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*Office of the President*

8403 Colesville Rd. Suite 820  
Silver Spring, MD 20910

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**National Medical Association Condemns US Pullout of Paris Climate Agreement**

Silver Spring, MD—National Medical Association strongly condemns today’s announcement by the Trump Administration to pull out of the Paris Climate Agreement. This is a significant blow to the health of low income communities everywhere as well as to communities of color throughout the United States.

“Almost 90% of African American physicians are already seeing patients who are negatively affected by climate change,” said Dr. Richard Allen Williams, President of National Medical Association. “We must do what we can as a nation to prevent further climate and health disasters such as hurricanes, floods, and wildfires. Low-income people are the ones who suffer the most from weather related disease and death.”

The Paris Climate Agreement is an agreement signed by more than 190 countries that set international goals for reducing greenhouse gases, which contribute to global warming and climate disruption. This climate change increases health threats, including heat-related illness, worsening chronic cardiac and respiratory illnesses, injuries and deaths from dangerous weather events, infectious diseases spread by mosquitoes, ticks and rodents, illnesses from contaminated food and water, and mental health problems.

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The National Medical Association promotes the collective interests of physicians and patients of African descent. We carry out this mission by serving as the collective voice of physicians of African descent and a leading force for parity in medicine, elimination of health disparities and promotion of optimal health.

Contact: [www.nmanet.com](http://www.nmanet.com) Mark A. Mitchell MD [mmitchell@enviro-md.com](mailto:mmitchell@enviro-md.com) 860-794-9497