OUTREACH



BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Monday 28th

UNEP GOVERNING COUNCIL

Reflections from the GC-23/ **GMEF** President

the President of the twenty-third session, H.E. Rachmat apply environmental objectives and related trade measures, Witoelar, Minister of Environment of Indonesia shared his and to monitor compliance;



views on the week, Gender: highlighting some major two years will lead.

very happy optimistic atmosphere, meeting, and he hopes to Decision;

E.M.Hvland see the decisions process, with increased interactions between Tsunami: all countries.

He felt that a few of the highlights included the **intension for** the Tsunami disaster in capacity-building and the assistance to countries in need. the Indian Ocean as an In general, he felt that everything had been on track at the opportunity to mobilise meeting with desired outcomes being obtained, and that it resources offered a good opportunity to hear the processes of particular sustainable re-building countries. From the Indonesian perspective, he said the and meeting included several successful bilateral meetings as well including as good opportunities to cooperate further.

as linking into the upcoming CSD-13 meetings, Minister few decades have entailed (phasing out of destructive and for Technology Support and Capacity Building (BSP), and restoration of mangrove ecosystems, integrated coastal zone building. With regards to CSD-13, he hopes to relate the BSP approach); to other discussions and link it to overall environmental governance.

Civil Society's Statement

Indigenous Peoples representatives that were present in countries which are analogous to "man-made, preventable Nairobi last week issued a statement at the end of UNEP Tsunamis". An issue addressed in the Kobe Conference on Governing Council dealing with the issues that had been disaster relief held in January negotiated.

International Environmental Governance & UNEP:

provision in future of significant additional, stable and Environmental Situation under Review (GC23/CW/L2/Add 1). predictable resources to allow UNEP to perform its mandate As requested in Paragraph 6(c) the coalition welcomed the adequately;

They welcomed the support expressed by Governing Council to the immediate implementation of the Bali Strategic Plan on Capacity Building and Technology support;

They reminded governments that Multilateral Environmental Just prior to the conclusion of the GC-23/GMEF in Nairobi, Agreements should have primary competence to determine,

It was felt by many that the Swedish delegation at UNEP achievements and his played a leadership role for advancing the issue of Gender vision for where the next Equality and Environment.

The coalition welcomed the Decision on Gender Equality and Environment, in light of the upcoming Beijing+10 meeting In summing up a few of starting this week. The outcome committed to promote equal his impressions, he was participation of women in environmental decision-making at all and levels, the mainstreaming of gender in environmental policies with the and programmes, and the assessment of effects on women of outcomes environmental policies. They went on to call for adequate and consultation of the provision of resources for the prompt implementation of this

The coalition viewed for management, drawing lessons on the



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In terms of moving forward over the next two years, as well vulnerability that certain developments in that region in the last Witoelar stressed implementation of the Bali Strategic Plan unsustainable industrial aquaculture activities, protection and ensuring that steps are taken in strengthening capacity- management, land-used planning with the ecosystem

> They argued that throughout the Tsunami-devastated areas, the development and use of clean, renewable and sustainable energy should be given utmost priority;

Perhaps one key lesson from the Tsunami disaster is that economic development must not increase the vulnerability of ecosystems, peoples and communities, especially with regard The environmental NGOs, Trade Union, Youth, Women and to climate change and extreme weather patterns in developing

Climate:

The coalition welcomed the adoption of Paragraph 6(a) (b) They looked forward to the strengthening of UNEP and the and (c) of UNEP GC Decision on Keeping the World

(Continued on page 2)

STAKEHOLDER FORU

(Continued from page 1)

opportunity to continue to address the serious challenges of global climate change, and look forward to co-operating with UNEP to this end they reaffirmed an early statement made joining in the celebrations that marked the entry into force of the Kyoto Protocol last week, they went on to say that they continue to be concerned that the US Administration is not acting in accordance with their legal obligations under Article 2 of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, despite the recognition this week in Brussels by President Bush that human-enhanced climate change does take place;

Calling on Governments to consider the legal implications of the US's violation of their UNFCCC obligations; they looked forward to discussing this issue at next year's Special Session of UNEP Governing Council in Dubai; Mercury:

Very tough negotiations were undertaken on Mercury and the possibility of a legally binding agreement. The coalition thanked those governments who have secured the adoption of the Mercury Programme on mercury which constitutes an important first step in eradicating mercury poisoning of From GC-23/GMEF to CSD-13 Intersessional people and the environment;

They went on to say that they believed however that the adoption of a legally-binding instrument to tackle mercury poisoning, reflected in the Mercury Programme as an option, is inevitable. They called upon Governments to work to this end, in particular to secure capacity building for all and a just transition in phasing-in clean alternatives;

Water, Sanitation and Human Settlements:

With the upcoming CSD and the MDG+5 Summit pursuing effective measures on Water, Sanitation and Human Settlements the UNEP decision on water is a constructive step.. They underlined that access to safe and affordable water and adequate sanitation is 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:

Access to water is a basic human right that Governments, individually and collectively, have the duty to secure and protect.

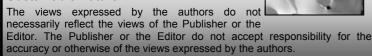
MDG+5 Summit:

The coalition reiterated that Environment for Development should be the corner-stone of this year's Millennium + 5 review and summit; as was pointed out in the UN SG's High level Panel Report on Threats, Opportunities and Change, our collective security will never be reached unless we achieve an equitable and fair development that takes full account of environmental sustainability.

They went on to urge Governments to include representatives from Civil Society on their delegation at the MDG + 5 Summit in New York, and related meetings.

Outreach

Guest editor: Erin Marie Hyland emh2112@columbia.edu Published by, Stakeholder Forum for a Sustainable Future.



Introducing



Mehjabeen Price, the new UK Director of Stakeholder Forum for a Sustainable Future



E.M.Hvland Christo and Jean-Claude's "The Gates", Central Park 12-17 February 2005

Temperature in Nairobi: 34°C Temperature in New York: 0°C

Aarhus Convention Ratified

The European Community has ratified the Aarhus Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE). The ratification, which took place on 17 February 1005, ensures that the Community will become a Party before the opening of the second meeting of the Parties to the Convention, in Almaty, Kazakhstan, on 25 May 2005.

On 23 February, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland became the latest country to ratify the Convention, joining Austria Netherlands and Spain, which also recently ratified and will also have the full status of Parties at the Almaty meeting. The Convention enters into force for each country 90 days following its ratification.

CSD13: NGO Priorities Water, Sanitation and Habitat

Agendas and action programmes on water, sanita- tion and habitat, have been accepted in various international forums. In practice, however, NGOs have evidence that in many countries:

- The human rights to adequate, affordable water, housing and sanitation are not respected
- Participation is widely accepted but not adequately implemented
- Fragmentation of responsibilities for water and sanitation between government agencies is very problematic
- Community-based management is successful but not promoted Prioritisation for the poor rarely occurs
- Impacts on the environment are not considered IWRMplans are missing
- Insufficient consideration of cultural diversity and gender
- •Objectives don't link to local financing structures and capacities

Thus, NGOs identify the following actions to achieve the goals of CSD13:

Governments significantly increase their political and financial commitment to the sector taking a poverty and rights-based approach with defined criteria for implementation.

Considering that access to sufficient water for basic human needs and housing are established human rights, incorporate them into national law, backed by specific measurable plans for implementation.

An integrated sector-wide approach becomes the basis to coordinate across government ministries, bringing together agencies responsible for water, sanitation, environment, health, agriculture and education, including the cross cutting theme "sustainable consumption and production" and involving all stakeholders.

IWRM is used for management and planning; providing a model for the long term environmental security of water resources, requiring a long-term political and technical push and to be operationalised locally.

Many community groups and NGOs are successfully managing local resources and are willing and able to do more to support actions, communicate impacts, local demands and knowledge. This valuable resource requires promotion and support by governments and access to information and decision making. Stakeholder-led platforms that monitor and discuss policies on water, sanitation, hygiene promotion and habitat have proven successful in many different contexts.

Develop culturally and gender sensitive approaches to sanitation; a major cause of poverty through ill-health.

Unresolved transboundary and local conflicts over quantity and quality of waters prevent access by people who need it to live. Responsibility for resolution must be addressed urgently at all levels.

The goals of CSD13 can only be delivered by governance structures that allow local communities to participate and provide a basis for equitable allocation of water. Strategic frameworks and delivery plans should include steps aimed at:

Ensuring the participation of local communities, farmers, business and NGOs in a multi-stakeholder framework where:

- All relevant actors are involved in planning, implementation, monitoring of projects/policies as equal partners from the outset
- Different interests and responsibilities are acknowledged
- Particular attention is paid to the involvement of community groups, women and children

Strengthening institutional capacities aimed at:

•Changing the mindset

- Optimising the use of the knowledge of local communities and institutions.
- Education and social marketing campaigns on sanitation, hygiene and wise use of water

Setting up dialogues, networks and mechanisms for monitoring, evaluation and reporting, aimed at sharing experiences, determine the lessons learned and translating them intopolicy.

Monitoring and reporting on progress, distinguishing between impacts according to different gender, ethnicity and cultures.

Infrastructure development is required, with the environmental and social sustainability principles respected, including:

 Recognition and implementation of existing safeguard policies for large scale infrastructure, such as the recommendations of the World Commission on Dams, as due



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- diligence, by governments and financiers.
- Use full cost-benefit analysis to assess various options before implementation
- Upscale the use of 'soft' engineering techniques for water resource management and work within natural systems.

Mobilising resources for long-term investment in the sectors requires actions at all levels, but heed the needs and desires of local stakeholders, don't make them pay for a service they can't afford or need.

Developed country governments to reverse declining

NGOs CONT'D

levels of ODA to the sector and focus on countries most in need. Coordinate multilateral and bilateral programmes working on the same target group, and/or region.

Set up tariff structures for water use, but this must not prevent poor people's access to affordable services. Include methods for valuing their contributions "in kind" towards operation and maintenance. Water and related services must never be traded as a commodity.

Private sector participation is not the solution to the financial gap and must never be imposed as a condition of grants or loans. Water is a public good, therefore regula- tion of and control overwater must always remain with the public sector.

Systemise the collection of accurate data for consolidation into national budgeting and planning, prioritising then needs of the poorest.

Build on the successful pilot cases of innovative mechanismsforpayingfor**ecosystemsservices**.

Increasing access to sanitation and hygiene promotion is problematic but there are many good exam- ples to be adopted, such as:

- city-wide sanitation strategies with adapted solutions for wholepopulation
- social marketing and educational programs of handwashing&hygiene
- scaling up of the grass-roots led total sanitation campaign begun in South Asia and by WASH
- supplying people with technology choices that accord to http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/csd/csd.htm their needs and demands, including decentralised systems, eco-sanitation and dry toilets, and send information to help them choose.

gently needed, together with capacity building and training for all actors to comply with and monitor legislation, also:

- Legislate for IWRM and water efficiency strategies that conserve watersheds and guarantee equitable sharing of water between users, underpinned by an effective environmental regulatory framework.
- •Provide land tenure for poor people in urban slums in particular improving the legal recognition of women's rights.
- Provide a legal framework for local municipalities and civil society groups to safeguard their rights, quality standards and affordability when third parties are involved in provision of water orhousing.
- Undertake reforms to separate out the powers of water service providers and regulators which should always remain in public control.
- Recognise small-scale private sector water suppliers, within an environment where all service providers are regulated. New service providers can't be promoted without a resourced regulatory framework being in place.
- •Regulate to prevent infill of water bodies from urban sprawl and depletion of the water table from mega-cities.
- UNEP and UN-HABITAT cooperate to provide capacity building and guidelines on urban management.

The full compilation paper for CSD-13 from all the Major Groups will be available shortly on the CSD website: http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/csd/csd.htm

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CSD13: UK Stakeholder Priorities

UK Stakeholders call for firm decisions and action by Governments on water and sanitation issues at CSD 13.

The Millennium Summit rightly set a challenging target for 2015 to halve the number of people without access to safe drinking water and the Johannesburg Summit added the goal of reducing the number of people without access to basic sanitation by 2015.

Stakeholders believe that the goal ought to be to achieve these targets in every country of the world and not just in a few large ones. They urge CSD 13 to adopt this interpretation of the Millennium Goals and targets.

The targets should be regarded as minimum targets for 2015. The true long-term goals should be to ensure that everyone has access to fresh water and to basic sanitation. Lack of these essential services is a serious deprivation in itself, and exacerbates many other major problems such as poverty, ill health, food shortages etc. Conversely progress on water and sanitation will in itself assist progress towards the Millennium Goals in these other areas.

The work of the CSD over the past two years shows that although a number of new initiatives have been put in place the scale of effort at present still falls well short of what will be required to achieve the Millennium goals, let alone the longer term goals we believe are needed. The task of



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CSD13 should therefore be to establish the basis for a major expansion of effort throughout the developing world on these issues. The need for further action in some developed countries as well should not be neglected.

Some countries are already making good progress towards these water and sanitation goals. Others are having more difficulty – in our view international cooperation should be particularly focused on areas where physical conditions or where governance and institutional or economic conditions indicate greater need for external support.

Stakeholders believe that the following issues are critical, and look to Governments for strong and effective agreements on them.

Governance. Effective action on water and sanitation issues requires strong and effective Governance at national and local coupled with strong and effective institutional arrangements to manage the planning, construction and delivery of effective services, and a strong regulatory framework to ensure that health and safety standards are achieved and the whole water environment protected.

Planning and Strategy. Stakeholders support Integrated Water Resource Management as the appropriate strategic framework for integrating all the different aspects of water and sanitation services, and establishing priorities and equity between different parties. But they emphasise that such frameworks must not be imposed top-down in a technocratic way, but need to be built up in a participative

way drawing on the skills and experience of civil society at all levels, and relating strongly to the needs, knowledge, practices and aspirations of local communities.

Linkages with other policy areas. Stakeholders think it is crucially important for the water and sanitation sector to build effective alliances and co-operation with other key sectors at local, national and international level. Better access to water and sanitation has a crucial part to play in the delivery of other Millennium goals and targets including poverty reduction, health goals, elimination of food shortages, management of urban settlements, etc. Identification of these linkages should help to mobilise wider political and societal support for the actions needed and to mobilise additional resources needed. Water and sanitation goals and targets should form part of poverty reduction strategies, health strategies and other key frameworks for shaping national and international actions and priorities.

Stakeholders believe that it is increasingly important to factor <u>climate change</u> into all water planning, and to ensure that the impacts of climate change on water availability and distribution is properly factored into planning of urban and rural development.

Technology. Stakeholders believe that a wide range of engineering and technological solutions will be needed in the future in the water sector talking account of local circumstances and that planners should beware of imposing one track solutions to all problems. Given the growing pressures on water supplies in many parts of the world emphasis should be placed on enhancing measures to eliminate waste and promote the efficient use of water. Large-scale redevelopments that damage environments or threaten the depletion of vital stores of water should be avoided.

Economics. In more developed economies cost recovery from all consumers of water services is a good method for allocating costs to those who incur them. But cost recovery is not a universal panacea, and is inappropriate in many poorer communities where households could not afford prices based on full cost recovery.

Finance. Estimates suggest that the level of investment in development of water services will need to increase substantially in many courtiers if the Millennium targets are to be met. Stakeholder recommend that the CSD should assess the scale of increase of investment spending that will be needed over the next ten years to achieve the Millennium goals, and institute a dialogue in the appropriate for a between donors as to how these sums are to be mobilised and how they should best be administered.

Monitoring. It is crucially important that progress towards the target should continue to be monitored by the internationally community on a regular basis so that shortfalls can be identified promptly and corrective action taken. The UN Secretariat will no doubt have a key role in assembling the necessary material for this purpose. Stakeholder believe that in addition it would be desirable to continue the participation of major stakeholders in a regular audit process (perhaps similar to the MDG Task Force) so as to give greater prominence to the results and ensure that adequate attention is focused by the international community and the IFIs etc on any emerging problems.

FACTS ABOUT WATER AND HEALTH

88% of diarrhoeal disease is attributed to unsafe water supply, inadequate sanitation and hygiene.

1.8 million people die every year from diarrhoeal diseases (including cholera); 90% are children under 5, mostly in developing countries.

Hygiene interventions including hygiene education and promotion of hand washing can reduce diarrhoeal cases by up to 45%.

1.3 million people die of malaria each year, 90% of whom are children under 5.

There are 396 million cases of malaria every year; most of the disease burden is in Africa south of the Sahara.

Malaria costs Africa more than US\$12 million annually and slows economic growth in African countries by 1.3% a year. Trachoma is strongly related to lack of face-washing, often due to absence of nearby sources of safe water.

500 million people are at risk from trachoma, 146 million are threatened by blindness and 6 million people are visually impaired from this disease.

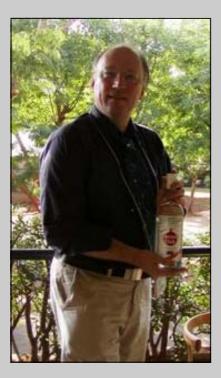
In Bangladesh, between 28 and 35 million people consume drinking water with elevated levels of arsenic.

Over 26 million people in China suffer from dental fluorosis due to elevated fluoride in their drinking water.

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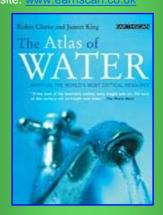
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CHINA TO HOST 2006 INTER-GOVERNMENTAL GPA REVIEW

H.E. Mr, Zeng Peiyan, Vice-Premier of China, announced during the Opening Ceremony of the GC-23/GMEF that China will host the 2nd Intergovernmental Review of the Global Plan of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities (GPA) to take place in 2006. Early soundings favour Shanghai, although the host city has yet to be specified.

With some 80% of marine pollution originating from landbased sources, including municipal, industrial and agricultural wastes and run-off, the need to take action in urgent. In recognizing this, the GPA was adopted in 1995 with 108 countries and the EU committing efforts to reversing this trend. Among other actions, the GPA calls for States to develop national frameworks for reducing the impacts of land-based contaminants on marine ecosystems. China is currently in the process of developing a National Programme of Action (NPA), joining over forty nations in carrying out plans to streamline and strengthen their ongoing marine pollution mitigation work.



E.M.Hyland

Austria on Preparations for CSD-14 Presidency

The following is from an interview with Ms. Elfriede More of now been entered into force, so what further activities will be Presidency of CSD-14 and energy discussions.

In general, how are the Austrian preparations for CSD CSD will take care of the broader picture. presidency progressing?

year to go. Austria faces a heavy agenda during its period of responsibility coming into the discussions? presidency. Not only CSD-14, but also the World Water Forum, COP-2-POPS, COP8 Biodiversity and MOP of the debated whether or not CR should be formally one of the Biosafety Protocol, Subsidiary Bodies of UNFCCC, the International Conference on Chemical management, and finally the UNEP GC/GMEF Special Session. We'll be working closely with the UK, as they have the current Johannesburg, there has been the strong focus on presidency, and we have already begun cooperation with Finland about how to bridge CSD-14 and 15 as their presidency follows ours, and we want to ensure that as little time is lost in the transition as possible. Since we will be carrying out the review, we want to make sure that the analysis and evaluation of policy options and views move forward without delay. We also have the UNECE Regional Implementation Forum next December, and will be looking at the European Energy Initiative to see how this is progressing. We'll also be looking within Austria to identify best practices, projects or companies that are seeing success .as well as working with our development colleagues to develop cooperation projects and work together with energy partnerships.

The Global Forum on Sustainable Energy (GFSE), which Austria founded in 1999, and which has its 5th global meeting in 2005 will also feed into CSD14. This year's focus is looking at "enhancing international cooperation on biomass" which is an important issue with both positive and negative characteristics. On one hand you still have unsustainable use of biomass which contributes for example to indoor air pollution, but on the other hand you have modern biomass technologies for electricity production and heating, such as in some of Austria's small villages. Friends and Colleagues, Additionally, at the GFSE-5 there will be a focus on biofuels.

The GFSE is also working closely with the German After a brief illness, on February 14, 2005, Dr. John Smyth government and with REEEP on the follow-up of the of Scotland passed away. As founder and Past President of International Conference on renewable energies last year in The Scottish Environmental Education Association, SEE Bonn. how far has the Bon Action Plan actually gone. What are the up their own EE organization in their country. John was very major problems or obstacles? A big question is why do active from Stockholm on working with and advising millions of people still not have access to energy services? decision makers. He drafted the working background paper It will also be important to take stock of events since CSD-9 for Maurice Strong for the Earth Summit and played an and the JPOI to see what has really been implemented.

highlight during its presidency over CSD14 given the also a member of the IUCN Education Commission and focus is on energy, climate change, atmosphere and Stakeholder Education Task Force from 1990. He advised industrial development?

energy for sustainable development, but obviously strategies. He knew the value of the written document and renewable energy and energy efficiency will be a priority. published numerous papers, and shaped a number of Additionally, as at Johannesburg the access to energy briefings for purposes of policy making. Trained as a marine services was highlighted, we will also focus on this.

discussion in the climate process. The Kyoto Protocol has issues of sustainability.

the Austrian government about the upcoming Austrian looked at once the 1st commitment period is finished. In terms of climate change, we will look at how energy links to it, but also to the other issues under this cluster so that the

Given the inclusion of industrial development in the We've already been preparing for a year and have another CSD14 cluster, do you foresee focus upon r corporate

> CR is somewhat a cross-cutting issue. At CSD-11 it was cross-cutting aspects to be revisited at all of the CSD cluster groups, but it was not agreed. However, the CSD process has a strong relationship with stakeholders, and since partnerships so CR might be part of the discussion.



IISD/ENB

Remembering Dr. John Smyth

There was much political enthusiasm at Bonn, but served as a model worldwide for other groups wanting to set active role thereafter with the UN Commission on What do you see being key issues Austria may seek to Sustainable Development's Education Causcus. He was and worked very closely with colleagues around the world As it is a review year, CSD-14 will cover all aspects of and in particular within the European countries in shaping scientist, John was a pioneer and influential world leader in With regards to climate change, it's a broad, ongoing understanding the vital role learning played in addressing

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Monday's Agenda

		PLENARY
10:00 - 1:00	Conf. Room 3	Chair's Introduction • Regional Commissions • Introduction of SGs Reports • Intersessional meeting reports
3:00- 5:00	Conf. Room 3	 Continued Intersessional meeting Reports (cont'd) Major Groups
5:00 - 6:00	Conf. Room 3	PLENARY Water and Sanitation: Panel Introduction and Interactive Discussion

Side Events

1:15 - 2:45	Conf. Room 5	Global WASH Forum Outcomes Organized by the Government of the Republic of Senegal
	Conf. Room 3	UN-Water Briefing

Caucus Meetings

	9:00-10:00	Conf. Room C	Strategy Sessions		
	10:00-11:00 -	Conf. Room C	- Freshwater Caucus		
	5:00-6:00	Conf. Room C	Freshwater Caucus		
	6:30-8:30	Conf. Room C	Caucus Coordinators		

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