

Under the auspices of:



THE BRUSSELS-EU CHAPTER . CoR-EU
Honorary President HRH Prince Philip of Belgium

Aurelio Peccei Lectures

INVITATION

The Brussels-EU Chapter has the pleasure inviting you to its thirty-fourth Aurelio Peccei lecture, *Thursday September 28, 2006*, which will deal with:

Beyond the Tipping Point: Positive Feedback and the Acceleration of Climate Change

by

David Wasdell

**Founder and Director of the Unit for Research into Changing Institutions,
and International Coordinator of the Meridian Programme.**

This presentation introduces a conceptual, systems-dynamics approach to modelling the whole earth system as a single global entity. World-leading analysis of the feedback dynamics in climate change alerts us to the existence of a potential “tipping point” or watershed in the behaviour of global climate. Topological presentation offers a landscape with two zones of complex equilibrium. One is the current stability of the Holocene epoch, its dynamics grounded in the conditions of the Pleistocene, with oscillations between cold glacial and warmer inter-glacial periods. The other zone, entered via a slope of runaway climate change, is the higher-temperature solution of the “Anthropocene Extinction Event”.

It is the argument of this presentation that we have already passed that watershed, and acceleration towards the second solution is already underway. Contemporary civilisation faces a choice between continuing the current path towards catastrophe, or introducing powerful negative feedback processes able to halt the runaway climate change and return the planet to a viable and sustainable equilibrium.

Date : **Thursday September 28, 2006** from **6:00 till 8:00 PM.**

The lecture will be followed by a refreshment. After the event all participants are invited to a dinner. Participation is at own costs.

Venue: Royal Flemish Academy of Belgium. Hertogstraat, 1, rue Ducale. B-1000 Brussels

For planning and logistical reasons, please send your **registration at the lecture as well as at the dinner** to Brussels_eu_cor@scarlet.be (with 2 underscores).