

RINGOs COP 19 Statement, 22 Nov. 2013

Witam serdecznie wszystkich słuchających tego wystąpienia!

Honored Ministers, negotiators, observers, and other participants concerned about climate change.

This COP takes place in a country struggling to change its energy mix and reduce emissions while enhancing well-being for all citizens. Many countries face similar issues. Coping with these challenges requires relevant research to support policies and actions.

The Research and Independent NGOs, the RINGOs, include institutions engaged in research, innovation, implementation, education, and communication relating to every aspect of climate change.

Many of our members serve as IPCC authors. The Fifth Assessment Report presents unequivocal evidence of human influence on the climate system, and the need for radical emission reductions. The strong empirical link between human activities and the global climate system drives our need to work together to take action.

But climate change involves much more than physical science, and is more than an environmental problem. The negotiations process itself demonstrates the importance of understanding personal and cultural values, national interests and positions, capacities, vulnerabilities, and costs and benefits when devising responses to climate change. RINGOs can illuminate these issues.

As researchers, educators, and students in and across disciplines, RINGOs study how science interacts with law and policy; how governance and politics guide and constrain action; how people perceive risks and form attitudes. We suggest policy alternatives and evaluate their impacts on economies, societies, and environments. We explore ethical issues and encourage debate. We evaluate infrastructure and built environments, and help communities around the world identify vulnerabilities, improve resilience, and increase energy efficiency.

Research and its applications do not end with the publication of IPCC reports. RINGOs seek ways to interact with governments, the private sector, civil society, and the general public to apply findings and identify needs for new research. We invite Parties to call on the RINGOs to ensure that the negotiations are grounded in research that reflects the full complexities of the challenges of climate change.