

In the framework of the UN Commission for Sustainable Development 18th Session

Uranium Mining – Clear Perspectives on a Dirty Business

Award ceremony, testimonies and dialogue on policy recommendations

Tuesday, 11 May 2010

Lunch Side Event 13:00 – 15:00

Private Dining Room 1-2-3, UN Restaurant, UN HQ, New York, USA



Preliminary programme

Opening by the organisers

Arne Jungjohann, Heinrich Boell Foundation

Sascha Gabizon, WECF – Women in Europe for a Common Future

Testimonies from uranium mining communities

Bettie Yazzie and Gilbert Badoni, New Mexico, USA. Bettie Yazzie is a Navajo Indian. Her husband died from lung cancer 1974 after working 10 years in a uranium mining site operated by Union Carbide Corporation. She speaks only Navajo and will be accompanied by Gilbert Badoni, who will act as a translator. He is Navajo himself and son of a uranium miner from Colorado. Meanwhile Gilbert Badonis entire family has cancer.

Dr. Bremley W.B. Lyngdoh, Worldview Impact Foundation, UK/India. Bremley Lyngdoh is a native belonging to the Khasi tribe of Meghalaya, and since 1992 he has been defending the rights of his indigenous people in West Khasi Hills of North East India who happen to live in an area of great biodiversity richness, but also on high-grade uranium reserves. The Central Government of India and State Government of Meghalaya want to cut down 500 hectares of virgin forest to mine high-grade uranium for nuclear programmes, thereby destroying indigenous lands and livelihoods.

Award ceremony

Presentation of Award by the Indigenous Peoples to **James Cameron** (invited) for his movie "Avatar", which intentionally or unintentionally, raises worldwide awareness about the problems of the "energy stone" uranium and the destruction caused to indigenous peoples communities around the world

Panel and Discussion „towards stronger international, binding policies on uranium mining and nuclear waste“ with delegates and:

- **Almostapha Alhacen**, President NGO Agrhirin'man for the protection of the environment and wellbeing, Tuareg Indigenous Peoples on the situation of the Tuareg tribes in Niger and uranium mining activities of French nuclear operator AREVA.
- **William Nyirenda**, Citizen's for Justice, Malawi, on the social, economic and environmental effects of uranium mining and Malawis newly opened uranium mine Kayelekera.
- **Kaisha Atakanova**, Eco Forum Kazakhstan and Goldman Award winner on effects of nuclear radiation on genetic malformations.
- **Ulla Kloetzer**, Women Against Nuclear Power, Women for Peace, Finland on uranium mining and nuclear waste repositories in Finland.

Registration recommended

Please register before 2nd May 2010 at: un-lunch-event@wecf.eu indicating the number of participants, name, country, delegation and if you need an UN entry badge

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