

THE  
INTERNATIONAL  
ECONOMIC FORUM  
OF THE AMERICAS



**TORONTO FORUM FOR GLOBAL CITIES**

# COMPETING TOWARDS A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

ENERGY, INFRASTRUCTURE AND FINANCE

The recovery following the worst recession since the Great Depression of the 1930s is still fragile. Confidence is not yet there to spur investments, consumer spending and encourage job creation. Governments are facing difficult challenges: supporting the recovery on one hand while restoring fiscal sustainability on the other one.

The recovery will be slower than expected but this will allow us to pave the way to some major changes towards a real, balanced, and sustainable growth.

Global cities are at the heart of a sustainable recovery. The challenges they face are significant in their growing responsibilities to provide their constituents with public services of good quality and investors with attractive living and financial environments.

For its 4<sup>th</sup> edition, TFFCC will address some of the most pressing issues which are affected by these major changes in the global economy.

Welcome.

**Gil Rémillard, Founding Chairman**

**November 22 and 23, 2010**

**Metro Toronto Convention Centre**

**North Building**

## MONDAY, NOVEMBER 22

### ENERGY AND INFRASTRUCTURE: INTEGRATING VISION AND TECHNOLOGY

7:30 a.m. REGISTRATION – Main lobby

8:30 a.m. WORDS OF WELCOME – Room 106

9:00 a.m. OPENING SESSION – Room 106

#### **Global Cities in the Next Economy: Challenges and Opportunities**

In the context of unprecedented public deficits and growing pressures on infrastructure financing, global cities have numerous challenges to deal with if they are to retain their competitive advantage. Will the demand for green energy spur new opportunities? Which infrastructures are crucial in the next economy? How can a metropolis attract capital and remain at the heart of economic growth?

10:30 a.m. BREAKOUT SESSIONS

#### **Meeting the Challenge of Energy Demand: Improving Cities' Competitiveness**

The Copenhagen Summit has outlined challenges of global cooperation between major emitters. Which instruments are available to local governments? Can carbon finance be part of the solution? What would business play ?

#### **Tackling Urban Transportation Challenges: Optimizing Incentives, Taxes and Technologies**

Urban infrastructure renewal and maintenance require high levels of public spending. Will incentives promoting public transportation foster the development of optimal infrastructure systems? What options do new technologies bring for decision-makers? How can clean transportation address the sustainability challenge?

12:00 p.m. LUNCHEON – *Room 106*

#### **PART I: BUILDING SUSTAINABLE INFRASTRUCTURE PART II: FACING THE GLOBAL ENERGY CHALLENGE**

3:00 p.m. SESSION 3 – Room 206

#### **Transiting Towards a Low-Carbon Economy: What Role Will Green Energy Play?**

The global financial crisis has set the stage for transition to a low-carbon economy. Are we heading towards an economy powered by electricity, hydrogen, wind and sun? How can the greening of oil sands provide an energy alternative? How will major cities lead the way in the context of a new economic cycle?

4:30 p.m. SESSION 4 – Room 206

#### **Global Cities Turning Green: The Innovation Imperative**

Growing urbanization and rising energy demand are increasing the pressures on a safe and reliable energy supply. How can innovation contribute to lower energy demand? Will biofuels and solar energy bring about long-term alternatives? Which actors will contribute to cleaner urban landscapes?

5:30 p.m.

PRIVATE EVENING RECEPTION

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 23

FINANCE: OPPORTUNITIES BEYOND THE CRISIS

|            |  |
|------------|--|
| 7:30 a.m.  | REGISTRATION – Main lobby  |
| 8:30 a.m.  | OPENING SESSION – Room 106   |
|            | <b>Rebalancing the World Economy: Stronger Fundamentals for Sustained Growth</b>   |
|            | While post-industrialized countries are experiencing a timid upswing, emerging economies will undoubtedly power tomorrow's economic growth. What policies are needed to strengthen macroeconomic fundamentals? What long-term consequences will the crisis have on the global economy? How can we turn the financial crisis into an opportunity to achieve more inclusive global growth? |
| 10:30 a.m. | BREAKOUT SESSIONS  |
|            | <b>Sustainable Investments in Emerging Economies</b>   |
|            | <i>Co-Hosted by the Global Centre for Development and Democracy</i>  |
|            | <b>Risk Management: Facing a New Business Environment</b>  |
|            | The financial crisis has generated a crucial debate about the ways businesses manage and transfer risk. How can risk management be embedded in corporate values? What do current uncertainties imply for political risk analysis? Which factors do credit-rating agencies take into account in a changing global market?   |
| 12:00 p.m. | LUNCHEON – Room 106  |
|            | <b>Part I</b><br><b>A New Economic Cycle</b>   |
|            | <b>Part II</b><br><b>New Rules for the Financial Sector</b>  |
| 3:00 p.m.  | SESSION 3 – Room 206   |
|            | <b>Financial Crisis: Have We Seen the Peak?</b>  |
|            | In the United States, recent real estate and employment figures have sparked fears of a double-dip recession. Are such trends grounds for concern? Is it time for governments and central banks to reconsider withdrawal plans and re-engineer recovery strategies? What are possible solutions for sustained growth?  |