

World Nuclear Association

Energy For Sustainable Development

From the Director General

28 April 2003

To the Awarders of the Sassakawa Prize:

I am pleased to have the opportunity to express approval of the nomination made by Christopher Layton, Hon Director General of the Commission of the European Union.

I agree that Aubrey Meyer is the outstanding candidate for the Sassakawa Prize, for two reasons:

First is his simple but brilliant constitutional concept of Contraction and Convergence for avoiding catastrophic climate change.

Second is his relentless and increasingly successful international promotion of this concept over the last fifteen years.

At any rates specified, the C&C model plots two simple things:

- o Future greenhouse gas emissions on a global path, via a contraction rate – or or contraction budget – that would stabilise the atmospheric concentration at a safe level; and
- o The tradable international permits or shares in this budget that become equal per capita globally at a rate of convergence that is deliberately faster than the contraction rate, and so fair against the historic emissions of the industrial countries.

In the debate about climate change, an impression has been created that the problem is too daunting and complex to prevent. Contraction and Convergence provides a way forward that it is both fair and feasible.

It fulfils the stated goals of the UNFCCC. It satisfies the U.S. Senate's Byrd-Hagel Resolution. And it answers the developing countries' demand for equity.

As such, C&C would resolve the North-South stalemate and enable us to achieve our urgent global emissions-reduction imperative.

Aubrey has matched the craft of his C&C model with the skill and guts to fight for – and win – friends for it all over the world. For more than a decade, he has done this independently and with no institutional support.

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His achievement is not just impressive but inspirational. C&C is now at the centre of the IPCC and UNFCC policy debate as the most widely referenced and cited approach. It has been profoundly influential in commercial, religious and academic circles, as well in the civil service, civil society and the media.

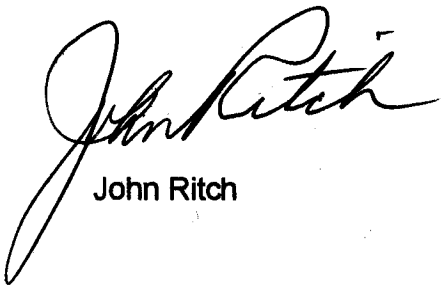
C&C is rapidly becoming the most widely recognised successor to the Kyoto Protocol.

Whatever technologies come into play in humanity's quest to make and share a sustainable future, C&C will inevitably be the framework we use.

By recognising Aubrey's achievement, the Sassakawa jury will help speed our quest for a solution to a global crisis without precedent.

I can think of no person and no idea more deserving of your reward.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Ritch". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and "R".

John Ritch