On behalf of the international coalition the ‘BUTTERFLY EFFECT’
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1. THE RIO+20 CONFERENCE

1) PRINCIPLES AND CHALLENGES

The United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, or Rio+20, was held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil from 20 to 22 June 2012, 20 years after the Earth Summit of 1992. This conference was preceded by multi-stakeholder Sustainable Development Dialogues (16 to 19 June 2012), during which key issues, such as water, were debated and recommendations were then conveyed to the Heads of State and Government attending the Summit.

The aforementioned Earth Summit (Rio, 1992) culminated in the signature of the Rio Declaration, a non-legally binding declaration of principles aimed at ensuring better management of the planet, and developed the concept of states’ rights and responsibilities towards the environment. The Rio Summit led to the adoption of Agenda 21 and three major conventions: the Convention on Biodiversity, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification.

Twenty years later, the aim of the Rio+20 Conference was to renew political commitment to sustainable development; assess progress and gaps in the implementation of decisions made at UN sustainable development summits; address new challenges. The Conference focused on two key themes: (i) a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication, and (ii) the institutional framework for sustainable development.

2) THE CONFERENCE AND ITS OUTPUT

Difficult negotiations marked by the pushed through agreement of a final text

Negotiations during the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development were extremely laborious, reflecting the inability of states to formulate a strong, common vision and address current and future global challenges. As a result, by the end of the final round of negotiations, or 3rd PrepCom (13 to 15 June), only 28% of the text entitled ‘The Future We Want’ had been approved. The Brazilian government, eager to prevent the failure of the conference, decided to take matters in hand and so put forward a consolidated compromise text based on the smallest common denominator. Thus, to render the text politically acceptable to all parties, all contentious proposals were removed.

The resulting slimmed-down version of the Declaration was officially adopted by the negotiating teams on 19 June before the Heads of State and Government, who ratified the text during the official conference, had even arrived. The conference itself, held from 20 to 22 June, was attended by around 50,000 people from either official delegations or civil society, with attendees including 79 Heads of State or Government, most notably the French President, François Hollande, the only head of a European country to make the trip. A wide range of content-rich events were held prior to or at the same time as the conference: side-events, debates, conferences, country pavilions, etc.

Focus on water and sanitation

Negotiations around human rights, including the human right to water and sanitation, were particularly difficult. Whilst the green economy was identified as a possible solution to the global economic crisis, and thus a priority, many states were reluctant to commit on other points and exerted pressure to have all mention of human rights, such as the human right to water and sanitation, withdrawn. Civil society campaigned extensively against this unprecedented backward step. The states eventually backed down and the fundamental reference to human rights, including the right to water, was retained.
A weak and unambitious final declaration

Against a background of economic crisis and the precedence of short-term national interests, states have failed to define a new sustainable development policy or pave the way towards the future we want.

Forgoing analysis and lacking political vision, this text ignores a number of current challenges, such as globalisation, the depletion of natural resources, the development of the global economy, the causes of environmental crises, the link between population/water/food and the issue of lifestyles in industrialised countries, which are neither widely applicable nor sustainable.

The text also reflects two key trends: the defence of national interests on the one hand and, on the other, a world characterised by changing geopolitical forces (the emergence of India, China and Brazil; the decreasing power of Canada and the United States; the marginalisation of a united European Union seeking a global general interest but which no longer carries the same political and financial weight; a divided G7; and developing countries concerned about the implementation of new standards that would hinder the development to which they aspire), overall lack of leadership and a definite breakdown in multilateralism.

The adopted compromise text mainly sets out general principles; it is not particularly action-oriented nor does it contain any new commitments and is thus extremely weak. Analysis by CARI of around 60 pages and 283 articles has revealed that the text merely “recognises”, 147 times, issues related to governance, management of natural resources, poverty, development, finance and patterns of consumption and production. It maintains 177 times that "we are committed"; however, the exact nature of these commitments is not specified. Whilst previous positions on what needs to be done are “reaffirmed” 58 times, only five “decisions” are included. Although the subject of numerous debates, there is no further clarification of the concept of the green economy; issues surrounding common but differentiated responsibilities, enabling conditions for technology transfer and finance are not resolved; and steps backwards have been taken in some areas, such as in the water and sanitation sector.

However, some progress has been made and this needs to be built on further after Rio:

- Sustainable Development Goals: the principle of establishing Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) to replace the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) has agreed. Unlike the MDG, which only apply to developing countries, these SDG will be universal and include developed countries as well. A working group is to be set up between now and the next United Nations General Assembly session, due to be held in September 2012, to develop a roadmap for defining and implementing these SDG.
- Oceans: States have committed to making a decision to strengthen the laws governing protection of the high seas by 2014.
- Global governance: Although Rio+20 did not lead to the creation of a World Environment Organisation (WEO), as strongly advocated by France, the text nevertheless strengthens the powers of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), particularly with regard to finance. Furthermore, a ‘high-level political forum to follow up on the implementation of sustainable development’ is to be established to closely monitor the implementation of sustainable development policies. This is accompanied by the cross-functional reinforcement of the role of civil society in global governance and its involvement with these different bodies.
- Social protection floors, the establishment of which has been formally encouraged.

In the face of the Declaration’s general lack of ambition, civil society took extensive action: through discussions, debates and demonstrations, they conveyed their proposals and recommendations to both the official Conference and the People's Summit. However, they received very little response from world leaders. A block, consisting of the NGO major group at the UN, opposed the text of this Declaration and demanded that the words “in full participation with civil society” be removed from the first paragraph; however, this was not taken into account and states were unwilling to reopen the text for amendments.
Focus on water and sanitation

When compared to previous versions of the text, the section on water and sanitation has been considerably watered down. On a positive note, the title of the section on ‘Water’ was expanded to include the word ‘Sanitation’. Also, following months of negotiations, the human right to water and sanitation was retained as part of the text and water was recognised as being at the core of sustainable development. However, UN member states have approved a text that does not directly commit them to implementing the human right to water and sanitation, which is a fundamental human right recognised by the United Nations General Assembly Resolution of 28 July 2010. The only way the human right to water and sanitation can become effective is for governments to include it in national legislation and implement it at local level.

Moreover, as far as resource management is concerned, the text fails to mention either transboundary cooperation or the river basin management approach, items that were simply withdrawn due to opposition from certain states, most notably Canada. This thus fails to take into account the fact that 60% of all freshwater flows through the planet’s 276 transboundary river basins, which are home to 40% of the world’s population. The sustainable management of water resources is only possible if there is cooperation across political borders.

It is to be noted that water is also mentioned in other sections of the text: ‘Food security and nutrition and sustainable agriculture’, ‘Sustainable cities and human settlements’, ‘Health and population’, ‘Biodiversity’, ‘Desertification, land degradation and drought’, and ‘Mountains’, but not in the section on ‘Energy’.

A civil society actively seeking new solutions, but whose views remained unheeded

During the official Conference, civil society participated in parallel events, debates and conferences. In addition to its involvement in these gatherings, civil society was also officially represented at the Conference itself by 9 Major Groups, corresponding to the different categories of civil society within the United Nations: NGOs, Local Authorities, Women, Children and Youth, Farmers, Business and Industry, Indigenous People, Science and Technology, Trade Unions. These Major Groups, which have consultative status, met both prior to and during the negotiations to share their recommendations and views of the proposed text. They also made statements during the opening session of the official Conference. However, their recommendations were rarely taken into account, just as those put forward by civil society as a whole during the Sustainable Development Dialogues (see below) and other events were equally ignored. Although the Rio+20 Declaration calls for the reinforcement of the role of civil society in global governance, it remains to be seen how this will actually be implemented.

Available resources


3) **AN INNOVATION: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIALOGUES**

Over the 4 days prior to the high level conference, the Government of Brazil organised an initiative specifically devoted to civil society. The aim of this Sustainable Development Dialogues initiative, which took place from 16 to 19 June 2012, was to debate key themes related to sustainable development: (i) sustainable development for fighting poverty, (ii) sustainable development as an answer to the economic and financial crises, (iii) unemployment, decent work and migrations, (iv) the economics of sustainable development, including sustainable patterns of production and consumption, (v) forests, (vi) food and nutrition security, (vii) sustainable energy for all, (viii) water, (ix) sustainable cities and innovation, (x) oceans.

The process was as follows: an on-line platform was set up on which civil society was invited to share their recommendations on each of the key themes; the best recommendations were then selected by vote. Around 63,000 people from 193 countries either contributed their recommendations or voted through this platform. 10 recommendations were then presented by panelists during the Sustainable Development Dialogues themselves, 3 of which were chosen to be conveyed directly to the Heads of State and Government during the official high level conference. However, this initiative consisted only of ‘making recommendations’; Heads of State and Government were under no obligation to accept them. As the text of the final declaration was officially finalised on 19 June, before the conclusions of the Sustainable Development Dialogues had been presented to the high level conference, very little of the proposed content was included in the text.

The Sustainable Development Dialogues is an innovative, participatory initiative and provides a means of conveying civil society recommendations to the highest level. With further development, they could be used to express the views of civil society in a stronger and more representative manner. As far as these Rio+20 Dialogues were concerned, however, there were several aspects that could have been improved:

- the process was only put in place, in a complex and relatively non-transparent manner, 2 months before the start of the official high level conference;
- this was a top-down process: the Government of Brazil selected both the themes and participants with no real consultation with civil society;
- this was only a consultative process: it was left entirely up to the states whether they accepted the recommendations or not.

The report on the Dialogues for Sustainable Development is provided in the annex.
Focus on water and sanitation

The Dialogue on Water took place on 18 June, from 14:30 to 18:30. The 3 recommendations selected at the end of this Dialogue to be conveyed to the Heads of State and Government were as follows:

(i) Secure water supply by protecting biodiversity, ecosystems and water sources;
(ii) Implement the right to water;
(iii) Adopt more ambitious global policies asserting the importance of integrated water, sanitation, energy and land use planning, development, conservation and management at all scales, taking into account specific gender and cultural needs and with the full and effective participation of civil society.

However, as with the other recommendations, these were not incorporated as such in the Final Declaration. With the exception of the first recommendation, which was already included in the text, the remaining two proposals were not addressed.

2. THE PEOPLE’S SUMMIT

The People’s Summit was held in Rio from 15 to 23 June. Its aim was to present a critical approach to the principles of the Rio+20 official conference: critical of the green economy and false solutions, as well as of the insufficient debate on global governance.

The ultimate gathering place for civil society, the People’s Summit hosted a wealth of debates, discussions and proposals of alternative solutions for a different world, one founded on the respect of human rights, social and environmental justice, the defence of the commons and the non-commodification of life and nature. Around 3,000 events were held throughout the city, bringing together associations, young people, women, local authorities, farmers, indigenous people, trade unions, etc. The People’s Summit hosted a multitude of enthusiastic initiatives, even if not all of these were related to the issues being covered in the official process. The highlights included the mass demonstration on 20 June and the adoption of the People’s Summit Final Declaration on 22 June.

Focus on water and sanitation

Water had its own space at the People’s Summit: the Blue Pavilion, which was a Fondation France Libertés initiative. With conferences and debates, exhibitions and cultural events, the Blue Pavilion’s activities focused on 5 key themes: ‘the right to water’, ‘water as a commons and the green economy’, ‘water, agriculture and food sovereignty’, ‘water, energy and extractivism’, ‘oceans’. These were all key features of a space that remained popular with visitors throughout the week and which was marked by the adoption of the Blue Pavilion Declaration on 21 June (the declaration is provided in the annex).

Available resources

People’s Summit website: http://cupuladospovos.org.br/en/
Activities of the Members of the Butterfly Effect Present in Rio+20

During the preparatory phase leading up to the Rio+20 Conference, the Butterfly Effect shared its comments on the draft zero of the Declaration through Freshwater Action Network who had the mandate to lead the WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene) NGO major group. The main message was to defend the human right to water and sanitation, going beyond the MDG's and setting up sustainable development objectives.

The NGOs, member of the Butterfly Effect, were also involved in defending a human rights approach through expertise or signing petitions.

Also, the members of the Butterfly Effect present in Rio were very active during the last negotiation phases, 17-19th June 2012. Confronted to the lack and set back observed in the Declaration proposed by the Brazilian government, following its lead on the negotiations, the members of the Butterfly Effect (Coalition Eau, FAN Mex, Green Cross International, WWF, Young Volunteers for the environment, Youth national council of Niger,… were active in:

- Alerting the decision makers on the weakness of the water chapter
- Called upon them to explicitly recognize water and sanitation as a human right as defined by the UN resolution of the 28th of July 2012, to promote its effective application and to include in the declaration elements pertaining to water and cooperation.

In this framework, the following activities were undertaken:

- A letter was sent to 16 ministerial delegations : France, Italy, Spain, Poland, Niger, Togo, Benin, Mali, Senegal, Burkina Faso, Ghana, Ivory Coast, Argentina, Bolivia, Mexico, Costa Rica;
- Sharing of stakes and recommendations on the water and sanitation sector with the French and Swedish ministers;
- A meeting with Catarina de Albuquerque, Special UN Rapporter for the human right to water
- Press Release of the letter sent to the ministerial delegations was sent to several medias.

These strong actions, collectively carried by the members of the Butterfly Effect present in Rio enabled to reach some decision makers and carry civil society recommendations for water and sanitation at the political level. Yet, seeing how the final text was already finalized, the number of themes that had to be pushed and the difficulties in finding compromises, there was little possibility of maneuvers and nothing could be modified.
4. **Review and Outlook**

1) **Review**

With its difficult negotiations and general sense of dissatisfaction, there was no last minute deal agreed at the Rio+20 Conference on Sustainable Development and no new sustainable development policy defined, whilst the water and sanitation sector experienced significant setbacks. Lessons now need to be drawn from this predictable, even all-too-predictable, failure on: the new political world stage, the focus of states on their own national interests, the breakdown of multilateralism, the lack of long-term political vision, the lack of any analysis of current challenges and countries’ actual situations, etc. It is also necessary to focus on the positives to be taken from Rio+20 (establishment of the SDG, the strengthening of UNEP powers, the increasing role of civil society, etc.) in order to move forward and develop a new roadmap for sustainable development policy. With regard to civil society, whilst it was involved in the official process, this was only in a consultative capacity. Both the People’s Summit and the official conference space were, however, full of initiatives, proposals, alternative ideas and campaigns, all illustrating the rightful position that civil society can and should be taking up, particularly given the withdrawal of states.

2) **Outlook**

Today, for there to be any hope of a process being revived, states will need to revitalise multilateralism, currently on the wane, and regain the willingness to uphold, together, their collective interests for a new world vision. Governments need to remember that they represent the people of their country and that their responsibilities include providing a better and sustainable future for current and future generations. Working together with civil society, with all their alternative solutions and proposals, governments need to address all major challenges, including those related to water.

To this end, establishment of the Sustainable Development Goals provides an opportunity to develop a new roadmap for sustainable development, including for the water and sanitation sector. However, this is on the condition that states demonstrate ambition and commit, both politically and financially, to meet all needs. This is to be monitored by civil society, who will continue its engagement and focus on working on global governance with one objective: to encourage states to commit effectively, build new hopes and place people at the heart of all development policies.

However, more generally, adopting the path of sustainable development means fully transforming our current societies. This involves the transition towards environmentally sustainable and socially fair societies and economies, the respect of human rights and the conservation of the commons, changes in attitudes and behaviour, as well as the development of a new global governance system that involves citizens in the decision-making process.

One thing is certain: states, civil society, everybody needs to act and act now.
ANNEX 1: REPORT OF THE DIALOGUES FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

“Dialogues for Sustainable Development”

RioCentro June 16 - 19

Report

The Sustainable Development Dialogues is an initiative that the Government of Brazil originated and carried out with the support of the United Nations. For the first time in International global UN Conferences, the inclusion of a participatory and inclusive process for representatives of civil society was conducted with the view of bringing to the Heads of State and governments a number of Recommendations, to be presented at the Round Tables during the High Level segment of the UN Conference for Sustainable Development Rio+20 Conference.

The Dialogues gathered 100 panelists in 10 panels focused on key themes on the international agenda for the sustainable development. Those themes were: (1) unemployment, decent work and migrations; (2) sustainable development as an answer to the economic and financial crises; (3) sustainable development for fighting poverty; (4) the economics of sustainable development, including sustainable patterns of production and consumption; (5) forests; (6) food and nutrition security; (7) sustainable energy for all; (8) water; (9) sustainable cities and innovation; and (10) oceans. The debates took place at the plenary room of Pavilion 5 of RioCentro.

The Dialogues were opened by the Brazilian Minister of External Relations, Antonio de Aguiar Patriota, and the Executive Coordinator for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, Ms. Elizabeth Thompson, also former Minister for Energy and Environment of Barbados, and closed by the Secretary General for the Brazilian Presidency, Minister Gilberto Carvalho, and the Executive Coordinator for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, Mr. Brice Lalonde, also former Minister for Environment of France.

The debates had an average audience of over 1,300 people. All the debates were broadcast live on the UN website. The Dialogues’ complete program and the list of participants are attached to this message.

The Dialogues were the apex of an innovative and inclusive process of consultation that began in April and gathered tens of thousands of participants in open discussions over the Internet that were facilitated by about 30 academic representatives of universities and research centers from all over the world. Public also proposed and voted for concrete recommendations on sustainable development. Over 63,000 people from 193 countries cast nearly 1.4 million votes.

A total of 100 recommendations were discussed by the panelists and 30 of them were selected: one by an open vote on the Internet, one by the audience in Rio and one by the panelists. Some panelists proposed amendments to the recommendations that resulted from the online discussions as an additional contribution to the debate. For instance, in the Dialogue on unemployment, decent work and migrations, panelists suggested the need to incorporate workforce skills training, and on the water panel, panelists stressed that “right to water” should be understood as including the right to proper sanitation. The climate impact on development and tipping points on the use of natural resources were debated. Transfer of technology, peoples centered innovation was also brought forward, as well as the need to take into account the special needs of developing countries.

The audience other than voting and asking questions made substantive contribution to the discussions. In the Dialogue on sustainable cities and innovation, the point was strongly made that the use of waste as an energy source (the top recommendation from the internet vote) should be understood as referring to organic waste only, as it could otherwise have a negative impact on the livelihood of scores of families in developing countries.

Many participants indicated that they considered the Dialogues an innovative initiative and an efficient way to include concerns and proposals of representatives of civil society into the outcome of the Rio+20 Conference. It is expected that the Heads of State and governments, and other members of the Round Tables will take note of the set of 30 recommendations and consider how to follow-up on the Dialogues experiment.

Review of Rio+20 Conference – June 2012
Recommendations

**Unemployment, decent work and migrations**

1. Put education in the core of the Sustainable Development Goals agenda.
2. Commit to a Decent Work for All goal by 2030, including the right to bargain collectively, unemployment reduction, elimination of precarious work, gender equality at the workplace and promotion of green and decent jobs, taking into account the special needs of women and youth; as well as to a Social Protection for All goal by 2030, guaranteeing social protection, at least at the level of national floors, including minimum wages and guarantees for access to health care, and income support for unemployed, aged, disabled, children and pregnant women.
3. Compel national governments to respect the human rights of all migrant workers and their families including those in Temporary Foreign Worker programs and those climate refugees who will be displaced by environmental impacts.

**Sustainable Development as an answer to the economic and financial crises**

1. Promote tax reforms that encourage environmental protection and benefit the poor.
2. Create a tax on international financial transactions with a view to contributing to a Green Fund in charge of promoting decent jobs and clean technologies.
3. The world will adopt shared sustainable development goals (SDGs) that will be embraced by business, civil society and the public sector. These goals will include innovative metrics, public disclosure, public awareness, education at all levels, and problem solving from local to global level to map the pathways to achieve the goals.

**Sustainable Development for Fighting Poverty**

1. Promote global education to eradicate poverty and to achieve sustainable development.
2. Ensure universal health coverage to achieve sustainable development.
3. Promote equitable access to information, participation, representation and justice in local, national and global level decision-making on sustainable development and promote grassroots innovation.

**The economics of sustainable development, including sustainable patterns of production and consumption**

1. Phase out harmful subsidies and develop green tax schemes.
2. Include environmental damages in the Gross National Product (GNP) and complement it with measures of social development.
3. Promote sustainable public procurement worldwide as a catalyst for sustainable patterns, taking into account the need for a holistic approach to sustainable development and principles for a sustainable and fair economy.

**Forests**

2. Promote science, technology, innovation and traditional knowledge in order to face forests main challenge: how to turn them productive without destroying them.
3. Zero Net Deforestation by 2020, respecting the rights and knowledge of peoples living in and from the forests and responding to their sustainable development needs.

Food and Security
1. Promote food systems that are sustainable and contribute to improvement of health.
2. Develop policies to encourage sustainable production of food supplies directed to both producers and consumers.
3. Eliminate misery and poverty-related malnutrition. Empower women farmers, small holder farmers, young farmers and indigenous people. Ensure their access to land, water and seed as well as their full involvement in public decision making regarding food production and food and nutrition security.

Sustainable Energy for All
1. Take concrete steps to eliminate fossil fuel subsidies.
2. Establish ambitious targets for moving towards renewable energy.
3. Scale up investments and political will to ensure universal, equitable and affordable access to sustainable energy services to all by the next decade through clear strategies and actions.

Water
1. Secure water supply by protecting biodiversity, ecosystems and water sources.
2. Implement the right to water.
3. Adopt more ambitious global policies asserting the importance of integrated water, sanitation, energy and land use planning, development, conservation and management at all scales, taking into account specific gender and cultural needs and with the full and effective participation of civil society.

Sustainable Cities and Innovation
1. Promote the use of waste as a renewable energy source in urban environments.
2. Plan in advance for sustainability and quality of life in cities.
3. Each head of state should identify a sustainable city to develop a network for knowledge sharing and innovation. Governments should channel resources to develop people-centered sustainable cities with timed and measurable goals, in such way that empowers local communities, promotes equality and accountability.

Oceans
1. Avoid ocean pollution by plastics through education and community collaboration.
2. Launch a global agreement to save high seas marine biodiversity.
3. Take immediate action to develop a global network of international marine protected areas, while fostering ecosystem based fisheries management, with special consideration for small-scale fishing interests.
"Dialogues for Sustainable Development"
Program and Participants

1 - Unemployment, decent work and migrations – June 16, 11:00 am – 1:30 pm
Moderator: Mr. Jonathan Watts (United Kingdom) - The Guardian
Ms. Carmen Helena Ferreira Foro (Brazil) – Secretary of Rural Women Workers of CONTAG.
Mr. Daniel Iliescu (Brazil) – President, National Students Union
Ms. Deborah Wince-Smith (USA) - President, The Council on Competitiveness
Ms. Ivana Savich (Serbia) – Coordinator, CSD Youth Caucus
Dr. James K. Galbraith (USA) - Professor, Texas University
Dr. Lu Hulin (China) - Professor, Beijing University
Ms. Nana-Fosu Randall (Ghana) – Founder and President, Voices of African Mothers (VAM)
Ms. Sharan Burrow (Australia) – Secretary-General, International Trade Union Confederation
Mr. Maurice Strong (Canada) – Secretary-General of the Conferences in Stockholm (1972) and in Rio de Janeiro (1992)
Mr. Peter Bakker (Netherlands) – President, World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD)

2 – Sustainable Development as an answer to the economic and financial crises – June 16, 3:30 pm – 6:30 pm
Moderator: Mr. Luis Nassif (Brazil) – TV Brasil /Agência Dinheiro Vivo
Mr. Caio Koch-Weser (Germany) - Vice-President, Deutsche Bank Group
Dr. Enrique V. Iglesias (Uruguay) – Secretary-General Ibero-Americana (SEGIB). Former President, Interamerican Development Bank (1988-2005)
Mr. Fabio Barbosa (Brazil) – CEO, Abril S.A.
Dr. Jeffrey Sachs (USA) - Director, Earth Institute, Columbia University
Dr. Herman Mulder (Netherlands) - President, Global Reporting Initiative (GRI)
Ms. Kate Raworth (United Kingdom) - Researcher, Oxfam
Dr. Marcela Benítez (Argentina) – Founder and Director, RESPONDE Association
Dr. Martin Bunge (China) – Founder and President, China Vanke Co. Ltd
Dr. Yilmaz Akyuz (Turkey) – Chief Economist, South Centre
Dr. Laurence Tubiana (France) – Director, Institute of Sustainable Development and International Relations (IDDRI), Sciences Po

3 – Sustainable Development for fighting poverty – June 16, 7:30 pm – 10:00 pm
Moderator: Sr. Fred de Sam Lazarro (USA) - PBS
Dr. Boaventura de Sousa Santos (Portugal) - Professor, University of Coimbra
Dr. Judith Sutz (Uruguay) - Professor, Universidad de la Republica
Ms. Lourdes Huanca Atencio (Peru) – President, National Federation of Women Rural Workers, Artisans, Indigenous and Wage Workers of Peru (Femucarinap)
Dr. Manish Bapna (USA) – President World Resources Institute (WRI)
Dr. Maríća Lopes (Brazil) - Professor, Ex-Minister Ministry of Social Development and Hunger Alleviation
Sr. Marcos Terena (Brazil) – President, Intertribal Committee.
Dr. Pavan Sukhdev (India) – Founder and President, Gist Advisory Private Ltd.
Ms. Severn Cullis-Suzuki (Canada) – Board Member, David Suzuki Foundation
Mr. Victor Trucco (Argentina) – Honorary President, Argentine Association of No-Till Producers (AAPRESID)
Dr. Yang Tuan (China) - Director, Center for Study of Social Policies, Chinese Academy for Social Sciences

4 – The economics of Sustainable Development, including sustainable patterns of production and consumption – June 17, 11:00 am – 1:30 pm
Moderator: Sr. Joseph Leahy (United Kingdom) – Financial Times
Dr. Elisabeth Laville (France) - Director, UTOPIES
Dr. Enase Okonedo (Nigeria) - Deacon, Lagos Business School
Dr. Gro Harlem Brundtland (Norway) – Former Prime Minister of Norway
Mr. Helio Mattar (Brazil) - President, Instituto Akatu. Co-Founder of Instituto Ethos
Dr. Ignacy Sachs (France) - Professor, Centre de Recherche sur le Brésil Contemporain (CRDC), École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales (EHESS)
Dr. Juan Carlos Castilla-Rubio (Peru) - CEO, Planetary Skin Institute
Dr. Kelly Rigg (USA) – CEO, Global Campaign for Climate Action
Dr. Thomas Heller (USA) – CEO, Climate Policy Initiative
Ambassador Rubens Ricupero (Brazil) – Former Secretary-General, UNCTAD

5 – Forests – June 17, 3:30 pm – 6:30 pm
Moderator: Sr. James Chau (China) - CCTV
Mr. Anders Hildeman (Sweden) - Global Forestry Manager, IKEA of Sweden AB
Sr. André Giacini de Freitas (Brazil) - CEO, Forest Stewardship Council (Forest Management Board)
Dr. Bertha Becker (Brazil) - Professor, UFRJ
Mr. Christian Del Valle (United Kingdom) - Founder, Althelia Climate Fund
Mr. Estebancio Castro Díaz (Panama) – Executive Secretary, Alliance of Indigenous and Tribal Peoples of Tropical Forests
Mr. Guilherme Leal (Brazil) – Founder, CEO, Natura Cosméticos
Dr. Julia Marton-Lefèvre (France) - CEO, International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)
Dr. Klaus Töpfer (Germany) - Founder, CEO, Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies (IASS), Former CEO of the United Nations Environment (1998-2006)
Dr. Ly Zhi (China) – Director, Center for Nature and Society, Beijing University
Dr. Yolanda Kakabadse (Ecuador) - President, World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF)

6 – Food and nutrition security – June 17, 7:00 pm – 10:00 pm
Moderator: Paulo Prada (USA) - Reuters
Mr. Carlo Petrini (Italy) – Founder, President, Slow Food
Ms. Esther Penunia (Philippines) – Secretary-General, Asian Farmers Association for Sustainable Rural Development (AFA)
Ms. Hortensia Hidalgo (Chile) - Indigenous Women Network of Latin America and the Caribbean for Biodiversity (RMIB)
Ms. Josette Sheeran (USA) - Vice-President, World Economic Forum
Dr. Luisa Dias Diogo (Mozambique) – Former Prime Minister of Mozambique
Mr. Marco Marzano di Marinis (Italy) - CEO, World Farmers Organization
Dr. Martin Khor (Malaysia) - CEO, South Centre
Dr. Mary Robinson (Ireland) - Director, International Institute for the Environment and Development (IIED)
Dr. Renato S. Maluf (Brazil) - Coordinator, Council on Food and Nutrition Security, (UFRRJ)
Dr. Vandana Shiva (India) - Director, Research Foundation for Science, Technology and Ecology

7 – Sustainable energy for all – June 18, 11:00 am – 1:30 pm
Moderator: Mr. James Astill (United Kingdom) – The Economist
Mr. Brian Dames (South Africa) - CEO, Eskom
Ms. Changhua Wu (USA) - Director, Greater China - The Climate Group
Ms. Christine Lins (Austria) - CEO, REN21
Mr. José Antonio Vargas Lleras (Colombia) – Vice-President for Latin America and Caribbean (LAC), World Energy Council (WEC) / President, CODENSA S.A.
Dr. Kornelis Blok (Netherlands) - Founder, Ecolys Group
Dr. Luiz Figueiró Rosa (Brazil) - Director, COPPE-UFRJ; Executive Secretary, Brazilian Forum on Climate Change
Ms. Sandrine Dixson-Declève (Belgium) - Director, EU Office, University of Cambridge, Program for Sustainability and Leadership; Vice-Chair, European biofuels technology platform
Ms. Sheila Oparaocha (Zambia) – Executive Secretary, International Network on Gender and Sustainable Energy
Dr. Thomas Nagy (Denmark) – Executive Vice-President, Novozymes
Mr. Vasco Dias (Brazil) - President, Raízen Energia
8 – Water – June 18, 3:30 pm – 6:30 pm
Moderator: Ms. Lucia Newman (Chile) – Al Jazeera
. Mr. Albert Butare (Rwanda) - CEO, Africa Energy Services Group
. Dr. Ania Grobicki (South Africa) – Executive Secretary, Global Water Partnership (GWP)
. Dr. Benedito Braga (Brazil) - President, International Water Resources Association (IWRA). Vice-President, World Water Council (WWC)
. Mr. David Boys (Canada) – Utilities Officer, Public Services International
. Mr. Dyborn Chibonga (Malawi) - CEO, National Smallholder Farmer’s Association of Malawi (NASFAM)
. Mr. Jeff Seabright (USA) - Vice-President, Environment and Water Resources - Coca-Cola Co.
. Dr. Loïc Fauchon (France) - President, World Water Council Board of Governors
. Dr. Muhammed Yunus (Bangladesh) - Founder, Grameen Bank
. Mr. David Cadman (Canada) – President Emeritus, Instituto Ethos
. Dr. Shigeru Ban (Japan) - Architect, Shigeru Ban Architects

9 – Sustainable Cities and Innovation – June 18, 7:30 pm – 10:00 pm
Moderator: Mr. Andre Trigueiro (Brazil) – TV Globo
. Dr. Alejandro Aravena (Chile) - Architect, CEO, Elemental
. Dr. Barry Bergdoll (USA) – Chief Curator, Architecture and Design, MoMA
. Dr. Enrique Ortiz (Mexico) - Former President, Habitat International Coalition (HIC)
. Dr. Jaime Lerner (Brazil) - President, Jaime Lerner Institute. Former Mayor of Curitiba and Former Governor of Paraná
. Dr. Janice Perlman (USA) - President, Mega Cities Project
. Dr. Khalifa Sall (Senegal) – Mayor of Dakar and Vice-President of UCLG for Africa
. Dr. Oded Grajew (Brazil) - President Emeritus, Instituto Ethos
. Ms. Nawal Al-Hosany (United Arab Emirates) – Director of Sustainability, Masdar
. Dr. Shigeru Ban (Japan) - Architect, Shigeru Ban Architects

10 – Oceans – June 19, 11:00 am – 1:30 pm
Moderator: Sr. Philippe Cousteau (USA) - CNN
. Mr. Arthur Bogason (Iceland) - President, Icelandic National Association of Small Boat Owners
. Ms. Asha de Vos (Sri Lanka) – Marine Biologist, Western Australia University
. Dr. Richard Delaney (USA) – Head, Provincetown Center for Coastal Studies
. Dr. Jean-Michel Cousteau (France) - President, Ocean Futures Society
. Ms. Margareth Nakato (Uganda) - World Fishermen Forum
. Dr. Robin Mahon (Barbados) - Professor, University of West Indies
. Dr. Segen Farid Estefen (Brazil) - Professor, COPPE, UFRJ
. Dr. Shaj Thyss (India) - Vice-President, Technical Services and Ship Management, APL
. Dr. Sylvia Earle (USA) - Founder, Mission Blue Foundation
. Dr. Ussif Rashid Sumaila (Canada) - Director, Fisheries Centre and Fisheries Economics Research Unit, British Columbia University
We, movements for the defence of water and Mother Earth gathered at the Blue Pavilion inside the Cúpula dos Povos, collectively share a vision that water is a common good not a commodity. The Earth’s pristine waters give life to an astonishing diversity of ecosystems and human societies. This common vision affirms the necessity of an equitable and balanced relationship with Mother Earth that respects the laws of nature, maintains the integrity of the water cycle, and ensures the achievement of social and environmental justice for all of Earth’s inhabitants.

We uphold the UN Resolution 64/292 on the right to water and sanitation, which is a significant achievement for our movements, based on many campaigns for adoption of this right in national constitutions.

In solidarity with the thousands of activists and social movements, we collectively reject the corporate control of our societies, and their so-called “green economy” proposals, which seek to put a price on nature and water, commodifying them under the pretext of sustainability, development, poverty alleviation and efficiency; thereby monetising and commodifying all that is sacred and necessary to life on Earth.

The “green economy” is an expression of the capitalist model of development, which pays little attention to hydrologic inter-connections and creates profound economic, social and environmental inequities and crises, thus solidifying the corporate capture and subordination of our societies and nature to the financial markets. This development model, which considers water (and nature) as economic inputs, is ineffective in providing access to water and sanitation for all and cannot support a sustainable economy, which in turn undermines a peaceful co-existence between humans, living species and the Earth’s ecosystems.

We reject institutionalized colonialism and racism and the denial of Indigenous Peoples’ and traditional communities’ rights to self-determination and food sovereignty.

We demand our governments to eliminate the false solutions of the “green economy”, and not place water under the logic of market and profit. Water, whether for drinking or agriculture, must remain part of the commons and be democratically managed by communities and/or public institutions and not by corporations.

We demand our governments to defend the public interest, guarantee access to sanitation and clean and safe water for all, in quantities that can sustain life and dignity. We call upon all governments to officially recognize the right to water and sanitation for all people in their national laws, in accordance with the UN resolution 64/292. The right to water must especially be guaranteed as a priority for women and children, for the poor, and people living in dehumanizing conditions.

We call for the preservation of the integrity of the water cycle in the framework of the recognition of the rights of ecosystems and species to exist, thrive and reproduce. We call for the recognition of the Universal Declaration on the Rights of Mother Earth in order to guarantee that the biosphere and its inhabitants are protected for sustainability and ecological balance.

We call for a global community solidarity and empowerment through the creation of truly democratic global water institutions such as public-public partnerships and public-community partnerships or the creation of World Water Authority which must act in the interest of humanity and nature.
We call for the creation of an international penal court for the trial of environmental crimes committed by corporations, governments and institutions.

We commit to continue building networks and new social alliances, broadening and deepening our connections with social movements fighting for food sovereignty, decent work and workers’ rights, democracy, and social and environmental justice. In particular, we commit to actively participate in the climate justice campaigns as water is one of the key elements of life that is gravely affected by climate change.

Given the collective experience, determination and the broad solidarity that we have with other movements present here at the Cúpula, overcoming the “green economy” and building new models of development in harmony with nature are indeed possible.
Rio de Janeiro, June 19th, 2012

Dear Ministers,

We are deeply concerned with results from the Rio+20 negotiations so far, especially with respect to the Human Right to water and sanitation, and to freshwater management and conservation. The water section of the draft outcome document, which will be presented to the Heads of Government and State tomorrow, starts with a progressive statement recognizing that “water is at the core of sustainable development”, and that “ecosystems play a key role in maintaining water quantity and quality.” Apart from this, however, the text is not action-oriented with regard to important areas, such as capacity building, social participation, pollution, droughts and floods, efficiency, and ecosystem management and protection. Overall, the text contains no new commitments in relation to past international declarations, reflecting a general trend across the document.

We acknowledge that the Human Right to water and sanitation will only be effective if national governments include it in their national legislation and implement it at the local level. Still, it is the UN resolution on the Human Right to water and sanitation that must be reaffirmed, not the commitments, as stated, which have not been made anywhere else. As it stands, governments are not reaffirming anything.

Furthermore, the current text on water seems to overlook that the world’s 276 transboundary basins are home to 40% of the global population and generate about 60% of global freshwater flow. There is thus no sustainable water management without cooperation across political borders.

It is unacceptable that UN Member States are settling for a text that does not directly commit states to implementing the human right to water and sanitation, and that downplays the importance of cooperation at all levels. Therefore, we urge governments to strengthen the text with regard to these two priority issues, in order to guarantee future generations the access to water and sanitation, and the protection of freshwater ecosystems and the valuable benefits they provide for people and the economy.

1-There must be an explicit recognition of water and sanitation as a Human Right, as established in Resolution A/RES/64/292 of the United Nations General Assembly, on July 26th, 2010. The final declaration must recognize this Human Right, and promote its incorporation into national legislations and its effective implementation and regulation at the local level to effectively contribute to poverty eradication. Member states need to commit to accelerating its implementation by all adequate means. The mention of national sovereignty is not needed as it is already in paragraphs 23-58.

Reflecting this, Paragraph 21 should read: “We reaffirm the human right to safe drinking water and sanitation for all without discrimination, and commit to the progressive realization of access to safe and affordable drinking water and basic sanitation for all with no discrimination, as necessary for poverty eradication, and to protect human health and dignity, and to significantly improve the implementation of integrated water resource management at all levels as appropriate. We also highlight our commitment to the 2005-2015 International Decade for Action “Water for Life.”

2- We call on member states to reinstate language recognizing the imperative for water cooperation at all levels, and suggest the following text: "We welcome General Assembly Resolution A/RES/65/151 designating 2013 as the International Year of Water Cooperation, and recognize the importance of enhanced cooperation on the management of freshwater resources, both within and between countries."

We consider that these aspects are not exclusive to civil society. They are issues that affect all sectors and, without them, the declaration is weak and fails to put forward the basis for the future we want for our freshwater resources and the natural and human communities that depend on them.