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# United Nations University Zero Emissions Forum General Meeting Will Consider Climate Change and Carbon Emissions

**Event:** United Nations University Zero Emissions Forum General Meeting  
**Theme:** “Global Warming and Challenge towards Achieving Low Carbon Society”  
**Date:** 28 May 2008 (Wednesday), 2:00 – 6:00 PM  
**Venue:** U Thant International Conference Hall, UN University Headquarters, Tokyo  
**Organizer:** United Nations University Zero Emissions Forum (UNU ZEF)

- As suggested by a number of scientists, the impact of climate change has clearly been seen in various parts of the world, including recent damage caused by hurricanes and typhoons, torrential rains, droughts, progressive desertification, heat waves and other weather-related phenomenon.
- Participants in this meeting will discuss the ever-increasing influence of climate change and the role of Japan for its mitigation, as well as the necessity to move further towards realization of a low-carbon, sustainable-consumption society.
- Mr. Svante Bodin, Deputy Director-General, Ministry of the Environment of Sweden, will deliver a keynote speech on “Swedish Climate Policies — Economic Growth and Reductions of Greenhouse Gas Emissions”. Mr. Yoshio Tamura, Administrative Vice-Minister, Ministry of the Environment of Japan, will then deliver a keynote speech on “Global Environmental Problems”.
- After a brief break, there will be a panel discussion on “Well-Designed Environmental Regulations Can Strengthen Companies’ Competitiveness — Reviewing the Porter Hypothesis”. The panelists will be Mr. Svante Bodin; Mr. Tatsuo Tani, Associate Director, Division General Manager, Corporate Environment Division, Ricoh Co., Ltd.; and Mr. Masatsugu Taniguchi, UNU ZEF Representative, Business Network. The discussion will be moderated by Mr. Tadahiro Mitsuhashi, UNU ZEF Representative, Local Government Network.
- Simultaneous English–Japanese interpretation will be provided.

For more information, or to reserve a media space at the UNU ZEF General Meeting, please contact Naoko Yano, UNU Office of Communications (tel: 03-5467-1311; e-mail: [media@unu.edu](mailto:media@unu.edu)).

### About UNU ZEF

The need to realize sustainable development and make a transition to a sustainable society was addressed in Agenda 21 of the 1992 Earth Summit. In pursuit of this goal, the UNU has adopted a facilitating role in fostering zero emissions-related activities through the UNU Zero Emissions Forum. This Forum brings together representatives from business, local governments and the scientific community in pursuit of research, capacity building and networking aimed at achieving zero emissions. UNU ZEF promotes international multidisciplinary research efforts to analyze trends in society and technology using a range of methodologies (including input–output/materials balance flows, etc.).

MEDIA ADVISORY