Dear G7 Climate Ministers,

In preparation for your meeting in Turin, Italy, this weekend, we would like to draw your attention to green buildings as a solution to climate change.

In collaboration with the World Green Building Council, a global action network comprising 80+ national Green Building Councils (GBCs) and 46,000 organisations, we are writing to you as GBCs representing G7 countries to remind you of the importance of buildings as a solution to deliver a decarbonised, resilient, and equitable future.

Through our national and global work, we understand that the green building sector is in a strong position to deliver meaningful climate action while addressing pressing societal issues. Representing ~13% of global GDP, the deep green transformation of the sector could require less than 0.03% of global GDP and has the potential to lift 2.8 billion people out of energy poverty, reduce carbon emissions by 37% and create US$1.5 trillion dollars of investment opportunities in emerging markets.

As the largest contributing sector to carbon emissions, the built environment can do more and already has climate solutions to deliver carbon-neutral, circular, healthy and safe buildings – but we need political ambition to implement and deliver them at scale.

As the leading organisations working at the nexus of climate and buildings across the G7, we are already collaborating to accelerate action and drive demand for a systemic transformation of the building and construction sector to deliver on the goals of the Paris Agreement.

Our collective work is already implementing scalable solutions, but we need governments to match our ambition through strong policy and regulation. Already this year, we have seen governments take first steps of political leadership via the launch of the Buildings Breakthrough and the Declaration De Chaillot.

As you prepare for your meeting in Turin, we urge you to build on this momentum and fully acknowledge the potential of buildings. We also want to assure you of the collective confidence of our network in supporting the G7 on this journey.

We stand ready and committed to working with governments worldwide to support implementation and keep #BuildingTheTransition together to accelerate a decarbonised, regenerative, resilient, and just future for all.

We wish you a productive meeting, and our collective network welcomes you to discuss any of the above issues in more detail to support your climate leadership.