

The statement of the 1988 Toronto Conference warns that: "Humanity is conducting an unintended, uncontrolled, globally pervasive experiment whose ultimate consequences may be second only to a global nuclear war." In the search for a bottom line, it was clear among most participants that the cost for action is far less than the costs of inaction. The response to the "unintended experiment" of climate change, if it is to be effective, must be rooted in the social, economic, and political as well as the scientific.