

24 April 2017

To Senator Mike Barrett
Massachusetts Statehouse Room 416
Boston, MA 02133
United States of America
E-mail: senatormikebarrett@gmail.com

Dear Senator Barrett,

As Chair of the UNFCCC Group of Least Developed Countries, I would like to express our strong support for the draft bill enabling taxpayer donations to the Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF) of the U.N. Framework Convention on Climate Change you filed in the Massachusetts Senate.

LDCs, that is the world's 48 poorest countries with total population of more than 880 million people, are particularly vulnerable to the adverse impacts of climate change. The LDCF is the only international fund dedicated to supporting our immediate and urgent needs in dealing with the factors that contribute to fragility, conflict and ultimately, migration.

The needs of LDCs to access resources for such purposes have become increasingly urgent due to the impacts of climate change that can already be felt on the ground through changing weather and rainfall patterns, increasingly severe droughts and floods, and deteriorating natural resource base.

Unfortunately, the LDCF has for some time been suffering from a chronic shortage of resources which is why your initiative is particularly welcome to us. A lot has been made of finding sources of innovative finance for international support of climate change project in the developing world, but your idea of establishing a State fund to collect contributions for the UNFCCC LDCF is, to our knowledge, unique and shows true leadership, for which I would like to congratulate you on behalf of the LDC Group.

With our best wishes for the success of your bill, I remain

Yours truly



Gebru Jember
Chair of the Least Developed Countries group of negotiators
Email: ldcchair.ethiopia@gmail.com
Tel.: 251 913 670115