



THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

3 June 2020

Dear Mr. Pfeffer,

I write to thank you for your letter dated 27 April 2020, outlining the serious environmental and climate change challenges facing the global community. Your passion for conserving and protecting our fragile planet's resources inspires my own work.

I applaud your initiative of drafting an emergency resolution and thank you for sharing a copy with me. I shared a copy of your letter and its attachment with the President of the United Nations General Assembly for his information. As you may know, the General Assembly operates under its rules of procedure and relevant resolutions, which do not allow me to convene an emergency special session of the General Assembly based on your communication.

I can assure you, however, that climate change remains one of my top priorities. It is for that reason that I convened the 2019 Climate Action Summit, and I will continue to work tirelessly to ensure that we take the necessary action, together, to transition to a low-carbon and resilient economy in line with the Paris Agreement on Climate Change.

I share your sentiment that climate action must not be put on hold until we overcome the health and economic crisis posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. That is why I have outlined six climate positive actions for governments to consider in order to build back better – and greener – following this global health crisis.

Let me reiterate that the United Nations will continue to expand and strengthen the excellent cooperation we have built with representatives of the youth climate movement to steer us towards a greener and more resilient future.

Your sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'António Guterres', written over a long horizontal line that extends across the width of the signature.

António Guterres

Mr. Elias Pfeffer
FridaysForFuture - ICC Climate Action
Tübingen