

CHALLENGE CORPORATE CONTROL OF WATER

Members of Congress challenge water privatization

You support a growing movement safeguarding the human right to water



Photo credit: Jay Mallin

(Right, background): Project Coordinator Akili and close ally Akinbode Oluwafemi of Environmental Rights Action meet with Rep. Maxine Waters to discuss protecting the human right to water.

In Nigeria, U.S. Members of Congress are highly influential. That's why when 23 members of the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) sent a letter supporting the "Our Water, Our Right" coalition's campaign to stop water privatization in Lagos, it made waves.

Thanks to powerful organizing with your support, half the CBC signed this letter, conveying the cross-continental power of the movement to protect the human right to water. The letter gives the new Lagos governor an unprecedented level of international support, providing an

"Movements like yours provide us with an inspiring example of democracy in action and are a valuable contribution to the struggle to secure the human right to water."

FROM THE LETTER TO THE "OUR WATER, OUR RIGHT" COALITION FROM MEMBERS OF CONGRESS

opportunity to decisively abandon the World-Bank-driven privatization model and instead implement solutions that will provide clean water for all Lagosians.

The letter also explicitly links the Lagos struggle to campaigns you're bolstering in Detroit and Baltimore, where low-income communities and communities of color are also disproportionately impacted. With more attention focused on stopping water privatization around the world, you're pushing governments to support public water and ensure lifesaving changes.

Learn more: To read the full letter, visit StopCorporateAbuse.org/CBC-Lagos-letter

Worst global corporation of the year?

Each year, we take on the latest inductee into the Corporate Hall of Shame by partnering with allies to mobilize grassroots pressure. Which corporation will we challenge this year? Will it be Shell, a mega-corporation that has pursued drilling in some of the world's most ecologically sensitive areas while spending millions of dollars to block progress on climate change? Or will we challenge repeat offender Nestlé for extracting and bottling millions of gallons of water in California even as residents suffer through a historic drought? Join our allies and partners in taking on some of the world's most egregious offenders in the Corporate Hall of Shame.

Take action: Vote at StopCorporateAbuse.org/Campaigns/Corporate-Hall-Shame



Clear mission + smart planning + nimble action = transformative change

Dear friend,

A year ago, I wouldn't have been able to tell you that today a team of us would be headed to the U.N. climate treaty meeting in Paris to confront and change one of the most powerful entities in the world: the fossil fuel industry. But we are doing just that, thanks to our effective planning model. It allows us to seize opportunities while remaining laser-focused on the mission.

In the last issue of this newsletter, I wrote about how social change rarely, if ever, follows a straight path. Throughout our 38-year history, successes have often come from our ability to nimbly act on what we call "changed conditions."

Last year, environmental organizations working on the climate treaty approached us for help. How could we, together, apply to the climate treaty the precedent we set in removing the tobacco industry from public health policymaking? Understanding that we cannot afford even one more year of stalled action on climate, we jumped into organizing to kick big polluters out of climate policy.

We seize these kinds of opportunities because we are firmly rooted in several guiding principles which do not change, including our mission and grand organizing strategies.

We can't always predict the exact path we will take, but we consistently achieve huge, systemic changes together. Curbing the influence of the world's biggest polluters on climate policy is one of these game-changing moments, and I'm deeply inspired to be part of it with you. Thank you for all you make possible.

Onward,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kelle Louaillier".

KELLE LOUAILLIER | EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

CHALLENGE BIG TOBACCO

New York Times exposes US Chamber of Commerce's deadly agenda

You pressure the lobbying group to stop bullying governments



At the World Conference on Tobacco or Health, HealthJustice's Irene Reyes exposes Philip Morris International's youth-targeted ad campaign, Be Marlboro. In the Philippines, Reyes is a major figure countering tobacco industry interference and promoting effective tobacco control measures.

When Ukraine sued Australia for enacting a powerful tobacco control measure that limits the branding of tobacco products, the world wondered why. Ukraine does not sell tobacco to Australia—it even ratified the global tobacco treaty which enshrines plain packaging into international law. The answer: the U.S. Chamber of Commerce was behind the lawsuit. A report we co-authored with the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids exposed as much.

Prompted by this report, the New York Times launched an investigation, finding that the Chamber bullies lawmakers with intimidating letters and aggressive lobbyists, initiates trade disputes on

the tobacco industry's behalf, and manipulates trade policy to favor the industry. The two-part story sparked such outrage that CVS withdrew its membership in the Chamber.

While this article drew attention to some of the Chamber's worst abuses, it also showed the power of the global tobacco treaty, which you helped secure. Countries like Nepal and the Philippines—where we have worked with governments and allied organizations to effectively implement treaty measures—have stayed strong in the face of intimidation and aggression by tobacco industry front groups like the Chamber.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Rabbis Linda Motzkin and Jonathan Rubenstein

Rabbis Linda Motzkin and Jonathan Rubenstein are spiritual leaders and community activists who have been members since 2014.



How does Corporate Accountability International's mission align with your personal values?

LINDA: What Corporate Accountability International is doing in the world strikes us as being very much in line with certain Jewish teachings that deal with repairing the brokenness of the world. We have

a responsibility to ensure everybody is treated with dignity and that we safeguard basic rights—whether it's access to clean water or a future not threatened by climate change.

Which campaign do you follow most closely and why?

JONATHAN: The water campaign resonates most with me. I work at a not-for-profit bakery operated in our synagogue, and part of it is educational. We talk about the resources we use in food production, like water, and how they're used and misused. Speaking about environmental and food issues is something that's been a part of our teaching for a long time. We connect the abuses of the earth with religious

values, such as our responsibility to respect and care for all of creation.

Why do you support Corporate Accountability International?

LINDA: I like that you not only focus on stopping corporate abuses, but also help enact policies that prevent corporations from doing the same terrible things in the future. I also like that Corporate Accountability International has a really good track record. The campaigns you've taken on have succeeded. Most people of my generation remember the Nestlé infant formula campaign. The fact that you called out a major multinational corporation and made it change blatantly harmful marketing practices was really impressive.

CHALLENGE CORPORATE CONTROL OF WATER

Bill banning parks from going bottled water free stalled

Your bottled-water-free hikes send a strong message

In a move so outrageous The New York Times' editorial board denounced it, the bottled water industry lobbied Congress to pass an appropriations rider that would have stopped our national parks from going bottled water free, effectively preventing them from reducing waste and increasing sustainability. But this summer, you called on your senators to reject the industry's agenda.

The appropriations bill is now stalled—but knowing that bottled water lobbyists will continue promoting corporate

interests, you're generating visibility with bottled-water-free hikes and calls to your representatives, pressuring Congress to vote down the amendment if it is introduced again. Thanks to your support, we're ensuring that our national parks can choose to enact policies that curb waste and protect the environment.

 **Read more:** Learn about the growing bottled-water-free movement in national parks here: StopCorporateAbuse.org/2015-NPS-trips



Across the Northeast, our organizing team inspires hundreds of people, like the couple featured here, to support parks as they go bottled water free.

The successes in these pages are made possible with your support. Thank you!

Corporate Accountability International stops life-threatening abuses of global corporations and increases their accountability to people around the world.

KICK BIG POLLUTERS OUT

You're clearing the way for progress on climate change

Building a coalition to remove big polluters from climate policy

“People in low-lying nations are faced with losing their homes. With so much at stake, we need to enable real solutions by excluding polluters from climate talks.”

HANNAH FREEDBERG | MAJOR GIFTS ORGANIZER

Together, we're facing down the most powerful industry on the planet, one that is threatening our very existence. With your support, we're growing a movement to stop the biggest polluters from sending us over the brink of disaster.

The momentum to tackle climate change is at an all-time high. A few months ago, the Pope delivered a historic

statement that stressed the necessity of taking action on climate change. Then an organization representing 900 Dutch citizens took the Netherlands to court in order to reduce the country's greenhouse gas emissions—and won.

Over the past few months, we've deepened relationships with allies and government delegates to challenge the fossil fuel industry's harmful impact on climate policymaking. We've also generated media coverage exposing the industry's conflict of interest.

Now we're approaching a pivotal moment in Paris where the next round of treaty negotiations will be held in December. Working with brave

government leaders, partnering with groups around the world, and supported by you, we're poised to change the course of history, securing lifesaving changes in the treaty that will rein in the polluters' power.



Godwin Ojo of Environmental Rights Action delivers a call to the U.N. during an action at its climate treaty meetings in June.

BECOME A MONTHLY DONOR

Do even more to protect human rights, public health, and the environment

- > Contact Membership Manager Marilyn Willmoth at 617.695.2525
- > Visit StopCorporateAbuse.org
- > Send in the enclosed envelope



“I started my pledge more than 25 years ago while working as an Infact organizer. My spouse and I continue to donate monthly because we believe in the campaigns. We value fearlessness and innovation in the field of corporate accountability and know what the organization can accomplish with sustained support from its members.”

KATHY MULVEY | FORMER EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Why monthly giving?

- > Your gift works faster and more efficiently to make a bigger impact.
- > You receive insider campaign updates to keep up to date on the influential role you have in creating a more just and equitable world.
- > It's easy to participate, and you help save resources and expenses.

Thank you for your partnership!



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