

Political statement C10

Proponent: NPA Youth for Solidarity

Climate

Climate change is caused by human activity, and we must work together to reverse the consequences. The challenges this entails are huge – but so is the power of people working together.

Climate change is also contributing to the rise of global injustice. Industrialised countries hold a particular responsibility for man-made climate change, because they are responsible for the highest proportion of global climate gas emissions.

Norwegian People's Aid takes a political approach to development. The crucial issue has to do with how resources are controlled and distributed. That is why it is so important to our joint development work that at the same time as we support oppressed groups in bolstering their power, we work to reduce the consequences climate change imposes on global resources.

Man-made climate change is resulting in more extreme weather conditions, which makes the climate a particularly important issue for us at Norwegian People's Aid. Our organisation has 2,000 voluntary emergency response teams who are seeing first-hand how life and health are increasingly being put at risk by phenomena such as floods, forest fires and increased risk of landslides.

Fully 24 million people have already lost their homes as a result of climate change, and it is estimated that refugee numbers will increase from the current level of 65 million to 250 million in the run-up to 2050. The work to mitigate the consequences of climate change is essential in preventing an overwhelming refugee crisis in the future.

It is our responsibility to look after our planet for future generations – and time is running out. We have to support our partners in their work to prevent and adapt to climate change, at the same time as encouraging the Norwegian government to adopt an aggressive and ambitious climate policy.

At Norwegian People's Aid, we must take a critical view of its own activity and determine whether it is possible to implement measures to reduce our own climate gas emissions.

Norwegian People's Aid demands:

- That Norwegian authorities adopt an aggressive and ambitious climate policy at national and international level.
- That the Norwegian emergency services receive increased support to adapt in view of climate change.
- That work be done at international level to assure the rights of people forced to flee their homes as a result of climate change.
- That the Norwegian authorities increase support in the aid budget for civil society organisations that are battling the consequences of climate change.