



First Announcement (7 November 2006)

University of Joensuu - UNEP
Course on International Environmental Law-making and Diplomacy

Third annual course
26th June to 7th July 2006 at University of KwaZulu-Natal, Pietermaritzburg, South-Africa

The University of Joensuu and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) is presenting a high profile two-week course on international environmental law-making and diplomacy in collaboration with University of KwaZulu-Natal, in Pietermaritzburg, South-Africa. The Course is designed to transfer past experience in the field of environmental law to the future negotiators of environmental agreements. In addition, the Course aims to provide a forum to foster North-South co-operation and to take stock of recent developments in negotiations as well as implementation of multilateral agreements and diplomatic practices in the area.

The lectures will be given by experienced hands-on diplomats, government officials and members of academia. The third-year course includes, among others, the following lecturers:

Brook Boyer, Senior Programme Officer, UNITAR

Cam Carruthers, Assistant Director. Sustainable Development and International Affairs, Natural Resources Canada

Ed Couzens, Senior Lecturer, University of KwaZulu-Natal, Durban

Ahmed Djoghlaif, Currently Assistant Executive Director and Director, UNEP Division of GEF (However, from January 2006, Executive Secretary, CBD Secretariat)

Shafqat Kakakhel, Deputy Executive Director of UNEP

Donald Kaniaru, Special Senior Legal Advisor to the Executive Director of UNEP, and a former Director, (Division of Environmental Policy Implementation) UNEP

Michael Kidd, Professor, University of KwaZulu-Natal, Durban

Tuomas Kuokkanen, Professor, University of Joensuu

Elizabeth Mrema, Senior Legal Officer and Chief, MEAs, Support and Cooperation, Division of Environmental Conventions, UNEP

Akpezi Ogbuigwe, Head, Environmental, Education and Training, Division of Environmental Policy Development and Law, UNEP

Barbara Ruis, Legal officer, Division of Environmental Policy Development and Law, UNEP

Frits Schlingemann, Director, Regional Office for Europe, UNEP

Dire Tladi, Associate Professor, University of South Africa.

The Programme will cover the following modules:

1. Global and Regional Environmental Issues
2. International Environmental Law and Policy
3. International Environmental Law-making
4. International Environmental Diplomacy
5. Special Theme: Biodiversity

In these modules, a broad range of subjects will be discussed, including "The Mechanics of Negotiation" and "Monitoring of Compliance of Multilateral Environmental Agreements". The course is based on interactive methods.

The Course is intended for experienced government officials engaged in international environmental negotiations. In addition, other stakeholders such as representatives of non-governmental organizations and the private sector, may submit an application for the course. Researchers and academics in the field of international environmental law are also eligible. Approximately 35 participants, with an equal distribution from the North and South, will be admitted to the Course. As a matter of principle, the Course will try to maintain a gender balance. Participants having successfully completed this course will be awarded a Diploma.

An application form and a draft Programme can be found on the Course website. The application deadline is 7 April 2006. Participants from developed countries are expected to pay their expenses and a tuition fee of 600 euro. Candidates from developing countries and from countries in transition can apply for a fellowship.

Further information: from the Course website, <http://www.joensuu.fi/unep/envlaw> or <http://www.unep.org> or from the contact address Unepcourse@joensuu.fi or env.edu@unep.org or from tel. +358 (13) 251 2709 or (400) 257 755, fax +358 (13) 251 4893
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