



MEDIA ADVISORY
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**Arctic, Island, Advocate Voices Highlight Climate Impacts,
Call for Stronger Emission Reduction Targets**

Washington, DC

WHO: Lester Brown, President, Earth Policy Institute
Chris Flavin, President, Worldwatch Institute
Rolph Payet, Special Advisor to the President of the Seychelles
Sheila Watt-Cloutier, Inuit advocate and 2007 Nobel Peace Prize nominee

WHAT: A public event highlighting the need to secure a global agreement that includes ambitious emissions reduction targets as a necessary means to prevent catastrophic climate impacts on vulnerable communities in the Arctic and Small Island Developing States.

WHEN: 2-5 pm, April 1, 2009.

WHERE: National Press Club, 529 14th St. NW, 13th Floor, Washington, DC

BACKGROUND:

To avoid or reverse “dangerous” climate impacts on the world’s most vulnerable communities, the US and other countries must adopt ambitious and legally binding emission reduction targets. The IPCC and the broader scientific community previously believed that we must limit global temperature rise to 2°C and atmospheric greenhouse gas (GHG) concentrations to 450 ppm – in other words, if the world did not exceed these thresholds, then we stood a good chance of preventing our global climate system from reaching one of nature’s tipping points. However, recent studies indicate that 2°C and 450 ppm are neither safe nor equitable targets.

CLPP, MSV, and their partners hope to send a strong message to President Obama and Congressional leaders that the costs of climate inaction, delayed action, or inadequate action – particularly to people in vulnerable communities – are too high to be permitted. The climate crisis puts their homes, livelihoods, and relationships with each other and their environment at risk and therefore is a question of survival.

For more information, please visit www.climatelawpolicy.org and www.manystrongvoices.org.

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