Rear Admiral Neil Morisetti

UK Government Climate and Energy Security Envoy

2009 -2012

Role of CESE

- Broaden and deepen understanding of security implications of climate change amongst global political leaders.

- Persuade security communities of need to understand risks and address consequences of climate and resource insecurity.

- Embed understanding of climate security across UK government to inform decisions on adaptation and mitigation.

Message (1)

- Impact of climate change broader than just environmental, socio-economic, health.
- Climate change has the potential to act as threat multiplier in regions where stresses already exist.
- Climate change poses threat to secure, sustainable, and affordable supplies of key natural resources essential for economic growth and prosperity.
- Energy, food, water and climate security are interconnected and inseparable.

Message (2)

- The nature of the globalised world means that all of us are affected.

- All nations need to factor climate change into their strategic security thinking.

- The solution is not a military one but military have a part to play as members of society.

- Addressing these issues brings opportunities as well as challenges.

Modus Operandi

- Reporting to Ministers in:
  - Ministry of Defence
  - Foreign and Commonwealth Office
  - Department of Energy and Climate Change
- Working with:
  - Other UK government departments.
  - Departments of Defence in other nations
  - International Institutions (UN/EU/NATO/ARF etc).

Audience

- National/International
- Elected political representatives.
- Government officials.
- Business community.
- Think tanks.
- Media.
- General Public.

Achievements

- Security implications of climate change and resource scarcity reflected in National Security Strategies of number of key nations.
- The development of global networks of serving and retired senior military officers (inc GMACCC) who are able to call upon governments to take action to address the security implications of climate change.
- Growing international recognition of the benefits to global security and stability achieved through addressing the impact of climate change.

Conclusions (1)

- Growing recognition of need to address security implications of climate change, including impact on availability of key natural resources required for global prosperity and well being, but not yet universal.

- Security community have a part to play in delivering the message that climate change is wider than just environmental and economic issues.

Conclusions (2)

- Message needs to be tailored to audience and must highlight opportunities as well as challenges.
- Messaging must be supported by a coherent narrative that looks beyond the immediacy of today.
- Audience must be able to relate to messenger.
- Need for "bottom up" as well as "top down" approach.

Recommendations (1)

- The EU Climate Change Strategy should include the need to take action to address the potential security implications of this threat, including the risks to key natural resources.

- Both EU institutions and Member States should commit to engaging in climate diplomacy in support of such a strategy.

Recommendations (2)

- The EAS should develop a climate and resource security narrative which highlights opportunities for growth and well being.

- Member States should adopt a 'similar' model to the UK Climate and Energy Security Envoy to assist in delivering this narrative.