# Second Global Greens Congress
# 1—4 May 2008, São Paulo, Brazil

*Think and act globally and locally*

1 January 2008

# A letter to Greens members and supporters everywhere

Dear Green friends

You have a special place in history. As a Green you are part of a local, national and global family, committed to acting globally as well as locally. In this time of climate crisis our positive global outlook is vital. That is why, for the first time ever, we are writing to you and Greens around the world. We are asking for your support to ensure that the Second Global Greens Congress in São Paulo Brazil from 1—4 May, 2008 is a huge political and practical success.

At the first Global Greens Conference in 2001 in Australia we shared inspiration, energy and ideas. We adopted our *Global Greens Charter* and set up the mechanisms for Global Green coordination.

Examples now abound of important Green initiatives around the world. In the recent *Global Greens Bali Declaration* we committed to reducing global greenhouse gas emissions by at least 60% by 2050 and excluding nuclear power from the mix. In Sweden, Greens have brought the international development assistance budget to 1% of Gross National Income, with a large slice set aside for environmentally related programs. In a breakthrough for Japanese politics, the Greens Mr. Ryuhei Kawada, 31-year-old HIV-positive human rights activist, was elected to the Upper House in July 2007. In 2005, 14 Greens from 10 countries met in Bogota, Colombia, to campaign for the liberation of thousands of hostages, including the Greens' Ingrid Betancourt and Clara Rojas kidnapped in February 2002. In recent weeks, Asia Pacific Greens jointly condemned the assassination of Benazir Bhutto and called for human rights and free and fair elections in Pakistan. And in an optimistic sign for the future, the Global Young Greens held their founding Congress in Nairobi, Kenya, in January 2007.

The Second Global Greens Congress will build on these achievements with a focus on action. We will be proposing the *21 Points for the 21st Century: Global Greens Climate Action Plan* for adoption, as well as texts on sustainable cities, post-Kyoto proposals, forests and biodiversity, and next steps for the Global Greens. Soon we will be inviting your ideas for the 21 Points where we will spell out how we can really make a difference to solving the climate crisis.

The Brazilian Greens, our hosts, and the Global Greens 2008 Steering Group are working to ensure that the Congress will be as inclusive, exciting and environmentally sound as possible. This means supporting participation by Greens from low income countries and young Greens; providing options for internet participation; offsetting greenhouse gas emissions; and translating the proceedings into several languages.

Please help us make the second Global Greens Congress *truly* global and *truly* Green by making an urgently needed donation. Every amount helps, no matter how large or small. For example, one hour of simultaneous interpretation will cost 49 euro; 1000 euro will get a delegate from Africa to São Paulo; 10 or 20 euro will buy a segment of time on the internet. Your donation will be acknowledged on the Global Greens web page.

Please donate now by visiting www.globalgreens.org/brazil2008 or by giving directly to the Global Greens fund in your country. It's really easy and it will make difference!

The future of life on earth as we know it depends on bringing Green ideas into power in the coming decade! Your gift will help make the 2008 Global Greens Conference an inclusive, powerful and successful step towards this goal.

With thanks and Green friendship

Global Greens Steering Group

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