

# NETWORK 2015

*Building Partnerships for Sustainable Development*

## UNEP & TRADE UNIONS DEVELOP COMMON PROGRAMME FOR ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

By Lucien Royer

International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU)  
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Paris, Monday, 30 January, 2006

A recently-released document by the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP), summarizing the outcome of an international meeting of trade unions provides the basis for a new and broader platform for action by the global trade union movement on the environment and sustainable development.

The UNEP document arising out of the first International World Trade Union Assembly on Labour and the Environment, held from 15-17 January in Nairobi Kenya, was welcomed by John Evans, General Secretary of the Trade Union Advisory Committee to the OECD (TUAC), who was the rapporteur for the drafting of the final trade union Resolution which was endorsed by the participants attending the meeting.



Minister Cristina Narbona

### CONTRIBUTING SOON

Dr. Rajesh Tandon reflections in Network2015.

Dr. Rajesh Tandon is an internationally acclaimed leader and practitioner of participatory research and development. He founded the Society for Participatory Research in Asia (PRIA) two decades ago, a voluntary organization providing support to grass roots initiatives in South Asia and continues to be its Chief Functionary since 1982. He is the founder and has been the Chairperson of the Board of Directors of CIVICUS (World Alliance for Citizen Participation) 1997 -1999, Chair to the Participation Sub-group in the NGO Working on the World Bank (1995-1998), Chairperson of the International Forum on Capacity Building of Southern NGOs (1998 - 2001), Chair of the Montreal International Forum



### FEBRUARY 2006

#### Trade Unions

UNEP & Trade Unions Develop Common Programme for Environment & Sustainable Development.....	page 1
Por un Alianza Internacional-entre Trabajo Y Medio Ambiente.....	page 3
For an International Alliance Between Labour and Environment.....	page 5

#### Environment

New Zealand Tops New Environmental Scorecard at World Economic Forum in Davos .....	page 6
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#### CSD

Latin America and Caribbean RIM- Focuses On Renewables.....	page 7
Asia and the Pacific meet in Bangkok for its Regional Implementation Meeting .....	page 9

#### Publications

China and India hold world in balance... ..	page 10
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#### Culture

Make Poverty history? .....	page 11
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STAKEHOLDER FORUM

Evans noted that representatives of UNEP, the International Labour Organisation (ILO) and World Health Organisation (WHO) also supported the development of a common programme of action with trade unions. He said that the willingness by UNEP and other UN agencies to recognize trade union participation in protecting the environment was an important step forward.

The UNEP document, "*The Final Resolution of The Trade Union Assembly*", reinforces the new trade union commitments on sustainable development by defining a focus for future cooperation on climate change, chemicals, occupational & public health, corporate social responsibility, as well as equity and access issues affecting poverty. The document also lays out a framework for future campaigns on such issues as HIV/AIDS, accessibility to water and the banning of asbestos. It is available at:

English: [http://www.global-unions.org/pdf/ohsewpO\\_6d.EN.pdf](http://www.global-unions.org/pdf/ohsewpO_6d.EN.pdf)

Français: [http://www.global-unions.org/pdf/ohsewpO\\_6d.FR.pdf](http://www.global-unions.org/pdf/ohsewpO_6d.FR.pdf)

Español: [http://www.global-unions.org/pdf/ohsewpO\\_6d.SP.pdf](http://www.global-unions.org/pdf/ohsewpO_6d.SP.pdf)

During the Assembly the Spanish Environment Minister Christina Narbona highlighted the importance of trade union involvement in defining new patterns and models of development. The Governments of Argentina, along with representatives from Business, NGOs and women also attended the meeting and expressed support for the process.

"What was most significant at the meeting was the degree of commitment expressed by elected national and international trade union representatives as well as experts from both the North and South to work with the UNEP, ILO and WHO on the most urgent problems facing us – how to achieve sustainable development," said Evans.

The General Secretary of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU), Guy Ryder, went further to suggest that the agreement reached by the meeting could serve as basis for a major body of work for a new international trade union organization that is likely to be created next November, when a history-making trade union unification will take place.

The significance of the Assembly to the global quest for sustainable development was subsequently noted by UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan attending the World Economic Forum in Davos, where he welcomed the new initiatives being taken between the trade union movement and UNEP. During the Assembly's concluding session UNEP Executive Director Klaus Toepfer said he was impressed by the Assembly's concentration on tangible action. He said the problems of creating decent and secure jobs in the context of sustainable development remained the same but that the

Assembly had produced some new ideas for the goals that might be achieved.

Evans noted the high degree of enthusiasm exhibited by the parties to the meeting, saying that he saw a much clearer understanding amongst participants of the role that workers and trade unions will have to play in the world's workplaces, negotiating with employers as well as in communities to bring about the changes which are needed. He warned, however, that the greatest challenges still lie ahead.



K. Toepfer, E. Falt, A. Kailembo, J. Baker, K. Kibwana, M. Neira, W. Thys, C. Boelcke  
Photo from [www.will2006.org](http://www.will2006.org)

"We now have to shift our efforts to convincing more governments and employers to work with us on joint projects that can yield concrete results", he said. "In the next six months, for example, one of our aims must be to deliver the messages coming out of the Kenya Assembly to Member States attending a number of intergovernmental meetings; UNEP itself, as well as the World Health Organisation, the OECD, the CSD, the G8, the ILO and the UN General Assembly."

A special website was created for the Assembly, where programme information and background documentation for the meeting can be obtained: <http://www.WILL2006.org>

Evans reported that a Workbook initially produced to frame discussions at the Assembly would soon be replaced by an updated version, which incorporates the results of workshop deliberations. In some respects, he said, the Workbook will serve as the implementation document for the Assembly's adopted resolution. In addition, UNEP is set to release its own summary of the discussions that took place in Nairobi.

The Assembly was coordinated with UNEP by the Sustainlabour Foundation – an international trade union Foundation, based in Spain.

For more information, contact Lucien Royer: [royer@tuac.org](mailto:royer@tuac.org)

## POR UNA ALIANZA INTERNACIONAL ENTRE TRABAJO Y MEDIOAMBIENTE



*Joaquín Nieto  
Presidente de la  
Fundación  
Sustainlabour  
Fundación Laboral  
Internacional para el  
Desarrollo Sostenible*

Auspiciada por el Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Medio Ambiente (PNUMA), la Primera Asamblea Sindical sobre Trabajo y Medio Ambiente, celebrada en Nairobi entre el 15 y 17 de enero pasado, ha sido un encuentro histórico, la culminación de un proceso iniciado en el siglo pasado y que ha refrendado el compromiso que los sindicatos han adquirido en la protección del medio ambiente.

Más de 150 representantes de los trabajadores de países desarrollados y en desarrollo, expertos en medio ambiente, representantes de gobiernos y de las Naciones Unidas se han reunido durante tres días para sellar una alianza entre el mundo del trabajo y el medio ambiente. Ya hace tiempo que se sabe que el empleo y el desarrollo sostenible van de la mano. Pero hacía falta rubricar esta alianza y que las Naciones Unidas se comprometieran a apoyar la participación de los sindicatos en el desarrollo sostenible, como de hecho ha ocurrido.

Los resultados acordados en la Asamblea, organizada por el PNUMA y la Fundación Internacional Sustainlabour y que ha contado con la participación de las dos centrales sindicales mundiales en proceso de unificación, CIOSL y CMT, van a ser muy fructíferos, tanto para los trabajadores como para el medio ambiente. No sólo por el alcance de lo acordado, sino por el respaldo que dichos acuerdos tienen tanto de las Naciones Unidas como de los representantes de los trabajadores y de algunos gobiernos que, como el español, se han comprometido a incorporarlos a sus políticas nacionales.

La Asamblea ha reconocido que hay que estrechar los vínculos entre la reducción de la pobreza, la protección del medio ambiente y el trabajo digno. De ahí la necesidad de asumir los objetivos de desarrollo de la Declaración del Milenio y de la Declaración y el Plan de Aplicación de la Cumbre de Johannesburgo relativa a la reducción de la pobreza y el desarrollo sostenible.

En este proceso cobra especial importancia el reconocimiento de los derechos. Para que los trabajadores y

sus sindicatos puedan participar en las estrategias a favor del desarrollo sostenible es imprescindible respetar los derechos fundamentales de los trabajadores, como son el de libre asociación y el derecho a la negociación colectiva, o el acceso universal, equitativo y ambientalmente racional a recursos básicos como el agua o la energía.

Los participantes al encuentro de Nairobi han visto la necesidad de adoptar medidas con carácter de urgencia para apoyar la Convención Marco de las Naciones Unidas sobre Cambio Climático y su Protocolo de Kioto. Dichas medidas deben contemplar nuevos acuerdos que tengan en cuenta las distintas responsabilidades frente al cambio climático, prever y reducir al mínimo sus efectos negativos y maximizar los efectos positivos que la mitigación pueda tener sobre los empleos. Sobre todo, es imprescindible garantizar la participación de los sindicatos en la adopción de decisiones relativas a las estrategias a seguir para combatir el cambio climático.

Aplicar las metas de la Cumbre de Johannesburgo respecto al control del riesgo químico ha sido otra de las medidas adoptadas. La industria debe demostrar que las sustancias químicas que produce son seguras, tanto para la salud como para el medio ambiente. El Convenio de Estocolmo sobre Contaminantes Orgánicos Persistentes y el Reglamento Europeo para la Autorización y Control de Sustancias Químicas (REACH) son dos referentes legislativos imprescindibles. Hay que promover la producción limpia y, para ello, es importante que se haya una adecuada transferencia de tecnología.



O. Deleuze, C. Boelcke, K. Toepfer, R. Parmentier, L. Royer, A. Rosenberg, L. Martin, B. Nshalintshali, A. Kailembo, W. Thys, G. Ryder, J. Nieto  
Photo from [www.will2006.org](http://www.will2006.org)

## El mundo va a cambiar

En el cambio de un modelo productivo a otro, sostenible, generará millones de empleos. No obstante, a pesar de un saldo global positivo, algunos sectores podrían verse afectados. Será preciso contemplar políticas de transición justa y velar por que los trabajadores que se vean afectados negativamente por los cambios cuenten con alternativas de empleo dignas. Así lo ha reconocido la Asamblea de Nairobi.

La afirmación de que el modelo de desarrollo actual es ambientalmente insostenible y que debemos caminar hacia un desarrollo sostenible no es una afirmación sin consecuencias. El mundo debe cambiar. El mundo va a cambiar. Ese cambio significa una profunda transformación de nuestros patrones de producción y de consumo, es decir una colosal reconversión de nuestro sistema productivo: los sectores con mayores impactos ambientales, insostenibles, irán siendo desplazados por otros emergentes, con menores impactos ambientales y más sostenibles. Unos empleos serán también desplazados por otros.



Por razones ligadas al cambio climático y al agotamiento de los recursos no renovables, como el petróleo, el modelo energético de mediados y de finales del siglo XXI no se parecerá en nada al modelo energético vigente en el siglo XX, tan dependiente de los combustibles fósiles. Será un modelo energético basado en las energías renovables y alternativas, en los biocombustibles, en el hidrógeno...

Tampoco nuestro actual modelo agroalimentario es sostenible y tendrá que orientarse en otra dirección ambiental y socialmente más responsable: basado en otra dieta, pero también en el desarrollo masivo de las agriculturas integrada y ecológica.

Como no es sostenible el uso masivo de decenas de miles de sustancias químicas tóxicas que envenenan nuestros ríos, nuestros suelos, nuestra atmósfera, nuestros cuerpos y los de los demás seres vivos. Millones y millones de toneladas de sustancias tóxicas presentes en el ambiente de trabajo que nos causan la muerte: 300.000 trabajadores al año mueren a causa de esas sustancias, millones de trabajadoras sufren problemas reproductivos por exposición a sustancias químicas. Tenemos derecho a un medio ambiente de trabajo libre de sustancias químicas

cancerígenas o mutágenas. Tampoco queremos renunciar a las ventajas y beneficios que ha aportado la química industrial a nuestras vidas. La química que conocemos, más temprano que tarde, tendrá ser sustituida por otra diferente, compatible con la vida, la química verde o sostenible...



Las dimensiones del cambio son inmensas. ¿Acaso esas transformaciones y sus consecuencias no nos conciernen? Ese cambio, que en parte se ha iniciado ya, no sólo es una propuesta imaginativa, es técnica y económicamente viable. No es sólo una posibilidad, es un imperativo, una constricción derivada de los límites naturales.

Y es, sobre todo, un cambio deseable. Es deseable porque el deterioro de los recursos naturales afecta más negativamente a los trabajadores y a los habitantes de los países pobres que dependen más directamente de ellos para atender sus necesidades más básicas. Es deseable porque las consecuencias de los impactos ambientales adversos afectan más a los trabajadores pobres y a los sectores los más vulnerables, incluso en los países desarrollados, como hemos podido observar en Nueva Orleans con el Katrina. Es deseable porque no se puede erradicar la pobreza en el mundo y alcanzar la justicia social soñando ingenuamente con la posibilidad de extender el modelo productivo que ha traído tanto bienestar a los países desarrollados, es decir al 20% de la humanidad, a todos los habitantes de nuestro planeta. Sólo un desarrollo masivo de las energías renovables, alcanzables *in situ*, podría permitir cubrir las necesidades energéticas más elementales de los mil quinientos millones de habitantes que hoy ni siquiera tienen acceso a la energía eléctrica. El modelo de producción y consumo energéticos y la dieta alimenticia de los países desarrollados no son generalizables, sencillamente porque la Tierra no dispone de los recursos suficientes. Necesitaríamos varios planetas para que eso fuera posible y sólo tenemos uno.

# FOR AN INTERNATIONAL ALLIANCE BETWEEN LABOUR AND ENVIRONMENT

*By Joaquín Nieto  
President of the International Foundation "Sustainlabour"*

The First Trade Union Assembly on Labour and Environment held in Nairobi from 15-17 January 2006 under the auspices of the United Nations Environment Programme UNEP has been an historical meeting, the end of a process that began in the last century and that has supported trade unions' commitment to environmental protection.

Over 150 representatives from developed and developing nations, environmental experts, representatives of Governments and the United Nations that convened for three days to endorse an alliance between the world, labour and environment.

It is known for sometime now that employment and sustainability go hand in hand. But such an agreement had to be authenticated and the United Nations had to express their commitment to support trade union participation in sustainable development as it happened in this encounter.

The results agreed upon in this Assembly organised by the UNEP and the International Foundation "Sustainlabour" and with the participation of the two major international trade union organisations IFCTU and WCL which are currently merging, will be fruitful for both workers and the environment.



The assembly has agreed upon the need to strengthen the link between poverty reduction, environmental protection and decent work. The recognition of fundamental rights of workers turns out to be a most important issue in this process.

Participants in the Nairobi Assembly have pointed at the need to implement urgent measures to support the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and its

Kyoto Protocol. Such measures must include new agreements which shall take into account the different responsibilities for climate change, foresee and minimize the negative effects that its mitigation might have on employment.



The implementation of goals of the Johannesburg Summit on control of chemical risk is one of the adopted measures. Industry shall prove that the chemicals it produces are safe both for human health and the environment.

The shift from the current production model into a sustainable one will generate millions of jobs. But despite the positive global effect, some sectors may be affected by this shift. It will be necessary to introduce fair transition policies and ensure satisfactory employment alternatives for the affected workers. Thus it has been approved by the Nairobi Assembly.

The current model of development is environmentally unsustainable and we shall aim at sustainable development. This means the world must and will change. It also means that our production and consumption models shall undergo a deep transformation.

The dimensions of this change are immeasurable, but the change is most desirable since among other reasons the depletion of natural resources affects in a more negative way workers and inhabitants of poor countries that depend directly on those resources to cover their basic needs. The model of production and energy consumption and the nutritional patterns of developed countries cannot be assumed globally, because the Earth simply lacks enough resources for that. Several planets would be needed to make that possible and we have only one

## NEW ZEALAND TOPS NEW ENVIRONMENTAL SCORECARD AT WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM IN DAVOS

New Zealand ranks first in the world in environmental performance, according to the new 2006 Environmental Performance Index (EPI) produced by a team of environmental experts at the environment school at Yale University and the Earth Institute at Columbia University.

The 2006 EPI, to be released in Davos, Switzerland, at the World Economic Forum on January 26, ranks Sweden, Finland, Czech Republic, and the United Kingdom two to five respectively. The top-ranked countries all commit significant resources and effort to environmental protection, resulting in strong performance across most of the policy categories.

The EPI identifies targets for environmental performance and measures how close each country comes to these goals. It ranks 133 countries on 16 indicators tracked in six established policy categories: Environmental Health, Air Quality, Water Resources, Biodiversity and Habitat, Productive Natural Resources, and Sustainable Energy. As a quantitative gauge of pollution control and natural resource management results, the Index provides a powerful tool for improving policymaking and shifting environmental decision making onto firmer analytic foundations.

The Index provides "peer group" rankings for each country showing how its performance stacks up against others facing similar environmental challenges. These benchmarks allow easy tracking of leaders and laggards on an issue-by-issue and aggregate basis. The data also supports effort to identify "best practices" in the environmental realm.

The lowest-ranked countries—Ethiopia, Mali, Mauritania, Chad and Niger—are underdeveloped nations with little capacity to invest in environmental infrastructure (such as drinking water and sanitation systems) and weak regulatory systems.

The 2006 EPI generates a number of policy conclusions. A country's wealth emerges as a significant determinant of environmental outcomes. But at every level of development, some countries achieve environmental results that far exceed their peers, demonstrating that policy choices also affect performance. For example, the Dominican Republic (54) significantly outperforms Haiti (114) even though the countries share an island. Likewise, Sweden (2) produces much better environmental results than Belgium (39).

The Environmental Performance Index reveals that effective policymaking is critical to successful pollution control and sound natural resource management. "Policy choices matter," said Daniel C. Esty, Director of the Yale Center for Environmental Law and Policy and Hillhouse Professor of Environmental Law and Policy. "Good governance emerges as a

critical driver of environmental performance."

The Index reveals that nations at all levels of economic development face serious environmental challenges. Industrialized countries often suffer from pollution and degraded ecosystems. Developing countries must confront the additional challenge of managing environmental health stresses such as water-borne diseases and indoor air pollution.

The United States placed 28<sup>th</sup> in the rankings—significantly below other highly-developed nations like the United Kingdom (5) and Canada (8). This score reflects top-tier performance on environmental health issues, but also indicates that the United States is under-performing on critical issues such as renewable energy, greenhouse gas emissions, and water resources.

"The lagging performance of the United States on environmental issues – particularly on energy and climate change – signals trouble not only for the American people, but for the whole world," said Gus Speth, Dean of the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies. "Perhaps this ranking will serve as a wake up call to the American public and particularly to leaders in Washington."

The Environmental Performance Index aims to promote data-driven and analytically rigorous environmental decision-making. Yet, serious data gaps limit the ability to measure performance on a number of important issues. Incomplete data excluded 60 countries from the 2006 EPI.

"A more empirically grounded, fact-based approach to environmental policymaking will require investments in data collection on a global level," observed Esty.

"In spite of data gaps, methodological limitations, and serious scientific uncertainties, the Environmental Performance Index demonstrates that environmental policy results can be tracked with the same outcome-oriented and performance-based rigor that applies to poverty reduction, education, and health promotion,"

noted Marc Levy, Associate Director for Science Applications at the Columbia Center for International Earth Science Information Network.

"The ability to evaluate policy results is critical in the context of initiatives under the United Nations Millennium Development Goals to expand investments in environmental sustainability."

The full text of the 2006 EPI and a 6-page Summary for Policymakers is available at <http://www.yale.edu/eipi>.

# LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN RIM FOCUSES ON RENEWABLES

By Esther Neuhaus

Executive Director, Fórum Brasileiro de ONGs e Movimentos Sociais para o Meio Ambiente e o Desenvolvimento (Brazilian Network of NGOs and Social Movements for the Environment and the Development).

<http://www.fboms.org.br>



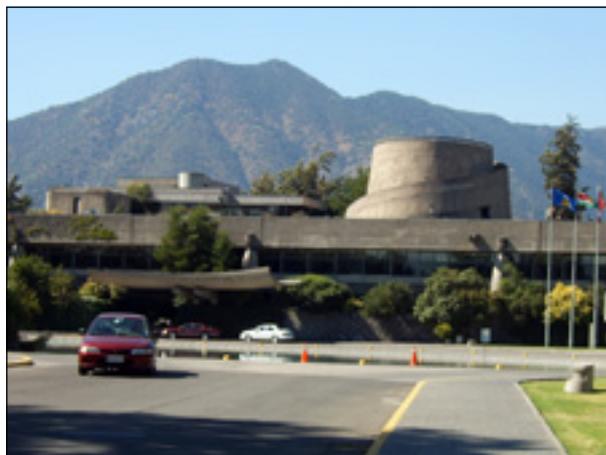
## Latin American and Caribbean Regional Implementation Meeting of the Commission on Sustainable Development Focuses Largely on Renewables, Including Biofuels and Carbon Markets for Sustainable Development

The Regional Implementation Meeting (RIM) of the UN Commission on Sustainable Development was held on 19 - 20 January in Santiago, Chile, hosted by the UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC). The meeting was attended by 18 countries, including the United States of America (a Commission member) and Austria (who holds the Presidency of the European Commission). UN agency representatives included UNDP, UNIDO, PAHO (Pan American Health Organization) and the Regional Director of UNEP. No International Finance Institution other than the World Bank was in attendance. Major Group representatives were from Women's Environment and Development Organization (WEDO), two academic institutions and the Brazilian Forum of NGOs and Social Movements for the Environment and the Development (FBOMS). Stakeholders were able to participate fully in the meeting, though no space was provided for multi-stakeholder dialogue.

During the two days of the meeting, thematic cluster discussions focused largely on energy, emphasizing the promotion of renewable energy sources as an important development opportunity for the region. The Brazilian biofuel experience was clearly identified as a champion because of the significant potential for transferring this successful technology to other developing countries. Reference was made to the Latin American Renewable Energy Platform, which suggests a commitment to a 10% share of renewables in the region's energy mix. A presentation was delivered on outcomes of the COP11 on the UNFCCC and the MOP1 of the Kyoto Protocol, held in last December in Montreal, and possible regional opportunities thanks to the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) and carbon markets. Otherwise, reference to commitments on energy or other related processes were limited. Some importance was given to sub-regional integration mechanisms, such as the Caribbean and the Mercosur integration processes, mainly in the context of connecting energy infrastructures. The Petroamerica integration projects and the Energetic

Cooperation Agreement of Caracas were mentioned as interesting initiatives to promote South-South cooperation.

Discussions at the end of the RIM revealed differing opinions among delegates about how to approach the outcome report of the meeting, which will be submitted to the CSD Secretariat. Opinions were divided over whether the outcome document should be technical or political in nature. It was resolved that the chair would produce a "Chair's Summary". Some delegates after the meeting expressed the need to establish guidelines for the RIM reports to ensure consistency across regions.



ECLAC RIM venue in Santiago de Chile, Chile

At the RIM, Stakeholder Forum hosted a side-event together with regional partner FBOMS. The side-event was designed to present the outcomes of the Stakeholder Forum's workshop "CSD Preparing for the Future," held in New York in September 2005, and to offer an opportunity for Governments and stakeholders to share experiences and viewpoints on the CSD's new multi-year programme of work. The event was attended by delegates from the Caribbean countries, Brazil, Venezuela and the United States, and was chaired by a representative of the government of Brazil.

During the side-event, delegates discussed the need to strengthen the CSD so that it may effectively monitor the timely implementation of the JPOI and other sustainable development commitments. One delegate from a donor country stressed the need for complementary work outside the CSD meetings to identify champions and create linkages with other processes. He used the Brazilian ethanol experience as a successful story able to inspire other governments in the region to take similar concrete actions. He then added that the early identification of champions was critical to the releasing of funding from donors. This provided one concrete solution to concerns raised by another delegate

about insufficient finances to ensure implementation of agreed decisions and responses to identified obstacles. The importance and opportunity of developing South-South cooperation in the field of knowledge, investment and technology transfer was stressed. It was felt that the private sector must be actively engaged in such processes.



Discussions were also held over strengthening inputs into the CSD process. The importance of inputs from Major Groups was emphasized and it was suggested that tradition of consultation between the Chair and Major Groups should be continued during CSD-14. Although the timeframe for the RIM was considered sufficient to feed regional experiences into the global CSD process, concerns were raised about the necessity for additional intergovernmental discussion and the need to exchange spaces during the preparatory process. One delegate stressed the difficulty of setting regional priorities, noting that this should be a task of the RIMs. To fulfil this mission, sub-regional processes had to be better considered. The meeting recognised the difficulties inherent in preparing national inputs since in many countries there is no single government department dealing with all the subjects. The Brasilia Energy Conference in 2003 and the regional conference for Bonn Renewables 2004, were used as prime examples of the positive collaboration of energy and environmental ministers and ministries. With reference to funding mechanisms, one delegate explained that resources were too limited in many developing countries to allow an adequate national reporting process. It was agreed that the date set for national reporting to be completed, June 1<sup>st</sup>, was impossible and that a revised date in September would be more acceptable for future cycles.

Outcomes from the side event and observations of the RIM will be incorporated into the full report given by Stakeholder Forum to the CSD Bureau, Governments, UN Agencies and stakeholders by the end of February and made available on the web site [www.stakeholderforum.org](http://www.stakeholderforum.org).

## SF BOOKS

### HUMAN AND ENVIRONMENTAL SECURITY - AN AGENDA FOR CHANGE



This book is edited by **Felix Dodds of Stakeholder Forum** and **Tim Pippard of Jane's Information Group** and came out for the MDG Summit as a contribution from Stakeholder Forum to the debate around the report to the Secretary General – Challenges, Threats and Change.

The contributors to the book are:

*Foreword* - **Celso Amorim** Foreign Minister Brazil

*Introduction* - **Klaus Toepfer** Executive Director UNEP

*Section 1 Peace and Security*

1. Peace and Conflict: New Threats and Challenges - **Lord David Hannay**: Member of the Secretary General's Panel on Challenges, Threats and Change; 2. Human Security and the War on Terror - **Oliver Richmond**; 3. Achieving Nuclear Non-Proliferation - **Marian Hobbs** Minister for Disarmament and Arms Control New Zealand; 4. Peace building Commission - **Anders Liden**; 5. Gender and Human Security - **Norleen Heyzer**: Director of UNIFEM.

*Section 2 Sustainable Human Development*

6. Human Security for the Poor - **Jan Pronk**: Former Minister of Environment and Development in the Government of the Netherlands; 7. Trade and Security in an Interconnected World - **Hilary Benn**: Secretary of State for Overseas Development UK; 8. Securing a Healthier World - **Dr Christine Durbak, Dr Claudia Strauss**; 9. Migration and Development - **Devyani Gupta**; 10. Protecting our Biodiversity - **Jeff McNeely**: IUCN Chief Scientist; 11. Food Security - **Henrique Cavalcanti**: former Chair of the UNCSD (1995) and Brazilian Minister of the Environment; 12. Water for All - **Patricia Wouters**; 13. Climate Change: Impacts and Security - **Melinda Kimble**: Vice President UN Foundation; 14. Human Security for Human Settlements - **Anna Tibaijuka**: Executive Director UN Habitat.

*Section 3 Global Governance*

15. Changing role of the State and the emergence of Regional Governance - **Sabin Mendibil Intxaurreaga**: former Minister of Environment Government of the Basque Country; 16. Human and Environmental Rights: A need for Corporate Accountability - **Hannah Griffiths**: Friends of the Earth; 17. Democracy in Trouble - **Felix Dodds**: Stakeholder Forum; 18. Reforming Environmental Governance - **Serge Lepeltier**: French Minister of the Environment; 19. America as Empire - **Jim Garrison**: President of State of the World Forum.

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## ASIA AND THE PACIFIC MEET IN BANGKOK FOR ITS REGIONAL IMPLEMENTATION MEETING

*By Nyoman Iswarayoga,  
Program Manager of Yayasan Pelangi  
Indonesia.*



Following the Africa, West Asia and Europe Regional Implementation Meetings (RIM), the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) organized and hosted the Regional Implementation Meeting for Asia and the Pacific in Bangkok on 19 – 20 January 2006. Thirty members and associate members of ESCAP were represented during the two-day meeting. They were joined by six UN bodies and more than twenty Major Group representatives and intergovernmental organizations.

Participants gathered to review the implementation of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation (JPOI) and prepare inputs from the region for the upcoming CSD cycle. It is recognized that the upcoming session of the current CSD cycle, which is focusing on energy for sustainable development, industrial development, atmosphere/air pollution and climate change, should clearly identify the major constraints, challenges and opportunities faced in implementation. In advance of the meeting, ESCAP prepared a review paper as an overview of progress in the implementation of JPOI, with a focus on challenges, opportunities, and best practices.

To encourage intensive discussion on each theme, participants were organised into parallel sessions grouped by sub-regions: (i) Central and North East Asia, (ii) Small Island States and (iii) South-East and South Asia. The Major Group representatives also met separately to recall their engagement in supporting the implementation of JPOI and the CSD cycle.

As an introduction to the sub-regional sessions, a panel discussion was held with five speakers representing ESCAP state members, Major Groups and the private sector. They identified emerging issues in the implementation of Agenda 21 and JPOI. All panellists encouraged countries in the region to intensify partnerships as a vehicle for driving forward progress in implementing JPOI. Partnerships must focus on real action and be able to attract and engage all stakeholders working in sustainable development. It is essential for any partnership to involve government, UN bodies and forums, Major Groups, and the private sector to be able to integrate and establish a good linkage between issues in different sectors- a function that has been

acknowledged as lacking in previous years. It was also noted that growth in partnerships within the region is required to provide a forum for experience exchange.

Energy was highlighted as a potential tool to solve common problems experienced by countries in the region, including threatened eco-systems and poverty. Increasing energy accessibility and ending dependency on fossil fuels are major challenges that must be overcome to support development towards 'Green Growth'. Despite high initial investment costs, all sub-regions emphasized the need to promote renewable energy sources through increasing access to financing mechanisms and technologies available, together with the calculation of long-term costs and benefits which fundamentally would show the competitiveness of sustainable development pattern.

There was not much depth of discussion in the meeting when addressing the other three themes of the upcoming CSD cycle, except to recall that while industrial growth and the provision of energy are key for social and economic development, they are also main contributors to the challenges in air quality and climate. Participants stressed that developing solutions to challenges faced in the energy sector would bring together the betterment of air quality and the slowing of climate change without inhibiting economic growth.

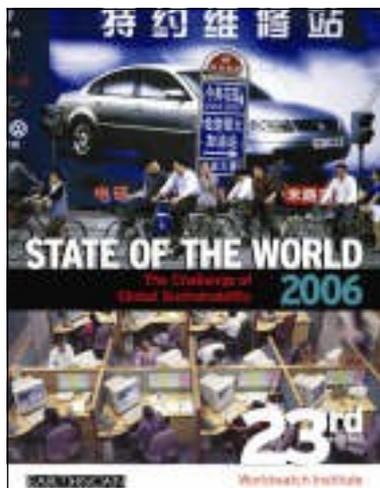
All the main issues discussed and presented by the participants are reflected in the 'Message from Asia and the Pacific to the Fourteenth Session of the Commission on Sustainable Development' document, which was adopted at the conclusion of the meeting. This message will be forwarded to CSD at its 14<sup>th</sup> session in New York next May as an official statement from the region.

Along with the main meeting, two side-events were organized during the evening of the first day and the morning of the second. Stakeholder Forum and Yayasan Pelangi Indonesia invited government delegates, Major Group representatives, and others to question priorities and options to strengthen the CSD process and how regional initiatives and/or cooperation should be supported. This side-event is part of a series of Stakeholder Forum workshops being held at RIMs to discuss with stakeholders from different regions how the CSD processes could be made more effective.

The second side-event was 'Gender and Energy input to Asia and the Pacific RIM' arranged by ENERGIA. The experience and case of relating gender and energy issues in the Pacific was presented as lessons learned for the region.

# CHINA AND INDIA HOLD WORLD IN BALANCE...

Edited by Worldwatch Institute



**“The environmentalist’s bible” – *Times Higher Education Supplement***

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**Special feature on the global impact of China and India**

## China and India hold world in balance...

The dramatic rise of China and India presents one of the gravest threats—and greatest opportunities—facing the world today, says the Worldwatch Institute in its State of the World 2006 report. The choices these countries make in the next few years will lead the world either towards a future beset by growing ecological and political instability—or down a development path based on efficient technologies and better stewardship of resources.

“Rising demand for energy, food, and raw materials by 2.5 billion Chinese and Indians is already having ripple effects worldwide,”

says Worldwatch President Christopher Flavin.

“Meanwhile, record-shattering consumption levels in the U.S. and Europe leave little room for this projected Asian growth.”

The resulting global resource squeeze is already evident in riots over rising oil prices in Indonesia, growing pressure on Brazil’s forests and fisheries, and the loss of manufacturing jobs in Central America. The United States still consumes three times as much grain per person as China and five times as much as India, notes the report. U.S. per-capita carbon dioxide emissions are six times the Chinese level and 20 times the Indian level. If China and India were to consume resources and produce pollution at the current U.S. per-capita level, it would require two planet Earths just to sustain their two economies.

“We were encouraged to find that a growing number of opinion leaders in China and India now recognize that the resource-intensive model for economic growth can’t work in the 21st century,” Flavin said. “Already,

China’s world-leading solar industry provides water heating for 35 million buildings, and India’s pioneering use of rainwater harvesting brings clean water to tens of thousands of homes. China and India are positioned to leapfrog today’s industrial powers and become world leaders in sustainable energy and agriculture within a decade.”

**CONTENTS:** China and India and the Challenge of Global Sustainability • Meat Production and Consumption • CSR • Nanotechnology • Environmental and NGO Movement in China • Freshwater and Ecosystem Services • Biofuels • Mercury • Trade • Security

**Web-Based Press Resources on State of the World 2006:** the following is available for press on the Worldwatch website at: [www.worldwatch.org/press/](http://www.worldwatch.org/press/)

- Spokespersons List – A listing of all State of the World authors and their areas of expertise
- Chapter Summaries – Key points and findings from each chapter in the book
- Notable Trends – A compilation of trends and facts related to the report.
- Live Discussion Series – Starting with an overview chat on Thursday, January 12, 2006, there is be one online discussion each month for every State of the World chapter.

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## MAKE POVERTY HISTORY?

By Virginia Hookham,  
recent graduate on the MA: Arts Policy &  
Management programme at Birkbeck  
College, London. Virginia is interested in  
the arts as a tool for social change.



Last year's large-scale event, Live 8, was probably the most ambitious and epic arts for social change event ever produced. On 2 July 2005, an estimated 1 million people attended concerts staged in ten countries across the world. Super-star artists such as U2, Madonna, Elton John and Sir Paul McCartney performed to an estimated television audience of 3 billion people. Four days later an additional concert was held in Edinburgh to coincide with the G8 summit in Gleneagles on July 6. This event was titled, *Edinburgh 50,000 - The Final Push*. According to British filmmaker Richard Curtis, the title is a reference to the number of people who die of poverty every day.

As part of a recent study titled, "To What Extent Can The Arts Change Society? With a Particular Emphasis on Whether Live 8 Achieved Its Objectives", I attended both the London and Edinburgh concerts, where a number of research focuses were used: key organisers were interviewed, one hundred people were surveyed to ascertain their perceptions, and an extensive newspaper and website literature review was conducted.

The research highlighted some missed opportunities and numerous flaws in the leadership, strategy and subsequent outcome of the event. For example, the 'golden circle' awarded to sponsors and celebrities below the main stage at the London's Hyde Park concert seemed to contradict the message of the event, which stood against the inequalities in the world. Celebrities were flown into Hyde Park by helicopter, treated to five star catering, given £3,000 worth of 'goodies' from sponsors, and were allowed to drink alcohol though there was an alcohol ban for the public in the general admission area. To add to the controversy, organisers added an additional concert at the Eden Project in Cornwall titled *Africa Calling*, featuring all African artists. This "corralling" of the African artists away from the main concerts has been described by some as reminiscent of apartheid (Encyclopaedia website Available at: [http://www.reference.com/browse/wiki/Live\\_8](http://www.reference.com/browse/wiki/Live_8)).

The *Make Poverty History* tag line was criticised as grossly simplistic. Although the concert featured video footage of poverty in Africa and artists demanded the G8 leaders to 'make poverty history', one of things I observed was that there was not one mention during the concerts about the underlying causes of poverty, such as the crippling effect of corruption that exists within Africa. Further, according to

press reports, the artists were given instruction by the event's leader, Sir Bob Geldof, not to criticise any world leaders. The result was a watered down message. With an audience estimated at 3 billion people, it was a missed 'once in a lifetime' opportunity to expand on 'sound bites' and to educate people about the causes of Africa's poverty.

Live 8's objectives to cancel debt, to double aid and to make trade fair were not achieved. Nonetheless, Geldof hailed the event a success, announcing that,

"a great justice has been done... on aid, 10 out of 10; on debt eight out of ten...Mission accomplished frankly."

Geldof's endorsement was at best, an exaggeration, and at worst, irresponsible. It suggests that we can 'all go home and stop worrying about Africa.' George Monbiot criticised Geldof along this line in his Guardian article 'And Still He Stays Silent' on September 6<sup>th</sup>. Further, it is not a view shared by charity organisations working day to day with a deep understanding of the underlying issues of Africa. The Green Party's principal speaker, Caroline Lucas MEP (and a former Stakeholder Forum Board member), suggested it was Geldof's

"political naivety that led him to fundamentally misrepresent the deal agreed."

From a broader perspective, the event was successful in generating renewed attention and global debate on the plight of Africa. By joining the cause, celebrity artists introduced the poverty of Africa to millions of people who might never have been exposed to the issue. The combination of Live Aid 25 years earlier and Live 8 may have started a 'ripple effect' of consciousness and poverty-relieving action around the world. It may well touch enough people in enough places around the world who have the capacity and desire to make real change to world poverty. When, How, and indeed If this happens cannot be predicted.

Artistic organisers of large-scale arts events are in a privileged position: there is no need to apply for public money. Corporate sponsorship allows worldwide television coverage, glossy programmes, impressive staging and security staff. Through the endorsement of the mass media and celebrities, social messages are able to reach a wide audience. Along with this high profile position, comes a great responsibility to the movement of arts and social change. Arts and events managers must carefully consider their objectives and how these objectives will be portrayed with long-term strategies in place to ensure that their events have a lasting effect for the society that supports them.

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# DIARY

6-8 Feb	<b>United Nations Symposium on Natural Gas and Sustainable Development</b> Venue: Qatar. Organized by: UN DESA. <a href="http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/sdissues/energy/op/programme_Qatar_UN.pdf">http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/sdissues/energy/op/programme_Qatar_UN.pdf</a>
7-9 Feb	<b>9th Special Session of the UNEP Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum (9th SS.GC/GMEF)</b> . Venue: Dubai, United Arab Emirates. Organized by: UNEP. <a href="http://www.unep.org">http://www.unep.org</a>
8-11 Feb	<b>International Conference on Renewable Energy for Sustainable Development</b> . Venue: Hyderabad, India. Organized by: Solar Energy Society of India. <a href="http://www.icore2006hyd.com/">http://www.icore2006hyd.com/</a>
13-24 Feb	<b>Sixth UN Forum on Forests (UNFF-6)</b> . Venue: New York, USA. <a href="http://www.un.org/esa/forests">http://www.un.org/esa/forests</a>
20-21 Feb	<b>Second Australia-New Zealand Climate Change and Business Conference</b> . Venue: Adelaide, Australia. <a href="http://www.climateandbusiness.com">http://www.climateandbusiness.com</a> .
23-24 Feb	<b>Financing Energy for Sustainable Development</b> . Venue: New York Organized by: UN DESA
27 Feb - 2 March	<b>2006 European Wind Energy Conference and Exhibition</b> . Venue: Athens, Greece. Organized by: European Wind Energy Association <a href="http://www.ewec.info/">http://www.ewec.info/</a>
27 Feb-10 March	<b>50<sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission on the Status of Women</b> . Venue: UN headquarters, New York. Organized by: UN Division for the Advancement of Women. <a href="http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/csw/50sess.htm">http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/csw/50sess.htm</a>
5-6 March	<b>Gas Arabia-An International Conference for the Middle East Gas Sector</b> . Venue: Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates. Organized by: The Energy Exchange Ltd. <a href="http://www.theenergyexchange.co.uk/energy205overview.html">http://www.theenergyexchange.co.uk/energy205overview.html</a>
6 March	<b>4th UK Energy and Climate Change Roundtable</b> . Venue: TBC London, UK. Organized by Stakeholder Forum.
13-31 March	<b>CBD COP-8 and Biosafety COP/MOP-3</b> . Venue: Curitiba, Brazil. <a href="http://www.biodiv.org/meetings/default.aspx">http://www.biodiv.org/meetings/default.aspx</a>
16-22 March	<b>4<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum: Local Actions for a Global Challenge</b> . Venue: Mexico City, Mexico. <a href="http://www.worldwaterforum4.org.mx">http://www.worldwaterforum4.org.mx</a>
29-31 March	<b>GLOBE 2006</b> . Venue: Vancouver, BC, Canada. Organized by the GLOBE Foundation. <a href="http://www.globe2006.com">http://www.globe2006.com</a>
1-12th May	<b>Commission on Sustainable Development Fourteenth Session</b> Venue: New York. Organized by: UN DESA. <a href="http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/csd/review.htm">http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/csd/review.htm</a>

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**PUBLISHED BY Stakeholder Forum for a Sustainable Future.**

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February 2006

12