

## **Energy Efficiency for Sustainable Development**

This course was presented by Professor Richard Ottinger from the Energy Project at Pace University Law School, and by Mr. Steven Nadel from the American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy. Prof. Ottinger and Mr. Nadel discussed tested energy efficiency technologies and the energy and cost savings they have achieved, as well as their potential for the future. In the US, energy efficiency has provided 75% of new energy demands since 1970, while new energy has supplied only 25%. The potential of energy efficiency technologies to save energy is enormous as cited figures showed. The technologies employed, ranging from the use of daylight to improvements in insulation and from compact fluorescence lights to variable speed drive motors, have generally been inexpensive and have usually yielded substantial net-revenue benefits.

Some effective measures to stimulate energy efficiency presented in the course were:

- the removal of subsidies for fossil fuel,
- short-term incentives for efficiency measures,
- education of the public and of those responsible for setting energy policies,
- taxes on pollution and energy inefficient products,
- the adoption of standards for minimum energy efficiency,
- the disclosure of contents, rating and awards of different technologies,
- environmental impact assessment and audits,
- investment on research and development of new technologies,
- technology transfer,
- government procurements of efficient products and technologies and
- utility programmes for consumer education.

Prof. Ottinger and Mr. Nadel used examples of energy efficiency measures undertaken by the building, industry and transport sectors.

In conclusion, the course stressed the great potential that energy efficiency measures have for all countries, including developing countries. In order for energy efficiency to realize this potential, a variety of policies and strategies need to be adopted in step with the practical options available to both manufacturers and consumers. Raising awareness of the benefits of energy efficiency among all concerned, from policy-makers and manufacturers to consumers, is crucial to the success of energy efficiency.