



The 17th Conference of the Parties (COP17) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) was held in Durban, South Africa from November 28 through December 11, 2011. In addition to the scheduled COP17 events, the conference also provided the opportunity for representatives from the world's relevant organizations, associations, NGOs, and research groups, to convene for a supplementary panel discussion held December 8 by the International Council of Chemical Industry Associations (ICCA).

The main focus of the panel discussion, starting with the video "Chemistry and the Low-Carbon Economy", was to introduce the efforts of ICCA, as well as the chemical industries of Japan, Europe, the US and Brazil, in relation to global warming. Included in the discussion, ICCA presented its three key policy points:

- (1) Promoting energy efficiencies during the chemical industry's manufacturing processes will lead to the reduction of emissions of greenhouse gases (GHGs);
- (2) The chemical industry is a solution provider for efforts to manage the global warming issue; and
- (3) ICCA remains dedicated to serving as a key partner in an effort to build a framework for managing global warming issues.

The panel also concluded that chemical products contribute to the reduction of GHGs throughout those products' life cycles, noting that ICCA works with the International Energy Agency (IEA) to develop technological roadmaps to reduce GHGs.

- Outline of the panel discussion:

Date: Thursday, December 8 from 10:00 – 12:00 noon (local time)

Theme: Chemistry and the Low Carbon Economy

Panelists: Peter Botschek
Director, Energy, Health, Safety & Environment, European Chemical Industry Council (Cefic)



Russel Mills
Global Director, Energy and Climate Policy, Dow Chemical



Shigetaka Fujii
Director, Production & Technology Center, Mitsui Chemicals



Jorge Soto
Director of Sustainable Development, Braskem



Jörg Rothermel
German Chemical Industry Association (VCI)



Motozo Yoshikiyo
General Manager, Technical Affairs, Japanese Chemical Industry Association (JCIA)



Shoji Yamaguchi
Manager, Corporate Planning Department, Mitsubishi Chemical



- During the Q&A session, the following questions were asked among attendees:

(1) In comparing the level of CO₂ emissions by country, is it insufficient for the emission levels to be described by different standards, such as “per capita” and “per GDP”?

- (2) How far does ICCA think that renewable materials will grow and contribute to society?
- (3) What is the relationship between green chemistry and green products referenced by the chemical industry?
- (4) While the economy grows in China and other developing countries, how do the panelists as well as those countries think about the expanding emission of CO₂?
- (5) What kind of activities do you conduct to pursue sustainability?
- (6) The panel mentioned using CO₂ as material. What kind of technologies are available for that purpose?

Handouts

- ① ICCA Energy and Climate Policies
- ② The Chemical Industry : Energy & Climate Change Priorities
- ③ Biofuels Technology Roadmap :
“Cleaner Transport : Powering Transportation with Cleaner Fuels”
- ④ Catalysis Technology Roadmap
- ⑤ Building Energy Efficiency Technology Roadmap