

# NO RIGHT FOR CONTAMINATION

# Global Ban on GM Trees

## WE THE SIGNATORIES

**W**ish to point out that in the Rio Convention on Biological Diversity world leaders declared they were conscious "of the intrinsic value of biological diversity and of the ecological, genetic, social, economic, scientific, educational, cultural, recreational and aesthetic values of biological diversity and its components,

Conscious also of the importance of biological diversity for evolution and for maintaining life sustaining systems of the biosphere,

Affirming that the conservation of biological diversity is a common concern of humankind."

We recognize that forests are a key factor sustaining the climate and the composition of the atmosphere.

We state that forests, along with the oceans, are key to the diversity of life on the planet - this diversity being the result of millions of years of evolution enabling the species to adapt to their surrounding ecosystems and the ecosystems to adapt to the surrounding climate.

We further wish to point out that genetic diversity within a species is part of the evolutionary original capital helping the species to survive in changing conditions, while species diversity within ecosystems is part of the capital helping the ecosystems to adapt to climate change.

We state that the decision made in the context of the UN-lead Kyoto process to allow the use of genetically modified trees to tackle climate change is in contravention of the principles of the Convention on Biological Diversity. Trying to fight climate change by growing GM-

trees would lead to the creation of vast plantations of cloned GM-trees on our planet. It would mean enormous losses in terms of diversity, while exposing these GM monocultures to disease, pests - and the effects of the ongoing climate change itself.

We believe that the risks for biosafety involved in the introduction of genetically modified trees are such that they extend over state borders as well as generations, and should therefore not be taken at the present state of knowledge. Studies in population genetics show that genetic exchanges between trees can extend over whole continents. There is a real risk that by introducing GM-trees we would trigger a series of GM-contaminations spreading all over the forest cover on our planet. Other dangerous ecological scenarios include the potential metabolic incompatibility of GM-trees with their

ecological surroundings, as well as genetically modified material being transferred to viruses and bacteria.

On the grounds of what has been stated above, we demand that the world reject the introduction of genetically modified trees.

In our view, we should be heading in the opposite direction. Instead of establishing plantations of genetically modified trees, we should strive to restore the forest cover of our planet towards its former riches and abundance.

Diverse, healthy and vital forests can best safeguard the ability of our living planet to adapt to the ongoing climate change. They also form the best basis for a diverse, healthy and vital forest economy, now and in the future.

## SIGNED BY 2608 INDIVIDUALS AND 286 NGO:S FROM 70 COUNTRIES:

People's Biosafety Association in Finland (Finland)  
The Union of Ecoforestry in Finland (Finland)  
British - Russian Eco-cultural Network (United Kingdom)  
Organic Agriculture Association (Albania)  
Friends of the Earth Finland (Finland)  
Les Amis de la Terre/Friends of the Earth France (France (European Ter.))  
Scottish Green Party (United Kingdom)  
Grupo de Reflexion Rural, Europe (Denmark)  
GE Free New Zealand in Food and Environment Inc. (New Zealand)  
Hajduböszörmény Youth Environmental Circle (Hungary)  
Town Hall Coalition (United States)  
Sociedade Portuguesa de Antrozologia (Portugal)  
Global Forest Coalition (Paraguay)  
Galga Brook Environmental Asociety (Hungary)  
Organic Cooperative Marjarinteen Metsäpuutarha (Finland)  
civic association Za Matku Zem (For Mother Earth Slovakia) (Slovak Republic)  
StopOGM (Switzerland)  
Society for Sustainable Living in SR (Slovak Republic)  
Say No To GMOs! (United States)  
Friends of the Earth Slovakia (Slovak Republic)  
Euskal Herriko Hazien Sarea (Other)  
Timberwatch Coalition (South Africa)  
Forest Action Network (Canada)  
African Centre for Biosafety (South Africa)  
Gaia Foundation (United Kingdom)  
Ecosouthwest (Bulgaria)  
Institute for Sustainable Development (Ethiopia)  
Northern Light Ecoalition (Canada)  
Mission Possible Intl (United States)  
World Rainforest Movement (Uruguay)  
Earthfirst! (New Zealand)  
Green Network of Vojvodina (Serbia and Montenegro)  
Comuni Antitransgenici (Italy)  
FORO CONTADINO (Italy)  
National Centr Environmental Forecasting (Azerbaijan)  
Movimento di Bioscienza (Italy)  
Associazione Hundertwasser (Italy)  
The-Tree Community (United Kingdom)  
Eusakl Herriko Nekazarien Elkartzasuna - Basque Farmers' Union (Basque Country)  
SOSNA civic association (Slovak Republic)  
CEEV Zivica (Slovak Republic)  
The Edmonton Friends of the North Environmental Society (Canada)  
Free University of the Sea (Italy)  
Terra locale (Italy)  
Legambiente Bassa Sabina (Italy)  
Az. Agr. Eredi Francesco Rizzelli (Italy)  
Northern Lights Ecoalition (Canada)  
Eremurus Ecological Club (Russian Federation)  
Biosafety Camapign, International Socio-Ecological Union (Russian Federation)  
Perunka Log Works (Finland)  
Peaceful Parks Coalition (Canada)  
Birds of Prey Protection Society (Bulgaria)  
InfoECOclub for Healthy environment (Bulgaria)  
The Greens Movement of Georgia / FoE-Georgia (Georgia)  
Northwest Resistance Against Genetic Engineering (United States)  
Environmental association "For the Earth" (Bulgaria)  
GMO Free kauai (United States)  
Native Forest Network (United States)  
Azerbaijan Society for the Protection of Animals (Azerbaijan)  
Association of Sosial Economic Researches (Azerbaijan)  
German League for Nature (DNR) (Germany)  
Rettet den Regenwald e. V. (Germany)  
Forum Ökologie & Papier (Germany)  
Friends of the Earth International (Other)  
OGM dangers (France)  
Institute of Science in Society (United Kingdom)  
Vohra Yea Group (India)  
Emory University (United States)  
SWISSAID (Switzerland)

Shanti Services (United States)  
Terre des Jeunes (Canada)  
GMO-FREE Maui (United States)  
COMITE DE VOLUNTARIOS PARA EL MEJORAMIENTO AMBIENTAL A. C. (Other)  
Lesoochránárske zoskupenie VLK (Slovak Republic)  
Green Perspective Foundation (Slovak Republic)  
Mangrove Action Project (United States)  
GEASPHERE (South Africa)  
Aasian ystävät ry (Finland)  
Northern Youth Arts and Activism Collective (Canada)  
Pure Energy Unlimited (United States)  
Earth Rainbow Network (Canada)  
Global Response (United States)  
Australian Greens S.A (Australia)  
Third World Network (Malaysia)  
Youth and Environment Europe (Czech Republic)  
Friends of the Earth - Malta (Malta)  
nrgwell@yahoo.com (United States)  
Organic Production Fair/ Pääkaupunkiseudun Luomumessut 2004 (Finland)  
Eko-mission (Macedonia)  
Genista Foundation (Malta)  
United Eco-action (United States)  
L. Divya Shinn (United States)  
Save our World (Great Britain UK)  
Tasmanian Greens (Australia)  
Forester (Pakistan)  
OPIRG Waste Reduction (Canada)  
genista foundation (Malta)  
The Sierra Club (USA) (United States)  
Northwoods Wilderness Recovery (United States)  
Northern Heritage - Association for saving the local varieties of garden plants in Northern Finland (Finland)  
The ZHABA Collective (Hungary)  
Irokofoundation (Nigeria)  
Biologisch-Veganes Netzwerk in Deutschland (Germany)  
OneWorld UK (United Kingdom)  
European Youth for Action (Netherlands)  
ECOTERRA International (Germany)  
Friends of the Siberian Forests (Russian Federation)  
Young Researchers of Banja Luka (Bosnia-Herzegovina)  
GAIA - Grupo de Acção e Intervenção Ambiental (Portugal)  
Green/Efa Group (France (European Ter.))  
InfoNature.Org - Information and Education (Portugal)  
Global Ecovillage Network of Europe e.V. (Germany)  
New Green Alliance (Canada)  
GE FREE NORTHLAND in Food & Environment (New Zealand)  
The Ecologists' Movement of Macedonia (FoE - Macedonia)  
GE Free Horowhenua (New Zealand)  
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Envocare, the information site that promotes care of the environment (United Kingdom)  
Munich Environmental Institute (Umweltinstitut Muenchen) (Germany)  
German League for Nature and Environment (DNR) (Germany)  
GREEN LEAGUE (GRÜNE LIGA e.V.) (Germany)  
SWR group (United Kingdom)  
Ecological Association "Treska" (Macedonia)  
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Fundacion Ecotropico (Colombia)  
The Healing Light Centre (United Kingdom)  
Initiative nahrungs-kette (Germany)  
FME/TRN meeting in Helsinki (Other)  
Association of helthy food producers "RAINBOW" - Macedonia (Macedonia)  
Association of helthy food producers "RAINBOW" - Macedonia (Macedonia)  
ME "Molika"-Bitola (Macedonia)  
Information for Action (Australia)  
The BrightEyes Society (Netherlands)  
Action Against Poisoning (Netherlands)

Gensaat.de - German campain for GVO-free agriculture (Germany)  
JNM - Belgium (Jeugdbond voor Natuurstudie en Milieubescherming vzw)(Belgium)  
Friends of the Earth Scotland (United Kingdom)  
Moviment Graffiti (Malta)  
Fondation pour une Terre Humaine (Switzerland)  
Moscow Regional Branch of the Russian Birds Conservation Union (Russian Federation)  
JNM Scheldeland (Bolivia)  
Schweizerische Arbeitsgruppe Gentechnologie SAG (Switzerland)  
Heilpraktikerschule Bierbach (Great Britain UK)  
pro-regenwald (Germany)  
Idiosyntactix Strategic Arts & Sciences Alliance (Canada)  
gardens off drugs (Canada)  
Naturerschutzzugend (NAJU) im NABU-Baden-Württemberg e.V. (Germany)  
Freunde der Naturvölker e. V. (Germany)  
Waldportal (Germany)  
NaturSinn GmbH (Germany)  
Menschenrechte 3000 (Germany)  
Fa.BMS Express - Tiger (Germany)  
AK Umwelt der Uni Bayreuth (Germany)  
Eine-Welt-Forum Mönchengladbach e.V. (Other)  
DALLAS LIVE (Germany)  
"Kein Patent auf Leben!" (No Patents on Life!) (Germany)  
Tierrechtssofensive Franken (Germany)  
BI Die Delfinfreier (Germany)  
ödp BAK Regenwald-Klimaschutz (Germany)  
Arbophilia (Costa Rica)  
Bioregionalistische Nachrichten (Germany)  
DBIB (Germany)  
BUNDjugend-Hürth (Germany)  
H-U-T (Germany)  
ITALIA DEI VALORI - Coordinamento estero (Italy)  
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Mellifera e.V. (Germany)  
EarthLink - The People & Nature Network (Germany)  
Ecological Society of the Philippines (Philippines)  
PanEco (Switzerland)  
GRÜNE LIGA Sachsen e.V. (Germany)  
www.stopp.genapfel.de (Germany)  
Initiative für Zukunftssicherung und mehr Lebensqualität (Germany)  
brighton Organic Gardeners (United Kingdom)  
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Augenblick-Reisen (Germany)  
PanEco (Switzerland)  
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Aktionsbündnis "Faire Nachbarschaft" (Germany)  
Native Forest Network (United States)  
Naturwetmoeders (Netherlands)  
Citizens' Initiative Omega (Germany)  
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Robin Wood (Germany)  
VAS(verdi ambiente e società) (Italy)  
FUNDACION ECOLÓGICA COSMOS (Colombia)  
Rainforest Information Centre (Australia)

Heart Of Mother Earth (United States)  
Presentation Sisters Wagga Australia (Australia)  
françoise schelstraete (United Kingdom)  
LOKOJ (Bangladesh)  
LOKOJ (Bangladesh)  
GLOBAL 2000/Friends of the Earth Austria (Austria)  
GLOBAL 2000/Friends of the Earth Austria (Austria)  
GLOBAL 2000/Friends of the Earth Austria (Austria)  
Gaia Foundation (United Kingdom)  
Paradise Now (Germany)  
Scientists for Global Responsibility (United Kingdom)  
RAPAL URUGUAY (Uruguay)  
NOAH-Friends of the Earth Denmark (Denmark)  
GDO'ya Hayir Platformu (Turkey)  
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Colectivo Redverde (Spain)  
Associação Geógrafos Brasileiros (Brazil)  
Climate and Development Initiatives (Uganda)  
Bürgerinitiative Omega (Germany)  
Buergerwelle Germany (Germany)  
Dutchman's Trading Group (United States)  
Graines (France)  
South West Environment Centre (Austria)  
ECO ETHCIS INTERNATIONAL UNION-NAIROBI CHAPTER (Kenya)  
Yonge Nawe Environmental Action Group, Friends of the Earth Swaziland (Other)  
Munlochy GM Vigil (United Kingdom)  
Ecological Society of the Philippines (Philippines)  
Azerbaijan Greens Movement (AGM) (Azerbaijan)  
New Green Canada (Canada)  
Pesticide Action Network Philippines (Philippines)  
Peoples Moratorium Enforcement Agency (New Zealand)  
Steuben Greens (United States)  
YSDA-Pilipinas Inc. (Youth for Sustainable Development Assembly)(Philippines)  
Braidwood Greens (Australia)  
Narrawallee Foreshore & Reserves Bushcare Group (Australia)  
sag (Switzerland)  
Osječki zeleni (Croatia)  
Groupe de Recherche en Agriculture Biologique (France)  
CORE Centre for Organisation Research & Education (Indigenous Peoples'  
Centre for Policy and Human Rights in India's North (India)  
UNALM\_CONCLAEAE (Peru)  
Hawaii Genetic Engineering Action Network (United States)  
Egyptian Green Party (Egypt)  
Association AGROLINK (Bulgaria)  
Green Party of Aotearoa New Zealand (New Zealand)  
Red Forestal Amazonica - Bolivia (Bolivia)  
Cycle for Old Growth Forests (COGF) (Australia)  
University of Western Australia Guild Environment Department (Australia)  
Northwest Resistance Against Genetic Engineering African Conservation Foundation (Other)  
PanEco Foundation (Switzerland)  
Angikar Bangladesh (Bangladesh)  
Australian Greens (Australia)  
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ascat (Spain)  
Amigos por Naturaleza (Argentina)  
IPEP (Brazil)  
(Bolivia)  
Ecoportal (Argentina)  
ONDG CCISETA (Peru)  
Centro Fatima (Ecuador)  
Premi-Congo (Congo)  
FUNDACION ECOLÓGICA COSMOS (Colombia)  
Liberation Collective (United States)  
Greenpeace (Germany)  
CIRCOD Nepal (Other)  
AFDEA- Asociación de Formadores Docentes en Educación Ambiental (Uruguay)