



CONFERENCE OF PARLIAMENTARIANS OF THE ARCTIC REGION



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PERMANENT MISSION OF NORWAY
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

The Arctic – A Barometer for Global Climate Change

4 June 2008 at 1:15 – 3:00 PM
Trusteeship Council

Ice and snow are important components of the Earth's climate system. They are particularly sensitive to global warming. Since the 1980s glaciers worldwide have shrunk dramatically. Temperatures in the Arctic are increasing at almost double the global rate. The Arctic is a barometer for global Climate Change. The International Polar Year is expected to provide new and groundbreaking scientific knowledge. What are the challenges facing the Arctic? How can effective responses be developed? How does the region's population address current challenges?

Dr Robert Corell will address Climate Change from an Arctic perspective in a globalised world, and introduce the International Polar Year. He is the Director of the Global Change Program at the H. John Heinz III Center for Science, Economics and the Environment.

Ms Juliane Henningsen will introduce the role of the indigenous peoples in the Arctic cooperation, and reflect on climate change and its consequences for the Inuit People living in Greenland. She is a Danish Member of Parliament, representing Greenland.

Ms Darcie Matthiessen will introduce the role of the indigenous peoples in the Arctic cooperation. She is climate change coordinator at Arctic Athabaskan Council.

Dr Ahmed Djoghlaf will present how Arctic biodiversity is influenced by climate change. He is the Executive Secretary of the UN Convention on Biological Diversity.

Ms Annebeth Rosenboom will present the scope of the UN Annual Treaty Event 2008. She is the Chief of the Treaty Section, Office of Legal Affairs, UN.