



# Roundtable on Sustainable Tourism

**5 June 2002 - World Environment Day**

**10h30-12h30**

**Meeting Room 3, International Environment House**

Tourism is one of the world's fastest growing industries, earning hundreds of billions of dollars a year. But while bringing pleasure and incomes to millions, tourism is also putting more and more stress on fragile ecosystems. The need to maximize tourism's many benefits while minimizing its negative impacts is the reason the United Nations designated 2002 as the International Year for Ecotourism.

In late August, the World Summit for Sustainable Development will review progress to date on Agenda 21, which recognizes sustainable tourism as a vital part of sustainable development. This roundtable will review the measures taken over the past 10 years to make tourism more environmentally friendly, consider illustrative case examples, and explore what the sustainable tourism movement needs to achieve over the 10 years to come.

## Programme

- 10:00 Coffee
- 10:30 Welcome by Françoise Belmont, United Nations Environment Programme
- 10:35 Introduction by the moderator, Mark Halle, International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD)
- 10:45 Presentations by Panel of Experts:
  - Eugenio Yunis of the World Tourism Organization on the outcome of May's World Ecotourism Summit in Quebec
  - Frank Vorhies of IUCN on promoting African biodiversity tourism.
  - Khrisna Ghimire of the UN Research Institute for Social Development on the social impacts of tourism.
  - Richard Gubler of Kuoni on environmental protection and tourism.
  - Roger Payne of the International Mountaineering and Climbing Federation on mountains and tourism.
- 11:30 Discussion with panelists and participants
- 12:25 Wrap-up by moderator
- 12:30 End