



First Announcement (14 March 2009)

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

Sixth Annual Course
28 June to 10 July 2009, Kenya (Nairobi and Lake Naivasha Sopa Lodge)

The University of Joensuu, Finland, and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) are jointly organizing a high profile two-week Course on international environmental law-making and diplomacy. 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 co-operation and to take stock of recent developments in negotiations as well as in implementation of MEAs and diplomatic practices in the international environmental arena.

This is the sixth year in which the course will run and – as in previous years – the lectures will be given by experienced hands-on diplomats, government officials, international civil servants and members of academia. This year, the course will include, among others, lecturers from the following institutions:

- MEA Secretariats
- Ministry of the Environment of Finland
- Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland
- UNEP
- University of Joensuu, Finland
- University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa
- University of Nairobi, Kenya

The special theme of the Sixth Course is Environmental Governance. Under that theme, a broad range of subjects will be addressed. 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 Course's thematic focus is on environmental governance, candidates with experience in this field are encouraged to apply. Likewise, officials from permanent missions from, in particular, Nairobi, Kenya, are encouraged to apply. Approximately 30 participants, with an equal distribution from the North and South and taking into account gender balance as a matter of principle, 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. The application deadline is 30 April 2009. Participants are expected to pay their travel and other expenses and a tuition fee of 700 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.joensuu.fi/unep/envlaw> or

<http://www.unep.org/training>

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