



ORGANIZATIONAL MEMBERSHIP IN LNS

LNS welcomes organizational memberships from both union organizations and other organizations. The steps are in this downloadable 5 - page PDF.

1. Download this PDF.
2. Review Page 2 of this PDF, which describes eligibility, rights and benefits responsibilities, and our suggested fee structure for Organizational Membership.
3. Have your organization pass a resolution endorsing the LNS Mission and Principles. Page 3 of this PDF is a sample resolution that you can use, or you can write your own, as long as it includes endorsing the LNS Mission and Principles. Pages 4 and 5 of this PDF contain the LNS Mission and Principles.
4. Decide what membership fee best fits your organization. We don't want fees to be a barrier, so if this scale doesn't fit for your organization, contact us and we'll work out a mutually acceptable amount.
5. Appoint an individual to serve as liaison between your organization and LNS.
6. Send a copy of your resolution as passed, signed and dated, along with the name and contact information of your designated liaison and a check for your organization's annual dues, by US Mail, to:

MEMBERSHIP

Labor Network for Sustainability
of Voices for a Sustainable Future
PO Box 5780, 6909 Laurel Ave.
Takoma Park, MD 20913



**LABOR NETWORK FOR SUSTAINABILITY
ORGANIZATIONAL MEMBERSHIP**
(approved 091817), fees amended 12-2018

ELIGIBILITY

1. Unions
2. Intermediate labor bodies or labor support organizations or networks
3. Other allied groups actively engaged with labor in climate work

RIGHTS/BENEFITS

1. Unions and Intermediate labor bodies or labor support organizations or networks get automatic representation at the Convergence.
2. Individual Liaison to Unions, Intermediate labor bodies or labor support organizations is eligible to be elected to the Convergence Steering Committee

RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Institutional Allies must endorse the mission and principles
2. Institutional Allies must pay annual dues (see below for suggested amounts)
3. Institutional Allies must designate a liaison that is either an elected leader of the union/organization or a direct report to the highest ranking elected leader
4. Institutional Allies are strongly encouraged to attend national Convergence calls and meetings
5. Institutional Allies are strongly encouraged to contribute actively to the building of the network and campaigns of LNS

SUGGESTED FEES (These are guidelines. If your organization can't contribute as suggested, let us know and we'll work out a mutually acceptable amount.)

- **Unions having fewer than 100 members** - minimum \$100 annually
- **Unions having between 101-500 members** - minimum \$300 annually
- **Unions having between 501-2500 members** - minimum \$500 annually
- **Unions having between 2501-10,000 members** - minimum \$1,000 annually
- **Unions having between 10,000-50,000 members** - minimum \$5,000 annually
- **Unions having above 50,000 members** - minimum \$10,000 annually
- **Intermediate labor bodies such as central labor councils, district councils and statewide or regional organizations** that represent 50,000 members or less = minimum \$300 annually
- **Allied Organizations** (worker centers, ad hoc labor committees, union climate or environmental caucus formations, local units of organizations affiliated with the AFL-CIO, AFL-CIO constituency groups (CLUW, PAW, APALA, LCLAA, CBTU, APRI, JwJ, and other forms of labor organizations) = minimum \$150

Please make your check payable to “Voices for a Sustainable Future” and send it, along with a copy of your organization’s adopted resolution on **Climate Change and the Labor Network for Sustainability**, to:

Labor Network for Sustainability/Voices for a Sustainable Future
P.O. Box # 5780, 6909 Laurel Ave.
Takoma Park, MD 20913
www.labor4sustainability.org

Sample Union Resolution on Climate Change and the Labor Network for Sustainability

Whereas:

1. The labor movement seeks a sustainable future for the earth and its people;
2. Climate change represents a mortal threat to working people, the labor movement, and society at large; Climate change is a major job killer, as demonstrated by increasingly powerful and destructive hurricanes, wildfires, and floods;
3. We have to reduce greenhouse gas emissions fast. The time for slow, careful, cautious approaches is long past, and failure to act will have catastrophic consequences. There is growing public demand and urgency to transition to a clean and sustainable economy;
4. Minimizing climate catastrophe requires a planned elimination of coal, oil, and natural gas emissions, as well as emissions from agriculture, waste, and other sources. It requires a rapid movement toward 100% renewable energy. That requires a planned, rapid construction of renewable energy infrastructure on a massive scale, comparable to the economic mobilization that the U.S. undertook during World War II;
5. As the threat of climate change mounts, the rich continue to get richer, the poor get poorer, and working people get slammed. Fortunately, we can address both the climate crisis and the inequality crisis with the same set of policies. As a labor movement we need to re-center our priorities around these challenges;
6. Climate protection must serve as a means to challenge environmental, racial, and gender injustice as we transition to a sustainable-energy future;
7. Labor's climate policy should insist on the basic principle of fairness that the burden of policies that are necessary for society—like protecting the climate—shouldn't be borne by front-line communities, working people, and the poor;
8. The labor movement must organize and fight for a transition that provides quality jobs and livelihoods for workers and communities that are now impacted and for those many thousands who soon will be; We must also begin to develop strategies to organize workers in emerging sectors of an environmentally safe and sustainable economy; We cannot leave it up to others to determine our future;
9. Full employment and economic security for all must be a central part of a labor program for climate protection and environmental justice because the threat of unemployment pits workers against each other and forces them and their unions to accept any jobs, even those that are destroying their own futures. Climate protecting jobs must provide a decent income, health and retirement benefits, and the basic right of workers to speak, to organize, and to bargain collectively through representatives of their own choosing for both directly impacted workers and front-line communities;
10. It is the mission of the Labor Convergence on Climate (a project of the Labor Network for Sustainability) to be the organized voice within the labor movement for policies that are ecologically sustainable while also advancing the movement for good jobs and a just transition for workers and communities hurt by the effects of climate change and by the transition to renewable energy. These are the principles of the Labor Convergence on Climate;

Therefore, be it resolved that _____ (name of union)

1. endorses the principles of the Labor Convergence on Climate and agrees to become a member of the Labor Network for Sustainability; and

2. establishes a committee on climate change to involve its members in combating climate change and fighting for a just transition, and will appoint an individual to be its liaison with the Labor Convergence on Climate.

**Labor Network for Sustainability/Voices for a Sustainable Future
P.O. Box # 5780, 6909 Laurel Ave., Takoma Park, MD 20913**



Mission Statement of the Labor Network for Sustainability

It is the mission of the Labor Network for Sustainability to be the organized voice within the labor movement for policies that are ecologically sustainable while also advancing the movement for good jobs and a just transition for workers and communities hurt by the effects of climate change and by the transition to renewable energy.

Statement of Principles of the Labor Network for Sustainability

- 1. We seek a sustainable future for the earth and its people.** We believe that all people have a right to make a living on a living planet.
- 2. Climate change represents a mortal threat to working people, the labor movement, and society at large.** Climate change is happening now due to human-induced emissions of heat-trapping gases, mainly from burning coal, oil, and gas. Without bold action now, the warming planet threatens to put prosperity out of reach of millions and roll back decades of development. And the climate crisis disproportionately hurts those who are already most hurt by our economic and political systems: women and people of color. Climate protection is not an optional issue for labor. As the pace of climate change worsens, the labor movement's fundamental principle of solidarity requires us to take the lead on climate.
- 3. We have to reduce greenhouse gas emissions fast.** We have to recognize and achieve the targets for greenhouse gas emission reduction that climate science requires. The time for slow, careful, cautious approaches is long past. The window for taking action grows smaller with each passing year. The current U.S. government plans for reducing greenhouse gas emissions fall seriously short of what most climate scientists say is necessary.
- 4. Minimizing climate catastrophe requires a planned elimination of coal, oil, and natural gas emissions, as well as emissions from agriculture, waste, and other sources. It requires a rapid movement toward 100% renewable energy.** That requires a planned, rapid construction of renewable energy infrastructure on a massive scale, comparable to the economic mobilization that the U.S. undertook during World War II. The market will not provide such a transformation; it will require public planning and investment designed to protect the climate for the public good. Climate protection demands a democratically-controlled, sustainable, demilitarized, equitable, and just economy that uses our resources not for greed or military domination but to meet the needs of people and planet.
- 5. As the threat of climate change mounts, the rich continue to get richer, the poor get poorer, and working people get slammed. Fortunately, we can address both the climate crisis and the inequality crisis with the same set of policies. As a labor movement we need to re-center our priorities around these challenges.**

6. Climate protection must serve as a means to challenge environmental, racial, and gender injustice. The jobs created by climate protection must be open and accessible to those who have been excluded from and discriminated against in the labor force. Climate protecting energy policies must reduce rather than add to pollution in frontline environmental justice communities, and these policies must respect the sovereignty of indigenous communities. The labor movement must support the struggles of those communities.

7. Labor's climate policy should insist on the basic principle of fairness that the burden of policies that are necessary for society—like protecting the climate—shouldn't be borne by a small minority who happen to be victimized by their side effects. A labor plan for climate protection should insist from the outset that any transition away from fossil fuels includes protection for the wellbeing of workers and communities whose jobs may be threatened.

8. Full employment and economic security for all must be a central part of a labor program for climate protection because the threat of unemployment forces workers and unions to accept any jobs, even those that are destroying their own futures. Climate protecting jobs must provide a decent income, benefits, and the basic right of workers to speak, to organize, and to bargain collectively through representatives of their own choosing.

9. We recognize that the changes that are necessary to provide a secure future for people and planet challenge the structures and values of our society. The Labor Convergence on Climate will encourage climate protection advocates to organize locally and nationally in their own unions; encourage climate solidarity with workers around the world; build cooperation among climate protection advocates and caucuses in different unions; educate labor's leadership and rank and file on the realities of climate change; transform the discourse and ultimately the policy of the labor movement; and bring local labor unions and activists into engagement with climate and climate justice organizations and activists in their own communities. As workers and trade unionists we will either initiate change or be the victims of it. We hereby resolve to use our power to reshape the economic, political, and social system in the interests of all the world's people who are threatened by climate change.

Approved by LNS Labor Convergence on Climate Steering Committee, October 20, 2016