

verbatim



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“It just shows that we are off the hype curve and into solutions.”

Environmental entrepreneur Shai Agassi commenting on the lack of an official ‘green’ agenda at this year’s Davos World Economic Forum

“I think we have come a long way here. In this, the United States is very committed to this effort and just wants to really ensure we all act together. We will go forward and join consensus.”

Paula Dobriansky, head of the US delegation at the Bali climate change conference

“In a process led by the United Nations, we must create a successor to the Kyoto agreement which ends in 2012. Some additional initiatives from other countries could be useful. But it is important that they flow from the United Nations. For me, that is non-negotiable.”

German Chancellor Angela Merkel

“Existing energy technologies alone will not meet the growing global demand for energy, while also reducing emissions to necessary levels. Ultimately, we must develop and bring to market new energy technologies that transcend the current system of fossil fuels, carbon emissions, and economic activity. Put simply, the world needs a technological revolution.”

US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice

“The consequences of global climate change are so pressing that it doesn’t matter who was responsible for the past; what matters is who is responsible for the future – and that means all of us. The rich nations and the poor nations have different responsibilities. But one responsibility we all have, and that is action. . . action, action, action! It is time to come together in a new international agreement that can embrace rich and poor nations alike.”

Arnold Schwarzenegger, Governor of California

“Climate change policies cannot be the frosting on the cake of development; they must be baked into the recipe of growth and social development.”

Robert Zoellick, President of the World Bank

“If the world is moving towards a low carbon future then those companies that are going to be ahead of the others at arriving at low-carbon solutions will really benefit most.”

Rajendra Pachauri, chairman of the International Panel on Climate Change

“For Australians, climate change is no longer a distant threat. Our rivers are dying, bushfires are more ferocious and more frequent and our natural wonders – the Great Barrier Reef, Kakadu, our rainforests, are now at risk.”

Australian Prime Minister Kevin Rudd

40

percentage of the world’s population which could be affected by the melting of snow and glaciers in Asia — *UN report*

60

percentage of ecosystem services assessed that are degraded or used unsustainably — *GEO4 report*

70

percentage of available water taken up by irrigation. GEO-4 says meeting the Millennium Development Goal on hunger will mean doubling food production by 2050 — *GEO4 report*

30 billion

value of the carbon market in US\$ in 2006, three times greater than 2005. This was dominated by EU allowances worth nearly US\$25bn — *World Bank*

2 billion

amount in US\$ pledged by George W. Bush for next three years for the US’s new clean technology fund. — *State of the Union address*

numbers

100 billion

worldwide investment in renewable energy in US\$. This makes up 18 percent of new investments in the power sector — *report by UNEP’s SEFI*

40

percentage increase in air miles flown between 1990 and 2003 — *GEO4 report*

20

percentage cut in CO₂ emissions proposed by the European Commission in its new climate change package — *European Commission*

1 million

number of jobs which would be created in Europe by a 20 percent increase in energy efficiency — *UNEP ‘Green Jobs’ report*

50,000

number of years during which some greenhouse gases may persist in the atmosphere — *GEO4 report*

34

percentage by which deforestation in the Amazon increased in 2007 compared to 2006 — *Brazilian government*

40

percentage of global energy used in the building sector, which is also responsible for one third of GHG emissions — *UNEP report*