



Conférence internationale des ministres et hauts responsables de la Défense

# Climat et Défense : quels enjeux ?

*The Implications of Climate Change for Defence*

## Foreword



In the run-up to COP21, which will be held in Paris in December 2015, I wanted the French Ministry of Defence to organize, with the support of the Senate, an international conference on climate change and its impacts on both international security and national defence policies.

Numerous Ministers from all continents have graciously accepted my invitation, as well as senior authorities of international and regional organisations, MPs, senior defence officials, academic experts, representatives from NGOs, and companies from all around the world.

This meeting, the first of its kind at the international level, will allow the highest defence authorities of numerous countries to exchange views on climate and environmental factors in the analysis of international risks. By exacerbating social, economic and political factors in fragile countries, and amplifying vulnerabilities which may lead to crisis or conflicts, climate change has become a major security issue.

Our defence ministries have a particular responsibility as they can contribute to public policies for sustainable development, through eco-design of defence equipment,

energy efficiency, protection of the environment, on national soil and in operational theatres.

I want these reflections to be continued.

In France this will happen through a roadmap on the defence impacts of climate change, which will cover all aspects of the Ministry of Defence's responsibilities – from knowledge and anticipation, to protection, prevention and military interventions. At the international level, I hope this large high-level conference will promote the development of international cooperation between ministries of defence, in particular through exchanges of views and experience.

COP21 is a crucial turning-point for getting climate change under control. The French Ministry of Defence will contribute in a responsible and ambitious manner. I thank all the senior political, institutional and academic actors who have answered our call. This collective and international mobilisation is the first condition of success.

**Jean-Yves Le Drian**

Minister of Defence of the French Republic





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## Round table issues

### Round table 1 - Pressure on Natural Resources and Food Security

The direct environmental impacts of climate change are now well known, such as rising sea levels, the relocation of fishery resources, droughts and desertification. The pressure exerted on natural resources can therefore be a destabilizing factor which in some cases increases the risks of social, economic and political unrest, and the displacement of populations inside their home countries and beyond. The climate factor is not in itself the root cause of conflicts but, when combined with other vulnerability factors, such as demographic growth and concentration, poverty, urbanization and coastal development, it can escalate tensions and exacerbate the situation.

### Round table 2 – Extreme Climate Events and Human Security

Some regions are more particularly affected by extreme climate events, which are becoming more frequent and intense due to the effects of climate change. Depending on the country and region, these events can be major storms, hurricanes, floods, droughts, heatwaves or forest fires - all natural disasters that directly affect the security of humans and of the rural and urban environments in which we live. Some vulnerable areas, especially urban and coastal ones, can therefore be particularly affected by these extreme phenomena and directly impact the stability of a country or a region.

### Round table 3 – What Impact on Defence Policy?

Because they are likely to be increasingly mobilized within the framework of humanitarian assistance operations during natural disasters, the armed forces could be directly impacted by the effects of climate change. The climate risk may also further constrain theatres of operation, forcing armed forces to adapt, notably in terms of materials. Climate change is therefore likely to affect several strategic functions, especially knowledge and anticipation, protection and intervention, and as a result, States' defence policy.

### Round table 4 – Green Defence, the Way Forward?

Defence ministries usually own large amounts of property and are often the largest public energy consumers. Their contribution to sustainable development policies thus mainly involves reducing their fossil fuel consumption, adapting their infrastructure and equipment to energy and recycling requirements, and meeting challenging environmental norms, while remaining compatible with operational constraints specific to military activities. Efforts are being pursued in this area not only at national level, but also within the framework of European defence and NATO.





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## Programme

7:45 - Opening to the public

9:00 - Keynote Address by Laurent Fabius, Minister of foreign affairs and international development of the French Republic

### CLIMATE CHANGE, A MULTIPLIER OF SECURITY RISKS

*Climate change increases pressure on natural resources – water, arable land, fishery resources among others – and the number and intensity of extreme climate events. What are the multiplier effects on fragilities, risk factors and tensions? What are the consequences on regional stability?*

*Introductory address remarks by Nicolas Hulot, Special envoy of President François Hollande for the protection of the earth*

### 9: 30 – PRESSURE ON NATURAL RESOURCES AND FOOD SECURITY

Moderator: Philippe ERRERA, Director General for International Relations and Strategy, Ministry of Defence

- Ibrahim THIAW, Assistant Secretary General of the

United Nations and Deputy Executive Director for the United Nations Environment Programme

- Dr. Benjamin KUNBUOR, Minister of Defence of the Republic of Ghana
- Mahamadou KARIDJO, Minister of National Defence of the Republic of Niger

10:45 - Break

### 11:15 – EXTREME CLIMATE EVENTS AND HUMAN SECURITY

Moderator: Hélène TREHEUX-DUCHÊNE, Director for Strategic Affairs, Security and Disarmament, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Development

- Lener RENAULD, Minister of Defence of the Republic of Haiti
- Joël BENAÏNDO TATOLA, Minister delegate to the Presidency of the Republic of Chad, in charge of National Defence and Veterans (tbc)
- Joël MORGAN, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Transport of the Republic of Seychelles

Concluding address by H.E. Smail CHERGUI, Commissioner for Peace and Security of the African Union





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## 14:30 – WHAT ARE THE IMPLICATIONS FOR DEFENCE POLICY ?

*The consequences of climate change on states and regional security must be taken into account by the armed forces at different levels. What are the necessary changes concerning strategic foresight and early warning, support for humanitarian assistance and disaster relief (HADR) operations on national soil or abroad, and also during peacekeeping operations?*

Moderator: Patricia Adam, MP, Second Constituency of the Finistère, Chair of the French National Assembly's Committee on National Defence and Armed Forces

- Abdeltif LOUDYI, Minister Delegate to the Head of Government for the Administration of National Defence of the Kingdom of Morocco
- Julian BRAZIER, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State, UK Ministry of Defence
- General Pierre de VILLIERS, Chief of Defence Staff, French Ministry of Defence

## 16:00 - GREEN DEFENCE, THE WAY FORWARD

*Ministries of Defence are major public consumers of energy and major owners of property and infrastructure. Therefore, they are important actors in sustainable development policy. Energy and technology initiatives have already been launched but there is a great deal left to be done. What are the solutions from now on?*

Moderator: Nick BUTLER, Visiting Professor at King's College London

- Alejandro ALVARGONZALEZ, Secretary General for Defence Policy, Ministry of Defence of the Kingdom of Spain
- Mathias OTOUNGA OSSIBADJOUO, Minister of Defence of the Republic of Gabon
- Giacchino ALFANO, Secretary of State for Defence, Republic of Italy
- Leila AÏCHI, Senator for Paris, Deputy Chair of the Senate Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Armed Forces

## 17:30 - CLOSING ADDRESS BY JEAN-YVES LE DRIAN, MINISTER OF DEFENCE OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC

## 18:00 - 19:00 - DEFENCE MINISTERS' CLOSED DOOR MEETING





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## Map and practical information

### Mandatory registration - subject to availability.

- A personal badge will be given to you upon presentation of a valid identification document

### Short program:

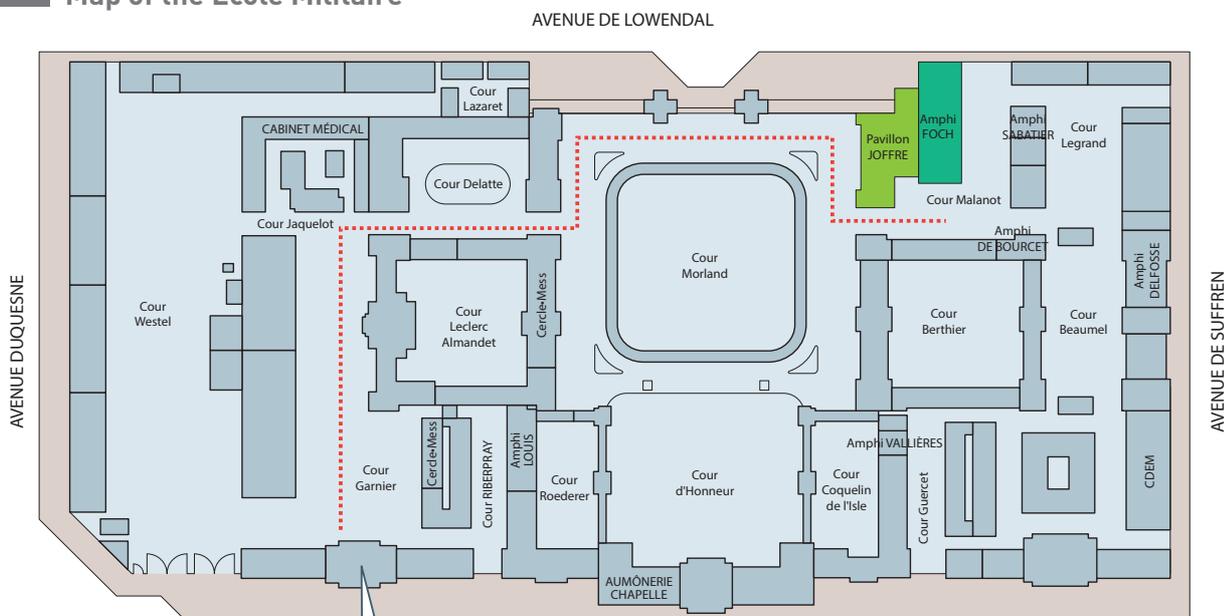
- 07h45 : Entrance at 5, place Joffre- Ecole militaire 75007 Paris
- Pedestrian only

- 08h00 – 08h45: Welcome breakfast at the Pavillon Joffre
- 09h00: Keynote address by the Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Development
- 12h30: Buffet at the Pavillon Joffre
- 14h30: Resumption of the Conference
- 17h30: Closing address by the French Minister of Defence

### Contacts :

- Media: 01 44 42 54 02 / [presse@dicod.fr](mailto:presse@dicod.fr)
- Organisation: [dgris-climate-defence.referent.fct@intradef.gouv.fr](mailto:dgris-climate-defence.referent.fct@intradef.gouv.fr)

### Map of the Ecole Militaire



← Métro Ecole Militaire tube station (ligne 8)

5, Place Joffre ENTRANCE

