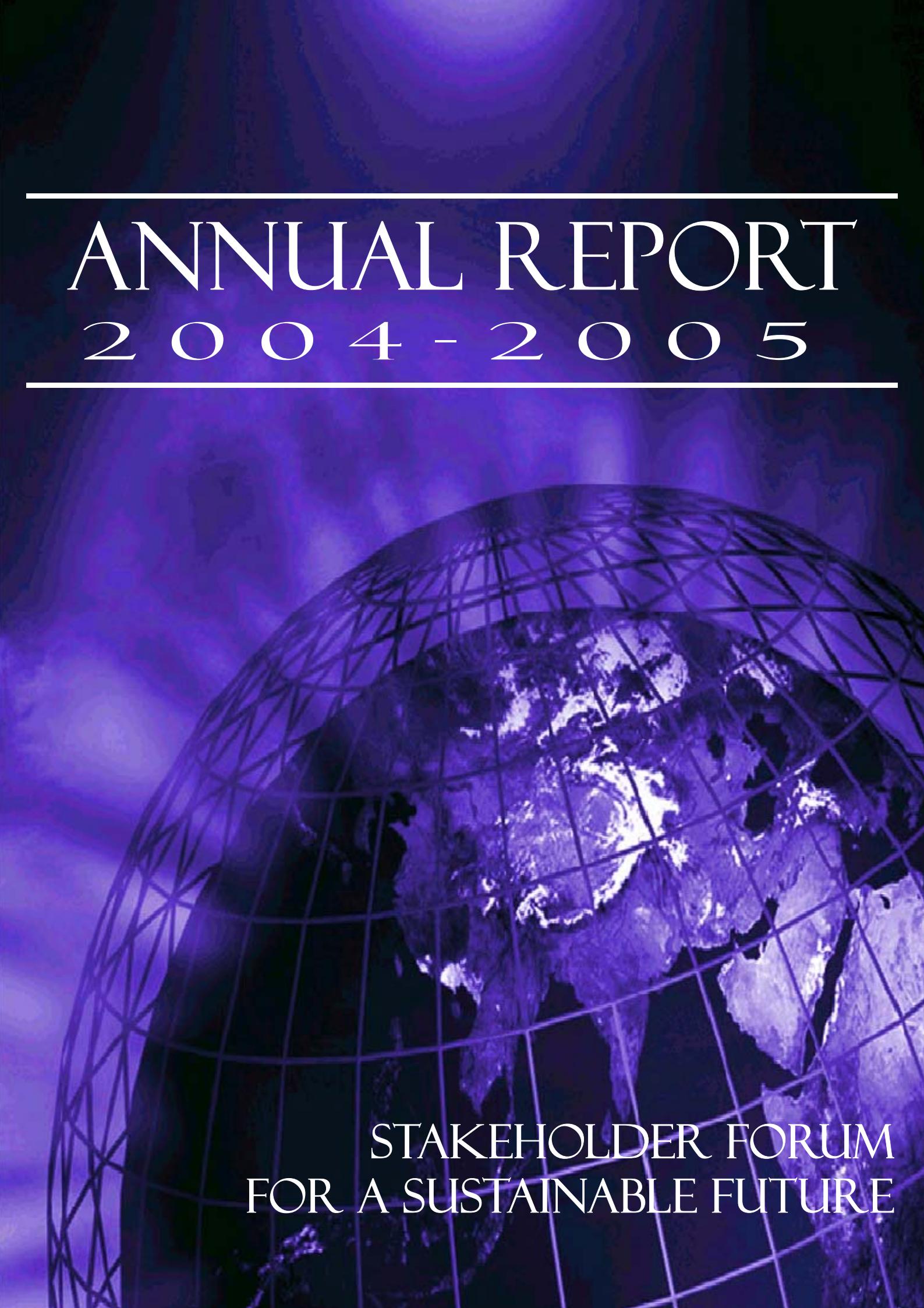


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# ANNUAL REPORT

## 2004 - 2005

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STAKEHOLDER FORUM  
FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE



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# ANNUAL REPORT OF STAKEHOLDER FORUM 2004 -2005

## A NEW PARADIGM: HUMAN AND ENVIRONMENTAL SECURITY





### **CELSO AMORIM Brazilian Foreign Minister's Introduction to Stakeholder Forum's new book *Human and Environmental Security***



The widespread acceptance of the need to promote sustainable development for human well being reflects how far the international community has come in understanding the profound relationship between the environment and social and economic development. This process did not take place overnight, but rather evolved over time, particularly in the two decades that spanned the convening of the first United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, in Stockholm in 1972, and the United Nations Conference on the Environment and Development, in Rio de Janeiro in 1992.

The Rio Conference pushed the concept of sustainable development to the forefront of the international agenda; through the principles enshrined in key documents such as the Rio Declaration and Agenda 21, as well as through the many environmental agreements it spawned. The recognition that States share common but differentiated responsibilities was to transform the nature of the North-South dialogue with regard to the environment. It did so by gradually supplanting simplistic or reductionist approaches to environmental challenges, such as deforestation, biodiversity loss, and climate change, with a broader perspective that encompasses the urgent need to address major problems such as poverty, hunger and social exclusion that afflict the developing world.

The Johannesburg Plan of Action adopted at the World Summit on Sustainable Development in 2002 built on the commitment of the international community to the goal of strengthening the objectives set out in Rio ten years before. The Millennium Summit in the year 2000 had already done the same by setting out the Millennium Development Goals. Both signalled the importance of turning words into action, of fully realizing the larger vision those singular earlier moments in international affairs had embodied.

The objective of promoting the conservation and sustainable use of environmental resources for the betterment of mankind will only be achieved through international cooperation on a broad scale. In particular, commitments to make adequate financial resources available and promote the transfer of clean technologies to developing countries need to be fully implemented. An adequate framework for this purpose is already in place in the web of multilateral environmental agreements that have been negotiated over the past years. In addition, the United Nations Program for the Environment (UNEP) plays an important role and should be strengthened.

Changes in the area of environmental governance are certainly needed, but should be sought by means of objective solutions, such as greater coordination between UNEP, the UN Commission on Sustainable Development and the Global Environment Facility (GEF). Greater coherence is also necessary between the rules set out in multilateral environmental agreements and action by States or international institutions, particularly financial institutions. This will contribute to overcoming the implementation deficit with regard to multilateral environmental agreements and to enhancing the practice of the concept of sustainable development in its three pillars – the social, the economic and the environmental.

It was heartening, in this regard, to see issues related to sustainable development – climate change, to be specific – at the centre of the debate in the G8 Summit in 2005, alongside the discussion of international economic challenges.

This was even more important because the discussions involve large developing countries such as Brazil, China, India and South Africa, which have developed important know-how in environmental technologies. Take, for instance, the area of renewable energy, where Brazil has taken the lead in ethanol, biodiesel and flex-fuel engines. At the same time, however, these countries often lack the financial means to promote the use of these technologies through South-South cooperation.

The G8 Gleneagles Summit is, therefore, an example of the partnership that needs to be re-established between the developed and the developing worlds to deal with pressing environmental issues. In this case, it can provide an effective platform for strengthening the climate change regime, particularly the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), which recognizes that the priority for developing countries must be the economic development of their populations.

The Second South Summit in Doha, in June 2005, also reaffirmed the importance for developing countries of promoting sustainable development and the sustainable use of environmental resources. The Doha Declaration stresses, in this regard, the need for finding innovative financing sources, and recognizes the importance of initiatives such as 'Action on Hunger and Poverty' convened by Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva, which is another example of an effective international partnership.

Reinforcing internal capacities in developing countries, so as to ensure better conditions for the implementation of local policies and measures, and improving the flow of information among different government bodies and levels of government involved in the solution to environmental problems, is key. It will not only lead to benefits in environmental, social and economic terms, contributing to create jobs, income and greater sustainability, but will also promote increased security and a safer, more stable global environment.

But even as we are engaged in this dynamic, multifaceted international process, with a view to the ultimate goal of sustainable development, we are reminded of the results of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment released in early 2005.

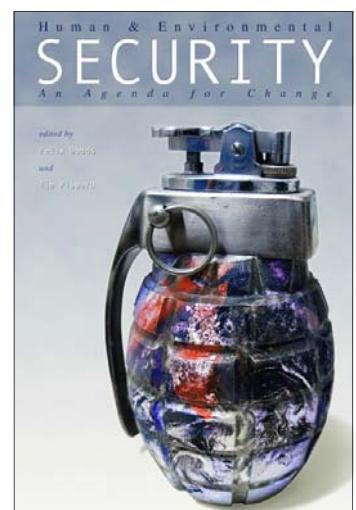
They point to the degradation of our environment, to the increased risk this brings to human well-being and confront us once again with the need for urgent action.

This publication, *Human and Environmental Security: An Agenda for Change*, is therefore extremely timely. The contributions contained in this volume develop concepts, many of them contained in the Report of the UN Secretary General's High Level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change, that need to be further discussed. These concepts will also be on the agenda at the World Summit meeting for the 60th Anniversary of the UN in September 2005, which will mark an important moment for reflection at the international level.

The moment is therefore ripe for a discussion of the relationship between environment and security. However, we must be careful to bear in mind that concepts such as human and environmental security raise issues that go well beyond incorporating into the governmental decision making process considerations regarding conflicts that could arise from the use of environmental resources or from environmental degradation. These notions also beg the far more difficult question of whether environmental reasons can be invoked as a threat to international peace and security. They also have implications for the role of diplomacy.

These are certainly large and complex questions, for which there are no easy answers. The arrival of *Human and Environmental Security: An Agenda for Change* will provide an excellent contribution to the debate, by tackling, through well-written and thoughtful essays, issues that range from climate change and biodiversity to food security, trade, migrations, nuclear non-proliferation and the future of global governance.

We have all been painfully reminded of the link between a healthy environment and human well-being by the Indian Ocean tsunami disaster in late 2004. The underlying factors that aggravated its human and environmental costs were those of poverty and underdevelopment. Therefore, promoting development on a sustainable basis continues to constitute the only permanent and effective instrument for the establishment of peace, security and prosperity for individual countries and the international community as a whole.



## Stakeholder Forum for a Sustainable Future

As we look ahead we must not lose sight of this reality. Even as we refine our understanding of the questions related to human and environmental security, we should always bear in mind that, in the end, we must go back to the ultimate aim of promoting sustainable development on a global scale. In order to do this, we must create a new paradigm of international cooperation that takes into account the new global challenges and realities. This book will provide much needed food for thought on how best to achieve it.

### **Chair - DEREK OSBORN**

These past fifteen months have seen a number of international events that have framed our work as well as a new paradigm to become excited about. These have included our usual work around the UN Commission on Sustainable Development and UNEP. We have also been working around the preparations for the World Summit 2005 and the World Trade Organization meeting in Hong Kong. I will come to the new paradigm later.



Stakeholder Forum has gone through a lot of changes over the years. Perhaps the most challenging have been these last fifteen months, those that are recorded in this Annual Report.

Since its initial set up in 1987 as the National Committee for UNEP in the UK it has been housed in another NGO. The first being IIED (1987-1993) this was followed by over ten years with the United Nations Association which saw it grow from a UK based and focused organization to one with projects and work at the global level.

We are enormously appreciative of the support given to us first by IIED and then by UNA-UK but if an organization is to grow it needs to be independent and in 2004 we negotiated a separation from the UN Association and in October 2004 and set up as an independent free standing organization. To say that we were a little nervous was perhaps an understatement.

This first fifteen months has been a bit of a roller coaster for all of us but has now seen the new Stakeholder Forum firmly settled in. We have been very pleased to see many of our old funders come to support projects of the new SF and to welcome some new ones. We are particularly appreciative of the support that RSPB, RMC, Severn Trent, and Thames have given us by becoming founding members and have continued to show there support throughout these 15 months. I would also like to thank the Board of Directors who have put in enormous amounts of time to support the new phase of development of Stakeholder Forum

One of the sad things about the changes was that some of the staff moved on we would like to thank in particular Toby Middleton and Georgina Ayre for their long support of Stakeholder Forum and we wish them good luck in their new work. We were very fortunate to have Mehjabeen Price and Felix Dodds move to set up the new organization and they have worked tireless over the last fifteen months to create the new SF. One of the commitments made at the beginning was to try and ensure where possible the new organization was much more international in its staff. This has resulted in us reducing the London Office and taking on staff based where they live. SF trying where possible to be a new type network organization utilizing new means of communications.

Stakeholder Forum has focused on its first fifteen months its core business and this we have identified as:

- Stakeholder engagement
- Capacity Building and Training
- Governance for sustainable development
- Agenda setting

These fifteen months have also been very creative with three new books published with our partner Earthscan and two being made possible by former staff continuing working for SF after

they had left to ensure that the books come out. We would like to thank Rosalie Callway and Georgina Ayres for that commitment to the organization.

Perhaps the most significant book was that edited by SF Executive Director Felix Dodds and Tim Pippard of Jane's Information Service. The book Human and Environmental Security an Agenda for Change has crafted out a new exciting space joining together the development, environment and security agendas. A new paradigm. UNEP's magazine Our Planet called the book "groundbreaking". The book has been nominated for the best environmental book of 2005 and we hope it wins.

This agenda is one which SF is building a set of work around and is seeking for a new World Summit in 2012, twenty years from Rio, forty from Stockholm to address this agenda. If Stockholm was the first environment conference, Rio the first conference to bring together environment and development and Johannesburg the first to look at sustainable development then 2012 should address human and environmental security.

Stakeholder Forum as well as trying to contribute to the political agenda of the future has also this year continued its work on looking at how to maximize the success of the UN Commission on Sustainable Development. In October 2002 it hosted an informal dinner for governments to look at what the new work programme of the CSD should be. Stakeholder Forum produced a non-paper from that event and many of the ideas found themselves into the agreed text the following year. The CSD in April 2005 saw the completion of the first cycle of the new work programme of the CSD. Continuing our approach of creating space to reflect and urged by a number of governments Stakeholder Forum organized in September 2005 a workshop "Commission on Sustainable Development Workshop Preparing for the Future". It seemed a good time to enable lessons learnt, challenges still to be faced identified and new ideas to be heard and fed into the CSD14 Bureau. This was followed up by Stakeholder Forum attending three of the CSD Regional Implementation Meetings; we will attend the remaining two in 2006, and organizing workshops and collecting input on how to improve the process even more. We were fortunate to work with a number of regional partners which I am happy to say was very successful. Copies of all of our reports are circulated to governments, UN Agencies and stakeholders with the aim of helping to improve the CSD processes during the Energy Cycle. We would like to thank our Vice President and former Chair of the CSD Juan Mayr and Margaret Catley Carlson Chairperson of the Global Water Partnership for chairing our New York workshop.

Through our transition, as I mentioned, we have been helped by Mehjabeen Price as Deputy Director whose energy and humour will be missed as she has moved on to work now with South West Arts we wish her well in her new position. The Executive Director Felix Dodds has built a new team over these fifteen months a great mixture of experience and keen younger members, a team of staff and consultants; we are well placed to start on the long march towards 2012.

Stakeholder Forum goes into 2006 in a very good shape and we are looking forward to making our contribution to the emerging Human and Environmental Security.

### **Executive Director - FELIX DODDS**

Stakeholder Forum has changed significantly over the last fifteen months, some of those changes were identified as needing to happen back in 2001. The question was how to get to where we needed to be as an organization. Most of the changes are now in place and we have a great team to take Stakeholder Forum into its new role.

We have identified a number of key areas of work where Stakeholder Forum has a role to play.



### **Stakeholder Processes**

Over the years Stakeholder Forum have played a critical role in developing stakeholder engagement with intergovernmental processes. We see this as an area we will continue to innovate in.

### **Capacity Building and Training**

In the last year UNEP approached us to develop training modules for "How to Lobby at Multilateral Environmental Agreements". This is built on the work Michael Strauss and I did in developing the book "How to Lobby at Intergovernmental Meetings – Mine is a Café Latte!" The project was with Earth Media, Centro de Estudios Ambientales and UNEP. We hope the material will be finished early in 2006 and available for workshops shortly afterwards. Megan Howell who has kept us on track through this project deserves a lot of thanks.

### **Policy Development**

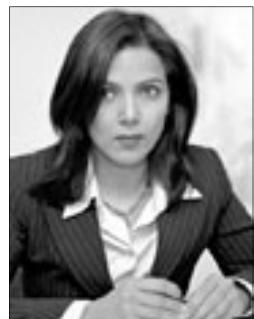
Stakeholder Forum often works in the area of governance and as Derek has said in his section we had a very successful workshop reviewing the CSDs first two-year cycle. This wouldn't have been possible without the work of Maria Figueira Kupcu, and then Richard Sherman and Jennifer Peer who took up the work on the Regional Implementation Meetings.

Our over arching work on Governance has been as part of the WHAT Governance Programme funded by the Rufford Maurice Laing Foundation. Over the years we have had a number of Policy coordinators working on this project, in the last fifteen months Marie Duboc and Jennifer Peer have developed the programme and it is fair to say that we have had some success in the work we have done looking at CSD reform, some on UNEP and the UNEO proposal but perhaps not as much as we would have liked in the area of WTO. This work is ongoing and we thank the Rufford Maurice Laing Foundation for their support over the past three years.

The book I edited with Tim Pippard (whom I thank for his patience with me) Human and Environmental Security I believe offers the beginning of a conversation about a new landscape that needs urgent political work.

I would like to thank the Board of Directors for their support and the Chair, Derek Osborn, who has continued to give us leadership through these fifteen months. We will miss Mehjabeen Price and thank her for her hard work and dedication.

### **UK-Director and Deputy Director - MEHJABEEN PRICE**



When I look back at these fifteen months I am amazed at what we have achieved.

Changing from an organization based only in London to one with staff and consultants all over the world has at times been an interesting challenge.

In the UK we have had a reinvigorated Round Table process, first on Water for CSD13 and then on Energy for CSD14. We were the only national stakeholder consultation process that submitted for the Water cycle and one of only two who submitted for the Energy cycle. There is

obviously a need to re-examine national stakeholder process globally, and I believe the work that Stakeholder Form has been doing on this important subject will be a learning example for many.

We were honoured to be asked by UNEP to organize the press launch of their contribution for the Small Island Development States Conference in January 2005 at IMO in London. At the time we also launched the new Stakeholder Forum book "Plain Language Guide to WSSD". I would thank Georgina Ayre for agreeing to speak at the launch even though she had already left us.

Our World Summit 2005 conference was a great success with the outcomes presented the next day at the UN General Assembly Civil Society Hearings by Felix. The Conference focused on MDG7 the environment MDG and was a real opportunity for groups in the UK to have their say. I think I am right in saying that we were the only national process that reported in the GA Hearings.

As we set up Jodie Bettis was our Administrator and helped with no less than three office moves in one year, enough to make anyone crazy. I wish her well in her new position with the Wildlife Trust. It has been a pleasure to have Owen Davies take over the administrative and financial work of SF and for Anthony Miles to join the policy team.

It is with deep sadness that left Stakeholder Forum, and I hope to stay involved in one way or another as it continues to grow.

## **Multi-Stakeholder Processes & Capacity Building**

### **UNEP MOU and Training on MEAs**

The success of the Stakeholder Forum book "How to Lobby at Intergovernmental Meetings – Mine is a Café Latte" has perhaps not been surprising as there is very little material available for those who want to get involved in intergovernmental processes but don't know how.

In late 2004 UNEP approached Stakeholder Forum about the possibility of developing a set of training modules on "How to Lobby at Multilateral Environmental Agreements". These modules were to be aimed at training trainers so that a network of trained NGOs could start to develop. The project was developed with two partner organizations Earth Media (Michael Strauss) and Centro de Estudios Ambientales (Maria Onestini) and UNEP. In UNEP we would very much like to thank Elizabeth Mrema and Carl Bruch. The project was overseen by Megan Howell for Stakeholder Forum.

The modules went through two workshops to be reviewed the first at UNEP Governing Council in February 2005 and the second a daylong workshop at CSD in April 2005. The final modules will be available on the Stakeholder Forum and UNEP web sites early in 2006.



## **Policy & Research**

We see our role in providing Information for a wide range of Stakeholders:

"To provide a strategic integrated information hub on sustainable development to support, monitor and report on the implementation of the Johannesburg Goals towards the delivery of the Millennium Development Goals"

The WHAT Governance Programme supported by the Rufford Maurice Laing Foundation was set up to monitor and assess the existing Global Governance architecture as well as on-going

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progress towards achieving sustainable development governance. The Programme aims to identify governance gaps, crossover, strengths and weaknesses regarding implementation of sustainable development commitments, including Agenda 21, Millennium Development Goals and Johannesburg Summit outcomes.

### **Commission on Sustainable Development**

#### **CSD13**

The team for Stakeholder Forum at the IPM meeting was Felix Dodds, Mehjabeen Price and Erin Hyland. Stakeholder Forum published the water report from their UK Water Round Table at the IPM and produced Outreach daily.

#### **CSD Intercessional Preparatory Meeting**

The stakeholder Forum team at the CSD this year was: Felix Dodds, Mehjabeen Price, Virginia Prieto, Zak John Bleicher, Jane Forshaw, William Earley, Alexander Krstevski, Board members: Malcolm Harper, Derek Osborn and Andy Wales

It became clear that there is a large divergence between governments on what role the UN Commission on Sustainable Development should play. This perhaps underlines why this years CSD left nearly everyone unhappy. The CSD was originally set up to be a central place in the UN system where there could be high level dialogue about the implementation of Agenda 21, the Rio Principles, and

Conventions (**A/RES/47/191**) It clearly was envisioned to be the place to ensure that finance, technology transfer and capacity building were focused at delivering the agenda set by governments in Rio Centro in June 1992. It should be remembered that the original discussions in the negotiations were from the progressives who wanted to see the converting of the Trustee Council into an Ecological Security Council for the Planet (including Maurice Strong) to those who originally wanted no formal follow up mechanism (US and until prepCom 4 the UK). The creation of the CSD was a success for G77 and progressive European Countries.

In New York in 1997 governments put common and differential responsibility at the centre of the construct of the next 5 years asking governments to look at issues through a poverty and consumption and production lens. The World Summit in 2002 recognised the space that needed to be created to share good experience, address obstacles and constraints to implementation. All three visions are compatible with each other and should be taken together.

This then brings us to CSD 2005, which had the added advantage of addressing an agenda focussed on water, and sanitation, which put in place some very good building blocks. The 2000 and 2003 World Water Forums, the Bonn International Freshwater Conference and the Stockholm Water Weeks. But governments were not able to set the right policy drivers into place. Although the document put forward at the end of the first week by G77 was a good attempt.

Stakeholder Forum in the last few days of the CSD working with a number of governments produced a draft agenda for a workshop on the CSD to happen in the summer of 2005.

#### **Linking CSD to the World Summit 2005**

Stakeholder Forum organized a side event at the CSD on how to link the outcomes from CSD13 to the World Summit 2005. By far the best attended side event of 2005 the Panel included Prof. Ibrahim Gambari UN Under Secretary General and Special Adviser to Kofi Annan on Africa, Mr. Byron Blake Deputy Permanent Representative of Jamaica, Roy A Hathaway Head of

Environment & Sustainable Development International Division Defra UK, Micheal Muller Director General Water Affairs and Forestry of South Africa and Felix Dodds Executive Director Stakeholder Forum. Malcolm Harper from Stakeholder Forum chaired the side event.

### Stakeholder Forum at the CSD

In addition to our event SF chaired two other events, Multi-stakeholder Water Conflict Management and Business Action on Water and Energy. Outreach was produced daily during the CSD and was posted on our web site as well. In addition we co-chaired a dinner with the French Environment Minister on the subject of the creation of a UN Environmental Organization. The French presented the outcomes from their working group and there was a good discussion ranging from support of their proposals to some NGOs wanting a UNEO being much stronger particularly in the area of resolving disputes with WTO.



### Workshop CSD Preparing for the Future

Following up the initial discussion at the CSD on a possible workshop reviewing the first cycle of the new CSD work programme five governments and Katzenbach Partners LLC agreed to fund such a workshop.



On the 11th and 12th of September Stakeholder Forum hosted a two day workshop reviewing the first two year cycle of the CSD. The meeting was chaired by former CSD Chair **Juan Mayr** and Vice Chair was **Margaret Catley Carlson** Chair of the Global water Partnership and a former UN Assistant Secretary General of UNICEF.



The Stakeholder Forum team was Felix Dodds, Mehjabeen Price, Malcolm Harper, Derek Osborn, Eleonore Mangin, Maria Figueroa Kupcu, Margreet van de Griebd, and Zak John Bleicher

A number of papers were prepared on:

1. The evolution of the CSD how to make it More effective and Influential by **Derek Osborn**
2. National Preparations for the CSD's Two Year Cycle by **Felix Dodds and Mehjabeen Price**
3. Regional Preparations for the CSD's Two Year Cycle by **Felix Dodds and Mehjabeen Price**
4. The coming CSD14 and 15 a dire need for a strong and insightful civil society voice by **Jan Gustav Strandenes**
5. Ideas for Launching and Evaluating New partnerships/initiatives and Reinforcing Ongoing Ones by **Maria Figueroa Küpcü**
6. Linking the Review and Policy Sessions by **Richard Sherman**
7. CSD and the International Framework for Sustainable Development by **Richard Sherman**

The meeting opened with three presentations to ignite the discussion from:

- Ambassador **Irene Freudenschuss Reichl** Director General Development Cooperation (Austria)
- **Jonathan Margolis** Special Representative for Sustainable Development and Director of the Office of Policy coordination and initiatives (US)

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- **Adil Najam** Associate Professor of International Negotiation and Diplomacy Tufts University

Over 50 representatives of government, stakeholder, UN system and inter-governmental organizations participated in the candid exchange over the two days. The goal of the workshop was to discuss the CSD process, not its substance, and to make recommendations to the CSD Bureau, Secretariat, and participants-at-large that could help foster a productive second cycle.

The objectives of the workshop were two fold:

1. To consider the result governments and stakeholders would like at the end of the second implementation cycle (CSD-15 in 2007) taking into consideration the 2016/2017 horizon;
2. To review the experience of the first two-year cycle of the CSD.

## **The World and the CSD**

Sustainable development remains a fundamental, over-arching goal for the world. The opening day of the workshop, poignantly the 4<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the September 11th was an appropriate reminder to workshop participants of the enduring relevance of the sustainable development agenda to global peace and prosperity. Yet, it's clear that rhetoric far outpaces reality. While one after another global meetings and declarations pledge their commitment to sustainable development, concrete progress is harder to measure. And there is a deep sense among those involved that the global policy-shaping processes for sustainable development are stuck in old habits and unproductive ways. The disappointment after the first implementation cycle, the "Water Cycle" was palpable – could it have achieved more?

## **The Purpose of CSD**

Participants began the workshop by revisiting the basics – what is the purpose of the CSD? The majority felt the CSD has a vital role as "custodian" of the spirit and commitments achieved at the UN Environment and Development Summit (Rio de Janeiro, 1992) and at the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg, 2002). In addition, it is responsible for spurring action at all levels for the implementation of sustainable development. A full report of the workshop is available on the Stakeholder Forum web site but the five key outcomes might be described as:

1. Re-invigorating CSD's Political Relevance through a 104-week process focused on Implementation
2. Streamlining the Negotiation Process to Achieve Normative and Non-Normative Outcomes
3. Adjusting processes and schedules to facilitate substance, linkage and integration from the national to regional and global levels
4. Ensuring that information and coordination support structures maximize effective information flow
5. Identifying Champions early

## **Recommended Flow Chart for the CSD 2-year Cycle**

During the meeting, participants developed a sketch of their ideal "Recommended Flow Chart for the CSD 2-year Cycle." This outline suggests how different stages of the cycle might contribute to a more effective and efficient CSD cycle – in particular streamlining the negotiation process at the CSD and strengthening the focus on implementation. The diagram generated broad agreement and participants further elaborated what specifically each stage in the process should achieve. It is hoped that this process flow chart could serve as guidance to the planning of the Bureau, Secretariat and interested parties.

## The Outcome of CSD: Text, Matrix & Champions

- some negotiated text
- a matrix of activities, in progress, in particular policy spheres
- a list of champions, organized within the matrix, that clearly highlights who is responsible, what is being done, timelines and results.

## CSD Regional Implementation Meetings

One outcome of the CSD workshop was that two governments the Dutch and Austria funded Stakeholder Forum to attend all the CSD RIMs to organize workshops and to observe the process to enrich the analysis of the CSD process.

### CSD Africa RIM

The Stakeholder Forum team to the African RIM was Jennifer Peer and Richard Sherman. The African RIM was the first one on 26-28 October 2005, the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa hosted the Africa Regional Implementation Meeting (RIM) in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The meeting was held in conjunction with the annual meeting of the ECA's Committee on Sustainable Development.

Representatives from more than thirty African states attended the African RIM to review progress on the implementation of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation (JPOI) and Agenda 21 in Africa. Representatives from various UN bodies and specialized agencies and other countries also participated. Rather disappointingly, only a small number of stakeholder organizations were present at the meeting.

The meeting focused on the cluster of issues to be considered in the upcoming CSD cycle, namely energy for sustainable development, industrial development, atmospheric/air pollution, and climate change. The meeting aimed to review progress in implementation of commitments in these areas, identifying opportunities, challenges and constraints facing African countries. The RIM expressed concern on the limited progress in implementation of Agenda 21 and JPOI, pointing to the international community's lack of fulfilment of its commitments made in Rio, Monterey and Johannesburg as an underlying cause.

The recommendations and issues arising from Africa's RIM will guide Africa's input to the UN Secretary General's state of implementation report for the upcoming CSD cycle.

The meeting produced particularly rich discussions on the topic of energy for sustainable development and industrial development. Access to energy is of course a key sustainable development challenge facing Africa. Almost a third of the estimated 1.6 billion people living without access to electricity worldwide live in Africa, biomass accounts for 70 to 90 per cent of the energy source in most African countries. Governments called for increased facilitation of information and experience sharing among countries and regions and increased attention to capacity building for energy planning and policy. Hydropower was underlined as an untapped energy source in Africa, with governments calling for the increased development of environmentally and socially balanced hydropower projects in Africa.

Energy was also considered by the RIM in relation to the critical role it plays for industrial development. Industrial development in Africa was considered critical to addressing the economic, social and environmental pillars of sustainable development. It was noted that despite Africa's improved economic growth record, the continent falls short of the 7 per cent growth considered necessary to halve poverty by 2015.

The RIM called for the promotion of global cooperation and partnerships for the development and implementation of cleaner production processes and adoption of new and safer technologies. It

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also emphasized the importance of assistance programmes in addressing the unique needs of on climate change; participants shared national experiences of the effects of climate change, including drought and coastal erosion. It emphasized the need to work with various stakeholder groups to strengthen the resilience of vulnerable local communities. On air pollution and atmosphere, the RIM encouragingly noted the achievements of many African initiatives and networks working in this area.

At the African RIM, Stakeholder Forum hosted a side-event to review the CSD's new multi-year programme of work and to make recommendations on opportunities to strengthen the CSD processes. Participants of the side-event were particularly interested in the effectiveness of the national and regional preparatory processes. Questions were raised as to whether these processes are adequate to ensure that opportunities, challenges and constraints to implementation experienced by African countries at the national and regional level are presented for consideration during the review year of the CSD cycle.

The experience of the African RIM points to potential opportunities for strengthening this process.

## **CSD West Asian RIM**

The Stakeholder Forum team in Cairo for the West Asian RIM was Jennifer Peer and Richard Sherman with the help of Ali Belial for the translations into Arabic of our material. The Regional Implementation Meeting was organized by Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia in conjunction with the Joint Committee for Environment and Development in the Arab Region. The meeting was held in Cairo on the 13-15<sup>th</sup> of November 2005 at the HQ of the League of Arab States

The West Asia Meeting built on the progress made at the Regional Conference on Energy for Sustainable Development and related environmental issues held on the 10-12<sup>th</sup> of September 2005. The September Conference provided an opportunity for national, regional and international experts working in energy and environmental fields to exchange experience, knowledge and information on three of the current CSD thematic issues energy for sustainable development, atmosphere/air pollution and climate change. Participants discussed the progress made challenges and obstacles. Because of the role of the previous conference the meeting in Cairo focused on producing the Arab Regional Review Report. The reports although not agreed by member states did off an initial assessment of the obstacles and challenges faced by the region on the four thematic issues.

## **CSD European RIM**

The Regional Implementation Forum as the Europeans called it was held in Geneva on the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> of December and organized by the UN Economic Commission for Europe. The meeting had Ministers and high-level officials in attendance as well as many stakeholders. The Stakeholder Forum team for the meeting was Richard Sherman and Felix Dodds and our partner organization was ANPED represented by Jan Gustav Strandernaus.



The meeting worked through presentations on the thematic clusters and the Chair of the meeting the UK Minister Elliot Morley working with a Regional Bureau agreed to produce a Chairs text after the meeting so that the meeting would focus on the discussions.

The UN ECE supported the side event and so the attendance was very good with nearly 70 people attending and nearly all governments represented some at head of Delegation level. Some of the issues brought up at the side event have been reflected in the chairs text.

Although many governments informally admitted to having a definite goal with the present CSD and its cluster issues, at the moment, governments seem to be looking for guidance on where to take the CSD rather than as yet providing a definite direction for the process. Several voiced

concern over the RIM exercise, and a major point was raised: a day and a half is simply not enough to do proper business. Some governments pointed to the fact that the UN ECE Regional Implementation Meeting represents the most diverse regions in income, but the meeting did not really address the requirements of the poorer parts of the region.

Others said that the RIM reports might not carry enough weight to make a difference at the upcoming CSD review session. Interpreting the discussion at the meeting liberally, many seemed to say that more time would be needed to make the RIMs matter in the new CSD.

Organizing partnership fairs as an integrated segment of the Regional Implementation Meetings may perhaps be a way for more stakeholders to become involved and for more relevant discussions to take place on what works and what doesn't. One seasoned delegate musing quietly to himself after the meeting, expressed the view that perhaps all the RIMs needed to be organised over the same template with a similar set of participants, preparation processes and expected outcomes, and that their reports would need to be given more formal weight at both the review session as well as at the policy one.

### **UNEP**

The Stakeholder Forum team for UNEP GC was Eric Hyland and Felix Dodds  
In addition to producing Outreach daily at the Governing Council we organized a three-hour training session using parts of the How to Lobby at MEAs, which was in draft form at that point.

Felix Dodds co-chaired with the French Environment Minister a lunch on the topic of the UN Environmental Organization idea that was being promoted by the French.

The Governing Council had a number of important decisions. The GC agreed to the immediate implementation of the Bali Strategic Plan on Capacity Building and Technology support. UNEP had organized a meeting on Gender and Environment in 2004 and the outcomes were reported to the GC and a decision looking at Gender Equality was agreed. The outcome committed to promote equal participation of women in environmental decision-making at all levels, the mainstreaming of gender in environmental policies and programmes, and the assessment of effects on women of environmental policies.

On the Tsunami it is clear that UNEP can play a role in the early warning system and that restoration of mangrove ecosystems, integrated coastal zone management, land-used planning with the ecosystem approach is critical to the future.

Perhaps the most important decision related to Mercury. There were very tough negotiations were undertaken on Mercury and the possibility of a legally binding agreement. Although not agreed it has set a date by which if voluntary approach does not work that a legally binding agreement negotiations would start.

In preparation for CSD and the World Summit 2005 UNEP also discussed Water, Sanitation and Human Settlements. Governments underlined that access to safe and affordable water and adequate sanitation is vital and will be seen as a key test case for the international community, because a failure to achieve the MDG water related objectives would be an obstacle to the realisation of all other MDGs, including the targets for human health;

### **WTO**

Stakeholder Forum met in July with WTO and UNCTAD to discuss the idea of formally observing the WTO meeting as part of our work to review the governance structures in WTO and to make recommendations on how to maximize stakeholder involvement. Unfortunately it was not feasible this time. Attended the 6th Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organisation was held in Hong Kong from the 13-18 December. Attending for Stakeholder Forum was Jennifer Peer

## Stakeholder Forum for a Sustainable Future

The Hong Kong Conference is the third Conference of the Doha Round of trade negotiations, which was launched in Doha, Qatar in 2001. The Doha Ministerial Declaration reaffirmed the commitment of member countries to the overarching objective of sustainable development, and mandated a round of negotiations that would promote economic growth and the alleviation of poverty. However, the collapse of the Cancun Ministerial Conference in 2003 – which ended without consensus – has cast a dark shadow over the past two years of world trade negotiations and the Doha Development Round as a whole. Stakeholder Forum organized a conference in November 2003 to look at how the WTO process should come back together a copy of the report is available on our web sit. As a result of the outcomes of Cancun, the pressure on negotiators at Hong Kong to deliver an outcome that would promote the development concerns of the world's poorest countries was immense.

That the Conference was not a complete failure has itself been touted as a success. An impasse on agriculture and controversy over services negotiations made consensus at Hong Kong look unlikely at times. However, given that negotiations are part of the 'development' round, celebration of the outcome is indeed misplaced. The end result is a disappointing text that offers little in the way of promoting poverty alleviation and sustainable development.

Agreements made by key developed countries reflected pre-existing national plans and included few concessions.

For example, on agricultural export subsidies, the EU resisted the widely supported deadline of 2010 for elimination of export subsidies and disciplines. The agreed date, 2013, is consistent with its 2003 commitment to reform its Common Agricultural Programme.

In contrast, developing countries were forced to curtail their demands, thus undermining potential development gains. The agreement on duty-free, quota-free access for least developing country exports was severely weakened by the inclusion of a caveat that enables developed countries to provide access for only 97 per cent of tariff lines. Similarly, the issue of cotton was not addressed nearly as ambitiously as African cotton-producing countries had called for. The following quote from Kamal Nath, India's Minister of Commerce & Industry, is indicative of the sense of frustration felt throughout the Hong Kong Ministerial Conference:

"We have been seeing an amazing development in the discussions in Hong Kong whereby the developed countries talk in the plenary halls of a Round for Free for developing countries. Then they move into the Green Room and continue to ask for a Round for Free, this time for themselves."

Moves had been made to marginalise the alternative text to Annex C presented by the G90 and that the status of Annex C had been misrepresented as "closed," when in fact the text did not enjoy the consensus of the members. In response, African Members of Parliament issued a strongly worded statement on services, "condemning the deliberate disinformation aimed at creating despondency and mistrust with the aim of breaking up developing country groupings."

Similarly, 85 civil society organisations sent an open letter to Secretary John Tsang, Chairman of the Ministerial, protesting the "unacceptable process" in services talks.

The outcomes and processes of the Hong Kong trade negotiations have delivered little evidence that the promotion of sustainable development is indeed the primary objective of world trade negotiations, as stated in the WTO's founding documents. The integration of all three pillars of sustainable development – economic and social development and environmental protection – has yet to be reflected in the outcomes of the WTO. An awareness of the WTO's inability to deliver outcomes that promote social and environmental concerns pervaded the atmosphere both inside and outside of the Hong Kong Conference Centre. The violent protests on the streets of Hong Kong and the emergence of the G110 alliance are both manifestations of the emerging dissatisfaction with a system that enables the agenda to be set by developed countries, at the expense of sustainable development. While consensus at Hong Kong has temporarily delayed a crisis for the WTO, it seems clear that calls for reform will only get louder. Stakeholder Forum will continue to work on suggestions on how to improve the governance process in WTO.

## Events SF has spoken at

### Global Democracy 2005

Felix Dodds sits on the International Advisory Board of the Montreal International Forum. The Forum organized in 2005 the Global Democracy 2005 Conference. At the conference Felix presented a paper Sustainable Development and Governing the Global Commons.

### UNEP Finance Initiative

UNEP FI held their bi-annual conference was held in the UN Economic and Social Council Room in New York. Over four hundred top bankers, insurance and reinsurance and investors attended. The final session of the conference was called Beyond Carbon and one of the speakers was Felix Dodds who presented on the challenges of the Human and Environmental Security Agenda.

### Basque Conference on Sustainable Development

Felix Dodds sat on the Conference Committee of the Eusko Ikaskuntza, which organizes the 16th Basque Studies Congress on Sustainable Development IT the Future. At the conference he presented a paper 'Multi-stakeholder Forums on Sustainable Development Emerging Stakeholder Democracy'.

## Communications

### Briefings

On Millennium Development Goals

Overview of MDGs

Human Settlement

Water and Sanitation

Energy

Financing Sustainable Development

Commission on Sustainable Development

Seven papers as mentioned in the previous section

Basque paper on governance for sustainable development

FIM paper on governance for sustainable development

### Using the Internet to Demystify the UN Process

Over the years Stakeholder Forum has tried to help stakeholders understand the UN better through a number of Internet activities. Our web site [www.stakeholderforum.org](http://www.stakeholderforum.org) still remains a critical element of our information provision

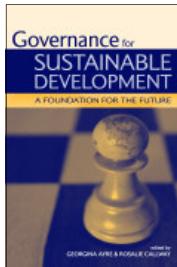
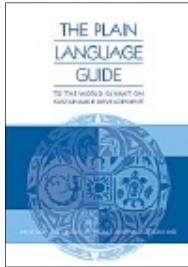
## Stakeholder Forum for a Sustainable Future

### SF New Books

Stakeholder Forum has continued its commitment to publishing books. These fall into three categories:

- Agenda setting
- Training and Capacity Building
- Understanding global agreements

In its first fifteen months it published three new books under a grant from the Rufford Maurice Laing Foundation.



- Plain Language Guide to World Summit on Sustainable Development
- Governance for Sustainable Development Foundations for the Future
- Human and Environmental Security – An Agenda for Change

The Plain Language Guide to World Summit on Sustainable Development was a joint project by Stakeholder Forum and the Commonwealth Secretariat. The book attempts to make Johannesburg understandable to a wide range of people. In doing so it attempts to reproduce a similar approach to that of Plain Guide to Rio produced by the Centre for Our Common Future after Rio. The book will carry the original introduction by Chip Lindner, a member of our International Advisor Board and the former Director of the Centre who died during the WSSD process.

The book is written by a team of three from Stakeholder Forum Jan McHarry and former Policy coordinators Georgian Ayers and Rosalie Gardner and from the Commonwealth Secretariat Janet Strachen. It was produced under the WHAT Governance Programme. The book was launched to the Press at the UK Press launch for the UNEP contribution to the UN Small island Developing States Conference in January 2005.

"The guide will be widely used in the Commonwealth and be yond to promote understanding and engagement in the WSSD process at all levels"

From the Foreword by **DON MCKINNON**, Commonwealth Secretary General.

"Governance for Sustainable Development edited by Georgina Ayre and Rosalie Callway was a series of essays on the theme of the WEHAB Agenda launched for the Johannesburg summit by Kofi Annan. WEHAB is Water, Energy, Health Agriculture and Biodiversity. The book underlines the key governance challenges of the agenda. Contributors include: Georgina Ayre, Rosalie Callway, Andrew M. Deutz, Alan Hall, Maria Ivanova, Maria Figueroa Küpcü, Robert L. Paarlberg, Yasin von Schirnding, Richard Sherman, Andrew Simms the book was produced under the WHAT Governance Programme"

### SF Previous Books

Human and Environmental Security – An Agenda for Change possibly Stakeholder Forums most ambitious book tried o map out an agenda for the new paradigm of Human and Environmental Security. The booked timed to come out for the UN World Summit 2005 in September 2005 was extremely well received and was launched at the Summit in the UN Bookshop and then in

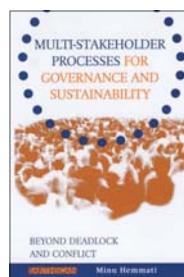
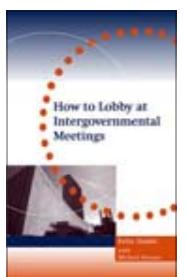
London with BT sponsorship at the top of the BT Tower. Produced under the WHAT Governance Programme. The books contributors include:

"Top decision makers have joined to produce a groundbreaking book" UNEP Our Planet

"A highly significant and relevant publication....both the public and policy makers alike are left in no doubt as to the urgency of concerted international action to address threats that affect us all."

Javier Solana EU High Representative for the Common Foreign and Security policy

Since being set up in 1993 Stakeholder Forum have produced nine books it has done this in conjunction with the publishing house Earthscan



How to Lobby at Inter-Governmental Meetings or Mine is a Café Latte (2004) by Felix Dodds with Michael Struass. The book explores how to lobby within the UN system and draws on over ten years of experience of the two authors. Produced under the WHAT Governance Programme.

"An invaluable tool for anyone wishing to understand and contribute effectively to the competition of good ideas that intergovernmental meetings should be"

Paul Hohen former Strategic Director, Greenpeace International

"Felix Dodds is the Milo Minderbinder of the stakeholder world."

Alex Kirby - Former BBC Correspondent

Multi-Stakeholder Process for Governance and Sustainability - Beyond Deadlock and Conflict (2002) by Dr Minu Hemmati with Felix Dodds, Jasmin Enayati and Jan McHarry was launched at the UN in January 2002. It still represents the best practical guide on how MSPs can be organized and implemented in order to bypass adversarial politics, resolve complex issues and achieve positive results.

Earth Summit 2002 - A New Deal (2000 and new edition 2002 edited by Stakeholder Forum's Director Felix Dodds and Toby Middleton, has articles identifying the key issues that the Summit dealt with. Although produced for the Summit the chapters are still relevant to those interested in international policy development. Contributors include WSSD Secretary General Nitin Desai, Gro Harlem Brundtland, former CSD Chair Simon Upton and former UK Environment Minister Rt Hon John Gummer, MP.

Poverty in Plenty: a Human Development Report (1997) edited by Jane Seymour - In October 2000 UNED-UK Committee published the widely acclaimed first developed country Human Development Report

- How to lobby At Intergovernmental Meetings
- Earth Summit 2002 A New Deal
- Multi-stakeholder processes on Sustainability and Governance
- Poverty and Plenty
- Earth Summit II
- The Way Forward Beyond Agenda 21

## Stakeholder Forum for a Sustainable Future

### **Newsletters**



The SF newsletters have had a number of changes over the past fifteen months and a number of editors. After five years editing our newsletters and web site Toby Middleton moved on to Sustainable Development International and we wish to thank him for his time and enormous effort at Stakeholder Forum.

Initially the new editor for the re-launched Network was Chris Littlecott who is now with E3. Taking over from Chris and initiating redesign was Virginia Prieto based in San Sebastian in Spain. Some of the changes include a change in visuals that is now being followed up on in other SF products. The new newsletter has better defined subjects and has introduced a culture section.



Outreach has, over the past fifteen months, had a number of editors at the different UN events it has been produced at. Erin Hyland formerly with UNEP in The Hague took control of editing Outreach at UNEP Governing Council and the Commission on Sustainable Development Intercessional Preparatory Meeting, while Virginia took over editing for the Commission meeting itself in April, with Zak John Bleicher editing in September at the World Summit and a special for the NGO UN General Assembly Hearings in June.

### **Reports**

Over the fifteen Months SF has produced the following reports:

- Final Water Round Table Report
- First Energy Round Table Report
- Second Energy Round Table Report
- Third Energy Round Table Report
- Workshop CSD Preparing for the Future

### **SF UK Committee**

Stakeholder Forum UK was known until October 2004 as the UNED-UK Committee, the domestic arm of Stakeholder Forum, it is the UK Committee for the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the UK Focal Point for the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

### **UK Conferences & Seminars**

Since the re-launch of Stakeholder Forum UK in October 2004 it has been active with a number of issues in the UK. These have been on preparation for UN Commission on Sustainable Development meetings and the World Summit 2005.

### **Commission on Sustainable Development**

In preparation for the 2005 CSD meeting known as part of the Water Cycle it organized a number of Water Round Tables. The outcomes from these Round Tables were fed into the UK Government, the UN Secretariat and lobbied at UN meetings. The funding for this work came from Severn Trent and Thames Water.

In preparation for the 2006 CSD meetings known as part of the Energy Cycle it organized its first energy event in November 2004 on the thorny issue of Nuclear Power, which was attended by over 150 people. Speaking at the event were former UK Secretary of State John Gummer MP, Rt Hon Hugh Montifury, and Bernard Ingham, former Press Secretary to Mrs Thatcher. During the event a straw poll was taken asking if we should re-engage with Nuclear Power the answer was an overwhelming no.

Three Round table meetings in 2005 have followed up the event on different aspects of energy funded by the UK Government. Stakeholder Forum was one of only two national processes to feed in their outcomes to the UN CSD Task manager in the time frame given by the UN.

### **World Summit 2005**

In preparation for the World Summit 2005 Civil Society General Assembly Stakeholder Forum organized a conference the day before in London on the subject of MDG7. The outcomes from the Conference were published overnight in New York as a special issue of Outreach. In addition Executive Director Felix Dodds spoke at the Hearings held in the UN EcoSoc Chamber on the outcomes from the UK conference.

### **UNEP's National Committee for the UK**

Over the last fifteen months Stakeholder Forum have continued to play a role as the UK National Committee this has focused on the following areas:

- Chairing the Regional National Committee Meetings: In 2005 SF co-chaired the Regional UNEP Stakeholder meeting to prepare for UNEP Governing Council and Global Environmental Ministers Meeting.
- Stakeholder Forum have been organizing a number of informal events around the proposal by the French Government that UNEP should be transformed from an Agency into a Programme of the UN. We will continue to work in this area, as the General Assembly will be following up the suggestion in 2006.
- UNEP's flag ship publication Global Environmental Outreach is preparing for its next [publication in 2007. It has invited two Stakeholder Forum people on to its Outreach Advisory Board. These are Felix Dodds and Alex Kirby. There have two meetings of the Board at IUCN HQ and the other in Nairobi. The role of the Outreach group is to

### **International Advisory Board**

help identify how to maximize the impact of the publication

Whilst stakeholders were gathered in New York for the Commission on Sustainable Development 2005, Stakeholder Forum arranged a dinner for members of its International Advisory Board.

Derek Osborn chaired the dinner and explained the changes in Stakeholder Forum over the past two years and where we were going now.

## Stakeholder Forum for a Sustainable Future

### **Board of Directors**

The agenda of the dinner was to look at Stakeholder Forums proposed work areas and discuss the outcomes from the Cardosa Panel and its implications for stakeholders

In October 2004 Stakeholder Forum started its new role as an independent NGO/multi-stakeholder forum. Its Board of Directors during this time has been:

Derek Osborn - Chair  
David Fitzpatrick - Company Secretary  
Jonathan Hodrien Treasurer  
Andy Binns  
Malcolm Harper  
Jim Scott  
Roger Yates (October 2004 to December 2005)  
Andy Wales

### **Staff**

#### **Core Staff**

Felix Dodds Executive Director: (British based in San Sebastian)  
Mehjabeen Price Deputy Director and UK Director (Pakistani based in UK, October 2004 to November 2005)  
Jennifer Peer Policy Coordinator: (Canadian based in UK, September 2005 to date)  
Marie Duboc Policy Coordinator : ( French based in UK, April 2005 to September 2005)  
Zonny Woods Policy Coordinator: (Salvadoran based in Canada, October 2004 to December 2004)  
Jodie Bettis Administrator: (British based in UK, October 2004 to May 2005)  
Owen Davies Administrative Assistant: (British based in UK)  
Anthony Miles Policy Assistant: Part time (British based in UK)

#### **Part Time Project Supported**

Megan Howell Capacity Building Coordinator: (New Zealand and New Zealand based)  
Virginia Prieto Newsletter and Web Coordinator: (Spain and based in Spain)

#### **Consultants**

Richard Sherman Governance Consultant: (South Africa and based in South Africa))  
Maria Figueira Kupcu Stakeholder and Strategic Consultant: (USA and based in USA)  
Chris Littlecott Network editor (December 2004 UK and based in the UK)  
Erin Hyland Outreach Editor (February 2005 USA and based in USA)  
Zak John Bleicher Outreach Editor (September 2005 USA and based in USA)

#### **Interns**

Elena Abrosimova  
Laura Adams  
Julie Bedard  
Katie Gustafs

Victoria Forster-Jones  
Michelle Nansikombi  
Bidemi Odeyemi  
Janecke Rijs,  
Toby Sawday  
Amy Stewart  
Erin Stewart  
Michael Joseck  
Julia Dockerill  
Toby Arul-Pragasam

## Funding

Stakeholder Forum would like to thank the following foundations, governments and stakeholders for their support:

Governments: Austria, Canada, Flanders, Finland, Netherlands, UK

Foundations: Rufford Maurice Laing Foundation

Stakeholders: Katzenbach Partners LLC, RMC, RSPB, Severn Trent, Thames

UN Agencies; UNEP

