

The Bahá'í International Community at the United Nations



The Moral and Ethical Dimensions of Climate Change

What is the Bahá'í International Community?

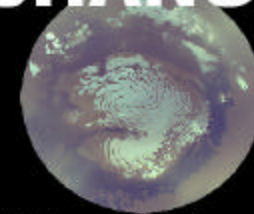
- international NGO
- affiliates (NSAs) in over 180 countries and territories
- works with the UN, governments and NGOs
- promotes Bahá'í principles and applies them to current-day challenges facing humanity
- focus: human rights, advancement of women, social and sustainable development
- offices in New York, Geneva, and Brussels
- representatives to UN regional commissions in Addis Ababa, Bangkok, Nairobi, Rome, Santiago, and Vienna

The Ethical Dimensions of Climate Change



The Permanent Mission of the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Permanent Mission of Tuvalu and the Bahá'í International Community invite you to a CSD-15 side event.

the **ETHICAL DIMENSIONS** of **CLIMATE CHANGE**



What Are the Moral and Ethical Issues of Climate Change, and What Practical Difference Would it Make if They Were Integrated Fully into Decision Making by Policy makers?

Monday 30 April 2007
1:15—2:45 PM
Conference Room B
United Nations

Presenters:

H.E. Mr. Enele Sosene Sopoaga,
Former Ambassador and Permanent Representative of
the Mission of Tuvalu to the United Nations

Mr. Om Pradhan, United Nations Office of the High
Representative for the Least Developed Countries,
Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island
Developing States (UN-OHRELLS)

Mr. Tony Barnston, Director of Forecast Operations,
International Research Institute for Climate and Society,
Columbia University

Mr. Don Brown, Project Coordinator, Collaborate
Program on the Ethical Dimensions of Climate Change, Rock
Ethics Institute

Dr. Arthur Dahl, President, the International
Environment Forum, Consultant to and former Deputy
Assistant Executive Director of the United Nations
Environment Programme

Rabbi Lawrence Troster, Fellowship Program Director,
OzemFolk

Cosponsors:

UN Office of High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States; UNEP Interfaith Partnership for the Environment; Rock Ethics Institute at Penn State University; International Environment Forum; and the NGO Committee on Sustainable Development

Youth Caucus at the Commission on Sustainable Development





“The search for solutions to climate change has revealed the limits of traditional technological and policy approaches and has raised difficult questions about justice, equity, responsibility and obligation. As communities and policy-makers worldwide have wrestled with these questions, they have brought us all to the threshold of a tremendous opportunity. It is the opportunity to take the next step in the transition from a state-centered mode of interacting on the world stage to one rooted in the unity which connects us as the inhabitants of one biosphere, the citizens of one world and the members of one human civilization. “

"The world of politics is like the world of man; he is seed at first, and then passes by degrees to the condition of embryo and fetus, acquiring a bone structure, being clothed with flesh, taking on his own special form, until at last he reaches the plane where he can befittingly fulfill the words: "the most excellent of Makers." [1] Just as this is a requirement of creation and is based on the universal Wisdom, the political world in the same way cannot instantaneously evolve from the nadir of defectiveness to the zenith of rightness and perfection. Rather, qualified individuals must strive by day and by night, using all those means which will conduce to progress, until the government and the people develop along every line from day to day and even from moment to moment."

'Abdu'l-Baha, Secret of Divine Civilization
