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ÖFFENTLICHER VORTRAG

EARTH, MANKIND AND ENERGY

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Director General of CERN (1989 to 1994)*

The availability of an adequate primary energy for the future is one of the essential needs of mankind. After a short summary of the past history of the planet Earth, the lecture will present a description of the present primary energy supply and of the main realistic options for the future. As it is well known, the industrial revolution worldwide has been made possible by the availability of fossil fuels; no doubt they will remain essential also for several decades to come. Today an acceptable continuation of the supply of fossil energies will however demand lower emissions and an appropriate management and control of CO₂. In conclusion, some innovative research & development energy projects will be described.

Carlo Rubbia, born in Gorizia, Italy, in 1934, is a Nobel Prize Laureate in Physics (1984, awarded jointly with Simon van der Meer) and former Director General of CERN in Geneva (1989 to 1994). He is currently a professor at the Gran Sasso Science Institute in L'Aquila, Italy, where he initiated the ICARUS experiment. From June 2010 to May 2015 he was the Scientific Director of the Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies in Potsdam. Rubbia is a member of several academies and holds 33 honorary degrees. He is the author of more than 500 scientific papers and has received numerous honours. In 2013, he was appointed Senator for Life of the Italian Republic.

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