



Press release, September 27, 2009

A Clear Message from World Citizens to COP15

Saturday 26, 2009, 38 countries in 6 continents participated in the first-ever global citizen consultation: ***World Wide Views on Global Warming***. The topic was *global climate change policies and the message from the citizens to the political negotiators was clear: We do not have time to wait any longer!*

4,400 citizens around the world spent their Saturday responding to the same 12 questions on future climate policy. One of the clearest statements from all countries deals with urgency: **90% of the citizens answered that it is urgent that the political leaders reach a global agreement at COP15.**

Ms. Connie Hedegaard, host of COP15 and Danish Minister of Climate and Energy, says: *"World Wide Views has given us politicians a unique insight into the views of ordinary citizens from all corners of the world on the climate crisis. It is a powerful signal to the politicians, when citizens all over the world agree that action is urgent. It underlines the importance of reaching an ambitious agreement in Copenhagen this December."*

Drastic Demands from Citizens to CO2 Reductions

In all types of countries, rich and poor as well as new growth economies, there is a majority in favour of a higher level of ambition regarding CO2 reductions than what you see in current political discussions.

Currently, politicians aim for short-term CO2 reductions of less than 25%, but a significant majority of the citizen participants in rich countries and growth economies say that they themselves should reduce emissions by 25-40% or more. The same tendency can be seen with regards to the questions of how much the global temperature should be allowed to increase; politicians talk about setting the limit at maximum 2 degrees Celsius. However, 52% of the citizens want to set the limit at a lower level.

In the forthcoming weeks, the global result from the 38 citizen meetings will be further analyzed and published in a report, which will be handed over to politicians on November 19, 2009.

- See all the results on www.wwviews.org
- See photos and videos from the participating countries on <http://teknologiraad.surffoffice.eu/> (Username: WWWpress, password: 269pressDown)
- For any further information, contact to participating citizens, and questions, please contact:
- World Wide Views coordinator Bjørn Bedsted, bb@tekno.dk, +45 22941458 or information project manager Jørgen Madsen, jm@tekno.dk, +45 33455363 at The Danish Board of Technology, www.tekno.dk

World Wide Views on Global Warming is a global citizen consultation initiated by the Danish Board of Technology and The Danish Cultural Institute in consequence of the UN Climate Conference in Copenhagen, December 2009. 44 meetings in 38 countries was held during 24 hours, including 100 citizens at each meeting. Participating citizens were lay people chosen in order to reflect each nation's or region's demographic composition regarding age, gender, education, occupation, geographical zone and ethnicity.