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17 June 2021

Dear colleagues, CEOs and presidents,

Since 2020 E3G has worked with a number of professional bodies to explore appetite for collaboration across sectors and professions to accelerate climate action ahead of COP26 and beyond. A workshop held at London Climate Action Week in Nov 2020 was attended by over 45 professional bodies and there was broad interest in exploring collaboration including the idea of a shared “Charter” for action.

Since then, a small group of organisations has worked to develop a Charter (see Annex A) which defines core principles & commitments which underpin climate action and collaboration. Annex B lists the organisations involved in drafting the Charter and those attending the workshop in November.

These principles are designed to provide a guide to high-quality climate action and to lay the foundations for more impactful collective voice to policy-makers.

This initiative has been discussed with the UK COP26 team and UN Champions Team who are very supportive. The COP team have shortlisted an event in the “Blue Zone” at COP 26 which would be focused on highlighting the Charter, showcasing best practice and engaging international professional networks.

To maximise the impact of the launch we are looking for interested organisations to attend the event and become public supporters of the Charter.

As a supporter we would be asking you to support the aims of the Charter and to have your organisational logo accompany the launch event on 1st July at London Climate Action Week (see Annex C for an invitation).

Agreeing to be a supporter does not imply that your organisation has committed to formally adopt the Charter as a guide to action. We recognise that the process of formally adopting the Charter will usually require the endorsement of Professional Bodies governing structures which could take some time.

We are therefore proposing that organisations aim to adopt the Charter ahead of COP26, hopefully by the end of September, in order to maximise momentum in the run up to COP.

The structure of the Charter should make adoption by membership bodies fairly straightforward, but from consultation we understand that regulatory and other types have bodies might face some constitutional constraints to adoption and may only be able to become a supporter.

If you have questions regarding the Charter, would like to register as a supporter and/or would like to be involved in the 1 July event, please contact geraint.northwood@e3g.org.

I look forward to hearing from you and seeing you join and shape this initiative. Yours sincerely,

Nick Mabey
CEO E3G



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Annex A: Professional Bodies Climate Action Charter

There is under a decade to act to avoid the worst impacts of the climate crisis. To honour the Paris Agreement and to limit the average global temperature rise to well below 2 °C (endeavouring to keep it below 1.5 °C), we must reduce global carbon emissions by 45% by 2030 and reach net-zero by 2050. Professionals have a duty to protect the public interest and are stepping up to help secure a sustainable future with a sense of urgency.

As professional bodies, our registrants and members look to us to provide strong leadership, providing up-to-date technical & ethical guidance and advocating for their work & that of the wider profession. Many professional bodies have already responded with a high level of ambition through the **UN-backed Race to Zero campaign** and its partner initiatives like the **Pledge to Net Zero**. Building on these initiatives, this charter aims to leverage greater collective ambition through interdisciplinary coordination; in particular:

- The need to act now means today's workforce is critical for a successful transition to a net zero economy. We can ensure they are prepared with up-to-date continuing professional development (CPD) resources; we aim to work together to ensure a holistic approach and develop a common language of sustainability between professions.
- The pathways to net zero require the transformation of infrastructures governed by multiple professions. They are also defined by the intersection of the other challenging issues, such as navigating planetary boundaries, environmental protection and social justice. Given our role in protecting the interests of the wider public through our members and leadership, it is up to us to demonstrate up-to-date and evidence-led guidance on these interdisciplinary issues.
- Effective climate action often requires policy support or interdisciplinary cooperation. We can most effectively advocate for cooperation by developing a unified voice and by joining ours with the voices of our counterparts, in other professions and other countries.

Commitment

In light of these opportunities for action, we pledge to:

- 1) Chart the path to sustainability for our members, by:
 - a) Developing Climate Action Plans setting out how we will support and enable our members to achieving practice in line with the Paris Agreement and UN Sustainable Development Goals,
 - b) Reporting on our participation and progress towards Action Plan targets publicly each year,
 - c) Sharing resources to ensure the Action Plans are based in current, holistic expertise;
- 2) Speak with a unified voice to and with professional bodies, government and the public by:
 - a) Creating a professional bodies forum for interdisciplinary learning, cooperation and action,
 - b) Championing the role and representation of professionals in climate action to government,
 - c) Growing our voice by inviting our international counterpart bodies to join us.
- 3) Empower and inspire our members to drive sustainable growth, by:
 - a) Surveying our members to understand their sustainability resource and training needs,



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- b) Jointly providing a set of common CPD tools and principles, smoothing the development of CPD resources, for each profession, that account for interdisciplinary sustainability issues,
- c) Making plans and taking rapid action to reduce our emissions in line with 1.5 °C of warming;

The COVID-19 pandemic and economic crisis, coupled with the run up to COP26, present us with a once-in-a-generation chance to create a greener, fairer and more prosperous society. We believe that our actions will help lay the foundations for this transformation.

Annex B: participants and (in **bold**) Charter working group

Association for Project Management	APM
Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy	BEIS
British Ecological Society	BES
CFA UK	CFA UK
Chartered Banker Institute	CBI
Chartered Institute of Architectural Technologists	CIAT
Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management	CIEEM
Chartered Institute of Securities and Investment	CISI
Chartered Institution of Building Services Engineers	CIBSE
Chartered Institution of Water and Environmental Management	CIWEM
Energy Institute	EI
Engineering UK	EngUK
Grantham Institute	ICL
The Engineering Council	EngC
Institute of Civil Engineers	ICE
Institute of Materials, Minerals and Mining	IOM3
Institute and Faculty of Actuaries	IFoA
Institute of Chartered Foresters	
Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment	IEMA
Institute of Physics	IoP
Institute of Water	
Institution of Chemical Engineers	IChemE
Institution of Engineering and Technology	IET
Institution of Environmental Sciences	IES
International Bar Association	IBA
Law Society	LawSoc
Law Society of Scotland	Lawscot



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Professional Associations Research Network	PARN
Royal Academy of Engineering	RAEng
Royal Aeronautical Society	RAeS
Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons	RCVS
Royal Geographical Society	RGS
Royal Institute of British Architects	RIBA
Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors	RICS
Royal Meteorological Society	RMS
Royal Society for the encouragement of Arts	RSA
Royal Society of Biology	RSB
Royal Society of Chemistry	RSC
Society for the Environment	SocEnv
Society of Operations Engineers	SOE
The Association of Corporate Treasurers	ACT
The Chancery Lane Project	TCLP
The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales	ICAEW
The Permanent Way Institution	PWI

Annex C: London Climate Action Week invitation

You are invited to register for the webinar **Professional Bodies Climate Action Charter - Launch, Thursday 1st July 12:00**, as part of London Climate Action Week 2021.

The event will present the content of the Charter and plot the path to COP26, where we will be representing our work and our voice to policy makers and governments globally.

You can register for this free event here: <https://www.e3g.org/news/lcaw-london-week-professional-bodies-climate-action-charter-international-launch/>.

London Climate Action Week (LCAW), running from 26 June – 4 July, is harnessing the power of London for global climate action. The annual event brings together the city's world-leading array of climate professionals and communities. Now in its third year, LCAW creates space for participants to come together and find global solutions to climate change. **View the other events that E3G is hosting [here](#) and the full programme of 150+ LCAW events.**

Follow LCAW at @london_climate for updates and join the conversation online with #LCAW2021.

Best,
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