



**United Nations**  
Climate Change Secretariat

Executive Secretary

**Nations Unies**  
Secrétariat sur les changements climatiques

Secrétaire exécutive

Dr. David Carlson  
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Dear Dr. Carlson,

The Paris Agreement was a landmark achievement and could not have happened without you. Because of your contributions, governments negotiated with more understanding of the gravity of the situation than ever before. I thank you for your various contributions to the science of climate change.

Now, once again, decision makers are looking for your guidance. In the Paris Agreement adopted unanimously in Paris and signed already by 176 nations, governments requested the IPCC to produce a special report on the implications of 1.5 degrees Celsius as the upper boundary of global average temperature increase. I am grateful to the IPCC for having recently agreed to produce this report for 2018, based on prior peer reviewed literature.

I write to you today precisely on the challenge of providing the IPCC with sufficient scientific literature to meet the 2018 deadline for completing the report. Not much has been studied or written about this upper limit, and the IPCC will not be able to produce a sound report unless it has enough material to draw upon. I therefore respectfully request you to encourage the scientific community to immediately take on this research challenge and provide results that the IPCC can use. Data and findings are urgently needed not only about the impacts of 1.5 degree scenarios versus higher scenarios, but also, and especially, about how to stay within the 1.5 degree limit; about the feasible economic and technical pathways that will bring down emissions fast enough and low enough to ensure that we stay within this limit.

I hope you will agree with me that this research is of the utmost importance because of its huge implications for global climate protection and climate policy, and I hope you will use your influence to mobilize the scientific community at this time of great need.

With gratitude,

Christiana Figueres