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Press Release

UNIC/210 22 October 1999

Climate Change and You

Panel Discussion to Review Scientific Assessment of Climate Change Issues 28 October, 8.00 p.m., University of Bonn

BONN, 22 October (UNFCCC) -- From 25 October to 5 November the international climate change community will come to Bonn. Some 5,000 people representing their governments, intergovernmental and environment organizations, the private sector as well as media will arrive in the city. Their aim is to address the issues of climate change and discuss and negotiate the necessary measures to be taken to protect the global climate.

The probability that climate change is a reality has been under discussion for some 20 years as scientists have collected data on the interaction between human activities and the global climate. At the international level, the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) created the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) to study the issue in 1988. Since then, more than 2,500 scientists have worked together to provide policymakers with relevant data and information which is published in their assessment reports.

As climate change is a critical issue today and for the future, the Climate Change Secretariat (UNFCCC) with the support of IPCC, is organizing a presentation and panel discussion on the work of IPCC and its published assessments. This will be an opportunity to learn first hand what is being done to further international understanding of the issues.

The panel will be comprised of leading scientists from the IPCC and will be chaired by Bob Watson, Chairmen of IPCC and director of the environment department of the World Bank in Washington, DC.

The panel discussion will take place on <u>Thursday, 28 October, at 8.00 p.m. at the</u> <u>University of Bonn, Aula, Regina-Pacis-Weg 3</u>. The panel discussion will be public and will be held in German and English with interpretation.

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