

# OSKAR VON MILLER FORUM

Press release

## Climate change and building activities

### **A lecture by Hartmut Graßl / Max Planck Institute for Meteorology /Hamburg on 4 February 2016 at 6:30 p.m. at the Oskar von Miller Forum**

The climate changes caused by humanity that will be an inescapable future issue even if stringent climate policies are implemented will last for centuries and affect all areas of life. Specific adaptation strategies are needed in large cities with regard to water supply and wastewater disposal as well as long-lasting heat waves. In addition, coastal protection and urban flood protection must be adapted.

In his lecture, Hartmut Graßl will present findings and discuss countermeasures.

#### **About Hartmut Graßl**

The physicist and meteorologist Hartmut Graßl obtained his doctoral degree in natural science, Dr. rer. nat., at Ludwig Maximilian University in 1970. Eight years later, he qualified as a university professor of meteorology at the University of Hamburg. He was Professor of Theoretical Meteorology at the Institute of Oceanography of the University of Kiel and Professor of General Meteorology at the Meteorological Institute of the University of Hamburg. From 1989 to 1994 and from 1999 to 2005, he was director at the Max Planck Institute for Meteorology in Hamburg; in the years between he was director of the UN's World Climate Research Programme in Geneva. His research centres on satellite-based remote sensing of the atmosphere and of the ocean surface, as well as global climate change.

Hartmut Graßl is chairman of the Federation of German Scientists (Vereinigung deutscher Wissenschaftler, VDW), editor of the journal *Theoretical and Applied Climatology* published by Springer and starred in the theatre play *Welt-Klimakonferenz* (World Climate Conference) at Deutsches Schauspielhaus in Hamburg. He was one of the authors of the memorandum *Warnung vor weltweiten Klimaänderungen des Menschen* (Warning of threatening worldwide climate changes caused by humans) published in 1987 by the German Physical Society and the German Meteorological Society.

Hartmut Graßl has received numerous awards, including the Max Planck Award in 1991, the German Environmental Award of the German Federal Environmental Foundation (Deutsche Bundesstiftung Umwelt) in 1998, the Grand Cross of Merit on ribbon of the Federal Republic of Germany in 2002, the Badge of Honour of the University of Hamburg in 2005 and the Bavarian Order of Merit in 2008.

