

IPCC Swiss Stakeholder Event: Climate Change 2014 Synthesis Report

Bern, Switzerland

Monday, 3 November 2014

Welcome Address

Thomas Stocker, Co-Chair WGI, IPCC

Her Excellency, Mdm Doris Leuthard, Federal Councillor

Dr. Rajendra Pachauri, Chair of the IPCC

Professor Martin Täuber, Rector of the University of Bern

Professor Qin Dahe, Co-Chair Working Group I

Dear Colleagues and Fellow Authors of the Fifth Assessment Report

Guests

Ladies and Gentlemen!

Human influence on the climate system is clear.

This is the first statement of the Synthesis Report of the IPCC which was presented to the public yesterday in Copenhagen, after more than 5 years of hard work by more than 800 scientists around the world.

"Human influence on the climate system is clear" is also the affirmation which his Excellency, the UN Secretary General, Ban Ki-Moon, opened the Press Conference and addressed the world yesterday in Copenhagen.

To me this means that the message of the scientists has reached the policymakers because this sentence has been approved by the delegates of the member governments of the IPCC when approving the contribution of Working Group I "The Physical Science Basis", and once again, in a much more comprehensive context a few days ago in Copenhagen, when the Synthesis Report and its Summary for Policymakers were deliberated.

The purpose of the meeting today is to bring the report and a few elements to you, the stakeholder and the public. We will do this in a way that is understandable and we therefore focus on the four themes of the Report: Changes and their Causes, Risks and Impacts, Options of Climate Policy, and for the first time, Ethics in Confronting Climate Change.

In this way, we want to provide you with the latest scientific knowledge required to take informed decisions.

We all know, Madame Leuthard, that you and your colleagues around the world carry a large responsibility when you work towards a binding agreement on Climate Change that will hopefully be agreed in December next year in Paris.

With this, I would now like to invite Professor Martin Täuber, the Rector of the University of Bern, to make his welcome remarks.