

## Biographies of Authors of Forewords

**Olusegun Obasanjo** (Nigeria); Chief Promoter, Centre for Human Security, Olusegun Obasanjo Presidential Library. He served as Nigeria's military Head of State (1976-1979) and President (1999-2007). He recently concluded service as Special Envoy to the Secretary General of the United Nations to the Great Lakes Region of Africa (2008-2009). He is a focal point of consultation by world leaders on matters affecting the African continent. He was Co-Chairman of the Commonwealth Eminent Persons Group on South Africa (1986); Chairperson-in-Office, Commonwealth of Nations (2003-2005); Chairperson, African Union Assembly of Heads of States and Governments (2004-2006). He also chaired the Group of 77. He is a founding member of the Inter-Action Council, a coalition of former heads of states and presidents. He is a member of the African Progress Panel and a regular participant of the Clinton Global Summit. He is also a member of the Club of Madrid. President Obasanjo played a pivotal role in the regeneration and re-positioning of the African Union - with the *African Peer Review Mechanism* (APRM) designed to engender and promote the ideals of democracy and good governance, and the *New Partnership for Africa's Development* (NEPAD). He has consistently supported the deepening and widening of regional cooperation through the *Economic Community of West African States* (ECOWAS) and the Co-prosperity Alliance Zone incorporating Benin, Ghana, Nigeria, and Togo. He chaired the African Heads of State and Government Implementation Committee of the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) and recently led the Africa Union delegation to monitor the Togolese general elections as Head of Delegation (2010). President Obasanjo was also involved in international mediation efforts in Namibia, Angola, South Africa, Mozambique and Burundi. He founded the Africa Leadership Forum in 1988 and the Centre for Human Security in 2009.

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**Connie Hedegaard** (Denmark) had already been working with climate issues for several years by the time she began her appointment as the EU's first ever Commissioner for Climate Action in February 2010. In August 2004 she was appointed as Danish Minister for the Environment. In 2007 she was in charge of setting up the Danish Ministry of Climate and Energy, where one of the main tasks was to prepare the UN Climate Conference in Copenhagen in De-

cember 2009. Connie Hedegaard began her political career as a student at the University of Copenhagen. There she studied literature and history while at the same time pursuing a political career that encompassed both Danish and international politics. In 1984, at the age of 23, she was elected to the Danish Parliament as a member for the Conservative People's Party, thereby becoming the youngest Danish MP ever at that time, and in 1985 she became Chair of the Atlantic Association of Young Political Leaders. In 1989, Connie Hedegaard became first spokesperson for the Conservative People's Party, but chose to leave politics for journalism in 1990. Besides her political career, Connie Hedegaard has had a long career in journalism. In 1990, she began working as a journalist on the Danish national newspaper *Berlingske Tidende*. In 1998 she became head of the news bulletin service *Radioavisen* at the Danish Broadcasting Corporation, after which she hosted the current affairs programme *Deadline* on the television channel DR2. Between 1998 and 2004 she also wrote for the Danish national daily newspaper *Politiken*. Apart from working as a politician and journalist, Connie Hedegaard has sat on a number of committees and boards, including chairing the *Centre for Cultural Cooperation with Developing Countries* (CKU) and as a member of the board of the Danish Parliament's Democracy Foundation. Lastly, she has received various prizes for her involvement in and contributions to social debate, due in great part to her wide-ranging activities as a lecturer and author. Her publications include *Da klimaet blev hot* [When the climate got hot], published in Denmark in 2008, as well as contributions to several anthologies and topical books. Connie Hedegaard lives in Brussels and in Hellerup, Denmark with her husband, Jacob, and their two sons.

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**Christiana Figueres** (Costa Rica) was appointed as the new Executive Secretary of the *United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change* (UNFCCC) by UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon on 17 May 2010. The appointment was endorsed by the Bureau of the Convention. Ms Figueres has been involved in climate change negotiations since 1995. She was a member of the Costa Rican negotiating team and represented Latin America and the Caribbean on the Executive Board of the *Clean Development Mechanism* (CDM) in 2007, before being elected Vice-President

of the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties 2008–2009. In 1995 she founded the *Center for Sustainable Development of the Americas* (CSDA), a non-profit think tank for climate change policy and capacity-building, which she directed until 2003. From 1994 to 1996, she served as Director of the Technical Secretariat *Renewable Energy in the Americas* (REIA). Ms Figueres began her life of public service in 1982 as Minister Counsellor at the Embassy of Costa Rica in Bonn, Germany. She served as Director of International Cooperation in the Ministry of Planning in Costa Rica (1987–1988), and was then named Chief of Staff to the Minister of Agriculture (1988–1990). Ms Figueres has served on the boards of several non-governmental organizations involved in climate change issues, including the Voluntary Carbon Standard. She is also a widely published author on the design of climate solutions, and has been a frequent adviser to the private sector on how to play a leadership role in mitigation. Ms Figueres holds a master's degree in Anthropology from the London School of Economics, and a certificate in Organizational Development from Georgetown University. She was born in San José, Costa Rica in 1956, and is married with two children.

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**Dr. R.K. Pachauri** has been the Chief Executive of TERI since 1981, designated initially as Director and since April 2001 as Director-General. In April 2002 he was elected as Chairman of the *Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change* (IPCC), which was established by the World Meteorological Organization and the United Nations Environment Programme in 1988. IPCC along with former Vice President Al Gore has been awarded the Nobel Peace Prize

for the year 2007. Dr. Pachauri has a PhD in Industrial Engineering and a PhD in Economics. He has served on several international and national committees including membership of the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister of India, the *Advisory Board on Energy* (ABE) which reports directly to the Prime Minister of India, and has been a Senior Advisor to the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme and several others. He has been President (1988) and Chairman (1989–90) of the *International Association for Energy Economics* (IAEE). He has been President of the Asian Energy Institute since 1992. In April 1999, he was appointed Member of the Board of Directors of the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies, Japan and continues to hold this appointment. Dr. Pachauri was awarded the 'Padma Bhushan' in 2001 by the President of India and he was also bestowed the 'Officier De La Légion D'Honneur' by the Government of France in 2006. He has been active in several international forums dealing with the subject of climate change and its policy dimensions. He was conferred with the 'Padma Vibhushan', the second highest civilian award, for his services in the field of science and engineering in January 2008 by the President of India. He has been appointed as Director, Yale Climate and Energy Institute from July 2009. He has been conferred with the 'Commander of the Order of Leopold II' by the King of the Belgians in July 2009; the 'Commander of the Order of the White Rose of Finland' by the Prime Minister of Finland in February 2010 and 'The Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Star' by His Majesty Akihito, Emperor of Japan, in April 2010.

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