

Hon Chris Bowen MP  
Minister for Climate Change and Energy  
House of Representatives  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600

7 December 2023

Dear Minister Bowen,

### **Call for Australia to pledge \$100 million to the Loss and Damage Fund**

Our organisations welcome the establishment of the landmark Loss and Damage Fund at COP28, and urge the Government to make an initial \$100 million pledge to the Fund.

The Loss and Damage Fund is critical in supporting communities on the frontlines of the climate crisis who are battling the daily realities of the climate crisis. Pacific Island countries are already suffering economic and non-economic loss and damage from climate change on a major scale and urgently need access to the resources to address these impacts.

Australia has played an important leadership role as a member of the loss and damage transitional committee. The Government must now step up and provide an urgently needed financial contribution, in line with like-minded countries including the United States, the European Union, the United Kingdom and Canada.

In total, fifteen countries and the European Union have pledged USD 655.9 million to the Fund since its establishment last week. This includes a USD 100 million pledge from COP28 host, the United Arab Emirates, USD 100 million from Germany, and €100 million from Italy.

Loss and damage funding needs for low-income countries are estimated at USD 400 billion a year. Funding needs will only grow if ambitious action is not taken to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in line with the Paris Agreement's target of keeping global warming as close to 1.5 degree as possible.

The Loss and Damage Fund will only be beneficial if it provides real money to support the world's poorest communities to recover and rebuild from climate disasters. Ambitious contributions to the Fund will also be critical in building the international goodwill that is needed to make strong progress at COP28.

Pacific communities are looking to Australia for global leadership on loss and damage. We urge Australia to step up and make an initial pledge of \$100 million to the Loss and Damage Fund at COP28!

In solidarity,



CLIMATE  
ACTION  
NETWORK  
AUSTRALIA



AUSTRALIAN  
COUNCIL  
FOR  
INTERNATIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT

**act:onaid**



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**OXFAM**  
Australia



**Save the Children**



The charity for  
girls' equality



**WWF**  
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**Union Aid Abroad APHEDA**  
The global justice organisation of the Australian union movement



**AOA** Anglican  
Overseas  
Aid



**Transform Aid**  
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For a world without poverty



**ARRCC**  
Australian Religious Response to Climate Change