

Good morning everyone,

It was a pleasure to be contacted again by my good friend Margo Thorning from the International Council for Capital Formation to be part of this seminar organised by themselves as well as ENEL and the Belgian-Chinese Chamber of Commerce. I have to admit that so far, all the seminars organised have provided us with the opportunity to discuss in depth important climate change issues between all stakeholders and I believe this one will live up to the standards set by past meetings.

Last year, we held a very interesting exchange about the Kyoto Protocol, with which we, Members of the European Parliament, are very familiar. This years' subject, I am sure, will be highly interesting as we will get to hear the "other side" of the story. Indeed, Kyoto signatories tend to discard alternative options to tackle climate change and I cannot help but feel that information between "sides" is not as significant as it should be.

The European Union has a very different approach to economic growth, energy and environmental issues compared to the United States and the Asia-Pacific countries. While the EU has opted for a cap system on emissions as part of the Kyoto Protocol, the Asia-Pacific Partnership focuses primarily on innovation and technological breakthroughs as means to boosting economic growth and reducing Greenhouse Gas' emissions. I must admit that I have personal reservations on the European model for fighting global warming as it stands at the present because I think it does not take enough into consideration the possible economic consequences of current policies. World renowned scientists are raising justified concerns on Kyoto as we saw in the letter addressed recently to the Canadian Prime Minister asking him to reconsider Canada's position.

But whatever doubts we have regarding one approach or the other, I cannot stress enough the importance of reaching a global agreement on energy related issues. Indeed, our efforts could have very limited impact if not everyone is on board. We should not mistake taking a different approach with indifference and, in the process, alienate key actors from our common battle. It is therefore imperative that we learn from each other's policies and create a real forum where best practices can be exchanged. For this reason, today's meeting is a great opportunity and I am looking forward to hearing what our distinguished speakers will present to us.

With no further delay let me introduce our first guest.

Ponentes

Dr. Harlan L. WATSON is Senior Climate Negotiator and Special Representative at the U.S. Department of State. In this capacity, he served as alternate head of the U.S. delegations at the Seventh (COP-7), Eighth (COP-8), Ninth (COP-9) and Tenth (COP-10) Sessions of the Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change in Marrakech, New Delhi, Milan, and Buenos Aires respectively.

Dr. Watson heads the National Security Council Policy Coordination Committee Working Group on Climate Change, and leads U.S. delegations to meetings of the Subsidiary Bodies of the Framework Convention and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). Dr. Watson joined the Department of State's Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs in September 2001. He previously served for more than 16 years on the U.S. House of

Representatives' Committee on Science, including over 6 years as Staff Director of the Committee's Subcommittee on Energy and the Subcommittee on Energy and Environment.

Earlier, Dr. Watson served as Science Advisor to Secretary of the Interior and as Principal Deputy and Deputy Assistant Secretary of Interior for Water and Science. He was a professional staff member of the U.S. Senate Committee on Governmental Affairs, Subcommittee on Energy, Nuclear Proliferation, and Federal Services.

Mr. Sangkyu LEE is Minister and Deputy Chief of Mission at the Korean Embassy and Korean Mission to the European Union. He held a series of important positions at various other Korean Embassies. In particular, he was Counsellor in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, and at the Korean Mission to the UN Secretariat and Other International Organizations in Geneva, Switzerland. He was also First Secretary at the Korean Embassy in Singapore and Second Secretary at the Korean Embassy in Washington D.C.

Mr. Lee joined the Ministry for Foreign Affairs in 1980 where he held a series of important internal positions. He was Deputy Director-General for APEC, Multilateral Trade Bureau between February 2004 and February 2006. Previously, he worked as Director, Economic Organizations Division, and as Deputy Director, North American Trade Division.

Mr. Lee holds a BA in Political Science from the Seoul National University. He was a fellow in Foreign Service at Georgetown University, Washington D.C.. Furthermore he holds a MIPP from the School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS), Johns Hopkins University, Washington D.C.

A graduate Electrical Engineer from Delhi College of Engineering, University of Delhi, **Dr. R.K. SETHI** holds an M.Tech in Energy Studies from IIT Delhi and an MBA with specialisation in Financial Management. Dr. Sethi has more than 20 years experience in the power sector in the field of design, engineering and coordination of thermal and gas based power stations.

Dr. Sethi has worked in the field of Climate Change and Clean Development Mechanism for the last five years as Director (Climate Change) in the Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India. He was instrumental in setting up the National CDM Authority, India's Designated National Authority, and is presently the Member Secretary of the Authority. He is also a Member of the CDM Executive Board of the UNFCCC and the Chairman of the Meth Panel of the CDM Executive Board.

Mrs. Alison BURROWS is the Deputy Head of the Australian Mission to the EU in Brussels. She has worked on an extensive range of trade issues. Before her posting to Brussels, she was Assistant Secretary of the

Agriculture and Food Branch in the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT). She was the lead negotiator on agriculture for the Australia - United States Free Trade Agreement negotiations in 2002-2003. She has also worked on the WTO services negotiations; APEC; and bilateral trade relations with the United States and the European Union.

Mrs. Burrows joined the Department of Foreign Affairs in 1984, and has also worked in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet. She has had three previous overseas postings with DFAT: Manila, Suva and Rome.

As Director responsible for “Industrial policy and economic reforms” in DG Enterprise & Industry at the European Commission, **Mr. Gert Jan KOOPMAN** and his team, which includes a “Lisbon task force”, are providing strong support for the renewed Lisbon strategy.

From 1995 to 2004, Gert Jan Koopman advised Commissioner Neil Kinnock, initially as a Member of his Cabinet with responsibility for Transport and later as Head of Cabinet when Mr. Kinnock was Vice-President for Administrative Reform.

Mr. Koopman studied economics and Latin and Greek at the University of Amsterdam and worked as a Researcher and Policy adviser for the University of Utrecht and the CPB Netherlands Bureau for Economic Policy Analysis before joining the European Commission’s Directorate General for Economic and Financial Affairs.