

Point of View

Editor's note: This "Point of View" essay series reflects the UNU's mandate to provide scholarship that clarifies pressing global issues. This issue's "Point of View" was contributed by Ramesh Thakur, Vice-Rector of the United Nations University. The views expressed are personal opinion and do not necessarily reflect the views or policy of the UNU.

Justice without borders, or injustice across borders?

By Ramesh Thakur

The search away from victors' justice and towards universal justice has taken many dramatic twists and turns in the last few years. Activists assert the primacy of justice without borders; sceptics warn of international anarchy if we depart from *realpolitik* in a state-based system of world order; opponents fear outcomes of injustice across borders. More worrisome than the challenge to national sovereignty is the unpredictability of the potent new weapon as an instrument of the new international order. Its potential for abuse for vexatious, vindictive and mischievous purposes is almost unlimited.

As we move inexorably from the culture of national impunity of previous centuries to a culture of international accountability more suited to the modern sensibility, it is worth making four arguments about the relationship between justice being done, and being seen to be done.

First, in East Timor, *justice was seen not to have been done* when six men convicted of killing three United Nations aid workers (an American, a Croat and an Ethiopian) were given sentences of 10–20 months by a Jakarta court on 4 May. The UN personnel were stabbed and stoned to death and their bodies were set alight by pro-Indonesian militias – one of the worst attacks ever against UN staff anywhere in the world. The sentences were so manifestly inadequate to the gravity of the crimes that they were tantamount to a very public slap in the face of the international community.

Second, with regard to former presidents Suharto in Indonesia and Augusto Pinochet in Chile, *justice has not yet been seen to be done*. Past perpetrators of humanitarian



UN/DPI photo

atrocities, genocidal killings and ethnic cleansing need to be tried in free and fair trials in their own countries. But, in the end, the decision on whether to try them or go down the route of truth and reconciliation commissions has to be made by the people and the countries concerned, not by outsiders.

Europeans, in particular, need to avoid the temptation of launching a fresh wave of judicial colonialism, substituting their courts and morality for the choices made by the affected societies. It is patently absurd for Ariel Sharon, or any other former head of government or state (or secretary of state, like Henry Kissinger), to have to risk being arrested in a second country, on the orders of an investigating magistrate in a third country, following the precedent of the Spanish inquisition against Pinochet while he was visiting Britain.

Third, *justice may not be seen to be done* in the case of Slobodan Milosevic at the Hague tribunal. As the first international trial of a former head of state, this would have been challenging enough in any case. But NATO's unlawful war against Serbia in 1999 has made it deeply problematical for a familiar litany of reasons. The tribunal is sited in a NATO country, its expenses are met mainly from NATO members' contributions, the indictment of Milosevic during the war on the basis of evidence supplied by NATO has infected the process of criminal justice with security-political calculations, and the enforcement of the tribunal's indictment of Milosevic and cronies as war criminals has been totally dependent on the same NATO powers.

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UNU celebrates 25th anniversary

The year 2000 marked the 25th anniversary of the initiation of activities of the United Nations University. To commemorate that historical milestone, the UNU in October hosted a symposium that combined a look back at the university's historical development with a consideration of its current position and future role within the international community.

The symposium, "The United Nations University at 25: Reaching Out to Japan and the World," was convened on Monday afternoon, 23 October 2000, at the UNU Centre in Tokyo. The event opened with welcoming addresses by UNU Rector Hans van Ginkel and Japan's Senior State Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Kiyohiro Araki, and a video message from UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan. Keynote addresses by Hiroshi Kida (former Vice-Minister for Education, Japan), James M. Hester (President of The Harry Frank Guggenheim Foundation and first Rector of the UNU, 1975–80) and Heitor Gurgulino de Souza (third Rector of the UNU, 1987–97) reflected on the operations and accomplishments of the university's first quarter century.

The central event of the 25th anniversary symposium was the inaugural Michio Nagai Lecture, delivered by Prof. Justin Thorens (former Rector of the University of



Dr. Justin Thorens giving the inaugural Michio Nagai Lecture at the UNU 25th Anniversary Symposium on 23 October 2000

Geneva and former Chair of the UNU Council). The topic of Prof. Thorens' lecture was "The United Nations University: Why, and Why in Japan, and What For? The Vision of Michio Nagai." The Michio Nagai Lecture is named after the former Japanese Minister of Education, Science and Culture who was one of the leading figures behind the Government of Japan's decision to invite the UNU to locate its headquarters in Tokyo. It will henceforth serve as an annual forum for eminent members of the international community to speak on the issues confronting the United Nations and its Member States.

The symposium also included a naming ceremony for the UNU Centre's two main conference halls. These halls were named in honour of two persons who played key roles in the creation of the UNU: U Thant, the late UN Secretary-General (1961–71) who first officially proposed establishment of the UNU, and Mrs. Elizabeth Rose, whose commitment to and long-term support for the concept of a university for the United Nations was instrumental in establishment of the UNU in Japan. Mrs. Rose and Thant Myint-U, a grandson of the late Secretary-General U Thant, were present at the ceremony.

A brief history of UNU

In 1969, in his introduction to the *Annual Report of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly* on the work of the United Nations, then Secretary-General U Thant suggested that the time had arrived for serious consideration to be given to establishing an international university devoted to the UN Charter objectives of peace and progress. It would be staffed, he proposed, with academics from all parts of the world to help break down the barriers that create misunderstanding and mistrust between nations and cultures.

Since the primary aim of such an international university would be to promote international understanding at both the political and cultural levels, Secretary-General U-Thant noted, it would fall under the purview of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). He expressed the hope that UNESCO would act to develop the idea further and bring it to fruition, and that the university would be located in a country noted for its spirit of tolerance and freedom of thought.

On 13 December 1969, the UN General Assembly welcomed the initiative taken by Secretary-General U-Thant and invited him to prepare – in cooperation with UNESCO and in consultation with the United Nations Institute for Training and Research and any other agency he deemed necessary, and taking into account the views expressed by the Assembly – a comprehensive expert study on the

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UNU celebrates 25th anniversary *(Continued from page 2)*

feasibility of an international university, including a clear definition of its goals and objectives and recommendations as to how such an institution might be financed. The

Assembly's decisions were embodied in Resolution 2573(XXIV), which was recommended by the Second (Economic and Financial) Committee and approved without objection on 4

December 1969.

The United Nations University was formally established by the General Assembly on 6 December 1973 (Resolution 3081(XXVIII)) to be "an international community of scholars, engaged in research, post-graduate training and dissemination of knowledge in furtherance of the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations." The UNU started activities on 1 September 1975 at its headquarters in Tokyo. The current UNU Headquarters building in Tokyo (recently renamed UN House; see the article below) was opened in 1992 on land donated by the Tokyo Metropolitan Government.

UNU activities focus mainly on the themes of peace; governance; development; science, technology and society; and environment. The University operates through a worldwide network of 12 Research and Training Centres and Programmes (RTCPs), and in partnership with over 30 UN organizations and 100 research institutions globally. ■



From left: Mrs. Elizabeth Rose, UNU Rector Hans van Ginkel, Dr. James M. Hester, the first Rector of UNU, and Mr. Thant Myint-U

UNU building rededicated as "UN House"

On 24 January 2001, UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan was in Tokyo to formally rededicate the United Nations University Headquarters Building as the "UN House." The name change is part of a continuing effort to make the building housing the UNU Centre more open and accessible to the public and in line with the Secretary-General's vision to have a "UN House" in each member nation.

"The idea of a house of all nations, held together by a common bond and structure, helps us to visualize the very concept upon which the United Nations was built," the Secretary-General said in his rededication address. "This house in Tokyo, which will bring such a rich variety of UN staff and scholars together, is a fitting extension of that vision."

As the Japan offices of UN agencies have increasingly moved into the building, they have begun working together much more closely through increased information exchange and

substantive collaboration. In addition to the UNU, other UN agencies with offices in the UN House include the UN Information Centre, UN Development Programme, UN Children's Fund, UN High Commissioner for Refugees, International Labour Office and UN Office for Project Services, as well as the Global Environment Information Centre (a joint initiative of the UNU and the Environment Ministry of Japan). The UNU Institute of Advanced Studies (UNU/IAS), one of the University's Research and Training Centres, has its offices in the building just behind UN House.

UNU will use the first and second floors of the UN House to host permanent and special exhibitions showcasing the work and values of the UNU and the United Nations. As an inaugural event, the UNU, in cooperation with other UN agencies in



UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan speaking in front of the newly rededicated "UN House"

the UN House and the European Union (EU), organized a special public exhibition on Humanitarian Emergencies. This exhibition, featuring panels of information about humanitarian emergencies and partnerships in responding to humanitarian crises, was also opened on 24 January by the Secretary-General and EU Commissioner for Development and Humanitarian Aid Poul Nielson. ■

Two UNU RTCs get new directors

In November, UNU Rector Hans van Ginkel announced the appointment of new directors for the UNU World Institute for Development Economics Research (UNU/WIDER) and the UNU Institute of Advanced Studies (USU/IAS). Both appointments were effective as of January 1, 2001.

Prof. Anthony Shorrocks succeeds Prof. Matti Pohjola as Director of UNU/WIDER. Prof. Shorrocks, a national of the United Kingdom, is a leading international scholar in the field of income distribution and a Fellow of the Econometric Society. He holds a Ph.D. in Economics from the London School of Economics.

Prior to assuming the post as UNU/WIDER Director, Prof. Shorrocks was a Visiting Professor at New Economic School in Moscow and Research Professor at the University of Essex (UK). His research has focused on methods for measuring and analyzing inequality, poverty, income mobility and living standards. More recently, he has been working on the social problems facing Russia in the post-reform era.

UNU/WIDER, based in Helsinki, Finland, is a UNU research and training center (RTC) dedicated to the



Prof. Tony Shorrocks (Photo by Kimmo Brandt)

study of major global economic processes for the purpose of fostering improvements in human life and society. As UNU/WIDER Director, Prof. Shorrocks oversees a resident research staff of some 15 senior researchers and visiting fellows, several Ph.D. interns and a 14-member support staff.

Succeeding Prof. Tarcisio Della Senta, the first Director of UNU/IAS, is Prof. A.H. Zakri. A national of Malaysia, Prof. Zakri has extensive policy experience at both the national and international levels, and has published extensively on issues relating to plant breeding, biotechnology and biodiversity. He holds a Ph.D. in Genetics and Plant



Prof. A.H. Zakri

Breeding from Michigan State University. Prior to joining UNU/IAS as its new Director, he served as Deputy Vice Chancellor at the National University of Malaysia (Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia) since 1992.

UNU/IAS, based in Tokyo, was established in 1996 to investigate interlinked themes related to environmentally sustainable development and develop original, forward-looking solutions to problems at the interface of societal and natural systems. As UNU/IAS Director, Prof. Zakri oversees an academic community of core faculty and administrative personnel, adjunct professors and postgraduate students. ■

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The US rejection of the International Criminal Court (ICC) seriously compromises the US moral standing with respect to ad hoc international criminal tribunals. Some wonder if fears of politically motivated prosecution of Americans – a stated reason for staying outside the ICC – are not derived from experience of selective (and highly expensive) prosecutions of demonized adversaries and enemies through political organs like the Security Council. International economic blackmail – financially on its knees, Yugoslavia was promised almost \$1.3 billion dollars in aid immediately after Milosevic was turned over to the Hague – and domestic power struggles have been greater determinants of the fate of Milosevic than concerns about criminal justice.

Ad hoc tribunals leave the process of international law more vulnerable to

the pursuit of power politics than would be possible in the ICC. Legal principles should be used to advance the cause of universal justice, not to settle political scores and advance victors' justice.

The failure to prosecute, with matching zeal, mass crimes committed against Serbs by their historic Balkan enemies, including acts of reverse ethnic cleansing by Kosovars since the 1999 war under the protective noses of NATO troops, feeds the sense of victimhood among Serbs. What is most needed instead is an open trial within Serbia which brings home to the Serbs with incontrovertible proof the crimes that were committed in their name. They are the ones who need to confront the recent ugly past, punish the guilty among their midst and move on with their lives. It is difficult to see how overriding of a constitutional court by domestic

power-political rivals will help to embed and strengthen democratic structures of governance that are robust and resilient.

Fourth, the above doubts notwithstanding, *justice must and will be done* at the Hague with regard to Milosevic. The sorry events of the 1990s in the Balkans brought haunting images of concentration camp-type victims to Europe for the first time since the Second World War. Milosevic was at the center of much of the killings, rapes and ethnic cleansings of the last decade. Nemesis has caught up, and retribution will follow. At the end of the day, most of us will go to bed with the sense of quiet satisfaction that the wheels of justice have caught up with him, and that he will get his just desserts. It might prove a small but significant step in the journey to universal justice under the ICC. ■

UNU symposium examines coastal EDC pollution

Endocrine Disrupting Chemicals (EDCs) include a broad range of chemical compounds that can interfere with the normal functioning of metabolic, growth and reproductive hormones in humans and animals. EDC pollutants are resistant to natural degradation processes and, thus, persist and accumulate in the environment in increasing levels through the food chain.

On 16-17 April 2001, the UNU held an international symposium on coastal pollution by EDCs in East Asia. Rapid industrial development and increased reliance on agricultural chemicals have created a high level of risk from EDCs to East Asia's "coastal hydrosphere" – the region's freshwater and seawater coastal environments and the natural living resources that inhabit them – with several animal species (particularly marine mammals at the top of the food chain) suffering adverse health effects.

The two-day symposium, entitled "Industries and EDC Pollution," was the third in a series of symposiums under a UNU programme focusing on Environmental Pollution and Governance in the East Asian Coastal Hydrosphere. It was held on the campus of Seoul National University in cooperation with the Korean Ocean Research and Development Institute and the Kwangju Institute of Science and Technology.

The symposium was attended by Korean leaders in EDC research and leading experts from overseas. Researchers – including those from Japan's National Institute for Environmental Studies (NIES), Environment Canada, the European Commission (EC), University of California, and Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology – presented the most recent findings relating to EDC pollution and discussed the role of industrial and other land-based emission sources in the EDC pollution of East Asian coastal areas. Researchers from China, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam discussed the status of coastal pollution in their respective countries – a monitoring effort supported by the Shimadzu

Corporation of Japan that is part of the UNU Coastal Hydrosphere project.

In his keynote address, Dr. Masatoshi Morita of NIES offered an overview of current EDC issues. The symposium included technical

sessions that focused on such topics as EDC pollution and emission sources, critical EDC issues, the status of EDC pollution in East Asia, research issues for EDC pollution, and critical monitoring issues for EDC pollution. ■



UNU receives ISO 14001 certification

On 26 January 2001, the UNU Centre, UNU Institute of Advanced Studies (UNU/IAS) and Global Environment Information Centre were officially certified by the Japan Standards Association as compliant with ISO 14001 Environmental Management System (EMS) standards. UNU/IAS Director A.H. Zakri, on behalf of UNU Rector van Ginkel, received the ISO 14001 Certificate at a ceremony held in Tokyo on 13 February.

ISO 14001 is one of a series of standards on environmental management tools and systems that deal with an organization's system for managing its day-to-day operations as they impact on the environment. The key to a successful ISO 14001 EMS is having documented procedures that are effectively implemented and maintained, including appropriate monitoring and timely review.

The UNU ISO 14001 working group, composed of representatives from various units within the University, began development of an

EMS in May 1999. Implementation commenced in February 2000, and an environmental policy, entitled "Going for Green," was developed in June 2000. In implementing this policy, the UNU seeks to contribute to the global and local communities and to the "greening" of both its work practices and the work place.

Adoption of the UNU EMS has already resulted in a number of positive impacts, including reductions in resource consumption and a general increase in the environmental awareness of all personnel. In 2001, the UNU will implement measures to increase local public understanding of its policies and objectives related to ISO14001 and make efforts to disseminate its "best practice" experience to other parts of the UN system.

More information about UNU's "Going for Green" initiative is available online at <http://www.unu.edu/iso14001/index.htm>. ■

Conference highlights the values of forests

Forests are a haven for much of the world's genetic biodiversity. However, recent rapid deforestation threatens not only this biodiversity, but also the world economy and, in some instances, its cultural heritage. The decline of forests is so relentless (some 15 million hectares of forests are lost annually, largely in the tropics) that some experts believe the character of the planet and of human enterprise may soon change unless clear and concrete action is taken now to save the world's forests.

On 12–13 October 2000, the UNU, in cooperation with the World Commission on Forests and Sustainable Development (WCFSD), the Environment Agency of Japan and the Forestry Agency of Japan, organized "The Values of Forests – International Conference on Forests and Sustainable Development." The objective of the conference was to highlight the true nature of the multiple values of forests in promoting sustainable development (including historical, cultural, ecological and economic aspects) in order to determine areas for future research and gaps in forest management policies.

Senior officials and eminent scholars from academia, international



Ola Ullsten, former Prime Minister of Sweden (left) and Wakako Hironaka, Member of the House of Councillors, Japanese Diet, consulting between the sessions

organizations, governments and civil society attended the conference, which was held at the UNU Centre. Speakers included Wakako Hironaka, Member, House of Councillors, Japanese Diet; Ola Ullsten, Former Prime Minister of Sweden and Co-Chair of the WCFSD; Matti Palo of the Finnish Forest Research Institute; George Woodwell, President of The Woods Hole Research

Center; naturalist and writer C.W. Nicol; and other distinguished scholars.

Key issues discussed in the conference were the proposal for an international year of forests, future forest management practices, and valuation- and awareness-building. There were five sessions, focusing on Historical Value of Forests, Ecological Value of Forests, Economic Value of Forests, Efforts to Preserve and Enhance the Value of Forests, and Evaluation of the Value of Forests. More information about the conference, including summaries of the five sessions, is available online at <http://www.geic.or.jp/forest/>. ■



Symposium explores challenges facing Japan

On 15–16 March 2001, the UNU Institute of Advanced Studies (UNU/IAS) and National Institute for Research Advancement (NIRA) jointly organized an international symposium on Challenges Facing Japan in the Twenty-First Century. This symposium, supported by the *Nihon Keizai Shimbun*, presented findings from NIRA's "Comprehensive Research Project for the Twenty-First Century." NIRA's two-year project examined Japan's course at the threshold of the new century based on cumulative results of past research, and identified three fundamental challenges facing the people of Japan in the first quarter of the twenty-first century: becoming

good East Asian citizens who are proud of their national heritage, proactively pursuing peace as a cornerstone of Japanese culture, and creating a living environment that is both attractive to the Japanese people and attractive and open to people from other countries.

The symposium was held in the U Thant International Conference Hall at the UN House in Tokyo. Following an opening address by NIRA Chairman Yotaro Kobayashi and welcoming remarks by UNU/IAS Director A.H. Zakri, Taichi Sakaiya, former Minister of Japan's Economic Planning Agency, delivered the first day's keynote lecture. Keynote speaker for the second day of the symposium was

Yasushi Akashi, former Under Secretary-General of the United Nations.

The symposium featured four sessions of presentations by researchers and follow-up discussions by groups of expert panellists from Japan and abroad. The themes of these four sessions were: "Japanese Politics and Economy Between 1980 and 1999," "Economic Symbiosis in East Asia," "Japanese Society in the Twenty-First Century" and "Aiming Toward Proactive Peace."

The second day of the symposium included a concurrent special session on "Developments in the Life Sciences and Law – The Draft Proposal Bio-Ethics Law." ■

UNU/EU hold conference on humanitarian crises

During the decade of the 1990s, according to the UN's Millennium Report, the number of war-related deaths surpassed 5 million. Further – and clearly indicative of a much wider tragedy – at the end of 1999 more than 18 million people were refugees, either internally displaced or seeking asylum.

When societies collapse into armed conflict, the innocent victims of that violence suffer miseries ranging from physical

displacement and gross abuses of human rights to destruction of infrastructure and loss of life. Moreover, civil conflict rarely remains confined within territorial borders, but often adversely affects regional or international peace and stability.

On 25–26 January 2001, the United Nations University and the



UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan and EU Commissioner for Development and Humanitarian Aid Poul Nielson opening a special public exhibition on Humanitarian Emergencies on 24 January

Delegation of the European Commission in Japan jointly hosted an international conference whose main goals were to develop practical recommendations for improving international responses to humanitarian crises and to raise public awareness of the issue. The conference, “Partners in Humanitarian

Crises: Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution – Towards a Comprehensive Approach,” was held in the U Thant International Conference Hall at the UN House in Tokyo.

Following introductory remarks by Kiyohiro Araki (Senior State Secretary for Foreign Affairs of Japan), UNU Rector Hans van Ginkel, and Ambassador Ove Juul Joergensen (Head of the Delegation of the European Commission in

Japan), Poul Nielson (EU Commissioner for Development and Humanitarian Aid) delivered the keynote address on the topic of “Humanitarian Crises: Challenges for the 21st Century.” Other speakers included Glenys Kinnock (Member of the European Parliament), Yasushi Akashi (Chairman of the Japan Centre for Preventive Diplomacy), Sadako Ogata (former UN High Commissioner for Refugees), Mari Fitzduff (Director of the Initiative on Conflict Resolution and Ethnicity), David Malone (President of the International Peace Academy), and Fergal Keane (Foreign Affairs Correspondent, BBC).

Conference participants discussed the challenges of effective conflict prevention, the dilemmas of international responses to intra-state conflicts, and the illusions and realities of conflict resolution. They also considered a wide range of issues related to the roles of humanitarian aid donors, non-governmental organizations, and the news media, focusing specifically on how rhetoric can be turned into constructive action.

This was the first in what will become an annual series of international conferences organized by the UNU and the Delegation of the European Commission in Japan. Conferences in this series will focus on joint concerns of the UN, the EU, and Japan in areas of development cooperation, humanitarian aid and crisis management. ■

2001 Akino Memorial Research Fellows named

In 1999, the UNU received a 100 million yen contribution from the Government of Japan in memory of Dr. Yutaka Akino, who was killed in July 1998 while on active service with the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan. The UNU and Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs agreed that half of the contribution would be used to fund a five-year Akino Memorial Research Project designed to help train young Japanese scholars on topics related to “Peace and Environment in Central Asia.”

In a meeting in mid-January, the Akino Memorial Research Fellowship Selection Committee reviewed research proposals and decided to award four fellowships for 2001, the second year of the project. The 2001 Akino Memorial Research Fellows are:

● Mr. Tetsuro Chida, a master course student at the University of Tokyo, who will do research on “The Change and Continuity of the Cadre

Policy in Kazakhstan in the 1980s”;

- Ms. Toko Fujimoto, a graduate student at Kyoto University, who will do research on “Social Networks based on Kinship” in rural Kazakhstan;
- Ms. Kochi Okada, a doctoral student at Goldsmiths College, London University, who will research “Culture, Art and National Identity in Uzbekistan”;
- Mr. Ippei Shimamura, a Ph.D. candidate at The Graduate University for Advanced Studies (National Museum of Ethnology, Japan), who will conduct research on “The Roots-seeking Movement in Aga-Buryat.”

Each Akino Memorial Research Fellowship covers up to one year of research, including field study in the relevant region of Central Asia.

This year’s Akino Fellows met with UNU Rector Hans van Ginkel and their research advisers at the UNU Centre on 31 January 2001. ■

Work in Progress highlights ESD research activities

The spring 2001 issue (volume 16, no. 2) of *Work in Progress*, a newsletter that reviews the research activities of the UNU, was published in late March. This 28-page issue of *Work in Progress* contains 12 articles that focus on some of the recent initiatives and successes of the UNU Environment and Sustainable Development (ESD) Programme.

Several of the articles cover projects concerned with the productive and stable management of natural resources. Others discuss effective means of coping with pollution, the growth of cities and climatic changes.

“Biodiversity Conservation through Agrodiversity” reports on recent progress achieved by the UNU’s flagship People, Land Management and Environmental Change (PLEC) project. In 1998, PLEC joined a four-year Global

Environment Facility work programme whose overarching goal is to develop sustainable and participatory approaches to conservation (especially of biodiversity) within small farmers’ agricultural systems. The article, a mid-term report of this programme, details the progress achieved in setting up and operating demonstration sites, assessing agrodiversity and biodiversity, developing “best models” for biodiversity conservation,



The Danube River basin covers 17 countries in Europe which includes many important ecosystems of high environmental value such as wetlands and floodplain forests.
(Photo by Libor Jansky, UNU)

and building capacity in developing countries.

“Sustainable Use and Conservation of Natural Resources in the High Pamir Mountains of Central Asia” describes a project being developed jointly by the UNU Global Mountain Partnership Programme and other agencies. Mountain areas, especially those in Central Asia countries, have been strongly affected by the economic and social transformation processes accompanying transition to a market economy. The High Pamir Mountains have been identified as an area of particular concern.

Two articles deal with the effective management of water resources. “International River Basin Management” discusses UNU activities that focus on seriously threatened water bodies and on the most pressing transboundary threats to their ecosystems. “Modeling for Sustainable Development in the Lake Malawi/Nyasa International Basin of Africa” describes current threats to that lake and discusses UNU/World Bank efforts to apply ecosystem modeling as a guide for future development, thereby helping to ensure that the sustainability of this critical and unique aquatic resource is not degraded.

“The Role of Forests in Sustainable Development” discusses an ongoing UNU pilot project to design joint research projects in support of sustainable forest

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INCORE Digest reviews ethnic conflict publications

Ethnic Conflict Research Digest is a semiannual compendium of peer reviews of recently published books, journal articles and research papers on the dynamics and management of ethnic conflict. Published by The Initiative on Conflict Resolution and Ethnicity (INCORE), the Digest has become a well-established and valuable tool for academics and policy makers in the field of ethnic conflict and conflict resolution.

The 64 reviews in the September 2000 issue (volume 3, no. 2) of *Ethnic Conflict Research Digest* are organized under six themes (Ethnicity and Nationalism, Transitional Politics, The Politics of Memory, Conflict Theory and International Relations, Migration, Human Rights and Humanitarianism) and six areas (Asia, Africa, The Middle East, Europe, Post-Soviet and North America). The broad range of books covered makes the persistence of a variety of types of conflict throughout the world clearly evident.

The September 2000 issue of the Digest also includes three articles: on the role of the International Tribunals for Yugoslavia and Rwanda, the

political nature of international law and contrasting views of recent events in the former Yugoslavia.

All of the reviews and articles are available online at <http://www.incore.ulst.ac.uk/ecrd/>. The reviews from all six issues to date are accessible in HTML format, organized by subject and year of publication, or downloadable by issue as Adobe PDF files.

INCORE, a joint undertaking of UNU and the University of Ulster, was established in 1993 to undertake research and policy work that is useful to the resolution of ethnic, political and religious conflicts. INCORE’s current research focuses on post-conflict issues, issues of governance and diversity, and research methodology in violent societies.

INCORE also produces an online Conflict Data Service (CDS) <http://www.incore.ulst.ac.uk/cds/>. The CDS provides current and historical information on all major ongoing conflicts, thematic guides on a variety of issues relevant to conflict studies, and information on conflict resolution institutions throughout the world. ■

ESD research activities *(Continued from page 8)*

management within the World Forests, Society and Environment Research Programme and to disseminate the research findings of that programme. Other resource management-related articles include two that focus on the work of the UNU Institute for Natural Resources in Africa – the use of ethnobotany information to target conservation and genetic improvement of indigenous leafy vegetables in Nigeria as a means of enhancing food security, and efforts to establish a directory of women professionals in natural resources in Africa – and one that outlines activities of the UNU Geothermal Training Programme.

“Hunting for Endocrine Disruptors in East Asia Waters” summarizes the work a UNU regional monitoring programme that covers the coastal zones of nine East Asia countries. Various endocrine disruptor compounds (EDCs) – chemicals that can interfere with or interrupt metabolic, growth and reproductive hormonal functions in animals and humans – are present in significant quantities in the environment and believed to be having adverse impacts on the health of humans and ecosystems. UNU monitoring activities target compounds originating from land-based sources that are suspected to be EDCs.

How best to cope with climate change is the focus of “A Retrospective Study of the 1997–98 El Niño.” This article looks at lessons learned from a 16-country multi-organizational retrospective study of the societal impacts of what has come to be called the “El Niño of the Century.”

Rounding out this issue of *Work in Progress* are two articles – one focusing on the UNU’s Zero Emissions Forum, and one highlighting the UNU’s City Inspirations Initiative – that examine the broad implications of human lifestyles and consumption patterns on the industrial and urban realms, and efforts to optimize the use of resources and minimize the generation of waste.

Copies of the Spring 2001 issue of *Work in Progress* are available from the UNU Public Affairs Section. Recent issues of *Work in Progress* are

International study recounts lessons learned from 1997–98 El Niño

The climatic phenomenon known popularly as El Niño brings catastrophes such as floods, fires, drought, cyclones and outbreaks of infectious disease to many parts of the world. Until an investment is made to improve forecasting of and preparedness against El Niño and its related events, warns a recent study, thousands of human casualties and tens of billions of dollars in economic damage will continue to occur in each El Niño cycle. The most recent (1997–98) El Niño caused several thousand deaths and an estimated \$96 billion in damage worldwide, with the heaviest impact on the poor in developing countries.

“El Niño is not a freak occurrence,” UNU Rector Hans van Ginkel told correspondents at a 27 October 2000 press briefing held to release the summary of an inter-organizational retrospective study of the 1997–98 El Niño. “It recurs every two to seven years on average, and is becoming an increasingly predictable part of the global climate system. We need to accelerate our understanding of it and be better braced to deal with its devastating consequences.”

The study, “Reducing the Impact of Environmental Emergencies through Early Warning and preparedness: The Case of the 1997–98 El Niño,” was funded by the United Nations Foundation and undertaken through the collaborative efforts of four UN organizations – the United Nations University, UNEP, World Meteorological Organization (WMO), and International Strategy for Disaster Reduction – and the (US-based) National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR). It consisted of concrete research meant to lead to better monitoring and prediction of El Niño weather events and measures to minimize their impact.

During the 19-month study, researchers examined the societal impacts of El Niño in 16 developing countries worldwide. Particular attention was given to how societies reacted to the El Niño-related events,

especially the existing government infrastructure, management approaches, information flow, forecasting capabilities, early warning and disaster preparedness. The project’s stated purpose was to identify “what worked, and what didn’t,” and to identify lessons that could be learned from the similarities among the countries.

The study found that few forecasters came close to forecasting El Niño’s onset in mid-1997, and none grasped its magnitude until the climatic changes were well under way. Further, the predictions of El Niño’s impacts provided by national and regional forecasters typically were too general to be used with confidence by national and local decision makers; some authorities had to make vital and costly response decisions based on uncertain or even misleading information.

In particular, the study found that problems coping with the impacts of El Niño centred on:

- Forecast reliability,
- Lack of education and training about the El Niño phenomenon,
- Insufficient resources to cope in a preventive or mitigative way,
- Long lag time between forecast and impacts, responses and reconstruction,
- Jurisdictional disputes among government agencies,
- Political and economic conditions during the event,
- Lack of donor sensitivity to local needs, and
- Poor communication among the various key players.

A key recommendation of the study is the creation of regional organizations to prepare collective responses to El Niño.

Copies of the study summary (“Lessons Learned from the 1997–98 El Niño: Once Burned, Twice Shy?”) are available from the UNU Public Affairs Section. The study summary is also available online at <http://www.esig.ucar.edu/un/enFinal.pdf>

also available online at <http://www.unu.edu/hq/ginfo/wip/>

[wipindex.html](#)

Strategic Plan 2000 outlines UNU's future roles and goals

In 2000, the United Nations University marked the 25th anniversary of the start of its academic work. Over the course of its first quarter century, the UNU has evolved considerably from its initial three programmes to a global network of twelve UNU research and training centers and programmes (RTC/Ps). Recently, the UNU has undergone major changes designed to enhance its capacity to address the challenges and seize the opportunities of its increasingly decentralized structure.

Not only has the institutional structure of the UNU evolved markedly from its early days, but also – if the University is to remain relevant and effective in our increasingly globalized world – it will clearly have to continue to do so. The fundamental question is: In what direction must it advance, and how can it most productively do so?

A carefully considered vision of the UNU's future – its mission, key roles, goals and objectives, as well as its major programmes and activities – is presented in *UNU Strategic Plan 2000: Advancing Knowledge for Human Security and Development*. This document, which draws on the insights and recommendations of a number of external evaluations, outlines “a vision to make UNU a more effective research and capacity-building organization, one that makes relevant and beneficial contributions

to the United Nations, its Peoples and Member States.”

The overall strategic plan for the UNU has a time horizon of four years. It has been developed in cooperation and through interaction with the University's constituent parts (which have their own strategic plans as building blocks of the overall plan). The plan draws upon discussions within the University (particularly the UNU Council) and in the Advisory Boards of the RTC/Ps, as well as upon discussions with representatives from various UN organizations/agencies and national delegations to the UN, and from universities, research organizations and non-governmental organizations.

The strategic plan outlined in *UNU Strategic Plan 2000* was adopted by the UNU Council in December 1999. It is not meant to be a “final,” static document, but rather is the start of an ongoing planning process. The first redrafted version of *UNU Strategic Plan 2000*, presented to the UNU Council in November 2000, will become Strategic Plan 2001. The plan is set up to become increasingly concrete as the planning process progresses.

The seven chapters of *UNU Strategic Plan 2000* look at:

- vision and action;
- the major global challenges and the evolving external context facing UNU;

- the main thematic areas of UNU work (within the two broad programme areas of Peace & Governance and Environment & Sustainable Development);
- the development of UNU programmes and institutions, including their focus and current trajectory;
- the main types of work undertaken by UNU (research, policy studies, capacity building and dissemination), with specific recommendations for how each core activity can be strengthened;
- plans for making UNU a more open and proactive institution; and
- concrete steps for making the administration of UNU activities more effective.

A major focus of the year 2000 was beginning to implement the measures highlighted in the plan. This included measures to enhance the quality and relevance of UNU research and capacity-building activities as well as to improve management efficiency. Another key aspect was to reach out to UNU's partners in international academia, the United Nations system and developing countries as well as to stakeholders in the host countries of the UNU family.

UNU Strategic Plan 2000 is available online (as an Adobe PDF file) at <http://www.unu.edu/stplan2000.pdf>. ■

UNU Update offers online news

There's no need to wait for your next copy of *UNUnexions* to find out what's happening at the United Nations University. Current news about UNU activities is as close as the Internet.

UNU Update is the online newsletter of the United Nations University and its international network of affiliated institutions. Each online issue (published on a monthly/bimonthly schedule) contains several (typically eight to ten) informative news summaries and announcements. Issue 10 (July-August 2001), for example, highlights:

- UNU/INWEH's role in the “Virtual Learning Center for Water,” a new

UN Internet-based project designed to provide distance learning opportunities and information on best water management practices for developing countries;

- “Digital Economy and the Environment,” a two-year international collaborative project launched by UNU/IAS to investigate the environmental impact of information technology;
- a conference in Helsinki hosted by UNU/WIDER focusing on how to ensure that debt reduction for poor countries speeds development and benefits those most in need;
- a conference on the Bangladesh arsenic crisis held in Dhaka, co-hosted by UNU and the NGO Earth

Identity Project; and

- the “International Conference on the Dialogue of Civilizations,” co-hosted in Tokyo and Kyoto by UNU and UNESCO.

In addition to the current issue, an online archive of back issues is also maintained.

UNU Update is available at <http://update.unu.edu/>. The site also contains a form with which you can register to be notified when a new edition of *UNU Update* is available and to be added to the mailing list of UNU Centre or any of UNU's Research and Training Centres/Programmes. ■

UNU conference considers issues of global ethos

On 24–26 October 2000, the UNU and its Institute of Advanced Studies (UNU/IAS), with support from the United Nations Development Programme and Tokyo Forum, hosted a three-day International Conference on Global Ethos. This conference, held at the UNU Centre in Tokyo, brought together renowned academics, practitioners and thinkers from around the world for a global dialogue focusing on various current issues and dilemmas that challenge our tradition frameworks of values and ethics.

Underpinning the conference was recognition that dramatic developments in science and technology, as well as in political and social thought, are transforming the ways in which we understand and organize human society. These developments have the potential to catapult humanity into a new era characterized by a stable, equitable and just world system. If not managed thoughtfully, however, they could instead place further strains on our already stressed natural environment, widen the global gap between rich and poor, and further concentrate access to knowledge and influence over international decision-making.

The conference provided a forum for discussion of the key challenges related to global ethos in an attempt to locate an initial common ground from which all humanity can progress. These challenges were discussed within the themes of (1) Global Capitalism and Sustainable Development; (2) Science, Knowledge and Ethics; (3) International Society, Justice and Equity; and (4) Religion, Gender and Culture. Specific practical issues that are currently the focus of international attention provided a focus for the discussions. There were ten panel sessions covering such topics as affluence and poverty, the ethics of gene research, religion and culture, the internationalization of justice, and gender and women's rights.

Speakers at the conference included Hans Küng, Director Emeritus, Institute for Ecumenical Research, University of Tübingen (Germany); Thomas Axworthy, InterAction Council, John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard

University; Yersu Kim, Former Director, Universal Values Project, UNESCO Division of Philosophy and Ethics; and Vigdis Finnbogadottir, former President, Republic of Iceland, and Chair, Council of Women World Leaders, Harvard.

The international conference was followed on 27 October by an International Youth Symposium on Global Ethics and Values. This symposium provided students in masters' and doctoral level programmes in a variety of disciplines an opportunity for open discussion focusing on the same issues as were discussed in the three-day conference.

Results of the International



At the International Conference on Global Ethos, (from left) James M. Hester, President of the Harry Frank Guggenheim Foundation and the first Rector of UNU (1975–80), Thomas Axworthy of InterAction Council, Harvard University, and Hans Küng, Director Emeritus of the Institute for Ecumenical Research, University of Tübingen

Conference on Global Ethos fed into the UNU's ongoing initiative relating to the "United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations: 2001." Selected papers from the conference are available online at <http://vulab.ias.unu.edu/GlobalEthos>. ■

UNU hosts OECD social sciences workshop

On 29 November through 1 December 2000, the UNU hosted an International Workshop on Social Sciences and Innovation, the third in a series of four Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) international workshops on the future of social sciences. Workshop participants included international experts and delegates from OED member countries. Participants discussed issues related to the contributions of social sciences to technological and social innovations, the impact of innovation on societal change, and the roles of social sciences in the context of rapidly progressing innovation in the new millennium.

Workshop plenary session 1, chaired by Seiichiro Yonekura, Director of Hitotsubashi University's Institute of Innovation Research, focused on "Promoting Innovation." Plenary session 2, chaired by UNU

Rector Hans van Ginkel, examined "Innovation, Science and Society." Three working groups met to discuss issues of technological innovation, social innovation, and the societal impacts of innovation.

Professor Nathan Rosenberg of Stanford University delivered the workshop's keynote address. Other speakers included Michael Osborne, OECD Deputy Director; Luk van Langenhove, Deputy Secretary General of the Federal Office for Scientific, Technical and Cultural Affairs, Belgium; Prof. Ikujiro Nonaka of Hitotsubashi University; Prof. Martin Kenney of the University of California at Davis; M.G.K. Menon, former Minister of Science and Technology, India; Prof. Yoichiro Murakami of International Christian University (Japan); Thierry Gaudin, President, Prospective 2100 (France); and Hiroyuki Yoshikawa, President, University of the Air (Japan). ■

Award ceremony for UNU-Kirin Fellows

On 8 March 2001, in an award ceremony held at the UN House in Tokyo, the 2000–2001 UNU-Kirin Fellows were presented with certificates of completion. The five Fellows completed a year-long training programme in advanced food science and technology at Japan's National Food Research Institute (NFRI) in Tsukuba.

The event opened with remarks by UNU Rector Prof. Hans van Ginkel, President Yasuhiro Satoh of the Kirin Brewery Company, and NFRI Director-General Dr. Tateo Suzuki. The five 2000–2001 UNU-Kirin Fellows – Mr. Jiang Zhengqiang (China), Dr. Darisi Venkata Sudhakar Rao and Dr. Jagan Mohan Rao (India), Ms. Nyamsuren Oyundari (Mongolia), and Dr. Hoang Viet (Viet Nam) – each presented a brief research summary, and then received a certificate from Rector van Ginkel and a commemorative gift from Mr. Satoh.

The goal of the UNU-Kirin Fellowship Programme, which began in 1993 with an annual contribution of ¥34 million from Japan's Kirin Brewery Company, is to build up the capacity of food research institutions throughout Asia. The programme enables five top scientists from developing countries in Asia to come to Japan each year for a full year of research and training in the latest techniques of food science and technology at NFRI. The Kirin sponsorship also provides financial support to the home institutions of the UNU-Kirin Fellows, thereby enabling them to continue their research and teach their fellow countrymen when they return home.

The 2001–2002 UNU Kirin Fellows – Dr. Md Majibur Rahman (Bangladesh), Mr. Song Yuan (China), Dr. Vallikannan Baskaran (India), Ms. Naigalmaa Baldandorjiin (Mongolia), and Dr. Dang Diem Hong (Viet Nam) – arrived in Japan in late March and are now engaged in research and training at NFRI. ■



UNU-Kirin Fellows with Kirin and NFRI officials, and UNU Rector

Experts discuss ozone and climate change convention interlinkages

On 2 and 3 November 2000, the UNU, in cooperation with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) Global Accords Program, and Alliance for Global Sustainability (AGS), organized an expert meeting to discuss problems in implementing global accords. This meeting, held at the MIT campus in Cambridge, Massachusetts, focused particularly on linkages between the Ozone and Climate Change Conventions, and the potential for their harmonized implementation.

The experts explored a variety of issues relevant to synergistic implementation of the conventions, including the advantages and disadvantages, as well as the efficacy of a “broader” approach to accord execution that considers interlinked “causes and effects.” Also discussed were issues related to institutional implementation at the national level, the roles played by the supporting financial mechanisms, and the “Issue Management Approach” that was highlighted by the UN Secretary-General in his Programme for Reform as a tool to resolve the coordination needs of UN agencies. The experts considered possible opportunities to contribute to the upcoming ten-year

review of the Rio Summit (Rio+10).

Meeting participants included Ambassador Richard Benedick, former US chief negotiator for the Ozone Convention; MIT Institute Professor Mario Molina, winner of the Nobel Prize for his work on stratospheric ozone depletion; Ambassador Rasmus Rasmusson of Sweden; Mr. K. Sarma, former Executive Secretary of the Ozone Secretariat; Mr. She Shuo Lang of the Multilateral Fund Secretariat; Prof. Edith Brown Weiss of Georgetown University; and Dr. Raman Letchumanan of the ASEAN Secretariat.

A key issue deliberated in the meeting was the rationale behind the substitutes to Ozone Depleting Substances (ODS) within the Ozone Convention – which were later found to be potent greenhouse gases and, thus, a problem for the Climate Change Convention. The meeting concluded with agreement that there is a need for both the academic community and the UN to further investigate the problem of interlinkages, and a model approach for promoting synergies in the further implementation of the ozone and climate change conventions should be developed. ■

UNU children's essay contest winners receive awards

As part of the United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations: 2001, the UNU held an essay contest for elementary school and junior high school students. Contestants were asked to write a two-page essay, in Japanese, on the theme of "Dialogue Beyond Borders: What I/we can do to enhance understanding and cooperation with one another beyond race, culture and nationality."

The UNU Children's Essay Contest 2001 was supported by Asahi Shimbun and the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology. The judging panel included Yozo Yokota (UNU Special Adviser to the Rector & Professor, Chuo University), Kenji Kitayama (Director, Asahi Forum, Asahi Shimbun), Yoshio Hatano (former

Amabassador to the United Nations) and writer Keiko Ochiai.

Five winners (one 1st Prize, one 2nd Prize and three 3rd Prizes) were selected in each category (elementary school and junior high school). At an awards ceremony held at UN House in Tokyo on 26 July, each award winner received book coupons and an award certificate signed by UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan and UNU Rector Hans van Ginkel.

The 1st and 2nd Prize essays in



Junior high school 1st Prize winner, Yumi Kamoi, shaking hands with UNU Rector Hans van Ginkel

each category were printed in an August edition of the Asahi Shimbun. All 10 award-winning essays and English translations are posted on the UNU website (<http://www.unu.edu>). ■



Junior high school 2nd Prize winner, Nanami Kuroda (right)



Elementary school 1st Prize winner, Karen Matsumoto Hoch



Elementary school 2nd Prize winner, Momoko Yokota

April meetings focus on global water issues

In April, the UNU, in partnership with the World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP) and the 3rd World Water Forum Secretariat, co-organized two meetings highlighting critical issues for the management of global water resources. The first meeting, held at the UN House in Tokyo on 4 and 5 April, focused on synthesizing global water assessments into information for the World Water Development Report. The second meeting, a public symposium on human water stewardship, was held at the ANA Hotel in Tokyo on 6 April.

A growing water crisis threatens security, stability and environmental sustainability worldwide. Particularly in the developing world, millions die each year from water-borne diseases, while water pollution and ecosystem

destruction continue unabated. In its Millennium Declaration, the United Nations called on the nations of the world to "halve by 2015 the proportion of people who are unable to reach, or to afford, safe drinking water" and to "stop the unmanageable exploitation of water resources."

In response to the crisis, the UNU has focused its projects on issues dealing with the management of water as a resource – particularly across national boundaries – and the evaluation of water quality in coastal areas. Among these is a recent study by the UNU that has developed new methodologies for treating water contamination by arsenic, a problem now faced by millions in Bangladesh and India.

The WWAP secretariat, co-

organizer of the meetings, focuses on assessing freshwater resources throughout the world. The primary output of the WWAP will be the biennial World Water Development Report. The public symposium on 6 April introduced the WWAP to local audiences with the aim of raising awareness about the global water crisis and the need for urgent and concrete actions to solve it. Some 130 participants, including 30 journalists, attended the symposium, which included a panel discussion on the role of the UN and that of Japan in the solution of world water issues.

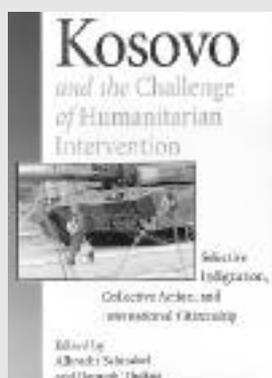
The first World Water Development Report is scheduled for submission to the 3rd World Water Forum, which will be held in Kyoto, Japan, on 16-23 March 2003. ■

New from UNU Press

Kosovo and the Challenge of Humanitarian Intervention: Selective Indignation, Collective Action, and International Citizenship

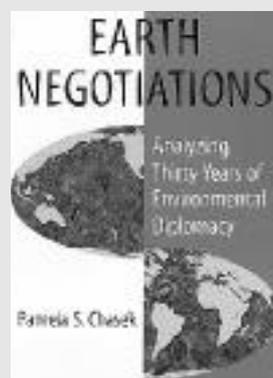
Edited by Albrecht Schnabel and Ramesh Thakur

The Kosovo conflict had significant ramifications for the way in which world politics are understood and conducted. This book offers interpretations of the Kosovo crisis from varied perspectives: the conflict parties, NATO allies, the immediate region surrounding the conflict, and further afield. Country perspectives are supplemented by analyses of the conflict's longer term normative, operational and structural consequences for world politics.



ISBN 92-808-1050-2; US\$39.95

NOTE: This book was selected as one of the prestigious "Notable Government Documents Awards" winners for 2000 by *The Library Journal* (a publication of the American Library Association).



Earth Negotiations: Analyzing Thirty Years of Environmental Diplomacy

By Pamela S. Chasek

Chasek develops a phased-process model that enables greater understanding of the process by which international agreements are negotiated. She breaks down the negotiating process into six discernable phases and five associated

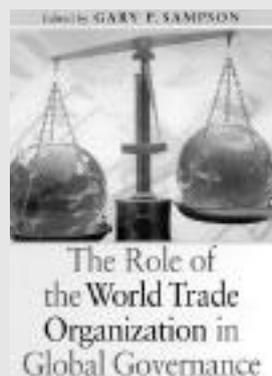
turning points, and uses these to analyze the roles of the different actors, the management of issues, the formation of groups/coalitions and the art of consensus building.

ISBN 92-808-1047-2; US\$24.95

The Role of the World Trade Organization in Global Governance

Edited by Gary P. Sampson

Because it has expanded the reach of trade rules deep into the regulatory structure of most nations of the world, the WTO now finds itself at the centre of controversy in areas far outside the domain of traditional trade policy. This book examines how policy makers can and should respond to the new pressures,



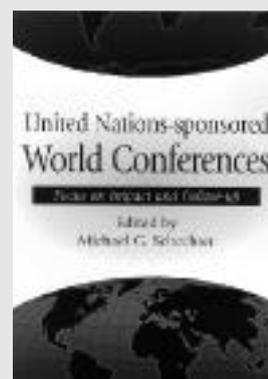
including public interest group demands for a role in the WTO process and major trade reforms.

ISBN 92-808-1055-3; US\$24.95

United Nations-sponsored World Conferences: Focus on Impact and Follow-up

Edited by Michael G. Schechter

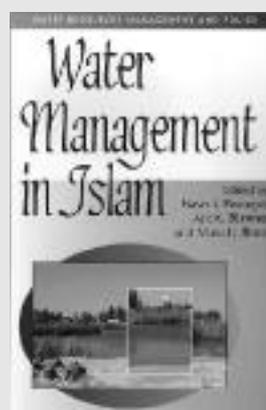
Of what value were the widely publicized and well-attended UN-sponsored World Conferences of the 1990s? What was actually accomplished? This book demonstrates, through the use of case studies, that answering these sorts of questions requires a focus on the follow-up and implementation of the conferences as well as a careful assessment of the long-term impacts.



ISBN 92-808-1048-0; US\$24.95

Water Management in Islam

Edited by Naser Faruqi, Asit K. Biswas and Murad Bino



Water is rapidly becoming a key development issue in the Middle East and North Africa. This book, which presents Islamic perspectives on such water-management policies as water demand management, wastewater reuse and higher tariffs, serves as a concrete example of the benefit of examining development in the context of values and culture.

ISBN 92-808-1036-7; US\$19.95

The UNU Press has more than 200 titles in print, covering a wide range of subjects including vital issues in the fields of the environment and sustainable resource development, peace and governance, economic and social development, and regional studies. Inquiries about books or requests for the current UNU Press Publications Catalogue should be addressed to the Marketing and Sales Unit (fax: +81-3-3406-7345; e-mail sales@hq.unu.edu).

See <http://www.unu.edu/unupress/> for catalogues of new and backlist books and related information.

Recent UNU activities

2001

12–13 January, Helsinki: Project Meeting on “Production, Employment and Income Distribution in the Global Digital Economy”

15–19 January, Macau: Training Course on Software Project Management (UNU/IIST)

25–26 January, Tokyo: EU-UNU Conference on “Partners in Humanitarian Crises: Prevention, Management and Resolution”

30 January–5 February, San Jose/Turrialba, Costa Rica: UNU/WFSE Research Programme Strategy Workshop

31 January, Tokyo: UNU-Akino Memorial Research Project Introductory Seminar

2–21 February, Tokyo: Training in “Localizing Environmental Action: Bringing Together Local Governments and Urban Stakeholders in the Asia Pacific Region”

6–9 February, Caracas: I Congreso Venezolano de Bioética – I Congreso Iberoamericano de Bioética (UNU/BIOLAC)

10–16 February, Chiang Mai, Thailand: TRF-PLEC Workshop on “Regeneration Ecology and Management for Degraded Landscapes and Forest Ecosystems”

18–19 February, Kunming, China: Annual Meeting of PLEC China Cluster

22 February, Tokyo: World Bank – UNU Public Forum on “Global Sustainability – Challenges and Responses for the New Millennium”

22 February, Tokyo: Second UNU Mountain Working Group Meeting

26–27 February, Kuala Lumpur: Workshop on “Inter-Linkages, Synergies and Coordination among Multilateral Environmental Agreements”

1–3 March, Milwaukee: Workshop on UNU Project on “Human Rights and Societies in Transition”

2–22 March, Bangkok: Training on “Follow the Leader: Youth and Environmental Leadership in the Asia Pacific Region”

5–20 March, Tamil Nadu, India: UNU-UNESCO International Training Course on “Coastal Biodiversity in Mangrove Ecosystems”

7–8 March, Pretoria: Workshop on the UNU Project on “Children in Armed Conflict in Africa” (UNU & ISS)

8–9 March, Santiago: UNU/WIDER Project Planning Meeting on “Capital Flows to Developing Countries since the Asian Crisis: How to Manage their Volatility”

10–12 March, Maputo, Mozambique: Second Meeting of the International Commission on Intervention and State Sovereignty

15–16 March, Tokyo: Conference on “Challenges Facing Japan in the Twenty-

First Century” (UNU & NIRA)

19–20 March, Tokyo: Workshop on “The Role of Science in the Dialogue of Civilizations”

21–23 March, Amsterdam: Workshop on “Refugees and Human Displacement in Contemporary International Relations: Reconciling State and Individual Sovereignty”

26–28 March, Bruges, Belgium: 21st Conference of Directors of UNU Research and Training Centres and Programmes

28–29 March, Hamilton (Ontario), Canada: Annual UNU/INWEH International Advisory Committee Meeting

2–3 April, New York: Dissemination Seminar and press interviews on findings of the UNU Project on “Civil Society and Global Finance”

4–6 April, Tokyo: Meetings on “Global Water Issues: A Primer for the 3rd World Water Forum” (UNU & WWP)

5–6 April, Washington, DC: Dissemination Seminar and Press Interviews on Findings of UNU Project “Civil Society and Global Finance”

6–8 April, Amman: Conference on “The ‘New Diplomacy’ and the Development of International Law” (UNU, Univ. of Waterloo & Canadian DFAIT)

16–17 April, Seoul: UNU International Symposium on “Industries and EDC Pollution” (UNU, KORDI & KJIST)

19–21 April, Hadano, Japan: UNU International Training Workshop on “Analytical Procedures for Monitoring Phthalates” (UNU & Shimadzu Corp.)

19–21 April, Helsinki: Project Meeting on “Property Rights Regimes, Microeconomic Incentives and Development” (UNU/WIDER)

23 April, New York: World Governance Survey: Preliminary Findings and Next Steps

26–27 April, Tokyo: Workshop on “The Role of Communication and Media in the Dialogue of Civilizations”

2–6 May, Arusha, Tanzania: Fifth Meeting of PLEC Management Group

3–5 May, Tokyo: Workshop on “The Role of Education in the Dialogue of Civilizations”

4–5 May, Helsinki: Project Meeting on “Institutional Capabilities, Reform Ownership and Development in Sub-Saharan Africa” (UNU/WIDER)

5 May, Geneva: Conference on “The Role of the WTO in Global Governance” (UNU & Ford Foundation)

5–7 May, Dhaka: UNU-BUET International Workshop on “Technologies For Arsenic Removal From Drinking Water”

7–18 May, Guiyang City, China: Training in “Duration Calculus and Fault-Tolerant Real-Time Concurrent Systems” and “Formal Software Development using RAISE” (UNU/IIST)

14 May–22 June, Tokyo: UNU International Courses

15 May, Tokyo: Public Lecture on “The Situation After Achievement of Peace in Tajikistan and its Rehabilitation and Reconstruction”

16 May, Maastricht: Conference on “Innovation, Learning and Technological Dynamism of Developing Countries” (UNU/INTECH)

22 May, Tokyo: Africa Day 2001: “The Millennium Africa Recovery Plan”

23 May, Tokyo: Lecture on “State of the Art of Forestry Research under European Context” and UNU/EFI Project Preparatory Meeting on “The Role of Forest Research and Capacity Development in the National Forestry Programmes in the Countries in Transition”

24–25 May, Tokyo: Workshop on “The Role of Ethics in the Dialogue of Civilizations”

25–26 May, Helsinki: UNU/WIDER Development Conference on Growth and Poverty

25–27 May, Kathmandu: Workshop on UNU Project on “Understanding and Managing Insurgent Movements”

28–30 May, Macau: UNU/IIST Board Meeting

28–29 May, Accra, Ghana: UNU/INRA Meeting on “Revitalizing African Research and Education”

4 June, Tokyo: International Symposium on “Environmental Accounting” (UNU/IAS & Japan Environment Agency)

6 June, Tokyo: International Symposium on “An Ecosystems Approach to Sustainability” (UNU/IAS & WRI)

6–8 June, Accra: Fifth Meeting of UNU/INRA Board

7 June, Tokyo: First U Thant Distinguished Lecture on “Globalization, Global Community and the United Nations” by Prime Minister Mahathir Bin Mohamad of Malaysia

8–9 June, Tokyo: Workshop on “Climate Change and Water Resources Management” (UNU & 3rd WWF Secretariat)

8–11 June, Bangkok: Third Meeting of the International Commission on Intervention and State Sovereignty

15–16 June, Helsinki: Project Meeting on “Insurance Against Poverty” (UNU/WIDER)

17–18 June, Amman: UNU/LA Workshop on the Role of Leadership in Dialogue among Civilizations

(Continued on page 16)

Recent UNU activities *(Continued from page 16)*

18–19 June, Helsinki: 17th Session of the Board of UNU/WIDER

20–21 June, Maastricht: 12th Meeting of the UNU/INTECH Board

25 June, Maastricht: Research Seminar on “Innovation and Competition in the Era of ‘Shareholder Value’: The Optical Networking Industry” (UNU/INTECH)

3 July, Maastricht: UNU/INTECH Research Seminar Series on “Knowledge Dynamics and the Mergers of Firms in the Pharmaceutical Industry”

11–13 July, New York: Meeting of the Bureau of the UNU Council

12 July, Tokyo: Public Forum: Evolving Concept of Peacebuilding: Natural Resource Management and Conflict Prevention (UNU/Japan Ministry of Foreign Affairs/FASID)

24–27 July, Hamada, Japan: UNU Global Seminar – Shimane Session on “IT, the Family and Gender – Coping with Socio-economic Change in the Information Age”

27–30 July, Port Moresby & Sogeri Ogotana, Papua New Guinea: Cluster Meeting of PLEC – Papua New Guinea and Field Day

30–31 July, Hong Kong: International Conference on the project on “Non-

Traditional Security Issues – East Asia”

30 July–17 August, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia: UNU/IIST Software Technology Training School

31 July – 3 August, Tokyo/Kyoto: International Conference on “The Dialogue of Civilizations” (UNU & UNESCO)

11–15 August, Ottawa: Fourth Meeting of the International Commission on Intervention and State Sovereignty

17–18 August, Helsinki: UNU/WIDER Development Conference on “Debt Relief” ■

Forthcoming UNU activities

3–4 September, Tokyo: World Summit for Sustainable Development: Eminent Persons Meeting on Inter-Linkages

3–7 September, Hayama, Japan: UNU Global Seminar – Shonan Session on “Issues and Prospects of the Global Environment”

10–14 September, Beijing: Fourth International Workshop on “Soil Conservation Methodologies and Integrated Land Management”

20–22 September, Conakri, Guinea: National Meeting on Agrobiodiversity and Rural Development Sustainability (UNU/PLEC)

25–28 September, Otsuchi, Japan: Third UNU-ORI Joint International Workshop on “Marine Environment and Coastal Ecology – Nutrient Cycles and Marine Pollution”

30 September–4 October, Interlaken, Switzerland: UNU Mountain Photograph Exhibit: Mountain Prospects – Images for the International Year of Mountains 2002

September, Maastricht: UNU/INTECH Research Seminar Series on “Technological Upgrading Using Clusters and Value Chain Approaches”

1 October, Tokyo: Building a Green Economy – Natural Capitalism and the Rebirth of Economics (UNU/IAS)

2 October, Tokyo: Lecture on Worldwide HIV/AIDS Epidemic by Dr. Peter Piot, Executive Director of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)

2 October, Tokyo: Second U Thant Distinguished Lecture on the “New African Initiative” by President Thabo Mbeki of the Republic of South Africa

2–5 October, Kobe: UNU Global Seminar – Kobe Session on “Building a New Asia and International Order”

9–12 October, Accra, Ghana: Sixth PLEC West Africa Cluster Regional Workshop

10–12 October, Singapore: International

Conference on the project on “Non-Traditional Security Issues – East Asia and Southeast Asia”

11–12 October, Macau: UNU-RIVM International Workshop on “Framework for Globally-Integrated Modeling of Earth Systems”

16–24 October, Accra, Ghana: First UNU/LA-UNU/INRA Leadership Course: Leadership for African Women Entrepreneurs

19 October, Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania: UNU/PLEC Technical and Policy Recommendations Workshop

21–26 October, Otsuchi, Japan: Third UNU-ORI Joint International Workshop: Marine Environment and Coastal Ecology- Nutrient Cycles and Marine Pollution

22–24 October, Tokyo: 2001 Annual Conference of the International Association of Peacekeeping Training Centres (IAPTC)

23 October, Tokyo: UN Day Conference on “Reforming UN Peace Operations: New Challenges for Peacekeeping Training”

25–26 October, Tokyo: Zero Emissions Symposium 2001

October, Maastricht: UNU/INTECH Research Seminar on “China and the Global Economy: ICT Case Studies”

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5–6 November, Maastricht: UNU/INTECH Workshop on “Market-friendly Innovation Policies in Developing Countries”

8–10 November, Montreal: International Symposium on “Managing Biodiversity in Agricultural Ecosystems” (UNU, IPGRI and SCBD)

14 November, Shiga, Japan: UNU Workshop on Lakes and Reservoirs as Important Elements of International Water System

19–22 November, Kanazawa, Japan: UNU Global Seminar Kanazawa Session on “Global Issues and the United Nations”

26–28 November, Utrecht: Conference on “International Humanitarian Law and Criminal Justice”

26–28 November, Arusha, Tanzania: PLEC Regional meeting for East Africa Cluster

November (tentative), Hamburg: Workshop on UNU project on “Civil-Military Relations and Post-Conflict Peacebuilding”

1 December, Tokyo: 22nd Conference of Directors of UNU Research and Training Centres and Programmes

3–7 December, Tokyo: 48th Session of the UNU Council

3–15 December, Recife, Brazil: Training School on Software Engineering (UNU/IIST)

4–7 December, Belem, Brazil: The First National Forum on Agrobiodiversity and Agrobiodiversity of Varzea (UNU/PLEC)

4–7 December, University of Macau, Macau: Eighth Asia-Pacific Software Engineering Conference (UNU/IIST)

20–23 December, Naha/Sashiki-cho (Okinawa): UNU Global Seminar – Okinawa Session on “Cultures in Globalization: Towards World Peace”

December, Macau: Asia and Pacific Software Engineering Conference 2001 (UNU/IIST) ■