

Statement by Durwood Zaelke, President, Institute for Governance and Sustainable Development (IGSD)

Reducing back carbon, methane, and HFCs can cut the rate of global warming in half and in the Arctic by two-thirds. We need to be ambitious to solve our half of climate change. We should not be modest.

If you look at the graph on page 25 of our publication, *Time to Act*, you can see where we are headed under business as usual—into a very warm and very dangerous future.

You can then see how much warming we can avoid by aggressively cutting carbon dioxide. We need to do this. We need to cut carbon dioxide now, aggressively. But it's not enough to avoid going past the 2C guardrail.

Then you can see how much more warming we can avoid by cutting the short-lived climate pollutants. But alone this is not enough either. It is the dual strategy—where we cut both the short-lived climate pollutants and carbon dioxide—that keeps us from passing the 2C guardrail.

In the near-term cutting the short-lived climate pollutants can avoid six times more warming by 2050 than an aggressive scenario to cut carbon dioxide. We need to scale up our actions to deliver this fast action. We need to be ambitious. And we need to know that we cannot protect our climate without our contribution.

At an earlier High Level Assembly, the CCAC endorsed the strategy of cutting HFCs by amending the Montreal Protocol. The Montreal Protocol is widely regarded as the world's most successful environmental treaty. It is also recognized as the world's most successful climate treaty. In this week's issue of *The Economist* magazine, they rank the top 20 strategies that have helped slow global warming. The Montreal Protocol wins hands down. It has done more to protect the climate than China's one-child policy. It has done more than the fall of the USSR. It has done more than hydro, nuclear, and renewables. In fact, it's done more than almost all of the other strategies put together.

The *Economist* magazine also describes how much more the Montreal Protocol can do to protect the climate by agreeing to the HFC amendment. We can avoid the equivalent of up to 100 billion tonnes of CO₂ by 2050, and double that if we act fast and get rid of high GWP HFCs by 2020. We can get even more from the energy efficiency gains that we always get when the Montreal Protocol requires an improvement in the refrigerants in air conditioners and refrigerators. We can in fact get 10 to 20 percent of all the mitigation the world needs to stay below the 2C barrier. And in doing so, we can build political momentum for Paris next year.

The *Economist* editorial is titled "Paris via Montreal" -- the road to a successful outcome at the UN climate negotiations in Paris next year runs through Montreal.

We need to be ambitious and we need to finish the consensus for the HFC amendment, which is now supported by more than 100 countries. Thank you.