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UNITED NATIONS EXPECT SLOW PROGRESS IN THE TRANSITION TOWARDS A LOW CARBON ECONOMY

Advisor on Climate Change to the UN expects progress to be “Slow and Incremental”

LONDON, 24/10/11 – Leading authorities in the carbon industry gathered in London last week for the third annual instalment of The Carbon Show. The show covered a whole range of topics related to the entire life cycle of carbon, with the transition to a low carbon economy a point of much discussion.

Dr. Laura Altinger, Advisor on Climate Change and Green Economy to the United Nations, described driving a low carbon economy as “an ambitious endeavour” which requires “nothing short of a revolution” and that “like all revolutions, this one entails a fundamental structural shift over a short period of time.”

However, the perspective of the United Nations is that a revolution does not seem to be on the horizon and that “progress toward reaching a solution acceptable to all is often slow and incremental.”

Dr. Altinger went on to outline the nine key recommendations detailed in a forthcoming UN report entitled “Supporting the Transition to a Green Economy” as: Investment in green infrastructure; Investment in people and social infrastructure; Generating sources of public and private financing; The introduction of full-cost pricing; Guaranteed sustainable trade; Facilitating green innovation and technology transfer; The use of regulatory mechanisms for the green economy; The mainstreaming of green accounting and definition of indicators; Consolidating country assistance frameworks and strategies.

Through these nine factors, the UN believes that the process of transitioning to a green economy will be a much quicker and easier process.

Dr. Altinger stated that the world “has not yet recovered from the financial economic crisis that broke out in 2008-2009” and that “recent developments indicate a renewed set-back in the recovery driven by the unsustainable debt levels of many industrial economies.” She does however hold the belief that investments in renewable energy and energy efficient products and services hold a great potential to contribute to global economic recovery.

Dr. Altinger was delivering a keynote speech at the Welcome Ceremony of The Carbon Show 2011 on the topic of ‘Lower Carbon, Greener Economy’. She was joined by Lord Heseltine, Chairman of Haymarket Group, Andrew Miller MP, Chair of the Science and Technology Select Committee, and Yvo de Boer, Special Global Advisor on Climate Change and Sustainability for KPMG.

Yvo de Boer used the platform of The Carbon Show to react to the CDM’s drop in offsets to €6.69 per metric ton.

Speaking to Bloomberg Business Week at the show, the former United Nations' Chief Climate Official called upon the EU to rethink its restrictions on new carbon projects, stating that "the last thing we need at the moment is a sense that Europe is renegeing on its commitment" to emissions trading.

Mr de Boer, currently a Special Global Advisor on Climate Change and Sustainability for KPMG, also believes that access to renewable energy sources should be extended to emerging nations so that the world's poorest people can move away from using power generated from fossil fuels.

Taking place at the Business Design Centre in London on 20 and 21 October, The Carbon Show 2011 drew over 1,700 visitors from across the globe that came to hear from the experts, see low carbon products and solutions and network with their peers in the industry.

The event brings together professionals from carbon reduction, carbon management, emissions trading, renewable energy and more. Dr. Nick Atkinson, Carbon Specialist at Woodland Trust, one of the 79 organisations exhibiting at the show, described how The Carbon Show "brings together all the people who are relevant in this industry."

The show features a two-day seminar programme alongside a free-to-attend exhibition, debates on The Carbon Stage, plenary sessions, and networking events.

Topics covered by the seminars include Climate Finance, CRC Energy Efficiency Scheme, Carbon Management and Green Technology & Renewable Energy. The seminar programme attracts speakers from organisations such as the Department of Energy and Climate Change, Siemens, Network Rail, Mitsubishi, Financial Times, Heathrow, Sainsbury's, Balfour Beatty, Thames Water, DHL, British Airways, Carbon Trust, The Dow Chemical Company, The Co-operative, Barclays, WWF, UNICEF and many more.

The Carbon Stage, sponsored by ENVIRON for the third year in a row, featured discussions, debates, updates and launches in sessions presented by representatives of LRQA, Lend Lease, Kyocera, BSI Group, AEA, NQA, BBC and the Environmental Investment Organisation.

The ENDS Annual Lecture took place at The Carbon Show 2011, with Jane Davidson, Director of the Institute for Sustainability Practice, Innovation and Resource Effectiveness, discussing the changes needed to bring sustainable development closer to reality. The lecture can be viewed in its entirety by visiting www.thecarbonshow.com/networking-sessions

ENDS Europe also hosted a breakfast seminar at the show on the topic of International Aviation in the EU ETS. This well attended session brought together a panel of experts to discuss legal issues, policy updates and the challenges and implications of regulating aviation emissions. A video of the session, and the briefing note handed to all attendees can also be found by visiting www.thecarbonshow.com/networking-sessions

The show was sponsored by many of the leading organisations in the carbon industry. The Carbon Management seminar stream was sponsored by Arup, who also hosted a networking reception for delegates. LRQA sponsored the delegate bags handed to each visitor, whilst Munich RE adorned lanyards with their branding. Carbon Neutral Investments provided visitor badges for both days of the show. All of the on-site signage was sponsored by the property and infrastructure solutions provider Lend Lease. Siemens, whose environmental portfolio makes them one of the world's leading providers of eco-friendly technologies, provided networking tea and coffee breaks for all seminar delegates.

There were two pavilions at The Carbon Show 2011 – the Green-Ex Pavilion, sponsored by dtimes3, and the Start-Ups Pavilion, Sponsored by the Edinburgh Centre on Climate Change. The Green-Ex Pavilion, first featured at The Carbon Show 2010, uses technology to replace physical material, providing a sustainable, low cost, low carbon and paperless solution for

exhibiting. The Start-Ups Pavilion offers the perfect platform for start-up companies to exhibit at the show, using a shared space on the show floor to reduce costs.

The Carbon Show 2011 take its commitment to emissions reduction seriously with green credentials ranging from recycled bags and lanyards to being held at the UK's first carbon neutral venue. The carbon footprint of exhibitors, speakers and visitors was calculated at the show by Carbon Masters and the emissions will be offset by Carbon Neutral Sponsor Carbon Clear.

The Carbon Show will return to the Business Design Centre on 18 & 19 October 2012. Visit www.thecarbonshow.com for further details and news surrounding The Carbon Show. If you have any queries about the show, please contact the team:

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