓并适应气候变化。

因此，我们希望，参加里约峰会的各国领导者们可以为大力发展绿色产品和绿色服务铺平道路：改革财政政策；建立在以国家间条约为基础的监管法律；引导公共投资进入绿色行业；减少或停止过时补贴；重新考虑社会和环境的不良外部因素，调整造成

社会和环境不良外部因素的机制，健全和完善市场体制；建立针对青年人就业的具体政策，为青年在绿色经济产业中创造就业机会；把可持续发展整合到课程中，加强可持续发展的基础教育；并建立在伦理和技术方面的交流渠道，促进国际合作和知识共享。

我们将全力支持全球领导者们共同努力来实现全球范围内的可持续发展，并做出以下承诺：

- 在地方、区域、国家以及国际的不同社会层面，发起关于环境、社会和气候变化方面的宣传。
- 分享我们从政治家、社会、学生、企业和其他团体处学到的经验和知识，以及由此凝练出来的各种创意和理念。
- 发起“选择绿色”的相关活动，来支持绿色政策。
- 在个人层面上，践行低碳活动，以减少我们在地球上的碳足迹。