



CONFERENCE

SCIENTIFIC SUPPORT FOR THE TRANSITION TO A LOW CARBON ECONOMY

6 MARCH 2012

Radisson Blu Royal Hotel, Hammerichsgade 1, 1611 Copenhagen

Abstract:

Science is the basis of international climate policy. In the fight against climate change, both at international and domestic levels, the development and deployment of low carbon technologies play a critical role. More research is needed to understand the atmospheric system and its interaction with human activities. Scientific support is key to stimulate and catalyze technological and business opportunities in the transition to a low carbon economy.

The Copenhagen Accord of 2009 has recognised the scientific view that to combat climate change the increase in global temperature should be below 2 degrees Celsius compared to pre-industrial levels. The **Durban Platform for Enhanced Action**, as agreed in December 2011, will develop a new Protocol, another legal instrument or agreed outcome with legal force that will be applicable to all Parties to the UN climate convention. The process shall raise levels of ambition in reducing greenhouse gas emissions. The new instrument is to be adopted by 2015 and be implemented from 2020.

The conference **Scientific Support for the Transition to a Low Carbon Economy** on 6th March 2011 will provide a forum for discussions on how scientific advice can best contribute to robust policy frameworks.

The conference is organised by the European Commission (Joint Research Centre and Directorate General for Climate Action) and is under the auspices of the Danish Presidency of the Council of the European Union 2012.

PROGRAMME

08h30 - 09h00 **Registration**

09h00 - 09h40 **OPENING SESSION**

- **Martin Lidegaard**, Minister for Climate, Energy and Building, Denmark
- **Connie Hedegaard**, European Commissioner for Climate Action

09h40 - 10h50 **SETTING THE SCENE**

- **Dominique Ristori**, Director General, Joint Research Centre (JRC), European Commission
- **Jos Delbeke**, Director General for Climate Action, European Commission
- **Uffe Toudal Pedersen**, Permanent Secretary of State, Ministry for Science, Innovation and Higher Education, Denmark
- **Anna Lindstedt**, Swedish Ambassador for Climate Change

10h50 - 11h10 **Coffee break**

11h10 - 12h45 **SESSION I**
SCIENCE AS FACILITATOR OF THE DURBAN PLATFORM

Session description:

How can science and research contribute to the Durban Platform? What should be the priorities for scientists in the future to help mitigate climate change? And how should scientists work together and disseminate their results?

Moderator: **Jos Delbeke**, Director General for Climate Action, European Commission

Speakers:

- Science for global sustainability, **Johan Rockström**, Executive Director, Stockholm Environment Institute and Stockholm Resilience Centre
- Germany's guinea-pig role in the global transition to sustainability, **Hans Joachim Schellnhuber**, Director, Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research
- Climate research and the role of the IPCC in support of the Durban Platform, **Anne Mette K. Jørgensen**, Director, Danish Climate Centre, Danish Meteorological Institute, Denmark and Danish IPCC Focal Point
- Expanding mitigation options, **Frank Raes**, Head of Unit, Climate Risk Management (JRC), European Commission
- Discussion

12h45 - 13h45 Buffet lunch

**13h45 - 14h45 SESSION II
SCIENCE AND INNOVATION TO SUPPORT CLIMATE POLICIES**

Session description:

What is the support science can give to the implementation and further development of climate policy? Which are the right measures to mitigate climate change? To which extent can methods applied successfully in one geographic area or sector be used elsewhere? Where should scientists be looking in the future to support climate policy developments in Europe, individual industrialised countries, emerging economies and developing countries? How can science about climate change be communicated more clearly and effectively without compromising principles of accuracy and neutrality? And how should scientists and policy makers work together?

Moderators: **Carsten Orth Gaarn-Larsen**, Managing Director, Danish National Advanced Technology Foundation and **Jacqueline McGlade**, Executive Director, European Environmental Agency

Speakers:

- JRC's science-based model support to climate policies, **Leen Hordijk**, Principal Adviser, Joint Research Centre (JRC), European Commission
- Science and innovation activities in renewable energy for supporting climate policy, **Kai Sipilä**, Vice President Strategic Energy Research, Technical Research Centre of Finland, VTT
- Cost efficient emission reductions and 'options' across regions and sectors using the global model COMPARE, **Jacob Krog Søbystgaard**, Senior Advisor, Danish Energy Agency (DEA), Ministry for Climate, Energy and Buildings, Denmark
- Discussion

**14h45 - 16h30 SESSION III
DRIVERS FOR LOW CARBON ECONOMY**

Session description:

Ambitious research, development and demonstration are needed to underpin Europe's transition to a low carbon future. The session will focus on enabling framework conditions with a particular focus on Horizon 2020 and public-private partnerships. R&D can stimulate new technology and systems in support of both climate solution and growth. The aim of this session is to identify lessons for future framework conditions and business models.

Moderator: **Humberto Delgado Rosa**, Director, Mainstreaming Adaptation and Low Carbon Technology, Directorate General for Climate Action, European Commission

Speakers:

- Near-term policies for long-term climate goals, **Christian Azar**, Department of Energy and Environment, Chalmers University of Technology
- European climate change research: from FP7 to Horizon 2020, **Andrea Tilche**, Head of Unit, Climate Change and Natural Hazards, DG Research and Innovation, European Commission
- Climate-KIC: innovating for low-carbon prosperity and climate resilience, **Mary Ritter**, Chief Executive Officer, Climate-KIC Knowledge and Innovation Community
- Testing full scale smart grids, **Kim Behnke**, Head of Environmental Affairs, Research and Development and Smart Grid Deployment, Energinet
- Sustainable energy production, **Michael Zarin**, Director, Group Government Relations, Vestas Wind Systems A/S
- Discussion

16h30 - 17h00 CLOSING SPEECHES

- **Dominique Ristori**, Director General, Joint Research Centre (JRC), European Commission
- **Britta Thomsen**, Member of the European Parliament
- **Humberto Delgado Rosa**, Director, Mainstreaming Adaptation and Low Carbon Technology, Directorate General for Climate Action, European Commission

For more information and registration: <https://web.jrc.ec.europa.eu/registration/>