

### High-Level Speech 3



**Mr. David Warrilow, Head of Science Policy on Climate Change, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA), UK**

David Warrilow is Head of Science Policy on Climate Change at the UK's Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA). He is responsible for ensuring that the UK Government receives sound scientific advice on climate change with regard to both its domestic activities and international negotiations. He heads the UK's delegation to the IPCC and also leads on the technical matters covered by the Subsidiary Body on Science and Technology of the Climate Change Convention. He is also responsible for managing a £15 million research programme which provides policy relevant scientific advice. His own scientific background covers climate modeling, land-surface processes and hydrology.

#### Towards a low carbon UK

The UK has long accepted the need to dramatically reduce greenhouse gas emissions to avoid dangerous climate change. Although the UK's emissions are only about 2% of global emissions, it has been keen to show leadership in this area. This talk will review what actions have been taken to date, what progress has been made, and will consider in more detail the latest moves to enshrine emission reductions in UK legislation in the "Climate Change Bill." The Bill has so far focussed on reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, but also covers adaptation to climate change. As well as providing a legal basis for action, the Bill will set up the "Climate Change Committee," an independent body which will provide impartial advice to Government on the potential to reduce emissions, and will scrutinise the actions that it has taken. The Bill is currently being debated in parliament and is expected to become law by this summer.