SANTA'S GREEN CHRISTMAS
Father Christmas battles Climate Change

IT’S ALL MELTING!
EVERYBODY, PULL TOGETHER!

DODDS STRAUSS CHARLES
PCI Media Impact - Tell a story. Change the world
UNICEF
Father Christmas battles Climate Change

SANTA’S GREEN CHRISTMAS

In 2015, more than 190 world leaders committed to 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to help us all end extreme poverty, fight inequality & injustice, and fix climate change. We each have a role to play if we’re going to achieve these goals of a more prosperous, equitable, and sustainable world.

Comics Uniting Nations is a partnership of UNICEF and the NGOs PCI Media Impact and Reading with Pictures, to make the Sustainable Development Goals accessible to the citizens of the world through comics.

New World Frontier is a publishing house that focuses on sustainable development around intergovernmental processes. It publishes papers and downloadable books that advance the global understanding of how sustainable development can bring about change. http://newfrontierspublishing.com/

Earth Media is an independent political and media consultancy that works inside UN negotiations to promote environmental, economic development, and social justice issues, and works outside the UN to communicate effectively to the global public. earthmedia@gmail.com

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Father Christmas
He goes by many names – 'father christmas', 'pere noel', 'san nicolas'...

...a familiar figure quietly sits.

As most of you know, this is a very busy time of year for us at the north pole.

The elves are racing to make the dolls, the lego sets, and the play stations...

In a remote village located far above the 80° northern latitude, in a region not visible from google earth...

Santa's workshop...
"And our team of volunteers, seals and walruses are helping smooth over the snow on the runway of the polar village airfield."

"The reindeer are practicing their rooftop landings."

"And the idea of Santa to get the seals and walruses to smooth out the runway.

I hope he isn't paying them more than us.

I think we have an income inequality issue.

Yeah, it's time we start our own workers union.

Species at Work
Arctic Transport Workers Union
We do diversity right!
But before I pack up the sleigh and set off on this year’s big ride, I want to share with you an update on how things are going.

“I have to tell you that here at the North Pole it has been a stressful year.”

“It started when Dancer hurt a leg early in April and almost had to be replaced in this year’s team.”

“IT WAS DURING A SPRING TRAINING Run, when the ice — which had always been very strong here — turned out to be much thinner than we expected.”

“It’s all cracking!”

“IT’S PART OF OUR NEW TRANSPARENCY POLICY.”

“We’re going to drown!”

“She almost fell all the way through into the Arctic sea!”
Fortunately, she was soon on the mend, but it did give us quite a scare.

I already had been noticing how much the weather has been changing over the past ten years. The polar bears keep pointing out to me that they’ve had to travel much further each year to find solid ice and snow.

And many of them haven’t survived.

“The arctic terns and puffins have been flying away and back at unusual times of the season.”

And the permafrost has been turning to mush – which means it no longer is permanent at all!

Then suddenly a few years ago, big cracks started showing up in the ice where we never had seen them previously.”
And each year that has been making delivering the presents much more complicated. So I decided to find just what was happening. And guess what I found out? I've had to re-route the take-off and landing patterns on all my maps.
Big problems are happening everywhere!

In some countries, the rivers are running dry.

Some farmers aren’t getting enough rain for their crops, so they are having trouble growing enough food for people to eat.

Even those hot-weather animals like elephants, tigers and lions, are struggling terribly as their natural homelands disappear.
So, I started to read some of the reports by the experts (even though they are very long and technical). And all the scientists from around the world have been saying the same thing.

How does he read all those books?

It's a long polar winter.

What else does he have to do?

I mean, he and the mice, they're not exactly spring chickens. If ya get my drift.

It's a long polar winter.

What else does he have to do?

I mean, he and the mice, they're not exactly spring chickens. If ya get my drift.

Is he talking about us?

And when is it spring up here anyway!
No, it's Santa!!

They tell us that all of the people using so much oil and gas and coal all over the world have been pumping loads and loads of carbon dioxide into the air.

That's causing the sun's heat to build up in the atmosphere of the earth. Well, now it's starting to affect everything all over the world -- even the weather...giant storms, intense winds, massive flooding...it's all getting worse!

Look, up in the sky! Is it a bird? Is it a plane? It's super...NO, IT'S SANTA!!
"As I thought about it, I realized I shouldn’t be that surprised."

"Every year, as we fly around the world, the reindeer and I have been noticing how people’s energy activities have been disrupting nature everywhere."

"Over the Atlantic, the Pacific, the Caribbean, and the Indian oceans, we see huge new oil wells."

"That’s bad because trees absorb carbon dioxide and give us our oxygen."

"Around the shores of the Atlantic, the Pacific, the Caribbean, and the Indian oceans, we see whole mountaintops blasted to rubble to collect big piles of coal."

"We see all these holes being dug into the land for fracking, right in the middle of farms and towns."

"And we see what happens when they leak."

"And dirty chemicals being pumped in right where people draw their water from."
But Santa, why are people doing that?

Well, Jeremy, it turns out, it’s to support the things you and I are doing every day! All this racing around in gasoline and diesel powered cars and planes.

All the plastic containers made from oil that we use once and toss away.

“Our friends the birds and fish get ill and many die from eating them.”

“And we’re also turning the oceans more acidic.”

“All the electric power we over-use every day — on so much heating, and air conditioning, and in our latest devices.”
As I look back, it seems to me that we have been dashing to disaster!

I knew it! It was Dasher’s fault!

Who, me?

No, it must have been Comet. He’s always carrying around loads of dirty snowballs, all full of hydrocarbons.

I have to say it put the frighteners under me.

After all, the whole purpose of my life is to encourage hope and bring happiness to the world’s children. (Check my website, it’s in the mission statement).

But if we keep doing things that put more greenhouse gases into the air, we’re going to build a world with very little hope and happiness for children throughout the future.

But what can I do?

I am just an old geezer with a lot of elves and reindeer to support.

Is it even my responsibility?
This is a time for action. So I took a deep breath, and I talked to Mrs. Claus (you know, she’s always very good at helping me think things through). We decided to take it one step at a time.

Make mine a latte!

But then I thought — wait a minute. We have talked about this. You know how to boil water. You can make it yourself...or ask one of the elves to make it for you. Not in my job description!

First, why don’t we check our carbon footprint? That is the number that measures the amount of energy each of us uses and how much greenhouse gases we put into the atmosphere.
And so we started to measure.

Blimey, that’s a lot!

Blimey, that’s a lot!

Blimey, that’s a lot!

Blimey, high quality too!

...And high quality too!

Who’s Blimpey? Is he the new guy?
I mean, if you're flying to deliver presents to all the girls and boys around the world, that takes a lot of reindeer food — and that produces a lot of methane gas that comes from all the reindeer farts and poo.

But that wasn't really surprising. I mean, if you're flying to deliver presents to all the girls and boys all around the world, that takes a lot of reindeer food — and that produces a lot of methane gas that comes from all the reindeer farts and poo.

Why do I always get stuck on shovelling detail!?

Maybe it's because you keep taking Kirby's coloring books and claiming they're yours!!

(And, being in the North Pole, we need a lot of heating and lighting most of the year, when it is very cold and very dark).

Then there is the power we use producing all of the toys.

The next step was to see if we could reduce all those global warming gases we produce.

So I asked a few experts to do an assessment of our energy activities.

And what do you know?

They found that most of our power could be delivered by renewable energy!
So, all this year, we've been doing lots of building work around the grotto. We now have wind turbines, which are powering most of the workshops and the houses.

The young reindeer are having fun racing around them.

“I bought some nifty little electric cars for the elves to move around in.”

“And even at the north pole we have enough sunlight (well, at least for half the year) to use solar collectors.”
These electric cars look so cool!!!

I hear that the latest Tesla beat Ferrari, Lamborghini, and even the Bugatti. Maybe Santa will get us one of those.

These electric cars will massively reduce road accidents.

This is going to be huge!

I hope he doesn’t think he is going to put his name in giant letters on each of the buildings.
So I found a nice carbon offset scheme in Brazil that allows me to balance my carbon emissions by helping people plant trees and save forests to absorb the carbon.

Of course, even with reindeer powering the sleigh, my air travel and methane production is still extensive.

I am proud to say we may not have reduced yet all our fossil fuel uses but we are close to doing so.
As I like to say... where there's a chill, there's a will. And where there's a will, there's a way!

You know, we're all going to have to cut our carbon emissions if we want to stabilize the world's temperature.

'And we had better do it, or I am going to have to replace the reindeer with camels if I am going to be able to deliver presents in the future (and from what I've heard, they're not really into learning to fly).'
So I'd like to ask all you children out there -- and all you adults too... please try to start reducing your impact on the climate. Try to stop using so much energy.

And start using more renewables.

Next, talk to your families and friends and encourage them to take climate action too.

And finally, ask all your politicians to deliver on the promises to act that they all have made.

Please try to start reducing your impact on the climate. Try to stop using so much energy.

Flood
There's one more important thing to talk about. This year, as I've been reading your letters, I've noticed that many of you have not asked for any gifts for yourselves, but instead have asked me to provide help for other children who don't have enough food, or water, or medicine, or schools to go to. And others of you have simply asked for help for your families to stay safe, or for your parents, so that they can hold onto their jobs and your homes.

Now, these requests are not exactly my department, but I will certainly pass them along to the relevant authorities — along with my strong endorsement.

I want to thank you children very much for caring so much about other people. Most of all, I hope you each have a peaceful and wonderful holiday this year.

And I'm very pleased to see you've understood the true meaning of the Christmas spirit. And let's all remember to enjoy what we have, and to share it together.

And let's all try to make it a very merry green Christmas.
Have a wonderful and Merry Green Christmas. My very best wishes to each and every one of you.

Your friend,

SANTA CLAUS

also called...

PÈRE NOËL
SAN NICOLÁS
BAPA NATAL
JULEMANDEN
OTEC VÁNOC
KERSTMAN
GWIAZDOR
DED MAROZ
ДЕД МОРОЗ
ПАТЕРАΣ
ΧΡΙΣΤΟΥΓΕΝΝΑ
الإب عربي الميلاد
父親のクリスマス
GOAL 13: CLIMATE ACTION

Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

To achieve Goal 13, the Nations have agreed to:

- Ensure people are well prepared for hazards related to climate and natural disasters.
- Address climate change issues in their governments’ agendas and allocate resources to combat climate change.

To find out more, go to:

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