



THE PROVINCE
OF MANITOBA

THE UNITED NATIONS
DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

LETTER OF INTENT

Letter of Intent
BETWEEN
THE PROVINCE OF MANITOBA
AND
THE UNITED NATIONS
DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

*WITH REGARD TO THE FIGHT AGAINST CLIMATE CHANGE IN
THE FRAMEWORK OF THE PARTNERSHIPS BETWEEN THE UN AND THE
ASSOCIATIONS OF REGIONS' "TOWARDS CARBON NEUTRAL AND
CLIMATE CHANGE RESILIENT TERRITORIES"*

1. On December 1, 2005, Manitoba co-chaired the “Climate Leaders Summit” that took place in Montreal, Canada, at the 11th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. Manitoba, along with other sub-national governments, endorsed the “Declaration of the Federated States and regional Governments on Climate Change” recognizing that:
 - Climate change is an urgent global problem that requires a co-ordinated, collaborative response to reduce greenhouse gas emissions for the benefit of present and future generations;
 - Building a low-carbon economy involves collaboration by all orders of government, the private sector and non-governmental organizations as well as approaches that address the unique challenges that exist in different parts of the world;
 - Actions being taken by federated states and regions are already benefiting the environment by reducing emissions, fostering clean and renewable energy development, and bolstering the economy by creating a marketplace for cutting-edge technologies and green industries; and
 - Federated states and regional governments are directly affected by the impacts of climate change and many are at the forefront in taking action on this issue.

2. Furthermore, as a signatory to the Montreal “Declaration of the Federated States and regional Governments on Climate Change,” Manitoba committed to:
 - Pursue the development, exchange and implementation of best practices and strategies on emission reductions and emerging green industries as part of a sustainable development approach;
 - Develop and share communication and educational strategies that increase public awareness of climate change issues and solutions in order to engage citizens directly in actions that bring about change;
 - Work collaboratively with other jurisdictions to commercialize more broadly clean technologies that will be required to bring about greater emissions reductions. Develop, implement and share strategies to enhance adaptive capacity and knowledge to enable sectors and communities to respond to issues related to the changing climate; and
 - Promote existing and new regional partnerships on climate change to implement these measures.

3. On December 8, 2008, representatives of federated states and regional governments assembled at the Climate Leaders Summit in Poznan, Poland and presented a Statement of Action to the 14th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. Furthermore, federated state and regional governments committed to lead on specific actions to advance the work of the Montreal Declaration and support a Letter of Intent entitled “*Towards Carbon Neutral and Climate Change Resilient Territories*” between associations of regions, including The Climate Group, and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

4. The Province of Manitoba and the UNDP (hereinafter referred to as “the Participants”), intend to enhance their level of commitment to the global community through undertaking collaborative action on climate change. The Participants affirm that global partnerships between regions are critical to actions already being implemented by regional governments.
5. To this end, the Participants of this Letter of Intent intend to establish a specific partnership between the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the Province of Manitoba, as reflected in the principles of the common partnership between the UNDP and Associations of Regions entitled “*Towards Carbon Neutral and Climate Change Resilient Territories*”.
6. The Participants will then facilitate the successful implementation of the overall UN – Associations of Regions partnership “*Toward Carbon Neutral and Climate Change Resilient Territories*” by helping identified regions to:
 - Identify governance structures that ensure alignment of local action plans with national policies, and ensure stakeholder input and co-ordination between participants (collaborate with national authorities and partners);
 - Ensure mitigation and adaptation activities are based on sound methodologies, thorough analysis, and scenario planning (socio-economic analysis, assessment of greenhouse gas emissions inventory and trends, mapping of current and future vulnerabilities of the region, review of socio-economic and climate scenario data, etc.); and
 - Identify methods of financing the activities outlined in the Integrated Territorial Climate Plan (ITCP) including but not limited to: public tax credits, subsidies, “in-kind” contributions by the Participants, development banks, export credits, low-interest loans, Clean Development Mechanism, Global Environment Facility, Adaptation Funds, direct investment, carbon finance and multilateral development banks.
7. The Participants intend to promote this initiative as a means of demonstrating the role of sub-national governments at the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change negotiations, and seek recognition of regional activities in the text of the 2009 Copenhagen agreement.
8. The Participants intend to promote this initiative broadly among other regions, governments and multilateral organizations.
9. LIMITATIONS
 - 9.1 Neither Participant intends to be responsible for the actions of third Participants or associates who may be involved in the activities in the framework of this Letter of Intent.
 - 9.2 This Letter of Intent does not create any contractual, financial or other legal obligations for the Participants.

10. ENTRY INTO EFFECT, DURATION AND TERMINATION

- 10.1 This Letter of Intent will come into effect on the date it is signed by the Participants and will remain in effect for a period of five (5) years from that date or until the conclusion of the “*Towards Carbon Neutral and Climate Change Resilient Territories*” program, whichever is the lesser. This Letter of Intent can be renewed for an additional five (5) years through mutual written consent of the Participants.
- 10.2 This Letter of Intent may be amended with the mutual written consent of the Participants. Any such amendments will come into effect on the date determined by the Participants.
- 10.3 Either Participant may terminate this Letter of Intent by providing the other Participant with at least three (3) months written notice of its intention to terminate.

This Letter of Intent is signed in English and French, both versions being equally valid.

Signed in duplicate this 26 day of June, 2009 in Brussels, Belgium.

For the Government of the
Province of Manitoba

For the United Nations
Development Programme

original signed by

original signed by

The Honourable Gary Doer
Premier

Cecile Molinier
Director, UNDP Geneva Liaison Office