The Role of Academies of Science in Climate Change Policy Actions

The purpose of this session is to disseminate the science advice products from academies of science that have a bearing on climate change. In addition to their honorific function, academies of science provide science advice to government. Climate change is one of those areas where science advice is sought as it also covers a number of other areas. The Academy of Science of South Africa (ASSAf) has recently published The 2nd Biennial Report on Climate Change which it will disseminate through this session. The InterAcademy Partnership (IAP) which is a global network of academies has produced a report entitled Evidence-informed Policy for Tackling Adverse Climate Change Effects on Health: Linking Regional and Global Assessments of Science to Catalyse Action. The report was as a result of work was done through the regional members of IAP of whom ASSAf is a member. These documents are available for use at the COP26 and beyond as countries address climate change as a wicked problem that has a global impact.

Background

Date: 5 November 2021
Time: 13:00 – 15:00 SAST
11:00 – 13:00 GMT

Session Moderator: Professor Mary Scholes, ASSAf Council Member

Prof Himla Soodyall (ASSAf Executive Officer)
Brief overview of session

Prof Francois Engelbrecht (University of the Witwatersrand)
Climate change and risks for southern Africa

Prof Guy Midgley (Stellenbosch University)
Risks and opportunities in adaptation and mitigation for Africa

Dr Deoraj Caussy (Epidemiologist, Integrated Epidemiology Solution)
Protecting Human Health and Climate Change in Africa: where do we stand?

Dr Oladoyin Odubanjo (Executive Secretary, Nigerian Academy of Science)
Climate change resilience and adaptation in Africa; recommendations for policymakers

Dr Jackie Kado (Executive Director, Network of African Science Academies)
The role of national academies in addressing climate change issues

Dr Robin Fears (IAP, Project Co-ordinator)
Climate action to protect and promote global health

Emma Nohrén (European Committee of the Regions)
Subnational governments’ role in global climate action

Discussion and Q&A (all)

Prof Volker ter Meulen (IAP)
Concluding remarks