

Dr. Bert Metz studied Chemical Engineering at Delft University of Technology and received his doctorate at the same university. From 1976-1987 he worked for Dutch Ministry of Housing, Spatial Planning and Environment in the fields of air pollution, external safety, noise pollution, chemical waste and the enforcement of environmental laws. During this time he spent 2 years as a Senior Lecturer and Acting Head of Department of the Department of Chemical Engineering at the Ahmadu Bello University in Zaria, Nigeria. From 1987 until 1992 he was Counsellor for Health and Environment at the Royal Netherlands Embassy in Washington DC.

In 1992 he became Deputy Director for Air and Energy of the Netherlands Ministry of Housing, Spatial Planning and Environment, with responsibility for climate policy. He led the Netherlands delegation to the negotiations on the Kyoto Protocol to the Climate Convention.

In 1997 he moved to the Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency at RIVM to head the group on climate change and global sustainability. He was elected as co-chairman of the Working Group on Climate Change Mitigation of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change of the UN for the preparation of the Third Assessment Report. In 2002 he was re-elected in that position for the 4th Assessment Report cycle, combining this with a position as senior researcher at the Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency.