

In the framework of the UN Commission for Sustainable Development 18th Session

“Asbestos – who pays the bill?”

Testimonies and Dialogue on Policy Recommendations”

Thursday, 6 May 2010

1:00 pm to 3:00 pm – Lunch will be provided

Conference room D, North Lawn Building

United Nations Headquarters, 866 United Nations Plaza, New York

Preliminary programme

Opening by the organisers

Sascha Gabizon, WECF – Women in Europe for a Common Future

Testimonies from asbestos production and processing countries

• **Pat Martin** (tbc), Member of the Parliament, Canada

Is member of the Parliament in Canada and a former worker in a Canadian asbestos mine, and promotes a ban of asbestos in Canada.

• **Olga Speranskaya**, Eco Accord Russia and Goldman Prize winner

Will present the findings of her NGO's inventory on the situation on asbestos in Russia, which is the biggest asbestos producer worldwide.

• **Kaisha Atakhanova**, Eco Forum Kazakhstan and Goldman Prize winner

Her NGO is working on chemical safety and asbestos in Kazakhstan. Kazakhstan is the second biggest producer of asbestos worldwide.

She will share lessons learned from mapping and awareness raising on chrysotile asbestos.

• **Yuyun Ismawati**, Bali Focus and Goldman Prize winner

Indonesia is a high consumer of asbestos containing building materials.

State of the art

• **Rotterdam Convention Secretariat** (tbc) – Why is the listing of chrysotile asbestos under Annex III of the Rotterdam Convention important?

• **Barry Castleman**, Environmental consultant – What is the scientific state of the art?

• **World Health Organisation** (tbc) – No end of asbestos-related diseases in sight?

• **International Trade Unions** – Asbestos workers victims and the need for a just transition

Lessons learned

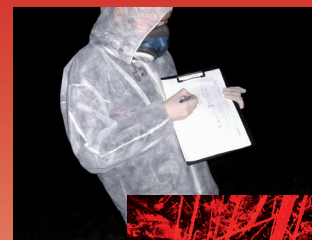
Ministry of Environment The Netherlands (tbc) – Lessons learned and the costs of non-acting

International Social Security Association – The socio-economic costs of asbestos

Round Table Discussion and Dialogue

Towards stronger national and international, binding policies, on asbestos mining, use and waste disposal.

Moderation Sascha Gabizon, WECF – Women in Europe for a Common Future



Contact in New York:

Alexandra Caterbow, WECF, +49-179-52 44 994

Sascha Gabizon, WECF, +49-172-86 37 586

WECF Germany

Sankt-Jakobs-Platz 10,

80331 Munich

Phone: +49-89-2323938-0

Fax: +40-89-2323938-11

WECF The Netherlands

PO Box 13047,

3507 LA, Utrecht

Phone: +31 - 30 - 23 10 300

Fax: +31 - 30 - 23 40 878

WECF France

BP 100, 74103

Annemasse Cedex

Phone: +33-4-50490738

Fax: +33-4-50499738



WECF