

UIAA Resolution on Climate Change

The UIAA General Assembly, meeting in Banff, Canada, on 14 Oct 2006:

Welcomes the joint initiative of the Alpine Club of Canada and the UIAA's Mountain Protection Commission in holding a workshop in Banff on 10/11 October, 2006, to examine the issue of climate change and its implications for mountaineers and mountaineering

Supports the ACC's proposal to develop a climate change policy statement for the Club, recognising this as a most worthwhile project, appropriate for the Club's Centennial Year, and hopes that other mountaineering associations will consider taking similar initiatives

Expresses the UIAA's concern at the threat to the earth's living resources, including but not limited to, mountain areas and human communities, from the effects of climate change and the role of fossil fuel use in contributing to these changes

Recognises the crucial contribution that mountaineers can make to public understanding of climate change issues through their historical observations and current knowledge of shrinking glaciers and snowfields

Urges all mountaineering associations and their members to consider both the implications of climate change for their own activities and also the opportunities they have to influence other organisations, from the public to the private sector, to greater understanding of the climate change crisis and to increase the readiness of these other interests to take action to tackle climate change problems

Endorses the joint initiative between the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas and the UIAA's Mountain Protection Commission in establishing and promoting the Melting Glaciers Project, and

Welcomes the decision of the UIAA's Mountain Protection Commission to establish a working group on climate change which is expected to develop a climate change policy for consideration by the UIAA Council in May 2007 followed by approval at the UIAA General Assembly in October 2007 with subsequent promotion within the member associations of the UIAA and other interests, including the international partners of the UIAA within the organisations of the United Nations and the International Olympic Committee.