

# FOUNDATION EARTH

*Rethinking society from the ground up!*

January 27, 2014

The Hon. Patrick Leahy, Chairman  
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Foreign Operations  
Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

**Re: Your Leadership on World Bank Reforms**

Dear Mr. Chairman:

We are writing to express our enormous appreciation for your successful efforts to include in the Foreign Operations Appropriations extraordinarily important language about the need for oversight of the World Bank's activities, especially in regard to its attempt to return to mega-hydro dam construction, as well as the activities of other international financial institutions in this regard.

On behalf of the more than 80 signers of our May 24, 2013 letter to you, we thank you and recognize the leadership that you showed, not just on the World Bank but also on the other international financial institutions.

The provisions on safeguarding intact tropical rainforests from industrial logging and extraction have been urgently needed as have the directives on human rights protections and forced relocations.

We will work to see that the Obama Administration vigorously implements these provisions.

Sincerely,

Randy Hayes, Executive Director  
Foundation Earth

Brent Blackwelder, President Emeritus  
Friends of the Earth

**Note:** Attached is the extensive list of signers of the May 24, 2013 letter calling for World Bank President Kim to not finance giant rainforest & river destroying dams. We have notified these concerned citizens that you took decisive action.

660 Pennsylvania Avenue S.E. Suite 302; Washington, DC 20003 USA  
Phone 202-547-9359 [www.FDNEARTH.org](http://www.FDNEARTH.org) Fax 202-547-9429



Lauren T. Klein	Marin Community Gardens Network
Kathleen Gildred	Executive Dir., Southern California Council on Environment & Development
Jigar Shah	Founder of SunEdison
Tracy Worcester	Co-director, Farms Not Factories
Philip Fearnside	Professor, National Institute for Research in Amazonia, Manaus
Charles A. Munn, III, PhD	CEO SouthWild ("Jaguars guaranteed")
Tom Athanasiou	Author, Director of EcoEquity
Pratt Rempel, Jr	Arkansas Environmentalist
Derrick Jensen	Author, Endgame
Thomas Cavanagh	Executive Director of Bandaloop
Tom Butler	Foundation for Deep Ecology
Chris Kilham	Founder, Medicine Hunter, Inc.
Adrian Forsyth	Author
Lori Udall	President, Montpelier Consulting
Charles Secrett	National Coordinator, The ACT! Alliance
Saskia Ozinga	Coordinator FERN
Harvey Wasserman	CEO, Solartopia.org
Barbara Pyle	Filmmaker
William Rees, PhD, FRSC	Professor Emeritus, University of British Columbia
Renée G. Soule	Eco-psychologist, Sustainable World Coalition
Brian Staszewski	Director, Global Resource Efficiency Services
Eric Utne	Founder, Utne Reader
Lavinia Currier	Sacharuna Foundation
Madeleine Dunphy	Publisher, Web of Life Children's Books
Miguel Reynal	President of Fundacion Vida Silvestre Argentina
Catherine Caufield	Author
Lindsey Allen	Executive Director, Rainforest Action Network
Leslie Leslie	International Rivers board member
Marion M. Hunt	Trustee and Program Officer, Environment RA Hunt Foundation
Kay Treakle	Former Executive Director of the Bank Information Center
Jello Biafra	Musician
Bill Shireman	President, Global Futures Foundation
Wes 'Scoop' Nisker	Author, Performer, Buddhist Meditation Teacher
Harriet Crosby	Board Member, Friends of the Earth U.S.
Atossa Soltani	Executive Director, Amazon Watch
Kelly Quirke	Former Executive Director, Rainforest Action Network
Colin Hines	Convenor UK Green New Deal group
Tricia Schimpp, AICP	Urban and Environmental Planning Consultant
John Sellers	Founder, <u>The Other 98%</u>
John W. Passacantando	President, Our Next Economy, LLC
Norton Smith	Whole Systems Foundation
John Davis	Rewilding Institute Board Member
Osprey Orielle Lake	Founder/President Women's Earth and Climate Caucus
Kimberly Carter Gamble	CEO Clear Compass Media
Vivienne Verdon-Roe, Ph. D	Filmmaker
Winona LaDuke	Honor the Earth
Tzaporah Berman, BA, MES, LLD	Author (honoris causa)
Vinit Allen	Executive Director, Sustainable World Coalition

## **Text from the Consolidated Appropriations Act**

**The US and IFIs: Excerpts from 2014 Consolidated Appropriations Act Signed Into Law, January 2014: Provisions on the World Bank & Int'l Financial Institutions (IFIs)**

[http://docs.house.gov/billsthisweek/20140113/CPRT-113-HPRT-RU00-h3547-hamdt2samdt\\_xml.pdf](http://docs.house.gov/billsthisweek/20140113/CPRT-113-HPRT-RU00-h3547-hamdt2samdt_xml.pdf)

### **Independent evaluations**

“None of the funds appropriated under title V of this Act should be made as payment to any international financial institution unless the Secretary of the Treasury certifies to the Committees on Appropriations that such institution has a policy and practice of requiring independent, outside evaluations of each project and program loan or grant and significant analytical, non-lending activity, and the impact of such loan, grant, or activity on achieving the institution’s goals, including reducing poverty and promoting equitable economic growth, consistent with effective safeguards.” (p. 1238)

### **Compensation for human rights violations**

“The Secretary of the Treasury shall instruct the United States executive director of each international financial institution to seek to ensure that each such institution responds to the findings and recommendations of its accountability mechanisms by providing just compensation or other appropriate redress to individuals and communities that suffer violations of human rights, including forced displacement, resulting from any loan, grant, strategy or policy of such institution.” (p. 1240)

### **Reparations for survivors of Chixoy Dam massacres**

“The Secretary of the Treasury shall direct the United States executive directors of the World Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank to report to the Committees on Appropriations not later than 30 days after enactment of this Act and every 90 days thereafter until September 30, 2014, on the steps being taken by such institutions to support implementation of the April 2010 Reparations Plan for Damages Suffered by the Communities Affected by the Construction of the Chixoy Hydroelectric Dam in Guatemala.” (p. 1240)

### **No support for logging in tropical forests**

“The Secretary of the Treasury or the Secretary of State, as appropriate, shall instruct the United States executive director of each international financial institution and the United States representatives to all forest-related multilateral financing mechanisms and processes that it is the policy of the United States to vote against any financing to support or promote the expansion of industrial scale logging or any other industrial scale extractive activity into areas that were primary/intact tropical forest as of December 30, 2013.” (p. 1361)

### **No support for large dams**

“The Secretary of the Treasury shall instruct the United States executive director of each international financial institution that it is the policy of the United States to oppose any loan, grant, strategy or policy of such institution to support the construction of any large hydroelectric dam (as defined in “Dams and Development: A New Framework for Decision-Making,” World Commission on Dams (November 2000)).” (pp.1361f.)