

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Atlanta's Interfaith Organizations Denounce President Trump's Withdrawal from the Paris Climate Agreement

Atlanta, GA [June 1, 2017] Atlanta's interfaith organizations strongly denounce President Trump's decision to exit the Paris Climate Agreement. This act abandons our nation's commitment and moral responsibility to address global climate change.

Joining with people of faith in Atlanta and around the world, including Pope Francis, the Dalai Lama and others, we recognize our obligation to protect our planet and life on it. Our commitment to this issue is rooted in our values of cherishing the sanctity of life, and our concern for vulnerable communities which are disproportionally and unfairly impacted by a changing climate.

The President's decision disregards vitally important environmental efforts to protect both our planet and the population, with consequences that will felt for many years to come.

Our religious traditions compel us to be good stewards of the earth. As the United States is the second largest polluter in the world, it is imperative that our country lead the way to – and not retreat from - the bold actions needed to ensure a sustainable and healthy world for future generations. The President's decision to exit the Paris Agreement is an insult to our values and disregards our global responsibility.

As people of faith, we pray that the Trump Administration will reverse this decision and demonstrate a greater understanding of the effect of climate change on our country and our world by advancing policies that provide for meaningful climate solutions.

We are committed to redoubling our efforts to advocate for a more just and peaceful society that honors and sustains all Creation. This statement is issued by the following organizations <u>Interfaith</u> <u>Community Initiatives</u>, the <u>Faith Alliance of Metro Atlanta</u>, and <u>Neshama Interfaith Center</u>.

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