

In order to decrease the impacts of acidic rains, countries of the European region have agreed to decrease SO₂ emission by 30% till 1993. In the interest of protecting the ozone-layer, CFC compounds are being withdrawn from both production and utilization. The greenhouse effect is caused by the increased CO₂, methane, CFC and nitrogen oxides content of the atmosphere. The tendency of global warming can be felt more and more, though scientists do not agree whether this is really a warming process or just climate fluctuation. Whichever the truth is, in general global warming has a disadvantageous effect on the agriculture of many countries.

The 2nd World Climate Conference will be held in Geneva (Switzerland) in November 1990. The WMO and UNEP established an Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. The Report of this Panel - to be discussed in November - contains several important statements. I would like to mention some of these.

The Report says there is no dispute about whether there is a slow increase in global mean temperature or not. There is agreement that global mean surface temperature has increased by 0.3 to 0.6 °C over the last 100 years, with the five global-average warmest years being in the 1980s. The increase has not been smooth in time, nor in form over the globe.