



Press release October 27, 2009

## **Club of Rome Amsterdam Declaration calls for urgent action to Copenhagen and beyond!**

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The Club of Rome calls for urgent action to avert the growing risk of catastrophic climate change. The most recent scientific data presented to the Assembly by the world's top climate scientists demonstrate the accelerating impacts of climate change on the natural systems of the planet.

The Club of Rome insist that responsibility for care in the use of energy and resources, responsibility for the environment and social inclusion are not simply costs to the economy, but investments in the future of humanity. Governments have directed trillions of dollars to stabilize the financial system: the Club of Rome calls for the required levels of finance to salvage the future of the planet.

The highlights of the Amsterdam Declaration are:

- To adopt legally binding agreements to achieve a stable climate with atmospheric concentrations of CO<sub>2</sub> not exceeding 350 ppm.
- To establish financial mechanisms, including a carbon market, that will enable countries, companies and communities to reduce their net carbon emissions to the levels required.
- To accelerate support for adaptation and humanitarian assistance in developing countries as an integral component of national development so as to reduce the impacts of climate change.
- To promote the development of new models and strategies for growth, development and globalization, which place a real value on natural capital and ecosystems services – including the removal of CO<sub>2</sub> from the atmosphere.
- To agree upon an international study, to be concluded within one year, which will propose how the framework of international policies and institutions must be adapted to meet the connected, systemic challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.
- The finance industry has to move from fast money to slow money.

The declaration is the outcome of the Global Assembly of the Club of Rome in Amsterdam, October 26 and 27 and was presented to Mr. Job Cohen mayor of Amsterdam.

Martin Lees, Secretary General of the Club of Rome commented:

“Climate science confirms that climate change is accelerating and the poor throughout the world are already paying the price. Governments in Copenhagen must recognize the urgency for immediate action and united efforts to address the global challenges which threaten the future of humanity”

Wouter van Dieren, Director of Club of Rome, member of the Club of Rome commented:

“The finance industry must be converted into an instrument to promote ethical, equitable and sustainable world development. Banks and businesses must increasingly see their role as providing services to society: we must move from fast money to slow money. Insider trading must be prosecuted more severely as organized crime; corruption must be strongly repressed, and tax evasion through off-shore trusts and foundations must be stopped by disclosing the beneficiaries; speculation with essential commodities such as oil and food must be disallowed. Corporate incentives for bankers and money managers to seek high-risk, short-term returns should be discouraged.

For further information: see [www.clubofrome.at/2009/amsterdam](http://www.clubofrome.at/2009/amsterdam)