Youth, Business and APEC 9.10.97

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YOUTH, BUSINESS AND APEC

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Nautilus Summer Student Intern

In an attempt to bring transparency to an otherwise exclusive history of APEC meetings, Canada brought new players to this year's forum. Youth, business leaders and local authorities addressed Environment Ministers at the APEC Environment Ministerial June 9 - 11 in Toronto. The new participants presented the Environment Ministers with a variety of proposals, some vague and lacking time tables or realistic mechanisms for implementation, and some constructive with vision toward progress.

The youth, who held energetic pre-conference Internet forums, failed to move past general ideas such as youth networking and conference framework concerns. Of the 18 APEC member economies, the young voices of Canada, Indonesia, Thailand and Australia were most prominent. Among the most substantive topics of discussion were the needs to share information on environmental sustainability, promote sustainable business investment, and support community based action and education. However, lacking a process of pre-meeting education and ongoing engagement with APEC, many of the young people had little understanding of how APEC could promote such goals.

Young people are still developing their role in APEC. At this initial stage, the most progress will be made if youth focus attention on issues unique to the region that cannot be better addressed elsewhere. For example, youth from Thailand and Canada submitted a proposal to encourage

regional business investment in sustainable practices. The proposal will be carried forward only if youth and others generate interest and demand beyond the momentum of the Ministerial.

Business leaders and local authorities identified their major environmental concerns through a series of workshops focusing on air pollution, water and wastewater systems, solid and hazardous waste management, cleaner production, public-private partnerships, privatization of environmental services, regulatory frameworks and financing for sustainable cities. From these workshops, delegates made six concrete and attainable suggestions for implementation which included the involvement of local authorities in policy development for sustainable development; working with local authorities to develop a series of performance indicators, benchmarks and targets to guide and direct actions on sustainable cities; exploring an APEC Clean Transportation Initiative; instructing governments to give preferential treatment to financing water and wastewater infrastructure projects; encouraging partnerships for sustainable cities and requesting Finance Ministers to address long-term sustainable city financing issues.

Of these recommendations to Environment Ministers, those with the greatest potential impact are those which include local authorities, build on performance indicators to standardize environmental data and press Finance Ministers to support the sustainable city agenda. These recommendations will be given to the Leaders' Summit in November. If the Leaders accept proposals from the Environment Ministers to institutionalize the Senior Environment Officials meetings, the business leader/ local authority agenda may find a forum for supporting implementation.

UPCOMING EVENTS

PACIFIC ECONOMIC COOPERATION COUNCIL (PECC) ENERGY FORUM
San Francisco, United States
September 3-5
Contact: PECC Energy Forum 1112 16th St., NW Suite 520
Washington, DC 20036 United States
Telephone: (202) 293-3995
Fax: (202) 293-1402
Email: uspecc@erols.com

1ST MEETING OF PECC ENERGY FORUM
San Francisco, United States
September 6
Contact: PECC Energy Forum 1112 16th St., NW Suite 520
Washington, DC 20036 United States
Telephone: (202) 293-3995
Fax: (202) 293-1402
Email: uspecc@erols.com

SETTING THE STAGE, CANADA'S NEGOTIATING POSITION ON CLIMATE CHANGE
Calgary, AB, Canada
September 4-5
Contact: Canadian Energy Research Institute
Telephone: 403-282-1231
Fax: 403-289-2344
< http://www.ceri.ca/>

SUMMIT OF THE SEA
St. John's, Newfoundland, Canada
September 1-19
Contact: Dave Finn
Address: Summit of the Sea 500th Anniversary Corporation, P.O. Box 1997, 1 Crosbie Place, St. John's, Newfoundland, Canada A1C 5R4
Telephone: +1-709-579-1997
Fax: +1-709-579-2067
Email: david_finn@porthole.entnet.nf.ca

1997 PHILIPPINE INTERNATIONAL WASTE WATER TREATMENT CONGRESS
Manila, Philippines
September 2-3
Contact: Marcel Ewals, project manager
Email: expogrp@skyinet.net
http://wwwskyinet.net/users/expogrp

CITIES BY NATURE'S DESIGN
Atlanta, United States
September 17-20
Contact: Robert Lussier, American Forests
Telephone:(202)955-4588
Email: rlussier@amfor.org.
PROBLEMS OF COASTAL PLANNING IN DEVELOPING AND DEVELOPED COUNTRIES
Bornova, Izmir, Turkey
September 15-19
Contact: Assoc.Prof. Dr. Engin Nurlu, Ege University, Faculty of Agriculture, Department of Landscape Architecture, 35l00 Bornova, Izmir, Turkey.
Telephone: +90-232-388-0110, x-1417
Fax: +90-232-388-1864
Email: nurlu@ziraat.ege.edu.tr

URBAN TRANSPORT `97: THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON URBAN TRANSPORT AND THE ENVIRONMENT
Palazzo Cesi, Acquasparta, Terni, Italy
September 23-25
Contact: Paula Doughty-Young, Urban Transport `97
Conference Secretariat
Telephone: (44)(1703) 293223
Email: paula@wessex.ac.uk.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE: GLOBAL ETHICS FOR THE 21ST CENTURY.
University of Melbourne, Melbourne, Australia.
October 1-3
Contact: Nicholas Low Faculty of Architecture Building and Planning, University of Melbourne, Parkville VIC 3052 Australia.
Fax: +61-3-9344-7458 or +61-3-9344-5532
Email: n.low@architecture.unimelb.edu.au
http://www.arbld.unimelb.edu.au/events/enjust.htm

FIFTH ANNUAL WORLD BANK CONFERENCE ON ENVIRONMENTALLY AND SOCIALLY SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT.
Lisner Auditorium, George Washington University,
Washington DC, United States.
October 6-8
Contact: The World Bank, ESSD5, Room S7-040, 1818 H Street, NW, Washington, DC 20433.
THE ASIA-PACIFIC INITIATIVE FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY & ENERGY EFFICIENCY
Jakarta, Indonesia
October 14-16

Contact: Alternative Development Asia Limited
Fax: +852-2574-1997
Email:altdev@hk.super.net
http://www.hk.super.net/~altdev/

11TH MEETING OF APEC'S ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND CONSERVATION EXPERT GROUP
Bali, Indonesia
October 20-21
Contact: Gil Winstanely
Telephone: 613-996-2993

CHINA INFRASTRUCTURE '97
China World Trade Centre, Beijing, China
November 10-12
Contact: Alison Jump
Telephone: +44-1737-768-611.

POLLUTION CONTROL '97 CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION AND THE FIRST ASIA-PACIFIC ROUNDTABLE ON CLEANER PRODUCTION.
Queen Sirikit Convention Center, Bangkok, Thailand
November 12-16
Contact: Thailand Pollution Control Department, Dr. Yuwaree In-na, Phaholyothin Center, Bldg. 3, 6-8 404 Phaholyothin Road, Phayathai, Bangkok 10400, Thailand.
Telephone: +662-619-2215
Fax: +662-619-2216
Email: yuwaree.i@pcd.go.th

1997 CHINA ENVIRONMENT FORUM
Beijing, China
November 18-21
Contact: Andrew Sell
Telephone: (804) 963-7683
Fax: (804) 975-4082
Email:IHEI@aol.com
http://www.ihei.com/

APEC POLICY MAKERS WORKSHOP FOR APEC ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNOLOGY EXCHANGE
Osaka, Japan
November 25-26
Contact: APEC Secretariat

WORLD SUMMIT OF CITIES FOR CLIMATE PROTECTION
Nagoya, Japan
November 27-28
Contact: Philip Jessup
Telephone: 416-392-1462

Connectivity is a bi-monthly information service reporting on trade, environment and development issues in the Asia-Pacific. The *Monitor* is emailed to members of the ***Asia Pacific Regional Environment Network*** (APRENet). To register for this free service please fill out the on-line registration form at or send email to nautilus@nautilus.org

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