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Lauterbrunnen/Grindelwald, 4 June 2009

**JUNGFRAU CLIMATE CHARTER**  
**Paper by Mäni Schläppi, Mayor of Grindelwald**

As the basis for a sustained debate on climate change, occasional discussions at a regulars' table or an occasional closed door discussion between municipal councillors is not enough! - We need a concerted "solution", so that we are constantly reminded how serious things are! This concerted solution, which we want to keep to in the coming years and decades, is called the "Jungfrau Climate Charter"!

The four municipalities of Lauterbrunnen, Gündlischwand, Lütschental and Grindelwald have taken overall control. Together with the original partners, the University of Bern and BKW Energie AG, we have verbally coined the name "Jungfrau Climate Charter". It has three core aims:

1. scientifically supported awareness creation
2. voluntary CO<sub>2</sub> reduction
3. communication on a regional basis and far beyond state borders

Greater cooperation with universities, colleges of higher education and especially our birthday-institute, the University of Bern, will contribute towards creating awareness. Experts, professors and, above all, students have been "studying" climate changes in the mountains for many years. Similar to a clinical thermometer, the effects of progressive air pollution are particularly evident in our valleys and on our mountainsides. Together with the University of Bern, we want to show our support for this "research laboratory in the midst of nature". We belong together – the population, students and experts from around the world – which is why we are jointly signing the Charter.

We must all accept responsibility for these rapid changes! Certainly not only us here in the mountain valleys – but we are also part of it! We are declaring our support for active collaboration in **reducing CO<sub>2</sub>** by signing the Charter!

Together, as a team, we will proceed and, spanning valleys, cantons and states, will confer at a common **Jungfrau Climate Table**. The **JUNGFRAU CLIMATE** solution will accompany us in our endeavours during the coming years. Our actions and contributions should be seen and heard!

To all of you, from agricultural, economic, school and political circles, we mayors, acting on behalf of our municipalities (Lauterbrunnen, Gündlischwand, Lütschental and Grindelwald), offer our hand and provide the platform for concrete action – by signing the **JUNGFRAU CLIMATE CHARTER**, you are with us! This afternoon, Peter Wälchli, I and our municipalities will, as leading partners, be the first to sign the Charter!