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## **Arctic Encounter Symposium Convenes in Paris During U.N. Climate Negotiations**

The Arctic Encounter Symposium convenes today in Paris for the Arctic Encounter Paris (AEP) 2015, an officially labeled COP21 event. "We are honored to be in Paris during the U.N. Climate Negotiations to help bring the Arctic, its challenges, its opportunity, and its people to the attention of the World and its leaders" said Rachel Kallander, Executive Director of the Arctic Encounter Symposium.

AEP is taking place on the final days of the monumental United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC COP21) where over 50,000 participants and 25,000 government delegates are deliberating the world's response to our changing planet. Arctic Encounter Paris 2015 is the only Arctic policy and economics event to take place during the COP21, and is the only Arctic event officially labeled as a COP21 event via the French Ministry of Ecology. The Arctic Encounter Paris is produced by the French Polar Cluster and Kallander & Associates LLC. With confirmed attendance of 500+ participants over three days, AEP is the 3rd largest COP21 side-event, and the 3rd largest Arctic policy gathering of 2015, worldwide.

On the first day of the Arctic Encounter Paris 2015, participants will engage in a think tank debate at the École Militaire Library, and on day two, the first Model Arctic Council ever held outside the Arctic will take place. 47 young leaders (coming from 26 research institutions located across 14 countries, including the 8 Arctic states), will gather at the Campus Eiffel in Paris, meters away from the Eiffel Tower and the Military Academy, to simulate an eight hour Arctic Council ministerial meeting. MAC participants will attempt to produce a powerful final declaration addressing key Arctic issues. The "MAC Paris 2015 declaration" will be sent to all COP21 delegates and some 5,000+ Arctic stakeholders.

On the final day of AEP, on Saturday, December 12th, over 500 registered participants will engage policy, industry, research and young leaders from Arctic and non-Arctic states during a full day of lively round tables, high-profile keynotes and exciting debates at the French Military Academy (École Militaire). A cross-section of Arctic business, political, military, and civil society leaders will share their groundbreaking research, creative ideas and practical solutions for a sustainable and peaceful Arctic.

Additional information and a list of confirmed speakers for the upcoming Arctic Encounter Symposium events in both Paris and Seattle (January 2016) can be found online at [www.ArcticEncounter.com](http://www.ArcticEncounter.com). Members of the press and media are welcome to attend any and all Arctic Encounter events. Press passes are [available online](#) at the AES website.