The Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr.  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW  
Washington DC, 20500

The Honorable Antony Blinken  
U.S. Department of State  
2201 C Street NW  
Washington, DC 20520

The Honorable Janet Yellen  
U.S. Department of the Treasury  
1500 Pennsylvania Ave NW  
Washington DC, 20220

The Honorable Shalanda Young  
Office of Management and Budget  
725 17th Street NW  
Washington, DC 20503

Dear President Biden, Secretary Blinken, Secretary Yellen, and Director Young:

We are grateful to your administration for its prioritization of international climate finance to help the world stave off the effects of global heating and preserve the planet for future generations. We write today to express our strong support for the U.S. making a renewed and robust pledge to the Green Climate Fund—the world’s largest and most important multilateral climate change fund—during the Fund’s ongoing “second replenishment” phase. We believe this current phase represents an important opportunity to solidify the U.S.’s place as an international leader on climate change issues.

In 2021, President Biden pledged to work with Congress to quadruple U.S. climate support for developing countries to more than $11 billion by the year 2024. As part of this broader effort, the President announced in April 2023 that the U.S. would be providing an additional $1 billion to the Green Climate Fund (GCF), bringing total U.S. contributions to the GCF to $2 billion. We once again applaud this important announcement, and we express our strong support for continued GCF funding by the U.S. As Members of Congress, we also pledge to support these efforts by the administration by fighting for robust Congressional appropriations for the GCF and for other important international climate finance accounts.

We write today because it has come to our attention that the Green Climate Fund will be convening its “High-level Pledging Conference” on Thursday, October 5th, 2023, in Bonn, Germany. The purpose of this meeting will be to raise awareness for the GCF’s ongoing sustainment efforts and to mobilize countries to make additional pledges to the GCF during its ongoing “second replenishment” phase. We believe this current phase for the GCF represents a tremendous opportunity for your administration to reaffirm its steadfast commitment to fighting climate change on a visible, global scale and we strongly urge the administration to consider making a renewed pledge to the GCF during this critical juncture.
The GCF is a renowned organization that is recognized as the world’s pre-eminant financial entity for mobilizing global resources for vulnerable nations and communities to allow them to adapt to and mitigate the effects of adverse climate impacts. Since its creation in 2010, the GCF has directed more than $45 billion to 228 approved projects in 129 developing countries. In doing so, the GCF has served as a “climate lifeline” for nations around the globe and has made critical investments in improving renewable energy generation and access, food and water security, forests and land use, ecosystem and ecosystem services, transportation and infrastructure, and more. As such, we believe the GCF is the perfect vehicle to help your administration to meet its $11 billion climate finance pledge by 2024. Furthermore, we note that at this moment, the U.S. is the only nation that previously made a “phase 1” pledge to the GCF that has not yet also made a second pledge to the GCF for its “phase 2” second replenishment. Because the U.S. is currently represented as the Co-Chair of the Green Climate Fund’s governing board, a renewed pledge by the U.S. for this second phase would send an important message to the global community about the United States’ resolute commitment to tackling our global climate crisis.

In closing, as the global community convenes in Germany on October 5th for the Green Climate Fund’s upcoming conference, we kindly ask your administration to consider making a renewed pledge to the Fund during this second replenishment phase. We once again thank your administration for the great strides that it has taken on climate issues, and we look forward to your response on this important matter.

Sincerely,

Adriano Espaillat  
Member of Congress

Sydney Kamlager-Dove  
Member of Congress

Raúl M. Grijalva  
Member of Congress

Gerald E. Connolly  
Member of Congress
Eleanor Holmes Norton
Member of Congress

Grace Meng
Member of Congress

Jerrold Nadler
Member of Congress

Jamaal Bowman, Ed.D.
Member of Congress

Nanette Diaz Barragán
Member of Congress

Yvette D. Clarke
Member of Congress

Rashida Tlaib
Member of Congress

Sheila Jackson Lee
Member of Congress

Juan Vargas
Member of Congress

Dina Titus
Member of Congress
Jared Huffman
Member of Congress

Chrissy Houlahan
Member of Congress