

Delhi Sustainable Development Summit 2002

Ensuring Sustainable Livelihoods: challenges for governments, corporates, and civil society at Rio + 10

Organized by TERI, New Delhi, 8-11 February 2002

Online at <http://www.teriin.org/dsds>

From the Director-General, TERI. . .

DSDS 2002 got off to an excellent start with the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Mr Atal Bihari Vajpayee, delivering a thought-provoking address in which he highlighted several issues of critical importance to the forthcoming WSSD (World Summit on Sustainable Development). He emphasized that solutions to several problems are known in greater clarity now than earlier, but what the world needs is far greater commitment especially from the industrialized nations. He highlighted the fact that civil society in India is fully engaged and involved in developing our agenda for the future, proof of which lies in the fact that TERI, the organizer of this Summit, itself is a non-government research institute. Mr Vajpayee highlighted the multi-dimensional nature of poverty, which goes beyond income or wealth and relates to health care, skills enhancement, and political participation at all levels from the local to the global. Mr Vajpayee also reminded the gathering that last year in the same forum, he had suggested a levy on capital transactions across industrialized countries and the need for developing the fund for global poverty alleviation.

Dr Jan Pronk's Keynote Address, which was delivered by Mr Yvo de Boer, provided an extremely illuminating perspective on global imperatives that need to be addressed in Johannesburg covering the environment-, social-, economic-, and finance-related options available to the global community. He also pointed out that the WSSD is much broader than the Rio Summit in its

coverage. This was a point also made by Dr A Ramachandran, Chairman of TERI, who drew a distinction between the Rio Summit, which dealt with environment and development, and the WSSD, which would deal with sustainable development. Mr T R Baalu, the Hon'ble Minister for Environment and Forests, GoI (Government of India), emphasized the importance of poverty reduction and highlighted the steps being taken by the GoI to prepare for WSSD.

The Hon'ble Prime Minister was presented with a document on defining an integrated energy strategy for India, which has been prepared by TERI for discussion, debate, and action by various stakeholders in this country. TERI, as an institution working on various forms of natural resources, has prepared this document because there is now a renewed emphasis on defining a sustainable energy strategy for the future in the light of recent global developments and domestic compulsions. This particular document will be put on TERI's web site, which attracts almost one million hits a month, for provoking debate and discussion, at the end of which the document will be finalized and disseminated on a large scale for use by the GoI and to provide a model for other developing countries.


(R K Pachauri)

Inaugural session

in brief . . .

There is widespread concern to make the WSSD an event that catalyses more concrete action than earlier.

Dr A Ramachandran emphasized that the challenge of global sustainable development is so significant that it is reflected in the very title of this event. In this context, ensuring sustainable livelihoods is a major challenge for India, as indeed is the complexity of poverty elimination.

Hon'ble Mr T R Baalu drew attention to the close association between the ministry and TERI—a significant example of government support for NGOs. Such partnerships are vital for the success of human society. The Indian concept of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' (global brotherhood) means sharing each other's trials and tribulations. Development must be sustainable and environment-friendly. With growing poverty, hunger, illiteracy... global security will be under threat unless timely action is taken.

Dr Jan P Pronk's Keynote Address (read out in his absence) made a strong case for a critical analysis of what the WSSD has to achieve and how. It presented the following primary concerns.

- 1 For the WSSD to be called a summit, heads of state and governments must make every effort to participate.
- 2 For the WSSD to be a truly global summit, all countries must be present and negotiate a globally agreeable agenda.

- 3 WSSD is not an environmental conference but one on sustainable development, including economics, social affairs, and the environment.
- 4 We must decide on those aspects of Rio that have been forgotten; many areas of *Agenda 21* still lag in implementation.
- 5 We must issue the political message that there is place for everyone within the system. The feelings of alienation and frustration among many people in the world must be addressed.
- 6 Rather than issuing recommendations, WSSD must reach concrete decisions, translated into concrete programmes, supported by high levels of commitment to time-bound implementation.

While the notion of a global partnership need not be adhered to by all countries, but we could start working towards such a partnership in Johannesburg. Ten years on from Rio, we owe it to the people, the planet, and to prosperity.

Hon'ble Mr Atal Bihari Vajpayee's Inaugural Address constantly underscored the importance of sustainable development and of events such as DSDS, which he hopes will present the issues on the agenda for Johannesburg clearly and unambiguously.

He assured that India will further encourage and strengthen partnerships between government, NGOs, and civil institutions in every area of development. We need to make sustainable development and globalization work for the poor. Poverty is multi-dimensional, extending beyond money incomes to education, health care, skills enhancement, and political participation. It is also determined by access to natural resources, clean water, and air and advancement of cultural and social organization.

The necessity for transferring more resources from developed countries for poverty alleviation and environmental sustainability is now being accepted by the opinion makers. The first and foremost task in sustainable development is to fulfil the aspiration of the poor and deprived to live a better life. No purpose will be served by focusing only on past failures; we need to move ahead. WSSD should come up with priority actions and a consensus for harnessing the forces of globalization and sustainable development for abolishing poverty.

Dr R K Pachauri spoke about how everybody gathered at DSDS is striving to bring sustainable development into the mainstream. He also presented to the Hon'ble Prime Minister a forward-looking document titled *Defining an Integrated Energy Strategy for India*. He thanked all the speakers, sponsors, delegates, and mediapersons for their overwhelming response to the Summit.

As they said it . . .

My only advice while inaugurating this major event is to recall Mahatma Gandhi's principle of 'Antyodaya', which means taking care of the last, of the most underprivileged and deprived.

— *Mr Atal Bihari Vajpayee,
The Hon'ble Prime Minister of India*

If we do not create the conditions for sustainable livelihoods for all sections of human society, the problem will not remain confined to any geographical location.

— *Mr T R Baalu, the Hon'ble Minister for Environment and Forests, Government of India*

The Johannesburg Summit must invoke momentum about implementing Agenda 21.

— *Dr A Ramachandran, Chairman, TERI*

There can be no double standards while taking social, economic, and environmental actions.

— *Dr Jan Pronk, Special Envoy for the Secretary-General, United Nations, to the World Summit on Sustainable Development; President, COP-7; and Hon'ble Minister of Housing, Spatial Planning, and the Environment, The Netherlands*

There is a renewed urgency for articulating a forward-looking energy strategy for the country.

— *Dr R K Pachauri, Director-General, TERI*

Look forward to . . .

Registration (9.30–10.30 a.m.)

Research and development for sustainable development – a perspective on TERI (10.30–11.00 a.m.)

Plenary session 1 (11.00 a.m.–12.30 p.m.)

Agenda 21: ensuring sustainable livelihoods

Chairperson

Mr P V Jayakrishnan, Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India

Speakers

- Dr Leena Srivastava, Director, Regulatory Studies & Governance Division, TERI
- Mr Reinhart Helmke, Executive Director, United Nations Office for Project Services, New York
- Mr L C Jain, Chairman, Industrial Development Services, India
- Dr Maritta R v Bieberstein Koch-Weser, President, Earth3000, Germany
- Dr Claude Martin, Director-General, World Wide Fund International, Switzerland

Lunch 12.30–1.30 p.m.

Chairperson

Mr Prabir Sengupta, former Secretary, Ministry Commerce and Industry, Government of India

Speaker

Mr Mohan Dharia, former Cabinet Minister and President, Vanarai Trust, India

Keynote address 1 (1.30–2.15 p.m.)

Chairperson

Dr Gowher Rizvi, Representative, Ford Foundation, India

Speaker

Prof. Hans J A van Ginkel, Rector, The United Nations University, Tokyo, Japan

Plenary session 2 (2.15–3.35 p.m.)

Financing development: focussed, transparent, and pro-poor systems

Chairperson

Dr Andrew J Bennett, Chief Natural Resources Adviser, Department for International Development, London, UK

Speakers

- Mr Ardhendu Sen, Senior Fellow, TERI
- Prof. Ogunlade Davidson, Director, Energy & Development Research Centre, University of Cape Town, South Africa
- Dr Brenda Gael McSweeney, UNDP Resident Representative & UN Resident Coordinator, India
- Mr Bunker Roy, Director, The Barefoot College, Tilonia, India
- Prof. Rehman Sobhan, Chairman, Centre for Policy Dialogue, Bangladesh

Tea (3.35–3.55 p.m.)

Plenary session 3 (4.00–5.20 p.m.)

Governance structures and processes for sustainable development

Chairperson

Ms Elsbeth Tronstad, State Secretary, Royal Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Norway

Speakers

- Ambassador C Dasgupta, Distinguished Fellow, TERI
- Dr Aminul Huq, Principal Project Engineer, Asian Development Bank, Philippines
- Mr Shafqat Kakakhel, Deputy Executive Director, United Nations Environment Programme, Nairobi
- Mr Alain Lambert, Senior Advisor, Environment and Development Cooperation, Ramsar Convention Bureau, Switzerland
- Mr Gilbert Parent, Ambassador for the Environment, Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, Canada
- Mr Farooq Sobhan, President, Bangladesh Enterprise Institute

Reception and Dinner (6.30–9.00 p.m.)

(Hosted by Taj Mahal Hotel)

Chairperson

Ambassador Arne Walther, Director-General, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Norway); and Chairman of the Governing Board of the International Energy Agency, Paris

Speaker

Shri Suresh P Prabhu, Hon'ble Minister for Power, Government of India