

**From:** Virginia Bagnoli [vbagnoli@theclimategroup.org]

**Sent:** Wednesday, December 02, 2015 10:44 AM

**To:** Gray, Laura

**CC:** Markowitz, Deb; Percival, Penny; Kunin, Lisa; Anne-Sophie Doernbrack; Cheryl Coley-Mack

**Subject:** States & Regions Alliance General Assembly

**Attachments:** S&R-GA\_7Dec2015\_DISCUSSION PAPER FOR S&R MEMBERS.pdf; Invitations- Vermont.docx; SRGeneralAssembly\_7Dec2015\_invitation\_ Shumlin.docx; SRGeneralAssembly\_7Dec2015\_invitation\_ Markowitz.docx; SR General Assembly\_Security Briefing&Agenda\_December 2.pdf

Dear Laura,

We are pleased to let you know that we have received an overwhelming response for the **States & Regions Alliance General Assembly meeting on Monday 7 December** from members, with 39 Presidents, Premiers, Governors and Ministers attending and 31 governments represented.

Therefore we have to be quite strict with seating allocations in order to accommodate all of our members.

As anticipated, please find attached the **personal invitation letters for your political leadership**, together with an **invitation letter for you**.

**Please print it and bring it with you.** Each person attending needs to present a printed copy of the invitation in order to access the building.

As you know, due to security concerns, Paris City Hall has had put in place additional security measures. In this regard, all individuals wishing to enter the building will be checked at the entrance. Each individual will need both:

- the invitation letter attached
- personal ID or passport

#### Recommendations

- Please note that the enhanced security procedures in place at the Paris City Hall might take longer than usual so we highly recommend to arrive early in order to start registration at 8:30 am (the event starts at 9:30 am).
- We would also like to remind you to contact Cheryl Mack ([cmack@theclimategroup.org](mailto:cmack@theclimategroup.org)) if you would like to participate in the Security Advance Site Visit on Thursday, December 3rd at 10:30 am.

I am attaching our Agenda and Security Briefing, hoping it can be helpful before the event, but in the meantime don't hesitate to contact us should you have any questions.

See you all in Paris!

Best regards

Virginia

Virginia Bagnoli  
States & Regions Member and Policy Officer

[vbagnoli@theclimategroup.org](mailto:vbagnoli@theclimategroup.org) | skypeID: virgybag



Leading the #CleanRevolution

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**The Climate Group**

Second Floor, Riverside Building, County Hall, Belvedere Road, London, SE1 7PB, United Kingdom

T: +44 (0)20 7960 2717 F: +44 (0)20 7960 2971

[www.theclimategroup.org](http://www.theclimategroup.org)

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**From:** Libby Ferguson

**Sent:** 24 November 2015 18:44

**Cc:** Mark Kenber <MKenber@theclimategroup.org>; Anne-Sophie Doernbrack <adoernbrack@theclimategroup.org>; Virginia Bagnoli <vbagnoli@theclimategroup.org>; Subaskar Sitsabeshan <ssitsabeshan@theclimategroup.org>; Jean-Charles Seghers <jseghers@theclimategroup.org>; Evan Juska <EJuska@theclimategroup.org>; Amy Davidsen <ADavidsen@theclimategroup.org>; Changhua Wu <CWu@theclimategroup.org>; Aditi Dass <ADass@theclimategroup.org>; Jody Dean <jdean@theclimategroup.org>; Damian Ryan <DRyan@theclimategroup.org>; Beth Woodthorpe-Evans <bwoodthorpe-Evans@theclimategroup.org>; Andrew Pickens <apickens@theclimategroup.org>; Cheryl Coley-Mack <cmack@theclimategroup.org>; Christopher Brown <cbrown@theclimategroup.org>; Marine Puech <MPuech@theclimategroup.org>

**Subject:** States & Regions Alliance General Assembly: Security, Discussion Paper and Attendance list

Dear Colleagues

It is my pleasure to send through the attached documents ahead of our General Assembly meeting on Monday 7 December. Please find attached:

- Updated Security Briefing & Agenda
- Discussion Paper for S&R Members (the aim of this paper is to guide the content of the general assembly meeting, in particular the leaders dialogue on priorities for 2016/17)
- Latest attendance list (Premiers, Governors and Ministers)

Please note enhanced security procedures issued by Paris City Hall below:

Due to security concerns, Paris City Hall has had put in place additional security measures. In this regard, all individuals wishing to enter the building will be checked at the entrance. Each individual (including security personnel and translators) will need both:

- **the invitation letter**

- **personal ID**

Please send through the full confirmed delegation (including elected officials, security and translators) of your Government attending the General Assembly to [vbagnoli@theclimategroup.org](mailto:vbagnoli@theclimategroup.org) **by Friday November 27 COB**. We will then confirm how many staff we can accommodate from each delegation (based on the overall final number of confirmed guests) and will send **a personal invitation** for each individual before the event. Please print it and bring it with you. **Each person attending needs to present a printed copy of the invitation in order to access the building.**

For those governments who are unable to attend the meeting, you are welcome to send your views on the recommendations in the discussion paper via email.

We look forward to seeing you on 7 December in Paris!

Libby

Libby Ferguson  
States & Regions Director

T: +44 (0)207 960 2989 M: +44 (0)7860 595894  
[lferguson@theclimategroup.org](mailto:lferguson@theclimategroup.org) | skypeID: libskype



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**The Climate Group**

Second Floor, Riverside Building, County Hall, Belvedere Road, London, SE1 7PB, United Kingdom  
T: +44 (0)20 7960 2970 F: +44 (0)20 7960 2971  
[www.theclimategroup.org](http://www.theclimategroup.org)

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# STATES & REGIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

**Monday December 7, 2015, 9:00am – 12:00pm**  
**Salon Bertrand, Hotel de Ville, Paris**

## BRIEFING NOTE FOR STATES & REGIONS ALLIANCE MEMBERS

It is widely recognised that climate action is needed over the next five years in order to peak global emissions by 2020. A global climate deal will not enter into force until 2020 and therefore the role of non-national government actors (states and regions, businesses and cities) is more critical than ever. State and regional governments are rising to this challenge and our role is now more widely recognised than ever. The annual General Assembly of the States & Regions Alliance is our opportunity to set an ambition level and frame our work over the next 5 years to ensure we respond to this challenge.

The General Assembly is an annual meeting of members of the States & Regions Alliance, held alongside the UNFCCC Conference of the Parties meeting (COP). The 2015 COP21 meeting in Paris will be a decisive moment for national governments to agree a global agreement to combat climate change. 2015 is also a year for celebrating 10 years of The States & Regions Alliance, which was formed alongside the Montreal Climate summit in 2005.

The meeting will be organised by The Climate Group and chaired by Philippe Couillard, Premier of Quebec, Iñigo Urkullu, President of the Basque Country and Jay Weatherill, Premier of South Australia. Mark Kenber, CEO and Libby Ferguson, States & Regions Director will support the co-chairs and facilitate the meeting.

Prior to the general assembly meeting there will be an opening ceremony.

## OUTCOMES SOUGHT FROM THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING

- Reinforce the role of the Alliance and reinvigorate ownership by subnational leaders to ensure that the Alliance is the principal nexus for state and regional government climate action over the next 5 years.
- Secure agreement on a robust work program for 2016 and beyond for ever increasing ambition and low carbon leadership, including agreement on a broad objective for 2020.
- Work together to secure the resources needed to take the Alliance to the next level.

The States & Regions General Assembly meeting will take place in two parts:

### **1) Opening and Signing Ceremony (09:30 – 10:15)**

The General Assembly meeting will commence with a formal opening and signing ceremony. This is a closed door meeting and external media or press will not be invited to attend. This will include a presentation of the Compact Disclosure report, an updated announcement on the Under2 MoU and the presentation of the new Regions Adapt programme. The ceremony will celebrate the achievements of the Alliance and its members – the 10 Year Anniversary of the Montreal Declaration and the foundation of the States & Regions Alliance and act as the basis for the subsequent discussions for the States and Regions General Assembly.

### **2) General Assembly Meeting (10:15 – 12:00)**

This will focus on the priorities for the next five years with particular emphasis on 2016-17. Co-chairs will present the main work programmes and objectives followed by a discussion and approval by all members present. All Government leaders will be invited to make a short intervention during the Leaders Dialogue in answer to the following questions:

- What are your government's climate change priorities and challenges for 2016-17?
- Where should the States & Regions Alliance focus its collective work?

The leaders' dialogue will be followed by a briefing on the status of the negotiations and an opportunity for questions.

## **EXPECTED ATTENDEES**

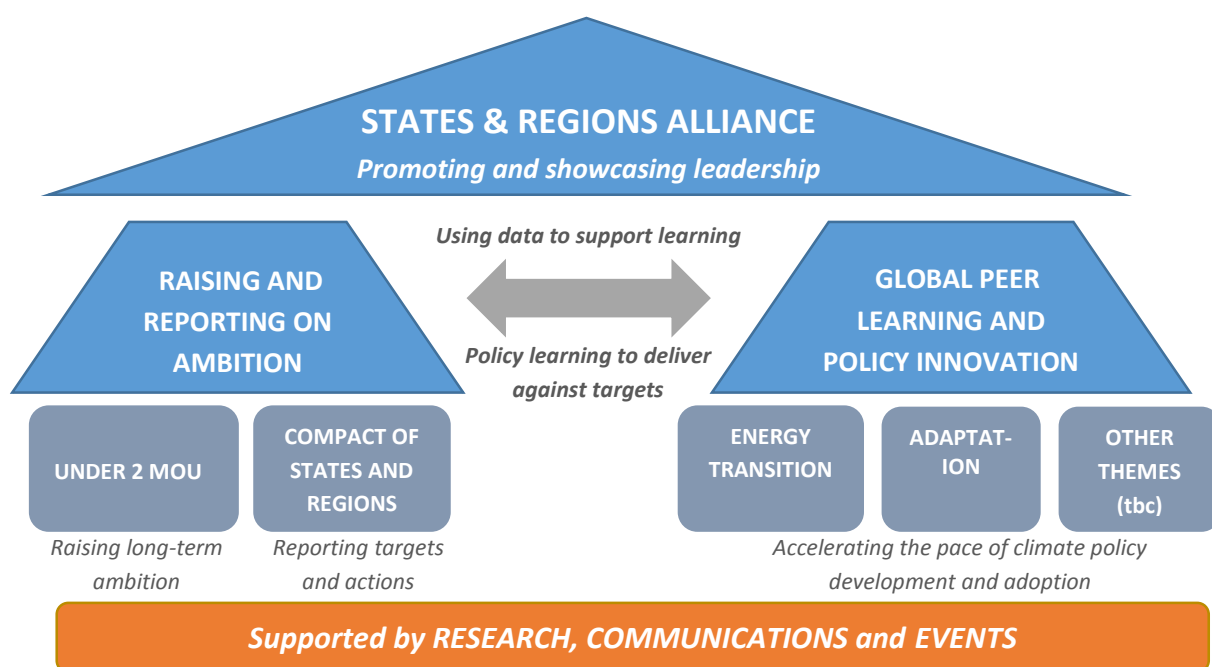
Attendance has been confirmed by the majority of members within the States & Regions Alliance by either the Premier, Governor, President, Secretary or Minister. The latest delegation list is attached.

## **OVERVIEW OF PRIORITIES FOR 2016-17 AND KEY DISCUSSION TOPICS**

As already stated, the key objective of the General Assembly is to approve the objectives and work priorities for the States & Regions Alliance over the next five years, with a focus on 2016-17. The Climate Group in its role as Secretariat to the States & Regions Alliance, therefore proposes the following overarching objective and 3 priority focus areas.

### **OVERARCHING OBJECTIVE FOR 2016-2017 (PROPOSED):**

***By June 2017, the leading governments of the States & Regions Alliance will have in place targets, timetables and policies consistent with achieving net zero emissions by 2050.***



## 1. STATES & REGIONS ALLIANCE – REGIONAL EXPANSION OF THE GLOBAL NETWORK

The States & Regions Alliance celebrates its 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this December. Since its creation, Alliance membership has seen significant growth in the regions of North America, Europe and Australia, with comparatively fewer members from Mexico, Brazil, South Africa, China and India. During the States & Regions Alliance members meeting in July 2015, chaired by Premier Weatherill, it was recommended that the Alliance expand its geographical reach to be more globally representative in key regions such as **India, China, South America and Africa**.

**RECOMMENDATION 1:** that the General Assembly sets an objective for 2016-17 to expand the geographical reach of the States & Regions Alliance to ensure improved diversity and global representation through:

- Recruitment of 15 new members from the regions of India, China, South America and Africa by 2017.
- Resolution by existing members to use their networks and existing relationships to support recruitment.

*Key issues/opportunities:*

- New initiatives such as the Compact of States and Regions, the Under 2 MOU and Regions Adapt, involve a broader group of governments outside of the States & Regions Alliance. This provides opportunities for engaging new governments to collaborate on climate action on a membership basis or project focus.



## 2. RAISING AND REPORTING ON AMBITION

### 2.1. RAISING LONG-TERM AMBITION THROUGH THE UNDER 2 MOU

Launched in May 2016 by States & Regions Alliance members Baden-Württemberg and California together with a group of 11 founding governments, the Under 2 MOU is a commitment by governments to an 80% emissions reduction on 1990 levels or a limit of 2 tons per capita by 2050. This MOU has been signed by many government members of the States & Regions Alliance, as well as other state and regional governments around the world. It demonstrates the leadership and long-term ambition of state and regional governments. It will be recognized within the formal LPAA agenda at COP21 and has strong support from the UNFCCC Executive Secretary and the COP21 Presidency.

Drawing on the existing expertise of The Climate Group's work with the States & Regions Alliance, The Climate Group has been proposed to act as official Secretariat to the Under 2 MOU. The aim is to ensure stronger alignment of the objectives of the Under 2 MOU with existing work of the States & Regions Alliance, in particular alignment of reporting through the Compact of States and Regions and global peer learning and policy innovation.

### 2.2. REPORTING ON AMBITION AND ACTION THROUGH THE COMPACT OF STATES AND REGIONS

Launched at the UN Climate Summit in New York in 2014, the Compact of States and Regions is the first dedicated reporting mechanism for states, provinces and regions, to showcase and analyze their climate efforts. In 2015, 44 state and regional governments from within and beyond the Alliance reported climate data to the Compact of states and regions.

Governments reporting to the Compact of States and Regions currently represent 2.81GtCO<sub>2</sub>e in annual emissions. By 2050, these governments will have reduced their annual emissions from 2.81GtCO<sub>2</sub>e to 1.28 GtCO<sub>2</sub>e. *Note that these figures are under strict embargo until 7 December.*

Analysis of the GHG reduction targets disclosed through the Compact shows that the following cumulative emissions savings can be achieved when compared with a 'business as usual' scenario starting in 2010 (*note that these figures are under strict embargo until 7 December*):

- 3 GtCO<sub>2</sub>e by 2020, which is more than the combined annual GHG emissions of the UK, Germany and Japan in 2012;
- 12.4 GtCO<sub>2</sub>e by 2030, more than the combined GHG emissions of the US and EU, or China alone in 2012; and
- 47.4 GtCO<sub>2</sub>e by 2050, equalling world GHG emissions in 2012.

The Compact provides not only a strong evidence base to demonstrate the power and potential impact of state and regional government climate actions, but it also provides an essential source of information to support collaboration and best practice policy learning between governments. In addition, this global reporting mechanism will help to create an essential base for the future work of the States & Regions Alliance, including providing a mechanism for reporting against key commitments such as the Under 2 MOU and Regions Adapt, as well as a dataset to guide their focus and support delivery.

**RECOMMENDATION 2:** that the General Assembly supports a focus in 2016-17 on raising and reporting on ambition through key mechanisms such as the Compact of States and Regions and the Under 2 MOU, including the following target:

- All government members of the States & Regions Alliance and all signatories to the Under 2 MOU report to the Compact of states and regions by 2017.

*Key issues/opportunities:*

- *Reporting to the Compact of States and Regions requires knowledge and capacity to collect and report inventory data. The Climate Group is seeking additional resources to enable capacity building support for certain governments, as well as exploring opportunities for government-to-government peer learning.*
- *The Compact of States and Regions and the Under 2 MOU has created a wealth of data and information that can be used to support many global programs, in particular global peer learning and policy innovation.*
- *Alignment of reporting between the Compact and Under 2 MOU will reduce demands on governments to report to two separate initiatives and create a richer set of data in a consistent format.*

### **3. GLOBAL PEER LEARNING AND POLICY INNOVATION**

Further to recommendations by the General Assembly of the States & Regions Alliance in 2013 and 2014, The Climate Group has developed a new model for sharing learning and best practice policy innovation, through a combination of peer forums and a policy innovation lab. This is in recognition of the vast expertise of policy makers within the States & Regions Alliance and the many innovative climate policy solutions that are being developed by states and regions. Over the past three years, The Climate Group has supported governments to share learning and best practice through peer forums. These have focussed on Electric Vehicle Policy (led by Quebec), Adaptation (led by South Australia) and Clean Tech Innovation (led by Brittany). It is proposed that this next phase of work will build on this base and initially focus on the following, fully-resourced areas:

#### **3.1. BUILDING A STRONG KNOWLEDGE BASE: POWERS TO ACT RESEARCH**

An essential element of the global peer learning model is a strong research base. In this regard, The Climate Group will ensure that all relevant data reported to the Compact of states and regions will feed into our peer learning and policy innovation work. In addition, The Climate Group has secured funding from the philanthropic organisation Climate Works to conduct detailed research on the powers and competencies of state and regional governments over key areas of climate policy. This research entitled 'Powers to Act' will start in 2016 and will align with similar research conducted by the C40 Cities Network. This research will enable us to identify the main areas of climate policy where states and regions have most power to act and therefore most impact.

#### **3.2. THEMATIC FOCUS: ENERGY TRANSITION**

One of the key challenges identified by many governments of the States & Regions Alliance is how to identify successful energy transition strategies, particularly for highly industrialised regions with a high fossil fuel base. The Climate Group has received funding from the Mercator Foundation for a 2 year program focussed on energy transition. North Rhine-Westphalia will act as lead region for this piece of work and detailed research will be carried out to identify similar highly industrialised regions to participate. This program will launch in 2016 and utilise The Climate Group's peer learning and policy innovation model to bring in expertise from across the global network.



### 3.3. THEMATIC FOCUS: ADAPTATION

Working with the lead region of South Australia, The Climate Group has hosted a series of peer learning webinars and briefings on the theme of adaptation. Building on this work, a new initiative has been developed by States & Regions Alliance member governments of Rio de Janeiro State and Catalonia called Regions Adapt. The aim is to encourage a commitment by state and regional governments to adaptation planning as a core element of a climate change strategy and to support global cooperation between state and regional governments to share learning on adaptation. Governments signing up to Regions Adapt will also commit to report their actions through the Compact of States and Regions platform. The Climate Group has proposed to use its existing expertise through the Adaptation Peer Forum to support policy learning between signatories of Regions Adapt.

### 3.4 IDENTIFICATION OF NEW THEMATIC PRIORITIES

There are many sectors where action by state and regional governments is essential to responding to climate change. The Climate Group proposes to use data collected via the Compact of States and Regions and Powers to Act, to work with government members of the States & Regions Alliance to identify three new priority themes for collaboration between members in 2016-17. The thematic focus areas identified should be those that have the most significant potential impact on mitigation and resilience efforts.

#### RECOMMENDATION 3:

**That the General Assembly resolves to scale up peer learning and policy innovation in 2016-17, with a focus on achieving targets committed through the Compact of States and Regions and Under 2 MOU, specifically:**

- **Maintain a focus on existing and fully resourced initiatives including *Powers to Act* analysis, energy transition platform and adaptation peer forum.**
- **Agree 3 new priority themes for collaboration by June 2016, where states and regions can have the most significant impact on mitigation and resilience.**

#### *Key issues/opportunities:*

- *The Policy Innovation model provides an opportunity to support governments who commit to ambitious climate targets through initiatives such as the Under 2 MOU and Regions Adapt.*
- *Funding and Resources: there is a huge opportunity to expand the work on global peer learning and policy innovation and deliver tangible benefits to States & Regions members, however dedicated funding and resources (such as those secured for Powers to Act and Energy Transition) need to be identified.*

Libby Ferguson, States & Regions Director, The Climate Group  
Email: [lferguson@theclimategroup.org](mailto:lferguson@theclimategroup.org) tel: +44 7860 595894



The Climate Group  
Second Floor, Riverside Building,  
County Hall, Belvedere Road, London,  
SE1 7PB, United Kingdom

T: +44 (0)20 7960 2970  
F: +44 (0)20 7960 2971  
info@theclimategroup.org  
www.theclimategroup.org



Ms. Laura Gray  
Director of Special Projects  
Government of Vermont

Dear Ms. Gray,

It is with great pleasure that we send this exclusive invitation to join us on **Monday December 7, 2015** for the annual **States & Regions Alliance General Assembly**, being held alongside the 21<sup>st</sup> session of the Conference of the Parties (COP21) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in Paris, France.

In the year of its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the **States & Regions Alliance General Assembly** is taking place on:

**Monday December 7, 2015** at 9:00 am – 12.00pm

at the Salon Bertrand of **Paris City Hall**,  
**Place de l'Hôtel de Ville**

**3 Rue de Lobau, 75004 Paris, France**

Registration opens at 8.30 am.

**Please show this invitation to the security on arrival.**

Yours sincerely,

The States & Regions team at The Climate Group



The Climate Group  
Second Floor, Riverside Building,  
County Hall, Belvedere Road, London,  
SE1 7PB, United Kingdom

T: +44 (0)20 7960 2970  
F: +44 (0)20 7960 2971  
info@theclimategroup.org  
www.theclimategroup.org



Peter Shumlin  
Governor  
Government of Vermont  
Executive Office of Governor Peter Shumlin  
109 State Street, Pavilion  
Montpelier, VT 05609

October 12, 2015

Dear Governor Shumlin,

It is with great pleasure that we invite you to join us on **Monday December 7, 2015** for the annual **States & Regions Alliance General Assembly**, being held alongside the 21<sup>st</sup> session of the Conference of the Parties (COP21) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in Paris, France.

As the Co-Chairs of the States & Regions Alliance, **we encourage all Premiers, Governors and Ministers of the Alliance to attend this year's General Assembly**. The General Assembly is the most important moment for States & Regions Alliance members to come together and to establish our priorities for the year ahead. While 2015 has been the year of ambitious climate targets, in 2016 our focus must be on delivery, raising ambition level and broadening the reach of our work.

This December we will also celebrate the extraordinary success of the **Compact of States and Regions**. Throughout this year, more than 40 governments have reported their climate actions and targets, representing **over 12.5% of the global economy and around 315 million people**. The Compact now spans 18 different countries and 6 continents. The commitments will be showcased at COP21 in the first-ever Compact of States and Regions Disclosure Report.

This year, we also welcomed several **new members to the States & Regions Alliance**: the Australian Capital Territory, Victoria and New South Wales from Australia as well as Vermont (US) and Jalisco (Mexico). As Co-Chairs, we are proud to lead this strong and committed Alliance. During the General Assembly, we want to discuss with you what is needed to **deliver and build on existing climate commitments** to drive the transformational action necessary towards a prosperous and climate resilient low carbon future. With **innovative new climate policy models** being developed within states and regions, we must develop mechanisms to rapidly share, scale up and align these transformational solutions.

In the year of its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the **States & Regions Alliance General Assembly** will take place on:

**Monday December 7, 2015 (morning)**  
at the Salon Bertrand (tbc) of **Paris City Hall,**  
**Place de l'Hôtel de Ville, 75004 Paris, France**

**Please RSVP to our States & Regions Policy Officer Virginia Bagnoli at [vbagnoli@theclimategroup.org](mailto:vbagnoli@theclimategroup.org) by Friday November 13, 2015** who will also be happy to answer any questions you or your team may have regarding The Climate Group events during COP21. We will send exact timings and logistical details closer to the event.

In the meantime, thank you in advance for your consideration of this invitation and we hope to see you in Paris in December.

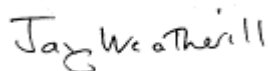
Yours sincerely,

Co-Chairs of The Climate Group States & Regions Alliance

The Hon. Philippe Couillard,  
Premier of Québec



The Hon. Jay Weatherill,  
Premier of South Australia



The Hon. Iñigo Urkullu,  
President of The Basque  
Country



CC:

Mark Kenber, CEO, The Climate Group

Amy Davidsen, US Executive Director, The Climate Group

Libby Ferguson, States & Regions Director, The Climate Group



The Climate Group  
Second Floor, Riverside Building,  
County Hall, Belvedere Road, London,  
SE1 7PB, United Kingdom

T: +44 (0)20 7960 2970  
F: +44 (0)20 7960 2971  
info@theclimategroup.org  
www.theclimategroup.org



Ms. Deb Markowitz  
Secretary of Natural Resources  
State of Vermont

Dear Secretary Markowitz,

It is with great pleasure that we invite you to join us on **Monday December 7, 2015** for the annual **States & Regions Alliance General Assembly**, being held alongside the 21<sup>st</sup> session of the Conference of the Parties (COP21) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in Paris, France.

In the year of its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the **States & Regions Alliance General Assembly** will take place on:

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**3 Rue de Lobau, 75004 Paris, France**

Registration opens at 8.30 am.

**Please show this invitation to the security on arrival.**

Yours sincerely,

States & Regions Alliance  
The Climate Group





**From 8:30 am to 12:00 pm**

**ADDRESS:** Hotel de Ville, 3 Rue de Lobau, 75004 Paris- [Map](#)

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## STATES & REGIONS



## ARRIVAL

<b>Entrance &amp; Exit</b>	Hotel De Ville – Paris City Hall 3 Rue Lobau, 75004 Paris <b>Note: Contact Cheryl Mack (<a href="mailto:cmack@theclimategroup.org">cmack@theclimategroup.org</a>) if you would like to participate in the Security Advance Site Visit on Thursday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> at 10:30 am</b>
<b>Area of Participation</b>	States & Regions Alliance General Assembly
<b>Arrival Contacts</b>	Cheryl Mack: +1 347-249-2184 or Anne-Sophie Doernbrack +44 7980 822306
<b>Meeting Room</b>	Salon Bertrand – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor
<b>Car Parking Parking Garages</b>	Parking Hotel de Ville: 6 Quai de Gesvres, 75004 Paris, France Saemes Parking : Rue Saint-Bon, 75004 Paris, France Parking – Rivoli Sebastopol : 5 Rue Pernelle, 75004 Paris, France
<b>Seating arrangement</b>	U-Shape table with table-top microphones for Government leaders with additional perimeter seating for government teams/delegations.

## SECURITY PROCEDURES

<b>Security check at entrance</b>	<u>All</u> the participants will be checked at the entrance. Each participant required to submit the following for building access: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>the invitation letter</b></li> <li>- <b>personal ID</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Both</b> items required to enter the building.</p>
<b>Participants</b>	We have sent a personal invitation to each individual. Please print this invitation letter and bring it with you to the venue. <b>Each person attending needs to present a printed copy of the invitation in order to access the building.</b>
<b>Changes to the participants list</b>	For security reasons, the Paris City Hall requests to receive the final participants list 5 days prior the event. We will only be able to accommodate last minute changes of staff <b>before Thursday December 3.</b>
<b>Wifi connection</b>	Free wifi is available within the building. Passcode not required.