



Royal Academy for
Overseas Sciences 

International Conference
Climates and Cultures: Perspectives for the Future
Brussels, 23-24 May 2018

PROGRAMME

WEDNESDAY 23 MAY

8:30 Welcome

9:00 Introduction

9:15 Climate Change

Chairs: Gaston DEMARÉE (member Academy, consultant Royal Meteorological Institute) & Philippe GOYENS (Permanent Secretary Academy)

Dirk VERSCHUREN, member Academy, Universiteit Gent

Ancient versus Modern-day Climate-Human-Ecosystem Interactions in East Africa

Astrid OGILVIE, Stefansson Arctic Institute, Akureyri (Iceland) & Institute of Arctic and Alpine Research (INSTAAR), University of Colorado, Boulder (USA)

Climate, Sea Ice and Human Ecodynamic Systems in Northeastern Iceland: Lessons from the Past and Perspectives for the Future

Piet TERMONIA, member Academy, ALADIN Consortium, Royal Meteorological Institute & Bert VAN SCHAEYBROECK, Royal Meteorological Institute

Climate Projections from the Global to the Regional Level

Discussion

10:30 BREAK & POSTER SESSION

11:00 Health and Nutrition

Chairs: Rais AKHTAR (member Academy, University of Kashmir) & Sophie VANWAMBEKE (member Academy, Université catholique de Louvain)

Rais AKHTAR, member Academy, University of Kashmir (India)

Climate Change and Human Health

Joris DELANGHE, Universiteit Gent
Human Migration, a Genetics-driven Story

Hans KEUNE, Universiteit Antwerpen & Universiteit Amsterdam (the Netherlands)
Biodiversity, Human Health, Climate Change Interlinkages and Challenges

Discussion

12:15 LUNCH

14:00 Biodiversity and Desertification

Chairs: André OZER (member Academy, hon. prof. Université de Liège) & Jan RAMMELOO
(member Academy, hon. dir. Nationale Plantentuin van België)

Dirk RAES & Eline VANUYTRECHT, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven
Food Production in the Future: Constraints (D. Raes) and Solutions (E. Vanuytrecht)

Han VERSCHURE, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven
Towards more Sustainable Cities

Discussion

14:50 BREAK & POSTER SESSION

15:40 Literary and Historical Aspects

Chairs: Bart DESSEIN (member Academy, Universiteit Gent) & Dirk HUYGE (member
Academy, Royal Museums of Art and History)

John DARNELL, Yale University
Climatic Duality in Ancient Egypt: From Paleolakes to the Vertebrae of Apep

Helge DANIELS, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven
The Desert and the City: Cities of Salt by Abdelrahman Munif

Discussion

16:30 BREAK & POSTER SESSION

THURSDAY 24 MAY

9:30 Migration and International Law

Chairs: Patrick VAN DAMME (member Academy, Universiteit Gent) & Geert VERVAEKE
(member Academy, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven)

Jean BOURGEOIS, Universiteit Gent

Migrations in the Archaeology. Some Examples from the Bronze Age and the Iron Age

Koen BOSTOEN, member Academy, Universiteit Gent

The First Bantu Speakers South of the Rainforest: A Cross-disciplinary Approach to Human Migration, Language Spread, Climate Change and Early Farming in Late Holocene Central Africa

Discussion

10:30 BREAK & POSTER SESSION

Vaios KOUTROULIS, International Law Centre, Faculty of Law, Université Libre de Bruxelles

Migration and Climate Change: Is there a Place in International Law for “Climate Refugees”?

Caroline ZICKGRAF, Observatoire Hugo, Université de Liège

Are ‘Climate Hostages’ the New ‘Climate Refugees’? : Migration and Immobility in Developing Countries

Discussion

12:00 LUNCH

13:30 **Technology**

Chairs: Jean BERLAMONT (member Academy, emer. prof. Katholieke Universiteit Leuven) & Jean-Michel HIVER (member Academy, Université Libre de Bruxelles)

Bakari KONE, Agence du Bassin du Fleuve Niger (ABFN) du Mali

The Inner Niger Delta in Mali facing the Challenges of Water Resource Management and Climate Change

Geoffroy CAUDE, Chairman PIANC (to be confirmed)

Methods used for reducing the Impact of Climate Change through PIANC Works with Special Emphasis on Ports and River Infrastructures

Oswald DEVISCH, Universiteit Hasselt

Flood Resilient Urban Parks

Discussion

14:45 BREAK & POSTER SESSION

15:15 Debate

Moderator: Gui GORIS, MO*

Discussants:

Johan BRAECKMAN, Bert GABRIELS, Peter VERLINDEN, Isabelle VERTRIEST, PIANC (Geoffroy CAUDE), Patrick VAN DAMME

16:30 Yves DRICOT, Deputy Director General Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Closing Address

