



Special Report on Selected Side Events at WSSD PC-III  
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### Events convened on Thursday, 28 March 2002



Smunda Mokoena, NEPAD, notes priority areas for NEPAD, including peace and security, governance and democracy, regional infrastructure, economic integration and intra-African trade, and the environment.



Sékou Touré, UNEP, discusses how the NEPAD Steering Committee has incorporated environmental concerns, including through involvement of members of the Bureau of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment.

## New Partnership for Africa's Development

Presented by the South African Mission

Wiseman Nkuhlu, New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) Secretariat, described NEPAD's foundation as a new, comprehensive, integrated, and home-grown framework for the socioeconomic development of Africa. He said a forthcoming NEPAD policy document will present a vision for Africa, a statement of problems facing the continent, and a Programme of Action to resolve these problems and achieve the vision. He expressed the desire to integrate sustainable development issues meaningfully into the Programme of Action.

Smunda Mokoena, NEPAD Secretariat, underlined the holistic approach that NEPAD will take, particularly regarding conflict management, the eradication of communicable diseases, and preservation of the continent's environmental assets. He noted the need to build equitable relations in trade and investment and in capital flows, and stressed that the NEPAD initiative is owned, managed and led by Africans and anchored in the resources and resourcefulness of the people of Africa. Mokoena underlined the active participation of African Heads of State in developing the initiative, and said it is the mechanism for accelerating implementation of the Abuja Treaty Establishing the African Economic Community.

Sékou Touré, UNEP, highlighted that NEPAD's priorities originate from within Africa and that several Heads of State are personally committed to the development of the initiative. He addressed funding resources for outcomes, discussed the role of Senegalese President Abdoulaye Wade as a lead actor on the environment, and said environmental aspects of the NEPAD policy document will be presented at the WSSD.

**Discussion:** A rich exchange raised issues of, *inter alia*: challenges in building awareness of NEPAD within Africa; funding resources and NEPAD's budget; civil society participation in the NEPAD development process; hazards and benefits of privatization; the need for integration of NEPAD priorities with national and sub-regional policies; environmental priorities; and transparency and good governance. Many non-African participants expressed strong support for NEPAD, particularly noting its genesis within the continent.

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# Strengthening productive capacity in developing countries

Presented by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)

Cahit Gürkök, UNIDO, described UNIDO's energy programme, which addresses rural energy needs for industrial development. He explained that UNIDO's approach to rural energy project design and implementation focuses on: building capacity to increase local participation in projects; generating jobs and income through technology transfer for local assembly or manufacture of energy equipment; and promoting productive end-use of energy.

Ralph Luken, UNIDO, discussed drivers for the uptake of environmentally sound technology (EST). He noted several regional studies, which found that formal regulation, community pressure and plant or firm characteristics are important drivers, as are government incentives for installation of pollution control equipment, buyer pressure for environmental management practices, and pricing. Luken highlighted a UNIDO survey of selected industrial sub-sectors in nine developing countries, which identified environmental regulatory programmes as a major driver for EST uptake, as well as supply-chain pressures, information from research centers, pressure from communities and NGOs, and the cost of energy and raw material to upgrade technology. Restrictions to the adoption of technology were also identified, including the perceived high cost of implementation, uncertainty about the performance of new technology, and a lack of alternative raw material inputs or process technologies.

Luken discussed considerations for a technology transfer action programme, stressing the need for greater harmonization and integration of industrial, trade and environmental policies at the national level, and for a coordinated, need-driven technology infrastructure at the institutional level.



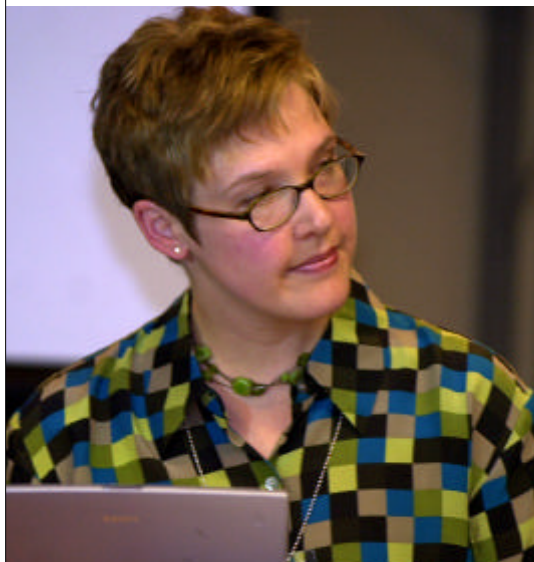
Cahit Gürkök, UNIDO, outlines UNIDO's rural energy initiative.

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Gillian Martin Mehers, LEAD International, says the new CD-ROM will help learners to understand the challenges, features, functions and political dynamics of the inter-governmental system.

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## Global governance made simple

Presented by Leadership for Environment and Development (LEAD) International

Julia Marton-Lefèvre, LEAD International, explained that the event's goal was to explore ways of understanding the UN system to enable various actors to participate and make meaningful contributions.

Lee Kimball, consultant, outlined a strategy for learning about the UN system. She stressed the importance of using the informal process to influence the system, and recommended that NGOs introduce their positions through closer interaction with government delegations.

Nick Mabey, UK Foreign Office, stressed the need to understand the functioning of the UN system if one hopes to influence its outcomes. He also emphasized that success in lobbying requires direct participation in the process, as well as timing, networking, and persistence.

Aditi Kapoor, Alternative Futures, argued that the UN system should become more media-friendly, as the media could be an important partner for disseminating information to the public on UN processes and for adapting it to the local context.

Thais Corral, Women's Environment and Development Organization (WEDO), explained how dialogue, partnerships, and leadership training programmes can lead to positive outcomes in the UN system.

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# The potential for using the multi-stakeholder network model to develop and deliver partnerships for implementation

Presented by the Royal Institute of International Affairs

This event addressed issues relating to the formation and effective use of multi-stakeholder partnerships.

Fanny Calder, Royal Institute of International Affairs, presented a report on the potential of multi-stakeholder networks within the WSSD process. She described strengths and weakness of multi-stakeholder processes, and outlined characteristics of partnerships unique to the WSSD process. Calder highlighted the need to develop linkages between WSSD partnerships and existing national sustainable development processes.



Fanny Calder, Royal Institute of International Affairs, raises questions related to Type II outcomes, including their relationship to Type I outcomes, how to define what qualifies as a Type II outcome, and the framework of WSSD follow-up in which they will take place.



Dhesigen Naidoo, South African Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism, advocates that Type I initiatives should, at a minimum, present clear objectives and time-bound targets for Type II outcomes, and would ideally address resource mechanisms.

Dhesigen Naidoo, South African Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism, discussed the South African experience of partnerships in the context of NEPAD. He suggested that WSSD partnerships be considered in the context of already existing networks, rather than starting from scratch. He addressed power and responsibility relations between partners, and stressed that effective partnerships must be action-oriented and provide clear benefits to all participants.

Sarah Timpson, UNDP, described UNDP's efforts in matching grassroots-level stakeholders with funding by facilitating new partnerships to bridge capacity gaps in proposal development. She noted the enormous demand for collaboration once community outreach mechanisms are in place.

Richard Ballhorn, WSSD Bureau, noted that the Bureau had not yet formally tackled Type II outcomes, as it was taking advantage of ongoing discussions on this issue. He highlighted the potential for new WSSD partnerships to bring high-level industry stakeholders into the process.

**Discussion:** Participants touched on issues such as: the Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development initiative; resources for multi-stakeholder processes; the need for partnerships to evolve as new types of relationships rather than simply attaching new labels onto existing ones; power-sharing in partnership relations; multi-stakeholder processes in corrupt governance environments; and the need for high-level champions of partnership processes.

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## Global governance made simple

(continued from page 2)

Seema Paul, the UN Foundation, described the UN Foundation's successes, in particular effective cooperation with UNESCO, and underscored the importance of partnerships. She stressed that the UN Foundation aims to make the UN system more effective by making NGOs rightful partners in it.

Gillian Martin Mehers, LEAD International, previewed a new learning CD-ROM developed by her organization with the aim of exposing learners to key issues of the intergovernmental system, noting that the CD-ROM will be launched at the WSSD.

**Discussion:** Participants emphasized the need for training programmes to reflect changes taking place in the UN system, and for more effective intergovernmental processes.



## Strengthening international cooperation for the protection of marine resources

Presented by the Governments of the US and Canada, with support of the Governments of New Zealand, Australia, Chile and the EU

Paul Ortiz, US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, introduced the International Network for the Cooperation and Coordination of Fisheries-Related Monitoring, Control and Surveillance Network (MCS Network). He explained that illegal, unregulated and unreported (IUU) fishing can be very profitable and destructive to resources and fisheries, while enforcement against it is expensive and resource intensive. The solution to this problem lies in cost-effective monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS), followed by prosecution of violators. He said a mechanism that enables law enforcement officials and prosecutors to contact each other is integral to achieving this goal.

Ortiz described the MCS Network as an arrangement of national organizations and institutions in charge of fisheries-related MCS activities. Its objective is to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of fisheries-related MCS activities through enhanced cooperation, coordination, and information collection and exchange, by providing immediate access to information to aid investigations. The information requirements of the Network include: organizational and institutional contacts; vessel-related data; fishing permit and authorization information; catch and landing data; inspection information and violation and penalty history; and fisheries laws. The core of the Network is a website (see side panel), which houses all of this information. He emphasized the importance of the confidentiality of information exchange.

Ortiz explained that participation in the Network is voluntary and entails no costs to members. The goal is to enlist the participation of all flag States, port States, coastal States, market States and jurisdictions where owners and operators reside. He said the Network is also seeking grants to aid developing countries' participation.



Paul Ortiz, US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, explains the lengthy and expensive enforcement effort involved in tracking and prosecuting an unflagged vessel engaged in IUU fishing.

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Bono, U2.

## U2 could become USG

Presented by the UNA-U2

Paul Hewson, popularly known as Bono, lead singer for the rock 'n roll band U2, announced his candidacy today for the post of Under-Secretary-General (USG) for Economic and Social Affairs. Flanked by supporters including Treasury Secretary Paul O'Neill and US Senator Patrick Leahy, Bono spoke to a crowded conference room in the basement of UN headquarters in New York. The post of USG becomes vacant in September 2002 when current USG Nitin Desai (India) retires following his role as Secretary-General for the WSSD.

Bono's candidacy was supported by a coalition of least developed countries that recently benefited from his advocacy for more than US\$40 billion in debt cancellation. Bono said fighting poverty, promoting sustainable development and eliminating environmental degradation is far too important a job to be left to bureaucrats, diplomats and civil servants. He called on other mid-career professionals worldwide to volunteer three years of their lives to public service within the United Nations.

Buoyed by his recent triumph in convincing the US Government's Bush administration to announce increases in foreign aid, resurrecting success for the recent International Conference on Financing for Development, Bono and side-event participants were enthusiastic about his chances.

### More information:

<http://www.iisd.ca/aprilfoolsjoke/>

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