

# 10TH ANNUAL COLLOQUIUM OF THE IUCN ACADEMY OF ENVIRONMENTAL LAW

“GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL LAW AT A CROSSROADS”

## *TEACHING ENVIRONMENTAL DIPLOMACY*



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# Global environmental issues

- ▶ Climate change
  - Green house gas emissions (GHG)
  - Ozone depletion
- ▶ Desertification
- ▶ Fresh water shortages
- ▶ Biodiversity/ecosystem losses
- ▶ Ocean pollution
- ▶ Toxic chemicals & hazardous wastes
- ▶ Trade and the Environment





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# Abaiang



# Seas and Fisheries



Many other related issues: Whaling, oil pollution,  
ocean dumping





# Plastic Ocean

Photographs by Greg Segal/[www.bestire.com](http://www.bestire.com)



# Trade and the Environment



Related issues include: trade in endangered species and trade in products with environmental value



# How we address problems

- ▶ Individual state action
- ▶ Informal bilateral/multilateral action
- ▶ Formal agreements



# International Environmental Law: Players

- ▶ The United Nations
  - ▶ International Bodies
  - ▶ Treaty Organizations
  - ▶ Multi-National Groups
  - ▶ Nation States
  - ▶ Corporations
  - ▶ NGOs
  - ▶ Others
- 

# International Environmental Law: International Bodies

- ▶ World Trade Organization (WTO)
- ▶ World Bank
- ▶ Global Environmental Facility (GEF)



**GLOBAL  
ENVIRONMENT  
FACILITY**



# Non-governmental organizations

- ▶ WWF
- ▶ Greenpeace
- ▶ CIEL
- ▶ Ocean Conservancy
- ▶ IUCN
- ▶ Env. Law Institute
- ▶ NRDC
- ▶ EDF
- ▶ Sierra Club

# UN Programs dealing with Environment

- ▶ The Head: UNEP
- ▶ The Heart: CSD
- ▶ The Purse: UNDP
- ▶ The Challenge: working in a UN system straddling the divide between developed and developing members.



# Institutional Framework

Theme of the Rio+20 Conference:  
Institutional Framework for  
Sustainable Development

[Read more](#)





























# Texts

- ▶ Linda Fasulo, **AN INSIDER'S GUIDE TO THE UNITED NATIONS**, 2d edition.
- ▶
- ▶ **UNITED NATIONS HANDBOOK**, New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The latest version is 2011–2012,  
<http://www.mfat.govt.nz/Media-and-publications/Publications/index.php>.

## Class #1.

- ▶ Linda Fasulo, **AN INSIDER'S GUIDE TO THE UN.**
- ▶ **United Nations Charter**  
<http://www.un.org/en/documents/charter/index.shtml>.
- ▶ **Rules of Procedure of the UN General Assembly.** Look over the rules and be generally familiar with what is in them.  
[http://www.un.org/ga/search/view\\_doc.asp?symbol=A/520/rev.17&Lang=E](http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/520/rev.17&Lang=E)
- ▶ Know what the roles of the plenary, the General Committee, the Second Committee and the Sixth Committee are.

## Class #2

UNEP Guide for Negotiators of MEAs,

<http://www.unep.org/dec/docs/Guide%20for%20Negotiators%20of%20MEAs.pdf>. You should familiarize yourself with its contents.

- ▶ Find the treaty or other legal instrument that forms the legal basis for the following intergovernmental, international organizations:
  - Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS)
  - Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization (AALCO)
  - Caribbean Community (CARICOM)
  - World Conservation Union (IUCN – International Union for the Conservation of Nature & Natural Resources)
  
- ▶ For IUCN, find the database with the resolutions adopted by IUCN World Conservation Congresses
  
- ▶ What is the “legal status” of a Resolution adopted by the UN General Assembly? What is the legal status of the IUCN WCC Resolutions adopted?

## Class #3

- ▶ Andrew Serdy, **Negotiating Treaties** (2004)
- ▶ Annecoos Wiersema, **The New International Lawmakers: Conferences of the Parties to Multilateral Environmental Agreements**, 31 Mich. J. Int'l L. 231 (2010) [read pp.231-46]
- ▶ Jose Alvarez, **The New Treaty Makers**, 25 B. C. Int'l Comp. L. Rev. 213 (2002)



## Class #5

- ▶ **Declaration of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment – (Stockholm Declaration)**  
<http://www.unep.org/Documents.Multilingual/Default.asp?DocumentID=97&ArticleID=1503&l=en>
- ▶ **Rio Declaration on Environment and Development**  
<http://www.unep.org/Documents.Multilingual/Default.asp?documentid=78&articleid=1163>
- ▶ **Agenda 21**  
<http://www.un.org/esa/dsd/agenda21/>
- ▶ **Millennium Development Goals**  
<http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/bkgd.shtml>
- ▶ **Johannesburg Plan of Action**  
[http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/documents/WSSD\\_POI\\_PD/English/POIToc.htm](http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/documents/WSSD_POI_PD/English/POIToc.htm)

