

verbatim

Danish Climate and Energy Minister Connie Hedegaard

“Now the United States and all other countries have to get concrete about how to deal with the climate challenge until 2020. This will be the litmus test of the commitment. But as Todd Stern said in his speech: The US is glad to be back in the negotiations. For my part I can assure you the delight is mutual.”

Kenyan Vice-President Kalonzo Musyoka speaking at the East African Health and Scientific Conference in March 2009

“Climate change is not only an environmental issue, but clearly a development issue with a direct bearing on poverty reduction, food security, economic growth, health, human rights, governance and equity.”

Marie-Antoinette Alexis, Mayor of Victoria, Seychelles at a Mayor’s meeting on climate change at UN-HABITAT on 26 February 2009

“All countries must work together to combat climate change. In the Seychelles, our 116 islands are on the front line. We can lose our beaches, our tourism, our land and our way of life, if something is not done quickly.”

Zhang Guobao, head of the Chinese National Energy Administration

“We should keep a close watch on the development of cutting-edge (new energy) technologies the world over and invest more to improve research and development capabilities.”

US Climate Change Envoy Todd Stern, addressing the 2,600 delegates at the March-April climate change talks in Bonn

“The science is clear, the threat is real, the facts on the ground are outstripping the worst-case scenarios. The cost of inaction or inadequate action are unacceptable. America itself cannot provide the solution, but there is no solution without America.”

Indian students from Lok Sabha province in a letter to political parties and top leaders on March 6

“We are aware that climate change will have a severe impact on future generations. To keep this world liveable, it is extremely important that we start using green energy sources like solar energy, wind energy, biomass etc and stop wastage of water and electricity.”

Dr Anthony Patt, International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis commenting on the possibility that solar panels in the Sahara could power all of Europe

“North Africa could supply Europe all the energy it needs...the sun is very strong there and it’s very reliable.”

UN Secretary-General, Ban Ki-moon at Delhi Summit on Sustainable Development on 5 February 2009

“We should not argue who is more responsible, who is less responsible, who should do more... Climate change is a common, shared responsibility.”

Nobel Prize Winner Rajendra Pachauri, the Chairman of the Intergovernmental Panel discussing his campaign to turn Mumbai students into ‘green warriors’

“We want to show children what small steps, such as conserving power by switching off the lights and fans, can do,”