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Asia's Emerging Response to Climate Change *An international conference*

Organized by
The Nation/Krungthep Turakij

Supported by
Asia News Network

Sponsored by
Ministry of Energy, Thailand
Bangkok Airways, Mitr Phol, DuPont

8.30-17.00 hours
Friday, November 23, 2007
Inter-Continental Hotel
Bangkok

Increasing attention by policy makers and industry to global warming is beginning to stimulate more widespread efforts, aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Across Asia, like the world as a whole, the responses has varied considerably, largely commensurate with wealth. But rich or poor, substantial social and economic benefits may be in the offing for those who choose to more aggressively join the international effort to reduce carbon emissions.

Furthermore, even were such emissions eliminated entirely today, CO₂'s 100-year lifespan already in the atmosphere assures that impacts will nonetheless occur for decades to come. Coastal and delta habitat areas will be particularly vulnerable to the effects of sea level rise and meteorological changes, both permanent, and in the form of increased vulnerabilities to extreme weather related natural disasters.

Asia is forecast to have the greatest number of people affected by sea level rise, especially those populations living in threatened coastal areas of China, India, Bangladesh, Vietnam, the Philippines, Indonesia and Thailand. And more urgent than sea level rises, however, is the change in intensity and distribution of extreme weather events. Whether it's shortened rainy seasons but with

heavier downpours and more intensive storm events, or more frequent and more intensive typhoons forming at lower elevations and charting new paths, scientists warn that coastal and river communities may face greater challenges in the very near future.

So what's the status of the Asian response to global warming? What are the benefits to incorporating global warming into current national and metropolitan planning? What would be the energy policy of the future. What forms of assistance and cooperation is emerging? What policies are/are not in place, why and why not? What are the role of the private sector and individuals. This landmark one-day conference in Bangkok aims to bring some of the stakeholders to discuss these and pertaining issues.

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| 0800-0855 | Registration |
| 0900-0905 | Welcome remarks: Dr. Prasert Prasartthong-Osoth , President and CEO, Bangkok Airways Co Ltd |
| 0905-0920 | Inaugural address: H.E. Prof Dr Yongyuth Yuthavong , Minister of Science and Technology and the concurrent Minister of Environment and Natural Resources <i>Asia's Challenges to Climate Change</i> |
| 0920-0945 | Keynote address: H.E. Dr. Han Seungsoo , United Nations' Special Envoy for Climate Change, Former Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Korea <i>Sustainable Tracks on Global Responses to Climate Change</i> |
| 0945-1005 | Coffee Break |
| 1005-1200 | Session I: Climate Change in Asia Panel: Dr. Yukihiro Nojiri , Manager, Greenhouse Gas Inventory Office, Japan <i>Supercomputer simulation of how the world, particularly Asia, is gradually heating up throughout the 21st century</i> Dr. Brahma Chellaney , Professor, Centre for Policy Research, New Delhi, India <i>On the Frontline of Climate Change: Asia and the Security Ramifications</i> |

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| | <p>Dr. Anond Sanidvongs, Director, Southeast Asia's Global Change System for Analysis, Research and Training Centre (START) <i>Urgent challenges and adaptation measures for Thailand and Mekong region</i></p> <p>Dr. Louis Lebel, Director, Unit for Social and Environment Research, Chiang Mai University, Thailand <i>Social justice implications of climate change</i></p> <p>Moderator: Mr. Mahfuz Anam, Chairman of Asia News Network and Editor-in-Chief, the Daily Star, Bangladesh</p> |
| 1200-1300 | Lunch |
| 1300-1425 | <p>Session II: Outlook on Asia's Energy, Environment and Industry under Climate Change Paradigm''</p> <p>Keynote address: H.E. Dr Piyasvati Amranand, Minister of Energy, Thailand <i>Energy options for the future</i></p> <p>Mr. Lu Xuedu, Deputy Director-General, Office of Global Environmental Affairs, Ministry of Science and Technology, China <i>China's agenda in fighting climate change</i></p> <p>Mr. Montri Simagrai, Managing Director, Du Pont (Thailand) Ltd <i>Beyond Climate Change: A Global Company Perspective</i></p> <p>Moderator: Mr. Ravindra Kumar, Editor, The Statesman, India</p> |
| 1425-1545 | <p>Session III: Mega Cities under Seize?</p> <p>Keynote: H.E. Apirak Kosayodhin, Governor, Bangkok Metropolitan Administration, Thailand <i>Urban Planning: how to live under climate change in Bangkok</i></p> <p>Panel: Dr. Hansjürg Leibundgut, Professor of Building</p> |

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| | <p>Services at the Institute of Building Technology, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, and Member of Technical Competence Center of the Holcim Foundation for Sustainable Construction, Switzerland <i>A paradigm shift for architects and contractors</i></p> <p>Mr. Christopher Seeley, City Director, Bangkok, Clinton Climate Initiative, William J Clinton Foundation <i>International networking of mega cities: strategy</i></p> <p>Moderator: Veenarat Laohapakakul, anchor and commentator, Nation Television</p> |
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| 1545-1600 | Coffee break |
| 1600-1700 | <p>Session IV: What's next? Leadership into Action</p> <p><i>Panel:</i></p> <p>Dr. Sakarindr Bhumiratana, President, National Science and Technology Development Agency, Thailand <i>Business Opportunities from R&D</i></p> <p>Mr. Andreas Hardeman, Assistant Director, Aviation Environment, International Air Transportation Association, Geneva, Switzerland <i>Zero emission and impacts on travel industry</i></p> <p>Dr. Pipat Weerathaworn, Director, Mitr Phol Sugarcane Research Center, Thailand <i>Climate change: opportunity for business diversification</i></p> <p>Dr. Philip Yu, Environmental & Applications Engineering Director. TRANE Corp, Asia <i>Global warming: stimulus for energy efficiency technologies</i></p> <p>Moderator: Kavi Chongkittavorn, Assistant Group Editor, The Nation</p> <p>Close</p> |
| 1700 | |

All speakers are confirmed

Asia News Network is the world's most active newspaper alliance with 16 member newspapers in 14 countries. The alliance was founded in 1998 to provide avenues for cooperation among Asian press under the motto "We Know Asia Better". The members are China Daily, Yomiuri Shimbun and Daily Yomiuri (Japan), The Island (Sri Lanka), The Korea Herald, The Straits Times (Singapore), The Nation (Thailand), Vietnam News, The Daily Star (Bangladesh), the Philippine Daily Inquirer, The Jakarta Post (Indonesia), The Star and Sin Chew Daily (Malaysia), The Kathmandu Post (Nepal) and Vientiane Times (Laos). Our website is www.asianewsnet.net.

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