

# NEWS RELEASE



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## **WASHINGTON INTERNATIONAL RENEWABLE ENERGY CONFERENCE TO FEATURE PROMINENT INTERNATIONAL SPEAKERS *WIREC 2008 Gathers International Leaders To Scale Up Renewable Energy***

WASHINGTON, January 18, 2008—Keynote speakers for the Washington International Renewable Energy Conference (WIREC 2008) hosted by the U.S. Government, March 4-6, 2008, will include international leaders throughout the field of renewable energy.

“WIREC participants will be privy to a world-class group of speakers and presenters during the three day ministerial-level meeting,” stated Ambassador Reno Harnish, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Oceans, Environment and Science. “The caliber of confirmed speakers shows the importance of this meeting for civil society, governments, and businesses from around the world.”

Among the confirmed speakers are Minnesota Governor Tim Pawlenty, the Deputy Prime Minister of Sweden Maud Olofsson, and Lady Mayor of Bonn Baerbel Dieckmann, who serves as President of the World Mayors Council on Climate Change.

Other renowned speakers include Director of National Renewable Energy Labs Dan Arvizu, Harvard professor Millie Dresselhaus, Mohamed El-Ashrey, Chairman of Renewable Energy Network-21, Christopher Flavin, President, WorldWatch, Wolfgang Palz, Chairman of the World Council on Renewable Energy, and Michael Liebreich, CEO of New Energy Finance. Business leaders from around the world who also plan to contribute to the discussions include Peter Robertson, Vice Chairman of Chevron and Tony Hayward, the Chief Executive Officer of BP.

WIREC 2008 is comprised of a Ministerial-level meeting co-located with [Official Side Events](#) and the Trade Show and Business Conference at WIREC 2008. The Trade Show and Business Conference are being organized by the American Council On Renewable Energy (ACORE) and 14 domestic and international renewable energy trade associations. For a full listing of the speakers confirmed for the Business Conference at WIREC 2008, please visit [http://www.americanrenewables.org/full\\_program.cfm](http://www.americanrenewables.org/full_program.cfm).

WIREC 2008 is the third global ministerial-level conference on renewable energy, following events in Beijing in 2005 and Bonn in 2004. Additional speaker confirmations will be announced soon at [www.wirec2008.gov](http://www.wirec2008.gov). WIREC 2008 will take place at the Washington Convention Center in Washington, D.C.

**The following are WIREC 2008 Ministerial speakers confirmed to date:**

- Jose Achache, Director, Group on Earth Observations
- Sarah Adams, CEO, Global Village Energy Partnership
- Michael Ahern, CEO, First Solar
- Dan Arvizu, Director, National Renewable Energy Laboratory
- David Bohigian, Assistant Secretary, U.S. Department of Commerce
- Gale Buchanan, Under Secretary Research, Education, and Economics, USDA
- Kristjan Guy Burgess, Reykjavik Energy
- Anil Cabraal, Energy, Specialist, World Bank
- John Cavalier, CEO, CSFB
- Corrado Clini, Chair, Global Bioenergy Partnership
- William Dar, Director General, International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics
- Tom Delay, Chief Executive, UK Carbon Trust
- Baerbel Dieckmann, Lady Mayor of Bonn, Germany & President, World Mayors Council on Climate Change
- Paula Dobriansky, Under Secretary for Democracy and Global Affairs, U.S. Department of State
- Thomas Dorr, Chairman, Secretary's Energy Council and Undersecretary for Rural Development, USDA
- Miles Drake, Senior Vice President, Research & Development, Weyerhaeuser Co.
- Millie Dresselhaus, Professor, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- Mohammed El-Ashry, Chairman, REN 21
- Douglas Faulkner, Deputy Undersecretary for Rural Development, USDA
- Christopher Flavin, President, WorldWatch
- Mark Fulton, Managing Director, Global Head of Strategic Planning and Climate Change, Deutsche Bank
- Steve Gatto, CEO, Chief Executive Officer, Bioenergy International

- Arnold Goldman, Founder and CEO, Luz II
- Donna Harman, President and CEO, American Forest & Paper Association
- Peter Hodgson, Minister of Research, Science and Technology, New Zealand
- John Holdren, Teresa and John Heinz Professor of Environmental Policy, Harvard University
- Kijune Kim, Chair, Asia Pacific Partnership for Clean Development and Climate, Renewable Energy Distributed Generation Task Force
- Mihir Kumar Mohanty, Mayor of Bhubaneswar, India
- Nathan Lewis, George L. Argyros Prof. of Chemistry, Cal Tech
- Michael Liebreich, CEO, New Energy Finance
- Joachim Luther, President, European Association of the Renewable Energy Research Centers
- Kathleen A. McGinty, Secretary, Department of Environmental Protection, State of Pennsylvania
- Claudia McMurray, Assistant Secretary of State for Oceans, Environment and Science, U.S. Department of State
- Lew Milford, President, Clean Energy Group
- Maud Olofsson, Deputy Prime Minister of Sweden
- Raymond Orbach, Under Secretary, Office of Science, U.S. Department of Energy
- Marianne Osterkorn, International Director, Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Partnership
- Wolfgang Palz, Chairman, World Council on Renewable Energy
- Don Paul, Vice President, Special Projects, Chevron
- Tim Pawlenty, Governor of Minnesota
- John Plaza, President and Founder, Imperium Renewables
- Glenn Prickett, Senior Vice President, Conservation International
- Mark Rey, Vice Chairman, Secretary's Energy Council and Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment, USDA
- Sergio Rezende, Minister of Energy, Brazil
- Peter Robertson, Vice Chairman, Chevron
- Boyd Rutherford, Assistant Secretary for Administration, USDA
- Jamal Saghir, Director for Energy, Transport, and Water, World Bank
- Dieter Salomon, Lord Mayor, Freiburg, Germany

- Mark Sinclair, Director, Clean Energy States Alliance
- Ibrahim Togola, Director, Mali-Folkecenter
- Paul Tonko, President, NY State Energy Research and Development Authority
- Maria Van der Hoeven, Minister of Economic Affairs, The Netherlands
- Dana Younger, International Finance Corporation

For a full listing of the speakers confirmed for the Business Conference at WIREC 2008, please visit [http://www.americanrenewables.org/full\\_program.cfm](http://www.americanrenewables.org/full_program.cfm).

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