

ACCO Defense, National Security and Climate Change Workshop

March 30-31, 2011 | Washington, DC

Hosted by McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP

ROUNDTABLE NOTES

Track 6: National Security

Session 2: Adapting Defense Strategies to New Realities

Moderator: Will Rowe, Marc Kodack

Takeaways:

- There are new realities that the DoD and American government must adjust to.
 - Energy diversification
 - Demand management
 - Improved nuclear energy technology
- Water issues from a security perspective are wide-ranging from a defense perspective:
 - Ecosystems
 - Scarcity
 - Supply for deployment
 - Quality
 - Cost
 - Quantity
 - Problem areas and technical assistance
 - Finite supply
 - Social impacts of water
 - Religious
 - Cultural
 - Local decisions can have farther-reaching regional, national, and multi-national impacts
- There are three main areas to focus upon
 - US regional water security
 - American troops deployed
 - Regional areas that are vulnerable and at risk (non-US)
- These problems must be addressed by challenging assumptions. Maybe there isn't a link between economic growth and energy price and consumption
 - We have a green change deficit and are very behind Europe and the rest of the world.
- Imperative to find ways to bring fuel and water to troops while reducing risks
- Water security and energy security need to be linked and hinged to one another
- Suggested focus: Improve community-military collaboration from planning perspective
 - Army could supply and help with water in areas US Army is trying to work with
 - Coordination between Defense community, State Department and USAID
 - Relationship between military humanitarian assistance vs. NGO, etc. community humanitarian assistance

Next Steps / Prospective Action Items:

- Establish a working group that will:
 - Demonstrate impacts of climate change on communities and security
 - Focus on best practices and strategies related to “disaster management”
 - Forge collaborations with other organizations (e.g. Association of Defense Communities)