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Global 500 Updates 2010

Haiti Emergency rescue Report 1/20/10 (Anitra Thorhaug 1987)

There was an aftershock in Haiti. Pierre Armand called and there is not any great problem at our facilities. Medical Rescue TEam #3 are enroute from Camboidia , Texas, NY, North Carloina to Haiti. United airlines will deliver them at noon along with medical supplies and equipment. The United Nations coordination will continue as soon as Livio Valenti gets on the ground. The staff with Jack Allison and George Poelmann will immiedately coordinate with the Three Sanon clinics in PaP and commence their medical rescue with the Haitian injured in the clinics and the a church converted into a hospital. Coordination with the Israeli field hospital also will be made on the first day. more reports soon as the french TV group we helped to send to film the Sanon Clinics will be back Friday with information and films.

Anitra Thorhaug <athorhaug@msn.com>

Haiti Emergency Medical relief News Flash - Anitra Thorhaug (1987 Laureate)

Haiti Emergency Medical relief News Flash from Greater Caribbean Energy & Environment Foundation. Anitra Thorhaug, President (1987 Laureate) The healing of injured Haitians and capacity building of Haitian medical personnel and health care facilities are coming along extremely well in the Dr. Sanon Clinics working beside the physicians we have sent down from from Wyoming, from North Carolina, Texas, Sri Lanka and other places. The physicians and nurses are undergoing very difficult situation and treating hundreds of patients per day. The Ministry of Health has rewarded our group after many consultations this week with the promise of 33 acres, to do a medical training and health clinic in downtown Port -au Prince. Also our group's hard work will now be given the town of Gressier which has had 80% destruction and no medical help at all to date by the Ministry of health. You definitely get the best value for your money by donating to the GCEEF medical emergency fund for Haiti.

Money is desperately needed for Dr.'s transport independently within Haiti and gas as well as to have security guards for transports of medical teams, food and supplies back and forth to the Sanon clinics. This may slow our team for lack of funds. Please donate, every bit helps. Hopefully training for paramedics, nurses who



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can extend and expand the physicians capabilities is needed in the long run and we are attempting to have them trained along side our working medical teams now. The final capability of Haitians healing and caring for other Haitians is important. This is what we are attempting to leave behind. A lot more capacity than before our teams went to Haiti. We expect to be there healing injuries for months in the future. The way to contribute is the GCEEF.org web site and push the contribution button on this site. One \$25.00 donation will bring back 1/10 of a volunteer doctor who has treated many hundreds of patients. \$250 will run gas for 4 trips to clinics and hospitals for a group of medical teams or bring back a doctor to loading point of his trip. All your donations help. Thanks.

Anitra Thorhaug, Ph.D.

President . Greater Caribbean Energy and Environment Foundation.

Press Release - Sea turtle research in Albania (Lilly Velasquez (1987 Laureate))

PRESS RELEASE

January 27th 2010 Sea Turtle Research in Albania Patok: An Important Habitat

Within the framework of MEDASSET's sea turtle conservation programmes in the Mediterranean, research, capacity building and awareness-raising is being carried out since 2008 in Patok, at the northern coast of Albania in the Adriatic Sea, in collaboration with the Albanian Herpetofauna Society. During the second year of the project "**Monitoring and Conservation of Important Sea Turtle Feeding Grounds in the Patok Area of Albania, 2008-2010**", 137 sea turtles were tagged and released in collaboration with the local fishing community. A remarkable number of 245 turtles have been tagged since 2008 at Patok, providing evidence that this is a significant foraging area for loggerhead (*Caretta caretta*) sea turtles travelling through the Mediterranean.

Release of turtles fitted with transmitter

The population structure of turtles captured as bycatch in local "stavnike" fish-traps was also investigated. Sixty six adult and adolescent males have been tagged at Patok, indicating that males may be using the area both as a **developmental and foraging habitat**. "This discovery has increased importance due to our presently limited understanding of the distribution and marine ecology of male sea turtles and also because of the threatened impact of global climate change, which may force embryonic sex-ratios of turtles towards female-dominance" says Dr. Michael White, Project Lead Researcher. Moreover, 8.6% of the turtles were found for the second



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time at Patok, suggesting that Albania may also form part of their migratory route.

In order to further investigate the migration of these mystery travellers, three turtles (two males and one female) were fitted with transmitters on the September 12th 2009 and **the first satellite tracking programme of sea turtles in Albania** was launched from Patok. "Shpresa" (Hope) has remained within the broader area of Patok, while "Guximtari" (Brave), a true *homeboy*, has remained within a 6km distance from the release site. "Patoku", an international traveller, has covered so far 630.10km and is now in Greek waters just off the island of Corfu, in the Ionian Sea.

Training Students

Fulfilling its main goal for 2009 to focus on capacity building, the project **trained seven local university students as Research Assistants**, thus providing the next generation of Albanian scientists the capacity to monitor the sea turtle population of their coastline. The project also offered over 70 Albanian university students the opportunity to attend workshops at Patok during the summer. Additional activities in 2009 included a **waste pollution survey** in the Patok area and the **analysis of DNA samples** collected during fieldwork in collaboration with Adnan Menderes University (Turkey). Throughout the project locals and tourists are informed about the sea turtles' plight while awareness is also raised through local and national media. Unveiling sea turtle migratory patterns, their feeding areas and the threats they face, is fundamental for designing conservation strategies. The **long-term aim** of this project is for the Patok area to be recognised as a nationally and regionally important foraging habitat for sea turtles in the Mediterranean and that these endangered species are fully protected under Albanian national law. In 2010, launched by the UN as **International Year of Biodiversity**, the project team will focus on initiating the legislative process, in order to conserve Albania's fragile biodiversity and protect the endangered sea turtles visiting its shores. **The 2009 Project Report with detailed information on the project activities and research results is available online in the Publications section of www.medasset.org at:**
http://www.medasset.org/cms/index.php?option=com_docman&task=doc_download&gid=180&Itemid=85&lang=en Visit [Turtle Tracking](#) to view the maps of the migration routes of "Shpresa", "Guximtari" and "Patoku".

MEDASSET - Mediterranean Association to Save the Sea Turtles & Licavitou 1C
& Athens & 10672

Haiti Disaster Relief Report 1/29/10 .Greater Caribbean Energy and



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Environment Foundation

Anitra Thorhaug (1987 Laureate) , Ph.D.

The general situation in Haiti has increased in security of emergency Personnel and in distribution of food and materials within the Port-au-prince area, although many outlying communitites still are without services. Our Greater Caribbean- Dr. Sanon clinics team #3 entered on Thursday the 21 January and including the lead team of Dr. E. Jack Allison, Dr. George Poehlman , George Danenberg RN and including a series of physicians from various Caribbean nations have left Haiti after they set up systems of treating people in "The Tabernacle", where they treated many hundreds of patients for lacerations, crush wounds, fractures, infections of all natures, other injuries and some birthing problems including necessities for Caesarian sections. This was extremely helpful to the injured and greatly appreciated by those treated who mostly were below the poverty level and many without shelter. The team met with the Ministry of Health with, along with Dr. Christian Sanon Founder of the International Medical Village, of the Vasco Emerging Clinics and Center Axion Clinics in the larger Port au Prince Area. The Ministry entrusted to the Dr. Sanon-Greater Caribbean Group the Town of Gressier, a farming town which is west of Port au Prince by tens of miles. It was 80% destroyed by the earthquakes. No supplies or medical treatments had yet been received into this area. Our forward team lead by Dr. E. J. Allison (University of Eastern North Carolina Emergency Department) and Livio Valenti (from the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization) made a reconnaissance of the Gressier area to target food and other supplies and medical treatments. Livio Valenti continued to coordinate with the Mayor of Gressier who was very helpful to Livio creating maps of the new situation including number of persons in each surrounding village, list of surrounding villages, number of families and number of people in each accessibility and needs. (more than 5000 tents with families for the UN to deliver supplies into the town). We now have a building to do medical procedures; however, it needs very rapid modification. People have non-food supplies and food and water are en route. The teams to create medical supplies are being mobilized. Dr. Tom Powers, who is now chief of Party for Gressier and Gran Goave from the Sanon-Greater Caribbean mission is on the ground assessing medical needs, teams for servicing the medical needs, facilities to set up medical clinic and other options to create a temporary medical facility for the medical treatments necessary. Contributions to help us get physicians to give treatment the injured can be sent to our web site on GCEEF.org and utilize our donate button. The contributions really go a long way to help all this effort.

Contact - Anitra Thorhaug <athorhaug@msn.com>



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HAITI DISASTER RELIEF THURSDAY February 14, 2010 GREATER CARIBBEAN ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT FOUNDATION by Anitra Thorhaug (Laureate 1987)

Longer Term Earth Quake Disaster Relief Plans are being formulated for the following remaining acute problems related to the earthquake and have been successfully presented to the government: 1.) Care for those with remaining disaster-related medical problems in the Gressier clinic; 2.) Employment and food for the Gressier inhabitants of whom 80% are farmers ; 3.) Infrastructure destruction rehabilitation, particularly water access and roads; and 4.) Housing rehabilitation badly needed by inhabitants now homeless before the spring rains come in May.

Team #5 arrived in Haiti late week of February 8-11 while Dr. Thomas Powers was Chief of Party and it consisted of Dr. Barry Nathan (pediatrician, Ann Arbor), Dr. Ryan Jackson (general medicine, El Paso, Texas and Wyoming), Dr. Eric Meyer (Anesthesiology , wilderness emergency medicine, Wyoming). The Gressier Clinic has become operable over the past 12 days. Team # 4 saw about 750 patients of the 2000 injured in the greater Gressier area. Team #5 is seeing the remaining injured, while planning, and erecting equipment which is arriving each day to make the Gressier Clinic more efficient for the treatments. Dr. Powers has temporarily left leaving Dr. Ryan Jackson as Chief of Party. During these operations, the team #3 and \$ have been training Haitian physicians and other medical personnel in emergency and other medical and disaster treatments. Equipment such as generators, a water purification system, and furniture for the clinic has been donated by the Wyoming Haiti Group, by the Ministry of Environment of Haiti, and transportation and lodging by Dr, Christian Sanon clinics, Organization ROME-Haiti while private donors also have donated materials. The USAID and UN Food Program has donated water and food to the citizens of Gressier. Money is desperately needed for MD's transport independently within Haiti and gas as well as to have security guards for transports of medical teams, food and supplies back and forth to the Gressier clinics. Our team may be slowed for lack of funds. Please donate, every bit helps. Hopefully training for paramedics, nurses who can extend and expand the physician's capabilities is needed in the long run and we are attempting to have them trained along side our working medical teams now. The final capability of Haitians healing and caring for other Haitians is important. This is what we are attempting to leave behind. A lot more capacity than before our teams went to Haiti. We expect to be there healing injuries for months in the future followed by helping restore Gressier. The way to contribute is the <http://www.gceef.org> web site and push the contribution button on this site. One \$25.00 donation will bring back 1/10 of a volunteer doctor who has treated many hundreds of patients. \$250 will run gas for 4 trips to clinics and hospitals for a group of medical teams or bring back a doctor to departure point of his trip. All your donations help. Thanks. Anitra Thorhaug, Ph.D. President. Greater



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Caribbean Energy and Environment Foundation.

Andrew Oerke, CEO
Address 1359 SW 22 terrace, Miami Fl. 33145.
Web site <http://www.gceef.org>

Turtle Dives – the latest from Medasset (1987 Laureate)

Dear Readers,

As you may already be aware, the United Nations established 2010 as the International Year of Biodiversity (IYB). Biodiversity embraces the variety of genes, species and ecosystems that constitute life on Earth. Humanity itself is a part of biodiversity, and our existence depends on this life support system. Our planet is not only habitable but beautiful because of Biodiversity. As the Year has got on it's way, each and everyone of us has been given the perfect opportunity to help conserve the myriad forms of life on our planet by spreading the word and by engaging others in protecting our environment. MEDASSET is committed to help slow down the rate of marine biodiversity loss around the Mediterranean so that sea turtles and their ecosystems will be conserved for future generations.

MEDASSET is dedicated to help reduce the rate of marine biodiversity loss around the Mediterranean so that sea turtles and their ecosystems will be conserved for future generations. As a partner to the IYB, we are committed to promoting the Year through our activities and communicate it to the world. In 2010, we will maintain an active role in the protection of sea turtles and their Mediterranean habitats through scientific research, environmental education, political lobbying and public awareness campaigns. Assessments of the pressures threatening nesting beaches will continue and our scientific research project in Albania will be ongoing in 2010, aiming to promote the protection of sea turtles in a country considered to have the highest rate of biodiversity loss in Europe.

Lily Venizelos President

Robert Glenn Ketchum awarded Partners in Participations

Secretary of the Interior, Ken Salazar and the U.S. Department of the Interior have



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given Robert Glenn Ketchum (1991 Laureate) the 'Partners in Conservation Award for his participation in the Southwest Alaska Salmon Habitat Partnership. **Secretary Salazar Presents Southwest Alaska Salmon Habitat Partnership with *Partners in Conservation* Award WASHINGTON, D.C. –** Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar today presented a Partners in Conservation Award to the Southwest Alaska Salmon Habitat Partnership for its work in promoting the sustainability of wild salmon populations. It was one of 26 national awards to individuals and organizations presented at a ceremony at Interior headquarters in Washington, D.C. to honor “those who achieve natural resource goals in collaboration and partnership with others.” The 26 Partners in Conservation Awards recognize conservation achievements resulting from the cooperation and participation of a total of 600 individuals and organizations including landowners; citizens’ groups; private sector and nongovernmental organizations; and federal, state, local, and/or tribal governments. “The Partners in Conservation Awards demonstrate that our greatest conservation legacies often emerge when stakeholders, agencies, and citizens from a wide range of backgrounds come together to address shared challenges,” the Secretary said. “The Alaska Salmon partnership’s record of accomplishment in preserving fish and wildlife habitat is nothing short of extraordinary,” he noted. “Since 2001, more than 70 diverse partners from tribal, state, federal and private entities have come together to conserve and protect 94,000 acres of habitat including rivers that are prime spawning grounds for salmon and other fish.” The partnership’s most recent success was a permanent conservation agreement protecting 21,000 acres of the Agulowak River and surrounding watershed inside Wood-Tikchik State Park. The river provides spawning habitat for 200,000 sockeye salmon and passage for another 1.2 million sockeye and other fish to spawning grounds further up in other drainages of the river. “These 26 awards recognize the dedicated efforts of thousands of people from all walks of life, from across our nation– and from across our borders with Canada and Mexico,” Salazar noted. “They celebrate partnerships that conserve and restore our nation’s treasured landscapes and watersheds, partnerships that engage Native American communities, and partnerships that engage youth.”

Robert Swann (1990 Laureate) Inspiration Antarctica Expedition Alumni to speak at Laurel Springs School Symposium

May 2010 Symposium

“Protecting Our Natural Resources Near and Far - Your Local Area, Antarctica and the 2041 Treaty”



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Presenter: Mary Maranville, Environmental Education and Outreach Coordinator - Resource Conservation District California Regional Environmental Education Outreach Coordinator IAE - 2010 Inspiration Robert Swann Antarctica Expedition Alumni Graduate What are natural resources and why should we protect them? Who believes human systems affect natural systems? How does a visitor prepare for an expedition to Antarctica? Did you know Antarctica is the coldest, driest and highest continent in the world? What species live in such an extreme environment? Did you know Antarctica is the last pristine wilderness left on earth and the 2041 Treaty protects Antarctica against government and commercial development and mining until the year 2041? How is Antarctica connected to your local area and why should we protect it? What environmental challenges do you have in your area? What steps and work can you do help resolve these issues?

Live lecture on Monday, May 3rd, 2010, 9am Pacific Standard Time

Update from Anitra Thorhaug (1987 Laureate) regarding a new health program in Haiti

Dear Friends This link is the second step in starting a preventative public health program in the poorest of the poor nations in Latin America and the Caribbean. We have been lecturing in schools and orphanages, and churches and women's groups about the upcoming rainy season in Haiti and its diseases such as malaria and its preventions such as boiling water and mosquito nets. This is the link to an original health song (<http://www.mediafire.com/?gzymjwnzozj>), which Dr. E. J. Allison has written for the Haiti Crisis. It is orchestrated by J. Hunt and T. Marshal and sung by Allison in English and Pierre Beaubrun in creole. We are pleased to announce it is going on many radio stations from this week-end onward in Haiti before the heavy rains come and while tent cities are still in the flood zones. MORE TO COME Best wishes Anitra Thorhaug Andrew Oerke

Marion Stoddart (1987 Laureate) Celebrated in New Documentary

Work of 1000 (<http://www.workof1000.org/>) is a documentary about the parallel journey of two characters, Marion Stoddart, a young woman discouraged at her



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future as a suburban housewife, the other a river - once beautiful and teeming with wildlife - now a hopeless, toxic sludge pit.

Professor Calestous Juma (1994) invited you to Public Lecture: Kenya's New Constitution: The Birth of the Second Republic.

Public Lecture: Kenya's New Constitution: The Birth of the Second Republic

Tuesday, September 14 at 6:30pm Location: Askwith Lecture Hall, Longfellow Hall, Harvard Graduate School of Education Created By Innovation for Economic Development <<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=120441776436>>

Speaker: H.E. Elkanah Odembo, Kenyan Ambassador to the United States Host: Professor Calestous Juma, Harvard Kennedy School For more information log on to: <http://www.facebook.com/event.php?eid=115636525157640>

Barbara Pyle (1987 Laureates) Celebrates Captains Planet's 20th Birthday

Barbara Pyles invites you to **Captain Planet's 20th Birthday Celebration.**

Captain Planet's 20th Birthday Celebration

Wednesday, September 15 at 7:00pm

Location: 1170 Howell Mill Road #P-18 , Atlanta 30318

Created By Barbara Pyle <<http://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=610314070>>

Meet the creators of the cartoon, Planeteers in costume and enjoy wine, champagne and a special Captain Planet birthday cake.

Captain Planet and Co-creators Barbara Pyle, Nick Boxer and the Board of the Captain Planet Foundation invite you to join us as we celebrate!

Join us at Environment Furniture from 7pm-9pm this Wednesday night!

RSVP: Kristie Andrews

kristie@captainplanetfdn.org



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For those of you not in the area of Atlanta but would like to celebrate with us in spirit, bake your own Captain Planet Birthday Cake and take a picture with you and your party! Post it to Facebook and Tag Barbara Pyle and the Captain (<http://www.facebook.com/CaptainPlanet> <<http://www.facebook.com/CaptainPlanet>>)! Have a blast! Write something...

Barbara Pyle (1987 Laureate) invites you to "NYC Planeteer Meet Up

Wednesday, September 22 · 6:30pm - 8:30pm
Environment Show Room
876 Broadway (E 18th St)
New York, NY

Barbara Pyle <<http://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=610314070>>

The New York Planeteers invite you to the New York launch event and cocktail reception for The Global Network of Planeteers and CaptainPlanet.me

Featuring Barbara Pyle

Co-Creator of Captain Planet and the Planeteers, UN Foundation Sasakawa Award recipient, Emmy-nominated environmental film-maker.

and

Honoring Doris Cadoux

Founder and Executive Director of Oceans Alert, Board Member of Stoneyfield Farm Yogurt Co.

For her lifelong contribution to the health of the planet and inspiration to subsequent generations.

Laurel Springs School (1991 Laureates Invites the First Romanian Astronaut to Address Their Students.

Dearest Teachers, On October 26th at 9:00am, we are inaugurating our new symposium series called, "Meetings With Remarkable Men and Women." Held in an Elluminate Forum, our 7th -12th students will have the incredible opportunity to



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speak with world leaders, explorers, writers, filmmakers and dignitaries of world renown. Our first remarkable individual is Dorin Prunariu, the first Romanian Astronaut. He spent 8 days in outer space with the Russian space time. . Dorin will talk with our students about this remarkable experience and they will have the opportunity to talk with Dorin and even ask questions Please forward the attachment to your student and the link to sign-up (http://familycenter.laurelsprings.com/index.php?option=com_seminar&Itemid=2460). We have limited space and are requesting students RSVP to save a spot. Once we know the number of students attending, we will send teachers a personal invite on Monday. Many thanks for your help. We are truly fortunate to have the opportunity to meet with this great individual. If you have any questions, please email me, Diane Elliott, or Katja Bruinink. Warmly, Marilyn P.S. In December, our students will meet with filmmaker Christina Stevens, the first woman allowed to film Mother Theresa. Here upcoming documentary focuses on the children of Bhutan and what it is like to live in a country that measures its, "Gross National Happiness.". It is even rumored that the King will send our students personal message.

FOTOFusion 2011 at the Palm Beach Photographic Centre (& Robert Glenn Ketchum New Website Launch)

FOTOfusion@2011 Palm Beach Photographic Center January 11-15, 2011

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"The New Harvest" by Calestous Juma (1993 Laureate)

Calestous Juma is Professor of the Practice of International Development and Director of the Science, Technology, and Globalization Project at Harvard University. He is also a Fellow of the Royal Society, the United Kingdom's scientific academy.

African agriculture is currently at a crossroads, at which persistent food shortages are compounded by threats from climate change. But, as this book argues, Africa faces two major opportunities that can transform its agriculture into a force for economic growth: advances in science and technology; the creation of regional markets; and the emergence of a new crop of entrepreneurial leaders dedicated to



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the continent's economic improvement.

Filled with case studies from within Africa and success stories from developing nations around the world, *The New Harvest* outlines the policies and institutional changes necessary to promote agricultural innovation across the African continent. Incorporating research from academia, government, civil society, and private industry, the book suggests multiple ways that individual African countries can work together at the regional level to develop local knowledge and resources, harness technological innovation, encourage entrepreneurship, increase agricultural output, create markets, and improve infrastructure.

The New Harvest is a product of the Agricultural Innovation in Africa Project, funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (<http://bit.ly/dyS1Ug>).

Features

- Integrates research and policy ideas from an international panel of some of the most influential thinkers on agricultural development * Presents enactable policy ideas for advancing agriculture throughout Africa, at the national and regional levels * Includes a wealth of case study material from Green Revolution and educational initiatives in India, China, and throughout Latin America

MEDASSET (1987 Laureate) Sea turtle conservation problems in Cyprus and Turkey

ANNOUNCEMENT 14 DECEMBER 2010

BERN CONVENTION, COUNCIL OF EUROPE: 6-9 DECEMBER, 2010 Sea turtle conservation problems in Cyprus and Turkey

For the 22nd ongoing year MEDASSET attended the Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Bern Convention), at the Council of Europe, in Strasbourg, France. The following is a short report of sea turtle conservation problems in Cyprus and Turkey, as discussed at the 30th Standing Committee Meeting of the Convention.

Akamas Peninsula (Cyprus): The problems of green turtles nesting in Lara and of conservation throughout the Peninsula were first brought to the attention of the



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Bern Convention by MEDASSET in 1996. A Case File remains open since 1997. The representative of NGO Terra Cypria reminded the Meeting that its Recommendation 63/1997 included the declaration of Akamas as a National Park. Instead, government proposals for the protection of Akamas have continuously been reduced and the official proposal made to the European Union (EU) hardly exceeds the already protected state forest. This is inadequate for both a Specially Protected Area (SPA) designation under the Birds Directive of the European Council (EC) (2009/147/EC) and Sites of Community Importance (SCI) under the EC Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC). Following official complaints made by NGOs to the European Union, the European Commission is now in a pre-infringement process against Cyprus regarding the SPA proposal and is considering its actions towards the inadequacy of the SCI proposal. As for Limni, an EU Natura 2000 site, although its management plan has yet to be implemented, it will still be ineffective as the area proposed for conservation is only a narrow strip of coast. Already much disturbance occurs beyond this strip, disturbing sea turtle nesting. Given all the above, Terra Cypria proposed that there were no grounds to close the Akamas file. MEDASSET seconded the request.

Episkopi (Cyprus): MEDASSET in collaboration with Terra Cypria and volunteer group Episkopi TurtleWatch brought the issue of fisheries interaction with turtles to the attention of the Convention's Contracting Parties in 2009. Episkopi is part of the British Sovereign Base Area (SBA) in Cyprus and includes nesting beaches and foraging areas of both loggerhead and green turtles. Following a relaxation of fishing limits in 2006, the annual number of dead loggerhead and green turtles, due to intentional clubbing or net entanglement, has risen to unsustainable levels. The available data provides sufficient evidence and justification for the SBA to implement protective measures. The representative of Terra Cypria stated that the NGOs involved in this issue will continue the negotiation process with the SBA authorities and that the situation should be monitored by the Bern Convention Secretariat and reviewed in 2011. MEDASSET's representative reminded the Meeting that as only about 350 breeding green turtles remain in the Mediterranean, the death toll of 48 subadult green turtles in Episkopi since 2008 is alarming and should be taken under immediate consideration by the Cyprus Authorities, the SBA and the leaders of the green turtle conservation project in Lara. The next Bureau Meeting of the Bern Convention will decide on the possible inclusion of this case in its 2011 Agenda.

Fethiye (Turkey): Following MEDASSET's complaint submission to the Bern Convention in 2009, regarding uncontrolled development in order to accommodate tourism at the Specially Protected (SPA) loggerhead nesting beaches in Fethiye, the issue was discussed at this Meeting.



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The representative of MEDASSET informed the Meeting about unsuccessful nesting attempts by turtles and hatchling disorientation incidents, the severe decline of nesting due to human impacts and the authorities' intention to allow further development on the last remaining wetlands for the construction of a shipyard next to Akgöl nesting beach. Two large posters were set-up in front of the entrance to the Convention meeting room, detailing through photographs and text the situation on Fethiye's nesting beaches. Delegates were also informed that MEDASSET's short film on the appalling situation on the nesting beaches was shown at the 30th Annual International Sea Turtle Symposium in Goa, in April 2010, and was also sent to all relevant Turkish Authorities, international tour operators, the press, local hotels, etc. Further filming of the nesting beaches will take place in 2011 in order to compare the situation to that recorded in 2009. The Turkish Delegate to the Convention reported that the Environmental Protection Agency for Special Areas (EPASA) organised meetings in Fethiye with all relevant stakeholders in 2010, to find out about the problems in the area. EPASA also developed an Action Plan for the area that will be fully implemented in 2011, to try to resolve problems and to apply beach usage principles. MEDASSET will continue to monitor the situation, campaign for implementation of conservation measures and keep the Bern Convention updated until the next Meeting of the Contracting Parties.

Kazanli (Turkey): The case of the run-off of highly toxic waste into the Mediterranean Sea by a Soda Chrome Factory was first brought to the Bern Convention by MEDASSET in 2001. A Case File was opened by the Bern Convention Standing Committee in 2002, and then provisionally closed in 2004. The issue of Kazanli has remained on the Convention's Meeting Agenda since. Referring to the 1.5 million tons of highly toxic solid waste sitting on this most important green turtle nesting beach, the Delegate of Turkey informed the Convention Meeting that the neutralisation plant to convert the toxic waste was established within the Factory's grounds and that the process has started. Two hundred thousand tons of chromium have already been neutralised and are kept within the Factory's grounds. They will remain there until they are transferred to a landfill site, which so far has not been defined. The Delegate also informed that nest monitoring on the beach continued in 2010. A total of 474 green and 15 loggerhead nests were recorded. MEDASSET called upon the Turkish Government to continue reporting regularly to the Convention on all issues concerning Kazanli.

UNEP Billion tree Campaign

Dear Global 500 Laureates,



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We are seeking the help of all our partners including the Global 500 laureates to register any trees planted by yourself/ your organization since 2007 to 2010 at the following website: <<http://www.unep.org/billiontreecampaign/>>.

The United Nations Environment Programme launched its first global tree planting project on November 2006 in Nairobi during the 12th Conference of the Parties of the Framework Convention on Climate Change. Due to its success, and by popular demand, the campaign has been extended. The campaign has won the UN 21 Award as a substantive programme in recognition of its "exceptional contribution towards improving efficiency in the United Nations".

Placed under the patronage of Nobel Peace Prize laureate Professor Wangari Maathai and His Serene Highness Prince Albert II of Monaco, the Billion Tree Campaign is raising awareness of the inter-dependence between humankind and the planet's ecosystems, as well as the linkages between tree planting and climate change mitigation, the restoration of biodiversity, air and soil quality and food security.

Under the Plant for the Planet: Billion Tree Campaign, governments, private sector companies, United Nations agencies, civil society organizations, farmers, local authorities and the public at large are encouraged to enter tree-planting pledges on the dedicated web-site www.unep.org/billiontreecampaign, with the objective of planting billions of trees world-wide.

Today, the website records over ten billion planted trees in 192 countries.

To define the pace of development, which is both equitable and sustainable, one has to take into account the increased vulnerability of ecosystems to the phenomenon of climate change. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change provides specific information on the nature and future impacts. Climate change is projected to impinge on sustainable development in most developing countries as it compounds the pressures on natural resources and the environment associated with the rapid urbanization and economic development. Freshwater availability is projected to decrease. Millions of people could be adversely affected. Endemic morbidity and mortality are expected to rise due to increases in coastal water temperatures.

Therefore, in the face of recent alarming data, the Billion Tree Campaign offers hope and simple solution for climate change mitigation, while enriching biodiversity.

Every tree counts and we count every tree.



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Once you have committed the trees to the campaign, we will feature you in the related links, amongst tree planting partners.

Should you require any additional information do not hesitate to contact me.

Let me also take this opportunity to wish you and yours and very happy, healthy and prosperous 2011

With very best regards, Raji