

G-ForSE

THE GLOBAL FORUM FOR SPORT AND ENVIRONMENT

The 5th Global Forum for Sport and Environment in Alicante, Spain from 4 to 6 October 2008 organized by the United Nations Environment Programme and the Global Sports Alliance and sponsored by Volvo brought together representatives of 100 sport organizations to discuss the links between sports and climate change. After 3 days of deliberations, the participants came up with the following declaration:

Declaration UNite to Combat Climate Change

Climate Change represents one of the greatest challenges that humankind has faced. We need to urgently stabilize CO2 emissions in the next few years and substantially reduce them in the long term to avoid drastic impacts. However, we are further away from that than we have ever been before. The latest estimates from the Global Carbon Project indicate that even though the absolute numbers are at the highest, we are accelerating carbon emissions.

We acknowledge that this is a global challenge and that sports like any other human activity contribute to climate change. Many sport organizations have already taken the lead to implement solutions to combat climate change, reduce pollution, spare rare resources and avoid destruction of nature. We further acknowledge that the sports world has a responsibility as well as an opportunity to contribute to solving these problems. Sports can become part of the solution, not part of the problem.

We, the participants of 5th Global Forum for Sport and Environment (G-ForSE 2008), therefore pledge to:

Individually offset the emissions that were generated as a result of our participation in **G-ForSE 2008**;

Use our personal networks to influence the transition to a low carbon society and to encourage other individuals and sport organizations to do the same;

Approach our organizations and try to convince them to adopt and publicly declare a carbon policy, and to take the lead in promoting climate change issues among our audiences;

Encourage our organization to join international efforts on carbon reduction such as the **UNEP Climate Neutral Network (CN-NET)**;

Share information on our sport and the environment initiatives through the **G-ForSE** online database <www.g-forse.com>, so everybody can be inspired by the work and efforts undertaken by the sports world;

We call upon UNEP to develop a framework for sport and the environment by June 2009 and to use its leverage to encourage sport organizations and stakeholders to develop their own actions within the framework. Encourage UNEP to develop the framework in a consultative process.

Sport organizations realise the potential in increasing public awareness for environmental action. In order to do that we encourage sport organizations to identify sports personalities to act as advocates for the environment.

Alicante, 6 October 2008



**CLIMATE
CHANGE
CHANGING
OUR
CARBON
FOOTPRINT
ALICANTE
SPAIN
4-6
OCTOBER
2008**



VOLVO