

Friday December 18, 2009 LIVE from



## GIRL GUIDES TAKE NO TREE, NO ME TO THE WORLD

The Australian Koala Foundation is pleased to announce international Girl Guides Copenhagen delegate Abyilene McGuire has pledged to take the Foundation's message of No Tree No Me to the Guide's 10 million members across the globe.

According to Ms McGuire, the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts has 10 million members across the globe from 145 countries.

During her time at Copenhagen and following, she will be encouraging all guides to fight climate change by protecting a large tree in their neighbourhood.

"This Guides movement is an international and credible voice of young girls and women, and they are leaders in non-formal education.

"Guides educate by doing.

"Looking after, and a love for the environment, and building a better world is one of the core values of Guiding.

"So imagine if these 10 million girls and young women each committed to finding and protecting one tree - that's 10 million trees around the planet.

"AKF research shows that if each tree was the size of a large telegraph pole, it stores approximately 1 tonne of carbon.

"So the Girl Guides could stop 10 million tonnes of carbon being emitted.

In addition to calling for all guides to protect trees, Ms McGuire would like to see the Australian government commit to protecting the koala by listing it as an endangered species.

"For the koala I would like to see the protection of its native forests because it comes back to that simple message, no tree, no me."

- Ends -

Please go to <u>http://www.savethekoala.com/deborahtabartsdesk.html</u> to watch girl guide Abyilene McGuire's video message to the world

## MEDIA NOTE: QUALITY BROADCAST QUALITY B-ROLL AVAILABLE

- The AKF has quality broadcast footage available to download which has Ms McGuire calling for all Girl Guides to protect trees in their home countries. Please go to <u>www.climatetalks.tv</u> and click on "Carbon and koalas collide at COP15" to download the footage. (time code: 5:47 – 6:43)
- Interview opportunities: AKF CEO Deborah Tabart OAM AKF Office: +617 3229 7233 Deborah Tabart's Australian mobile: +61407 750 668

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