In recent years, as many scientists predicted, evidence of a global warming trend has been increasing. Furthermore, unusual climatic conditions have caused serious localized damage in many parts of the world through massive hurricanes and typhoons, torrential rains, droughts, progressive desertification, heat waves, and other weather-related events.

UNU Zero Emissions Forum will hold a symposium on the theme “Global Warming and Challenge towards Carbon Low Consumption Society.” At our last symposium we received presentations on the IPCC 4th Assessment Report, and watched the movie “An Inconvenient Truth”. Let us be fully aware of the influence of ever-increasing global warming, learn about Japan’s roles for its prevention, and move one step forward towards the realization of the carbon low consumption society. (Japanese–English simultaneous interpretation will be provided)

Programme

14:00 ● Opening Remarks:
Hiroyuki Fujimura (Chairman, United Nations University–ZEF)

14:10 ● Welcoming Remarks:
Konrad Osterwalder (Rector, United Nations University)

14:20 ● Keynote Speech: “Swedish climate policies – economic growth and reductions of greenhouse gas emissions”
Svante Bodin (Deputy Director-General, Ministry of the Environment of Sweden)
Cooperated by The Natural Step Japan

15:20 ● Keynote Speech: “Global environmental problems – present state and challenge for the future”
Yoshio Tamura (Administrative Vice-Minister, Ministry of the Environment of Japan)

16:20 Break

16:30 ● Panel Discussion: Well-Designed Environmental Regulations will Strengthen Companies’ Competitiveness — Reviewing Porter Hypothesis
Coordinator: Tadahiro Mitsuhashi (ZEF Representative, Local Government NW)
Panelists: Svante Bodin (Deputy Director-General, Ministry of the Environment of Sweden)
Tatsuo Tani (Associate Director, Division General Manager, Corporate Environment Division, RICOH Co. Ltd.)
Masatsugu Taniguchi (ZEF Representative, Business NW)

18:00 Closing

(Please note that the programme is subject to change due to circumstances)