



**Fifteenth Session of the Conference of the Parties to the
United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change**

**Fifth Session of the Conference of the Parties serving as
the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol**

Copenhagen, Denmark, 7-18 December 2009

Opening of COP15

Pre-Conference Press Briefing

by
Yvo de Boer,
Executive Secretary,
United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

Sunday, 6 December, at 2:00 p.m.

in Press Conference Room 1 (Auditorium 15),

to be followed by
Technical Briefing on Media Arrangements
by the Media Coordination Team

Opening ceremony

The Fifteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP15) and the Fifth Session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol will be opened in Plenary Tycho Brahe (Hall A), on **Monday, 7 December, at 10:00 a.m.**

The opening ceremony will start with a cultural segment offered by the Host Government of Denmark. (Details will be available on www.culturalsegment.cop15.dk.)



Speakers at the opening ceremony will include Lars Loekke Rasmussen, Prime Minister of Denmark; Ritt Bjerregard, Mayor of Copenhagen; and Rajendra Kumar Pachauri, Chairman of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).

Outgoing COP14 President, Maciej Nowicki will then open the fifteenth session of the Conference of the Parties, to be followed by the election, by acclamation, of COP15 President Connie Hedegaard (Denmark), who will then address the Conference. UNFCCC Executive Secretary Yvo de Boer will also deliver a statement.

Special Access Tickets (Print Press)

In view of the high number of participants, access to the opening of COP 15 in Plenary Tycho Brahe will be restricted for all participants by means of special access tickets. There will be 20 access tickets for print press media who want to follow the opening in the plenary hall. Tickets will be distributed on Sunday, 6 December following the Technical Briefing by the Media Coordination Team on a first-come-first-served basis.

Representatives of the print press media, radio broadcasters and news agencies can follow the opening on closed-circuit television (CCTV) monitors in the Media Centre and throughout the conference building.

Coverage of opening ceremony (TV and Photographers)

A restricted pool of 20 TV cameras and 10 press photographers will have access to the plenary. Due to the limited space, no other television crew or press photographer can enter the room during the opening ceremony. Pool cards will be distributed on Sunday, 6 December following the Technical Briefing by the Media Coordination Team in press conference room 1 (Auditorium 15). The selection will be based on a fair distribution among TV organizations and press photographers from all parts of the world and from the host country Denmark. It is made on the understanding that the coverage obtained be shared with other broadcasters as is requested and appropriate.

Members of the pool will be asked to assemble no later than 9:30 a.m. at a location to be specified. They will have the possibility of taking establishing shots of the plenary prior to the opening of the conference, as well as a 2-minute close-up photo opportunity of the podium. Afterwards, TV crews will be asked to leave the room, while press photographers may remain for taking pictures of speakers under the guidance of a UNFCCC Information Officer.

The host broadcaster will provide full video and audio coverage of the opening. Pool signals will be fed to all working cubicles in the International Broadcasting Centre (IBC).

Following the opening there will be further limited access by TV crews and still photographers to Plenary Tycho Brahe by prior appointment with the IBC Manager, Tim Davis (mobile: +45 507 73435).

Photos of the opening session can be downloaded free of cost from the website of the Host Country through www.photos.cop15.dk.

Access to pool feeds without cubicle or SNG truck

In parts of the venue, including throughout the Media Centre, pool signals from the two plenaries and all five press conference rooms are available wirelessly using DVB-T in English. The feed on DVB-T is identical to the feed on CCTV and includes titles. This allows journalists and others to record sessions and follow proceedings through DVB-T receivers, i.e. through USB DVB-T receivers for laptops. This service is unsupported.

Recordings of TV coverage

Recordings of TV coverage provided by the host broadcaster can be purchased from TV2 DK. (See www.cop15hb.dk) These can be obtained from the TV2 booking office next to the MCR in the IBC.



Virtual Participation

In view of the fact that the secretariat had to suspend press accreditation on 29 November until further notice, due to the huge amount of accreditation requests received which exceeded the capacity of the Conference Centre, several interested media may not be able to follow the proceedings of the first conference days directly in the Bella Center. For those several options exist to cover COP15 without direct access to the venue:

- News coverage and live- and on-demand webcast on the official conference website www.unfccc.int and host country outreach site www.cop15.dk
- Daily video podcast on YouTube: www.YouTube.com/climateconference
- Behind the scenes videos from the Government of Denmark through www.YouTube.com/cop15
- Special website for mobile phone devices and PDAs: www.mobile.unfccc.int
- Conference iPhone application 'COP 15 Navigator' FREE in iTunes app store
- A world feed provided by the host broadcaster of certain events during COP15 www.cop15hb.dk
- Royalty-free photographs from the conference, gala events and VVIP airport arrivals on www.photos.cop15.dk
- Social networks, such as Facebook, Twitter and Flickr; links via www.unfccc.int
- Coverage from the conference by the Earth Negotiations Bulletin www.iisd.ca.

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Details on the high-level segment of the Conference and other highlights of interest to the media will be announced in a separate Note to Correspondents.