

Chair's Summary on Climate Change

The meeting takes note of the latest scientific findings confirmed by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and presented by the speaker, Dr. Rajendra Pachauri. The meeting also takes note of the serious implications for Africa (water stress, agricultural production, health...). Although Africa is the continent least responsible for climate change, it is particularly vulnerable to its effects.

1. Consensus emerged that climate change is a major threat to sustainable development in Africa.

Delegations call for actions on climate change in accordance with the principles of equity and of common but differentiated responsibilities.

2. Overall agreement that a substantial reduction of global emissions is needed.

The Forum underlines the required leadership role of industrialised countries and the need for emerging economies to scale up their efforts to reduce emissions.

Some speakers mentioned that appropriate pricing of carbon will be essential to provide the right incentives to protect the climate.

3. The meeting recognizes the legitimate right of Africa to increase its energy supply in a sustainable manner.

Some speakers mentioned that it is in the global interest that Africa continues to develop and increase clean and renewable energy sources.

- 4. Overall agreement that adaptation to climate change on the African continent constitutes a serious and urgent challenge.
 - The provision of significant additional resources to help Africa adapt to climate change will be needed at national and regional levels.
 Strong support should be given to African countries to improve their capacity to access the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM).
 - We emphasize the need to enhance African capacities in the areas of technological research and innovation, early warning systems, and we support the capacity of African institutions, researchers, development agents, policy makers and communities to help to adapt to climate change.
 - Development partners should systematically integrate adaptation issues into their policies and respective national plans.
- 5. We underline the contribution of African forests, and the sustainable management of its rainforests, to global climate stabilization.

The meeting was informed that certain African countries have announced plans to invest in nuclear energy as part of their energy options.