

**This is the inaugural newsletter from Climate Alliance. The directors of Climate Alliance look forward to keeping in touch with Members and providing a regular mechanism for Members to exchange ideas.**

Last month Climate Alliance was launched in Melbourne and Sydney. Directors from Australia's largest companies were invited to listen to Ivan Deveson AO in Melbourne and General Peter Cosgrove (Retired) AC MC in Sydney. The Chairman and CEO of The Dow Chemical Company, Mr Andrew Liveris, was present via a specially produced video. The Consuls of the Danish Government kindly assisted by highlighting the importance of the forthcoming Copenhagen summit. For more information on the speeches, please visit our website at: [www.climatealliance.org.au/events/launch.html](http://www.climatealliance.org.au/events/launch.html)

## MELBOURNE LAUNCH - 17<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 2009

Mr Jan Ravnholt, the Danish Consul General in Melbourne was the Master of Ceremonies for the afternoon. He spoke about the significance of the forthcoming Copenhagen summit. He also drew attention to the opportunity for Australian businesses



L-R: Jan Ravnholt, Ben Scheltus, Ivan Deveson and Ken Mirams.

to benefit from building closer ties to European companies in the area of renewable energy and energy efficiency expertise.

**Ivan Deveson** gave a spirited and thought-provoking speech at the launch in Melbourne. He addressed the challenges directors

face today – particularly the need to remain relevant. He said directors needed to stay on top of new issues – especially climate change and he highlighted the importance of balanced information in helping directors make decisions. As corporate momentum is hard to change, he stressed that often a strong “first ruck” is needed to kick-start the change - but acknowledged that the role of a change agent can be lonely.

## SYDNEY LAUNCH - 18<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 2009



L-R: Harold Chua, Rikke Gamborg, Hendrik Karsten, Arjun Surapaneni and Ben Scheltus

The Master of Ceremonies in Sydney was Ms Carolyn Fletcher, Director of Black Isle Communications. Ms Fletcher introduced Ms Rikke Gamborg, Danish Deputy Consul General in Sydney. Ms Gamborg gave a short history of the previous 14 UN's “Conference of Parties”

and highlighted the significance of “COP15” occurring in Copenhagen in December. (See <http://en.cop15.dk/>) Denmark has enjoyed economic growth since 1980 - whilst energy consumption has remained constant and greenhouse emissions have fallen.



Sydney Launch, Nov 18



CLIMATE ALLIANCE

*A business essential.*

**Peter Cosgrove** drew on his long experience as a military leader to draw parallels of his experience with his role on company boards today. He spoke



General Peter Cosgrove (Retired) AC MC

about the importance of good quality information and the need for directors to adequately inform themselves. Although he acknowledged it was not necessary for directors to be experts in all areas – it is critical to know whom to trust: “We are not expected to be perfect in our foresight, just to be perfect

in our diligence”. In the absence of perfect information, this is no time for “masterly inactivity” and he was very keen for Australians to address the problems they own.

## ANDREW LIVERIS

The Chairman and CEO of The Dow Chemical Company – an Australian expatriate – kindly produced a video especially for the two occasions. In the video, Mr Liveris highlighted the scale of the Dow business - it consumes as much crude oil globally



Mr Andrew Liveris

as Australia. He said businesses need to innovate to find ways to decouple economic growth from growth in greenhouse emissions. Dow has managed to reduce its absolute emissions by 20% since 1990 and its energy intensity by 38%. These savings were made through investments of US\$1B – resulting in savings of US\$8B. He felt strongly that Australia should take a leadership position in addressing

these challenges. He said we must use a three pronged approach; business should use technology to slow the rate of emissions growth, developed nations need to take the lead, and thirdly, every possible solution needs to be put on the table. Mr Ken Mirams, MD of Dow Chemical in Australia was present to field a number of questions after the video presentation.

## BEN SCHELTUS

Executive Director and CEO of Climate Alliance, Mr Scheltus, spoke about the opportunities and risks presented by climate change. He spoke about WalMart's strategy in the US to reduce its carbon footprint and substantially reduce its operating costs. He also described the opportunities for Ceramic Fuel Cells, a small Victorian manufacturer of micro-power plants. It will be marketing its invention to the largest utilities in Europe. Mr Scheltus described the Climate Alliance program for 2010 and how it would focus on companies that have successfully implemented sustainable solutions.

*See over.*



## CLIMATE ALLIANCE PRESENTS

### ROUND TABLE FORUMS

Our Members' program will include a series of Round Table Forums where directors can meet to learn from each other and exchange information. We will ask directors who have taken a leadership position in this area to share their experiences with other directors. These Round Table forums will be held under the Chatham House rule to encourage open and frank conversations.

### QUARTERLY UPDATES

At Quarterly Updates, specialists in a particular field will each speak for fifteen minutes on issues of interest to directors. Presenters will review a project that has been completed; describe a new initiative that is planned and thirdly review the risks and regulations that directors may face.

### NATIONAL CONFERENCE

We will finish off the year with a National Conference that will be a combination of the Round Table and Quarterly Update sessions. The Climate Alliance Awards will be presented at this event.

### WEBSITE

Climate Alliance maintains an information rich website that includes articles available only to Members and specifically written for the company director community. The publications cover subjects such as Board Risk Committees, Energy Efficiency Improvements, Role of Boards, Carbon Supply Chain, IPCC, Enlisting Champions, and more.

### AWARDS

Climate Alliance will present major Awards at our Annual Conference in recognition of the service of individual Company Directors and an Australian Company that has effectively addressed corporate issues associated with climate change.

### Program Schedule 2010

February 24	Quarterly Update - Melbourne
March 24	Round Table - Melbourne
April 21	Quarterly Update - Sydney
May 26	Round Table - Sydney
June 23	Quarterly Update - Melbourne
July 21	Round Table - Melbourne
August 25	Quarterly Update - Sydney
September 22	Round Table - Sydney
October 20	National Conference - Melbourne



UNITED NATIONS  
CLIMATE CHANGE  
CONFERENCE  
DEC 7-DEC 18  
2009

### What you can do

Join Climate Alliance by becoming a **Member**.

If you are not a Director, you can support Climate Alliance by becoming an **Affiliate Supporter**.

**Sponsor** our 2010 Program.

**Share** your experience with other Directors by attending a Round Table or Quarterly Update.

*Please contact Climate Alliance, or download the respective forms from our website.*

### ABOUT CLIMATE ALLIANCE



Climate Alliance Limited is a not-for-profit, membership based company that engages with business leaders and communicates the opportunities and risks of climate change. Climate Alliance organises events where directors can exchange experiences and ideas. In addition, we publish independent, business-oriented information for Company Directors to help them inform themselves about the issues. We focus on the opportunities resulting from climate change, through practical, real-life examples of best practice in Australia and elsewhere.

### DIRECTORS

Mr Hendrik Karsten is the Chairman of the Board. Dr Harold Chua and Mr Arjun Surapaneni are Directors. Mr Ben Scheltus is the CEO and Executive Director of the company.

### BOARD OF ADVISORS

The Board of Directors is guided by a Board of Advisors that has been selected for the Advisors' breadth of experience and knowledge in the area of climate change and sustainability. The Advisors provide the Directors a critical perspective and insight into the rapidly changing field of climate change. They have a particular interest in climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies for business.

### Contact Details

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