

# EVA RAPORTTI

## “CORPORATIONS AND CLIMATE CHANGE – VIEWS OF INTERNATIONAL FINNISH CORPORATIONS”

### SUMMARY

Companies are often required to take responsibility and implement measures that could mitigate climate change. In the EVA Report “Corporations and Climate Change” the top executives of five large Finnish corporations answer questions regarding their views toward climate change. How have their companies taken climate change into account in their businesses? What technologies and solutions can companies offer for curbing climate change? What kind of opportunities does the battle against climate change create? What kind of threats does the limiting of greenhouse gas emissions pose? What do corporations think about the international control mechanisms?

According to **Jorma Ollila**, chairman of EVA's Board of Directors, Finnish industry is rather energy intensive, but a lot has been done to control climate change. Statements by the top executives gathered in the EVA Report support this view. The statements of Fortum's President and CEO **Mikael Lilius**, Outokumpu's President and CEO **Juha Rantanen**, Rautaruukki's President and CEO **Sakari Tamminen**, UPM's President and CEO **Jussi Pesonen** and Wärtsilä's President and CEO **Ole Johansson**, include a number of solutions for preventing climate change.

The businesses represent various industrial sectors and they offer rather different solutions for combating climate change. Fortum is an energy company producing electricity that is mostly emission-free hydropower and nuclear power or bioenergy. Outokumpu produces stainless steel and the ferrochrome needed to produce it. The company has developed a low-emission and energy-efficient method for producing ferrochrome. Rautaruukki supplies metal-based components, systems and integrated systems to the construction and mechanical engineering industries. The company provides solutions which, for example, enable energy-efficient construction. UPM is a forest industry company specialising in the efficient utilization of biomass both as products and as energy. Wärtsilä supplies equipment, solutions and services for sea transport and the energy industry. The company develops and produces efficiently functioning multi-fuel engines which can, for example, use gas or bio-fuels instead of oil. Energy efficiency is a competitive advantage for the businesses.

The statements of the CEOs remind us that corporations see the challenges of climate change in different ways depending on their line of business. For example, businesses relate differently to the EU's emissions trading system and political control methods. The EU's emissions trading system is accepted in theory, but large problems are seen in its practical implementation. The message of companies to political decision makers is clear: international control methods like the EU's emissions trading system should support low-emission and energy efficient production in Europe. The EU's emissions trading system should in the future take better into account measures taken by companies in early stages to curb climate change. Climate change is a global problem and in an ideal situation climate policy measures too would be global.

The texts of the corporate executives remind us that corporations are not able to combat climate change on their own. Businesses can provide solutions, but in the end the customers have the power to decide about their own ecological footprint.

The EVA Report “Corporations and Climate Change” shows that Finnish corporations take curbing climate change seriously. Atte Korhola, Professor of Arctic Global Change at the University of Helsinki, in fact states in the final analysis of the report that Finnish corporations are significantly further ahead in dealing with climate change than is perhaps generally believed.