AN OPEN LETTER



Dear World Leaders,

We, the undersigned, urge you to support a global moratorium on the construction of new coal mines and coal mine expansions — a moratorium called for by the President of Kiribati, and Pacific Island nations.

The scientific evidence is clear: to prevent severe and potentially catastrophic damage to human health, economic development and global stability, the world must as soon as possible start using less coal. Consistent with the rapidly shrinking carbon budget, the vast majority of coal reserves are unburnable and must stay in the ground. In short, there is no space for new coal.

Yet while the world negotiates a deal to reduce emissions, countries with large coal reserves are planning large expansions of coal production. These plans, if successful, would lock-in new coal emissions and are incompatible with tackling the threat of climate change.

A moratorium on new coal mines would be an immediate and concrete step towards decarbonizing the world economy. A world that is tackling climate change needs fewer mines, not more.



HIS EXCELLENCY ANOTE TONG PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KIRIBATI

SIGNATORIES

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