

December 14, 2015

Ban Ki-moon, Secretary-General of the United Nations
 Christiana Figueres, Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework
 Convention on Climate Change

Dear Mr. Secretary-General and Ms. Figueres

We send our best wishes concerning the adoption of the agreement to curb global greenhouse-gas emissions and congratulate you on including conscientious consumption as a necessary part of the strategy to reduce carbon emissions and protect our planet.

It's of concern, therefore, that the meals at COP21 were far from "green." A *Financial Times* editorial called the lack of even vegetarian food "disconcerting" for committed environmentalists, and a reporter for The Huffington Post wrote of being unable to find adequate "wholesome" meat-free options during the summit.

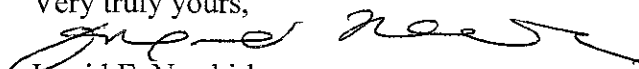
As you must know, the meat industry is responsible for 85 percent of soil erosion in the U.S., and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency considers the farming of animals to be the number one source of national water pollution. In the U.S., more than 50 percent of all water use is dedicated to the raising of animals for food. More than one-third of fossil fuels and raw materials also go toward the farming of animals. The U.N. itself has acknowledged that a global shift toward vegan eating is imperative both for slowing climate change and eradicating global hunger.

On a global scale, farming animals for food releases a substantial percentage of the world's greenhouse-gas emissions. The Worldwatch Institute also points out that "[r]oughly 2 of every 5 tons of grain produced in the world is fed to livestock, poultry, or fish; decreasing consumption of these products, especially of beef, could free up massive quantities of grain and reduce pressure on land."

You have recognized the negative impact that the farming of animals has on the planet, but COP leaders must surely set an example, eating as if they mean business, enjoying only planet-friendly vegan foods during COP events.

It's imperative that COP22 not repeat the mistake of COP21 by ignoring the largest contributing factor to global climate change. May we hear from you that you're committed to making COP22 a completely vegan event in 2016? We're available to provide vegan meal planning assistance. I look forward to your reply.

Very truly yours,



Ingrid E. Newkirk
 President

PEOPLE FOR
 THE ETHICAL
 TREATMENT
 OF ANIMALS

Washington, D.C.
 1536 16th St. N.W.
 Washington, DC 20036
 202-483-PETA

Los Angeles
 2154 W. Sunset Blvd.
 Los Angeles, CA 90026
 323-644-PETA

Norfolk
 501 Front St.
 Norfolk, VA 23510
 757-622-PETA

Oakland
 554 Grand Ave.
 Oakland, CA 94610
 510-763-PETA

Info@peta.org
 PETA.org

Affiliates:

- PETA Asia
- PETA India
- PETA France
- PETA Australia
- PETA Germany
- PETA Netherlands
- PETA Foundation (U.K.)