
UNED-UK Annual Report

1996/97

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Preface



Photo Harold Stern

"The challenges facing us are considerable as we start to map out the new landscape of sustainable development and equitable development. But in the words of Mahatma Gandhi, 'We must be the change we wish to see in the world'."

Elizabeth Dowdeswell
UNEP Executive

THE UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT UK Committee is the successor to the United Nations Environment Programme UK, first established as UNEP's National Committee in 1987.

In the run up to the Earth Summit UNEP-UK co-ordinated the official consultation process in the UK for the non government side. Its Round Tables, conferences and publications laid the ground work for the present programme of UNED-UK.

After the Earth Summit the organisation decided to review its role and its future. There was considerable consultation with its members and with those who had become involved with UNEP-UK through the Earth Summit. This resulted in a decision that the organisation would continue, but with a new role, name, and structure.

UNEP-UK changed its name to reflect the integration of environment and development concerns inherent in the concept of 'sustainable development'. This change has also allowed the organisation to broaden its relations with UN agencies. We have continued to act as UNEP's National Committee in the UK, and have now become the first northern focal point for the work of the United Nations Development Programme. We aim to build strong relations with all of the UN bodies which have responsibility for important aspects of achieving sustainable development.

Agenda 21, the main text to come out of the Earth Summit, recognises nine major groups of civil society with a vital role to play in implementing the programme areas it outlines: farmers; local authorities; trade unions; NGOs; business and industry; youth; women; scientists and indigenous people.

The organization has elected or appointed representatives of most of these different major groups on to the Executive. It recognised in addition the media, education community, social groups and the religious community.

The United Nations Association acts as the secretariat for UNED-UK.

UNED-UK

Aims and Objectives

"Your work will serve as a model for others throughout the world."

US Vice President
Al Gore

UNED-UK HAS AS its primary objective "the promotion of global environmental protection and sustainable development, particularly through support of the UN Environment Programme, the UN Development Programme, the UN Commission on Sustainable Development, and all other relevant UN and inter-governmental institutions". Such commitments have been most fully expressed in Agenda 21 and the Rio Declaration, both agreed at the UN Conference on Environment and Development in Rio de Janeiro in 1992.

Since that Summit, the UN has made the necessary arrangements for a high level Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD), which has taken Agenda 21 as its rubric. The CSD is thus the UN body which coordinates and promotes internationally the work which UNED-UK has set itself, whilst Agenda 21 constitutes the most comprehensive expression to date of sustainable development and environmental protection as urgent issues for the world to address before the millennium.

UNED-UK continues to have close relationships with both UNDP and UNEP [*see elsewhere in this report*], and will foster these links over the coming year.

We aim to carry out the support of UN institutions and processes, as detailed above, through the following means:

- dissemination of information;
- UN events in the UK;
- arranging for visits from UNDP, UNEP, and UNCSD representatives.

Other objectives include:

- helping to mobilize the UK political process, particularly through national and local government, the voluntary sector and the commercial and industrial sector, in order to promote sustainable development in the work of the UN institutions both nationally and internationally;
- facilitating input from the membership of UNED-UK to the policy-making processes of UNEP, UNDP, UNCSD, and other inter-governmental institutions;
- contributing to the preparation and implementation of a national strategy for Agenda 21 and to support the work of UNCSD including its reviews of national strategies;
- encouraging other activities that result in a multi-sectoral approach to the promotion of environmental protection and sustainable development.

Chairman's Welcome



Photo: Harold Stern

“UNED-UK can play a very useful role in helping international bodies communicate about their activities with a wide range of NGOs in the UK, and conversely in helping NGOs and other major groups make a more effective and co-ordinated input into some of the major international conferences and meetings in the environment and development field.”

Derek Osborn
Chair of UNED-UK

UNED-UK has had another extremely busy year. Work centred around the preparations for Earth Summit II (the Special Session of the UN General Assembly five years after the Earth Summit at Rio) but there were many other activities during the year as well.

UNED-UK's particular role in relation to international meetings and conferences is to act as a facilitator to secure full and effective participation by major groups both during the preparatory process in the UK and at the international meetings themselves. UNED-UK's skill in this is widely recognized at home and abroad. For some years UNED-UK has been active in helping to enlarge the role of major groups in successive annual meetings of the Commission on Sustainable Development, and other international meetings.

This year, building on that success and thanks to the tireless and well-directed efforts of Felix Dodds we were able to play a large part in helping to open up the procedures of the General Assembly, thus ensuring that the major groups were able to play a significant part throughout the three parts of the Earth Summit II process - the intersessional in February, the CSD meeting in April and the Special Session itself in June. Meanwhile in the UK, UNED-UK organised a series of meetings, Round Tables and conferences to build up awareness of the process throughout and to ensure that there was substantial major group input to the general preparations in New York and the UK Government in London.

In spite of all this effort the overall result of the Special Session was disappointing, particularly on the development side. The South have reason to feel let down by the aftermath of Rio. At Rio they thought they were being promised more assistance to help them on the path to sustainable development; but instead the five years since Rio have seen one of the most rapid declines in aid ever. In the South's view environmental initiatives are no compensation for the palpable failure of partnership for development, demonstrated by the growing gulf between the richest and poorest countries, and the levels of absolute poverty.

Nevertheless the Session did manage to agree a more detailed assessment of progress since Rio and a programme for the further implementation of Agenda 21. And on the

environmental side in particular this did include some forward movement. We made useful moves forward on climate change, on sustainable energy and transport, on a global fresh water initiative, on the need for better management of the oceans and severe over fishing, and on promoting sustainable management of forests.

On all of these initiatives UNED-UK plans to be active in the follow-up. Fresh water is to be the sectoral theme of the next year's work at the international level; UNED-UK has established a co-ordinating group in the UK to keep in touch with this process and to feed in the views of major groups. Similar groups or networks will be established to link to other forthcoming CSD topics.

Looking further ahead internationally UNED-UK is building up activity and networks in preparation for the 1999 WHO Conference in London on Environment and Health, and has been designated as the co-ordinator for all NGO and major group input in the conference. We are also planning work on poverty to feed into the five year review in 2000 of the 1995 Copenhagen World Summit for Social Development, when issues of social injustice, unemployment, aid and poverty will top the agenda.

Beyond that Rio + 10 in the year 2002 will be a bigger day of reckoning than the five year staging pot we have just had, and it will be crucial to have turned the corner by then and built up a more effective international partnership for sustainable development by then. UNED-UK is building partnerships and assembling ideas on the way forward on all this and will be publishing them as part of a book on Earth Summit II early in 1998.

UNED-UK does not have an agenda or platform of its own to advance in these international meetings. But it is strongly committed to the view that all these international meetings can and should assist in making real progress on sustainable development. To do this effectively it is essential that the meetings are properly prepared and are the vehicles for widespread engagement and political commitment by the different sectors of society to the resolution of issues in an open, well-publicised way. UNED-UK sets itself this goal.

Derek Osborn, 4th December 1997

UNED-UK preparations for Earth Summit II

"The European Commission team preparing UNGASS regards UNED-UK's contribution to the CSD process, and particularly their role in co-ordinating the input of the northern NGOs, as important, positive and useful. UNED-UK have played a key role in ensuring that the NGOs are able to reach agreement on a united position and make their input early enough to have a real influence. As a result, the preparations for UNGASS is a real example of multi stakeholder participation in action. The continued involvement of UNED-UK seems to us essential if we are to reach a successful conclusion to what is becoming an ever more difficult process."

Margaret Brusasco
MacKenzie
European Commission
DGXI

Introduction

UNED-UK has played a key role in the follow up to the Rio Earth Summit in 1992. It has facilitated the involvement of UK Major Groups in the UN Commission on Sustainable Development and through its Round Table process produced reports on the UK implementation of the Health, Poverty, Legal, Women, Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development, Oceans and Education Chapters of Agenda 21. These have been submitted to the UK Government and to the UN directly.

Internationally UNED-UK are one of the key groups instrumental in the setting up of the CSD NGO Steering Committee which has tried to facilitate the involvement of NGOs and other major groups in the work of the commission.

Prior to the 5 year review of Rio - the UN General Assembly Special Session (Earth Summit II), UNED-UK acted as a UK focus for preparations as well as playing a key role internationally.

Before Earth Summit II there were two preparatory meetings--the Commission on Sustainable Development Intersessional in February and the Commission on Sustainable Development in April.

National

In 1991/92 UNED-UK's predecessor organized a set of activities for UK Major Groups to enable them to prepare for the Rio Earth Summit. In 1996/97 UNED-UK facilitated a similar approach.

These are outlined below.

Green College

On 24th June 1996 UNED-UK and the Department of the Environment held a joint seminar at Green College in Oxford on preparations for the 1997 UN General Assembly Special Session. Forty-five invited participants were joined by key civil servants from the Foreign Office, Department of Environment, Department of Trade and Industry and Overseas Development Administration.

The discussion was extremely useful both to the UK Government and the other stakeholder groups in opening dialogue on issues for the coming year, and as a starting point for the positions they would take over the next year.

Background papers for the event were written by **Peter Mucke** (German NGO Forum on Environment and Development) and **Tom Bigg** (UNED-UK); **Richard Sandbrook** (IIED); **Norman Myers** (Green College); **Hilary Thompson** (Nat West Environment Group); and **David Fisk** (Department of the Environment). A chairman's summary of the meeting is available from UNED-UK.

“The Special Session will be concerned with development, distributional and equity issues, as well as environmental issues, and this will be of particular concern to Southern governments and many NGOs and other groups.”

Chairman' Conclusions
Green College Seminars

A report on the seminar was produced. Probably the key issue raised by the participants was development finance and the need for donor countries to reverse aid flows which had dropped from around \$60 billion in 1992 to \$55 billion in 1996.

A follow up meeting was held with Secretary of State for the Environment Rt Hon John Gummer MP to discuss the findings from the seminar.

UNED-UK Round Tables/Task Groups

UNED-UK organized a number of Round Tables to input to the preparations for Earth Summit II.

Education: The Education Task Group is a joint initiative by the Education for Sustainability Forum and UNED-UK to gain greater acceptance of the role of the Education Community in implementing Agenda 21.

In particular the Education Community should be given Major Group status and that Education 21 a strategy for implementing the Education chapter of Agenda 21 should be formally recognized.

Education 21 offers a very distinct approach to education for sustainable development, yet it stems from some quite basic ideas. The first of these (implicit in Agenda 21 itself) states that policies for sustainable development will only succeed if supported by integrated education programmes as essential components. Although such programmes will tend to be locally based, a comprehensive international policy framework for education is necessary to facilitate action

Neither of these goals were reached but much of the lobbying done by the Task Group on particular wording on education was successful. The Task Group were represented at the different preparatory and Summit meetings by **John Smyth, Ros Wade and Trevor Harvey**. The Task Group organized meetings at all three events.

Gender: The Gender 21 Round Table on women and sustainable development focused on two areas of work over the past year the development of a:

- lobbying document for the CSD;
- survey of women's views about sustainable development and Agenda 21.

The CSD lobby document consisted of three subject areas: Planning; Poverty; and the Demystification of Agenda 21. Each section was divided into specific topics.

Planning included material on transport, participation and education. Poverty looked at implementation of relevant parts of Agenda 21, connections between women's poverty and work. Demystification of Agenda 21 focused on the Women's Institute experience, environmental

“On 30 July 1994, the Philippine Supreme Court, in a landmark decision, recognized the standing of citizens and non-governmental organizations to sue on the right to the environment as an intergenerational right. How can we extend the right to petition to the international arena concerning the Rio Principles should be one of the key issues that will be dealt with Earth Summit II.”

Philippe Sands
Legal Director of FIELD

education in the community, training for women in business and industry.

The survey had three focuses to:

- assess the current level of awareness of Agenda 21 among women;
- raise awareness of Agenda 21 among UK women through providing them with some supplementary information with the questionnaire;
- provide assistance for UK women who know about Agenda 21 in deciphering what the key issues are for them and what links they have made between the environment, economic and social issues associated with Agenda 21.

Legal: The first meeting of the Round Table on Legal Issues was hosted by Clifford Chance on 26th September 1996 and dealt with Codification of the Rio Principles in national legislation. A conference hosted by the Dutch Government in The Hague in May 1996 established a variety of ways in which the Principles might be incorporated so that the Declaration could be given the fullest legal effect at national as well as international levels.

The UNED-UK Round Table was intended to build on the discussions held in The Hague. Representatives came from the Dutch and Austrian governments, as well as a number of chambers and firms of solicitors, NGO representatives and academics. The Seminar was chaired by **Donald Reid** of the Morton Fraser Partnership; speakers included **Philippe Sands** of the Foundation for International Environmental Law and Development and **Mrs Krisztina Horvath** of the Dutch Ministry of the Environment. The intention was to encourage discussion amongst a select group of international lawyers and policy makers in preparation for Earth Summit II.

A number of speakers stressed that different legal systems and national contexts make general calls for codification of all Rio Principles inappropriate. Nevertheless, further efforts to carry forward some of the ideas explored in The Hague were called for. Links between national level activities and regional and global processes were also identified as important.

The chairman's conclusions from the meeting are available on request.

Forests: To enable those NGOs and others interested in the work of the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests (IPF) UNED-UK organized a series of meetings with the Co-Chair of the IPF **Sir Martin Holdgate** before and after IPF meetings. The objective of these meetings was to share with the Co-Chair the thoughts of UK NGOs on what should be achieved at the IPF meetings. It offered those involved a good opportunity to be up to date with information on the IPF. UNED-UK attended two IPF meetings and help and facilitate NGOs there to prepare for Earth Summit II.



photo Harold Stern

"The fact that we are interdependent is not just an international fact, not just a fact of the European Union, not just a national fact, it's a fact of every community. ... We are concerned, after all, with saving the planet, not just because we like planets, but because we want people to have the opportunities, the chances, the choices, the variety, the worth which has been ours to inherit .

Of course that means that we are just as concerned with urban renewal as the environment. Of course it means we are concerned with justice and equity - justice in the sense of ensuring that those who have benefited from a disproportion of the world's goods, use that wealth in order to help those who have not so benefited."

Environment Secretary John Gummer

ICC/UNED-UK Conference - Earth Summit II: A Business Input

ICC United Kingdom and UNED-UK organised a conference in London on 17 October 1996 as part of the ICC's programme to review the Business Charter. The event brought together a wide variety of people from business and other sectors in the UK to contribute to this process. Just as the ICC at this meeting was seeking the views of others, so UNED-UK was seeking "a full and clear view of the issues that business regards as important and the commitments that businesses are individually and collectively prepared to make as they develop their knowledge and understanding of sustainable development issues".

These were the words of **Derek Osborn**, the Executive Chairman of UNED-UK, who opened the conference. He acknowledged that much of the progress to be made on sustainable development issues would be brought about through voluntary agreements and actions as well as through legislation.

This raised the question of how much could be achieved voluntarily on such matters as energy saving or waste reduction on the scale required, on the minimisation of the depletion of natural resources, and on sustainable development generally. He invited bold and vigorous thinking on these matters, as well as open discussion and avoidance of mealy-mouthed and empty pieties.

A report of the event is available from ICC United Kingdom.

UNED-UK Conference 'Towards Earth Summit II'

The Secretary of State **Rt Hon John Gummer MP** closed UNED-UK Conference with a stern message for Earth Summit II.

Our annual conference was designed to give some sense of the broad range of issues to be addressed at Earth Summit II in June, and to provide delegates with the opportunity to put their own priorities and proposals on the record.

Derek Osborn chaired the conference, and established the role UNED-UK would like hoped to take in promoting awareness of, support for, and input to the series of UN events taking place in 1997. Of particular importance would be the increased involvement of the major groups of society in this process, and Derek outlined work already underway with the International Chambers of Commerce, the Local Government Management Board and the Trade Union Congress, as well as, strengthened links with Government departments.

Phillip Dobie, head of the UN Development Programme's Capacity 21 initiative, gave the opening address. He touched on some examples of the incorporation of Agenda 21 implementation into national institutional structures in Bolivia, China, Cameroon and others, and emphasized the essential link between economic growth and improved human conditions as a key component in any sustainable development strategy.

"As part of its Agenda 21 activities, Costa Rica carried out a survey of public willingness to pay more for petrol if the extra was to be used to combat air pollution. The public agreed, and petrol prices were raised by a small amount. In how many Northern countries can we see similar political courage and foresight? ... The developing world has made clear its distress at the minimal increase in real development assistance to help it to respond to the complex demands of Agenda 21. When the world met at Rio the spirit of co-operation was palpably good, and the developing world feels betrayed at the limited support that the developed nations have provided for what was understood to be a world-changing Agenda."

Philip Dobie
UNDP

The need for greater interdepartmental co-operation and flexibility in the work of governments was stressed, and Mr Dobie also mentioned the key role to be played by the private sector. The focus in Agenda 21 on participation and partnerships between civil society and government has been at the heart of many countries' follow up to Rio, and should be strongly supported.

Workshops were held during the day on some of the main areas to be tackled at the General Assembly Special Session. These covered a broad range of issues, including poverty eradication; climate change; tourism; trade; education and sustainability reporting. Lively debates ensued and recommendations for action were put forward.

The main part of the conference was built around a set of workshops. Each workshop had two papers prepared:

Financing Mechanisms for Sustainable Development

Facilitator: **John Gordon**, UNED-UK Executive

Papers by:

Paul Ekins, Keele University

"...many environmental effects escape the price system,...(and) many environmental functions cannot realistically be assigned to monetary values. Thus amending the financial system to take account of the environment is one of the most important priorities of environmental policy, and also one of the hardest to implement."

Financing Mechanisms for Sustainable Development

Peter Mountfield, Ex Treasury Secretary

"In an ideal world, nations states would do what they can to handle environmental problems...but of course they don't - certainly not on the scale likely to be needed. This is why many advocates now call for financial mechanisms. In effect, these are new forms of taxation, which might be collected nationally but which would be available for collective use."

New financial mechanisms for sustainable development - green taxes for global needs?

Resource Security:

Facilitator: **Barry Coats**, Director WDM

Papers by:

Dr Carolyn Stephens, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine

"Most people do not link their individual right(s)...with their responsibility not to enjoy those rights at the expense of others' health."

Access to Natural Resources: Equity, Rights and Responsibilities

Marcus Colchester, Forest Peoples Programme

"I see the challenge of achieving resource security for the poor and marginal sectors and for local communities in general as being the key struggle of the 21st century...It is not that progress had been slow since Rio, it has been negative."

Resource Security and the Tropical Forests

"The fact is that the UNED-UK conference, so useful in promoting a proper consideration of these issues in the coming months and year, will be the more effective if it is reported in a way which leads more and more of our own people in this country to recognize their responsibility, not only in the way they live, but in the way they press their politicians to act."

Rt Hon John Gummer
UK Secretary of State

Biodiversity

Facilitator: **Ruth West**, UNED-UK Executive Member
Papers by:

Fiona McConnell, UK Negotiator for the Biodiversity Convention

"...Rio and subsequent work on the CBD has brought the concept of biodiversity into the mainstream of SD policies. It is far too soon to decide whether it (the CBD) has contributed to any slowing of species and habitat loss. Perhaps it will be possible to make a serious assessment at the turn of the century."

Convention on Biological Diversity

Dr John Taylor, Head of Policy Research, RSPB

"However successful the CBD has been in raising awareness, only when governments around the world begin to adjust policies so that they conserve biodiversity while meeting their other goals will the CBD succeed."

Convention on Biological Diversity

Anti Poverty & Regeneration

Facilitator: **Damien Killeen**, Anti Poverty Alliance
Papers by:

Steve Waller, Nottingham CC

"We will not achieve environmental quality without tackling human inequality including poverty. A sustainable lifestyle needs to be practised by society including the most disadvantaged people, before we will be able to achieve sustainable development."

Poverty and the Environment

Damien Killeen, Anti Poverty Alliance

"...the ability to heat our homes in the most efficient way, to feed ourselves and our families in ways which promote health but do not damage the environment...are determined not only by our knowledge of what is or is not 'sustainable' but also by the range of choices which are available to us and by our differing abilities to pay for them."

Anti-Poverty and Regeneration

Tourism

Facilitator: **Andrew Blaza**, UNED-UK Executive
Papers by:

Rebecca Hawkins, Jersey Tourism

"The challenge must be finding a way to involve the many small and medium sized enterprises. With their participation, tourism has a huge opportunity to act as a catalyst of positive environmental change. Without it there is no doubt that the mistakes of the past will be repeated and the worlds largest industry will fall



Michael Grubb RIIA
Photo Harold Stern

into decline.”

Priorities for the Travel & Tourism Industry

Hugh Somerville, British Airways

“will a destination such as a beach resort in the Mediterranean or the Caribbean need to consider the emissions generated by its customers as they fly to and from their homes? Environment effect may be different at different locations, it is important to classify environmental inputs separately from their impacts.”

Tourism – the airline position

Trade

Facilitator:

Papers by:

International Council of Chemical Associations

“Transborder and global environmental concerns can rarely be successfully addressed by a single country action. Appropriate transborder solutions can only be found by the type of regional and global consensus sought in a Multilateral Environmental Agreement.”

Position Statement on Trade and the Environment

Andrew Simms, Christian Aid

“According to the advocates of free trade, the increased economic growth resulting from trade generates the funds needed to invest in environmental protection. The logic that a person must make themselves ill through working, in order to earn enough money to pay for their subsequent health care.”

Trade and the Environment

Education

Facilitator: **Christine Blackmore, Education for Sustainability Forum**

Papers by:

Christine Blackmore, Education for Sustainability Forum

“The importance of education in the implementation of Agenda 21 is widely accepted. However, many people involved in education have never heard of Agenda 21 or sustainable development let alone that it should be a major focus of their activities!”

Education for sustainable development

Peter Martin, WWF-UK

“The CBI, Institute of Directors and many employers are also calling for the need to improve ‘life skills’. Education in partnership with businesses and environmental groups needs to prepare young people for taking a positive role in a responsible workforce.”

Environmental education and education for sustainability - the current state of play in England

Climate Change

Facilitator: **Heather Voisey, University of East Anglia**

Papers by:

Dr Michael Grubb, Royal Institute for International Affairs



Photo Harold Stern

"Most national programmes have tinkered at the edges of the major energy economic policy, picking up on things that can be achieved relatively easily, at modest cost (and often net economic benefit.)"

Climate change negotiations and implementation

Farhana Yamin, Foundation for International Environment LawD and Development

"...difficulties will be compounded, and exploited, by an entrenched minority that will continue to use diversionary tactics and posturing to avoid action being taken for as long as possible."

Climate change: problems and solutions for a broader sustainable development agenda

Forest

Facilitator: **Peter Scupholme** BP and UNED-UK Executive Committee
Papers by:

Stephen Howard, WWF-UK

"Unfortunately...most governments and most forest companies are still talking more than they are acting. Although rhetoric has changed, most forests around the world are in a worse state today than they were before UNCED."

Forests

Juliette Williams, Environment Investigation Agency

"Because both the causes and effects of forest loss are international as well as national in scope and extent, there is an overwhelming demand for international strategies to ameliorate the worsening situation."

Forests

Sustainability Reporting

Facilitator: **Jan McHarry**, UNED-UK
Papers by:

Peter Jackson, Hertfordshire CC

"At its first meeting the (Sustainability Indicators Pilot Project) Steering Group established a number of ground rules. It agreed that the indicators which it developed should; be relevant to local citizens; be significant; show trends over time; be clear and understandable; provoke changes in policy or lifestyles; lead to target setting. Despite establishing these ground rules at an early stage, a number of tensions did arise within the group...."

Practice use of sustainability indicators

Alex McGillivray, New Economic Foundation (NEF)

"Some critics have seen these initiatives as 'green herrings': we need to act, not talk and measure. But on the whole, people are agreed that these local level efforts to report on sustainability are part of the solution."

Sustainability Reporting: progress and challenges at the National Level

Visions for the Future

Facilitator: **Anna Dodds**, Leicester CC
Papers by:

Perry Walker, NEF



Peter Unwin DofE
Photo Harold Stern

"When people come together and they believe in the same goals, much more can happen as a result of it. It's called shared vision."

Visioning the future

Lindsey Colbourne/Christina McDonagh, Vision 21

"Although education, training and information are able to provide some impetus for change, they are not sufficient, on their own, to bring about the change needed to move towards a more sustainable way of living...Transformation can only come about by tapping into individual and collective dreams of how things can be different."

Transformation cannot take place without vision

Angela Oels, University of East Anglia

"No one can force change on anyone else. It has to be experienced. Unless we invent ways where paradigm shifts can be experienced by large numbers of people, then change will remain a myth."

Visioning the future

Consumption and Production patterns

Facilitator: **Peter Unwin, DofE**

Papers by:

Chris Church, UNED-UK

"...by linking the source of production and the destination of the waste by these lines of flow, we get a much clearer image of what we are actually doing. The question remains: how do we move from this vision to changing the patterns that make it up?"

Sustainable Consumption and Production

John Elkington, Sustainability Ltd

"The answers lie not in an 'end-to-development' philosophy...or limitation of individual choice. What is required is: a global commitment to action, the assumption of individual responsibility. Making the environment a forethought not an afterthought is a radical concept."

Building sustainable production and consumption patterns

The Rt Hon John Gummer MP gave the closing address, and was invited to focus on some of the priorities raised during the workshop sessions. He gave strong undertakings on progress beyond targets set in Rio, which he described as "the absolute minimum fully able to be met". He added that climate change "demands leadership from the rich countries. ... That means there can be no exporting of technologies we consider to be too dirty to use at home and it also means that international companies must abide by the same standards wherever they operate."

Mr Gummer commended the work of UNED-UK, and welcomed the conference as an opportunity to raise awareness of the meetings taking place in 1997, and their relevance.



"...by linking the source of production and the destination of the waste by these lines of flow, we get a much clearer image of what we are actually doing. The question remains: how do we move from this vision to

"We believe that respect for the environment is paramount in the development of a managed, sustainable trading system. That means that international environmental treaties should be exempt from any challenging under GATT/WTO."

Michael Meacher MP
Opposition Spokesperson on
the Environment

UNED-UK AGM

UNED-UK's Annual General Meeting held in January at the National Liberal Club. Over 30 UNED-UK members were present as the organization's activities during the previous year were discussed. The current work programme was considered and new members of the Executive Committee were welcomed. The event was generously sponsored by British Petroleum.

An increase to previous membership charges of approximately 25% was presented at the AGM as the decision of the Executive Committee, to come into effect from the beginning of February 1997. Three factors were stressed by **Derek Osborn** in support of this change:

- the current rates have remained unchanged for three years, during which time the service provided to members has improved considerably;
- the activities to be undertaken by UNED-UK over the coming year will require increased funding;
- rates should be kept constant for a specified period as a condition for the size of the increase.

A number of those present expressed appreciation for the service to members. The Annual Report was also well received. Copies of the Annual Report are available on request. **New Executive Committee**

Members were welcomed - **Nick Wilson** of the GEMS Project was elected as an individual member of the Committee, replacing **Jackie Roddick**; **Rob Lake** of RSPB joined the Committee as representative of environmental organizations in place of **Fiona Reynolds** of CPRE; and the replacement of **Caroline le Quesne** of Oxfam by **Andrew Simms** of Christian Aid was confirmed. Those who were leaving the Committee were thanked warmly for their work.

After the AGM **Michael Meacher MP** spoke to an audience of nearly 100 on Labour's position on the key issues requiring international co-operation on the environment and sustainable development agenda. **Mr Meacher** said that Labour would strengthen targets for reducing CO2 emissions, strengthen protection for sites of special scientific interest, and use the British Presidency of the EU in 1998 to focus attention on tourism and on sharing the burden for CO2 reductions.

Referring to the recent meeting of the World Trade Organization, **Mr Meacher** said that "respect for the environment should be paramount in the development of a managed, sustainable trading system. That means that international environmental treaties should be exempt from any challenge under GATT/WTO."

Parliamentary debates

To increase parliamentary activity and accountability in preparation for earth Summit II UNED-UK worked with a group of sympathetic MPs to set up an ad hoc All Party Parliamentary Group which UNED-UK would

act as the Secretariat to. The Group included **Tim Yeo MP** (Conservative), **Michael Meacher MP** (Labour), **Matthew Taylor MP** (Liberal Democrat) and **Cynog Dafis MP** (Plaid Cymru).

The first debate, an adjournment debate was in February on Earth Summit II.

The group also put down an Early Day Motion on Earth Summit II.

Questions on Earth Summit II were asked regularly up to the election.

The Group held a second debate after the General Election in June the main issues covered were finance, climate and trade related issues.

UNED-UK Training for CSDI, CSD and ESII

UNED-UK organizes training sessions for representatives of the different Major Groups going to a relevant Earth Summit meetings. This enabled them to be much more effective.

UNED-UK Consultation on UK preparation paper

The Department of the Environment issued a consultation paper shortly before the New Year, setting out the Government's proposed approach to the Special Session in June. The Paper built on discussions at the Green College seminar the previous June and UNED-UK's Annual Conference in November. Copies of the document were sent to all UNED-UK

members with an invitation to send comments.

UNED-UK held a consultation meeting on 23rd January at which written submissions from UNED-UK members and questions from those present were put to Chris Tompkins of the DoE.

UNED-UK Town Hall Meetings

The UK Citizens Report is a result of consultations which took place during the period February – May 1997. This included some forty specially convened 'Town Hall Meetings', which brought together communities and their local government staff and elected representatives. The meetings had two aims: to review progress on the Local Agenda 21 initiative, and also to identify those areas where action is needed at a 'higher' level to enable the local action to be effective. This was made possible because of grants from Christian Aid and LGMB.

UNED-UK also received many other formal and informal contributions for the report, and on June 7th 1997 UNA in partnership with UNED-UK held a one day conference, 'Building Sustainable Communities' that helped draw together the themes and issues that make up this report.

The report does not claim to be a comprehensive survey of Agenda 21 – related processes in the UK. It is based instead on inputs from those areas where enough progress has been made so that local people and local

“Governments should reaffirm their commitment to the 0.7% of GNP aid target and develop clear strategies to meet this target.”

UK Citizens Report

government can see the barriers that exist to implementing the changes they want to bring about.

Despite the diversity of contributions shown at the Town Hall Meetings, there has been a high and perhaps surprising unanimity on the key issues. It is those issues and recommendations that form the core of this report. A copy of the Citizens Report is available from UNED-UK priced £3 and can also be found on our web site.

The Way Forward Beyond Agenda 21

“The Way Forward is a timely, well researched, enjoyable read. From 1992 to the present and on into the next millennium, it is an invaluable reference and guide to policy wonks, UN groupies; journalists and anyone else who cares about the planet and its inhabitants.

Clif Curtis, Political Advisor, Greenpeace International

UNED-UK produced their first book this year. The Way Forward outlines the success and failures of these first five years. Calling on a list of eminent experts, it provides an unparalleled analysis of the agreements that were reached, and the stakeholders who are charged with implementing them. It reviews, the progress made so far at the intergovernmental, national and grassroots levels, and offers a cogent summary of the major issues that need to be addressed in the future. Edited by UNED-UK Co-ordinator **Felix Dodds**.

Contributors include: **James Gustave Speth, Jonathon Porritt, Philippe Sands, Fiona McConnell, Tom Bigg, Chip Lindner, Gary Lawrence, Barbara Bramble, Caroline LeQuesne, Elizabeth Dowdeswell, Nitin Desai, Peter Padbury, Klaus Topfer, Henrique Cavalcanti and Derek Osborn.**

UNED-UK Conference 'Earth Summit II - Setting the Agenda for the 21st Century'

With the General Election over UNED-UK organized a Conference which would offer the new Government an opportunity to set out their stall for Earth Summit II. The Conference was addressed by the **Deputy Prime Minister the Rt Hon John Prescott MP** who said:

“Today is World Environment Day..But the environment is not about one day or one event...I want care for the environment to be at the heart of all the Government's policies, every day of the year. And I want that concern to be shared by all our people, businesses, and public bodies.”

Other key speakers were the **Rt Hon John Gummer MP** (Conservative Spokesperson on the Environment); **Matthew Taylor MP** (Liberal Democrat Spokesperson on the Environment) and **Cynog Daffis** (Plaid Cymru).

Also speaking were **Charles Secrett** (Director Friends of the Earth); **Robin Pellew** (WWF-UK); **Trisha Feeney** (Oxfam); **Peter Scupholme** (BP and ICC); **David Woollcombe** (Peace Child International); **Angela**



Photo DETR

“I want to pay tribute to UNED-UK for their contribution to the preparations for the UN special session.”

Rt Hon John Prescott MP
Deputy Prime Minister

Mawle (Gender 21); **Richard Sandbrook** (Director IIED); **Tony Colman MP** (Leader Merton Council) and **Bill Jordan** (General Secretary of ICFTU).

The United Nations Speakers were: **Richard Jolly** (UNDP Human Development Report Editor) and **Fritz Schlingemann** (UNEP Executive Director for Europe).

The Conference was covered extensively by the media. With BBC and ITV film crews the evening news covered the Conference while Radio 5 broadcast the Deputy Prime Ministers speech live. Most daily and Sunday newspapers reported the conference and preparations for Earth Summit II. It fulfilled a key opportunity to prepare the UK press for the Summit itself and to help build UK public awareness of the Summit.

Internationally

Tom Bigg of UNED-UK and **Peter Mucke** of the German NGO Forum produced a *Synthesis Paper on NGO Priorities and Conference for the 1997 Process* for the CSD NGO Steering Committee. The purpose of this paper was to try to highlight some of the issues raised in the wide range of report available from a spectrum of NGOs and official sources. It was hoped that this would help to identify some of the critical areas which could be priorities for NGO activity in preparation for Earth Summit II. The paper formed the starting point for preparation of a joint position document on key areas in early 1997 under the auspices of the NGO Steering Committee.

NGO fundraising

UNED-UK played an important role in fundraising for southern and eastern NGOs to enable them to attend the preparatory meetings and the Summit itself. Over \$200,000 was raised from the UK, Canadian, Danish governments and the European Union. The Danish Government also gave funds for the Global Gathering which was to parallel the main event.

Outreach

Outreach was a UNED-UK publication coming out bi-monthly from September both in written form and on the Earth Summit II NGO Web site to enable people to keep abreast of all the feeder meetings to the Earth Summit II process. In February, at the first PrepCom, UNED-UK handed over the production of Outreach to the World Federation of UN Associations who had raised money to fund a fulltime staff member to produce the newsletter daily during the negotiations and bi-weekly otherwise.

In all, over 50 Outreaches have been produced and are on the website <http://www.igc.apc.org/habitat/csd-97>

Internet Facilities

In August 1996 UNED-UK facilitated the setting up of an Earth Summit



Nitin Desai

Habitat II Global NGO web site and list servers to service preparation for Earth Summit II. The web site became one of the main outreach vehicles for information on what positions were being taken and internal NGO activities.

Dialogue Sessions

Shortly after the Habitat II Conference in 1996 UNED-UK wrote to **Nitin Desai** the Under Secretary General of the UN responsible for Sustainable Development to suggest the idea of the Major Group Dialogue Sessions. The proposal was supported by the UN Department of Policy Co-ordination and Sustainable Development and approved by the UN General Assembly in November 1996. Each Major Group was going to be given half a day to present what they had done to implement Agenda 21 at the Commission on Sustainable Development.

In the role that UNED-UK played as the NGO EU co-ordinator meetings with the European Union Presidency were organized at the CSD Intersessional and the CSD itself. In total four meetings took place including one at Ministerial level during the CSD.

CSD Fringe Meetings

Education: The UNED-UK Task Group on Education organized a panel discussion to highlight Education 21. The meeting was chaired by **Derek Osborn** and on the panel: **Chuck Hopkins** (UNESCO); **Pam Puntenay** (North American Association for Environmental Education); **Gustavo Lopez** (UNESCO); **Bremly Wanbantei Blah** (Consortium of Indian Scientists for Sustainable Development) & **Trevor Harvey** (UNED-UK).

Freshwater. UNED-UK with the French Government organized a Panel presentation and discussion on freshwater to highlight the serious problems of over 2/3rds of the world's population facing water shortages over the next 20 years. UNED-UK Co-ordinator **Felix Dodds** chaired the meeting speakers included **Jim Lamb** (Severn Trent plc); **Pierre Najjilis** (UN DPCSD); **Derek Osborn** (Co-Chair of UN Negotiations). The meeting was the best attended of all the fringe events at the CSD.

Transport: UNED-UK organized a Panel presentation Chaired by **Derek Osborn**. Speakers included **Walter Hook** (NGO Transport Caucus), **Andy Andreson** (UITP), **Jonas Rabinovitch** (UNDP).

Earth Summit II Fringe Meetings

The Department for Environment, Transport and the Regions issued a contract for UNED-UK to:

- organize a series of 3 fringe meetings;
- facilitate a series of off the record meetings with Ministers;
- organize daily meetings for UK NGOs and other Major Groups representatives to meet together.

Open meetings were organised on the following themes:



Richard Jolly UNDP
UNDP Photo

Poverty and Development:

The main speaker was **Rt Hon Clare Short MP**, Secretary of State for International Development. Other speakers included **Richard Jolly** (principal author of the UNDP Human Development Report), **David Hailes** (US Aid), **Ashok Khosla** (Development Alternatives) and **Chief Bisi Ogonleye** (African Rural Women).

UN Reform and Sustainable Development:

UK speakers were the former UK Secretary of State for the Environment **John Gummer MP** and UK Ambassador to the UN **John Weston**. Also speaking were **Maurice Strong** (adviser to the UN Secretary General on UN Reform), **Ambassador Kamal** (Pakistan Ambassador to the UN), and **Elizabeth Dowdeswell** (UNEP Director).

Transport and the Environment:

Deputy Prime Minister **John Prescott MP** spoke and **Dennis Tunncliffe**, Managing Director of London Transport, chaired the meeting. Other speakers were **Ambassador Neroni Slade** (Samoa Ambassador to the UN) and **Walter Hook** (CSD NGO Transport Caucus).

We also organized a side meeting on 'Community Development and Agenda 21' at which **Professor Ashworth** (Going for Green), **Tony Hams** (LGMB), **Peter Woodward** (Shell Better Britain) and **Felix Dodds** (UNED-UK) addressed sustainable development at the local level in the UK, including outcomes from the regional conferences that had been organized in preparation for Earth Summit II.

Informal meetings with NGOs were arranged for the Prime Minister and Deputy Prime Minister, the Secretary of State for International Development and the Minister for the Environment. These meetings allowed the Government to hear NGO and other key Major Group views on the issues that were still open for negotiation and on matters arising outside the Earth Summit II process.

In the second week of the negotiations UNED-UK facilitated a daily breakfast gathering of UK NGOs to enable people to keep abreast of the lobbying process and UK related issues.

NGO lobbying document

UNED-UK played a key role in producing the first drafts of the common global NGO position papers. The process set up through the CSD NGO Steering Committee required that the NGO working groups produced initial papers which were compiled into an initial paper for NGOs to debate before the 1st preparatory meeting. As well as NGOs, Women, Youth, Indigenous People, Local Authorities and Trade Unions used the common text approach as an avenue to put their views forward. The document produced was called 'Towards Earth Summit II' was revised at different times by the NGOs to enable new NGOs coming into the process to be able to put their views.

After the CSD NGOs and other Major Groups were asked to put forward text amendments to the government negotiated text. UNED-UK collected



Photo UN DPI

these into a common negotiating document and sent to all the key governments 5 weeks before the Summit started.

Earth Summit II lobbying infrastructure

Due to the success of the lobbying infrastructure that UNED-UK had pioneered at the Habitat II Conference in 1996 they were asked to set up a similar approach for Earth Summit II. This included:

- setting up overall co-ordinates for the 3 sections the sectorial issues, the cross sectorial issues and the political statement;
- facilitating daily strategy sessions for the lobbying;
- targeting press outreach around agreed strategy;
- ensuring their were floor managers for each of the sessions of the negotiations;
- setting up a process of named contacts for each of the key governments and UN people.

“National networks were particularly constructive in generating a broad based participation and high level of awareness on sustainable development issues at the country level. The work of UNED-UK and the Peoples Forum 2001 (Japan) have been recognised by other NGOs and international organizations.”

This worked very well in part because some of the key people from the Habitat II Conference came into help. In particular the help of **Barney Leith, Wendy Momen, Mark and Megan Howell, and Nicki Nzioki** were instrumental in ensuring the process worked.

Report of the UN Secretary General to the UN Commission on Sustainable Development

UNED-UK working as the National Committee of UNEP



Elizabeth Dowdeswell
Photo Harold Stern

UNED-UK acts as national committee for UNEP in Britain. In this capacity we organized a seminar on issues to be addressed at the 19th UNEP Governing Council session, held at the Department of the Environment on 18th December 1996. Our intention was to provide the opportunity for a frank discussion on the organization's current state and on objectives for the future.

Initial papers were provided by **Richard Sandbrook** (IIED), **Fritz Schlingemann** (UNEP European Office), **Peter Unwin** (DoE), and **Felix Dodds** (UNED-UK).

Issues raised as priorities requiring international co-operation included:

Oceans: the Governing Council should endorse UNEP's role in leading preparation of the CSD periodic intergovernmental reviews of the marine environment;

Chemicals: progress should be maintained on negotiation of an international convention on Prior Informed Consent (PIC) for hazardous chemicals in international trade and, in parallel, for international action to start negotiations for a legal instrument regarding persistent organic pollutants (POPs);

Fresh water: Serious water shortages will occur increasingly over the next 25 years. UNEP should take the lead in developing international agreements to deal with this. They should also organize a task force to collect together good examples of freshwater conservation to be shared internationally;

Biosafety: the regional approach to work on this issue should be further strengthened.

UNEP could usefully instigate or strengthen work in the following areas:

- Promote compliance and enforcement - monitor compliance and incentives to ensure compliance;
- Build closer relationships with Convention secretariats and processes;
- Build on the regional approach which has already been effective in dealing with issues such as biosafety;
- Use task forces where possible rather than full inter governmental processes;
- Develop partnerships with organizations which have a greater capacity to deliver in specific areas;
- Build partnerships with new constituencies (private sector, NGOs) and strengthen links with Major Groups of civil society - both in UNEP's outreach and its governance structure. Funds will be needed to deal with the extra work this will entail.

UNED-UK working on UNDP Human Development Partnership

“The Way Forward Beyond Agenda 21 is an important contribution to the body of knowledge we have developed since the Earth Summit. Produced by the UNED-UK, which is UNDP’s focal point in the United Kingdom, it provides yardsticks and benchmarks for progress and failures - since Rio and guides us on our journey towards a more sustainable planet.”

James Gustave Speth
Administrator UNDP



Gus Speth UNDP
Photo UNDP

The meeting concluded that the world needs a strong and effective UNEP with a mandate to promote the continuous improvement of the environment through the programmes of the UN, and the member states. At present, however, it is widely felt that the organization's mission is unclear and its future uncertain. Much of the responsibility for the current situation lies with governments, who have not provided sufficient political guidance or the funds to enable the organization to operate to its potential. For governments, the challenge is to provide greater political guidance and a focused agenda (with priorities clearly established) which is compatible with the funds made available. UNEP itself must confront the problems that exist within the organization, and build on the many successful programmes and ways of working which have developed in recent years.

UNDP

UNED-UK acts as the Focal Point for UNDP in the UK through its Human Development partnership. This aims to engage UK Stakeholder Groups with UNDP.

In the last year our work for the Human Development Partnership has focussed on the following:

- **Poverty Round Table**

Meetings of the Round Table were held throughout the year. The focus for this work was on production of a report for submission to the Government and to the UN Commission on Sustainable Development and the UN Commission for Social Development.

A report was submitted to the UK Government and the UN in February 1997. The principal focus is on aspects of poverty in the UK, and policy recommendations are made for a wide range of areas. Contributing organizations include the Low Pay Unit; the School for Policy Studies, University of Bristol; Age Concern; ATD 4th World; the Trade Union Congress; the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine; and the National Food Alliance.

The report tackles some of the central aspects of poverty, including access to basic rights and needs in various forms; health; education; the feminisation of poverty; employment; and the use of indicators. **Damien Killeen** of the Poverty Alliance spelt out the link between UNED-UK's work and efforts to address poverty:

"The UN agenda - from Rio to Copenhagen and beyond - has attempted to hold out an holistic vision of 'sustainable development' which addresses the interaction between the environmental, social, economic and political concerns of humankind. Central to these concerns has been the issue of poverty. Where pollution and physical degradation have been identified as the downside of the exploitation of the world's material resources it is, perhaps, not too much to suggest that poverty - from the absolutes of starvation and landlessness through to the relativities of unemployment

UNED-UK preparations for the WHO 1999 London Environment and Health Conference



and disadvantage in the midst of prosperity - can also be seen as a harmful product of the inequitable exploitation of the world's resources. Poverty pollutes societies just as pesticides and waste products pollute the soil, the sea and the air. None of this is accidental: powerful people and institutions provide the framework within which all these things occur."

Copies of the Poverty Round Table report are available from UNED-UK.

● Meeting for Clare Short and Richard Jolly

On the 12th November 1996 UNED-UK organized an informal dinner debate for a small group of senior politicians, officials and journalists. This was an off the record discussion focussing on some aspects raised in the 1996 UNDP Human Development Report which examined the relationship between economic growth and human development.

Those attending included **Richard Jolly**, principal author of the Report, **Clare Short MP**, Labour Spokesperson on Overseas Development (now Secretary of State for International Development); **Geoffrey Lean** (Independent on Sunday) **Yvette Cooper** (The Independent - now a Labour MP); **Richard Dowden** (The Economist); **Alan Doss** (Director UNDP European Office); **Felix Dodds** (UNED-UK Co-ordinator) and **Derek Osborn** (UNED-UK Chair).

WHO

UNED-UKs Environment & Health Programme: Towards the Participation of Major Groups in the Third European Conference on Environment and Health

UNED-UK's Environment & Health Programmes main focus over the last year has been its involvement in the setting up of the formal process for the participation of major groups in the UK in The Third European Conference on Environment and Health to be held in London in 1999. In addition UNED-UK has now been designated as the European Secretariat to coordinate NGO involvement.

Through this process representatives of organisations working in the fields of environment and health in the 57 countries in the European region are invited to contribute to the preparation of the Conference papers and outcome documents. The main themes of the Conference are prevention, reduction and control of water related diseases, transport and environmental health, guidance on implementing National Environmental Health Action Plans (NEHAPs), the involvement of public and non-governmental organisations (NGOs), good environmental health practice in industry and environmental health economics.

The Environment and Health Programme has developed a database and directory of major groups organisations with an interest in environment and health, produced the first edition of its newsletter 'Environment and Health' - News from UNED-UK and established a web page at <http://www.oneworld.org/uned-uk/health>. We have at present upwards

UNED-UK Follow Up to Habitat II

“The sad thing about Agenda 21 planning is that it has no end because your community changes every day, what you know changes every day, what you have the opportunity to do changes every day. These have to be living documents that allow you to adapt towards a preferred future. The preferred future in my terms always has to do with issues such as justice, of equity, of fairness, of love and all those squishy things that planners find hard to deal with.”

Gary Lawrence
Advisor to the US
Presidents Council on
Sustainable Development



Gary Lawrence
Photo Harold Stern

of 700 organisations on our database and have published the first edition of the Directory which has approximately 250 entries. Over 3,000 questionnaires were sent out with a response rate of over 10%.

The project is sponsored by the Department of Health with the ten issues of the newsletter sponsored by Glaxo Wellcome plc. The task for the coming year will be to identify the obvious gaps and develop a process of outreach to make available to these organisations information on the conference and the participation process. We expect to identify the remaining organisations through our newsletter and web page and through the meetings we will be holding.

Habitat II

UNED-UK organized the UK's first major conference to follow up Habitat II in November 1996. The Conference was jointly organized by UNED-UK and nine London Boroughs. Building Our Futures attracted almost 400 people to discuss sustainability in regeneration and community development. Speakers included **Frank Dobson MP** the Shadow Secretary of State for the Environment and **Gary Lawrence** Advisor to the US Presidents Council on Sustainable Development.

The conference made it clear how much can be gained from cross-borough co-operation. Local Authority staff and voluntary organisations from different areas had a chance to work together and sharing ideas, to the benefit of the various Local Agenda 21s under development in the area.

The first output of the conference was a guide to 'good practice' in sustainability in the nine boroughs. This has provoked a lot of interest and UNED UK is keen to see similar regional guides for other areas. A full report from the discussions at the conference is now available from UNED UK.

UNED-UK Publications

Connections

An important role of UNED-UK is to disseminate information. One of the principal means is UNED-UK's newsletter 'Connections'. The newsletter comes out four times a year and is the only British publication which addresses domestic and international follow up to the Rio Conference and other relevant UN processes.

In particular 'Connections' is designed to keep its readers up to date with relevant developments within the UN Commission on Sustainable Development and other UN Conferences, Conventions as well as developments within UNDP and UNEP.

The magazine goes to over 3000 organizations and key individuals from local government, business and industry, women's groups, youth groups, non governmental organizations, academics and educationalist, trade unions, civil servants and politicians in this country and abroad and key people in the UN.

Over the past year we have extended the mailing list for 'Connections' to include more people in developing and Eastern European countries. This is a service we would like to continue. We have agreed a deal with the UNEP Industry Office to include Cleaner Production with Connections twice a year. Caroline Jobson from the International Chamber of Commerce has continued to produce the Industry pages of 'Connections' and Jane Morris from the Local Government Management Board has provided material on local government. We have been fortunate in having some key volunteers who have helped put together Connections over the last year.

We have also been very fortunate over the last year to have sponsorship from the NatWest Group. This has enabled us to expand our work in other areas.

The Way Forward - Beyond Agenda 21
(Earthscan /UNED-UK April 1997) £15.95 +10%
p&p

UNED-UK's first book it collects together some of the views of the key opinion makers who have been active in the development of Agenda 21 since the Rio Summit from Governments, the UN and Major Groups. The book is broken into four sections: The Rio agreements, the Role of Major Groups, Major Issues for the Future and Perspectives on the Future.

"Anyone looking for a realistic discussion of the UN programme for sustainable development need look no further. This book shows us where we are, and spells out clearly how much more needs to be done."

Matthew Taylor MP
Liberal Democrat
Spokesperson on the
Environment

**Green College Report (July 1996) £5.00 inc
p&p**

The collection of papers and outcomes from the joint UNED-UK/Department of Environment Green College Seminar to prepare for earth Summit II. The papers include ones by **Norman Myers** (Green College); **Tom Bigg & Peter Mucke** (CSD NGO Steering Committee); **Hilary Thompson** (Nat West Group); **Peter Unwin** (Department of Environment); and **Richard Sandbrook** (IIED).

"Most prognoses are wrong, especially those about the future."

Norman Myers (Green College)

"More multi-stakeholder processes are needed and the resource to enable civil society to join in mobilised."

Richard Sandbrook (Director IIED)

**Legal Round Table Report (Sept 1996) £5 incl
p&p**

The papers and outcome from the UNED-UK Round Table meeting on the Codification of the Rio Principles into Domestic Law.

"As we review our progress over the last five years. I now think that we can be much more optimistic. The agreements from Rio are starting to affect our lives in so many different ways."

Philippe Sands (Legal Director of FIELD)

Poverty Round Table Report edited by Tom Bigg (Jan 97) £3.00 incl p&p

The principal focus is on aspects of poverty in the UK, and policy recommendations are made for a wide range of areas. Contributing organizations include the Low Pay Unit; the School for Policy Studies, University of Bristol; Age Concern; ATD 4th World; the Trade Union Congress; the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine; and the National Food Alliance.

The report tackles some of the central aspects of poverty, including access to basic rights and needs in various forms; health; education; the feminisation of poverty; employment; and the use of indicators.

Earth Summit II- A Business Input - A Report of the ICC/UNED-UK Conference (Oct 1996) £5 incl p+p

A report of the joint ICC/UNED-UK Conference to review the International Chamber of Commerce Business Charter for Sustainable Development.

Building Our Future (Dec 1996) £ 3.50 incl p&p

This is a guide to best practice in nine London Boroughs- Barking and Dagenham, Enfield, Greenwich, Hackney, Havering, Newham, Redbridge, Tower Hamlets and Waltham Forest on Habitat II related issues. The report covers thirty six examples and offers a model which other boroughs may want to follow.

Green and Ethical Pensions Report edited by Danyal Sattar with Alex Gozzi and Chris Church (Oct 96) £9.95 incl p&p

The report arises out of a conference held on the 16th of April 1996 by UNED-UK with the

support of the Ethical Investment Research Service, Friends Provident Asset Management, Jupiter Asset Management, the Local Government Management Board and NPI Asset Management.

The conference brought together financial professionals, fund managers and researchers from the green and ethical funds, environmentalists, information providers, Local Authority staff and elected members to look at the opportunities for green and ethical investment by Local Authorities.

Three Years since the Rio Summit - the Commission on Sustainable Development by Felix Dodds and Tom Bigg (June 1995) £7.50 inc p&p

Now that the CSD has met four times we have revisited the process of setting up the CSD to remind and inform people what the CSD is there to do and what the bodies associated with it are for. The report also reviews the record of the CSD and looks in more depth at the most recent session. A must for anyone interested in sustainable development.

A New Vision - The UN World Summit for Social Development by Gilbert West and Tom Bigg (Sept 1995) £7.50 inc p&p

This report focuses on the agreements that were reached at the Copenhagen Social Summit in March 1995. It attempts to explain why the Summit was necessary in the first place and summarises the Social Summit's Declaration and Programme of Action. All the main issues addressed at the conference are covered in the report including: Health and social development, employment and work, poverty, overseas aid, debt and the developing world, disability and society, structural adjustment policies and the effect of an ageing population on society. The report also contains the "Copenhagen Alternative Declaration", which originated from the representatives of social movements, non-governmental organizations and citizens groups that were participating in the NGO Forum. The official statements of the UN Secretary General, Boutros Boutros Ghali, the delegations from the UK, USA, Group of 77 Nations and the UNDP and others are included.

Sustaining Developments since the Rio Summit by Jonathan McInerney (Jan 96) £7.50 inc p&p

Sustaining Developments since the Rio Summit is a report from the UNED-UK 1995 Conference. It reprints the speeches by **Klaus Topfer, Ambassador Cavalcanti, Rt Hon John Gummer and Jonathon Porritt**. It also includes the papers for the workshops and a report on the outcomes from the conference. The report sets the stage for input into the 5 year review of Agenda 21 to occur in 1997.

UNED-UK Oceans Report to CSD96 by Swantje Macke - Montero (Sept 95) £2.00 inc p&p

This was the product of the UNED-UK Oceans Round Table. The Round Table met three times over the summer of 1995 and held a seminar in September 1995 to review the outcomes of the Round Table. This report represents the final outcome from the Round Table & was presented to the UK Government in November 1995 and the CSD in April 1996.

1994/95 UNED-UK publications

UNED-UK Report to the CSD on Poverty by Ruth West and the Health Round Table £2.00 inc p&p

This report is produced by UNED-UK's Health and Environment Round Table. It was initially produced as an input to the World Summit on Social Development and then revised for the third session of the Commission on Sustainable Development.

Habitat II Papers (April 95) edited by Felix Dodds £5.00 inc p&p

The second half of the UNED-UK Conference was on the Urban Agenda in preparation for the Habitat II Conference in June 1996. The Habitat II Papers is a collection of the Papers given in the six workshops and the outcomes from the discussions. The workshop presentations were given by **Stewart Boyle** (IIEC) on Transport and Cities, **Chris Church** (UN Association) on Sustainable Cities, **Jane Brooke** (Glasgow City Council) on Poverty Alleviation and Employment Generation, **Steve McCann** (Birmingham City Council) on Financing shelter and urban development and **Peter Webster** (EIRIS) on Trade and ethical investment and innovative financing mechanisms. £5.00 inc p&p.

Social Summit Papers (January 95) edited by Gilbert West £5.00 inc p&p

UNED-UK Conference was on Sustainable Human Development and the Urban Agenda. The first half of the Conference concentrated on the World Summit for Social Development. The Social Summit Papers represent a collection of those given to the six workshops by **Christine Blackmore** (Open University) on Education and Training, **Suzanne Long** (UN Association), on Social Integration, **Tim Jenkins** (Friends of the Earth) on Employment Creation, **Vernon Smith** (Local Government Management Board) on Governance, **Chris Pond** (Low Pay Unit) on Basic Social Services, and **Pat Conaty** (Social Investment Forum) on Financing.

Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development by UNED-UK (Oct 94) Round Table on SARD £5.00 inc p&p

The Report was produced after a series of Round Table and working group meetings during the summer of 1994 and included some of the recommendations of the SARD Seminar held in September.

Values for a Sustainable Future (Dec94) edited by Gilbert West and Julia Brown £7.50 including p&p

A full account of the Papers presented at the UNED-UK Symposium on 'Values for a Sustainable Future' with the workshop discussions has been produced. The papers included are by **Professor Marquand** on Governance and Democracy, **Professor Redclift** on Society and Culture, **John Wybrew** of Shell on Business and Wealth Creation and **Robyn Williams** of the Australian Commission for the Future on Science and Technology. Also included are presentations by **Sir Crispin Tickell**, **Professor Robert Worcester** of MORI, **Ms Elizabeth Dowdeswell** Executive Director of UNEP and **Jonathon Porritt**. The symposium was organised to celebrate World Environment Day 1994 and was funded through a Department of Environment Grant and the support of WWF and the Royal Society of Arts.

UNED-UK Executive Committee

The following are members of UNED-UK's Executive Committee(1996/97):

Executive Chair: Derek Osborn

Vice Chairs: Fiona McConnell; Malcolm Harper (UNA).

Executive Committee: *Christine Blackmore* (Education for Sustainability Forum); *Andrew Blaza* (Individual member - World Travel and Tourism Environment Research Centre); *Anthony Colman MP* (Local Agenda 21 Steering Committee - Merton Borough Council); *Diana Cripps* (Women's Environment Network); *Margaret Feneley* (Youth Joint Action Group - Council for Environmental Education); *John Gordon* (Individual member); *Laura Kelly* (Action Aid); Rob Lake (RSPB); *Robert Lamb* (Television for the Environment); *David Lea* (Trade Union Congress); *Geoffrey Lean* (Independent on Sunday); *Barney Leath* (Baha'i); *Peter Martin/Nick Mabey* (World Wide Fund for Nature UK); *Jane Morris* (Local Government Management Board); *Andrew Simms* (Christian Aid); *Richard Sandbrook* (International Institute for Environment and Development); *Philippe Sands* (Foundation for International Environmental Law and Development); *Peter Scupholme* (International Chamber of Commerce UK - British Petroleum); *Fiona Reynolds* (Council for the Protection of Rural England); *Nick Wilson* (Individual member - GEMS); *Ruth West* (Individual member).

Observers: *Alexander Borg Olivier* (UN London Office and Information Office); *Anders Renlund* (UN Environment Programme); *Alan Doss* (UN Development Programme); *Phil Matthews* (Scottish Environment Forum); *Caroline Jobson* (ICC UK); *Brian Oliver* (Department of the Environment); *Jon Wonham* (Ex-International Maritime Organisation).

Staffing

General: *Felix Dodds* Co-ordinator *Tom Bigg* Administrator; *Jonathan McInerney* Conference & Seminar Organizer (-Oct 96); *Carolyn McKenzie* Conference & Seminar Organizer (Oct 96-); *Ruth West* (Health and Environment) (Jan 97-); *Chris Church* (Health and Environment Jan97-); *Helen Caton* (Health and Environment Jan97-).

Connections: *Harold Stern* (design); *Caroline Jobson* (ICC); *Jane Morris* (LGMB); Special Earth Summit II Times: *David Boyle* (design)

Volunteers: *Rashid Bakir* (Data Manager and Membership); Claire Nugent (Gender 21 and Education); Angela Mawle (Gender 21); Sue Barber (Gender 21)

Thanks to: UNED-UK would like to thank all the people who have helped it over the last year to prepare for Earth Summit II. In particular we would like to thank: *Chris Tomkins* (DETR), *Brian Oliver* (DETR); *Sheila McCabe* (DETR); *Peter Unwin* (DETR); *Anthony Smith* (DFID); *Margaret Brusasco McKenzie* (European Commission); *Jill Hanna* (European Commission); *Zehra Aydin* (UN Division on Sustainable Development); *Alan Doss* (UNDP); *Megan Howell*; *Jonathan Sinclair Wilson* (Earthscan); *Meg Palmer*; *Hugh Somerville* (British Airways); *Peter Scupholme* (British Petroleum); *Mike Kelly* (NatWest Group); *Tony Hams* (LGMB); *Jim Oatridge* (Severn Trent plc); *Jim Oatridge* (Severn Trent plc); *Trevor Harvey* (Farnborough Technological College); *John Smyth*; *Christine Blackmore* (Education for Sustainability Forum); *Rob Lake* (RSPB); *Nick Wilson* (GEMS); *Barbara Bramble* (US National Wildlife Federation); *Andy Anderson* (London Transport); *Monica Brett*.

Membership

(up to June 30th 1997)

Corporate Members

Action Aid
BG plc
Baha'is of UK
Biffa Waste Services
Birmingham University
Body Shop International plc
British Airways
British Nuclear Fuels
British Petroleum
Britten-Pears Foundation
CAFOD
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Christian Aid
Civic Trust
Combined Heat and Power Association
Commonwealth Development Corporation
Commonwealth Institute
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Council for the Protection of Rural England
Development Education Association
Economic and Social Research Council
Elm Farm Research Centre
Foundation for International Environmental Law and Development
Fire Brigades Union
Friends of the Earth
Going for Green
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International Centre for Conservation Education
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Johnson Mathey plc
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National Spiritual Assembly of the Baha'is UK
NatWest Bank plc
Northumbria Water Group plc
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Oxfam
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Queens University of Belfast
RTZ Corporation

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Seven Trent Water plc
Shell Better Britain Campaign
Television Trust for the Environment
Town and Country Planning Association
Trade Union Congress
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UNICEF
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University of Hertfordshire
University of Manchester
VERTIC
Waste Management International
WaterAid
Water Companies Association
World Wide Fund for Nature UK

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Bexley Council
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Brighton and Hove Council
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 International Alliance of Women
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 Plymouth Business School
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Tina Wheeler
Fenella White
Nick Wilson
Tracy Worcester
Charlotte di Vita

UNED-UK Sources of Funding

UNED-UK have benefited from the generous support of the following organizations which we would like to thank very much:

British Airways for our flights (£8,800);
Poldham Puckham Trust (£6,000) for supporting our international networking;
The Nat West Group for funding Connections;
the **Department for Environment Transport and the Regions** for our Core Grant, Green College Seminar and the work we did at Earth Summit II;
Green College for supporting our Seminar;
the **Department for International Development** for their grant of £30,000 to enable southern NGOs to be active in the preparations for Earth Summit II;
the **European Commission** for the financial support they gave to our work at Earth Summit II;
the **Department for Health** for funding our preparation for the London WHO Conference on Environment and Health;
the **International Chamber of Commerce and IBM Ltd** for the sponsorship of the joint Conference to review the Business Charter for Sustainable Development;
Clifford Chance for the sponsorship of our Legal Round Table Meeting on 'Codification of the Rio Principles into Domestic Law';
RTZ for supporting our Earth Summit II activities;
Christian Aid and LGMB for funding our Outreach and Town Hall Meetings to prepare for Earth Summit II;
British Petroleum for sponsoring our AGM;
Canon for sponsoring our Annual Conference;
the **TUC, UNA and ICC** for sponsoring UNED-UK Executive Meetings.

UNED-UK would also like to thank the numerous people who have contributed their time free of charge to prepare papers or to Chair meetings for UNED-UK. We thank you very much.



United Nations Association of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
(A company limited by guarantee and not having a share capital)
Directors' Responsibilities and Report of the Auditors

Statement of Directors' Responsibilities

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the profit or loss of the company for that period.

In preparing those financial statements, the directors are required to select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently; make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent and prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that the company will continue in business.

The directors are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 1985. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Auditors' Report to the Members of the
United Nations Association of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

We have audited the financial statements on pages 3 to 7 which have been prepared under the historical cost convention and the accounting policies set out on page 5.

Respective Responsibilities of Directors and Auditors

As described above the company's directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements. It is our responsibility to form an independent opinion, based on our audit, on those statements and to report our opinion to you.

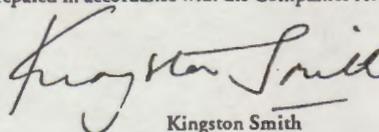
Basis of Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Auditing Standards issued by the Auditing Practices Board. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgements made by the directors in the preparation of the financial statements and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the company's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming our opinion we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

Opinion

In our opinion the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of the company's affairs as at 30th June 1997 and of its surplus for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.



Kingston Smith
Chartered Accountants
and Registered Auditors

Devonshire House
60 Goswell Road
London EC1M 7AD

18/11/97

United Nations Association for Great Britain and Northern Ireland
 (A company limited by guarantee and not having a share capital)

Supplementary Information to the Income and Expenditure Account
For the year ended 30th June 1997

UNED Income and Expenditure

	1997 £	1996 £
Income		
Grants	60,236	96,478
Membership	20,150	26,718
Publication	16,464	9,711
Conference	86,896	42,102
	<u>183,773</u>	<u>175,009</u>
Expenditure		
Staff costs	61,657	71,870
Publications	11,208	14,167
Printing, postage and stationary	15,886	20,065
Telephone and fax	3,181	4,036
Travel	6,481	7,600
Conferences	39,384	46,756
Other	53,449	12,734
	<u>(191,246)</u>	<u>(177,228)</u>
Deficit for the Year	<u>(7,473)</u>	<u>(2,219)</u>

**United Nations Environment & Development
UK Committee**

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London SW1A 2EL**

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