

## **Climate Change Goes To DC**

The United States has hosted representatives of 17 world leaders plus the United Nations in the first Major Economies Meeting on Energy Security and Climate Change. The meeting is part of the new initiative President Bush announced at the G-8 Leaders Conference in May 2007 to further the shared objectives of reducing greenhouse gas emissions, increasing energy security and efficiency, and promoting strong economic growth. It is the first of a series that will bring the world's major economies together to develop a detailed contribution to address energy, security and climate change when the Kyoto Protocol expires in 2012. These meetings are intended to reinforce and accelerate discussions under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change and contribute to a global agreement under the Convention by 2009. The participating countries include the US, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, the European Union (and Portugal as current EU President plus the European Commission), France, Germany, Indonesia, India, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Russia, South Africa, South Korea, the United Kingdom and the United Nations. The agenda focused on four key areas: generating power from fossil fuels with lower carbon emissions, reducing carbon emissions in the transportation sector through vehicle and fuel technologies, addressing land use and the current unsustainable rate of deforestation and accelerating and expanding markets for currently available efficiency technology and the use of nuclear, solar, and wind energy.

[Source: esa news]