



INTERGOVERNMENTAL PANEL ON CLIMATE CHANGE



Media advisory
19 August, 2008

IPCC 29th Plenary, Geneva, Switzerland

THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL PANEL ON CLIMATE CHANGE (IPCC) CELEBRATES ITS 20TH ANNIVERSARY IN GENEVA ON SUNDAY 31ST AUGUST BEFORE CONVENING ITS 29TH PLENARY MEETING.

The IPCC will hold an official ceremony on Sunday 31st August to celebrate its founding 20 years ago. The ceremony will be followed by the opening of the IPCC's 29th Plenary, which runs until 4th September. The Anniversary will be celebrated in a 19th century hydro-power station, the "[Bâtiment des Forces Motrices](#)" (BFM), on the River Rhone in Geneva.

The official ceremony will start at 15.00 and feature opening speeches by the UN Secretary General, Mr. Ban Ki-moon; the Swiss Federal Councillor, Mr. Leuenberger and the Chairman of the IPCC, Dr. R.K. Pachauri. The Heads of the IPCC parent organizations, Mr. Michel Jarraud, Secretary General of WMO, and Mr. Achim Steiner, Executive Director of UNEP, as well as a representative of the Executive Secretary of United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), Mr. Roberto Acosta, will also address the audience.

The official opening ceremony will be followed by a press conference in the BFM auditorium from 15.45 to 16.15.

The IPCC is the world's leading scientific and technical body for the assessment of climate change. It was established in 1988 by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to provide decision-makers and the general public with a clear and balanced view of the present state of understanding of climate change.

In December 2007, the IPCC was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize, together with former US Vice President Al Gore Jr. "for their efforts to build up and disseminate greater knowledge about man-made climate change, and to lay the foundations for the measures that are needed to counteract such change".

The IPCC's Fourth Assessment Report (AR4) has been acknowledged as the most definitive and compelling assessment of all aspects of climate change produced by the IPCC thus far. Consequently, it has had a major impact worldwide in creating awareness on the scientific realities of climate change, including among world leaders from across the globe.

Last year's meeting in Bali, Indonesia, of the Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC relied heavily on the findings of the AR4, and its final declaration referred specifically to several conclusions from the IPCC assessment. Now that negotiations are proceeding towards the likely finalization of a global agreement on climate change in Copenhagen in 2009, it is important to see that the major findings of the IPCC Report continue to drive the process forward.

Dr. Pachauri to close the Plenary on Thursday 4th September at a Press conference

Following the close of the Plenary meeting on Thursday 4th September, Dr. Pachauri will brief the press at noon at the [CICG](#) (Centre international de conférences de Genève). He will announce the results of the elections for new officers of the IPCC and provide information on other major items of the future of IPCC work programme.

For more information please contact:

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Media accreditation

Representatives of the mass media – press, photo, radio, television and film – will need to be accredited in order to cover the anniversary celebration and the opening of the Plenary meeting.

Please send the completed application form (see Annex), together with a letter of assignment on official letterhead from the Editor or Bureau Chief, a copy of your press card and a copy of your passport or national ID card to:

United Nations Office at Geneva
Information Service, Room C323,
1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland
Fax: (+41) 22 917 00 73 or 917 00 30
Email: eponomareva@unog.ch

No acknowledgement will be mailed to you. If you have applied during pre-accreditation period, passes will be issued at the meeting site upon presentation of an ID document.

PLEASE NOTE: Incomplete applications will not be processed. Accreditation is free of charge.

Each member of the press accompanying a Head of State, Head of Government or Head of Delegation is also required to complete an application form for accreditation. In these cases, the form must be attached to an official letter from the government concerned and should be addressed to the Chief of the Press and External Relations Section, United Nations Information Service, at the above address. The letter must list the names of the media representatives with their functional titles and affiliation (i.e. news media organization).

For security reasons, each member of the press corps will be required to wear both the UN press pass and a national ID at all times.

Entry and screening procedures

All media personnel are advised to arrive early at the Bâtiment des Forces motrices (BFM) to allow sufficient time for screening. The doors of the BFM will open at 13.00 and the media, particularly photographers and television crews, are requested to arrive before 14.00. Last-minute arrivals may encounter delays. To avoid delay please send your application early.

Visual coverage in BFM Theater

Television crews and photographers can cover the meeting from the floor of the BFM theatre.



To: Security and Safety Section
 Identification Office
 Pregny Building

Date: _____

REQUEST FOR SECURITY GROUND PASS / EXTENSION - *Form "C"*
(To be collected by the Applicant)

Applicant

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Date & place of birth _____ Country _____

Nationality _____ Passport No. _____

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Postal code _____ City _____

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