

NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE BAHÁ'ÍS OF THE UNITED STATES

January 25, 2013

To the American Bahá'í community

Dearest Bahá'í Friends,

Every year for the past three years, we have written to you in connection with the Bahá'í International Community's launching—as part of a broad interfaith effort in collaboration with the United Nations—of a Seven Year Plan of Action on Climate Change. We have recommended thoughtful study of the problem to you and have encouraged you to participate in efforts to respond to growing concerns about it that reflect Bahá'í teachings on environmental stewardship and justice. Each of our letters have provided links to aid you in learning about the problem and to inform you how you might carry out related acts of service in your locality. (The letters, filed with our other significant letters during the years 2010–12, are available on the national Administrative Website at www.usbnc.org.)

Two upcoming events will provide opportunities for enhancement of our understanding of the problem—an understanding that can fuel the unified action that will be necessary to effectively address it:

- A seven-week course on the scientific and spiritual dimensions of climate change is being offered by the Wilmette Institute's Online Bahá'í Learning Center, beginning February 1. (Details are available at the Institute's website at <http://wilmetteinstitute.us.bahai.org/>.)
- The National Preach-in on Global Warming sponsored by Interfaith Power and Light (February 8–10) seeks to raise awareness on climate change and to inspire positive action across diverse faith communities. (Registration for the Preach-in and relevant Bahá'í devotional materials and other resources are available at www.preachin.org.)

We encourage you to avail yourself of these and other opportunities for continued learning and reflection on the problem and invite you to direct accounts of your enhanced understanding and endeavors to raise public awareness of the problem to our Office of Public Affairs (at usnsa-opa@usbnc.org). Let us see such efforts as yet another important way we can participate in and add our community's voice to the critical public discourse of our day.

With loving Bahá'í greetings,

Kenneth E. Bowers
Secretary