



World Climate Declaration¹

Guus Berkhout

Climate Intelligence Foundation, The Netherlands

*Correspondence to of-
fice@clintel.org*

Vol. 2.1 (2022)

pp. 41-47

Submitted 21-12-2021. Accepted 29-12-2021. <https://doi.org/10.53234/scc202203/13>



The past 150 years show that affordable and reliable energy is key to financing basic needs, such as food, health, sanitation, housing, electricity, and education. The past 150 years also show that more CO₂ is beneficial for nature, greening the Earth and increasing the yield of crops. Why do world leaders ignore these hard facts? Why do world leaders do the opposite with their ‘Green New Deal’ and lower the quality of life by forcing high-cost, dubious low-carbon energy technologies upon their citizens? To get it their way, fear is used but fear has never led to sensible policies.

A global network of critical scientists and engineers (CLINTEL) has prepared a simple message: “*There is no climate emergency.*” Yes, climate change exists and must be addressed, but the network emphasizes that there is NO cause for panic and alarm. The CLINTEL scientists strongly

¹ The talk at the conference can be seen here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=smunmRB2yqYh> (Recordings made by Yngvar Engebretsen)

oppose the misleading, unrealistic and destructive global net-zero CO₂-policy ('NetZero'). Instead, they promote climate adaptation policies that show a high benefit-cost ratio.

Being concrete, scientific organizations should openly address uncertainties and exaggerations in their predictions of global warming, while governments should dispassionately count the real costs as well as the imagined benefits of their policy measures. It is being summarized in CLINTEL's World Climate Declaration (WCD), consisting of seven fundamental statements. The WCD formulates a strong wake-up call for scientific organizations and world leaders and it functions as an inspirational guidance for the young

Statements in the WCD

I. Natural as well as anthropogenic factors cause warming

The geological archive reveals that the Earth's climate has varied as long as the planet has existed, with natural cold and warm phases. The Little Ice Age ended as recent as 1850. Therefore, it is no surprise that we now are experiencing a period of warming. Observations indicate that anthropogenic factors yield only modest contributions to the current global warming period.

II. Warming is far much slower than predicted

The world has warmed significantly less than predicted by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) on the basis of modeled anthropogenic forcing. The large gap between the real world and the modeled world tells us that we are far from understanding climate change. The science is far from settled.

III. Climate policy relies on inadequate models

Climate models have many shortcomings and are not remotely plausible as global policy tools. They consistently blow up the effect of greenhouse gases such as CO₂, leading to large discrepancies with observations.

IV. CO₂ is plant food, the basis of all life on Earth

CO₂ is not a pollutant. It is essential to all life on Earth. Photosynthesis is a blessing. More CO₂ is beneficial for nature, greening the Earth: additional CO₂ in the air has promoted growth in global plant biomass. It is also good for agriculture, increasing the yields of crops worldwide.

V. Global warming has not increased natural disasters

There is no statistical evidence that global warming is intensifying hurricanes, floods, droughts and suchlike natural disasters, or making them more frequent. However, there is ample evidence that CO₂-mitigation measures are as damaging as they are costly.

VI. Increase of sea levels is steady for the past 150 years

The mean global sea level shows considerable spatial variations due to differences in the Earth's gravity field and spatial variations in the water temperature and salinity. Estimates of average global sea level changes are about 1.5 – 3.5 mm per year. Despite the increasing CO₂-levels, there is no evidence of any sea level rise crisis.

VII. Climate policy must respect scientific and economic realities

There is no climate crisis. Therefore, there is no cause for panic and alarm. We strongly oppose the harmful and unrealistic net-zero CO₂-policy proposed for 2050. Until better approaches are effective, and they are on the horizon, we have ample time to reflect and adapt.

Heads of governments must dispense with their frightening narrative that climate change causes a “Existential Crisis”. Don’t link extreme weather to human-caused CO₂-emission and stop spreading disinformation on impending global warming and global sea level rise disasters! Instead, spread hope and truth. In the following we show what the WCD means for scientific organizations, world leaders and young generations.

Meaning of the WCD for scientific organizations

Scientific organizations serve society by fostering, creating and passing on new scientific knowledge through research and teaching. Today, quality universities have become a primary source of prosperity in the area where they are located. The higher the scientific level realized, the greater the contribution to prosperity. Universities, therefore, should promote excellence at all times. This means that they should not settle for followership, but aim for leadership in their scientific fields. It also means that universities are communities without ideological and political purposes. And above all, at universities the principle of *Freedom of Speech and Inquiry* are by no means negotiable. The meaning of the WCD for scientific organizations is summarized by the following fundamental items:

- *The complexity of multi-factor, multi-scale systems – such as the Earth’s climate – demands close co-operation between a wide range of scientific fields and disciplines*

Climate change has a wide variety of causes, natural as well as anthropogenic. Integration of knowledge from many scientific fields, such as astronomy, geophysics, geology, archaeology, meteorology, oceanography and biology, is indispensable to a full understanding of the complex causal relationships underlying climate change. At the same time, the integration of theoretical knowledge with measurement technologies should have high priority. This is hardly the case in today’s mainstream climate research. Early-stage models are claimed as being ‘settled science’.

- *Sound scientific research is open-minded and is characterized by a wide variety of viewpoints without dogmas and prejudices*

Within the established climate science, curiosity and diversity are being suppressed and the ‘Catastrophic Anthropogenic Global Warming’ (CAGW) dogma is ruthlessly enforced. However, science is neither a religion nor a political faction. Science advances not by chanting “We believe” but by asking “I wonder”. Funding for CAGW-critical research is non-existent today. Censorship complicates and all too often prevents the publication of critical articles in mainstream peer-reviewed scientific journals. Again, the CAGW-models are considered to be the truth and fit for climate policy making.

- *Faith in scientific models is faith in the underlying assumptions; only correct assumptions can lead to correct answers*

What computer models tell us depends entirely on what is input by the model-makers: hypotheses, relationships, parameterizations, arithmetical simplifications, boundary conditions, etc. Unfortunately, mainstream climatologists seldom discuss these choices in their complex algorithms. For

instance, how sensing results to the biased assumptions or to the coarse arithmetic grids? We still hear very little about it.

- *With enough model parameters it is always possible to reconstruct recorded measurements in a relatively small observation window*

Parametric tuning says. The famous mathematician John von Neumann (1903 – 1957) said: "With four parameters I can fit an elephant; with five I can make him wiggle his trunk." A critical and most valuable test is whether a model can accurately predict future measurements. That is precisely where climate models are going wrong. For 40 years, the IPCC has falsely predicted alarming high temperatures in its reports. Actually, their level of alarm increased overtime ("It is five minutes to midnight").

- *The history of science shows that new insights do not come from followers but from dissenters; doubters and dissenters make history in science*

Copernicus, Galilei, Newton, Gauss, Curie, Einstein, Watson, Crick, Wilkins and Hawking all looked critically at the prevailing consensus and dared to take a different path. Progress would not have been possible without them. In contrast, the mainstream climate community has contributed embarrassingly little headway. They have been transmogrified into a media campaign to sell the CAGW-hypothesis. Doubters and dissenters are excommunicated.

- *Academies of Sciences have a moral responsibility to warn society of irresponsible conclusions that follow from a naive belief in immature scientific models*

So far, climate models have proven their inability to make reliable predictions of global warming. Therefore, their predictions are the wrong basis for making government policy. Bear in mind that the National Academies of Sciences see themselves as guardians of science. If so, should they not at last creak into action?

Already in 2015, Academies should have given an abundantly clear warning to world leaders that the climate science is still in its infancy. By their negligence, the Academies made themselves complicit in the absurdity of the Paris Agreement and everything that followed.

Meaning of the WCD for World Leaders

Encouraged by a scientific community that profits by exaggerating the imagined threat from a mildly warming global climate, the message of world leaders is that "to go beyond a rise of 1.5 °C would unleash catastrophes, including extreme sea level rises, crippling droughts, monstrous storms and wildfires far worse than those the world is already suffering".

But is this scaremongering story true? The WCD implies the following thought-provoking messages for world leaders:

- *What is the problem with the current global warming?*

Yes, the climate is changing – as it always has – but there is NO 'climate crises.' The crisis comes from extreme scenarios. And the 1.5 °C crisis limit for global warming is a political invention. While CO₂-concentration has continued to increase, there has been negligible global warming in the past decade. We even may be at the very beginning of a cooling period.

- *Supply-driven energy sources are a big mistake!*

Supply-driven energy sources are unreliable, unaffordable and destabilize electricity supply. Similarly, calling the destruction of ecosystems for wood burning a clean and sustainable solution is irresponsible.

- *For affordability and security of supply society needs multiple energy sources*

Coal, gas and nuclear power should all be used. Coal is the cheapest of all and – with modern technology – much cleaner than wood burning; gas is the cleanest fossil fuel, easy to transport and store; nuclear stations require high upfront investments, but they emit no CO₂, deliver their power continuously and have a long lifetime. Today we see that energy policies lead to rising energy prices and rising energy prices lead to an acceleration in inflation.

- *Please, prioritize the development of concrete climate adaptation plans*

Global mitigation policies cost an exorbitant amount of money and they have never saved one life. National adaptation plans work, whatever the cause of climate change. In addition, adaptation plans are needed to protect us from extreme weather. Head of governments, please look at the costs and benefits of your policies.

In conclusion, the big climate picture tells world leaders that we may slowly move via ups and downs to the next global cooling period. The recovery from the Little Ice Age has been very beneficial for mankind and nature. Enjoy today's relatively benign climate! Sometime in the future we will again move to a colder phase and ultimately into the next ice age.

Wind- and solar energy can play only a modest role in the energy transition. Please, use clean fossil fuel power for the increasing energy needs, particularly in developing countries. Meanwhile, cooperate worldwide to develop the nuclear power plants of the future, together with new energy storage and transportation technologies. It will result in prosperity for all.

Meaning of the WCD for the young generation

Climate alarmists are telling the youngsters that the older generation has caused catastrophic global warming (CAGW) by emitting too much CO₂. They also led them to believe that if they do not reverse what the "industrial oldies" have brought about, our planet will soon become uninhabitable for people and animals. No time to lose, we are in the middle of a climate crisis! But is this scaremongering story true? The WCD has the following instructive and hopeful message for all of the young people:

- *Don't act like a parrot*

Be critical against the many false prophets who are trying to take advantage of you and set you up against what your parents and grandparents have achieved. The information these prophets tell you is one-sided and misleading. Their information comes from faulty science, wrong model predictions and extreme scenarios.

- *Deepen your knowledge on the facts of our climate*

By doing so, you will discover that there is no evidence that points to a climate crisis. Yes, climate change exists and is of all times. But don't worry, the current global warming is gentle (ca. 0.14 °C per decade) and has already made many positive contributions to the quality of your life. Think about that while you are protesting.

- *CO₂ is the molecule of life*

Did your teachers ever tell you that CO₂ is a blessing for everything that lives on our planet? Far from being pollution, CO₂ is the molecule of life, providing food for plants. Without plants there would be very little animal life and no human life at all. Think about that as well, while you are protesting.

- *Don't confuse climate change with environmental pollution*

These are two completely different phenomena. Climate change is largely caused by the primordial natural forces and environmental pollution is largely caused by human behavior. Climate change requires clever adaptation measures and environmental pollution asks for clever clean production technologies.

- *Don't waste your life by solving a problem that does not exist*

Instead, put all your talents and energy in developing a productive circular economy. Only then can you realize enough financial means to increase the standard of living beyond the basic needs. When you go back to the unproductive past and make yourself poor, you are no longer in control of your future!

Finally, for all of you who have been influenced by fear of things to come, forget the dodgy preachers of doom and gloom; they ruin your future by destroying everything your parents and grandparents have built. Look at the positive times ahead of you, and consider the above challenges as your mission in life.

Conclusions

1. CO₂ budgets are not based on science, but they are based on fear. They limit human rights, feed extremism and push mankind into a deep physical, mental and financial crisis. It is clear that citizens throughout the world don't want to become poor and, above all, they don't want to live in a culture of fear.
2. History shows that living on planet Earth requires adaptation all the time. If we continue to advance science and technology, we generate new capabilities to adapt to climate change, to protect our natural environment, to end hunger and poverty, to take care of one another and to conquer the universe. Intelligent adaptation is the formula for creating a better world.
3. Head of governments, look at the real costs as well as the imagined benefits of your policy measures. Instead of squandering trillions to a problem that does not exist, release people from hunger and poverty, solve global health issues, invest more in science and education and, above all, take better care of all life on our unique planet.

Epilogue

The World Climate Declaration (WCD) has brought a large variety of competent scientists and engineers together from all over the world. At the moment around 1500 professionals have signed and combine forces. The considerable knowledge and experience of this scientific group is indispensable in reaching a balanced, dispassionate and competent view of climate.

Literature

- Battaglia, Franco 2021, *There Is No Climate Emergency*, 75 pages, 21mo Secola
- Furfari, S., Clerici, A., 2021, *Green hydrogen: the crucial performance of electrolyzers fed by variable and intermittent renewable electricity*, Eur. Phys. J. Plus 136, 509
- Goklany, Indur M., 2021, *Impacts of Climate Change, Perception and Reality*, Global Warming Policy Foundation, Report 46
- Koonin, Steven E. 2021, *Unsettled: What Climate Science Tells Us, What It Doesn't, and Why It Matters*, 309 pages, BenBella Books
- Koutsoyiannis, D 2021, *Rethinking climate, climate change, and their relationship with water*, Water, 13 (6), 849, 2021
- Lindzen, Richard 2011, *Dynamics in Atmospheric Physics*, 324 pages, Cambridge University Press
- Lomborg, Bjørn 2020, *False Alarm*, 323 pages, Hachette Book Group
- Monckton of Brenchley, Christopher 2021, What is science and what is not? Sci. Clim. Change 1(1), 14-53.
- Plimer, Ian 2021, *Green Murder*, 598 pages, Connor Court Publishing
- van Wijngaarden, W. A. and Happer, W 2020, *Dependence of Earth's Thermal Radiation on Five Most Abundant Greenhouse Gases*, preprint, physics.ao-ph
<https://arxiv.org/abs/2006.03098>