



# ENVIRONMENT HOUSE

# NEWS

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January 2002

A periodic update on the Geneva Environment Network  
and the International Environment House, Geneva

## The health agenda for Johannesburg

By Dr. Gro Harlem Brundtland, Director-General, World Health Organization

The Rio conference in 1992 heralded a new approach to dealing with environment and development issues and represented a significant advance in thinking since the Stockholm conference on the human environment held 20 years earlier. Looking back over the past 15 years, and reflecting on the work of the World Commission on Environment and Development, the Rio conference in 1992, and the subsequent work of the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD), I see evidence of much progress, as well as many setbacks.

Sustainable development is now on the agenda of governments, the private sector and NGOs. Since Rio many countries have established, or strengthened, ministries of the environment or departments/commissions on sustainable development. Rio was instrumental in facilitating the broader participation and involvement of civil society in sustainable development issues. This is most strikingly evident in the thousands of Agenda 21 plans of action that have been developed, particularly at the local level, and increasingly in developing countries.

We have also had some success in making the links between environment and economy, in turning environmental issues into development issues of key concern to global players. Health, too, is an avenue to link with environment and economy, for example the increasing realization of the impact that pollution has on health and health care costs, which produce economic damage. Nevertheless, these issues are all-too-frequently still viewed in isolation from one another.

Since Rio there has been an intensified focus on global sustainable development issues, particularly climate change, and, with

increasing globalization, greater acknowledgement of the implications of global interdependency. Evidence has strengthened about the reality of global climate change and its probable human health impacts. There has also been an increase in so-called "natural" disasters with health implications (extreme weather events such as floods and hurricanes). There has been a rise in the global spread of disease and infection, and in the incidence of food poisoning and food-borne disease outbreaks.

Whether it's a malaria-carrying mosquito or contaminated foodstuffs, greater mobility drives the spread of infectious diseases across borders. Globalization of trade and marketing has also led to sharp increases in the use of tobacco and alcohol, in diets based on high-fat foods, and in more sedentary lifestyles. This globalization of unhealthy lifestyles, coupled with an ageing population, is driving the global increase in non-communicable diseases.

### Human and social dimensions

Despite growing awareness of the importance of health, there is still inadequate recognition of the human and social dimension – and the links between health and sustainable development, including the contribution of health to poverty alleviation. This is starting to change, however – the explosion of the HIV/AIDS epidemic since Rio has led to recognition of this as a key global development issue. About 36 million adults and children are now living with HIV/AIDS. In addition, several hundred million people



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continue to be infected annually with malaria, while TB kills over 1.5 million people each year.

In some of the poorest countries of the world, one in five children still fails to reach his or her fifth birthday, mainly owing to infectious diseases related to the environment. Pneumonia kills more children than any other infectious disease and is closely associated with factors such as crowding and indoor air pollution. Diarrhoeal diseases, largely preventable through access to safe drinking water, sanitation and food hygiene, claim 1.5 million lives a year among children under five.

Health has thus now taken a central place in the global debate on how we ensure equitable and sustainable development – including for the world's poorest. Health issues feature increasingly on the agendas of the G8. Major diseases of poverty and adverse environmental conditions are now considered a blockage to economic and social progress.

### Health and poverty reduction

We must tap the potential role of health in poverty reduction and sustainable development. Health is important in its own right, but it is also a resource that can be drawn on to further human and social development. Investing in health (including the conditions that give rise to good health) gives the most tangible returns in increased life expectancy, quality of life and societal well-being. Investing in health is a key tool for poverty alleviation.

We need to target policies and programmes that reach and involve the poor in all countries, simultaneously

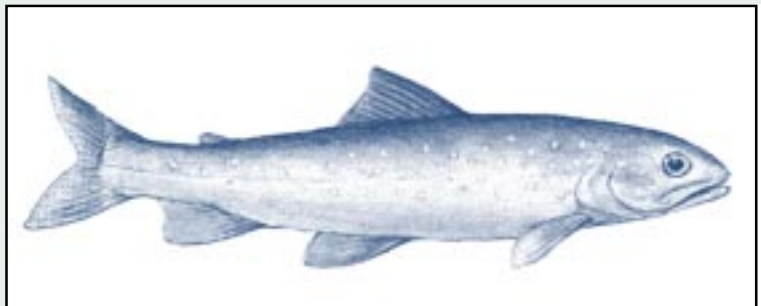
## NatureNotes

### Who's that on my plate?

Life would hardly be complete for residents of the Léman area without those long quiet evenings at lakeside restaurants, making the difficult choice between filets de fera, quenelles de brochet, truite meunière, filets de perche and omble chevalier.

While we greatly enjoy these fish on our plates, we seldom give much thought to what they look like when alive, how they behave, or whether their populations are healthy enough to ensure that our grandchildren will have the same culinary opportunities we do.

### OMBLE CHEVALIER *Salvelinus alpinus*



This lovely fish, known in English as char, is a tasty favourite of local restaurant-goers. A member of the salmon family, it is found in the deep water of larger alpine lakes including Lake Léman. It can grow to 80 cm and weigh up to 8 kg. A relict species from last ice age, it has a grey streamlined body with white specks and pinkish fins edged with white.

Char feed on plankton (small crustaceans), amphipods, molluscs, insects and small fish. They breed at a depth of between 50 and 100 metres. In Lake Léman, intensive fishing of the species is only possible thanks to a programme of re-stocking using indigenous fish.

improving health, nutrition and food security, environment and development prospects. We need to encourage more investment in people and in social infrastructure (health and educa-

tion as global public goods), particularly that favour girls and women. Health has a wider and deeper meaning than disease. Investing in health has impacts across generations.

We should strengthen and enhance the institutions of government and governance for sustainable development. We need to work together in partnership at global, national and local levels. This is key. All UN organizations, governments, NGOs, the private sector, research and academia must join together to ensure research and policies are co-ordinated and focussed where they make the biggest impact.

The 2002 summit provides a key political platform to reconfirm the highest-level political commitment to what was negotiated in 1992. It provides a unique opportunity to address the implementation obstacles, but also to rectify the way in which the

## New GEN members

### GEN membership has recently grown to include:

- ◆ UNEP/GEF Project on the Development of National Biosafety Frameworks, [www.unep.ch/biosafety](http://www.unep.ch/biosafety)
- ◆ UN Office for Project Services (UNOPS), Geneva Office, [www.unops.org](http://www.unops.org)
- ◆ World Food Programme (WFP), Geneva Office, [www.wfp.org](http://www.wfp.org)
- ◆ Friends of the Earth International, [www.foei.org](http://www.foei.org)
- ◆ UN International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UN/ISDR), [www.unisdr.org](http://www.unisdr.org)



concept of sustainable development has come to be applied. It provides a basis to develop an accelerated plan of action for the next decade, building on the new opportunities, addressing the emerging threats.

### Key issues for 2002

With the emerging consensus that health issues need to receive increased attention in 2002, WHO will show why health needs to be seen as central to the development process. We will be drawing upon our UN partners, NGOs and the private sector in developing policy positions and key papers, ensuring that the preparation process itself contributes to new ways of working together within the development community and to a greater appreciation by key partners of the centrality of health to sustainable development.

Issues insufficiently stressed in 1992, which we will focus attention on, include:

- Linkages between health, environment and poverty alleviation;
- The impact of development policies and practices on health;
- Health risks and broader determinants of selected diseases (e.g. HIV/AIDS, malaria, tobacco, food and nutrition, environmental diseases/conditions etc); and
- The opportunities and threats to health posed by the challenges of globalization.

We will demonstrate that specific causes of ill-health hamper socio-economic development, that environmental degradation and unsustainable use of natural resources impacts on the health of the poor in particular, and that development policies and practices need to take into account impacts on human health. We will emphasise the need for concerted and intensified action inside, as well as outside, the health sector.

In conclusion, it is vital that we succeed in our on-going quest to manage the most important global transition since the agricultural and industrial revolution – the transition to sustainable development. We must demonstrate measureable progress and endorse renewed efforts to attain the UNCED commitments, for current and future generations. Healthy people and healthy environments are important resources – perhaps our most precious resources. □

## Canton of Geneva links sustainable development and WHO Healthy Cities Project

Since 1994, Geneva has been an active participant in the European regional pilot network of the WHO Healthy Cities Project. This project aims at providing cities with an operational framework for achieving the 21 goals of the WHO's *Health for All in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*, as well as mainstreaming integrated health and sustainable development concerns into economic, social urban, transport, and education policies. In concrete terms, following the adoption of Geneva's local Agenda 21 in March 2001, eight projects integrating health and sustainable development will be developed by end 2002, on the topics below:

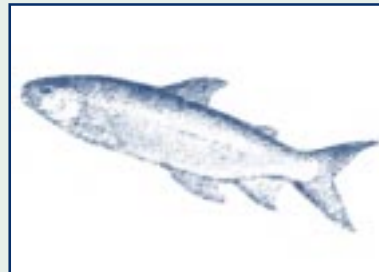
- ◆ Training of communal authorities in health and environment;
- ◆ Health and environmental quality at the local level, as seen by citizens;
- ◆ Healthy and environmentally-sound diets, for each of the seasons;
- ◆ Urban and landscape rehabilitation, environmentally- friendly transport from Cluse to La Roseaie
- ◆ Promotion of environmentally- friendly transport and combating sedentary lifestyles;
- ◆ Habitat and well-being;
- ◆ Passive smoking in public areas; and
- ◆ Noise and youth.

## NatureNotes

### FERA *Coregonus fera*

Species of the genus *Coregonus* are collectively known as whitefish. Our local species, known simply as "fera", is a delicately-flavoured fish indigenous to Lac Léman and Lac de Joux. Another salmonid, it is silvery in colour, with a blue or green tinge on its back.

Fera are gregarious fish that move vertically in pursuit of the zooplankton essential to its diet. They have a small mouth with tiny teeth, and can also feed on worms, insect larvae and juvenile fish. They weigh 1-2 kg and reach half a metre in length. They breed during the winter on gravelly areas. The indigenous population completely disappeared probably as a result of over-fishing, but has since been re-introduced with fish of a close species from the Lake Neuchâtel, known as Palée.



### PERCHE *Perca fluviatilis*

These humpbacked fish are recognized by their 6-7 dark olive green vertical bands and separate dorsal fins. In rich waters, perch can reach 50 cm and 3.5 kg. They spawn in April and May, waters between 3 and 6 metres in depth, on rocks or algae. Their main food is small crustaceans and juvenile fish.

There is a huge demand for these delicious fish in Switzerland and nearby France, where 'filets de perches' highlight many special occasions. The Léman population is healthy.



## Needed: real dialogues for the Earth

By Bertrand Charrier, Director, Green Cross International

At the time of the new Millennium and worldwide celebrations of hope, no one could have imagined such acceleration of history. On 11 September 2001, the United States suffered an unimaginable tragedy. Three weeks later, the US and its allies took action to retaliate against this atrocious crime and to combat international terrorism. But violence and conflict are evident all around the world, not just in Afghanistan. Unless the deeper roots of insecurity are honestly analyzed and addressed, there is a real risk that these conflicts will spread still further.

History is full of acts of fanaticism and people driven to unspeakable crimes in the name of religion. It is also, unfortunately, full of cases where hatred, intolerance and misplaced feelings of anger have led to violence against innocent people. It is both inaccurate and dangerous to try to explain the attacks of September 11 in terms of conflicts between civilizations, for violent terrorists do not represent civilizations; or in terms of religious wars, as the actions and beliefs of such fanatics do not reflect what is taught by any religion. But it is essential to look to the roots of fanaticism, which can lead eventually to terrorism, to find the reasons, however



unjustified, behind the kind of hatred we all witnessed in September. Without addressing the source, any fight against terrorism will ultimately be in vain.

### The role of poverty

One source is certainly the exclusion, rejection and injustice felt by those who are not benefiting from the post-colonial, post-Cold War and now increasingly globalized world: the poor, the illiterate, the landless, refugees and those living in the shadow of wars past and present. Poverty is itself a kind of violent oppression, especially when it stems from visibly inequitable access to natural resources.

Humankind stands at a critical juncture in its history. A decade ago, the world was brought closer together with the end of the Cold War and the enthusiastic embrace of a new world order in which positive change and global cooperation seemed possible. This determination endured throughout the 1990s and ushered in a sequence of UN Summits on different aspects of human development, beginning with the 1992 Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro, which confirmed commitments and laid down strategies for creating a better future. Hopes everywhere were raised in the expectation that there would finally be a concerted effort to solve the world's most pressing problems, such as the gap between rich and poor countries, the degradation of the environment, the rise in insecurity and the violation of human rights in many regions.

Sadly, ten years later we are further than ever from the goals declared in Rio and elsewhere, and the optimism sparked by the end of the Cold War is waning. Pressure on natural resources has increased, poverty is deepening in developing and transition countries weighted down by inappropriate debts, human security is diminishing, there is inequitable access to medical care, violent conflicts continue, and the environment deteriorates. The terrorist attacks on 11 September demonstrated in the most horrifying way that the world has become too vulnerable and interdependent to postpone the implementation of solutions to achieving sustainability any longer.

### NatureNotes

#### **BROCHET** *Esox lucius*

'Pike', the English name of this distinctive fish, is a reference to the long, pointed snout resembling a staff. Pike have an elongated, torpedo shape, fins set well back along a greenish body, and long 'duck-bill' snouts - nearly a quarter of their body length - full of large razor sharp teeth. They can reach 135 cm and 20 kg.

Pike are famous as voracious predators on other fish and their ability consume prey nearly their own size. They hunt by hiding in vegetation and springing at their victims, which they swallow head-first.

They spawn from March to April. Juveniles feed on plankton but soon graduate to other young fish of their own and other species.

The Léman population is considered healthy, and has grown in recent years.





There is an urgent need for a global effort to address both old and new challenges, and make an honest appraisal of the failures of the past decade. This should be certainly concretized next year in Johannesburg, South Africa. In September 2002, the World Summit on Sustainable Development will take place in this city, in a country that showed the world that, with vision and determination, the depths of despair can give rise to hope and solutions.

## Dialogue in Lyon

In the framework of the preparation of the World Summit, Mikhail Gorbachev, one of the chief architects of the end of the Cold War, and Maurice Strong, one of the key leaders of the 1992 Rio Earth Summit, are launching the Earth Dialogues in Lyon to provide a forum for constructive debate on the world's most acute problems. In February 2002, leaders of civil society, government, international organizations, finance, business, religion, media and academia, along with members of the public, will convene to share their views on how to forge the essential links between Globalization, Sustainable Development and Ethics.

During the past thirty years, very important environmental agreements and rules have been enacted at the international, regional, national and corporate levels, but none have been fully implemented. Why has the world failed to keep these promises? Perhaps one reason is that the ethical and moral questions raised by Agenda 21, the action plan reached at the 1992 Earth Summit, were not outlined explicitly enough to guide actions. Global environmental issues need to be clearly reframed in order to consider related questions of justice, poverty, exclusion, democracy, peace, security, values and human rights and adopt a truly integrated approach to sustainable development. In the face of escalating anti-globalization protests, and in recognition of the growing influence of civil society, the need for dialogue has never been more crucial. The Earth Dialogues will tackle the notions of responsibility, governance, rights and social justice as related to sustainable development, and propose ways through which the benefits of globalization could be more equitably shared throughout the world.

## A new global deal

Many states and other actors around the world have agreed on the need for a new *Global Deal* to redress environmental injustices, combat poverty and improve the implementation of sustainable development policies. The Earth Dialogues will facilitate the development and implementation of this *Global Deal* by increasing understanding and awareness of the application of ethical principles to the domain of sustainable development, and thereby help inspire a positive vision for the new Millennium.

Speakers will include individuals who have been continuously and actively involved at a very high level in sustainable development, governance and ethics. Each panel will be made up of 15-20 speakers from one of the following groups, with civil society always present: former foreign ministers, inter-religious and spiritual groups, international economic institutions, business and industry, public outreach,

parliamentarians and government representatives, the Commission of the Earth Charter, and international institutions and organizations.

With the support of the City of Lyon, the Earth Dialogues Forum is co-organized by Green Cross International, the Earth Council, and the World Council of Former Foreign Ministers, with the support of other organizations including the World Business Council of Sustainable Development, IUCN, the Earth Charter Secretariat, and the Centre for Respect of Life and Environment. UNEP also encourages this initiative.

The organizers encourage experts, diplomats, scholars, activists living and working in Geneva to use the Earth Dialogues as an opportunity to exchange their views on the challenges of globalization. The Earth Dialogues will address the questions to be raised in Johannesburg from an ethical perspective, and it is hoped that elements of the discussions and resolutions from Lyon will be carried forward to the WSSD. □

## EARTH DIALOGUES FORUM

FEBRUARY 21-23, 2002  
LYON, FRANCE

The Earth Dialogues will seek to encourage high-level pressure and guidance in the search for a more just and sustainable model of development in a globalized world by:

- ◆ Providing a platform for civil society to share its perspectives with those in powerful positions in order to influence future decision-making.
- ◆ Identifying obstacles to achieving sustainable development.
- ◆ Tracing the links between the environment and human security.
- ◆ Articulating essential principles and values for sustainable development.
- ◆ Clarifying the concept of environmental rights.
- ◆ Sharing value-changing best practices and experiences.
- ◆ Considering the contribution of the Earth Charter in defining and strengthening sustainable development.
- ◆ Producing integrated proposals and recommendations for action and implementation.

### CONTACT

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## Building a united front against illegal trade

By Michael Williams, United Nations Environment Programme

A number of environmental treaties adopted in recent years on wildlife and industry focus on the issue of international trade. The 1989 Basel Convention regulates the transboundary movement of hazardous wastes. The 1987 Montreal Protocol is regulating trade in CFCs and other ozone-depleting chemicals that are being steadily phased out. The 1973 Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES) bans trade in 900 species and uses a permit system to ensure sustainable trade in 30,000 others. And the 1998 Rotterdam Convention and the 2000 Cartagena Protocol set up prior informed consent regimes for hazardous chemicals and Living Modified Organisms, respectively.

Ensuring compliance with these environmental trade rules can present considerable challenges to developed and developing countries alike. Checking all containers at busy ports, accurately identifying innumerable kinds of chemicals and animal parts,

and ensuring that people correctly understand and obey the law are just some of the difficulties they face.

The Geneva Environment Network organized a roundtable on illegal environmental trade on World Environment Day, 5 June, moderated by Philippe Roch, Director of the Swiss Agency for the Environment, Forests and Landscape (SAEFL). Presentations were made by Sachiko Kuwabara-Yamamoto, Executive Secretary of the Basel Convention Secretariat, Torkjel Rygnestad, Deputy Head of the Economic Crime Branch, Interpol, Rajendra Shende, Chief, Energy and OzonAction, UNEP, Thierry Uldry, Chief Executive Officer, Caviar House and Willem Wijnstekers, Secretary-General of the CITES Secretariat. The roundtable explored some of the practical challenges to combating lucrative illegal trade markets and considered how policy-makers can work together to overcome these problems through national efforts and international cooperation. The

following is a brief summary of some of the points that were raised.

### The wildlife trade

Because most CITES species are not economically important, illegal trade in wild plants and animals is not always a high priority with governments. As a result, even though CITES is 25 years old, the majority of its 140 Parties still do not have the necessary legislation for implementing the Convention and penalizing illegal trade. A new strategic plan that focuses on developing capacity for developing national legislation has been adopted by the CITES Parties, but more financial and political commitment will be needed to make it work.

To ensure that CITES is not just seen as an administrative burden, it will need to generate greater public awareness, particularly amongst local communities in developing countries (where most traded species originate) and consumer organizations and trade associations in consumer countries. If people can follow the rules knowingly, illegal trade will decline and there will be less administrative burden on enforcement officers.

The illegal wildlife trade remains enormous. Take the case of smuggled caviar, particularly from the Caspian Sea, which is driven by corruption and organized crime. Until 1991, two countries – the USSR and Iran – controlled the caviar market. With the end of the USSR, this system collapsed and there are now thousands of companies dealing in this “black gold” instead of two government-controlled offices.

While the legal market has been valued at some \$100 million, the illegal market is thought to be worth many times more. In 1998, therefore, CITES added all sturgeon to its list of controlled species. As a result, illegal caviar dropped by 90% in Europe. Sturgeon populations remain in crisis, however, so last year CITES suspended the legal caviar trade while the Caspian states work together to build an effective

### NatureNotes

#### TRUITE DE LAC *Salmo trutta lacustris*

Brown or lake trout are silvery in colour with rose-coloured flesh. Together with its close relative the river trout (*Salmo trutta fario*), the two subspecies

are found throughout Switzerland in unpolluted fresh waters, where they require a high concentration of oxygen. Fishing for them is considered a challenge because of the fight they put up when hooked.

They can grow to up to a metre and weigh 15 kg. From October through to January they travel up the rivers and streams which feed the lake to spawn on gravel bottoms. They spend their first two years living in rivers where they feed on plankton, and then return to the lake where they feed on small fish.

Populations in Switzerland are considered seriously at risk, probably maintained only by re-stocking, and a drop in the quality of the water could be disastrous.

Here's a challenge: try to say 'trois truites bien cuites' five times in rapid succession.





long-term plan for controlling both fishing and trade.

### Dangerous chemicals

The Basel Convention seeks to reduce movements of hazardous wastes to a minimum and to prevent illegal transfers. Data on the illegal trade is very sparse; according to one source it could be worth as much as \$20 billion a year. Unfortunately, prosecution can be difficult due to the sheer volume of global trade, the fact that hazardous wastes are often mixed in with non-hazardous materials, the shortage of trained analysts and high-tech monitoring equipment, corruption, the absence of national legislation, and even a lack of clarity about which wastes are defined as hazardous and which are not.

The Montreal Protocol has also led to illegal trade, in this case in ozone-depleting substances such as CFCs. Part of the problem is a lack of awareness of the rules. It is thought that the illegal trade in CFCs has remained at about 15% of the total trade, although since CFC use is declining then the absolute amount of illegal tonnage is also declining. New illegal markets will also be created by the ongoing phase-out of methyl bromide and HCFCs. To deal with this, the Montreal Protocol has adopted a three-prong strategy of awareness-raising, national training initiatives, and stronger international and regional cooperation.

### Coordination is the key

The specific cases cited above all point to one general conclusion: international and interagency cooperation is vital for reducing illegal environmental trade. Coordination is needed at all levels – within countries, regionally, and globally.

National law enforcement agencies need to work together on information sharing, identifying criminals, obtaining evidence, and conducting search and seizure operations. But it is not always easy. The different structures of different enforcement agencies – not to mention differences in languages and legal systems – can complicate coordination. For example, environmental crime is handled by the police in some countries and by the environment ministry in others. And in many

countries illegal environmental trade is not a priority, unlike drugs for example.

The various environmental conventions with trade provisions need to exploit the synergies between their respective provisions by cooperating on enforcement, compliance, and the training of customs officers. For example, to a border guard, parrots, CFCs, and toxic drums all pose a similar challenge. Recognizing this, CITES, the Basel Convention, and the Montreal Protocol have started organizing joint seminars for customs and border inspectors on all continents. Wildlife rangers, port inspectors, and other enforcement officials also need more training in the years to come. □

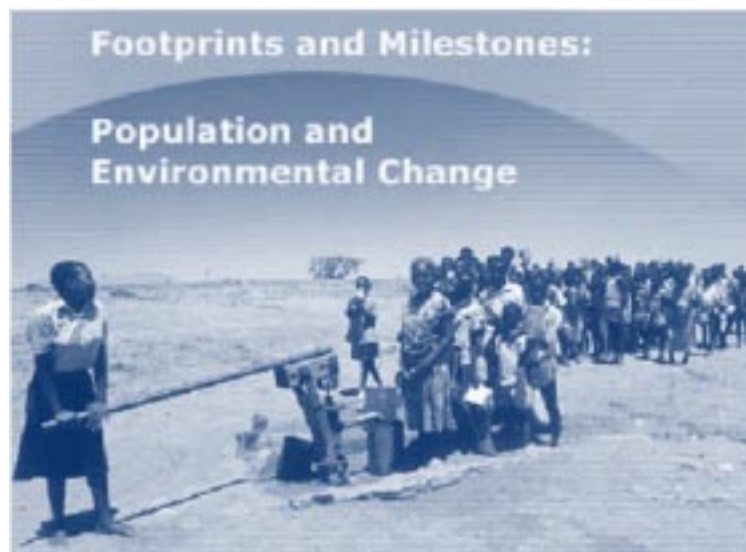
### NatureNotes

#### Musée du Léman

Be sure to visit this museum near the Lake in Nyon. You will find out about the fish and other inhabitants of the Lake, learn the history of local artisanal and commercial fisheries, and discover how the beautiful and graceful paddleboats have taken visitors on leisurely journeys from port to port for more than 100 years.

Address: quai Louis-Bonnard 8,  
1260 Nyon (Vaud), Switzerland  
Tel.: +41-22-361 09 49

## Recent reports



The United Nations Population's Funds recent report *The State of World Population 2001 - Footprints and Milestones: Population and Environmental Change* (UNFPA, 2001) is available at [www.unfpa.org](http://www.unfpa.org).

The Geneva Environment Network's practical guide to Geneva-based organizations working on the environment and sustainable development is available on-line at: [www.environmenthouse.ch](http://www.environmenthouse.ch).





## Upcoming environment-related events in the Geneva area

Date	Event (Organizer/contact)
22 Jan	UNEP Economics and Trade Branch's Briefing for Permanent Missions on Trade and the Environment (UNEP/ETB, Ms. Désirée Leon, Tel. +41 22 917 8243, Email: leond@unep.ch)
25 Jan	GEN Roundtable: Trade & Environment - Implementing Doha (GEN, Mr. Aniket Ghai, Tel. +41 22 9178505, Email: aniket.ghai@unep.ch)
31 Jan -1 Feb	UN/ECE Working Group of Senior Officials "Environment for Europe", Committee on Environmental Policy, (UN/ECE, Tel: +41 22 917 4444, Email: info.ece@unece.org)
31 Jan- 1 Feb	UNEP Economics and Trade Branch's Working Group Meeting on Economic Instruments (UNEP/ETB Ms. Désirée Leon, Tel. +41 22 917 8243, Email: leond@unep.ch)
11-13 Feb	UN/ECE Ad Hoc Working Group on the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment, Meeting of Parties to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (UN/ECE, Tel: +41 22 917 4444, Email: info.ece@unece.org)
18-21 Feb	UN/ECE Working Group on Genetically Modified Organisms, Committee on Environmental Policy (UN/ECE, Tel: +41 22 917 4444, Email: info.ece@unece.org)
18-22 Feb	Meeting of the Interim Chemical Review Committee of the Rotterdam Convention (Rotterdam Convention Interim Secretariat, Mr. E. Larsson, Tel. +41 22 9178177, Email: elarsson@unep.ch)
25-26 Feb	Joint ECE/WHO Ad Hoc Expert Group on Transport, Environment and Health, Committee on Environmental Policy and Inland Transport Committee (UN/ECE, Tel: +41 22 917 4444, Email: info.ece@unece.org)
25-26 Feb	UN/ECE Workshop on Environmental Indicators, Committee on Environmental Policy, (UN/ECE, Tel: +41 22 917 4444, Email: info.ece@unece.org)
5-7 Mar	WTO Council on TRIPs (WTO, Mr. Peter Ungphakorn, Tel:+41 22 739 5412, Email: peter.ungphakorn@wto.org)
11-15 Mar	46th meeting of the CITES Standing Committee (CITES Secretariat, Tel: +41 22 917 8139; fax: +41 22 797 3417; Email: cites@unep.ch)
19 Mar	UNEP Economics and Trade Branch's Meeting on MEAs and the WTO, (UNEP/ETB Ms. Désirée Leon, Tel. +41 22 917 8243, Email: leond@unep.ch)
20 Mar	UNEP Economics and Trade Branch's Working Group Meeting on Fisheries Subsidies (UNEP/ETB, Ms. Désirée Leon, Tel. +41 22 917 8243, Email: leond@unep.ch)
21-22 Mar	WTO Committee on Trade and Environment (WTO, Jan-Eirik Sorensen, Email: Jan-Eirik.Sorensen@wto.org)
25-26 Mar	UN/ECE Ad Hoc Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency Investments, Committee on Sustainable Energy (UN/ECE, Tel: +41 22 917 4444, Email: info.ece@unece.org)
25-28 Mar	UN/ECE Working Group on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers, Committee on Environmental Policy (UN/ECE, Tel: +41 22 917 4444, Email: info.ece@unece.org)

### Environment House News

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