



**World
Meteorological
Organization**
Weather · Climate · Water



The Arctic Circle in 2050

Charting a new course through the last frontier

What

A televised panel discussion moderated by **David Eades** from BBC World

When

Saturday, 17 October, 15.30-17.00

Where

Kaldalón Room, Arctic Circle Conference, Reykjavik, Iceland

Join our panel of world-leading experts as they discuss what climate and weather information will be needed to successfully journey through the Arctic Circle in 2050



The temperature in the Arctic Circle is rising faster than anywhere else on Earth and the sea ice is shrinking at record levels. Scientists are forecasting that the first ice-free summer in the Arctic Ocean could be within the next 25 to 40 years. The impact – both natural and economic – will be massive. And yet there is still great uncertainty about the future climatic, weather and environmental conditions

facing the Arctic region. Despite growing demands for better forecasting the lack of observation data and scientific understanding is severely hampering efforts to preserve the safety and wellbeing of all the people who live and work in these higher latitudes. Failure to address this urgent need could put the well-being of the entire Arctic environment at a much higher level of risk.



David Eades, Moderator

For the last 25 years David has worked as a frontline presenter and correspondent for the BBC where he has interviewed a number of world leaders such as Tony Blair and Jacques Chirac. David is also a highly experienced moderator who has facilitated many panel discussions including heads of government, royalty, leading industrialists, scientists and celebrities from all corners of the world.

“Scientists are forecasting that the first ice-free summer in the Arctic Ocean could be within the next 25 to 40 years.”



Professor Petteri Taalas

Petteri Taalas is currently the head of the Finnish Meteorological Institute and will take up his new role as the Secretary General of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) in January 2016.

“There is a critical need to invest in developing stronger weather and climate predictions so we can provide services that will preserve the safety and wellbeing of all the people who live and work in these higher latitudes. Failure to address this urgent need will put the well-being of the entire Arctic environment at a much higher level of risk.”

- Professor Petteri Taalas



Professor Karin Lochte

Since 2007 **Professor Lochte** has led the Alfred-Wegener-Institute, Helmholtz Center for Polar and Marine Research. She is Vice Chair of the Scientific Council of Antarctic Research, Council Member of the International Committee of Arctic Research, Consortium German Marine Science and Chair of the European Climate Research Alliance.

“The risk of unintentional but irreversible damage to the ecosystem is high and all commercial activities must attend to these severe concerns. It is vital that research and commerce work closely together with the common aim to ensure sustainable development within the Arctic.”

- Professor Karin Lochte, Director of the Alfred-Wegener-Institute



Tero Vauraste

Tero Vauraste is the President and CEO of Arctia Shipping, a Finnish Polar Maritime Services company that provides icebreaking, ice management, oil spill response and other polar maritime services with a fleet of 8 icebreakers and 300 professionals. He is also the Vice Chair Arctic Economic Council and a member of the Board of the Finnish Arctic Society, the Finnish Maritime Society and the Advisory Group for the Finnish Lifeboat Institution.

“Business can easily act as research platform for academia. In 2012 and 2013 our Finnish Icebreakers used the Northern Sea Route from Alaska back to Europe and this transfer voyage provided facilities for ice, meteorological and technical researchers to proceed with their research.”

- Tero Vauraste, President and CEO of Arctia Shipping



Michael Kingston

Michael Kingston is a Partner at the law firm DWF where he specializes in Arctic marine risks. Mr. Kingston was awarded Lloyd’s List Global Maritime Lawyer of the Year 2014 -2015, and the US Coast Guard Challenge Coin in July 2015 for his contribution towards the development of the new Polar Code.

“Marine underwriters very rarely provide insurance cover for ships in Arctic waters because the sheer lack of information makes it very difficult to analyze the risks in involved. The weather is hugely unpredictable and violent storms can occur at any time. The lack of infrastructure services in the region also means that salvage facilities are almost non-existent.”

- Michael Kingston, Partner at law firm DWF