Declaration of the 64th Annual UN DPI/NGO Conference Chair’s Text
Bonn, Germany, 3-5 September 2011

Sustainable Societies; Responsive Citizens

Including RIO + 20 and Civic Engagement

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS - CLIMATE SUSTAINABILITY:

By 2050, governments should have reached clear pathways towards climate sustainability that regulates the global temperature rise below 1.5 degrees C.

Emissions of greenhouse gases should be reduced to 25% of 1990 levels by 2020, 40% by 2030, 60% by 2040 and 80% by 2050.

Carbon taxes and tariffs should be in place to provide incentives for low-carbon development and manufacturing, finance GHG emissions reduction projects,

Developed countries, as the main cause of climate change, in assuming their historical responsibility, must recognize and honor their climate debt in all of its dimensions as the basis for a just, effective, and scientific solution to climate change.

SDG – CLEAN ENERGY: By 2030, at least 50% of the world’s energy supply comes from renewable sources. By 2020 energy demand is reduced through efficiency and conservation by at least 20%.

By 2030 energy poverty is eliminated by providing universal access to modern energy services from renewable sources.

GENERAL STATEMENTS

Recognizing that human beings are entitled to a healthy and productive life in harmony with nature; 65

Alarmed at the increasing loss of biodiversity; the rate of desertification, deforestation, especially in the tropics and forest degradation globally; the collapse of fishery resources, and the aggravated effects resulting from global warming;

Recognizing that biodiversity and linguistic diversity are inseparable and alarmed at the loss of traditional knowledge caused by the loss of linguistic diversity;

Concerned about climate change and its effects, including exacerbating biodiversity loss as well as ocean acidification and the collapse of glaciers, ice caps and polar ice shelves;

Recognizing that billions of people remain in poverty and that poverty often has a female face;

Recognizing as well the lack of consistent and sustainable sources of energy for both the developed and the developing world, unsustainable agriculture, and rises in food prices;
Taking note of the inter-relationships among the environmental challenges, climate change, food crisis and monetary and financial instability, aggravated by the unprecedented concentration of resources and flagrant inequities among people;

Also recognizing that the current monetary, financial, commercial and economic system, along with unequal power relations, are the main drivers for the active process of environmental, moral and spiritual impoverishment;

Recognizing that peace, the promotion of the Culture of Peace, and respect for human rights are constitutive elements for sustainable development and that the large expenditures being allocated to warfare and military activities, including research, in particular for the use of nuclear weapons, represent a serious threat to the planet affecting the lives of people everywhere, and pose unacceptable risks, particularly storage of nuclear waste and uranium mining on the sacred lands of indigenous peoples, and potential nuclear reactor damage posed by natural and human-made hazards;

We call for the preparation and implementation of green economy roadmaps that consider and address the commonly agreed Rio Principles, for the adoption of Sustainable Development Goals in critical areas, and for the implementation of governance reforms to foster the transition to a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication, by fostering civic engagement and volunteerism and for improving the institutional framework for sustainable development.

We call for replacement of the current inefficient, unsustainable and inequitable economic, monetary, financial and commercial models with policies that advance rather than detract from sustainable development goals and that build rather than deplete the stocks of natural, human, built and social capital on which human well-being ultimately depends. We propose that where the current economy aids inequity, destruction and greed, it should be replaced by an economy that cares for the human-earth community.

We call on the full and effective implementation of Agenda 21, the MDGs,

We recognize further that the market and institutional failures take the form of prices that do not reflect their true environmental and social costs, underinvestment in natural, human, built and social capital, harmful and perverse subsidies, restricted access to information about production technologies and their impacts, lack of democratic economic governance, increasing unemployment and inadequate indicators of progress.

establish a set of Millennium Consumption Goals for the period 2012-2020 towards creating an intergenerational and internationally shared right to equitable consumption opportunities and ensuring quality of life and wellbeing of all people by 2020, while eradicating all kinds and levels of poverty, respecting animal welfare and embedding sufficiency based sustainable economies.