

Ladies and gentlemen,

Dear friends,

As I receive this prestigious medal, I would like to evoke Roger Revelle, the man it commemorates.

In recalling his memory this evening, I am thinking of course of the great man he was, with his character, filled with both determination and curiosity, and his fertile mind.

.../...

I am thinking even more of his legacy, the example he set, the high standards he now embodies for all of us and for all those who, every day, here as all over the world, benefit from his thoughts.

In this sense, this medal represents both an honour and an obligation for me.

An honour, since Roger Revelle, the man, as well as his contribution to the science and conscience of our time, are models for me.

.../...

An obligation, for me as for us all, since a retrospective glance at his life's work reveals how much he was ahead of his time.

Fifty years after his key work establishing the relationship between CO₂ emissions and global warming, we are still struggling to implement international action adapted to the sheer scale of this phenomenon.

So, as I receive this medal, I would like to formulate the wish that we can at last place ourselves on a level with Roger Revelle's legacy, able to act just as he was able to think, placing our actions in accordance with our knowledge without further delay.

Thank you