

**Fribourg and Lausanne, Switzerland, June 27, 2016**

## **Meeting of the International Alliance of Grandparents for the Climate**

**The International Alliance of Grandparents for the Climate (IAGC) will be meeting for the very first time since it was created in Paris at the end of 2015 during the COP21. This meeting will be held from June 29 - July 1 in Lausanne and Fribourg, Switzerland. Following an invitation from the Grandparents for the climate, Switzerland, the representatives of six organisations from seven countries will come together in order to get to know each other better and coordinate their activities. On July 1<sup>st</sup>, they will meet up with the association Artisans for the transition, an offspring of LaRevueDurable, which also initiated the creation of the associations of Grandparents for the climate in Switzerland, Belgium and France.**

“To defend the children and grandchildren of the Earth in both words and actions and their fundamental right to a liveable future.” This is the mission of the International Alliance of Grandparents for the Climate (IAGC) who are mobilising their forces “in favour of the climate and climate justice”. This coalition is made up of **eight** grandparent associations in the following **six** countries: Belgium, Canada (two), France, Norway, Great Britain (two) and Switzerland. They are all advocating for:

- immediate measures to be taken in each country to rapidly reduce greenhouse gas emissions
- the divestment of public funds in fossil fuels
- eliminating subsidies for the production and utilisation of fossil fuels
- putting taxes on fossil fuels in order to reflect their harmful impact on the environment and society as a whole

In order to consolidate this alliance, the association of Grandparents for the climate, Switzerland, has invited their colleagues to meet in Lausanne and Fribourg from June 29 to July 1. About fifteen individuals representing **six** organisations of **seven** different nationalities will participate in this meeting.

On Friday, July 1, in Fribourg, the IAGC will meet up with the Artisans for the transition. Founded in March 2016, the latter association would like to create venues and opportunities that would enable everyone to take action so that the Paris accords will be respected. It has emerged from LaRevueDurable, which also provided the initial impulse for the creation of three francophone grandparent associations in Europe.

Journalists are cordially invited to participate in the Friday morning meeting, starting at 9.30 am at the Buffet de la gare, Fribourg. As of 11 o'clock, the participants listed below will be available to journalists for interviews on the purpose of their actions as well as on what has been discussed and decided during their two-day meeting.