The period leading up to the Copenhagen climate conference in December 2009 involves one of the most important negotiations in modern history. The challenges and obstacles that face the negotiators are daunting. These stem partly from the overwhelming complexity of the subject matters involved (ranging from climate science and ecosystem interdependencies to the intricacies of financial instruments and legal frameworks), but also from the conflicts of interests and opposing positions. The agenda for the Copenhagen summit may be climate change, but the outcome of the negotiations will have far-reaching implications for managing other sustainability-related challenges.

This is the starting point of the Tällberg Conversation in Washington DC on 16 October 2008 at the House of Sweden, organized by the Tällberg Foundation in co-operation with the Embassy of Sweden. During the afternoon, we will discuss these issues from several angles – with scientists, policy-makers, negotiators, campaigners, and corporate leaders. Building on this summer’s Tällberg Forum, and the Tällberg Foundation’s on-going projects in the field, we will stage a wide-ranging conversation on this crucial topic.

Conversations at Tällberg have for nearly three decades pointed towards the current systems crises: the confrontation between how we have chosen to construct and develop our systems (political, economic, technological or social) and the dynamics of the Earth’s system. They are not in sync.

We warmly invite you to join this Tällberg Conversation which offers you an opportunity to explore what new responsibilities leadership will have to assume and how the new insights can be applied when acting in the interests of the whole.

Register on our web page: www.tallbergfoundation.org

This Tällberg Conversation in Washington DC builds on the discussions at the Tällberg Forum 2008 “How on Earth can we live together? In search of the Common Sense” (that took place in June 2008). Leaders and thinkers from seventy nations gathered in Sweden for four days of conversations and workshops related to the opportunities and challenges of global interdependence. Conversations at Tällberg have increasingly focused on how we can design, govern and manage the sustainable interaction between natural systems and the systems of human activity. The Foundation convenes global conversations and conferences and generates ideas and proposals for policy, strategy and institutional development that work in the interest of the whole.
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| 11:00 a.m. - 1.00 p.m. | NATURE WALK (OPTIONAL)  
Theodore Roosevelt Island National Park  
- Jim Wine, Tällberg Foundation  
(Including light lunch and transport back to House of Sweden) |
| 1.00 p.m. | Registration and coffee  
Before entering Nobel Hall |
| 1:30 p.m. | WELCOME and INTRODUCTION  
Welcome (with music)  
- Jonas Hafström, Ambassador of Sweden to the US  
- Bo Ekman, Chairman, Tällberg Foundation, Sweden |
| 1.50 p.m. | THE VIEW FROM TÄLLBERG  
- Hans Jensen, Village of Tällberg, Sweden  
- Ulrika Liljeberg, Mayor of Leksand, Sweden |
| 2.00 p.m. | OUR PLANETARY BOUNDARIES  
- Johan Rockström, Director, Stockholm Environment Institute, Sweden |
| 2.20 p.m. | AN UPDATE ON THE CLIMATE NEGOTIATIONS  
- Anders Wijkman, Member of the European Parliament, Sweden |
| 2.30 p.m. | “COPENHAGEN CLIMATE EXERCIZE” – understanding climate negotiations  
- Facilitated by Andrew P. Jones, Sustainability Institute and Alexander Crawford, Tällberg Foundation |
| 3.30 p.m. | Break, coffee |
| 4.00 p.m. | STATING THE PROBLEM – Panel conversation  
- James Hansen, Director, NASA GISS, US  
- Martin Lees, Rector Emeritus, University for Peace, Costa Rica  
- Christine Loh, CEO, Civic Exchange, Hong Kong, China  
- Johan Rockström, Director, Stockholm Environment Institute, Sweden  
- Moderated by Alexander Crawford, Tällberg Foundation (includes Q&A) |
| 5.15 p.m. | Conversations around round tables |
| 6.00 p.m. | Concluding reflections  
- Bo Ekman, founder, Tällberg Foundation, Sweden  
- Jeremy Osborn, coordinator, 350.org  
- (Music) |
| 6.30 p.m. | Session concludes |
| Followed by | Reception at the House of Sweden (roof terrace or Anna Lindh Hall) |

NB: All speakers are confirmed