

A Scientific Update

Presenters: Peter Cox, Deepak Rughani, Peter Wadhams, David Wasdell

> Proceedings of the Westminster Briefing hosted by the All Party Parliamentary Climate Change Group on 6th June 2007

Feedback Dynamics and the Acceleration of Climate Change

The Westminster Briefing

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The Westminster Briefing

Introduction

The **Westminster Briefing** was commissioned by the Chairman of the All Party Parliamentary Climate Change Group to provide the best available scientific update for those currently involved in policy formulation.

It was presented in a packed Committee Room of the House of Commons on the 6^{th} June 2007. The date coincided with the Annual Environment Day of the United Nations, and with the opening of the G8 Summit in Heiligendamm under the Presidency of the German Chancellor, Angela Merkel. Proceedings were filmed and transcribed. The fully illustrated presentations are reproduced verbatim apart from minor editorial polishing for clarity of meaning and grammatical coherence. The style retains the immediacy of the event which would otherwise have been lost in the more usual format of heavily referenced academic papers.

The Summary for Policy Makers was written in Madrid during the Annual Meeting of the Club of Rome. It was completed on the eve of the Special Meeting of Heads of State convened in New York by the General Secretary of the United Nations to address the current crisis of Climate Change and to attempt to overcome some of the difficulties besetting the process of International negotiations prior to the meeting to be held in Bali in December 2007.

"The Westminster Briefing" is published by the All Party Parliamentary Climate Change Group in association with the Meridian Programme. Colin Challen, Chair of the APPCCG provided the Foreword while David Wasdell, Director of the Meridian Programme, wrote the 'Summary for Policy Makers". Collin Challen and David Wasdell shared the editorial responsibility between them.

Two book launches were held. The first, on 16th November, in Westminster Central Hall, at "The Sky's the Limit" conference jointly sponsored by the World Future Council and Be the Change. The second, on 19th November, in the House of Commons was sponsored by the All Party Parliamentary Climate Change Group. It coincided with the presentation to the House of the Climate Bill by the Prime Minister, Gordon Brown.