

**Plenary Session I:  
Opening Session  
Tuesday, 1 June, 9.00 – 10.00 h  
Venue: Plenary Hall IKBB**

Internationale Konferenz  
für Erneuerbare Energien, Bonn  
International Conference  
for Renewable Energies, Bonn



## **STATEMENT OF THE YOUTH ENERGY SUMMIT**

**Abigail Jabines**

Good morning.

I am Abigail Jabines from the Philippines, and my friends are Henry from China and Lisa from Germany. We are part of the Solar Generation, an international youth-project of Greenpeace, with more than 80 members representing 11 countries from the northern and southern regions that are here in Bonn.

Climate change is a reality that we are facing now. In the northern countries like Switzerland, Luxemburg and Germany, where Lisa comes from, communities experience extreme heat, which affects food production; flooding, which claims the lives of thousands. In the southern countries like the Pacific, India, China where Henry comes from, and the Philippines, my home land, we are also experiencing the devastating impacts of climate change. Extreme weather conditions like severe El Ninos and long La Ninas; flooding and mud slides; coral bleaching, that affects not only the balance of marine eco-systems but also the livelihood of fishermen; increase in frequency of vector-borne diseases like malaria and dengue; sea-level rise that could submerge island states and take the lives of men, women, and children.

With what we are experiencing, we, the members of Solar Generation are putting our feet forward against climate change and are pushing for renewable energy. Members from different countries lobby to politicians, organize rallies and camps to increase public awareness, participate in direct actions and support each other in raising funds for renewable energy installations. We, the Solar Generation, are doing what we can. Now is your duty to do what you can!

Let this conference be different! Different from Jo'burg and Rio, that exist only on paper. The power of changing our future lies in your hands!

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Do not be afraid to have ambitious targets, targets that are clear and binding, projects that have concrete action plans and time frames. Projects that consider our future and our children's future over profit and short-sighted advantages.

Do not tell us that there is not enough money to invest in 100% renewable energy. If this is a problem, why not shift subsidies from fossil fuels and nukes to renewable energy initiatives?

The success of this conference does not end with the signing of the Bonn declaration. The success of this conference will be measured 10, 20, 30 years after this conference.

Accept the challenge: FULL SPEED AHEAD FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY!

I will not be the only youth representative to give a speech today, but before the other speaker I would like to present this gift, a sunflower as a symbol of our optimism and hope. We hope that this gift will stay in this hall for a week to remind everybody that in whatever you are planning or deciding you are considering the consequences this will have for our future and the future of our children.

Abigail Gay Z. Jabines

24 years old

Solar Generation

Manila, Philippines