



# Interfaith Declaration on Climate Change

## Press Conference at UN Climate Negotiations, Bangkok, Thailand



UN Climate Secretariat head, Yvo de Boer, discusses with Stuart Scott, Director of the Interfaith Declaration on Climate Change, the huge importance of the religious community's participation in the process of arriving at a fair, equitable, and compassionate climate change treaty in Copenhagen in December of this year. The occasion was a press conference held on 30 September with representatives of 5 of the major religions of Earth – Christianity, Islam, Buddhism, Hinduism, and Sikhism – plus a famous Thai scientist, representing the 'secular religion' of science. All agreed to the absolute moral and physical urgency of an immediate solution to the climate crisis that is already creating huge suffering, and will endanger the very existence of life on Earth.

Mr. de Boer later presented Mr. Scott with a handwritten invitation to His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI urging him to come to Copenhagen in December to aid in the realization of a 'fair and effective conclusion' to currently stalled climate negotiations, in order to safeguard the future of humanity and life on Earth. Current research in climate science points to our having entered a 'dangerous condition of overshoot' by which we are likely to trigger a process of 'runaway climate change' with catastrophic consequences. "The urgency of the situation could not be greater," Mr. Scott said, "Nations must awaken quickly and realize that life has greater value than wealth. Leaders of the world's religions must join together on this most urgent of shared messages, that we are one human family, with a single fate."



Father Dan Aigbona, of Holy Redemption Catholic Church in Bangkok, discusses the urgent imperative of dealing with the climate crisis from the perspective of Christianity, quoting from Genesis regarding our responsibility to be good stewards of the Earth and the urgency of the leaders of nations to 'seal a deal' this year for the physical salvation of humankind.