

ELAW ANNUAL MEETING 2008, MOMBASA KENYA

This year's ELAW Annual Meeting took place on the beautiful Kenyan beaches just north of Mombasa City at the Whitesands Beach Resort and Spa. It was hosted by the Institute for Law and Environmental Governance and the Resources Conflict Institute. The meeting took place from the 2nd August when the African Amigos held a special session in which they looked at *'The Extent of Vulnerability & its Impact on Africa's Socio Economic Developments'*, *'Linking Human Rights and the Environment in Africa: Challenges, Constraints and Strategies'*, *'The Role of the Media In Environmental Management'* and *'Practical Experiences with Using Human Rights Advocacy Tools to Protect the Environment in Africa'*.

Participants from the rest of the world joined the African Amigos from the 3rd to the 8th for the actual annual meeting discussing *'Indigenous and Minority Communities: Emerging issues'*, *'Climate Change'*, *'Science and Technology'*, and *'Fundraising'* in the plenary sessions and covering a wide range of topics in the project circles and working groups.

The discussions were enriched by the participation of representatives of indigenous/minority communities from Bangladesh, Indonesia, Tanzania, Uganda and Kenya. They presented to the Amigos the challenges they are facing in their respective communities as they seek to safeguard their ancestral rights to natural resources.

On the third day of the meeting, the Amigos spent the morning hours viewing ocean erosion induced by climate change along the Southern Coast of Kenya along Ukunda beach. Later the group visited Haller Park, one of the restoration sites of the cement manufacturing company, Bamburi Cement a Kenyan subsidiary of the French Lafarge group. At Haller Park Amigos viewed the different stages of restoration of limestone quarrying with the oldest areas of the park dating back over 30 yrs. The park is host to a number of wildlife such as giraffes, hippos, crocodiles, snakes monkeys and a hundred year old tortoise.

On the final day of the meeting, Amigos spent some time discussing how the network was working well and how to get the most out of the network as well as what was not working well and what could be done to improve it. Detailed summaries of each day's discussions, particularly those from the project circles and working groups were uploaded onto the ELAW website immediately they took place to enable other ELAW members, not present at the meeting, to participate and be part of the deliberations.

To end the meeting, ILEG hosted an 'African dinner' complete from the dress code, to the food, the decor and the ambience giving Amigos the opportunity to indulge and enjoy true African hospitality.

We hope that as participants of the ELAW 2008 Annual Meeting in Mombasa left for their home countries, they were recharged and rejuvenated to carry on the good work of public interest environmental litigation.

PARTICIPANTS OF THE 2008 ELAW ANNUAL MEETING

2	Eugin Nokrek	Bangladesh
3	Iqbal Kabir	Bangladesh
4	Candy Gonzalez	Belize
5	Augustine Niber	Ghana
6	Jeanette de Noack	Guatemala
7	Mara Bocaletti	Guatemala
8	Ritwick Dutta	India
9	Raju Mimi	India
10	Alexandria Muhanji	Kenya
11	Anastasia Otieno	Kenya
12	Benson Ochieng	Kenya
13	Collins Odote	Kenya
14	Patricia Kameri-Mbote	Kenya
15	Nixon Sifuna	Kenya
16	Maurice Makoloo	Kenya
17	Nyokabi Gitahi	Kenya
18	Peter Cheruiyot	Kenya
19	Robert Kibugi	Kenya
20	Simon Amaduobogha	Nigeria
21	Carlos Soria	Peru
22	Anne Kajir	Papua New Guinea
23	Angela Andrews	South Africa
24	Hemantha Withanage	Sri Lanka
25	Rugemeleza Nshala	Tanzania
26	Elias Mwashuuya	Tanzania
27	James Njelwa	Tanzania

28	Margareth Mrema	Tanzania
29	Gordon Lupembe	Tanzania
30	Niall Watson	UK
31	Bern Johnson	USA
32	John Bonine	USA
33	Liz Mitchell	USA
34	Maggie Keenan	USA
35	Patrick McGinley	USA
36	Susan Weiss	USA
37	Kenneth Kakuru	Uganda
38	Sarah Naigaga	Uganda
39	Amos Isiimbwa	Uganda
40	Svitlana Kravchenko	Ukraine
41	Mutuso Dhliwayo	Zimbabwe
42	Makanasta Makonese	Zimbabwe
43	Pauline Makutsa	Kenya
44	Velma Mashedi	Kenya

ELAW Annual Meeting, 2008
Sarova Whitesands Beach Resort & Spa
Mombasa, Kenya

Sunday, 3rd August 2008

Amigos arrive in Mombasa All amigos shall be accommodated at the hotel. Pick up will be done from the Moi International Airport to the hotel.

6:00 pm Amigos gather for welcome and ‘pleased –to –see you again’ drinks. Venue shall be determined on the day depending on the weather- it may be outside close to the beach or inside a room. We pray for the former.

7.30 pm Dinner at the Pavilion Restaurant

Monday, 4th August 2008

7:00am – 8.30am Breakfast at the Pavilion Restaurant

8:30am – 9.00am Registration for the meeting at the FAHARI meeting room

9.00am -10.30am Official Opening of the Amigos Meeting
Welcome Address:

- Maurice Makoloo, Director, ILEG
- Bern Johnson, Executive Director, ELAW-US
- Okongo Omogeni, Chairman, Law Society of Kenya

Official Opening: The Hon. Justice Joseph Serгон, Judge of the High Court of Kenya

Keynote Address: Tom Ojienda, President, East Africa Law Society

10:30 – 11:00 am Health Break

11:00am – 1:00pm Opening Session of ELAW Amigos Meeting

- Introduction
- Agenda review and refinement
- ELAW background and explanation of meeting concepts: Plenary, Working Groups and Project Circles (demonstration)

Facilitator:

1:00 – 2:00 pm Lunch: Pavilion Restaurant

2:00 - 4:45 pm Working groups (concurrent sessions)

- A. Ocean and Marine Ecosystems
- B. Access to Information
- C. Climate Change
- D.

4:45 – 5.00pm Health Break

7.00pm Dinner: Pavilion Restaurant

8.30pm Movie Night: PLEASE BRING VIDEOS OF YOUR WORK OR OTHER WORK FOR SHARING WITH AMIGOS

Tuesday, 5th August 2008

7:00 8:30 am Breakfast: Pavilion Restaurant

8:30 10:30 am Announcements

Plenary: Indigenous and Minority Communities: Emerging issues

Facilitator: Carlos Soria, Annie Kajir

Resource people: Representatives of indigenous and minority groups from India, Bangladesh, Uganda, Tanzania, Kenya and Dr. Hussein, The Christensen Fund.

(This will be a round-table discussion).

10:30 10:45 am Break

10:45 – 1.00 pm Plenary: Roundtable discussions continue

1:00 2:00 pm Lunch: Pavilion Restaurant

2:00 3:30 pm Working Groups (concurrent sessions)

A. Indigenous Groups

B. Pro bono corporate work vs Public Interest

Lawyers' work

C. Human Rights and the Environment

D.

3:30 3:45 pm Health Break

3:45 5:15 pm Project Circles:

A. Indigenous Peoples- Carlos Soria

B. Uganda – Kenneth Kakuru

C.

7:00 pm Dinner: Pavilion

Wednesday, 6th August 2008:

6:00am – 6.45am Breakfast: Pavilion

6:45am – 7:00 am All Amigos board vehicles for field trip

8:30 am – 11.45am Field trip at the south coast: Effects and Extent of Climate Change- induced Ocean Erosion

12.00 – 12.45 pm Lunch: Indian Ocean Beach Club

12:45pm Amigos leave for Haller Park

2:30 – 4:30pm Field trip at Haller Park

4:30pm Return to hotel

7:00 pm Dinner: Pavilion

Thursday, 7th August 2008

7:00 8:45 am Breakfast

9:00 10:30 am Announcements

Plenary: Climate Change

Facilitators:

Resource people: Agrobiodiversity and Climate Change Project

10:30 10:45 am Health Break

10:45 – 12:45 pm Plenary: Science & Technology

Facilitator: Hemantha

Resource people: Anastacia Otieno and other Amigos who are presently using science to aid advocacy work

12:45 1:45 pm Lunch: Pavilion

1:45 3:45 pm Working Groups (concurrent sessions)

A. Climate Change

B. Corporate Accountability

C.

3:45 – 4:00 pm Health Break

4:00 5:30 pm Project Circles (concurrent sessions)

A.

B.

C.

7:00 pm Dinner: Pavilion

Friday, 8th August 2008

7:00 8:45 am Breakfast

9:00 – 10.45am Announcements

Plenary: Fundraising

Facilitator:

Resource Person: Dr. Tade Aina, Ford Foundation
Representative for Eastern Africa; all amigos

10:45 – 11:00 am Health Break

11.00 - 1:00 pm Plenary: ELAW Network: getting more from the network.

1:00 – 2:00 pm Lunch: Pavilion

2:00 - 3:30 pm Plenary: Report back from Working Groups

- What actions do we want to share with other Amigos?
- What exciting new developments did we learn about?
- Are there any proposed activities you want others to share in?

Meeting evaluation forms filled out and returned

Announcements and information

3:30 – 3:45 pm Health Break

3:45 – 7:00 pm Free individual time

7:00 pm Africa Night Dinner and Closing of Meeting.

Dress code: Kenyan Community (to be provided)