

## Media Coverage of the Global Compact Initiative

### Business Needs Long Term View On Developing World-Fiorina

09/02/2002

Dow Jones International News

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JOHANNESBURG -(Dow Jones)- Global corporations should take long-term views in efforts to build new markets in the developing world, Hewlett Packard chief executive Carly Fiorina told delegates at Johannesburg's World Summit on Sustainable Development Monday.

Fiorina said businesses should take longer views "than a quarter or two or a year or two."

"We are committed to investing in the less developed countries of the world," she said. Hewlett Packard has operations in about 160 countries.

Fiorina was speaking at a conference session on growing sustainable business in the world's poorest countries.

A new member of the Global Impact, a corporate citizenship initiative launched by the **U.N.** in 2000, Hewlett Packard recently struck a public-private sector partnership in Senegal and will Tuesday announce a similar agreement in South Africa.

Fiorina said sustainable development, especially in developing countries, needs partnerships between governments, business and aid agencies.

Mark Moody-Stuart, chairman of the **Global Compact** Working Group, said partnerships between specific countries and companies will be announced within the next few months.

He said six to 10 countries are currently being considered by about 25 companies. Six companies have indicated their willingness to be lead partners.

"We can't say which countries or companies are involved, but it is important to note that the countries involved are normally those that business would not rush to," said Moody-Stuart.

### BUSINESS KEY IN CUTTING POVERTY, SAVING ENVIRONMENT - ANNAN.

09/01/2002

SAPA (South African Press Association)

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JOHANNESBURG Sept 1 Sapa

The economic development of the poorest countries is of fundamental interest to the global community, including the private sector, **United Nations** secretary-general Kofi Annan said on Sunday.

And, business had come to realise that their profits could only be sustained if social and environmental issues were effectively addressed, he said at a business conference on the fringes of the Johannesburg World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD).

"The present situation is fundamentally unstable. We cannot afford to prolong it by allowing extreme social differences to persist."

Mobilising sustainable business investment was essential if the least developed countries (LDCs) were to escape their desperate poverty trap.

The **Global Compact** initiative, launched in July 2000, was seeking a commitment from companies to grow businesses over the next five years in some of the LDCs in line with the principles of sustainable development, Annan said.

About 700 business leaders from more than 150 local and international corporations are meeting under the umbrella of the Business Action for Sustainable Development (BASD) in an event parallel to the summit.

The **UN** chief said ten years ago, at the Rio Earth Summit, the role of business in sustainable development was poorly understood.

But, today, there was a growing recognition that lasting and effective answers could only be found if business, working together with others including government and civil society, was fully engaged.

"We now understand that both business and society stand to benefit from working together."

"And more and more we realise that it is only by mobilising the corporate sector that we can make significant progress."

Annan said for its part, the business community had come to realise that if it wished to thrive in a complex and sometimes hostile global economy, it had to respond to the major social and environment trends and challenges reshaping the world.

"The environment provides a prime example. Controlling pollution and the emission of greenhouse gases have historically been viewed by many companies as social issues entailing burdensome costs.

"Yet, today, there is broad recognition of the fact that corporate pollution involves high costs and wastage for business itself," he said.

Sapa.

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## **Help the poor for the sake of the planet, Annan tells business at summit**

09/01/2002

Agence France-Presse

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JOHANNESBURG, Sept 1 (AFP) - **UN** Secretary General Kofi Annan on Sunday called on the world's most powerful companies to invest in developing countries, saying it would be of mutual benefit to both the rich and poor to wipe out extreme poverty.

"Mobilising business investment which is sustainable and produces positive results -- both for the societies and the investing companies -- is essential if the least developed countries are to escape their desperate poverty trap," Annan told a business forum at the **UN** Earth Summit in Johannesburg.

Annan said since the first Earth Summit, in Rio de Janeiro in 1992, businesses around the world had come to realise that if they wanted to survive in a "sometimes hostile global economy" they had to respond to social and environmental challenges.

"We now understand that both business and society stand to benefit from working together," he said.

"And more and more we realise that it is only by mobilising the corporate sector that we can make significant progress," he told some 700 delegates at the one-day forum with many of the world's most powerful business leaders.

"On its side, business has come to realise that if it wishes to thrive, it must respond to these trends and challenges reshaping our world," Annan said.

Using the environment as an example, Annan said in the past many companies viewed controlling pollution and the emission of greenhouse gases as a social issue entailing burdensome costs.

"Yet today, there is broad recognition of the fact that corporate pollution involves high costs and wastage for business itself," Annan said.

He said the **UN** initiated **Global Compact**, which he launched in July 2000 in partnership with some of the world's largest companies, sought a commitment from major companies to increase their business in developing countries over the next five years.

"The economic development of the poorest countries is of fundamental long-term interest to the global community, including the private sector," he said.

jhe/hn

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**September 1, 2002, Sunday**

LENGTH: 405 words

HEADLINE: South Africa: **UN's** Annan calls for economic development of "poorest countries"

SOURCE: SAPA news agency web site, Johannesburg, in English 1325 gmt 1 Sep 02

BODY:

Text of report by South African news agency SAPA web site

Johannesburg, 1 September: The economic development of the poorest countries is of fundamental interest to the global community, including the private sector, **United Nations** Secretary-General Kofi Annan said on Sunday 1 September .

And, business had come to realize that their profits could only be sustained if social and environmental issues were effectively addressed, he said at a business conference on the fringes of the Johannesburg World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD).

"The present situation is fundamentally unstable. We cannot afford to prolong it by allowing extreme social differences to persist."

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The **Global Compact** initiative, launched in July 2000, was seeking a commitment from companies to grow businesses over the next five years in some of the LDCs in line with the principles of sustainable development, Annan said.

About 700 business leaders from more than 150 local and international corporations are meeting under the umbrella of the Business Action for Sustainable Development (BASD) in an event parallel to the summit.

The **UN** chief said ten years ago, at the Rio Earth Summit, the role of business in sustainable development was poorly understood.

But, today, there was a growing recognition that lasting and effective answers could only be found if business, working together with others including government and civil society, was fully engaged.

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"And more and more we realize that it is only by mobilizing the corporate sector that we can make significant progress."

Annan said for its part, the business community had come to realize that if it wished to thrive in a complex and sometimes hostile global economy, it had to respond to the major social and environment trends and challenges reshaping the world.

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**September 1, 2002, Sunday**

SECTION: WORLD NEWS; ECONOMIC

LENGTH: 398 words

HEADLINE: Business key in cutting poverty, saving environment: UN chief

BODY:

JOHANNESBURG, Sept. 1 (Xinhua) -- **United Nations** Secretary- General Kofi Annan said Sunday that the economic development of the poorest countries is of fundamental interest to the global community, including the private sector.

Speaking at a business conference on the fringes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD), Annan said that business had come to realize that their profits could only be sustained if social and environmental issues were effectively addressed.

"The present situation is fundamentally unstable. We cannot afford to prolong it by allowing extreme social differences to persist."

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Africa News

**September 2, 2002 Monday**

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HEADLINE: PanAfrica;  
Business is Key in Saving the Environment, Says Annan

BYLINE: Business Day

BODY:

THE economic development of the poorest countries is of fundamental interest to the global community, including the private sector, **United Nations** secretary-general Kofi Annan said yesterday.

And, business had come to realise that their profits could only be sustained if social and environmental issues were effectively addressed, he said at a business conference on the fringes of the Johannesburg World Summit on Sustainable Development.

"The present situation is fundamentally unstable. We cannot afford to prolong it by allowing extreme social differences to persist," he said.

Mobilising sustainable business investment was essential if the least developed countries were to escape their desperate poverty trap.

The **Global Compact** initiative, which was launched in July 2000, was seeking a commitment from companies to grow businesses over the next five years in some of the least developed countries, in line with the principles of sustainable development, Annan said.

About 700 business leaders from more than 150 local and international corporations are meeting under the umbrella of the Business Action for Sustainable Development in an event parallel to the summit. The UN chief said ten years ago, at the Rio Earth Summit, the role of business in sustainable development was poorly understood. [WSSD]

## **COMMENT & ANALYSIS - A long way to go for a little success.**

By JAMES LAMONT and JOHN MASON.

09/04/2002

Financial Times

P17

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COMMENT & ANALYSIS - A long way to go for a little success - James Lamont and John Mason report that the Johannesburg world summit achieved mixed results.

There was a distinct air of relief yesterday among United Nations officials in Johannesburg. As the sprawling World Summit on Sustainable Development approached its end, and civil servants, business leaders and aid officials started to pack their bags, there was a sense that the outcome could have been a lot worse.

"Modestly successful" was the official line on the attempt to tackle a huge and controversial agenda spanning health, biodiversity, agriculture, climate change and poverty reduction. At the very least, the summit did not reverse the commitments made in the Doha trade round and the Monterrey summit on finance for development; at best, it forged a greater sense of urgency to live up to commitments made at the Rio Earth Summit a decade ago.

The optimists pointed to the linking of multinational companies with governments and campaigning organisations in partnerships to fight diseases, bring clean water to African communities and foster better environmental practices. They were pleased by the summit agreement - supported strongly by the European Union - to set clear targets to halve the number of people in the world without access clean water to 1bn by 2015. A number of public/private partnerships will be used to improve services for the world's poor.

The mood was less cheerful among pressure groups, who were furious at the attitude of governments led by the US, notably on the environment. They were also disappointed by the lack of firm decisions on a range of other issues, including debt relief and the protection of biodiversity.

Some campaigning groups described the 10-day summit as a glamour event without substance.

Greenpeace, which identified climate change and corporate accountability as two of its foremost campaigns for the summit, is going home almost empty-handed. "In terms of producing any real plan to tackle poverty in the long term, for instance by addressing agricultural subsidies, the summit has proved a disappointment," says Barbara Stocking, executive director of Oxfam.

The strongest feelings were aroused by the lack of agreed targets on renewable energy, another EU priority. That was blocked by the US and oil-producing states within the Group of 77 countries. Targets were rejected in favour of a commitment to an "urgent and substantial" increase in the use of renewable sources of energy - although with no fixed timetable. Headline targets were agreed on issues such as biodiversity loss, restoration of fish stocks and the use of toxic chemicals. But these commitments were limited after pressure from the US and G77.

"The Earth Summit should have been about protecting the environment and fighting poverty and social destruction. Instead it has been hijacked by free market ideology, by a backward-looking US administration and by global corporations that help keep reactionary politicians in business. This is the worst political sell-out in decades," said Charles Secrett, director of Friends of the Earth.

US officials were not in a mood to be defensive, given the Bush administration's decision to raise the US aid budget by \$5bn ( £3.2bn) a year. They said action on the ground through the creation of business partnerships was preferable to targets imposed by governments.

"The US is the biggest donor to organisations like Unicef and the World Food Programme. I feel strongly about this - I write the cheques out," said Andrew Natsios, administrator of the US international development agency. He insisted that it was "not anti-multilateralist" to withhold support from **UN** bodies that it judged to be less effective.

As a result, the Johannesburg summit has not achieved the political consensus of the Rio Earth Summit 10 years ago. But Mark Malloch Brown, the **UN** Development Programme's administrator, argues that it has a greater chance of producing action than its predecessor. "The Johannesburg Summit may disappoint now but surprise with its follow-up. There is an energy between governments, the private sector and civil society. It's been the world's biggest trade fair and it will bear fruit."

The summit will have some effect in changing the policies of national government and international organisations. In the field of renewable energy, countries and regions are likely to adopt their own targets as they ratify the Kyoto protocol on climate change. The final summit text also commits organisations such as

the International Monetary Fund to build sustainable development into their strategy and programmes for developing countries.

The **UN**, with the assistance of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, is now turning its attention to measuring progress on the goals that the summit set. It is likely to place most emphasis on what can be achieved through local projects. Kofi Annan, the **UN** secretary-general, urged businesses at the summit to move forward without waiting for governments, and the **UN** wants to achieve greater business participation in its affairs as a tool of development.

"There is no single shining issue (out of the summit) that will make a difference to the lives of poor people," says Georg Kell, executive director of the **global compact** in the **UN** secretary-general's office. "But at an institutional and political level you find a transformation in the **UN** as it learns to work with business and non-state actors. They were eye-openers here for us. It has energised the **UN** system."

Some chief executives are going along with the **UN**'s enthusiasm. About 700 companies were represented at the summit, and business leaders such as Mark Moody-Stuart, former chairman of Shell, were heavily involved in debates. Sir Mark spearheaded an initiative to persuade developing countries not to agree to multilateral rules on corporate accountability.

However, business leaders remain wary of being asked to take up all the slack created by disagreements among governments. "I don't think the summit has gone backwards. But it hasn't really gone forwards either," said Sir Mark. "It does press forward Doha and Monterrey. What we've discovered is that it falls to business to get it done. But it's not the responsibility of business to take on these issues totally."

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#### **WORLD NEWS - Annan urges business to press ahead on new ideas JOHANNESBURG MEETING.**

By JAMES LAMONT and JOHN MASON.

09/02/2002

**Financial Times**

P6

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Kofi **Annan**, United Nations secretary-general, vented his frustration with slow government decision-making at the UN World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg by urging business to press ahead with development initiatives.

Mr **Annan** told delegates at the World Summit's showcase business day not to wait for governments to make decisions and laws to promote development in the world's poorest countries and environmental protection.

"The corporate sector need not wait for governments to take decisions," he said.

"We realise that only by mobilising the corporate sector that we can make significant progress."

Mr **Annan** warned that the yawning inequalities between the developed and developing worlds were "fundamentally unstable". He appealed to company executives not to allow extreme social differences to persist by investing in some of the world's least developed countries.

Companies have attended the Johannesburg World Summit in much greater numbers than the Rio Earth Summit 10 years ago. About 700 companies, including oil and mining companies, are represented at the summit. Business organisations, such as Paris-based Business Action for Sustainable Development, are showcasing development partnerships while lobbying against the imposition of multilateral rules to enforce greater corporate accountability - including labour and environmental standards - in the developing world.

Mr **Annan**'s comments came as ministers prepared to work through the night to reach agreement on the summit text before the arrival of heads of state to address the conference today. Although the European

Union has maintained a strong stance throughout the talks, it appeared likely it would climb down on some in the face of US opposition.

Its strongest demand remains agreeing a target on access to sanitation. There were suggestions that to achieve this, it might drop support for a Brazilian proposal for a new target for 10 per cent of energy production to come from non-hydro renewable sources. The prospect of such a trade-off caused concern to business and environmentalists. European oil companies such as BP and Shell have urged Tony Blair, British prime minister, to back the targets.

James Cameron, environmental lawyer at Baker & MacKenzie, the international law firm, said: "The EU must call the US bluff on this. There is plenty of support within the US business community for new targets on renewables. This is the sort of target which could have a profound effect on investment decisions. To trade off renewables for sanitation would be a sad state of affairs."

The only substantial agreements remain those to protect fish stocks in international waters and minimise the use of toxic chemicals. However, an agreement on trade and finance over the extent to which World Trade Organisation rules support environmental objectives appeared close.

The heads of state who will address the summit today include Mr Blair, French President Jacques Chirac, and Chancellor Gerhard Schroder of Germany.

However, there is a chance they will be overshadowed by the appearance of Robert Mugabe, Zimbabwe's president, whose policies have been blamed for worsening the plight of 6m people who face starvation following the southern African drought. [www.ft.com/earthsummit](http://www.ft.com/earthsummit)

National/Foreign

## **POWELL HECKLED AT GLOBAL SUMMIT DEFENDS US RECORD ON AIDING THE POOR, THE ENVIRONMENT**

Kurt Shillinger, Globe Correspondent

09/05/2002

The Boston Globe

THIRD

A.10

(Copyright 2002)

JOHANNESBURG - Protesters jeered US Secretary of State Colin L. Powell at a world conference yesterday as he defended the administration's commitment to uplifting the poor and saving the global environment. Speaking on the final day of the **UN** World Summit on Sustainable Development, Powell was interrupted repeatedly as US and Australian activists shouted "Shame on Bush, Shame on Bush." Security officers removed 13 people from the hall.

"The American soul has always harbored a deep desire to help people build better lives for themselves and their children," Powell said, struggling to lift his voice above the commotion at the back of the hall during his five-minute speech. "We have always understood that our own well-being depends on the well-being of our fellow inhabitants of this planet Earth."

The protesters blamed Washington, in particular, for blocking stronger commitments to renewable energy development and turning its back on an international treaty on climate change.

Foreign Minister Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma of South Africa, who was chairing the session, banged her gavel and yelled at the hecklers to stop. Powell, appearing to be annoyed, paused and told the protesters, "I have now heard you," before going on.

Afterward, he shrugged off the protests. "Activist hecklers always get attention, but I am more impressed by the reaction I received from my fellow ministers," he told reporters.

The 10-day summit, the first global gathering on environmental issues in a decade, ended amid mixed reactions. But an unlikely consensus emerged across a range of historically opposing interests. The gathering weaved together the individual strands of trade, ecology, business, and social equality.

Hundreds of new partnerships among governments, businesses, and civil-society organizations emerged from the summit.

"The summit has made sustainable development a reality," **UN** Secretary General Kofi Annan said at his final news conference of the meeting.

Georg Kell, executive head of the **UN Global Compact**, said the conference brought some progress.

"The most fundamental question today is whether we can make globalization work," he said. "And that means, in essence, whether we can make it stable . . . and whether we can make it inclusive, bringing the poor into the markets."

The real achievement of the summit, he said, is the "recognition that profit in the medium term and certainly in the long term is increasingly tied to the broader social and environmental issues of our globalizing world." Critics, including many environmentalists and business executives, were skeptical, arguing that such lofty ideals were overshadowed by narrow economic and ideological self-interest.

"The whole process of this conference was supposed to be to demonstrate that we don't have to choose between protecting the environment and growing the economy," said Stephen Mills, director of the Sierra Club's international program. "What we've seen is the internationalization of the Bush energy agenda." Bringing together the agreements and principles of international conferences stretching back to the 1992 Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro, Johannesburg combined the three main elements of sustainable development identified by the **United Nations** - economic growth, social development, and environmental protection.

The document finalized late yesterday, and adopted by the 191 countries that sent delegates, includes agreements to halve the number of people in the world without access to clean water and basic sanitation by 2015; restore natural marine fisheries to their maximum sustainable yields by 2015; and mandate that by 2020, all chemicals be used and produced in ways that do not harm human health and the environment.

As important as specific measures, delegates said, were agreements to link good governance in developing nations to greater access to markets in wealthy countries; promote corporate responsibility and accountability within the context of sustainable development; phase out all forms of export subsidies; and establish programs on sustainable consumption and production.

The summit also rallied nations around the Kyoto Protocol, the landmark treaty on reducing climate-warming greenhouse gases. With commitments from Canada, Russia, and China to ratify, the accord may become legal and binding by the end of the year.

Among the "missed opportunities," according to senior **UN** officials and critics, were specific targets and timetables for developing renewable energy sources in poor countries and ending trade-distorting agricultural subsidies in developed countries.

For many, the last issue left on the table ended in a step backward, as the Bush administration successfully blocked language classifying reproductive health care as a basic human right.

"Overall, we're going in the right direction," said Jan Pronk, Annan's special envoy to the summit. "But don't make it sound better than it is. It could have been better."

Jacob Scherr, a senior lawyer at the National Resources Defense Council in Washington, agreed. "Relative to what we need to do, we missed the mark," he said. "But there was an effort here to enhance and encourage all aspects of globalization related to social and environmental aspects."

In particular, he said, the concept of partnership programs involving all stakeholders in saving forests, delivering water to those without, and saving oceans - even if they lack timeframes - have gained momentum.

The departing question, asked over and over, was whether the mistakes of the past decade won't be repeated in the next. Rio produced landmark goals, but little followed.

"We have plans to end despair and offer hope," Powell said. "Now it is time to put those plans into action and expand the circle of development to all God's children."

Caption: 1. AP PHOTO 2. **UN** security police (above) moved in yesterday as some delegates tried to unfurl a banner during Secretary of State Colin L. Powell's speech at the final day of the international summit. Thirteen protesters, identified as US and Australian activists, were removed from the hall. Also yesterday, Powell (left) spoke in Johannesburg at the launch of an initiative to save the central African rain forests. / REUTERS PHOTO

## Earth summit empowered workers: unions

09/05/2002

Agence France-Presse  
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JOHANNESBURG, Sept 5 (AFP) - A global action plan adopted late Wednesday by world leaders at the Johannesburg Earth Summit will allow unions and workers to have more influence on corporate social responsibility, the top international labour representative at the talks said.

"This is a useful text," Lucien Royer, health, safety and environment director at the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU) and labour's representative to the **UN** Commission on Sustainable Development told AFX's Global Ethics Monitor service.

"The practice of corporate responsibility depends on actual concrete mechanisms. The (summit action plan) allows the use of existing ones and provides new institutional opportunities to enhance labour's role in ensuring corporate responsibility and environmental protection," Royer said.

"But it needs to be fleshed out in practice," he added.

Following the talks, the 157-million-member confederation of 225 unions in 148 countries will work with the **UN** Environment Programme, International Labour Organisation and employers to set targets for monitoring and improving workplace health and safety practices; use of water and energy; and impact on natural resources and biodiversity, he said.

That work will be aided by the summit action plan, in which governments agreed to "promote corporate responsibility and accountability through multi-stakeholder dialogue, such as through the (**UN**) Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD)."

Governments also agreed to push workplace-based partnerships and programmes.

"The CSD provides institutional backing and can set a schedule of work for countries. Through it, unions will be able to ask how many countries are meeting their obligations," Royer said.

Those obligations include Organisation for Economic and Cooperation and Development guidelines that require multinational corporations to work with employees to head off industrial disputes, and the **UN Global Compact**, which lays out voluntary standards for corporate responsibility toward the environment and poor communities.

At the summit, governments also struck a compromise calling for corporations to increase independently verifiable reporting on their performance in preserving the environment and improving their treatment of workers and communities in which they operate.

"There is middle ground between governments, corporations, labour and NGOs (non-governmental organisations) on reporting but for it to be credible and independently verified, workers must be involved in determining what gets reported on, and how," said Royer.

"There's already third-party reporting on a range of issues including cleaner production. External consultants are popular with companies but most workers and trade unions aren't involved in that process at all," he added.

"Workers know what's happening within a company," he noted, adding that their involvement need not be a threat.

The bulk of the work of ensuring corporate responsibility should be internal, based on day-to-day mutual cooperation between labour and management, Royer added.

He cited the example of a Canadian paper mill where workers are bound by their collective agreement with employers to report violations of environmental regulations to management.

Only if the company then fails to fix the problems is the trade union obliged to report the violations to local authorities.

Groups led by Friends of the Earth were disappointed that they failed at the summit to get governments to commit to a new legally-binding international convention on corporate accountability.

The proposed convention would have imposed international environmental, human rights and labour standards on corporations and made it possible for anyone to sue or file criminal charges against them for alleged violations of those standards.

"At the end of the day, legal frameworks are necessary," said Royer.

"But we are in partnership with employers. We have 2.2 million collective bargaining agreements. We don't have the luxury of saying we're not going to work with the employer."

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## Earth summit 2002 - 14 hours to help save the world - From touchdown to take-off Tony Blair had 14 hours ...

By Paul Brown.

09/03/2002

The Guardian

P4

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Earth summit 2002 - 14 hours to help save the world - From touchdown to take-off Tony Blair had 14 hours to make a difference at the earth summit. The Guardian's environment correspondent, Paul Brown, watched him receive a red carpet welcome, and a volley of abuse in the conference centre, meet prime ministers, presidents and top businessmen, give away millions in aid, plant a tree, gatecrash a party, visit a slum, and attend a banquet.

8.30am

Mr Blair's British Airways 777 touches down at Johannesburg airport. The prime minister has already had a breakfast of cornflakes and bioyogurt.

8.40am

Walks down red carpet and is met by team from British high commission. Sets off in police convoy for the Sandton centre where the conference has been under way for a week.

9am

Arrives at plush Michaelangelo hotel where some British ministers are staying and is briefed on the summit and progress in negotiations overnight.

9.10am

Attends an EU heads of government meeting to discuss this progress.

9.40am

Meets Chinese prime minister, Zhu Rongji, for what is called a bilateral. This involves talks about the summit but is also to discuss mutual trade issues.

10am

Walks with other delegates to the conference centre where heads of state are each talking for five minutes. Some are running over. No one has allowed time for presidents and prime ministers to get from their seats to the podium.

10.15am

President Sam Nujoma, already over time, breaks from his script to point directly at Mr Blair and begins to abuse him, calling him a British colonialist and lectures him about Zimbabwe. Mr Blair frowns but sits through the rant which continues with points about the slave trade from Liverpool. In the press hall many journalists laugh at the president for lowering the tone and breaking through the boredom. In the hall Robert Mugabe, the Zimbabwe president, laughs and leaves before Mr Blair is called to speak.

10.30am

Apparently unmoved by Mr Nujoma and making no reference to his attack, Mr Blair speaks for just under his five minutes. He wins applause when he mentions the need for everyone to sign up to the Kyoto agreement on climate change. The need to abolish European agricultural subsidies also wins approval. But his remarks about Africa being a scar on the conscience of the world go down best. Mr Mugabe returns to the conference hall and does not applaud Mr Blair.

11.15am

Kofi Annan, the **UN** secretary general, Mark Malloch Brown, head of the **UN** development programme and Mr Blair hold a meeting of the **Global Compact**, a **UN**-business forum for helping development.

2pm

President Chirac of France and Mr Blair hold a joint press conference to announce a joint fund of euros 100m to guarantee business ventures in developing countries. Afterwards no one is available to explain what this means.

2.45pm

News

## **U.S. aid to farms harms Africa, PM says --- Chretien also slams EU over subsidies during Earth summit appearance**

Graham Fraser  
Toronto Star

09/02/2002

The Toronto Star

Ontario

A01

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The United States and European Union are contributing to poverty in Africa with their agricultural subsidies, Prime Minister Jean Chretien says.

Farmers in poor countries cannot gain access to markets in the United States or European Union because of market barriers, he told reporters yesterday at the **United Nations** World Summit on Sustainable Development.

Reiterating his view of the unfairness of subsidies, Chretien said: "Europe and the United States spend something like \$300 billion on subsidies for farmers, and there is only \$50 billion in foreign aid."

The result of such subsidies is to flood the world market with low-priced farm products, making it impossible for farmers in poor countries to compete. In effect, African farmers are denied access to export markets in the rich world because of artificially low prices.

"The United States recently passed a bill increasing the subsidies," Chretien pointed out. "It's exactly contrary to the orientation that NEPAD (New Partnership for Africa's Development) is trying to develop."

Earlier, Canada announced that all trade barriers would be lifted on all goods from the 48 poorest countries as of Jan. 1, 2003.

Chretien also said that business is the key to solving the problem of underdevelopment.

"It cannot be done only by government; it cannot be done only by non-governmental organizations," Chretien said. "The solution is not aid. The solution is investment. The solution is the opening of markets."

With those unscripted remarks, Chretien summed up two of the recurring themes of his government on the subject of Third World underdevelopment: that business has to get involved by investing in underdeveloped countries, and that Europe and the United States have to reduce what he called "the big problem" - market barriers, and the agricultural subsidies that effectively block access to their markets from poor countries.

In his speech to the Business Action for Sustainable Development Forum, Chretien suggested that business leaders who have been stung by questions about ethics and corporate responsibility in the wake of recent scandals should respond by showing their commitment to sustainable development - growth that does not damage the environment.

"Firms that show a commitment to enhance their traditional financial reporting to include the environmental and social impact of their operations are sending a strong signal to citizens and to markets," Chretien said.

"Companies that recognize the importance of signing on to the **U.N.'s Global Compact** and the Global Reporting Initiative are sending an equally strong signal."

Later, a federal official said that companies are finding that if they have bad environmental records, they have trouble hiring young people.

Chretien "is saying that social responsibility pays; holding high ethical standards pays," the official said.

Oxfam has calculated that if Africa increased its share of world exports by a mere 1 per cent, it would generate \$70 billion in income - which is five times the amount the continent receives in aid.

Chretien and Environment Minister David Anderson have both repeated their belief in the private sector as part of the solution, saying that direct aid and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) have failed.

But David Runnalls, president of the International Institute for Sustainable Development, warned against what he called "the awful **U.N.** trap of thinking 'Here's a new silver bullet'" and embracing the new hot idea of public-private partnerships,

"I don't think it's fair to say that aid hasn't worked," he said after Chretien's speech. "I don't think it's fair to say that NGOs haven't worked. The fact is that sustainable development is an immensely complicated issue.

We're not going to solve it with one little clever silver bullet."

Runnalls also said that the private sector was unlikely to invest in poor African countries without rich natural resources, like Chad, Mali or Niger - but would be more likely to invest in countries endowed with resources like Mozambique, South Africa and Nigeria.

"It's not a one-size-fits-all situation," he said.

Asked about this, Chretien said that the key to attracting private investment for African countries was to adopt the governing principles of respect of human rights, an independent legal system and the elimination of corruption that are a central part of NEPAD.

Today, Chretien addresses the plenary session of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and this afternoon, has a number of bilateral meetings with world leaders, including David Trimble of Northern Ireland and Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres.

Tomorrow, after meeting Nelson Mandela, Chretien flies back to Ottawa.

The 10-day conference, which started last Monday, aims to agree on a plan to turn promises made at the 1992 Earth Summit in Rio into reality. Advice for Mugabe, A7 Plan for cities, A7'The solution is not aid. The solution is investment. The solution is the opening of markets.'

Jean Chretien  
Prime Minister

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Speech given by Sir Robert Wilson, head of Rio Tinto, at the Lekgotla Business Day organized by Business Action for Sustainable Development.

Economic growth, the essential condition of sustainable development, depends on the products of the mining industry. It is our responsibility to meet that demand whilst simultaneously addressing the environmental and social implications of our actions. We need to minimise the physical footprint of our activities and mitigate adverse environmental effects.

The economic, environmental and social aspects of the sustainable development agenda are our constant challenges. Further, our investments and our thinking tend to be more long term than in many industries so the inter-generational framework, inherent in sustainable development, is our routine planning horizon.

But the mining industry has recognised that we have not always done a good enough job in handling these challenges. This led a group of leading mining companies to decide to work together to try to define how we, as an industry, should respond to the transition to a more sustainable future.

The starting point of the Global Mining Initiative (known as GMI) was to listen to and understand what others, including obviously our critics, thought about our industry and the issues it raised. Through WBCSD we commissioned an independent analysis of the industry - Mining, Minerals and Sustainable Development (MMSD). This was an ambitious move with wider terms of reference than had been attempted in other

sectors. The MMSD project consulted extensively with those with an interest in this industry, over a period of two years, in an open and transparent process - a true multi-stakeholder dialogue.

A second element of the GMI was a major conference held in Toronto in May this year to reflect on the findings and framework for action of the MMSD report. The conference brought together industry, governments, intergovernmental agencies, indigenous communities, unions and NGO's. I believe the three-day conference made significant progress in breaking down barriers of mistrust.

But the dialogue and engagement did not end with Toronto. We made a commitment to continuing the process of interaction with others. So a third element of the GMI was to establish the International Council on Mining and Metals to maintain this process and to mobilise the industry's response to the sustainable development agenda.

The GMI is a serious attempt to demonstrate that a sometimes controversial industry can respond constructively to the challenges of sustainable development. Indeed, in a message to the GMI conference in May the **UN Secretary General** linked the project with the aims of the **UN Global Compact** and wondered whether it might form the basis of what he called the first sectoral **Global Compact**.

Several aspects of this exercise are relevant to the wider debate at this summit:

First, progressive companies clearly acknowledge that they should contribute positively to the issues raised by the sustainable development debate. To those shareholders who question whether business should be proactive, my response is that there is a strong business case in terms of stability, risk management and employee motivation. There has been a remarkable increase in the level of public reporting by a business like Rio Tinto. Doubters need only go to our website with its 1700 pages of reporting on our environmental and social activities last year. This is in addition to the local reports that each of our business units now provides to their own host communities - another innovation.

Secondly, we need to recognise that there are often complex trade-off decisions to be taken between the economic, the social and the environmental consequences of a project. It would be very nice if economic progress and the alleviation of poverty could be achieved without any adverse implications. But it is often unrealistic. Every new development in mining or any other sector is likely to involve an environmental price for the potential economic benefits and socially there may be some offsets to the obvious gains. In an ideal world those trade-off decisions would be taken by informed and democratically accountable governments. But where government lacks the expertise and experience to weigh up the advantages and disadvantages it needs help to build up its capacity. The provision of this assistance is a role for intergovernmental agencies, which are well placed to provide experienced, disinterested guidance.

This leads to my third point: the need for partnerships. I have just referred to one area where governments and multilateral organisations need to work together. There are plenty of other areas where business, government, intergovernmental agencies and NGOs can engage in constructive partnerships. In Rio Tinto, we have many examples of such partnerships with organisations like WWF, Earthwatch, and Conservation International. They work by harnessing the different strengths of partners to achieve agreed goals. At an industry level ICMM announced yesterday a new partnership with IUCN on biodiversity. It will also be working with the World Bank and others on community development processes.

Of course, I, and other leaders in our industry, are well aware that much remains to be done, but the process of implementation has begun. For instance, as a company we are formalising the incorporation of sustainable development criteria into key business decisions. New projects are designed with this in mind and long established operations are starting to redesign their management processes to incorporate sustainability issues.

ICMM is expanding its current Sustainable Development Charter to include areas recommended in the MMSD report; assisting members to understand and apply sustainable development concepts; promoting the concept of integrated materials management within the sector; and promoting science based regulatory decisions on the choice of materials to be used by consumers.

All these activities are consistent with the Summit's draft plan of implementation relevant to mining and metals which calls on participants to support efforts to address environmental, economic, health and social impacts and benefits, using a range of partnerships, while promoting transparency and accountability.

The creation of a more sustainable mining industry is not always going to be easy, but in the long-term it will make us stronger and better understood.

LOAD-DATE: September 2, 2002

### **03Sep2002 SÜDAFRIKA: Johannesburg World Summit on Sustainable Development - "Clean Production" statt "End of P**

- Querverweis: Bild ist abrufbar unter: <http://www.presseportal.de/galerie.htx?type=obs>

München/Johannesburg (ots) - Eine stärkere Beteiligung der Wirtschaft an freiwilligen internationalen Programmen für nachhaltige Industrieproduktion forderte Jacqueline Aloisi de Larderel, Direktorin für Technologie, Industrie und Wirtschaft des Umweltprogramms der Vereinten Nationen (UNEP), in der BMW Group EarthLounge auf einer Diskussionsveranstaltung im Rahmen des Weltgipfels in Johannesburg. "Freiwillige Vereinbarungen und Selbstverpflichtungen sind ein wichtiger Faktor für die erfolgreiche Umsetzung nachhaltiger Strategien. Aber keine Vereinbarung kann auf solide Erfolgsmessung und Monitoring verzichten.", sagte Aloisi de Larderel während einer Diskussionsrunde in der BMW Group EarthLounge auf dem Sandton Square.

Werner Schnappauf: "BMW handelt nachhaltig."

Werner Schnappauf, der Staatsminister für Umweltfragen des deutschen Bundeslandes Bayern, verwies auf das erfolgreiche Modell eines regionalen Umweltpaktes. "Was Kofi Annan auf globaler Ebene mit dem **Global Compact** erreichen will, setzen wir in Bayern - gemeinsam mit BMW - bereits um." Gesetzliche Vorschriften wären immer nur die zweitbeste Lösung, Unternehmen zum Umdenken zu bewegen.

Schnappauf führte weiter aus: " BMW gehört zu den Unternehmen, die genau die richtigen Dinge tun, um die Umwelt zu schützen. In dieser Firma redet man nicht nur über Nachhaltigkeit, bei BMW wird nachhaltig gehandelt."

Für die BMW Group ist das "Cleaner Production Programme" der UNEP Grundlage ihres Handelns.

Hierdurch verpflichtet sich das Unternehmen freiwillig, vorbeugendes Umweltmanagement zum Leitbild eigener Produktionsprozesse zu erheben. Zur Unterzeichnung des Programms kam Mme. Aloisi de Larderel im Spetember 2001 nach München. Die BMW Group ist der weltweit einzige Automobilkonzern, der für alle seine Standorte einheitliche Umwelt-und Qualitätsstandards nach ISO 14001 und ISO 9001 eingeführt hat.

"Zukunftsfähige und verantwortungsvoll agierende Unternehmen bieten Antworten auf Herausforderungen, die sich heute und morgen in Wirtschaft, Umwelt und Gesellschaft stellen", so Dr. Norbert Reithofer, Mitglied des Vorstands der BMW AG für Produktion. Neben gesellschaftlichem Engagement und hohen sozialen Standards für die Mitarbeiterinnen und Mitarbeiter sind die umweltfreundliche Gestaltung der Produktion, der Produkte und des Verkehrs zentrale Elemente der BMW Group Nachhaltigkeitsstrategie. Zudem unterstützt die BMW Group auch die Initiative der deutschen Bundesregierung, ausländische Direktinvestitionen deutscher Unternehmen an den Prinzipien der Nachhaltigkeit auszurichten. Neben den rein wirtschaftlichen Aspekten sollen bei Investitionen gleichberechtigt auch generell soziale und ökologische Gesichtspunkte berücksichtigt werden. Ein Weg, den die BMW Group bereits erfolgreich

beschreibt.

Das Engagement für nachhaltige Produktion spiegelt sich in konkreten Erfolgen der BMW Group wider. So konnte in der Fertigung pro hergestelltem Fahrzeug in den vergangenen fünf Jahren der CO<sub>2</sub>-Ausstoß um durchschnittlich 15 Prozent verringert werden, der Energieverbrauch um 20 Prozent sowie der Wasserverbrauch um 15 Prozent. Dazu tragen insbesondere die Fortbildung der Mitarbeiter sowie technische Innovationen bei, die weltweit Anwendung finden und auch Wettbewerbern als Vorbild dienen.

Die BMW Group Earth Lounge: Treffpunkt des Gipfels für den Stakeholder-Dialog

"Clean Production" war nur eine Veranstaltung im Rahmen einer ganzen Reihe von Nachhaltigkeitsforen des Unternehmens, die in der BMW Group Earth Lounge während des Gipfels stattgefunden haben.

Die BMW Group Earth Lounge dient während des Weltgipfels nicht nur als Ausstellungs- und Veranstaltungsforum, sondern auch als große Projektionsfläche: Tagsüber trägt die BMW Group Earth Lounge eine Hülle aus Ballonseide, die mit einer Ansicht der Erde aus dem Weltraum bedruckt ist. Jeden Abend nach Einbruch der Dunkelheit erleben die Besucher eine faszinierende 15-minütige Laser-Projektion. Erstmals kommt dabei die Laser-Display-Technologie als Kuppelprojektion zum Einsatz. Sechs nahtlos zusammengefügte Einzeldarstellungen ergeben für den Betrachter ein faszinierendes Gesamtbild der Erde.

[www.worldsummit.de](http://www.worldsummit.de): Der World Summit im Internet

Weitere Informationen zum aktuellen Geschehen auf dem Johannesburg World Summit on Sustainable Development finden Sie unter [www.worldsummit.de](http://www.worldsummit.de). Die komplette Pressemappe "Sustainability. It can be done." steht unter [www.press.bmw.com](http://www.press.bmw.com) zum Download zur Verfügung. Dort finden Sie auch weitere Pressebilder.

Originaltext: BMW Group Im Internet recherchierbar: <http://www.presseportal.de>

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## **05Sep2002 FRANCE: A Johannesburg, le Sommet de la Terre s'achève sans résultats précis - Les multinationales, ...**

Par LAURE BELOT.

A Johannesburg, le Sommet de la Terre s'achève sans résultats précis - Les multinationales, championnes du profit durable.

JOHANNESBURG de notre envoyée spéciale

Son rayon dépasse les 20 mètres ! La tente du groupe BMW, en forme d'hémisphère, mange toute la largeur de la place Standton, au coeur de Johannesburg. Proche du lieu des négociations, la place accueille une quinzaine de restaurants chics et branchés qui servent de cantines aux délégations. Un espace de choix, qui permet au groupe allemand de faire fortement entendre ses slogans: « Développement durable: on peut le faire »; « Une technologie innovante pour une mobilité durable ». Sur le parvis, deux voitures « propres » fabriquées par l'entreprise, une mini-Cooper et une BMW 7454, sont d'ailleurs là pour démontrer que « l'âge de l'hydrogène a commencé ». Aucun doute: les multinationales ont travaillé leur discours pour paraître sous leur meilleur jour lors du Sommet de la Terre.

A Ubuntu-village, autre haut lieu du sommet, elles se font concurrence. Le groupe informatique américain Hewlett-Packard - l'un des deux sponsors mondiaux de l'événement avec le constructeur Daimler-Chrysler - s'est offert pour lui seul une immense tente, à côté de celle qui rassemble les délégations des pays. Sa PDG,

Carly Fiorina, est d'ailleurs venue en personne annoncer, lundi 2 septembre, devant la presse, qu'elle adhère au « **Global Compact** », l'initiative du secrétaire général des Nations unies, Kofi Annan, qui consiste pour les entreprises à s'engager sur neuf principes, dont le respect des droits de l'homme, l'interdiction du travail forcé et du travail des enfants, le développement d'une politique environnementale, etc. D'autres, dans la grande tente, ont soigné leur présentation: stand jaune et néon vert pour l'anglais BP Solar, pour promouvoir son activité d'énergie solaire. Le stand France, aux couleurs métalliques, met en avant trois entreprises: EDF, Suez et Vivendi Environnement. L'allemand Bayer Crop Science présente son activité, forcément durable, dans le domaine des pesticides. D'autres, comme l'anglo-néerlandais Unilever, le suédois ABB ou encore le sud-africain Anglo-American, brandissent le développement durable en étendard.

Les entreprises ont réussi à se mettre en ordre de bataille pour aborder groupées le Sommet de la Terre et peser avec succès sur les négociations. Le World Business Council for Sustainable Development, une association de 160 multinationales née en 1992, avant le sommet de Rio, avait décidé de faire les choses en grand en créant une association uniquement pour le sommet, le Business Action for Sustainable Development, présidée par Mark Moody Stuart, ancien président de Shell, porte-parole du monde de l'entreprise tout au long du sommet.

Dernier coup médiatique: l'accord, au milieu du sommet, du monde de l'entreprise et des ONG. Le World Business Council a signé avec son ennemi juré, l'association Greenpeace, un document pour demander la mise en place du protocole de Kyoto.

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**Sources:** LE MONDE (FRENCH LANGUAGE) 05/09/2002 P2

## **02Sep2002 FRANCE: SOMMET MONDIAL POUR LE DEVELOPPEMENT DURABLE DE JOHANNESBURG DU 26 AOUT AU 4 SEPTEMBRE 2002 - A ...**

Par HERVE KEMPF.

SOMMET MONDIAL POUR LE DEVELOPPEMENT DURABLE DE JOHANNESBURG DU 26 AOUT AU 4 SEPTEMBRE 2002 - A Johannesburg, le Sommet de la Terre est « piraté » par de grandes entreprises.

Se substituant aux ONG, elles veillent à la primauté du libre-échange dans le Plan d'action

Soudain, la société civile a changé de visage: tout se passe, au Sommet mondial sur le développement durable, comme si les entreprises en étaient les meilleurs représentants, plutôt que les organisations non gouvernementales (ONG). On ne les a jamais vues si nombreuses, actives, et au coeur de la négociation. « Les entreprises et l'OMC [Organisation mondiale du commerce] piratent ce sommet », s'insurge comme de nombreux écologistes Victor Menotti, de l'International Forum on Globalisation (IFG).

Les entreprises exposent leurs réalisations à Ubuntu Village, non loin du Centre où se mène la conférence, lieu stratégique du Sommet, tandis que les ONG ont été exilées dans un parc d'expositions à 20 km au sud de la ville. Plus de cent PDG de grands groupes vont venir ici. De nombreux voyages de presse ont été organisés pour montrer leurs réalisations aux médias. Et les entreprises se sont soigneusement préparées pour ce Sommet, telle Suez, qui a mis en place voici un an un comité stratégique dédié à cette tâche, et composé de trois cadres parmi les plus élevés dans la hiérarchie du groupe.

Surtout, les entreprises sont au coeur du Plan d'action. Cela remonte à 1999, quand Kofi Annan, le secrétaire général de l'Organisation des Nations unies (ONU), a lancé le concept de l'Entente globale (**Global Compact**): un engagement des entreprises à s'impliquer dans le respect des droits de l'homme, de l'environnement, du code du travail. Dans la foulée, la préparation du Plan d'action du Sommet a élaboré le principe de partenariats entre acteurs de la société civile, dits, dans le jargon onusien, « initiatives de type 2 »

- les initiatives de type 1 étant les actions menées par les gouvernements. Dans le Plan, le mot « partenariats » est cité près d'une vingtaine de fois, bien davantage que « écosystème », « biosphère » ou « droits de l'homme ». Les références à l'OMC et aux engagements de Doha sur le commerce sont elles aussi fréquentes. « volonté de profit »

Les entreprises se défendent de « pirater » le Sommet. « Nous sommes très orientées vers l'action », dit Annik Dollacker, porte-parole de Croplife International, qui regroupe les compagnies produisant des pesticides et des plantes transgéniques. « Ce qui nous intéresse, c'est le concret, ce qu'on peut faire, alors que les ONG travaillent plutôt dans le domaine politique. » « Le développement durable cherche à concilier environnement, social et économique, renchérit Bryce Corbett, porte-parole du BASD (Business Action for Sustainable Development), qui regroupe de nombreuses entreprises. Je ne vois pas comment vous pouvez avoir un quelconque développement, durable ou non, si vous n'y impliquez pas les entreprises. »

« Bien sûr, les entreprises peuvent jouer un rôle important, répond Ricardo Navarro, président des Amis de la Terre International, mais elles sont essentiellement animées par la volonté de profit. Le problème est que les conditions environnementales et sociales sont assujetties aux contraintes du commerce. »

L'ensemble du Plan d'action manifeste en effet un recul très net des préoccupations d'environnement par rapport aux considérations sur le libre-échange, et il répète plusieurs fois que les décisions des Etats en matière d'environnement doivent respecter les règles de l'OMC, ainsi placées au sommet de la hiérarchie des normes internationales.

« Il est évident que le développement se fera par le commerce et la coopération technique, donc il est normal que les questions de commerce soient là », estime Claude Fussler, du World business council for sustainable development. L'argument ne convainc pas les anti-globalisation. « Tout ce Sommet ne fait que légitimer l'agenda du libre-échange, c'est un échec total », selon Paul Nicholson, pour Via Campesina, réseau des organisations paysannes.

Il est vrai que le texte de négociation, dans sa mouture du samedi 31 août, avant l'arrivée des chefs d'Etat et de gouvernement, légitime une absence de régulation étatique ou internationale au profit du libre-échange. D'autant plus que les Etats-Unis ont exercé une pression très forte et efficace en ce sens, à peine contrés par une Union européenne inexistante.

« Le problème, dit Gerry Barr, du Conseil canadien pour la coopération internationale, c'est que les grandes compagnies deviennent beaucoup plus puissantes que les petits et moyens Etats. Sans frein, elles pourront leur imposer leur façon de voir les choses. » Et de conclure: « Nous assistons à une débâcle de l'environnement et du social au nom du développement durable. »

doc: avec une photo de Ricardo Navarro.

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**Sources:** LE MONDE (FRENCH LANGUAGE) 02/09/2002 P3