

## **RESOLUTION 32-5**

### ***RESOLUTION CONCERNING CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION***

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**WHEREAS** a growing number of studies anticipate that adverse impacts of climate change will have a negative impact on the economy in a number of key areas including agriculture and food security, water resources, coastal zones, public health, climate-related disaster risk management, buildings and infrastructure, and natural resources management; and

**WHEREAS** the New England states and Eastern Canadian provinces are already experiencing the impacts of climate change; and

**WHEREAS** the Climate Change Steering Committee is implementing the recommendations from the *2007 Ministerial Forum on Energy and the Environment* with a focus on energy efficiency and conservation, and adaptation strategies; and

**WHEREAS** the *Climate Change Action Plan* calls for the reduction of GHG emissions and adaptation to negative social, economic and environmental impacts of climate change, within the context of the region's sustainable development; and

**WHEREAS** the majority of the region's population and infrastructure reside in areas that are vulnerable to sea-level rise and increasingly severe and frequent storms, adaptation planning and implementation is becoming an urgent priority; and

**WHEREAS** working in partnership on adaptation would allow the region to understand impacts more fully, share resources, develop sustainable and robust adaptation strategies.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Conference of New England Governors and Eastern Canadian Premiers (NEG/ECP) recognize the importance of adapting to climate change in our region; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the NEG/ECP commits to use and share data and information to clearly identify and further refine assessments of vulnerable areas; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the NEG/ECP Climate Change Steering Committee be directed to improve communications and knowledge sharing on adaptation; and

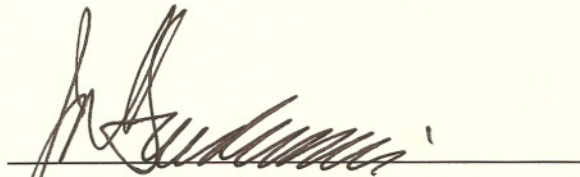
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the NEG/ECP encourages all governments to ensure that information about climate-related risk, vulnerability, and options for adaptation are incorporated into planning and decision making in key sectors, such as agriculture, water, health, disaster risk management, urban planning, coastal development and transport; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the NEG/ECP shall work with appropriate agencies and organizations to promote the establishment of long-term monitoring programs to allow for adaptive management; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the NEG/ECP directs its Climate Change Steering Committee to continue to work with organizations such as ICLEI (Local Governments for Sustainability) to provide communities with the tools to easily incorporate climate change adaptation in municipal planning and decision making.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** Governors and Premiers reaffirm their commitment, as a region, to reduce greenhouse gas emissions 10% below 1990 levels by 2020, and to levels sufficient to eliminate any dangerous threat to the climate by 2050.

*Adopted at the 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference of the New England Governors  
and Eastern Canadian Premiers in Bar Harbor, Maine, on September 16, 2008*



**John E. Baldacci**  
Governor of Maine  
Co-chair



**Shawn Graham**  
Premier of New Brunswick  
Co-chair