

Thank you Bishop Tom for your welcome.

I would like to express the Islamic way of greeting to you.

Assalamu alaikom wa'rahmatullahi wa'barakatuh

(Peace, Mercy and blessing be upon you)

“In the name of Allah, Most Merciful, Most Compassionate, God – Whom we know as Allah – has created the universe in all its diversity, richness and vitality:

This year Islamic leaders from around the world issued the “Islamic Declaration on Global Climate Change”^[i].

“Our species, though selected to be a caretaker (*khalifah*) on the earth, has been the cause of such corruption and devastation on it that we are in danger ending life as we know it on our planet. This current rate of climate change cannot be sustained, and the earth’s stability may soon be lost. What will future generations say of us, who leave them a degraded planet as our legacy? How will we face our Lord and Creator?

“We are driven to conclude from these warnings that there are serious flaws in the way we have used natural resources – the sources of life on Earth. An urgent and radical reappraisal is called for.

“We call on all groups to join us in collaboration, co-operation and friendly competition in this endeavour and we welcome the significant contributions taken by other faiths, as we can all be winners in this race

“If we each offer the best of our respective traditions, we may yet see a way through our difficulties.

“We bear in mind the words of our Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him):

“The world is sweet and verdant, and verily Allah has made you caretakers in it, and He sees how you acquit yourselves”

On behalf of the Islamic Council of Western Australia, I congratulate all of you who have come out today to walk together for action on climate change. We are very happy to stand with you in this important cause.

^[i] <http://islamicclimatedeclaration.org/islamic-declaration-on-global-climate-change/>