

## HE MR BRICE LALONDE

Former Minister of Environment, France

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A newly appointed Executive Coordinator of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development for the Rio + 20. He is foremost an environmental activist, and as a student at Sorbonne he was one of the leaders of the Union nationale des étudiants de France (UNEF), the French National Students' Union, which brought France to a standstill with protests and riots in the late '60s. A few years later he joined and led the environmental organization, "les Amis de la Terre" (Friends of the Earth). He was a journalist for *Le Sauvage*.

In 1974, he directed the presidential campaign of ecological politician René Dumont. In 1981, he stood himself candidate on the green ticket at the next presidential election. He led the movement for free radio broadcasting in France. In 1986, he spearheaded the clean up of the pollution of the Rhine caused by pharmaceutical companies. From 1988–1992, he was French Minister of environment of France. In 1990, Mr Lalonde founded in the party Génération Ecologie, which resulted in a runaway electoral success in 1992. From 1995 to 2008, he was the mayor of Saint-Briac-sur-Mer, a small Breton village. He worked at the same time as consultant on environment and development visiting many African countries, focusing on access to energy, reducing deforestation, and combating desertification. In 2007, he became the chair of the Round Table for Sustainable Development in the OECD. In September of the same year, Mr Lalonde became the French ambassador in charge of international negotiations on climate change.