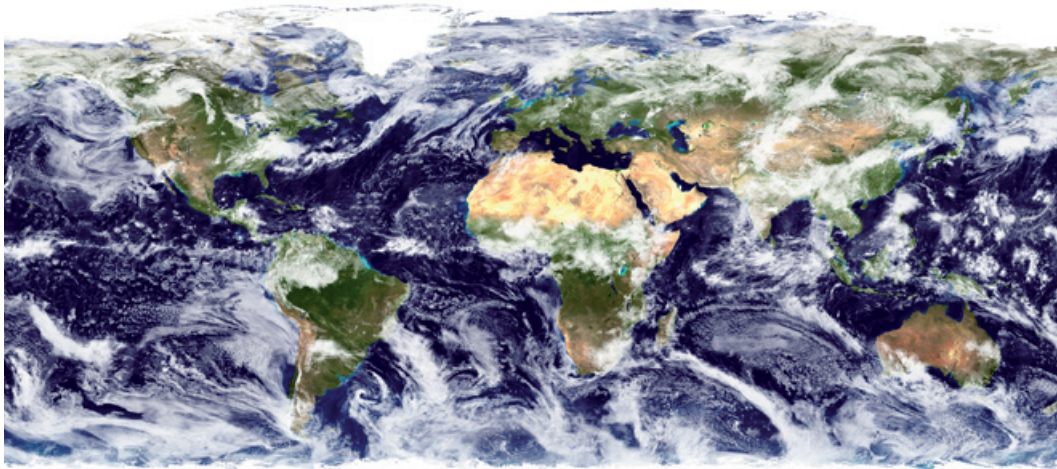




A SUMMIT OF SCIENCE FOR POLITICS

Newsletter for the World's most important scientific congress on climate change



Credit :NASA Goddard Space Flight Center

Strong messages for the Globe's future

The IARU International Scientific Congress on Climate Change is set to be the most important scientific meeting on climate change since the IPCC Fourth Assessment Report was published. With approximately 1,600 abstracts submitted from almost 80 countries to the 58 parallel sessions, the congress has so far accomplished its first goal: to capture the enormous research energy being devoted to climate change these years.

Next week will show if the second ambition can be achieved: to distill this energy down to a set of strong and understandable conclusions that can inspire both politicians and the public around the world.

As chair of the Scientific Steering Committee, Professor Katherine Richardson from the University of Copenhagen has a unique position to get an overview of the material that will be presented. Not wanting to go into any details, she has agreed to give us a few insights into her own expectations for the congress:

"To be frank, I think it will be hard to find the really good news from the natural sciences at the congress. Most of what we expect to be presented in this field will paint a

rather bleak picture", she says.

But fortunately there is a lot of other research being presented, and both the social sciences and the humanities show us that there is a lot of possibility for change. Richardson adds: "The papers presented on economy and the technical sciences also show us, that we have quite a few tools in the box to start that change. So all in all, I hope the message from the congress will be one of hope, despite a bleak background."

The congress results will be presented in two very different publications; A traditional book of findings from the congress that will be published by Cambridge University Press in 2010, and well before that - around 1 June this year - a short syntheses of the overall conclusions from the congress. The syntheses will undergo an international review process before publication. The report will, after agreement with the Danish Government, which is hosting the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP15) in Copenhagen in December, be handed over to policy makers before the COP15 takes place.

Plenary sessions broadcasted to the world

The opening and closing sessions of the IARU International Scientific Congress are made available via live streaming on the congress website climatecongress.ku.dk. All the plenary sessions of the congress are also taped and made available on the website within an hour after the sessions close.

"We have had a lot of interest from researchers, media officials and businesses from around the world that are interested in the congress but cannot be present in Copenhagen.

Now, they will get the chance to follow the congress and get the conclusions in the closing session at the same time as everyone else", says Lykke Friis, Prorector at University of Copenhagen. The material from all plenary sessions will be made available free of charge.

"This congress is really a pivotal event in the runup to the COP15 negotiations. We want the results from it

to be as widely accessible as possible. Our aim is to enlighten and inspire both politicians and the public", says Lykke Friis.

Media companies and others wishing to use the video material on their website can do so for free as long as it is credited correctly with: Video material courtesy of University of Copenhagen/IARU.

H.R.H. The Crown Prince to attend the opening session

H.R.H. The Crown Prince of Denmark will be present during the opening session of the IARU International Scientific Congress on Climate Change on March 10.

Rector Ralf Hemmingsen from University of Copenhagen is happy to announce the Crown Prince's attendance.

"The presence of His Royal Highness underlines the importance of this congress, and will help to draw

The University of Copenhagen is organising the scientific congress in cooperation with the partners in the International Alliance of Research Universities (IARU):

- Australian National University
- ETH Zürich
- National University of Singapore
- Peking University
- University of California - Berkeley
- University of Cambridge
- University of Copenhagen
- University of Oxford
- The University of Tokyo
- Yale University

Star Sponsors of the Congress:



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the publics' attention to the crucial discussions that will be unfolded there. The congress will gather the latest scientific findings on climate change. They will be presented not only to fellow researchers but also to politicians and to the broad public. The Crown Prince's presence helps us to achieve the publics' awareness of the serious climate challenge we are facing", he says.

The Crown Prince and H.R.H. the Crown Princess (originally from Tasmania, Australia) both take a keen interest in science. The Crown Princess is protector for the annual Danish Day of Science and The Danish Youth Association of Science and the Crown Prince is protector for The Committee for Scientific Studies in Greenland and was also patron for the Galathea 3 Expedition that circled the globe in 2006-2007 giving researchers the chance to do unique global studies of e.g. the acidity of the oceans and the carbon circulation in the oceans.

"If I don't know, I will find out"

Almost 300 volunteers from all faculties at the University of

Copenhagen will help attendees to get the most out of the three congress days. Many attendees will meet the volunteers already at Copenhagen Airport on Monday 9 March. Here, they will be able to register and get their participants' envelope and thus skip the queues at the congress site on Tuesday morning.

At the congress, the volunteers will help people find their sessions or help them with any other matter that they need solved. Their motto is: "If I don't know, I will find out".

The volunteers are easily recognizable in their white t-shirts with the congress iceberg logo.

Meet congress organizers online

The knowledge dating website, where attendees for the congress can meet virtually before the congress and book meetings in advance, now offers a chance to meet the people behind the congress. Chair of the Scientific Steering Committee, Katherine Richardson has created a profile.

"This initiative taken by the Star Sponsors underlines one of the key purposes of the congress: to create

new networks and relationships that climate science can benefit from in the coming years. I hope as many attendees as possible will take the opportunity to use the network", she says.

Attendees have received an email with details on how to log in to the network.

Sponsors' Corner:

World's largest windmill maker to announce new R&D partnership

Vestas, the world's largest manufacturer of windmills and Star Sponsor of the IARU International Scientific Congress on Climate Change, will launch a new strategic research partnership with a major North American company at the congress.

Vestas Technology R&D, the wind industry's largest research and development unit, is experiencing rapid growth. Vestas already has research centres located in Denmark, Singapore, India and the United Kingdom, and new R&D units are currently being established in Houston and Boston in the USA.

Vestas develops its turbines in-house, but the company is also increasingly dedicated to collaborating world-wide with leading universities and adjacent industries in the traditional energy and transport industry.

Vestas Technology R&D will announce the new partnership with a major North American company at a press conference during the International Scientific Congress on Climate Change. The press conference will be held on 11 March at 12.25-13.15 at a Vestas site event at the congress venue Bella Center, room 17, 1st floor.

For practical reasons, please register by contacting Michael Holm, Manager, Group Communications, Vestas, on: micho@vestas.com

Plenary Speakers

Dr. Rajendra K. Pachauri,
Chairman of the IPCC

Prof. Lord Nicholas Stern
London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE)

Mr. Anders Fogh Rasmussen,
Danish Prime Minister

Mrs. Connie Hedegaard, Danish Minister of Climate & Energy

Prof. Maciej Nowicki, Minister of Environment, Poland

Mr. Helge Sander, Danish Minister of Science, Technology & Innovation

Prof. Dan Kammen, University of California – Berkeley

Prof. Amanda Lynch, Monash University

Prof. Diana Liverman, Oxford University

Prof. Nebojsa Nakicenovic,
The International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA)

Prof. William D. Nordhaus,
Yale University

Dr. Balgis Osman-Elasha,
Higher Council for Environment & Natural Resources (HCENR)

Prof. Stefan Rahmstorf,
Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research

Prof. Katherine Richardson,
University of Copenhagen

Prof. John Schellnhuber, Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research and visiting professor at the University of Oxford

Prof. Qingchen Chao,
Deputy director general, Department of Science & Technology Development, China Meteorological Administration

Johan Rockström,
University of Stockholm and executive director at Stockholm Environment Institute

More speakers at:

www.climatecongress.ku.dk/speakers

Preliminary Congress Programme

10 March

Theme 1

Exploring the Risks:
Understanding Climate Change

Theme 2

Sharing the Burdens and Opportunities:
Equity Issues

11 March

Theme 3

Reducing the Risks of Climate Change:
Opportunities for Mitigation

Theme 5

Managing the Planet

12 March

Theme 4

Preparing for Impacts:
Adapting to the Inevitable

Theme 6

Mobilising the Populace:
Human Dimensions of Climate Change