

**For immediate release: October 6, 2008**

## A new climate for change

**Background:** The world is changing more quickly than at any time in human history. Climate change, globalization and a growing demand for energy are increasingly impacting on biodiversity and people. Within the next few decades the world's population is likely to reach nine billion people, and temperatures could be an average of 2°C warmer on the planet. These environmental issues facing societies in all parts of the world are gaining increasing attention, but there remains a lack of sufficient and coordinated efforts to address these challenges. The Opening Session for "A New Climate for Change" will bring together leading experts who are addressing the connections between different sectors, and debate them in a way that clearly links how climate change, energy demand, globalization, and economics are intertwined with biodiversity loss.

### **Key Issues and Questions:**

- We now face the dual challenges of significantly and urgently reducing emissions to avoid dangerous climate change, and adapting to the impacts already underway. How can biodiversity help to mitigate and adapt to climate change? What are the implications of a changing climate for the conservation of biodiversity?
- Globalization brings opportunities for new cooperation, models of governance, spread of technologies, and emergence of new markets. But it also brings risks – of the spread of invasive species and disease, of the loss of cultural diversity and traditional knowledge, and of ignoring the degradation of local environments by displacing supply, trade and environmental impacts to distant sources. How do we balance the tradeoffs of growth?
- Meeting rapidly increasing energy demands will require changes in behaviour as well as new energy solutions that reduce the impact of energy production and consumption on the climate and on nature. How can we respond to increasing global energy demand, and what is the role of biofuels?
- Amid these many changes, biodiversity continues to be lost, despite a growing recognition of its contribution to human well-being. Much of the world's 'natural capital' is either degraded or lost. New ways of thinking about economics and markets that better incorporate the values of nature will play a key role in a sustainable future. How should we value and market biodiversity and ecosystem services in today's world? What are the new ways of going about our business that will lead to more sustainable futures?

**Where:** Monday, October 6, 2008, 11:30-13:00, Room 211

### **Confirmed Panelists and Speakers**

**Dr. Lu Zhi**, Professor Peking University, Executive Director of Peking Center for Nature and Society, and Chief Scientist Shan Shui Conservation Center, China

**Pavan Sukhdev**, Managing Director Global Markets division Deutsche Bank AG, India, and G8 +5 study leader on "The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity"

**Solange Márquez Espinoza**, Political Consultant and founder of "*Esfera Política*" Center for Political and Constitutional Strategy, Mexico.

**Jeroen van der Veer**, Chief Executive Officer Royal Dutch Shell

**Mark Tercek**, Chief Executive Officer The Nature Conservancy

**Johan Schaar**, Director Swedish Climate Change and Development Commission, Foreign Ministry, Sweden



**Jonathan Fanton**, President John D. and Catharine T. MacArthur Foundation


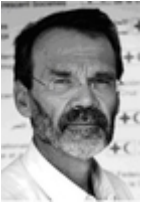

**Moderator:** Johannah Bernstein, International Environmental Law Consultant


**Spokesperson:** Neville Ash, Head of IUCN Ecosystem Management Programme [neville.ash@iucn.org](mailto:neville.ash@iucn.org)

### **Media team:**

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 <p><b>Dr Lu Zhi</b></p>	<p>Lu Zhi is one of China's most prominent experts on biodiversity and an expert on Pandas whom she researched intensively between 1985-1992. Between 1995 and 2000, she was a program officer for WWF China, in charge of species and protected areas program, and emphasized panda conservation and integrated conservation and development projects. She also established WWF's Tibet Program. In 2002, she established Conservation International's China Program Office in Beijing, focusing on Southwest China Biodiversity Hotspots.</p> <p>She is currently Professor of Conservation Biology at Peking University, the Executive Director at the Peking Center for Nature and Society and Chief Scientist at the Shan Shui Center for Conservation. She holds adjunct positions including the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies at IUCN's Species Survival Commission and is a member of China's National Youth Association. Her work is widely acknowledged and published in scientific publications such as Science and Nature. Her popular articles and photographs also appeared in magazines such National Geographic.</p> <p>In 1998 Lu Zhi was awarded one of China's "Top Ten Young Professionals of the Year", and in 1999 she was featured in the New York Times as one of six young Chinese to watch.</p>
 <p><b>Pavan Sukhdev</b></p>	<p>Pavan Sukhdev is Managing Director and Head of Deutsche Bank's Global Markets business in India, including its Fixed Income and Equities divisions. He founded and is now Chairman of Global Markets Centre (GMC), Mumbai, the global division's dedicated "front-office off-shoring" hub, a market first of its kind.</p> <p>Pavan pursues his interest in environmental economics and in nature conservation through his work with the Green Indian States Trust (GIST) and other NGO's. GIST has researched, developed and published methodology &amp; empirical work on comprehensive 'Green Accounting' for India and its States, a first among developing countries. He was recently appointed to lead the G8+5 project to write a Stern-like report on The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity ("TEEB").</p>
 <p><b>Solange Márquez Espinoza</b></p>	<p>Solange is a Political Consultant and founder of <i>Esfera Política</i>, Center for Political and Constitutional Strategy in Mexico. Recently, she was a Parliamentarian Advisor at the Mexican Senate on constitutional, international and environmental topics. She is also a columnist at the national newspaper <i>El Universal</i> and for the national newspaper <i>Milenio Diario</i> and writes periodically for different national and international magazines.</p> <p>Solange is a member of the <i>International Knowledge Network of Women in Politics (iKNOW Politics)</i> and a youth associate of the <i>Mexican Council of International Affairs (Comexi)</i>. In 2006 she was selected as <i>Youth Spokesperson of the United Nations</i> on the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and is the current chair of the <i>Central America and Caribbean Young Leadership Network</i>. Solange was also the founder and member of the International Committee of the <i>Global Youth Response to Climate Change Alliance</i>.</p> <p>She is a co-author of the book <i>Youth and MDG's, Challenges and Opportunities for implementation</i> (2005, UN).</p>
	<p>Jeroen van der Veer joined Shell in 1971 and worked in manufacturing and marketing in the Netherlands, Curaçao and the United Kingdom. In 1984, he returned to Shell Nederland as manager of Corporate Planning, and then of the Pernis refinery in Rotterdam. After an assignment coordinating Shell businesses in Africa and Canada, he became a Managing Director of Shell Nederland in 1992. In this post, he led major reorganisations as well as a \$2 billion upgrade of Pernis refinery. In 1995, he moved to the United States as President and Chief Executive of the Shell Chemical Company. At Shell he was appointed a</p>

<p><b>Jeroen van der Veer</b></p>	<p>Group Managing Director in 1997, and chemicals remained one of his areas of responsibility and he oversaw the worldwide restructuring of the business.</p> <p>Jeroen was born in Utrecht in the Netherlands in 1947. He has two degrees - one in mechanical engineering from Delft University and another in economics from Rotterdam University. In 2005 he was awarded an honorary doctorate from the University of Port Harcourt in Nigeria.</p> <p>He is a Non-executive Director of Unilever, serving as a member of the Nomination and Remuneration Committees. He was World President of the Society of Chemical Industry from 2002 to 2004.</p>
 <p><b>Mark Tercek</b></p>	<p>Mark Tercek is the current CEO of The Nature Conservancy. He joined the Conservancy from Goldman Sachs where he was a Managing Director and head of the Goldman Sachs Center for Environmental Markets. He also oversaw leadership development programs for the firm's managing directors as the co-head of Pine Street. He previously headed the Consumer/Healthcare, Equity Capital Markets, Corporate Finance and Real Estate Departments. In earlier assignments, he headed the worldwide transportation group, co-headed the Corporate Finance Department in Tokyo, and was one of the senior bankers who led the firm's early investment banking initiatives in Asia. Mark joined Goldman Sachs in 1984 and was named partner in 1996.</p> <p>Mark is the president of the Board of Trustees of Western Reserve Academy and a trustee of Business for Social Responsibility and Literacy Partners. He is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and serves on its independent task force on climate change.</p>
 <p><b>Johan Schaar</b></p>	<p>A Swedish national, Dr Schaar is currently head of the secretariat of the international Commission on Climate Change and Development, launched by the Swedish Government in 2007. Before that he led the tsunami recovery operation of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, Geneva. Between 2000 and 2005 he was head of the Division for Humanitarian Assistance and Conflict Management at Sida, Stockholm. He has a background in the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement and holds a doctorate from the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences.</p> <p>The Commission on Climate Change and Development Commission will present concrete proposals for how to integrate adaptation, risk reduction and climate-proof development effectively into development and poverty reduction plans in developing countries. The Commission is also to present proposals on how to design Official Development Assistance that takes account of climate impacts and disaster risks in developing countries.</p>
 <p><b>Jonathan Fanton</b></p>	<p>Jonathan F. Fanton has been president of the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation since 1999. With assets of \$7 billion, MacArthur is one of the nation's largest foundations. Internationally, it works in the fields of human rights and international justice, biodiversity conservation, population and reproductive health, international peace and security, and migration and human mobility. The Foundation works more than 60 countries and has offices in India, Russia, Nigeria, and Mexico.</p> <p>Mr. Fanton is also a board member of Human Rights Watch (HRW), an advisory trustee of the Rockefeller Brothers Fund, a member of the Board of Trustees of the Chicago History Museum, and the founding Board Chair of Security Council Report.</p> <p>Mr. Fanton is the author of <i>The University and Civil Society, Volumes I and II</i> and co-editor of <i>John Brown: Great Lives Observed</i> and <i>The Manhattan Project</i>:</p>

	A Documentary Introduction to the Atomic Age.
 <p><b>Johannah Bernstein</b></p>	<p>Johannah is an international environmental law consultant managing her own environmental law and policy consulting practice in Brussels, Geneva and Montreal. As a consultant Johannah provides sustainable development policy advice to national governments, international organisations and the private sector. Clients include: the European Commission, the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), UNEP, UNDP, UNITAR, the Secretariat to the UN Commission for Sustainable Development, the UN Economic Commission for Europe, as well as the Environment and Foreign Affairs Ministries of 6 governments, IUCN, IIED, IISD, SEI, WWI, ICTSD, WWF-EU, IES, Earth Charter International, and private sector clients Unilever, BHP Billiton and the Industry Facility.</p> <p>Johannah is also one of the founding editors of the Earth Negotiations Bulletin.</p>