



Bridges Trade BioRes

Biweekly news, events and resources at the intersection of trade and biodiversity

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FISHERIES

EU Ministers Acknowledge Need for CFP Overhaul

European fisheries ministers have reached a consensus on the need for radical reform of the EU's controversial Common Fisheries Policy (CFP). Those attending the European Commission's Agriculture and Fisheries Council in Brussels on Monday acknowledged that the rules governing the EU fisheries sector are flawed and should be decentralised to give member states and the fishing industry more power over how the sector operates.

The purpose of the 25 May meeting was to discuss several points raised by a 22 April 2009 Green Paper on CFP reform (see Bridges Trade BioRes, 22 April 2009, <http://ictsd.net/i/news/biores/45961/>).

The Green Paper says that 88 percent of EU commercial fish stocks are overfished and points to five structural failings that have led to the current situation: overcapacity, imprecise objectives, short-term decision-making, lack of responsibility of the industry, and overall lack of compliance.

Discards will be tackled 'step-by-step'

The meeting, chaired by Czech Minister for Agriculture Jakub Šebesta, invited ministers to express their views on prioritising the elements of the CFP that they feel are in need of reform and to suggest additional issues of concern that may have been overlooked by the Green Paper.

Environmentalists and the fisheries industry have long argued that the current rules are ineffective and wasteful. Because rules governing quotas are based on quantities at the point of landing, less profitable fish and fish caught over-quota are

often dumped back into the sea – even if they are dead.

“This practice is unacceptable and there is an undisputed need to eradicate it,” an EU spokesman said following Monday’s meeting. “Since 2007 the Commission has taken measures to reduce discards, however much more needs to be done.”

Danish Fisheries Minister Eva Kjer Hansen suggested the EU could enforce so-called catch quotas by taking steps such as installing cameras on fishing boats. Ministers ultimately agreed to support the Commission’s plans for a ‘step by step’ approach to discard elimination.

Industry welcomes support

The EU fisheries sector has been plagued by problems in recent years. The BBC reports that the number of people employed in the industry has contracted by a third in the UK alone. Fishermen welcomed the news that they may have a greater input on how fisheries rules are drafted and implemented.

“We’ve proved beyond all reasonable doubt that the present framework – which is tightly controlled by the Commission – isn’t working at all and needs to be decentralised,” said Bertie Armstrong of the Scottish Fishermen’s Federation.

“The outcome of this council seems to be that that’s been accepted by all. We weren’t absolutely sure that the Commission would be ready to let go and decentralise, but certainly that seems to be the theme. And that’s highly welcome.”

Only part of a whole package: environmentalists

But while the industry praised the ministers’ support for decentralisation as a leap forward, some environmental groups were more cautious. “It’s not going to be an answer on its own,” said Julie Cator of the marine environmental group Oceana. “It is only part of a whole package.”

Cator points to unresolved issues such as the WTO’s slowly moving discussions on fisheries

subsidies rules as essential elements of a long term solution for Europe’s fisheries sector (see related article, this issue). She also cautions that steps need to be taken to ensure that the current structural problems identified in the Green Paper are not replicated on a micro level after the CFP is decentralised.

All interested EU citizens are invited to comment on the questions set out in the Green Paper by 31 December 2009. Results of the consultation process will be published next year and will be followed by a legislative proposal to the Council and the European Parliament.

Since its creation in 1983, the CFP has been reviewed every 10 years (for information on the 2002 CFP reform see Bridges Trade BioRes, 23 January 2003, <http://ictsd.net/i/news/biores/8750/>). The next review is scheduled for 2012.

Additional information

The Green Paper can be accessed here: <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=COM:2009:0163:FIN:EN:PDF>.

Reaction to the Green Paper can be submitted here: http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/reform/consultation_en.htm.

ICTSD Reporting; “Denmark suggests cameras to stop EU’s overfishing,” REUTERS, 25 May 2009; “‘Delight’ at EU fish quota moves,” BBC, 25 May 2009.

CLIMATE CHANGE

Business Leaders Look toward Copenhagen

Business leaders meeting at the latest major roadside attraction on the way to Copenhagen have endorsed a statement urging climate negotiators to agree to cut greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in half by 2050. The so-called

'Copenhagen Call' includes six major points that attending CEOs and other top business leaders say should be considered essential elements of a successor to the Kyoto Protocol, which is set to expire in 2012.

In addition to the more than 500 CEOs from around the world in attendance at the 24-26 May World Business Summit on Climate Change in Copenhagen, the event drew some major star power, including UN secretary-general Ban Ki-moon, former US vice president Al Gore, and actress Cate Blanchett.

Gore, who has been a high profile champion of GHG reduction for some years now, stressed the need for business to play a role in creating a new climate change pact and underscored the urgency of the situation. "We have to do it this year. Not next year. This year," the Nobel laureate said. "The clock is ticking, because Mother Nature does not do bailouts."

For their part, business leaders attending the conference suggested that despite some rhetoric to the contrary, combating climate change could be a boon to the private sector.

"Business wants a global deal on climate change that is long, loud and legal: Climate policy must create clear long-term certainty on incentives, targets and time lines for unleashing the private sector strategies and investments needed to make a low-carbon economy possible," said Steve Howard, CEO of The Climate Group, a coalition representing major companies – such as BP, Starbucks, and Coca Cola – as well as municipal, state, and provincial governments.

Six tenets of the Copenhagen Call

The six elements outlined in the Copenhagen Call are: agreement on a science-based GHG stabilisation path with 2020 and 2050 emissions reduction targets; effective measurement, reporting and verification of emissions; incentives for a dramatic increase in financing low emissions technologies; deployment of existing low-emissions technologies and the development of new ones; funds to make communities more resilient and able to adapt to the effects of climate

change; and innovative means to protect forests and balance the carbon cycle.

Regarding GHG reduction targets, the text calls for the establishment of a pathway toward GHG reduction targets in 2020 and 2050 that will limit temperature increase to 2°C or less and supports a 50 percent reduction in GHGs from 1990 levels by 2050.

"We believe that working to reduce emissions now is less costly than delaying our efforts," the document reads. "There is nothing to be gained through delay. The deepest reductions should initially be made by developed economies though global emissions reduction will require all nations to play a part."

Business leaders also called for research and development funding for clean energy technologies and an end to government subsidies that buoy industries that negatively affect the environment. "Governments should strive to end the current perverse subsidies that favour high-emissions transport and energy infrastructure and promote deforestation," the Call reads.

Reaction to the meeting

General reaction to the summit was positive, with many observers acknowledging the importance of the role of business in a long-term solution to climate change. However, critics were quick to point to weaknesses in the final supporting document.

Oxfam, which attended the meeting, said the Copenhagen Call was "a tiny step in pushing for the right political recipe when it could have been a giant stride." The group also criticised those in attendance for not improving upon the initial draft of the document by setting clear specific targets.

"The Summit's communiqué is unchanged from the draft that was written at the start of the meeting," said Jeremy Hobbs, Oxfam's executive director. "It's a mystery how such influential and passionate voices could demand more urgency and specific commitments from the global business community – from Ban Ki-Moon, to Al Gore, to progressive businesses – only to be ignored in the final statement."

Environmental groups such as Greenpeace and Friends of the Earth criticised organisers for including GHG-intensive companies, including Shell and US-based electricity provider Duke Energy, in the talks. Nevertheless, such companies acknowledged the fact that change was indeed needed to move forward. "We're going to have to fundamentally redefine our business models in a low-carbon world," said Duke Energy Chairman James Rogers.

Momentum Building, Eyes Remain Fixed on Washington

Climate change meetings are taking place regularly around the world. And this is expected to intensify as the December summit of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) draws nearer.

But many observers say the lack of follow-through on US president Barack Obama's commitment to tackle climate change is causing consternation among countries waiting for Washington to set the tone for Copenhagen.

At the Major Economies Forum, a concurrent meeting in Paris that also looked at climate change, French Environment Minister Jean-Louis Borloo criticised the US for its lack of commitment. In contrast, Borloo commended China, the world's largest GHG emitter, saying leaders were "absolutely determined" to make meaningful cuts.

"We want to tell them, 'Yes, you can', you can do a lot more," Borloo told a radio station following the meeting.

Todd Stern, Obama's chief climate change negotiator, defended his government's commitments saying that US targets were in line with those in Europe, but only calculated differently.

In Washington, the Democrats have been working to move a major climate change bill through Congress (see Bridges Trade BioRes, 15 May 2009, <http://ictsd.net/i/news/biores/46678/>). But while the House Energy and Commerce Committee approved the Waxman-Markey bill on

21 May, observers say it will need to be less ambitious to get a final nod from the US Senate.

The next major round of UNFCCC climate talks on the road to Copenhagen will take place from 1-12 June in Bonn, Germany.

ICTSD Reporting; "US House of Representatives Committee Approves Climate Change Legislation," VOICE OF AMERICA, 22 May 2009; "U.S. Climate Effort Is 'Seismic' Change, Says Obama Team," NEW YORK TIMES, 27 May 2009; "World Business Leaders Issue 'Call' for New Climate Treaty," REUTERS, 26 May 2009; "Global CEOs back greenhouse gas cuts, carbon caps," AP, 27 May 2009.

ENVIRONMENT AT THE WTO

WTO Rules Group Inches along Fisheries Roadmap

An informal meeting of the Negotiating Group on Rules inched forward slowly but largely avoided controversial issues at its 11-14 May meeting in Geneva. The group's talks - which cover fisheries subsidies, anti-dumping, and horizontal subsidies disciplines - have been marked by long-standing disagreement over a few issues. But the chair of the committee, Ambassador Guillermo Valles Galmes of Uruguay, navigated around those questions last week and instead sought to "build momentum" in the less contentious areas of the talks, as one delegate put it.

Even if the main areas of controversy are avoided, it's "important to keep going" in the talks, the delegate said. The only way that delegations will reach compromise on hot button issues will be through the slow, iterative process of the negotiations, he noted, adding that he did not expect the chair to produce a new draft text before the current round of talks has wrapped up.

Disagreement on fisheries roadmap comes early

Discussions on disciplines in the fisheries sector followed the outlines of a 'roadmap' for those

talks that the chair issued at the end of last year (see Bridges Trade BioRes, 23 January 2009, <http://ictsd.net/i/news/biores/38538/>). The chair's roadmap replaces the prior text, which contained controversial language calling for a ban on specific subsidies.

The rules group is charged with strengthening disciplines on subsidies in the fisheries sector. A particular challenge for the group on this front has been to balance the need to protect the world's fish stocks from overfishing and the need to afford a just amount of 'special and differential treatment' to the world's poorer countries, many of which rely heavily on the sector.

Delegations at the meeting continued to disagree on the possible scope of the negotiations on bans on subsidies in the fisheries sector. Several delegations said that government payments to support aquaculture and fish processing should be disallowed, but other Members disagreed. Many delegations pushed for a stronger focus on marine wild-capture fish, and supported a broad ban on fisheries subsidies, but other delegations disputed the need for such a broad prohibition.

Delegations also clashed over whether governments should be allowed to provide subsidies for small-scale fishing, worker retraining, and income support. Some delegations said there was a need fully exclude such incentives, while a number of delegations stressed that minimum exceptions were required.

Support for anti-dumping SDT in developing world

Beyond fisheries, delegates expressed a broad level of support for increasing special and differential treatment for developing countries when they are the focus of anti-dumping investigations, and also backed the notion of providing such countries with technical assistance to set up their own anti-dumping authorities. Ghana, speaking on behalf of the African Group and the Group of African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries, called for a simplification of the WTO's anti-dumping rules, indicating that such a shift would allow them to better exercise their rights in that regard.

'Dumping' refers to the exporting of goods at artificially low prices, a practice that can undercut producers in the importing market. The WTO Agreement on Anti-Dumping allows Member governments to place retaliatory 'anti-dumping' tariffs on the goods in question, so long as they can prove that dumping is indeed taking place and that it is injuring the competing domestic industry.

Delegates look at role of financial crisis

The Friends of the Anti-Dumping Negotiations, or FANs, a 16-country grouping that includes Brazil, Canada, Mexico and Taiwan, warned that their fellow WTO Members "need to avoid the unwarranted use" of anti-dumping measures. A WTO report released earlier this month revealed that new anti-dumping investigations were on the increase in the second half of 2008 (see Bridges Weekly, 13 May 2009, <http://ictsd.net/i/news/bridgesweekly/46553/>). Some say that the trend may be a reflection of increased protectionist tendencies amid the economic slowdown.

At the urging of the chair, the meeting featured a discussion on how the ongoing economic downturn might affect the group's work on subsidies. China urged Members to limit their use of trade remedies, and warned that government stimulus packages could trigger an increase in countervailing-duty investigations in the future. But the EU, which said that it had been keeping a close eye on various stimulus policies, noted that governments have not violated the WTO's Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures, which governs such matters.

The next meeting of the Rules Group has been tentatively scheduled for the week of 29 June.

ICTSD Reporting.

IN BRIEF

EU Looks to Extend Import Duties on US Biodiesel

The European Commission submitted a proposal on Thursday to extend for up to five years the temporary tariffs that it imposed on imports of US biodiesel in March. A decision on the matter should come next month.

The anti-dumping and anti-subsidy tariffs are meant to counteract the effects of the payments and other forms of support that Washington offers its domestic biodiesel producers. European makers of the biofuel argue that the US subsidies have triggered an influx of under-priced American imports that has pushed them out of their own market.

After a formal request from the European Biodiesel Board in 2008, the Commission launched an investigation into the US subsidies. The results of that study prompted the imposition of the temporary duties in March, a move that drew broad support from European governments (see Bridges Trade BioRes, 6 March 2009, <http://ictsd.net/i/news/biores/42454/>).

Since then, the Commission has conducted a second probe into Washington's biodiesel subsidies. Those findings resulted in an increase in tariffs against some firms, but a decrease for the companies that cooperated with the investigation.

If European ministers endorse the extension of the duties next month, the measures would take effect as soon as they have been translated and published in the Official Journal of the EU. That process usually takes between four and six weeks.

The move was warmly welcomed by the European biodiesel producers, who have been struggling to cover their costs in an increasingly tough market.

"Without this, the situation for the sector would have been intolerable," said Bernard Nicol, the director general of France's Diester Industrie, in an interview with Reuters. "Still, very significant

problems remain because biodiesel margins are very poor everywhere in the world."

Under the proposed duties, biodiesel produced by US agricultural conglomerate Archer Daniels Midland would be slapped with a duty of €359 per metric ton, a jump from the €261 tariff that was imposed in March. Cargill products, on the other hand, would get a slight reprieve with tariffs on its biodiesel sliding to €214 per metric ton, €61 lower than the duty now in place. The 50-odd firms that cooperated with EU's inquiry will face tariffs of €335 per metric ton, slightly less than the €409 duty that all other companies will encounter.

Whether Washington will respond with subsidy reforms remains to be seen. Earlier this month, US President Barack Obama, a former senator from the farm-heavy state of Illinois, introduced a Presidential Biofuels Directive that aims to "aggressively accelerate the investment in and production of biofuels," according to a government statement. But Obama has also vowed to "end direct payments to large agribusinesses that don't need them," although at the time he made no specific reference to producers of biofuels.

Additional information

To learn more about Obama's Biofuels Directive, please see <http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/!ut/p/s.7.0.A/7.0.1OB?contentidonly=true&contentid=2009/05/0145.xml>

ICTSD reporting; "EU move on US biodiesel vital but not enough-Diester," REUTERS, 28 May 2009; "EU states seen backing duties on US biodiesel," REUTERS, 29 May 2009.

EU, South Korea Take on Climate Change during Trade Talks

Leaders of the EU and South Korea discussed their shared vision for climate change policy at the parties' Fourth Summit Meeting on 23 May in Seoul.

The two countries have agreed in principle to long-term cooperation to stabilise greenhouse gas emissions by the year 2050 at a level considered safe by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

At Saturday's meeting, the major trading partners agreed that the successor agreement to the Kyoto Protocol, which expires in 2012, should include binding commitments from all Annex I countries, which include the EU and many of its 27 member states, but not South Korea. The parties also agreed that developing countries should mitigate carbon emissions as feasible in light of local circumstances.

The EU and South Korea also agreed that the 30 rich countries that are members of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development, or OECD, should reduce emissions insofar as their national circumstances allow them to. Many EU states, and South Korea are OECD countries.

The EU and South Korea also supported a stronger bilateral commitment to carbon reduction, which could include cooperation on issues like emissions trading in the future.

These discussions come in the run-up to 15th Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), which will be meeting in Copenhagen at the end of the year. At that summit, the parties will attempt to negotiate a climate policy agreement to enter into force when the Kyoto Protocol expires in 2012.

But analysts expect that the EU and South Korea will butt heads in Copenhagen over how to implement the climate change goals. Seoul will likely seek more commitments from developed countries, including many EU member states, while Brussels is expected to seek more binding commitments from developing countries like Korea.

Although the climate talks saw some progress, the two sides did not achieve their goal of striking a free trade agreement at Saturday's summit, primarily due to concern among EU member states about the deal's ramifications for its stressed

auto industry. Discussion on that front has centred on a 'duty drawback' provision that would grant Korean manufacturers reimbursement for duties they pay on cheap imported auto components when the cars produced from those products are exported to the EU.

The EU has not allowed duty drawback provisions in its past free trade agreements. Highly influential European auto manufacturers have expressed concern about the provision as the Korean auto industry enjoys a trade surplus.

Meanwhile, EU negotiators worry that this obstacle will cause Seoul to put this agreement on hold while they discuss a separate bilateral free trade deal with the US next month. Seoul had hoped to finalise its EU deal before the end of the Czech EU Presidency on 30 June. But in light of the auto industry conflict, the free trade agreement will likely not be signed before the end of the year.

ICTSD reporting; "S.Korea To Tackle EU On Trade Pact, Climate Talks," REUTERS, 25 May 2009; "SKorea, EU call for early conclusion of trade pact," ASSOCIATED PRESS, 24 May 2009; "EU and South Korea trade agreement delayed," DEUTSCHE WELLE, 23 May 2009; "Joint press statement on the EU-Korea summit in Seoul," 23 May 2009; "South Korea-EU trade deal eyed for 2nd half of '09," REUTERS, 23 May 2009.

TRIPS Council Debates Way Forward

An informal meeting of the WTO committee on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property (TRIPS) was urged to move on from broad discussions to tackle the 'substantive' issues at issue in the talks. The chair of the talks, Ambassador Trevor Clarke of Barbados, warned delegates that they should not be complacent in the talks.

The issue at hand is the establishment of a multilateral register for geographical indications for wines and spirits, a matter that delegates have been debating for more than a decade.

Geographical indications, or GIs, as defined in the WTO TRIPs Agreement, are place names that are used to identify products that originate in those places and whose quality, reputation or some other characteristic is essentially attributable to that region. (Examples include Champagne, Parma ham, and Gruyère cheese.) In the debates over the establishment of a multilateral register for GIs, delegates have clashed over a number of issues, including whether participation in the system should be mandatory, and whether Members should be allowed to challenge proposed registrations.

Last summer, a coalition of more than 100 Members, including the EU, India, Brazil and Switzerland, put forward a set of 'draft modalities' - the broad outlines of a deal - for the TRIPs discussions, including the multilateral register (see Bridges Weekly, 23 July 2008, <http://ictsd.net/i/ip/13903/>). That proposal has been the subject of much discussion in the group since then.

With many the questions on that proposal now answered, delegates at last week's meeting turned to how the talks should move forward from here. Opponents of the 'draft modalities' paper, which include Argentina, Australia, Canada, and the United States, maintained that the TRIPs group should spend its next formal meeting, which is scheduled for 10 June, conducting a question-and-answer session on their competing 'Joint Proposal'.

But the EU opposed that suggestion, arguing that the 'Joint Proposal' has remained largely unchanged since it was first put forward in 2002, and that delegates have had plenty of time to discuss it.

Clarke, the chair, urged the delegates to focus on the issues at hand. If the pace of the negotiations does not pick up soon, the TRIPs issues could be the limiting factor impeding the conclusion of the Doha Round, Clarke warned.

ICTSD reporting; "WTO's Lamy continues engagement on intellectual property issues," IP-WATCH, 14 May 2009.

EVENTS AND RESOURCES

Events

Coming up in the next two weeks (29 May - 12 June)

31 May – 4 June, Monterey, US. SUSTAINABLE BRANDS CONFERENCE 2009. This private sector conference is an international event discussing the rapid rise of sustainability as a driver for revenue growth and brand equity in the 21st Century. Over 400 business and brand strategists, designers and sustainability executives are expected to attend the event. For further information, visit <http://www.sustainablelifemedia.com/events/sb09>.

1-5 June, Tunis, Tunisia. THIRD SESSION OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE INTERNATIONAL TREATY ON PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (ITPGR GB-3). This event, organized by the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation, is open to all Contracting Parties to the International Treaty and to observers. For more information contact the ITPGR Secretariat: tel: +39-06-570-53057; fax: +39-06-570-56347; email: pgrfa-treaty@fao.org; Internet: <http://www.planttreaty.org>

2-3 June, London, UK. CARBON REDUCTION COMMITMENT SUMMIT. The CRC is a mandatory carbon trading scheme within the UK which targets emissions from around 5,000 large businesses and public sector organisations. The central focus of this conference will be ways in which those groups under the CRC can save energy and keep down costs while complying with this regulation and successfully running their respective organizations. For further information contact Adrienne Baker at adrienne.baker@greenpowerconferences.com; internet: <http://www.greenpowerconferences.com/corporateclimateresponse/crc.html>.

3-4 June, Budapest, Hungary. ENERGY TRADING CENTRAL AND SOUTH EASTERN EUROPE. The energy sector in

Central and South Eastern Europe is facing an important period of change and development. The current credit and economic crisis, the ensuing fall in energy demand, regulatory disruptions and the continuing drive toward common energy market combine into a cocktail of major uncertainties and challenges for power and gas traders in this region. Power traders are grappling with declining allocations of cross border transmission capacity, while at the same time trying to understand how a change to flow based calculation and allocation may work out in future. Meanwhile the next phase of European gas market liberalisation, bringing stricter unbundling rules, may mean restructuring of the regional gas industry will gather pace. This conference will focus on these issues and others addressing traders in the region and the potential profitability of their business. For more information visit

<http://www.energytradingcsee.com>

5 June, Earth. WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY. This annual global event, organised by the UN Environment Program, aims to give a human face to environmental issues, empower people to become active agents of sustainable and equitable development, promote an understanding that communities are pivotal to changing attitudes towards environmental issues, and advocate partnership which will ensure all nations and peoples enjoy a safer and more prosperous future. The theme for 2009 is 'Your Planet Needs You-UNite to Combat Climate Change' and the host country is Mexico. For further information, visit <http://www.unep.org/wed/2009/english/>.

5 June, Hamburg, Germany. EUROPEAN CLIMATE TEACH-IN DAY 2009. This event, organised by the Hamburg University of Applied Sciences, will consist of lectures on different aspects of climate change prepared by some of the leading experts in the field. The lectures will be prepared in a way that allows the contents to be understood by university students attending a variety of degree courses. Organisers aim to disseminate not only scientific information, but also approaches, methods, strategies, and other types of action taking place around Europe, in order to cope with the challenge of climate change. For further information, visit <http://www.climateday.eu/en>.

12-14 June, Basel, Switzerland. FOREST MOVEMENT EUROPE MEETING 2009. This meeting, jointly organised by the Bruno Manser Fund and FERN, will focus on the theme "Forests and Climate." With the December 2009 Copenhagen Climate Conference in mind, participants will focus their discussions on pertinent topics such as UN-REDD and the World Bank's Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF). Other sessions will look at other relevant issues, including illegal logging, reducing paper consumption, agrofuels, and the reform of the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC). For further information, contact Lukas Straumann – tel: +41 (0)61-261-9474; email: info@bmf.ch; internet: <http://www.bmf.ch/en/news/?show=149>

9-11 June, Jakarta, Indonesia. INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON ADVANCED MATERIAL FOR NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY. This workshop, organised by the Research Center for Physics, Indonesian Institute of Sciences, will provide a platform for information sharing on issues related to research in materials for application in new and renewable energy projects. The event also aims to encourage member countries and the rest of the world to find a feasible solution to issues related to Climate Change and Global Warming. For more information, contact Bambang Prihandoko: tel: +62-21-7560570; fax: +62-21-7560554; email: amnre2009@mail.lipi.go.id; internet: <http://amnre2009.fisika.lipi.go.id/>

Other Upcoming Events

18 June, New York, US. UNGA INFORMAL THEMATIC DIALOGUE ON ENERGY EFFICIENCY, ENERGY CONSERVATION AND NEW AND RENEWABLE SOURCES OF ENERGY. This event, organised by the UN General Assembly, will discuss energy efficiency, and investment and policy issues related renewable energy sources. For further information, visit <http://www.un.org/ga/president/63/letters/energy10509.pdf>.

23 August, Nairobi, Kenya. SECOND WORLD CONGRESS ON AGROFORESTRY. This event – organised by ICRAF-The World

Agroforestry Centre, in collaboration with UNEP and the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS) of the University of Florida – will be based on several major topics including the use of markets as opportunities and drivers of agroforestry land use, tree-based rehabilitation of degraded lands and watersheds, and climate change adaptation and mitigation. For further information contact: email: wca2009@cgiar.org; internet:

<http://www.worldagroforestry.org/wca2009/>

21-22 September, Venice, Italy. 11TH ANNUAL BIOECON CONFERENCE: ECONOMIC INSTRUMENTS TO ENHANCE THE CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE USE OF BIODIVERSITY. This event, hosted by the Fondazione Eni Enrico Mattei, will focus on identifying the most effective and efficient economic instruments for biodiversity conservation. Special emphasis will be given to policy reforms aimed at increasing the commercial rewards for conserving biodiversity, increasing the penalties for biodiversity loss and circulating information on the biodiversity performance requirements of firms. For more information contact the organisers: tel: +39-041-2711461; email: ughetta.molin@feem.it; internet: http://www.bioecon.ucl.ac.uk/04_11_ann-conf.htm.

9 October, León, Mexico. GLOBAL RENEWABLE ENERGY FORUM 2009: SCALING UP RENEWABLE ENERGY. This meeting, co-organised by the Ministry of Energy of Mexico and the UN Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), seeks to promote dialogue as a means to strengthen interregional cooperation and encourage innovative multi-stakeholder partnerships aimed at scaling up investments in renewable energy. For more information, contact Pradeep Monga: tel: +43-1-26026-3018; email: GREFMexico2009@unido.org; internet: <http://www.unido.org/index.php?id=7341>.

this section, please forward a copy for review by the Bridges staff to Andrew Aziz at aaziz@ictsd.ch.

WASTE WITHOUT BORDERS IN THE EU? TRANSBOUNDARY SHIPMENTS OF WASTE. By the European Environment Agency (EEA), 4 March 2009. This report presents data on waste shipments originating in Europe, with a focus on shipment within the EU. The article addresses both 'notified waste,' which is mostly hazardous and problematic, as well as non-hazardous waste. The author describes shipment characteristics and environmental hazards, but also notes developing problems such as the disposal of e-waste. The report also comments on illegal shipment issues. This article concludes that detailed reporting is needed to better understand the nature of waste shipments in the EU. A copy of the report can be accessed here: http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/waste-without-borders-in-the-eu-transboundary-shipments-of-waste/at_download/file

SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SECURITY IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC. UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, April 2009. The study examines the environmental, economic and social challenges that are the roots of the Asia Pacific region's food insecurity and suggests a regional framework of action to be taken by governments and the international community in order to create greater food security. In the short term, governments need to develop and strengthen social protection programmes and to improve the availability of food at the national and local levels. In the medium term, it is critical to support the revitalisation of small-scale sustainable food production. Predictions concerning food production vary. However, even if overall production were to remain high, declines in certain parts of the Asia-Pacific region may be expected. Over the long term, adapting and mitigating impacts from climate change will have to be a top priority for all countries in the region. To download the report, click here <http://unescap.org/65/documents/Theme-Study/st-escap-2535.pdf>.

ETHICAL BIOTRADE COMMUNITY PROGRAMME. The Union for Ethical BioTrade

Resources

If you have a relevant resource (books, papers, bulletins, etc.) you would like to see announced in

has announced the launch of its Ethical BioTrade Community Programme aimed at supporting the deeper engagement of local and indigenous communities in the ethical sourcing of biodiversity. The organisation says that effective implementation of ethical biotrade principles in local and indigenous communities will contribute to efforts to achieve global conservation and the development objectives established by the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). In conjunction with the programme's launch, the Union for Ethical BioTrade is announcing its first call for applications for Ethical BioTrade Community Grants. Proposals are now being solicited from Union Trading Members or applicant Trading Members for community sourcing projects. The Union for Ethical BioTrade is a non-profit association that promotes the 'Sourcing with Respect' of ingredients that come from native biodiversity. Members commit to gradually ensuring that their sourcing practices promote the conservation of biodiversity, respect traditional knowledge, and assure the equitable sharing of benefits all along the supply chain. For more information and for grant applications and terms, visit www.ethicalbiotrade.org.