University of Eastern Finland - UNEP

Course on Multilateral Environmental Agreements

First Announcement (25 February 2013)

The University of Eastern Finland (UEF) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) are jointly organizing a high profile two-week Course on international environmental law-making and diplomacy at the University of Eastern Finland, Joensuu Campus, Joensuu, Finland from 4 to 16 August 2013. The Course transfers past experience in the field of international environmental law to current and future negotiators of multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs). Each Course is based on a specific theme. In addition, the Course provides a forum to foster North-South cooperation and to take stock of recent developments in negotiations as well as in implementation of MEAs and diplomatic practices in the international environmental arena.

UEF began its operation in 2010 as a merger of the Universities of Joensuu and Kuopio. The UEF – UNEP Course on Multilateral Environmental Agreements was previously called the University of Joensuu – UNEP Course on International Environmental Law-making and Diplomacy.

This is the tenth year in which the Course will be held and, as in previous years, the lectures will be given by experienced hands-on diplomats, government officials, international civil servants and members of academia. The course is organized in collaboration with the Government of Finland.

The special theme of the Tenth Course is “Natural Resources”. Under that theme, a broad range of subjects will be addressed relating to natural resources and multilateral environmental agreements. In addition, general issues relating to international environmental law-making and diplomacy will be dealt with. 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 apply to the Course. Researchers and academics in the field of international environmental law are also eligible. As the 2013 Course's thematic focus is on natural resources and multilateral environmental agreements, candidates with experience in this field are encouraged to apply.

Approximately 30 participants, with an equal distribution from the North and South and taking into account gender balance will be admitted to the Course. Participants having successfully completed the Course will be awarded a Diploma.

An application form and a draft Programme can be found on the Course website from March 2013 onwards. The application deadline is 15 May 2013. Participants are expected to pay their travel and other expenses and a tuition fee of 1000 euro. Candidates from developing countries and from countries with economies in transition can apply for a full or partial fellowship.

Further information

Course website: http://www.uef.fi/unep or http://www.unep.org/training

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