



10th Meeting of the Brussels Dialogue on Climate Diplomacy

Addressing the Security Implications of Climate Change

Tuesday, 14 May 2019

Permanent Representation of the Netherlands to the European Union

4-10 Avenue de Cortenbergh, 1040 Brussels

Addressing the security implications of a changing climate requires an all-of-government and an all-of-society approach. This meeting will highlight the implications and examine how the military and defence community can play an important role in an integrated approach.

AGENDA

15:00-15:30 Arrival of Participants / Registration / Welcome Coffee

15:30-15:45 Welcome and Opening by **Louise van Schaik**, Head of Sustainability Research, Clingendael - Netherlands Institute for International Relations / Planetary Security Initiative (PSI) and **Ronald A. Kingham**, Executive Director, Environment & Development Resource Centre (EDRC) / Co-coordinator, Brussels Dialogue on Climate Diplomacy (BDCD) / Coordinator, Global Military Advisory Council on Climate Change (GMACCC)

15:45-16:45 Panel Presentations

Moderator: **Alexander Verbeek**, Founding Director, Institute for Planetary Security (IPS) / Policy Director, Environment & Development Resource Centre (EDRC)

Introducing the International Military Council on Climate and Security (IMCCS) by **General Tom Middendorp**, (Ret), Former Chief of Defense of the Netherlands / Chair, International Military Advisory Council on Climate and Security (IMCCS)

Elevating Climate and Security in the Work of Policy-makers in the U.S., Japan, Australia and New Zealand by **Shiloh Fetzek**, Senior Fellow for International Affairs, Center for Climate and Security (CSS) / Research Coordinator, International Military Council on Climate and Security (IMCCS)

Recent Climate and Security Developments in Iraq and Mali by **Tobias von Lossow**, Research Fellow, Sustainability Research Unit, Clingendael - Netherlands Institute for International Relations

Discussion

16:45-17:00 Announcements by BDCD Participating Organisations

17:00-18:00 Reception

Organised by the Environment & Development Resource Centre and Clingendael - Netherlands Institute for International Relations for the Brussels Dialogue on Climate Diplomacy and the Planetary Security Initiative in association with the Center for Climate and Security, the Global Military Advisory Council on Climate Change, the Institute for Planetary Security and the International Military Council on Climate and Security with the support of the Federal Foreign Office of Germany



About the Panellists

General Tom Middendorp, (Ret) is the Chair of the [International Military Council on Climate and Security](#) (IMCCS). Previously, he served as the Netherlands Chief of Defense for five and a half years and after 38 years of serving his country. As the Chief of Defense he was the most senior military advisor to the Minister of Defense, responsible for the readiness, the international cooperation and the modernization of the Dutch Armed Forces, as well as the planning and execution of its military deployments. He commanded troops at all levels, led a large multinational taskforce in the south of Afghanistan and was involved in over twenty different military missions as the Director of Operations. General Middendorp has extensive operational and strategic experience in building unity of effort with different nations, governments, companies and many other stakeholders in order to deal with a wide range of security risks. He organized two large Future Forces Conferences where he introduced an ecosystems approach to security and offered “Defense” as a testbed for innovation, resulting in many promising new initiatives. His current occupation as an independent senior expert on defense and security allows him to continue his work on the impact of climate change on the security environment and on the role the military can play in addressing climate change.



Shiloh Fetzek is Senior Fellow for International Affairs at the [Center for Climate and Security](#) and Research Coordinator for the [International Military Council on Climate and Security](#) (IMCCS). Shiloh leads international programs at the Center, and chairs the primary collaborative forum for international cooperation on climate change and security, the Climate and Security Working Group-International (CSWG-I). She has published widely with the Center, including as author of “[The Alliance in a Changing Climate: Bolstering the NATO Mission Through Climate Preparedness](#),” and “[Climate, Coffee and Security](#)” and co-author of “[Europe’s Responsibility to Prepare: Managing Climate Security Risks in a Changing World](#),” among many others. She is a security analyst focusing on climate change and environment, based at international affairs and security think tanks since 2007. She previously led climate security research projects at the International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS) and the Royal United Services Institute (RUSI) in London, and was Senior Research Associate for Environment, Climate Change and Security at International Alert.

Tobias von Lossow is a Research Fellow at [Clingendael’s Sustainability Research Unit](#). His areas of expertise include water conflicts, water diplomacy, hydro-politics and climate change impacts on water with a regional focus on Africa and the Middle East. His recent work focuses on the role of water in armed conflicts and fragile post-conflict settings, in particular the weaponization of water by the so-called Islamic State (IS). Since 2012 Tobias von Lossow is a lecturer at the Freie Universität Berlin (FU) and a member of the Advisory Council of the [Next Generation Leaders Program at the Arizona State University](#) (ASU) and the McCain Institute. He is a member of the “Water and Conflict in the Middle East Project” of Georgetown University, Qatar (2017-2019) and of the “Water Security in the Middle East Research Group” of EuroMeSCo and IPCRI (2019-2020). Previously, he worked at the Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik (SWP) / German Institute for International and Security Affairs in Berlin. Recent publications include “[More than infrastructures: water challenges in Iraq](#)”, “[The River Congo - Africa’s Sleeping Giant](#)”, “[The multiple crisis. Perspectives on water scarcity in the Euphrates and Tigris basin](#)” and “[The Rebirth of Water as a Weapon: IS in Syria and Iraq](#)”.



About the Organisations



The **Brussels Dialogue on Climate Diplomacy (BDCD)** is an informal network for the exchange of information and the promotion of cooperation among European institutions, international organisations and think tanks active in the nexus between climate change and international, national, human and environmental security. <http://brusselsdialogue.net/index.html>

The **Environment & Development Resource Centre (EDRC)** established in 1991 works to contribute to the achievement of global sustainable development that is environmentally sound, socially just and respectful of cultural diversity. EDRC also serves as a catalyst for new initiatives to redress shortcomings in the international environment-development-peace policy-making process. EDRC coordinates the Brussels Dialogue on Climate Diplomacy (BDCD) and serves as the secretariat for the Global Military Advisory Council on Climate Change (GMACCC) <https://www.edrc.net>



Clingendael - Netherlands Institute for International Relations is a leading think tank and academy on international affairs which aims to contribute to a secure, sustainable and just world. In the spring of 2016 Clingendael was selected to implement the continuation of the [Planetary](#)

[Security Initiative](#) (PSI) together with a consortium of leading think tanks working on this topic. The goal of the PSI is to strengthen the knowledge-policy interface by consolidating the community of practice on planetary security, key to this is its core outputs. <https://www.clingendael.org/>



The Center for Climate and Security (CCS), a non-partisan institute of the Council on Strategic Risks, is an action-oriented think tank and convener, with a distinguished Advisory Board of senior retired military leaders and security professionals. CCS envisions a climate-resilient world which recognizes that climate change threats to security are already significant and unprecedented, and acts to address those threats in a manner that is commensurate to their scale, consequence and probability. <http://climateandsecurity.org>

The **Institute for Planetary Security** founded in 2015 works to raise awareness and promote peace and sustainable development in times of climate change and global environmental challenges.

https://twitter.com/planetary_sec



The **International Military Council on Climate and Security (IMCCS)**

A growing number of militaries and national security communities around the world are concerned about a changing climate – including the very real risks it poses to global stability, conflict and military missions. The IMCCS is an international network of these individuals that seeks to anticipate, analyze, and address the security risks of climate change. <https://imccs.org/>

The **Global Military Advisory Council on Climate Change (GMACCC)** founded in 2009 is a global network of serving and retired military officers, and associated institutions, committed to highlighting the potential security implications of a changing climate and advocating action, including by the military, to minimise the risk. <http://gmaccc.org/>

