



## International Association for the Study of Insurance Economics "The Geneva Association"

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The following list provides information on **Intergovernmental Organisations (IGOs)** working on climate change issues from the economic or multi-disciplinary perspective. They are mostly observer organisations from the sessions of the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP 14) in Poznan, Poland in December 2008, but the list also includes contributors to The Geneva Report No. 2, *The insurance industry and climate change — contribution to the global debate*.

All of the listed organisations are provided in alphabetical order, with a brief presentation of their goals and main activities in the field of climate change and environmental protection. This publication includes contact details for each organisation.

The list is not exhaustive and the decision on inclusion has been made subjectively. Any comments or changes should be mailed to:

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**Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization  
(ALCO)**  
(also known as the Asian Legal Consultative  
Committee—ALCC)

The purposes and objectives of the Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization (ALCO) are to serve as an advisory body to its 47 Member States comprising almost all the major States from Asia and Africa. AALCO provides the opportunity to exchange views, experiences, information and to communicate on issues related to international law. The Organisation also examines subjects that are under consideration by the International Law Commission.

*Environment and Sustainable Development* is one of the important topics that organisation is working on. It concentrates on subjects such as:

- *The United Nations Conference on Environment and Development;*
- *The World Summit on Sustainable Development;*
- *The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change;*
- *The Convention on Biological Diversity;*
- *The Convention to Combat Desertification.*

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**Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)**

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) is a geo-political and economic organisation of 10 countries located in Southeast Asia. The aims of the Association are to accelerate economic growth, social progress and cultural development in the region, and to promote regional peace and stability.

ASEAN works actively on global environment issues. Its activities are undertaken by special working groups:

- ASEAN Working Group on Nature Conservation and Biodiversity (AWGNCB);
- ASEAN Working Group on Coastal and Marine Environment (AWGCME);
- ASEAN Working Group on Multilateral Environmental Agreements (AWGMEA);
- ASEAN Working Group on Environmentally Sustainable Cities (AWGESC);
- ASEAN Working Group on Water Resources Management (AWGWRM);
- ASEAN Working Group on Environmental Education (AWGEE).

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**Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (CCCCC)**

The Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (CCCCC) coordinates the Caribbean region's response to climate change. The Centre is the key node for information on climate change issues and on the region's response to managing and adapting to climate change in the Caribbean.

CCCCC supports the people of the Caribbean as they address the impact of climate variability and change on all aspects of economic development through the provision of timely forecasts and analyses of potentially hazardous impacts of both natural and man-induced climatic changes. It also develops special programmes which create opportunities for sustainable development.

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**Commission for Environmental Cooperation (CEC)**

The Commission for Environmental Cooperation (CEC) is an international organisation created by Canada, Mexico and the United States under the North American Agreement on Environmental Cooperation (NAAEC).

The CEC was established to address regional environmental concerns, help prevent potential trade and environmental conflicts and to promote the effective enforcement of

environmental law. The Agreement complements the environmental provisions of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA).

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**Comunidad Andina (CAN)**

**Andean Community**

Andean Community (CAN) is a trade block comprising four South American countries that decided voluntarily to join together for the purpose of achieving more rapid, better balanced and more autonomous development through Andean, South American and Latin American integration.

CAN has prepared *The Andean Environmental Agenda* that contains both short and medium-term sub-regional actions regarding environmental and sustainable development issues. The Agenda provides a formulation and organisation of the *Andean Strategy on Climate Change* (EACC) and its corresponding *Action Plan*. Their purpose is to serve as a basis for coordination on the countries, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Kyoto Protocol priorities.

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## Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe

The Congress of Local and Regional Authorities was created within the Council of Europe. Its purpose is to bring together the elected representatives of the local and regional communities. It has two chambers: the Chamber of Local Authorities and the Chamber of Regions.

The Congress works on the climate change issues during its sessions and prepares a number of recommendations and resolutions on that field. It also organises conferences relating to that subject.

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## European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)

The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) is an international financial institution that supports projects in 30 countries from central Europe to central Asia. The Bank promotes entrepreneurship and fosters transition towards open and democratic market economies.

EBRD is committed to financing projects that are environmentally sound and sustainable. Environment is defined by the Bank in its broadest sense to encompass not only ecological impacts but also worker, health, safety and community issues. It promotes especially efficient use of energy and improvement in municipal and environmental services.

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## European Organisation for the Exploitation of Meteorological Satellites (EUMETSAT)



The main purpose of the European Organisation for the Exploitation of Meteorological Satellites (EUMETSAT) is to operate a system of meteorological satellites monitoring atmosphere, ocean and land surfaces which deliver weather and climate-related satellite data, images and products.

In the field of climate change, EUMETSAT's mission is to provide satellite based climate data records over decades, to monitor the Earth and its atmosphere continuously and reliably. EUMETSAT's satellite systems also include the data processing and archiving processes that are needed to provide the information on the status and dynamics of the Earth's climate.

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## Global Environment Facility (GEF)

The Global Environmental Facility (GEF) is a global partnership among 178 countries, international institutions, non-governmental organisations and the private sector to address global environmental issues while supporting national sustainable development initiatives. It provides grants for projects related to six focal areas: biodiversity, climate change, international waters, land degradation, the ozone layer and persistent organic pollutants. The GEF is also the designated financial mechanism for a number of multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) or conventions. It assists countries in meeting their obligations under the conventions that they have signed and ratified.

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## Global Legislators Organisation for a Balanced Environment (GLOBE International)

The Global Legislators Organisation for a Balanced Environment (GLOBE International) consists of senior cross-party members of parliament from all G8 countries and the +5 countries of Brazil, China, India, Mexico and South Africa.

GLOBE's objective is to support ambitious political leadership on issues of climate and energy security, land-use change, ecosystems, and economic and population growth. It facilitates the high level negotiated policy positions from leading legislators across the G8+5 parliaments and from regional dialogues, which are informed by business leaders and key international experts. GLOBE has a particular interest in the role that international financial institutions can play.

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## Inter-American Institute for Global Change Research (IAI)

The Inter-American Institute for Global Change Research (IAI) is an organisation supported by 19 countries in the Americas dedicated to pursuing the principles of scientific excellence, international cooperation and the full and open exchange of scientific information to increase the understanding of global change phenomena and their socio-economic implications.

IAI works on understanding climate change and variability in the Americas. The goals are to understand the role of the ocean-land-atmosphere interactions in climate, to determine the key processes that cause climatic variability, from seasonal to decadal time scales and to apply the insight gained by these findings to improve weather and climate predictions.

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## Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)

The International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) was established by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) to provide the world with a clear scientific view on the current state of climate change.

The IPCC is a scientific body. It reviews and assesses the most recent scientific, technical and socio-economic information produced worldwide relevant to the understanding of climate change. There are thousands of scientists from all over the world who contribute to its work on a voluntary basis. This is the reason why differing viewpoints existing within the scientific community are reflected in the IPCC reports.

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## International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)

The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) helps to find pragmatic solutions to the most pressing environment and development challenges. It supports scientific research, manages field projects all over the world and brings governments, non-governmental organisations, United Nations agencies, companies and local communities together to develop and implement policy, laws and best practices.

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## Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU)

The Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) is an international organisation of Parliaments. It serves as a focal point for world-wide parliamentary dialogue among legislators representing every political system and all the main political leanings in the world.

IPU has several areas of activity that comprise: *Environment* and *Economic and social development*. For the organisation the concept of sustainable development goes further than only linking environmental considerations to economic growth. The Inter-Parliamentary Union has prepared a *World Directory* of parliamentary bodies dealing with the environment in order to promote contacts and stimulate information exchange.

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## Nordic Environment Finance Corporation (NEFCO)

The Nordic Environment Finance Corporation (NEFCO) is an international finance institution, established by the five Nordic countries. It has financed a wide range of environmental projects in Central and Eastern European countries.

From its headquarters in Helsinki, NEFCO's activities are focused on projects that achieve cost-effective environmental benefits across the region. NEFCO prioritizes projects that reduce release of climate gases, improve the ecological status of the Baltic Sea or mitigate release of toxic pollutants.

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## Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) is an international organisation of 30 countries that accept the principles of representative democracy and free-market economy.

Concerning the environment and climate change issues, OECD provides governments with the analytical basis to develop environmental policies that are effective and economically efficient, including through performance reviews, data collection, policy analysis and projections.

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## Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe (REC)

The mission of the Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe (REC) is to assist in solving environmental problems in Central and Eastern Europe. REC provides information on the environment promotes public participation and encourages cooperation among regional stakeholders in the environment, including non-governmental organisations, governments and businesses.

The areas that the Center works in include biodiversity, climate change, environmental law, environmental policy, renewable energy, sustainable development and waste management.

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## South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP)

The South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP) was established by the South Asian governments to promote and support protection, management and enhancement of the environment in the region.

The mission of SACEP is to promote regional co-operation in the field of environment in the context of sustainable development and on issues of economic and social development, which also impinge on the environment and vice versa. The organisation supports conservation and management of natural resources of the region, works closely with all national, regional, international, governmental and non-governmental institutions, as well as experts and groups engaged in such co-operation and conservation efforts.

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