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www.afgazad.com

afgazad@gmail.com

European Languages

زبان های اروپایی

Emma Ruby-Sachs

Dear extraordinary Avaazers,

12/30/2015

We did it! Despite losing our flagship Paris event, this weekend's Global Climate March still broke records as the **largest climate mobilisation in history!** From São Paulo to Sydney, 785,000 of us shook the ground in over 2,300 events in 175 countries, united in one voice calling for a 100% clean energy future to save everything we love. It was front page media worldwide, and the impact is already being felt at the summit here in Paris.

It's nearly impossible to describe the powerful and diverse beauty of humanity that rose up yesterday, but these photos help:



London, UK

This is the movement our world has been waiting for. Many countries, from Bangladesh to Ireland, saw the largest climate marches in their history. In Australia, 120,000 people marched, in India, over 100,000. And in towns across the planet small groups of us joined together in beautiful local events. Even in Sana'a, Yemen, organisers went ahead with their march despite bombs falling close to the route!



Clockwise from top left: Melbourne, Helsinki, Berlin, Amsterdam, Bogotá, Jakarta

In France, massive planned marches of over 500,000 people were cancelled for security concerns, but Avaazers rallied to collect and display over 20,000 shoes of people who wanted to march -- including the Pope's and the UN Secretary-General's! -- placed at the Place de la Republique, right on the doorstep of the climate talks:



Global climate marches were covered by hundreds of major news outlets and made the front pages from Al Jazeera to the New York Times.

Pope Francis' envoy said of our marches: *"The Pope is in spirit with hundreds of thousands today, hand in hand with the poor and those who seek climate justice."*

Today, in his opening address to world leaders, UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon stressed: *"The peoples of the world are also on the move. They have taken to the streets, in cities and towns across the world, in a mass mobilization for change... They expect each and every one of you to show leadership equal to the test. History is calling."*

And Christiana Figueres, the head of the UN climate talks, thanked us all and announced: *"I am working with Avaaz to install a large screen for your voices to be heard. All delegates will be able to see your support for a strong climate change agreement that protects our common home."*

Click to see more pictures from the day and messages from those who marched

Today, the crucial climate talks begin. For years politicians have said to us "Show us that people care and then we will act". This weekend we've shown them that the whole world wants a 100% clean energy deal. And right now a video of us demanding it is screening above Heads of State as they enter the conference. They can't miss us. And they won't miss our call either -- Avaaz's top staff are right inside the summit and will be carrying our voices to the negotiators everytime they try to dilute the deal.

We have taken our movement to a new level this weekend. Over the next two weeks, let's keep coming back again and again, to keep our flame of hope held high, to shake these talks, until we win a deal to protect our future.

With so much gratitude and determination,