

# OUTREACH 2005



BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

MONDAY 29TH

## 2005 - A MULTI-LATERAL COLLISION COURSE

### Defining moments for multi-lateralism

Over the past few years institutions of multilateralism have taken a pounding on many fronts. Many of the organizations date back to the end of the Second World War, the need for reform of these to cope with a world that no longer is bipolar would seem obvious. Has the United Nations, the worlds preeminent multilateral institution, has been dis-empowered to such an extent that it is unable to adequately deliver the commitments placed on it?

To resolve some of the current global problems governments have committed to a number of conflicting and competing agendas on trade, finance, development and peace and security, all of which are on collision course for 2005. In agreeing to a high-level Summit in 2005 to facilitate a five year review of the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals, the UN General Assembly is expected to put the final bit of the equation into place, making 2005 a critical year for the international multilateral system.

#### Legacy of the 1990's

Through out the 1990s the UN facilitated a number of UN Conferences and Summits. These started with the Rio Earth Summit and was followed by the Copenhagen Social Summit, Cairo Population Conference, Beijing Women's Conference, Istanbul Human Settlements Conference, Rome Food Summit and finished with the Millennium Development Summit in 2000. These Summits each succeeded in bringing together ambitious Head of State Declarations and delivering impressive Plans of Action.

However, a critical problem arose in the implementation of these action plans. Governments consistently failed to provide adequate resources to enable the full and effective delivery of the agreements they had committed to. In real terms international development aid actually fell between 1991 and 2002. In answer to their continued failure to deliver, donor governments have turned to Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) and trade as a way of potentially releasing more funds for developing countries. However over 70% of FDI has been focused in only ten developing countries. The liberalization of the trade agenda, at least until the 4th WTO Ministerial in Doha, was weighted heavily in favor of developed countries' agendas.

#### Stakeholder Democracy

The '90s also saw the rise of globalization, the reduction of the role of the State, and the growth of other stakeholders. As the '90s progressed these stakeholders demanded greater

involvement at international government negotiations and, by 2004 many UN bodies were adopting a model to bring stakeholders into their discussions. This critical stage in the transition must be about defining the norms and standards of a stakeholder democracy.

#### Trade

The collapse of the 5 WTO Ministerial in Cancun last September was a real wake up call for the international community. By December, things seemed back on track with the EU recommitting to WTO and the US accepting WTO ascendancy. The Doha Development Round is scheduled for completion in 2005. However, with negotiations only just recommencing following the de-railing of the process last September in Cancun, it seems likely that this deadline will be missed.

#### Peace and Security

In November, UN Secretary General Kofi Annan appointed a High-Level Panel on Global Security Threats and Reform of the International System. The Panel is to report to the General Assembly in 2005. It will produce a comprehensive review of the international system and recommend how it should be reformed in order to tackle the challenges of this century. There is deep divergence not only on the range of challenges facing us but also on the role that collective security mechanisms have to play in resolving them. The Panel will enable a creative dialogue to start to address a new way forward on these critical areas.

#### Development Summit

The Millennium Summit in 2000 agreed a range of necessary targets for the world to achieve, mostly in 2015. The eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) comprise 18 targets and 48 indicators. The targets presented are quantified, specific and time-bound. Although many might argue that these agreements did not go far enough, they do give a clear direction for the governments to focus on. Since the Summit, the UN system has slowly been reorganizing itself around these targets. To help prepare for the implementation of the MDGs the UN created the Millennium Project, directed by Prof. Jeffrey D. Sachs of Columbia University. The Project's research will focus on identifying the operational priorities, organizational means of implementation, and financing structures necessary to achieve the MDGs and will be reporting to the Secretary General on progress. Governments have started to recognize the need to reorganize their machinery to deliver the MDGs. One of the

*(Continued on page 2)*

missing links between the targets and their delivery is perhaps that of parliamentary oversight. Of course the MDGs are only soft law commitments, governments are therefore only morally obligated to deliver them. Parliaments could play a critical role in keeping donor governments focused, it is therefore critical that they become fully engaged in the MDG implementation programme.

The decision of the UN General Assembly to hold a Special Session in 2005 to look at the progress on the MDGs as well as the follow-up to the UN Conferences and Summits of the 90's would be a time to have national mechanisms such as these in place.

### Institutional and Financial Reform

What kind of international architecture does the twenty-first century need and what can it achieve? What role should the nation state play? How should stakeholders be integrated into global institutional policy discussions? During 2005 we will see the appointment of a new World Bank President. This will result in a change of direction of the Bank. It may see it reduce its global reach, concentrating more on Africa. Also during 2005, the UN will look at how it addresses and manages environmental issues. The UN Environment Programme (UNEP), has been poorly funded..

However, even in this position it has overseen the creation of a considerable amount of international environmental regulation and standard setting. These successes have led to calls to strengthen the environmental pillar of the UN. The idea of a World Environment Organisation was brought to the 1997 Special Session of the General Session of the General Assembly to review the Rio Summit. However, the proposal did not receive significant airtime. In July 2003, the French Government released a proposal to reform UNEP into a United Nations Environment Organisation. This proposal is receiving more attention by the international community. The UNEP Global Ministerial Environment Forum, Korea 2004 will see discussions on International Environmental Governance and therefore the reform of UNEP reinvigorated.

In 1997 there wasn't the political will to address the issue, but perhaps now, with an increasing number of stakeholder and governments turning their attention to the power imbalance between environmental and economic governance, discussion on the creation of an UNEO will stand a better chance of being properly addressed. Some people see an architecture, which would have the WTO, ILO and a new UNEO arbitrating over issues of dispute in the trade agenda. In an era of globalization, when the ability of all but one national state to influence global concerns is small. It could also provide a bridgehead to a restructured UN with real power, based upon a set up values that would protect the weak and make the world a safer place.

*Felix Dodds, Stakeholder Forum*

## Outreach 2005

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## Coming of Age

The 5<sup>th</sup> Global Civil Society Forum finished drawing up a statement to present to the UNEP Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum.

The civil society representatives at the Forum had prepared through a series of 5 regional consultations held to enable input to the Regional Economic Commission Meetings. The Forum allowed a chance to hear what the situation was around the world and there was much synergy relating to the challenges that face us.

The statement underlines the commitments that governments have made through the Millennium Declaration and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation. It highlights the commitments to:

- Halve by 2015 the proportion of people whose income is less than one dollar a day
- Halve by 2015 the proportion of people who suffer from hunger
- Halve by 2015 the proportion of people without access to basic sanitation
- Have achieved by 2020 a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers

The statement outlines the stark statistics that the world in trying to address such as:

- 1.1 billion people in the world do not have access to safe drinking water and that by 2025 if we do not address this it will grow to 3 billion
- 2.4 billion people lack access to adequate sanitation
- 90% of waste water discharged to waterways in developing countries goes untreated
- Four million children die each year from water related diseases
- 6-000 children die every day from diseases associated with lack of access to safe drinking water and poor hygiene
- About half the world's population lives in urban areas and by 2015 nearly 60% will make their homes in cities

The Civil Society statement underlines a number of key areas for Ministers to take into account.

The discussion on the role of Corporations underlined the need for regulation at all levels, national and global. It underlined the need for a global convention on Corporate Social responsibility and meanwhile countries should adhere to the OECD guidelines on CSR. The meeting also called for companies to sign up to the use of the International Court of Environmental Arbitration for transboundary issues. This would enable an independent arbitration on disputes.

The statement recognizes the role of the state and implies the following principles

Retains primary duty for effective regulation to ensure access to availability of and quality of water;

- Every State has the obligation to protect and fulfill its peoples right to water, sanitation and adequate affordable housing;
- The primary duty of the State in relation to protecting the environmental dimension of the problems relating the water, sanitation and human settlements is that of providing effective regulation to ensure access to and availability of good quality water;
- Should respect harmony of all ecosystems and human health;
- Should when developing river basin management strategies or making water policies integrate stakeholders into all policy planning and into all decision making processes when necessary and appropriate;
- Should respect the rights of Indigenous Peoples and local communities;
- Should ensure that the Polluter Pays Principle is enforced;
- Should ensure legal security of tenure, protection from discrimination and equal access to affordable, adequate housing for all persons and their families.

It affirmed a number of the Rio Principles such as Principle 13 the Polluter Pays principle, Principle 7 the Principle of Common but Differentiated Responsibility, Principle 10 which deals with the right to information and public participation at all levels. Principle 25 that recognizes that "Peace, development and environmental protection are interdependent and indivisible." Principle 24 "Warfare is inherently destructive of sustainable development. States shall therefore respect international law providing protection for the environment in times of armed conflict and cooperation in its further development , as necessary."

The statement also affirms that the approach should be a rights based, people centred values approach to development.

Clear actions called for include

- Calling for the full rejection of trade liberalization of water and waste water services under the WTO GATS and ensuring the harmonisation of trade and environmental agreements within the framework shaped by principles of sustainable development bearing in mind that sustainability cannot be subordinated to purely trade agendas
- Ensuring the equitable delivery of water and sanitation services especially to the poor
- The enhancing of the role of local authorities in water management. Decentralising of community water harvesting projects and hydropower schemes so as to reduce the occurrence of large scale water projects such as huge destructive dams. Supporting the participation of local communities and sectors through specially dedicated funding arrangements
- The prioritization of water, sanitation and human settlement issues and securing their integration into poverty reduction strategy papers (PRSPs), MDG Reports and national sustainable development strategies and other national plans

The statement also affirmed the role that UNEP National Committees can play in linking the global agreements to national and regional implementation and monitoring.

In the meeting some Civil Society members also called for the CSO Advisory Panel to be bottom up not top down. They suggested that Civil Society should chose who is on the panel to represent them not the Executive Director.

At the end of the Forum some suggestions for reforming the process to make it even better for the 6th session were tabled and it is hoped that the new Chief foe the Major Groups and Stakeholder Branch will convene a working group made up from regional representatives to draft a paper for consultation with the delegates in time to implement for the 6th session of the Civil Society Forum.

# UNEP GPA ONLINE DEBATE

## Water Management & Governance + Water & Poverty

From March 8th - 17th Stakeholder Forum hosted an online debate as part of its UNEP Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land Based Activities Outreach project. The debate sought the views of a wide range of stakeholders on the contribution that the GPA can make to the water and sanitation discussions taking place here at the Ministerial. A summary of the main issues from the debate follows.

Water management and governance proved to be the most popular topic of the debate. The majority of contributions focused around integrated water resource management (IWRM), legislative and economic policy tools and the role of civil society in the implementation of IRWM. An outcome of the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development was that all governments confirmed they would develop plans for IWRM and water efficiency by 2005 whilst providing support to developing

countries. An ecosystem approach to IWRM dictates that activities such as dam construction, irrigation schemes, forestry and urban development consider the impact that reduced or increased water flow will have on down-stream environments (including coastal and marine environments) and human settlements, and that measures be taken to prevent serious or irreversible changes to ecosystems.

### *Regional Implementation of IWRM*

Examples of regional implementation of the IWRM strategies for 2005 featured in the early stages of the debate. Partnerships for IRWM, particularly in a transboundary context such in Kazakhstan, were highlighted as a uniting form of management. Partnerships embracing a variety of key organisations in the water sector have the potential to generate a new ethical responsibility for public water use through explanation, mutual information and education across the partnerships. Moreover, the increasing importance of role of civil society was a key feature for the implementation of IWRM. However, for these partnerships to succeed and the real impact of the project be observed, a longer-term commitment rather than the typical one

off grant is required. Issues of capacity for regional implementation of IWRM were also noted. Capacity in terms of financial support and suitable expertise were identified as issues for SIDS areas, as well as developing areas in Africa. The slow pace of ministerial approval towards the implementation of MEA's (Multilateral Environmental Agreements) around IRWM was noted in some SIDS. It was also noted that it is imperative that policy makers and implementers are provided with the right and relevant skills and knowledge enhancement in order to link their national development priorities with various global environmental agreements.

### **Legislation and Economic Tools**

The role of legislation and economic tools in water management and governance featured throughout the debate. This was closely linked to the role of civil society in IRWM. It was argued that legislation should not act as the principle tool for water management and that command-and-control approaches to pollution control have never really worked in isolation of more exhortatory approaches to changing industry and community behaviour. A positive example of good legislation experiences came from New Zealand in the hazardous substances sector where there is a good voluntary industry approach to an issue. Legislation, in this case, is needed to protect those industries from the one or two companies that do not adopt the industry standard and therefore have lower production costs. Strong legislative enforcement was universally highlighted as a salient area for good water management. The variables contributing to this capacity include institutional capacity, community expectations and public pressure, the influence of industry on policy makers, tradition and international dialogue to name just a few. Indeed, the enforcement of existing laws and schemes were identified as the first step in implementing environmental legislations and integrated coastal management.

The role of economic instruments, in particular privatization of water utilities, was discussed from the perspective that private sector participation in water supply has never led to stabilized rates. Evidence was also presented from transition economies that have also demonstrated how market regulation fails to improve water resource efficiency. When water is conceived as a commodity, it becomes subject to economic laws of demand and supply. It was argued that the private companies can have too much control on the lives of the consumers by way of price manipulation and access to water. This has significant effects on the poor and vulnerable.

### **Civil Society and Water Governance**

The role of civil society in the management of water resources and within the intergovernmental policy making arena were highlighted as critical. Civil society should, and must, be well positioned to raise international pressure to national governments to sustain efforts for IRWM as well as the wider number of conventions or MEA's to which they are party of. For this to be effective, civil society groups must be equitably informed and given voice within the UN system. An active, effective interface between civil society and the UN / other Intergovernmental agencies can keep sustained pressure on governments to be effective in implementing the law. In addition, where the legitimate authority (government) fails to take appropriate action to protect the environment, civil society needs to be empowered to take action. This is even more necessary in insurgency and conflict ridden areas. The marginalized role of the poor in water governance was debated. Some contributors argued that some governments perceive water governance as exclusive rights of theirs, often rendering civil society at the receiving end rather than being empowered.

The GC/GMEF session should ensure power to determine aspects of water resource management is restored to the poor. In addition to a marginalized role in policy making participation and implementation, the poor are often inequitably affected by poor water management. Poor water management, from catchments protection through to wastewater treatment and disposal, affects both quality of life and quality of the environment. The poor are victims in both regards. Moreover, it was added that the majority of the poor are women. If water is to be managed sustainably to meet basic needs and achieve many of the MDGs, it is critical to mainstream gender in the governance of water and to pay special attention to pro-poor strategies. The poorest of the poor need to be empowered and have the capacity to take a leadership role.

They need the financial and social capita, and an ability to negotiate with equal position, appropriate technology, place, time to fully have their voices heard. The role of indigenous in civil society participation was also highlighted. It was argued that international, national and local water governance strategies should mainstream and centralize the water needs and the water management initiatives of the indigenous peoples. It was recommended that governments consider and value local, traditional and cultural water governance and management systems instead of over concentrating its attention on capital intensive and high risk systems or even allowing itself to be manipulated by external forces that may not be in tandem with local realities. The negative effects on indigenous peoples through large scale irrigation projects were used as an example of inequitable outcomes from water management. It was recommended that the empowerment of civil society can be achieved cell-based consultations with the people and will be a true demonstration of gaining public acceptance. Overall, the strong message for UNEP is that the role of civil society has to be brought to the fore if environmental governance is to take any meaningful role.

### **Wastewater and Sanitation**

This topic did not generate the same level of debate as water management and governance. The key areas of discussion focused on wastewater treatment for sludge and industrial waste. The construction and operating of wastewater treatment plants was identified as a positive solution for environmental concerns. However, they possess limitations such as their expense and the sludge outputs. Sludge was argued as not receiving appropriate attention for its disposal. Industrial wastewater was also identified as a problem needing regulation for good environmental management.

*Karen Dickinson, Debate Facilitator, Stakeholder Forum*

## Women are Giving Water a Human Face

Water is not just HO<sub>2</sub>, or an ecological asset with many crucial functions, it is also a system that sharply reflects human-environment interactions and social differentiations of gender and class. Worldwide women carry out 80% of the water-related work, often under very harsh conditions. This has been recognized globally for over 25 years now, in the UN Water Conference in Mar del Plata, the 1992 International Conference on Water and Environment in Dublin, and was finally consolidated into concrete actions on women's involvement in water-related decision-making and management in Chapter 18 of Agenda 21. Principle 20 the Rio Declaration states "Women have a vital role in environmental management and development. Their full participation is therefore essential to achieve sustainable development."

All over in the world, from South Korea, to South Africa, from the Dominican Republic to Nepal, women have been actively engaged in actions to preserve water sources and forests' water retaining capacity, prevent the damming of streams, clean up polluted water, lobby for integrated water management and stakeholder involvement, prevent desertification and regenerate wetlands and watersheds and make their voices heard. Coming from the 1992 Rio Conference, the Women's Action Agenda for a Peaceful and Healthy Planet, towards the 2002 WSSD in Johannesburg and CSD11 women have pushed for a gender perspective in sustainable development. The showcase of all these commitments made by governments will be the inclusion of a gender lens in the outcomes of UNEP's 8<sup>th</sup> GC and CSD12 and in the reporting on all MDGs (incl.MDG7).

Last year UNEP started to revitalize its commitment, made during the 1985 Women's Conference in Nairobi, to give women a more central role in its work. UNEP, in partnership with WEDO (Women's Environment and Development Organisation) is developing a publication on Women and Environment, to be published in spring 2004. A Peer Review meeting with experts on gender and environment was part of the process. In February 2004 UNEP organized a Consultative Seminar with representatives of women's groups to prepare for a major Global Women's Assembly on Environment.

Women and women's organisations were very active during UNEP's Civil Society Forum in Jeju, South Korea (27-28 March 2004). As a special event the Korean Women's Environmental Network (KWEN) organised the Asia Women's Environment Conference, March 27<sup>th</sup>, in which over 100 women and men from all regions of the world participated. The conference had as title "Water through the Eyes of Women". Strong women coming from China, South Korea, Vietnam presented their cases, and shared them with those of other regions. The conference adopted the following recommendations:

*We, all the participants of the Asia Women's Conference on Environment which is held as a special session of the 5th Global Civil Society Forum, condemn any form of discrimination of and violence against women and girls, and demand that UN, UN agencies, governments, international financial institutions, private sector and NGOs recognize water as a basic human right and women as an equal partners to shape and implement policies*

*on water and environment as follows:*

### **Water as a human right:**

*Recognize that access to water is a basic human right that is essential for achieving gender equality, sustainable development and poverty alleviation; and governments are ultimately responsible for guaranteeing provision in basic human needs, including adequate water and sanitation to women and their families. Promote the use of Convention on Elimination of all forms of Discrimination on Women (CEDAW) to ensure their land and water rights.*

### **Women and Sanitation:**

*It is particularly important to ensure that sanitation policies are gender sensitive, as easy access to good quality water and sanitary facilities is essential for women's health ad wellbeing, and reduces violence against women and girls. National and local governments should ensure women's participation in policy development and implementation processes.*

### **Gender mainstreaming in water, sanitation and environment:**

- *Report on the development and use of gender mainstreaming tools at the institutional level, including: sex-disaggregated data, gender analysis, gender balance, gender review process (for country reports), gender budget initiatives, gender training and gender-sensitive indicators.*
- *Promote at least equal participation of women (>50%) in the water and sanitation sector at all levels. And establish and strengthen mechanisms to facilitate equal participation of all stakeholders, in particular grassroots women, in policy-development, decision-making, implementation, monitoring and evaluation.*

### **Capacity Building:**

*UNEP and other UN agencies, governments and civil society institutions should:*

- *significantly increase their support for and cooperation in capacity building amongst women's grassroots organizations to facilitate their full and meaningful contributions in integrated water management, sanitation and sustainable development;*
- *open up existing and create new channels for grassroots expertise to enter decision-making at all levels of policy making, implementation, monitoring and evaluation.*

*By 2005 each UN region should at least start one ((sub regional) gender specific programme on transboundary water management, on water, sanitation and health, and on sustainable production and consumption; and lessons learned on their planning and implementation should be shared.*

*At the Asian Women's Conference on Environment it became clear that bringing a gender perspective in water and sanitation is not just a task of women, but that the engagement of men in these efforts is essential for sustainable development.*

*Irene Dankelman, , WEDO*

# THE MEA LEAGUES - PART I

During the WSSD Outreach 2002 brought you the MEA Leagues - An assessment of Government commitment to the Rio Conventions. Using our simple point scoring system, see below, The MEA Leagues make their return to review progress since September 2002. In this issue we bring you the UNFCCC Kyoto Protocol (this page) and UNCBD Bio safety Protocol.

Country	Rating	Country	Rating	Country	Rating
Afghanistan	⊕	Germany	⊕	Papua New Guinea	⊕
Albania	⊕	Ghana	⊕	Paraguay	⊕
Algeria	⊕	Greece	⊕	Peru	⊕
Andorra	⊕	Grenada	⊕	Philippines	⊕
Angola	⊕	Guatemala	⊕	Poland	⊕
Antigua and Barbuda	⊕	Guinea	⊕	Portugal	⊕
Argentina	⊕	Guinea-Bissau	⊕	Republic of Korea	⊕
Armenia	⊕	Guyana	⊕	Republic of Moldova	⊕
Australia	⊕	Haiti	⊕	Romania	⊕
Austria	⊕	Honduras	⊕	Russian Federation	⊕
Azerbaijan	⊕	Hungary	⊕	Rwanda	⊕
Bahamas	⊕	Iceland	⊕	Saint Kitts and Nevis	⊕
Bahrain	⊕	India	⊕	Saint Lucia	⊕
Bangladesh	⊕	Indonesia	⊕	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	⊕
Barbados	⊕	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	⊕	Sao Tome and Principe	⊕
Belarus	⊕	Iraq	⊕	Samoa	⊕
Belgium	⊕	Ireland	⊕	Saudi Arabia	⊕
Belize	⊕	Israel	⊕	Senegal	⊕
Benin	⊕	Italy	⊕	Serbia and Montenegro	⊕
Bhutan	⊕	Jamaica	⊕	Seychelles	⊕
Bolivia	⊕	Japan	⊕	Sierra Leone	⊕
Bosnia and Herzegovina	⊕	Jordan	⊕	Singapore	⊕
Botswana	⊕	Kazakhstan	⊕	Slovakia	⊕
Brazil	⊕	Kenya	⊕	Slovenia	⊕
Brunei Darussalam	⊕	Kiribati	⊕	Solomon Islands	⊕
Bulgaria	⊕	Kuwait	⊕	Somalia	⊕
Burkina Faso	⊕	Kyrgyzstan	⊕	South Africa	⊕
Burundi	⊕	Lao People's Democratic Republic	⊕	Spain	⊕
Cambodia	⊕	Latvia	⊕	Sri Lanka	⊕
Cameroon	⊕	Lebanon	⊕	Sudan	⊕
Canada	⊕	Lesotho	⊕	Suriname	⊕
Cape Verde	⊕	Liberia	⊕	Swaziland	⊕
Central African Republic	⊕	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	⊕	Sweden	⊕
Chad	⊕	Liechtenstein	⊕	Switzerland	⊕
Chile	⊕	Lithuania	⊕	Syrian Arab Republic	⊕
China	⊕	Luxembourg	⊕	Tajikistan	⊕
Colombia	⊕	Madagascar	⊕	Thailand	⊕
Comoros	⊕	Malawi	⊕	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	⊕
Congo	⊕	Malaysia	⊕	Timor-Leste	⊕
Cook Islands	⊕	Maldives	⊕	Togo	⊕
Costa Rica	⊕	Mali	⊕	Tonga	⊕
Côte d'Ivoire	⊕	Malta	⊕	Trinidad and Tobago	⊕
Croatia	⊕	Marshall Islands	⊕	Tunisia	⊕
Cuba	⊕	Mauritania	⊕	Turkey	⊕
Cyprus	⊕	Mauritius	⊕	Turkmenistan	⊕
Czech Republic	⊕	Mexico	⊕	Tuvalu	⊕
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	⊕	Micronesia (Federated States of)	⊕	Uganda	⊕
Democratic Republic of the Congo	⊕	Monaco	⊕	Ukraine	⊕
Denmark	⊕	Mongolia	⊕	United Arab Emirates	⊕
Djibouti	⊕	Morocco	⊕	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	⊕
Dominica	⊕	Mozambique	⊕	United Republic of Tanzania	⊕
Dominican Republic	⊕	Myanmar	⊕	United States of America	⊕
EC	⊕	Namibia	⊕	Uruguay	⊕
Ecuador	⊕	Nauru	⊕	Uzbekistan	⊕
Egypt	⊕	Nepal	⊕	Vanuatu	⊕
El Salvador	⊕	Netherlands	⊕	Venezuela	⊕
Equatorial Guinea	⊕	New Zealand	⊕	Viet Nam	⊕
Eritrea	⊕	Nicaragua	⊕	Yemen	⊕
Estonia	⊕	Niger	⊕	Zaire	⊕
Ethiopia	⊕	Nigeria	⊕	Zambia	⊕
Fiji	⊕	Niue	⊕	Zimbabwe	⊕
Finland	⊕	Norway	⊕		
Gabon	⊕	Oman	⊕		
Gambia	⊕	Palau	⊕		
Georgia	⊕	Panama	⊕		

## MEA League Key:

- ⊕ Ratified, Accepted, Acceded
- ⊕ Signed
- ⊕ No action taken

## Prizes!

Over the next few days the MEA leagues will feature the Government performance on the Rotterdam Convention on Prior Informed Consent, the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, and the UN Convention on the Law of the Seas Agreement on Straddling and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks.

We will be awarding a point scoring system of 3 points for each ratification, 1 point for a signatory and -1 point for doing nothing.

By the end of the Ministerial we will add up the scores and present you with the conclusive results, along with positions gained since WSSD.

The prize for the winning government(s) is the honour of taking the Outreach team out for dinner on the last night.

The government to make the most progress since WSSD is invited to take us out for after dinner drinks.

# The Cartagena Bio-Safety Protocol to the UN Convention on Biological Diversity

Afghanistan	⊗	Guinea	⊗	Rwanda	⊗
Albania	⊗	Guinea-Bissau	⊗	Saint Kitts and Nevis	⊗
Algeria	⊗	Guyana	⊗	Saint Lucia	⊗
Andorra	⊗	Haiti	⊗	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	⊗
Angola	⊗	Honduras	⊗	Samoa	⊗
Antigua and Barbuda	⊗	Hungary	⊗	San Marino	⊗
Argentina	⊗	Iceland	⊗	Sao Tome and Principe	⊗
Armenia	⊗	India	⊗	Saudi Arabia	⊗
Australia	⊗	Indonesia	⊗	Senegal	⊗
Austria	⊗	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	⊗	Serbia and Montenegro	⊗
Azerbaijan	⊗	Iraq	⊗	Seychelles	⊗
Bahamas	⊗	Ireland	⊗	Sierra Leone	⊗
Bahrain	⊗	Israel	⊗	Singapore	⊗
Bangladesh	⊗	Italy	⊗	Slovakia	⊗
Barbados	⊗	Jamaica	⊗	Slovenia	⊗
Belarus	⊗	Japan	⊗	Solomon Islands	⊗
Belgium	⊗	Jordan	⊗	Somalia	⊗
Belize	⊗	Kazakhstan	⊗	South Africa	⊗
Benin	⊗	Kenya	⊗	Spain	⊗
Bhutan	⊗	Kiribati	⊗	Sri Lanka	⊗
Bolivia	⊗	Kuwait	⊗	Sudan	⊗
Bosnia and Herzegovina	⊗	Kyrgyzstan	⊗	Suriname	⊗
Botswana	⊗	Lao People's Democratic Republic	⊗	Swaziland	⊗
Brazil	⊗	Latvia	⊗	Sweden	⊗
Brunei Darussalam	⊗	Lebanon	⊗	Switzerland	⊗
Bulgaria	⊗	Lesotho	⊗	Syrian Arab Republic	⊗
Burkina Faso	⊗	Liberia	⊗	Tajikistan	⊗
Burundi	⊗	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	⊗	Thailand	⊗
Cambodia	⊗	Liechtenstein	⊗	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	⊗
Cameroon	⊗	Lithuania	⊗	Timor-Leste	⊗
Canada	⊗	Luxembourg	⊗	Togo	⊗
Cape Verde	⊗	Madagascar	⊗	Tonga	⊗
Central African Republic	⊗	Malawi	⊗	Trinidad and Tobago	⊗
Chad	⊗	Malaysia	⊗	Tunisia	⊗
Chile	⊗	Maldives	⊗	Turkey	⊗
China	⊗	Mali	⊗	Turkmenistan	⊗
Colombia	⊗	Malta	⊗	Tuvalu	⊗
Comoros	⊗	Marshall Islands	⊗	Uganda	⊗
Congo	⊗	Mauritania	⊗	Ukraine	⊗
Cook Islands	⊗	Mauritius	⊗	United Arab Emirates	⊗
Costa Rica	⊗	Mexico	⊗	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	⊗
Côte d'Ivoire	⊗	Micronesia (Federated States of)	⊗	United Republic of Tanzania	⊗
Croatia	⊗	Monaco	⊗	United States of America	⊗
Cuba	⊗	Mongolia	⊗	Uruguay	⊗
Cyprus	⊗	Morocco	⊗	Uzbekistan	⊗
Czech Republic	⊗	Mozambique	⊗	Vanuatu	⊗
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	⊗	Myanmar	⊗	Venezuela	⊗
Democratic Republic of the Congo	⊗	Namibia	⊗	Viet Nam	⊗
Denmark	⊗	Nauru	⊗	Yemen	⊗
Djibouti	⊗	Nepal	⊗	Zaire	⊗
Dominica	⊗	Netherlands	⊗	Zambia	⊗
Dominican Republic	⊗	New Zealand	⊗	Zimbabwe	⊗
EC	⊗	Nicaragua	⊗		
Ecuador	⊗	Niger	⊗		
Egypt	⊗	Nigeria	⊗		
Egypt	⊗	Niue	⊗		
El Salvador	⊗	Norway	⊗		
Equatorial Guinea	⊗	Oman	⊗		
Eritrea	⊗	Pakistan	⊗		
Estonia	⊗	Palau	⊗		
Ethiopia	⊗	Panama	⊗		
Fiji	⊗	Papua New Guinea	⊗		
Finland	⊗	Paraguay	⊗		
France	⊗	Peru	⊗		
Gabon	⊗	Philippines	⊗		
Gambia	⊗	Poland	⊗		
Georgia	⊗	Portugal	⊗		
Germany	⊗	Qatar	⊗		
Ghana	⊗	Republic of Korea	⊗		
Greece	⊗	Republic of Moldova	⊗		
Grenada	⊗	Romania	⊗		
Guatemala	⊗	Russian Federation	⊗		

## MEA League Key:

- ⊗ Ratified, Accepted, Acceded
- ⊗ Signed
- ⊗ No action taken

## CHAIR

David Hales &amp; Gwen Malangwu

## HONORARY VICE PRESIDENTS

Henrique Cavalcanti, Jaun Mayr,  
Bedrich Moldan, Mustafa Toulba,  
Simon Upton

## STAFF

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Mehjabeen Price *Deputy Director*;  
Georgina Ayre *Head of Policy & Research*;  
Toby Middleton *Head of Communications*;  
Robert Whitfield *MSP Programme Co-ordinator*;  
Karen Dickinson *GPA Outreach Project Coordinator*  
Hamid Houshidar *Finance Officer*;  
Aretha Moore *Personal Coordinator to the Director*;  
Mohammed Sajad *Finance Assistant*;  
Trevor Rees *Bonn Dialogue Co-ordinator*;  
Madeleine Cobb *Bonn Dialogue Officer*

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## MONDAY'S DIARY

10.00 - 11.30	Opening Session/Organisation of the work of the session - Tamna Hall, 5th Floor
12.00 - 1.00	Ministerial Consultations - Halla Hall, 3rd Floor Committee of the Whole - Tamna Hall, 5th Floor
1.00 - 3.00	Launch of the GEO Year Book 2003 - Press Briefing Room, 3rd Floor
1.30 - 3.00	Tech. Transfer for Water & Sanitation - UNEP Special Event Hall, 3rd Floor
3.00 - 6.00	Committee of the Whole - Tamna Hall, 5th Floor
3.00 - 7.00	Ministerial Consultations - Halla Hall, 3rd Floor
7.30	Reception Hosted by the Governing Council President and UNEP Executive Director - Ocean View Coffee Shop, 5th Floor

## SPECIAL EVENTS

29th - 31st March	Environmental Technology Exhibition, (ECO-TECH Fair) - Event Hall, 1st Floor
29th - 31st March	Poster Exhibition - Event Hall, 1st Floor
30th March	International Symposium on Water - Seogwipo KAL Hotel
30th March	Women, Water and Sanitation - UNEP Special Event Hall, 1st Floor

## YOUTH DIARY

Today we particularly liked the question and answer session that took place after UNEP's Bakary Kante's speech. The presentation highlighted UNEP's involvement with civil society and the future plans they have for incorporating the civil society in their programmes.

The feedback session was especially interesting because many of the GCSF participants wanted UNEP to take quick and efficient actions to ensure Civil Society's involvement in all UNEP's activities.

We were glad for the increasing recognition that youth are also a major stakeholder in environmental matters, and need to be treated as such.

A step forward in youth participation is the fact that 6 of the UNEP - Tunza - Regional Youth Advisors were supported by UNEP to attend this Ministerial and Civil Society Forum. Supported not just to show up at the meeting, but have also been given an equal opportunity to have our

voice heard, and to fully participate in the Ministerial and Civil Society Sessions.

This participation will include producing and presenting a Youth statement at the GCSF and delivering a speech to Ministers.

Of course we would not be Youth if we didn't a little of our flavour to the event. Today we took part in an action organised by the Korean NGO Host Organising Committee. This included a number of organisation, such as Friends of the Earth, South Korea, who have a rich experience in organising direct actions.

Yesterday we saw some of the direct actions Korean environmental organisation have undertaken in a video played to the GCSF. Our action was actually a performance about the privatisation of water, and we all had our roles to play.

We were encouraged by the level of support and organisation for the action. The media attention was great. We can't wait for the next 3 days.

*Youth*

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