

Quaker Climate Crisis Correspondent - Letter 3 - 30 March 2023

He waka eke noa We are all in this canoe together

Kia ora Aotearoa NZ Friends

We have lots of info this fortnight - be warned; *I have not read it all, so take care.*

First up, a Quaker webinar opportunity this Saturday: **Climate Action Network: A Case Study of Environmental Restoration in Southern India** with Joss Brooks, 1 April 2023 at 8.30 pm. Register [here](#) - thank you Adrian (AWPS - FWCC)

Second, there are two reasons for smiling. Smile number one is Cathy in Wellington Meeting who helps write the [Climate Club newsletter](#) which is full of [easy things everyone can do](#) including a petition for a [Ministry of Green Works](#) (thank you also, Deborah).

Smile number two: thank you Lindsey Fielder Cook (QUNO) for writing to us [ANZ Friends].

Lindsey writes:

I wish to share a moment with [Bronwyn Hayward](#), a lead IPCC author on the IPCC 6th Assessment Report, and from New Zealand. We are in our sixth day of negotiations to approve the [IPCC Synthesis Report](#), a day over time and nowhere near finished. Tensions are frayed on minimal sleep, and countries are already scheduled to depart. In the midst of this, Bronwyn, ...quietly thanked me for fighting to maintain important language in past IPCC texts. I was quite moved.

... I wished her strength and said how New Zealand Quakers upheld this work. She turned to me and said, 'They sent us a letter of support. It meant so much to us.' ...

Thank you. The letter still gives them strength. What Light you give. Please keep holding them all – scientists, diplomats, UN, civil society - in the Light.

In peace,

Lindsey [See IPCC info later in this newsletter]

Getting busy

Help **end the era of coal, oil and gas in the Pacific**

Ministers from six Pacific / Te Moana-nui-a-Kiwa countries — Fiji, Tonga, Niue, Vanuatu, Tuvalu, and the Solomon Islands – as well as international partners and regional organisations have created the **Port Vila Call for a Just Transition to a Fossil Fuel Free Pacific** and **want it publicised**.

It is astonishing. These countries have such low per capita carbon emissions, and **yet bear the brunt of harsh weather events**. Carbon emissions per capita in 2019 by metric ton were as follows: Niue (?); [Solomon Islands](#) 0.5; [Vanuatu](#) 0.7; [Tuvalu](#) 0.9; [Fiji](#) 1.8; [Tonga](#) 1.5; [New Zealand](#) 6.8; [North America](#) 14.8; [Australia](#) 15.3; [World average per capita](#) 4.4. I am not sure why Australia's emissions are so high?

Back to IPCC

This is a big one for Quakers, and for the world. Quaker United Nations Office (QUNO) is part of Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC), and we are all part of FWCC.

QUNO has been involved in the negotiations to finalise the language of the Synthesis Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC); the report which communicates the latest climate science to policy makers worldwide; i.e., it is very significant. IPCC is up to its 6th cycle of investigations, and the Synthesis Report is the crunched down result. It covers the Physical Science, Adaptation and Vulnerability, and Mitigation of Climate Change.

QUNO made 24 interventions in the report negotiations largely on “the need for urgent, real, transformative, rights-based and ethical climate policies to protect this beautiful planet and all species”. Earth Negotiations Bulletin highlighted the QUNO interventions an unprecedented 21 times. All 24 can be read in their entirety, along with their relevant text and the response they received here.

QUNO also delivered its own closing statement and one on behalf of the Inuit Circumpolar Conference which can be watched here.

I have looked at the Summary for Policy Makers, but not read it all. It is 36 pages and has some great diagrams.

Inspiration, Learning and Thinking

Movies, talks, and articles (thank you Jill): Together We Grow, An Economic Case for Protecting the Planet, Ecocide rather than warming?, The Economics of Happiness; and for a totally different point of view about the IPCC announcements, see Neil Oliver

Also; cyclone Gabrielle inequities; NZ could be doing more to reduce emissions; and, great news - Christchurch Hospital has reduced carbon emissions by more than 50%!

When I worked in mental health, it was easy to feel overwhelmed. We had a little mantra:

Keep it simple;

Leave things out;

Do one thing at a time; and,

Know that you are loved.

Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou, Philippa (I will be taking a week's break over Easter)



Photos by IISD/ENB | Anastasia Rodopoulou