

Final Messages from Jean-Pascal van Ypersele (@JPvanYpersele) IPCC Vice-Chair Dubrovnik, 8 October 2015

En ce dernier jour du 5^{ème} cycle d'évaluation du GIEC, et de cette importante réunion à Dubrovnik, Croatie (dont je voudrais remercier les autorités pour leur accueil), je voudrais vous dire quelques mots avant de quitter ma fonction de Vice-président du GIEC.

[On this last day of the 5th IPCC assessment report cycle, and of this important meeting in Dubrovnik (Croatia, the host country that I want to thank for its warm welcome), I would like to say a few things before leaving my position as Vice-Chair of the IPCC.] I will now switch to English.

I would like first to thank the many, many, many countries who gave me their trust on Tuesday at the end of a long campaign, where I defended a **platform** based on the following elements: **scientific rigour** and **honesty**, the inclusion of **all disciplines** relevant to the climate change issue, including **social sciences**, the need to enhance **cooperation** and **inclusiveness** in the IPCC process, including increased participation of **developing countries** and improving **gender balance** and the participation of **younger scientists**, and finally, a continued improvement of **transparency** and of the **communication** and outreach efforts around IPCC activities and reports.

As I did on Tuesday morning at the informal session, at this crucial point in IPCC history, I would like to refer to the wise words of Professor **Bert Bolin**, the first Chair of the IPCC at the end of his book about this precious organisation. I will not quote him in details today, please read his book, or visit my web page; I will just quote the key words present in his concluding remarks:

Evaluation of the facts, independent and open scientific endeavour, awareness, viewing the impacts in terms of the prevailing lack of equity and social justice in the world, urgency, and need for cooperation.

Let us all remember where we come from, and those wise words.

I wish the new elected Chair and his team the best auspices and also good luck, so that AR6 becomes even better than AR5 was. The **AR5 team was fantastic**: thanks to all of them.

I would like to thank very strongly the Belgian government and my support team, my family and particularly my wife, Martine, without whom I would never have been able to get as far as I did. Thanks to their moral support, and the strength they helped me to build, I am confident I will have other opportunities to serve the community.

Finally, I would like to thank especially Ismail El Gizouli, who has so effectively chaired the IPCC since the Nairobi Plenary. I am personally aware that Ismail had to do many sacrifices to hold the Acting Chair position, including the sacrifice of his unique source of revenue, to avoid any conflict of interests and maintain the **independence** that is absolutely needed, particularly for the position of IPCC Chair. The **IPCC has a huge moral debt to Ismail**. I would like to suggest that the new Chair and Bureau meeting tomorrow consider ways to address this issue as soon as possible, in a fair and equitable way.

I suggest that the Plenary already gives a big hand of applause to Ismail El Gizouli, to thank him. Thank you for your attention, travel safe.