## Tuesday, MAY 6 2008 3pm - 5.30pm

 $\Diamond$ 

Why partnerships are critical in addressing desertification and drought?



## Marc Paquin

Marc Paquin, Senior Advisor, Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie and the Institut de l'Énergie et de l'Environnement de la Francophonie (IEPF)

Marc Paquin is Senior Advisor to the OIF-IEPF in relation to its sustainable land management and desertification programme and the Médiaterre web portal. He has also been involved in many strategic initiatives related to the UNCCD, including more recently as consultant to the Inter-governmental Inter-sessional Working Group (IIWG) created by the UNCCD-COP to elaborate the 10-year Strategic Plan of the UNCCD.

Co-founder and Executive Director of the Unisféra International Centre, Marc Paquin is a lawyer and MBA. Prior to founding Unisféra, Marc Paquin had been one of the first professionals to join the Commission for Environmental Cooperation of North America (CEC), an intergovernmental organization created in the context of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). From 1995 to 2000, he was successively, in-house lawyer, program manager for special legal projects and Secretary of the CEC Council of Ministers. From 1991 to 1995, Marc Paquin was advisor on governmental and regulatory affairs (environment and energy) in the Environment Department of Hydro-Québec, a public utility. Mr. Paquin also worked on the development of a research and workshops program on trade and environment policy at the International Academy for the Environment in Geneva, and participated in a research project on corporate and environmental law at the McGill Centre for Medicine, Ethics and Law. Marc Paquin began his career with the Montreal-based law firm of Mackenzie Gervais.