Professor Kabat is *Director General and Chief Executive Officer of* the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA), and independent, global international science and science to policy institute with 22 member countries and more than 2000 international staff, of which 400 located in its host country Austria. He is also *Full Professor of Earth System Science* at Wageningen University in the Netherlands, *Founding Chair and Director* of the Royal Dutch Academy of Sciences and Arts Institute for Integrated Research on Wadden Sea Region (Wadden Academy), a *Membe*r of the Leadership Council for the United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network, and *Founding Co -Chair and Director* of the High Level Alpbach – Laxenburg Group, in which global leaders from the Academia, Governments, Businesses and Civil Society come together to support and advocate for sustainable transitions and sustainable development.

Trained as a mathematician and hydrologist, Professor Kabat's almost 30 year research carrier has covered earth system science and global change, with a specific focus on land-atmosphere interactions, climate hydrology, water cycle and water resources.

He is an author and (co-)author of over 300 refereed publications, including 9 books, member of 3 international editorial boards, and (co)editor of numerous special issues of peer reviewed international journals.

Academic and societal awards and distinctions received by Professor Kabat include

2007 Nobel Peace Prize (co- recipient of the prize awarded to IPCC), The Zayed International Prize for the Environment (group award to the authors of the Millennium

Ecosystem Assessment in 2006), and several honorary degrees, professorships, memberships and distinguished fellowships internationally.

In 2013, Professor Kabat was named by Her Majesty Queen Beatrix Knight in the Order of the Netherlands Lion, a national order of chivalry founded in 1815 by King William I, which recognizes excellence in the arts, science, sport, and literature.