

# THE WOODS HOLE RESEARCH CENTER

Woods Hole, Massachusetts

GEORGE M. WOODWELL, *Director*

April 19, 1988

Mr. Rajiv Gandhi  
Prime Minister of India  
New Delhi, India

Dear Mr. Prime Minister:

It is my pleasure on behalf of the staff of this Center and our colleagues to invite your leadership of a special Conference on Climatic Change which we propose to hold in New Delhi between February 21 and 23, 1989.

The conference is the first of several being arranged to explore the implications of the climatic changes now underway globally as a result of the accumulation of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. There is growing evidence that the climatic changes are becoming conspicuous and will become more so over the next years. The effects globally are potentially profound. They are sufficiently threatening to warrant in the eyes of some an international effort to stabilize the composition of the atmosphere. Both the climatic changes and the steps to mitigate them will place special burdens on all the nations of the earth, but especially heavy burdens will fall on the nations of the lesser developed world. For that reason it is appropriate that there be several such conferences in low latitude countries.

The purpose of the conference in New Delhi is both to define the problem, its potential rate of development, and its effects, and to discover the most probable reactions of citizens and governments of the lesser developed countries.

My colleagues join me in seeking your participation in the conference, both as the introductory speaker, and as a full participant over the two days. We come to you because of your leadership expressed so eloquently in your speech before the General Assembly and because of the leadership of India among the developing nations.

I am enclosing a list of our steering committee and background on the Woods Hole Research Center. A list of potential participants will be forwarded in the near future. I am also enclosing details about the program that has spawned this conference. Mr. Mostafa Tolba of the UNEP is fully informed of this initiative and we anticipate that the program will be offered under the partial auspices of the UNEP.

I hope that you will reflect on the possibility of joining the Conference. I shall be sending you additional material about it as we proceed.

Yours sincerely,

George M. Woodwell