

NETWORK 2015

BACK TO BUSINESS

DEC 2003

12th UN Commission on Sustainable Development Regional Preparations

The first substantive meeting of the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) took place during its eleventh session in April 2003. The meeting was charged with the task of discussing and making decisions on the organisational reform and future work programme of the Commission, as requested in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation. The new modalities of work decided upon are both innovative and focused, injecting new energy and political will into a previously floundering CSD process.

The 12th Session of the Commission running from May 2003 – 2004 initiated the first 'Implementation Cycle'. The Review Session will commence on April 14, 2004. The 'thematic cluster of issues' being addressed during the 2003 – 2005 cycle are; water, sanitation and human settlement. To address these in a holistic manner, a set of cross-cutting issues were agreed upon by which to review implementation in these three areas. The purpose of the review year is to identify challenges, constraints and opportunities to the implementation of sustainable development. The outcomes of the review will inform the development of policies to expedite implementation at CSD-13 in 2005.

The new work programme of the Commission is based on a bottom-up approach, allowing stakeholders at all levels to contribute, where relevant, to the review and implementation of sustainable development agreements. To facilitate this process stakeholder were invited to submit reports to the Secretariat by 31 October 2003. In addition to this countries have been invited to report on a voluntary basis on their implementation experiences. This process concluded on 30 November 2003. The reporting processes will inform the development of reports by the Secretary General it is understood that these will take the form of; Water, Sanitation, Human Settlement, and Overall Implementation. To further progress the review process, Regional Implementation

meetings are being convened within each of the UN Regions; ECA (1 – 13 December 2003); ECE (14 – 15 December, 2003); ECLAC (5-7, 17-18, 20-25 November, 2003); ESCAP (27 – 28 October, 2003); ESCWA (19 – 21 October). The purpose of these meetings is to

review progress in implementing sustainable development agreements within the region, identifying regional specific challenges, constraints and opportunities.

Central & Western Asia

The meeting was opened by a series of presentation to establish its purpose and intended outcomes. The impact of current regional security concerns were not overlooked with Fatma El Din El Mallah noting the negative impacts of conflicts in the region on achieving safety, security and sustainable development.



Meeting Time Again

The Chairman of CSD 12, Norway's Amb. Bjørn Ostern, highlighted the upcoming Sessions three priority issues, stressing the need for urgent progress in these areas. The Ambassador expressed the hope that the meeting would help mobilise the necessary political support to meet the WSSD targets related to poverty reduction.

Reports

The session proper was led by the presentation of three reports, one for each of the respective priority issues under consideration.

The first of these reports, presented by Nabil Rofail of the Desert Research Centre of Egypt, addressed the issue of water. Focusing on technical barriers and constraints to implementation, Rofail highlighted poor governance and weak institutional frameworks as well as a general lack of strategic planning within the sector.

These concerns were expressed as both domestic constraints as well as transboundary. Such conclusions will direct multi-lateral conversations to both problems within the region but more importantly calls for greater financing, technical and capacity support from donor countries, and are a likely indicator of things to come as the process moves global next year.

The second report on Sanitation, tabled by Ahmed Hamza of Alexandria University, drew immediate attention to the dire sanitation situation in the Arab region. Interestingly for future discussion on partnerships, Hamza's report recognised the need to increase civil society participation, particularly the role of women, to improving the state of sanitation conditions and services as well as highlighting the benefits of the private sector.

The report also cited a general lack of public awareness, exacerbated by increased urbanisation in the region, as contributory factors for the poor status - a reference echoed later in the meetings proceedings by those calling for greater links to environmental education generally.



The final report given by Tarek Wafik, Cairo University, on Human Settlements, mirrored many of the issues highlighted by his peers report.

Following a series of interventions by governments in response to the reports, a number of decisions were met to take the process forward. These included:

- Timelines for revising the reports on Water, Sanitation and Human Settlements to incorporate the comments made by member countries.
- Convene workshops on integrated water resource management, desertification, land degradation and integrated coastal areas and marine resource management.

A 2004-2005 environmental work programme, including the following programmes:

- to combat desertification, including through the establishment of an Arab bank for genetic plant species and organizing awareness raising seminars;
- environment and industry to address clean production methods;
- environmental education;
- capacity building for environmental legislation and enforcement
- Capacity building for environmental impact assessment.
- Organizing roundtable discussions on the possibility of establishing an Arab fund to finance environmental projects.

Asia & the Pacific

Similarly to the West Asian meeting, the gathering of governments from Asia & the Pacific was convened with the stated purpose of identifying achievements, constraints and opportunities in implementing agreements relating to water, sanitation and human settlements.

The Dep. Executive Secretary of the region's Economic Commission, Keiko Okaido, outlined the seriousness of the situation citing the \$8-13bn annual bill to finance improvements in water and sanitation.

In considering the specifics on water in the region the major challenges to implementation included rapid population growth and urban migration, with predictions that many countries in the region are unlikely to achieve water supply and sanitation targets set. Taking a sub-regional approach, reports from Central Asia called for building capacity of governments and civil

society, and creation of effective partnerships.

The links between CSD 12's agenda on Water and that of Small Island Developing States was made in the presentation given by Pacific island states who noted the special challenges faced in managing water resources due to their small size, natural vulnerability and limited human and financial resources.

Similarly to the recommendations coming from the West Asian region, it seems likely that global debate will focus on how aid to developing countries can best be used. While there was some discussion on how to mobilize increasing levels of investment from public-private partnerships, there was an equal level of skepticism about partnerships replacing government commitments.

A weak discussion on partnerships highlighted the relationship between such commitments and an increasing role for stakeholders, particularly the private sector, still seem at odds. The danger signs for next years global setting are that old entrenched positions between the north and south will return, with little space for innovating ways and means due to cultural (read 'ideological') differences on both sides.

Back at the meeting there were glimmers of hope as governments recognised the role of water pricing and quota systems of water use, for residential, industrial and agricultural sectors.

Some interesting joined up thinking was tabled by Japan, who called for the need to achieve the JPOI targets of developing Integrated Water Resource Management strategies and water efficiency plans by 2005 in order to attain the water-related Millennium Development Goals by 2015. Whether or not the respective inter-governmental institutional mechanisms have in place, or are able to mobilize the necessary modalities to support such an approach is uncertain.

Consideration of Human Settlements once more emphasized the lack of planning in the region, lack of legislation and weak institutional mechanisms.

The meeting concluded with a chairman's report on each of the three issues, reflecting achievements, constraints and the way forward for the region. A cumulated report for the region will be made available at CSD 12.

The first cycle of the new work programme will be critical in determining whether or not the new modalities can function in a coherent manner, enabling implementation to be reviewed effectively. Despite initial, and to a large extent, continued optimism, significant concerns have already been expressed over two main issues; how to deal with the cross-cutting issues without the reporting processes becoming un-wieldy; and the effectiveness of national reporting. The success of the reformed CSD will only become clear after the full cycle has been played out.

Toby Middleton & Georgina Ayre, Stakeholder Forum

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Building Partnerships for Sustainable Development

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SUSTAINABLE NEWS

Milan Conference to Promote Stronger National Action on Climate Change

The 188 Parties to the United Nations Climate Change Convention are meeting in Milan from 1 to 12 December to assess progress in addressing climate change and to set the global agenda for the coming year.

"The fact that 2003 is on track to be one of the warmest years on record should be a warning that we must all take seriously. We can see growing evidence that many governments have been inspired by the Climate Change Convention and its Kyoto Protocol to strengthen action at the national level, but more needs to be done to stop the increase in greenhouse gas concentrations," said Joke Waller-Hunter, the Convention's Executive Secretary. "It is therefore encouraging that more and more technologies that can reduce emissions at low cost are becoming available on the market."

The Milan conference will evaluate the efforts that governments have been making to tackle the climate change challenge. The "national communications" that they submit on a regular basis reveal that the combined emissions of Europe, Japan, the US and other highly industrialized countries could grow by 8% from 2000 to 2010 (or to about 17% over 1990 levels) despite domestic measures currently in place to limit them.

At the same time, it is clear that governments are adopting more comprehensive and ambitious policies and measures for cutting emissions than they did just several years ago. Although the 1997 Kyoto Protocol has not yet entered into force, many governments cite its influence on their efforts to reinforce domestic climate change policies. The Protocol has been ratified by 119 Parties, but its entry into force depends on the ratification by the Russian Federation.

The conference will see major achievements on the Protocol's Clean Development Mechanism. Thanks to two years of intensive work, the CDM is now operational and the first projects will be registered early next year. The CDM promotes sustainable development in developing countries by channelling private-sector investment into emission reduction projects, while offering industrialized countries credits against their Kyoto Protocol targets

Forest related issues will require significant attention by delegates. They will explore how to expand

CDM activities to afforestation and reforestation projects that remove CO₂ from the atmosphere. Decisions are also expected on new methods for reporting national emissions from the forest sector. While minimizing emissions and thus future climate change is essential, governments must also be ready to respond to the impacts that humanity's past emissions now make inevitable. The meeting will therefore explore what needs to be done to help countries cope with the impacts of climate change.

In addition to the formal intergovernmental talks, a wide spectrum of initiatives and institutions will tackle a wider range of issues during numerous side events. Their presence in Milan confirms the central role that the Convention plays in the broader global debate on climate change. During the two weeks, over 100 workshops and debates will provide opportunities for policymakers, industry, civil society, journalists and other

stakeholders to discuss issues, exchange ideas, build partnerships and explore innovative new approaches to the challenges of climate change. Topics will range from renewable energy and corporate activities to scenarios for the next decade and beyond to institutional support to developing countries.

Dozens of exhibits will mirror this avalanche of interest and will include a strong focus on science and technology, research studies and materials promoting public awareness.

Contact: www.unfccc.int

Business Offers Plan for Reviving Doha Trade Round

The world's leading business organization today appealed to governments to restore momentum to the Doha trade round without delay.

Deciding how to negotiate improved market access for developing country agricultural products and reduce trade-distorting farm subsidies headed ICC's list of "vital steps" for success.

ICC said that governments should use the draft ministerial text tabled in September at the failed WTO conference in Cancun as a basis for reviving the trade negotiations.

In a paper handed to WTO member governments by ICC national committees around the world, ICC's Commission on Trade and Investment Policy set out its proposals for work during the lead-up to a key meeting of the General Council of the World Trade Organization on 15 December.

ICC said agreeing modalities for negotiations on improved market access for industrial products should be among the priorities. It called for greater attention to non-tariff barriers.

A third priority was to find a way to move forward the so-called Singapore issues - competition, investment, trade facilitation and transparency in government procurement - "on their own merit and at their own pace".

"ICC attaches strong importance to the inclusion of trade facilitation in the negotiations at the earliest possible date," the ICC said.

The international business group also urged WTO member governments to find a way to incorporate negotiations on transparency in government procurement in the Doha Agenda.

The WTO governments should abandon rhetoric and entrenched positions and "promptly return to the negotiating table in Geneva with constructive and practical proposals," ICC said.

International Chamber of Commerce

OCEANS COASTS & ISLANDS

Delivering Johannesburg's 'Blue Water' Agenda

Paris played host to the first global gathering on Oceans, Coasts and Islands since the Johannesburg World Summit on Sustainable Development. Taking place from 12-14 November, the conference provided a platform for a broad range of practitioners to discuss inter-linkages and integration of efforts to deliver international agreement on 'blue water' issues made in Johannesburg. The Global Forum on Oceans, Coasts and Islands serves as a platform for cross-sectoral information sharing and dialogue on issues affecting oceans, coasts and islands, with the common goal of achieving sustainable development of these regions.

The forum is composed of 'ocean advocates' from all sectors, including NGOs, governmental, intergovernmental and international organisations. The forum grew out of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) in response to alarming trends regarding depletion of ocean resources (in fisheries, marine mammals, coral reefs, and other resources), and in the socio-economic condition of coastal communities, especially in the coastal mega-cities of the developing world, where poverty remains largely unabated and adverse public health conditions predominate.

Key goals of the forum included:

- Implementation of the WSSD *Plan of Implementation* (JPoI), Agenda 21 and other related agreements;
- Increasing the number of voluntary partnership initiatives between all stakeholders to put sustainable development practices into action;
- Raise the profile of oceans, coasts and islands in all relevant global, regional and sub regional fora;
- Mobilise public awareness and promote information sharing and dissemination on these issues.

The WSSD targets and timetables for achieving sustainable development of oceans, coasts, and islands are not "self-implementing." Instead, governments around the world will need much assistance and support from all parts of the oceans, coasts, and islands community to focus resources and know-how in actual implementation of these commitments, to insure that "on-the-ground" improvements in the health and condition of marine ecosystems and in the well-being of coastal communities are actually achieved. *Mobilizing for Implementation of the Commitments Made at the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development*, to be held at UNESCO in Paris on November 12-14, 2003, aims to catalyse useful strategies for achieving implementation of the global oceans agenda.

This conference:

- reviewed WSSD implementation;
- develop strategies bringing together all sectors in mobilizing resources and know-how to implement the WSSD commitments and remaining commitments from Agenda 21;
- focus on the special issues of the 43 Small Island Developing States (SIDS) which control a large part of the world's oceans, particularly in relation to the review of progress achieved since the 1994 Barbados Programme of Action for the

Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States;

- discussed emerging ocean, coasts, and islands issues for which international consensus is still to be reached, such as protection of biological diversity on the high seas;
- developed strategies for mobilizing private sector involvement and increased public awareness on oceans, coasts, and islands, to insure continued support for the global oceans agenda;

UNEP's Executive Director, Dr. Klaus Töpfer, illustrated the meetings importance by recognising that 'oceans, coasts and islands were adequately represented at Johannesburg, and through various WSSD partnership initiatives.' He continued 'oceans issues should be linked with the Millennium Development Goals, particularly the fight against poverty.' Töpfer concluded by urging delegates to 'work towards a common implementing programme' in meeting these agreements.

Reference was made throughout the event to the wealth of initiatives and processes either established or planned that contribute to implementation. These included:

- Adoption of eco-system based approaches to oceans and coasts by 2010;
- Development of a Large Marine Ecosystems network;
- The designation of a network of Marine Protected Areas by 2012;
- The Restoration of fisheries by 2015;
- UNEP's Regional Seas Programme as a platform for the coordinated implementation of Multi-Lateral Environment Agreements.

Preparations for the 10 year review of the Barbados Programme of Action on Small Island Developing States (SIDS), due to take place in Mauritius in September 2004, formed a significant part of the agenda. The variety of issues and perspectives specific to SIDS were dealt with in detail, including eco-tourism, economic and environmental vulnerability, community initiatives and traditional knowledge.

Targets from the WSSD are focused on integrated ocean and coastal management, fisheries, conservation of biodiversity, protection from marine pollution, science and observation and SIDS. These targets are imperative to all management of oceans, coasts and islands and this will be reflected in this conference. The conference provides a platform from which other initiatives and events related to the GPA are constructed.

For further details concerning the Global Forum on Oceans, Coasts and Islands and the upcoming conference, please subscribe to the free GPA-Outreach newsletter at

<http://www.stakeholderforum.org/cb/projects/gpa.php>, where you can also see past copies of the newsletter.

STAKEHOLDER INITIATIVES

Pulp Fiction: The “reel” story

In 1996, the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) published a report as part of its forestry project calling upon the sector to connect with sustainable development. Eight years on, we asked the report’s authors to assess whether the industry had risen to the challenge.

Entitled *Toward a Sustainable Paper Cycle*, the report was compiled over a two-year period by the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED), a leading UK research institute. It offered the pulp and paper industry, governments and NGOs a roadmap to promoting sustainability.

So, how did the sector do? The WBCSD asked the authors to conduct an independent evaluation by interviewing stakeholders drawn from business, government and civil society.

Responding to civil society

That the sector had begun to internalize sustainable development has led to a corresponding drop of some environmental concerns that dominated debate when the original report was written. Most notably, concerns about chlorine bleaching, which was a much criticized aspect of the industry in the early 1990s, has subsided following the deployment of improved water treatment processes.

In addition, the use of bio fuels and energy efficiency has increased, alongside a boost in recycling as a result of government policies to promote consumer awareness and demand for recycled products.

However, on other key issues facing the forestry sector, less progress has been made. The unresolved issue of forest certification and the eco-labeling of forestry products for consumers are a case in point.

Poor framework conditions

Governments appear to have done little to address unsubstantiated claims of manufacturers through eco-labeling, while forest certification has been driven by stakeholder groups promoting specific schemes.

Confusion surrounding forest certification and eco-labeling may contribute to the IIED’s finding that paper and paper products still have a poor consumer image in industrialized countries as a product that is used excessively and has undesirable impacts across its lifecycle.

Consumers not engaged

While the forestry industry is making commendable efforts to increase its raw material efficiency, the IIED says the sector has been less proactive in responding to consumer concerns about waste.

As such, many consumers living in OECD countries still believe that paper products should be reduced despite the advances in eco-efficiency and recycling.

Responding to this charge, James Griffiths, director of the Sustainable Forest Products Industry project at the WBCSD, says: “While individual forestry companies are operating in a

more sustainable manner, the industry has not communicated this progress effectively. This passes up a competitive edge afforded by a solid commitment to both sustainable development and the production of forest products and energy on a renewable basis.”

This was anticipated in the *Paper Cycle* report, which recommended improved industry coordination to reform the public perception of the sector. But while no industry-wide forum on sustainable development has since been formed, the industry has been successful in recognizing the growing importance of related stakeholders and the need for partnerships on the ground.

Platform building

Perhaps the most positive step taken to improve dialogue with the industry came with the setting up of the The Forests Dialogue (TFD) in 1999 – the first multi-stakeholder platform dedicated to solving the sector’s most pressing issues.

Set up in cooperation with the World Resources Institute (WRI), the World Wildlife Fund (WWF), and the World Bank, the WBCSD partnered with the IIED to build a platform to progress core issues. In addition, leaders of some of the largest forestry companies formed the Global Forest Industry CEO Forum, further expanding the platform for discussion and action.

The looming impact of CSR

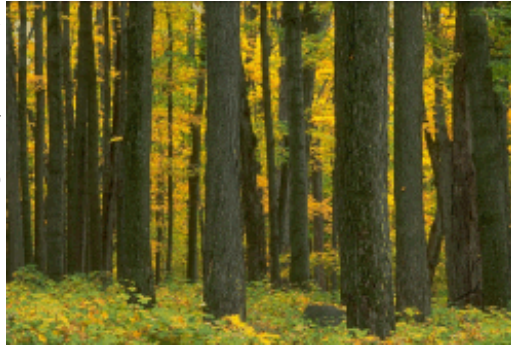
In the terms of new challenges to the forest industry, the IIED points to the growing importance of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR). Ten years ago, the report concentrated its core recommendations around environmental issues. But with some of these environmental problems on the way to resolution, the IIED concluded that attention should shift to the social impacts and development potential of the industry.

Indeed, CSR will play a greater role across all sectors as a simple consequence of industry’s global shift toward production, processing and expanding markets in developing countries. The potential for the forestry sector to boost economic development is therefore self-evident. And as other sectors have already discovered, the next step for the forestry industry will be effectively partnering with local stakeholders and communities.

In all, the IIED’s evaluation of the *Paper Cycle* report shows an industry that is learning to listen and recognize that sustainable development and CSR will be permanent features of doing business in the future.

But as the IIED makes clear, the forestry sector is yet to convert self-knowledge and individual progress into a cross industry platform that can engage consumers and reflect the global implications of sustainable development.

For a full copy of the IIED progress report, visit the www.wbcsd.org in December.



IUCN Launches First-Ever Academy of Environmental Law

The World Conservation Union today presents the first-ever Academy of Environmental Law, a global network and forum for universities to achieve higher standards in environmental legal education and research worldwide.

The IUCN Academy, which will bring together leading academic institutions in all fields of environmental law, will convene annual colloquia in different parts of the world; promote research on cutting-edge environmental issues;

and facilitate cooperation among participating universities. To date, 45 universities from 45 countries have supported the initiative.

“*Agenda 21* recommended strengthening the law on environment and development, and called on universities in particular to cooperate in building capacity in the realm of environmental law... It is therefore most welcome that the IUCN is establishing a new global network of university law departments dedicated to progress in this area,” said United Nations Secretary General, Kofi Annan in a Message to the Inauguration of the IUCN Academy.

“IUCN is privileged to convene the world’s foremost academics in environmental law under this new endeavour, which implements recommendations made in *Agenda 21* and strengthens one of the pillars of sustainable development,” said Professor Nicholas A. Robinson, Chairman of the IUCN Commission on Environmental Law.

The inaugural Colloquium is being hosted from 4-6 November by China’s Shanghai Jiao Tong University on the topic of “The Law of Energy for Sustainable Development”.

“Energy is rarely a topic of conservation gatherings, yet so much in the world of conservation depends on the developments in the field of energy,” said IUCN Director General Achim Steiner in a video address to the Colloquium delegates.

“What better place to launch the IUCN Academy and its first Colloquium on sustainable energy law than in China, where decisions made today will affect the future of the fastest-growing continent and indeed the whole world,” he added. Close to 100 international experts are attending the Colloquium. Professor Alexandre Ch. Kiss of France, President of the European Council for Environmental Law, will deliver the first three Academy Public International Lectures on Environmental Law on 5-6 November.

Professor Kiss is one of the world’s most eminent environmental legal specialists and holds the Elizabeth Haub Prize in Environmental Law. Dr Thomas Johansson of Sweden will deliver the keynote address on “The Imperative of Energy for Sustainable Development.”

Other participants in the inaugural ceremonies for the IUCN Academy include Professors Xie Shenwu and Ye Quyan, President and Vice President of Shanghai Jiao Tong University, Professor Charles O. Okidi (Kenya), University of Nairobi, Mr John Scanlon, Head of IUCN’s

Environmental Law Programme, Mr Peter Bradford, former Chairman of the New York Public Service Commission, Professor Richard L. Ottinger, Dean Emeritus of Pace University Law School, and other international figures.

Some areas of research envisaged for the Academy are:

Identifying the legal reforms required to maintain, restore or enhance the robustness of biological systems (including biodiversity) amidst climate change and human population growth; Environmental Law Management of Mountain Regions; Defining and Elaborating International Environmental Humanitarian Law applicable in times of armed conflict; Legal Measures Appropriate for Implementing the Kyoto Protocol; and Legal Means for Implementation and Application of "Ecosystem Management".

The IUCN Academy is the fruit of eight-year work by IUCN and its Commission on Environmental Law, which brings together close to 900 experts from over 130 countries worldwide.

Trade Unions Tackling HIV/AIDS through Workplace

The international trade union movement is launching a Global Unions HIV/AIDS campaign to combat the spread of the virus. Coordinated by the ICFTU, the campaign intends to get more and better information about HIV/AIDS to working women and men, encouraging national trade unions to use their unique communication channel to better inform workers and their families about the dangers of the pandemic. Launching on World AIDS Day (1st December), the Global Unions campaign will also develop a detailed picture of best-practice to inspire other unions in their work.

A major campaign aim will be to help trade unions share their experiences and publicise their success stories in fighting the deadly disease through the world of work. These stories include awareness-raising street theatre in Thailand, union-run HIV/AIDS workshops for couples in Zimbabwe, efforts to end discrimination in the workplace in the Dominican Republic and drop-in centers at border posts for truckers in Central Africa. Highlighting dozens of concrete examples from some of the hardest hit countries, including Africa, Asia, the Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean, the campaign will also highlight examples of unions already working together across borders and across continents to halt the spread of the virus.

“This campaign is about helping unions to learn from each other and get the message across to their members” said ICFTU General Secretary Guy Ryder, adding “often people will pay more attention to information coming from their union than from other sources, so we are convinced that more union action on HIV/AIDS will help stop the virus”.

The international trade movement has also signed a joint statement with the International Organisation of Employers to develop joint action programmes to fight this disease and its consequences, in collaboration with the United Nations’ International Labour Organisation.

STAKEHOLDER FORUM STAFF



Mehjabeen Price.
Deputy Director,
Responsible for
Administration & Finance

Mehjabeen joined Stakeholder Forum in August, and is responsible for all finance and Administration issues. Her priority will be to ensure the organisation delivers its financial strategies and goals.

Originally from Pakistan, Mehjabeen came to the UK in 1999 to take her MBA in Financial Management at Exeter University. She also holds an MSc in Strategic Studies from the University of Pakistan.

Settling in the UK permanently in 2002, Mehjabeen formerly worked at an International Trading Firm, though the highlight of her career (before Stakeholder Forum, of course) was working at First Investment Bank in Pakistan.

Mehjabeen relaxes to English and Urdu poetry, and classic English literature, whilst for a more energetic thrill she enjoys Salsa dancing

Peter Ritchie. Chief
of Staff



Peter's background is in international marketing, with over 15 years senior executive experience in multi national corporations (EMI Music, Warner International); leaving the music business as Vice President International Marketing and Artist Development, Warner to enter the sustainable development arena. In 1997 he founded and managed the half yearly publication "Sustainable Development International" and became a member of the UNED international advisory board (1998– 2000).

Working with the Canadian government he conceptualized and developed the "Energy and Transport for the Future" exhibition for CSD9, 1999. Although the exhibition was not held, by bringing together governments, the UN, international organisations and civil society groups the 'model' for the exhibition laid the groundwork for Ubuntu Village (WSSD 2002). During the period 1999 – 2002 Peter was a consultant to Future Forests (UK) and Edward Nathan & Friedland (SA) and developed a number of partnerships, including BAT Biodiversity Program; BAT, Fauna and Flora International and a number of other NGOs focusing on sustainable agriculture in small communities in developing countries BIO + 10; Including the BAT biodiversity program, RIO TINTO and a number of NGOs, this initiative brought together MNCs operating in developing countries with international environment and

development NGOs (including IUCN) and development NGOs in-country – focused on best practice and local communities. ENVIROLAW; Commercial law firm (ENF South Africa), development agencies (UNDP), NGOs (IUCN, etc.), local councils and the SA government, developing a capacity building program for local government officials on environmental legislation, its application and enforcement.

Peter was appointed Special Advisor to the CEO of the Johannesburg World Summit Company (JOWSCO), 2001 – 2003. JOWSCO was a SA government owned company set up to manage the logistics for the World Summit on Sustainable Development, 2002. In addition to this broad advisory role Peter also conceptualised, developed and managed "Ubuntu Village" where over 200 governments/international organisations/civil society groups exhibited, over 60 parallel conferences. and numerous entertainment events (including the Opening ceremony) took place Peter was a SA government advisor at CSD 11 (2003).

Karen Dickinson.
UNEP GPA Project
Coordinator



Karen Dickinson recently began working with Stakeholder Forum as a Project Coordinator providing outreach to UNEP's Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities (GPA).

An Australian living in London for the past 18 months, Karen moved here from Melbourne to undertake an MA (Environment, Politics and Globalisation) at Kings College, London. Much of this degree focused on water policy issues, both marine and freshwater. Though a highlight of the year was my internship with UNED-UK Committee!

Prior to this, Karen worked in the environment department of the Victorian State Government. In this post Karen undertook a research project on 'Landcare', a community based programme of natural resource management in Australia. Attending the University of Melbourne where, aside from a lot of fun snowboarding, Karen gained 1st Class Honours (BA) in Geography and a BSc in Environmental Science, both with water and sustainable development as key themes.

Recreationally, Karen loves snowboarding, mountain biking, reading and camping. She also has a new found passion for snorkelling – a relevant endeavour given her new job! Although missing the space of Australia, Karen enjoys living in London and embracing all the work and travel opportunities afforded!

