

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MP Highlights Threat of Climate Change

Julie Morgan MP has attended an Operation Noah rally to show her support for the need to tackle climate change. Julie accepted an invitation from Operation Noah, the Christian climate change campaign, to attend a colourful rally. She demonstrated her support for the campaign's efforts to highlight the need for governments to tackle the threat of climate change at the United Nations Summit in Copenhagen in December.

Julie joined the Bishop of London, The Rt Revd Richard Chartres, Ed Miliband, Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change, hundreds of school children dressed as animals, real alpacas, sheep, goats, geese and rabbits, a brass quintet, Afro-Caribbean drummers and a bicycle-powered PA system for the spectacle right next to the Houses of Parliament.

Ann Pettifor, Executive Director of Operation Noah, said: "Operation Noah welcomes the support of Julie for the UK government to take the lead and negotiate substantial cuts in power station emissions at Copenhagen. If we are to protect the futures of our children and grandchildren, then it is vital that emissions are brought down to zero by 2030 – not 2050."

"The main aim of the Copenhagen summit is to establish an ambitious global climate agreement for the period from 2012. With Julie's support Operation Noah hopes to pressure the UK Government to lead the world in forging a deal that will prevent catastrophic climate change."

Julie said: "I'm happy to support Operation Noah's campaign to ensure leaders tackle climate change urgently at Copenhagen – which is beginning to look like the last chance saloon."

"All these children, and their concern for the threat facing *all* the creatures of the world, really inspired me. If we don't take tackling climate change seriously, it will dramatically affect not just the future of our species, but all species. We must not imagine that being a small, rather wet country in the west of Europe will somehow protect Wales from its effects. If we do not act now, we will suffer the effects of a changed climate and a radically different world."

Commenting on his decision to participate in this spectacle, The Rt Revd Richard Chartres said that "symbolic vocabulary" of Noah and the Ark has a vital role to play in making the abstract threat of climate change something immediate and comprehensible. "Noah saves animals and humans together in a big ship where, if there's a leak in steerage, the first class passengers are going to feel the effects pretty soon," he said. "There are all kinds of resonances here."

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For more information please contact Andrew Howard at Operation Noah on 020 7324 4771, or email andrew@operationnoah.org. Alternatively visit www.operationnoah.org

Notes to Editors:

Operation Noah was founded in 2001 by Christian Ecology Link (CEL) and later became a joint project of CEL and Churches Together in Britain and Ireland. It was the first Christian campaign to focus exclusively on climate change and this continues to be its mission. The campaign was launched at the end of 2004 in response to the mounting concern over the risk of catastrophic climate change. Operation Noah is urging the Government to lead negotiations at the U.N. climate change summit in Copenhagen in December this year for an ambitious cut in global power sector emissions of at least one third by 2020, as a move towards zero emissions from the sector by 2030. Operation Noah is part of the Stop Climate Chaos Coalition.

**For more information: Julie Morgan MP, 17 Plasnewydd, Whitchurch, Cardiff, CF14 1NR
Tel: 029 20 624166 (Constituency) - 0207 219 6960 (Westminster)**