



Catherine Grèze

Global Green Coordination

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GLOBAL GREENS: UPDATE

1. SECOND GLOBAL GREENS CONGRESS - BRAZIL 2008

A. VENUE AND DATES :

As you already know, despite the successful organization of the Global Young Greens Congress in Nairobi, it was not possible to hold the Second Global Greens Congress in Africa, both for logistics reasons and for internal African difficulties. The Global Green Coordination was very grateful to receive a formal proposal to host the Congress from the American Federation of Green Parties and the Brazilian Greens.

All possibilities within Brazil were looked at: Manaus was too far and meant very high transportation costs and long flights; Belem did not have a local Brazilian team strong enough; Brazilia did not raise much « enthusiasm »; it was difficult to find adequate venues in smaller towns etc

Sao Paulo was selected for: its convenience in terms of international flights; its capacities in terms of venue, accommodation; the strength of the Brazilian team there; the political weight of the city. The fact of being a mega pole will be fully integrated in the program with a big issue on big cities.

The meeting itself will take place in the Memorial of Latin America. Satellites views are already available on the Brazilian web site.

Final date confirmed is May 1st to 4th 2008. There will be side events before and after those dates that will be communicated at a later stage.

B. CONTENT AND OUTCOME OF THE SECOND GLOBAL GREEN CONGRESS :

- a) Three main topics will be the core of the Congress:
- Climate crisis
 - Big cities
 - Forest and biodiversity

That is to say we want to come out of the Congress with:

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31 Rue Wiertz, B-1050 Brussels, BELGIUM Ph (32) 2 626 07 20 Fax : 626 07 29 Mail: info@europeangreens.org
Catherine Grèze, Le Cun, 31570 Lanta, France, (33) 5 61 83 88 18 Mai : catherine.greze@lesverts.fr



- A 21 points action plan for the 21st century on climate crisis, this will be « A Green post Kyoto proposal »
- A Charter on « Greens dealing with big cities »
- A campaign on forest and biodiversity

The topics may appear as been only environmental. A stress has to be made that every aspects linked to them will be dealt with: social aspects and movements, minority rights, economic aspects, agro fuels, women in Latin America etc..

The issue of gender throughout the program will also have to be dealt with.

As you can see a serious work remains to be done on the program and the general lines have evolved since my last update to you (a strong environmental block/ democracy and good governance/ global security and crisis prevention/ Millennium goals from a Green perspective)

We have taken into account the new place for the Congress: in Brazil and no longer in Africa ; the mega pole aspect ; three items instead of four with a more general « climate crisis » umbrella.

Besides plenaries, workshops will be organised as in the previous Congress. Already Europeans should consider what they are interested in putting forward. A draft list of workshops is already started:

- How to continue after Bali
- Energy policies and foreign policies
- Climate crisis and biodiversity
- Green Transport policies
- How to deal with the nuclear lobby in time of Climate crisis
- Carbon capturing and storage : a solution or an illusion
- Eco-taxes : how to apply the polluter pays principle
- Global trade and climate crisis
- Carbon trade scheme : an option for the Greens
- Climate crisis and social consequences including eco-immigration
- Agro-fuels : risks and possibilities
- Climate crisis and indigenous people
- etc

b) One of the outcome of the Congress will also be to set up a better and more effective structure for the Global Greens so that they are in capacity to actually do something ! Regular financing and workforce will have to be faced with.

C. ORGANISATION :

The Steering Committee is very active and meeting at a rate of several phone conferences every month.

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It has been modified to include the Brazilian representatives, the Secretary of the American Federation, the Brazilian Heinrich Boell representative, the person in charge of the web, the Global Young Greens Representative.

The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) which is the frame document under which we work has been modified accordingly.

The Global Green Coordination is directly responsible for the program of the Congress.

The Finance group is dealing with budget, fundraising, donations, registration fees etc and reporting to Steering Committee.

There is also a « web » group and a very active team on the Brazilian side since Sergio Delatechi, former Greenpeace Campaign Manager in Brazil has been employed by them and is working full time on the organisation. The Brazilian office of Heinrich Boell is also involved.

Formal letter of invitation to all parties by the Brazilian Greens and the American Federation has already been sent to all parties.

A second letter with all venue details, donation requirements etc will be sent at the end of the month with the objective of reaching every single member in every party. The parties will be asked to make sure it is sent to everybody.

D. FINANCES:

The finance group is working hard. A draft budget is already established. The total amount (following the preceding example of Canberra will be approximately 600.000 euros).

We have theoretically already found a major part of the financing and divided the charge of the budget as follows:

Brazilian Greens:

The bulk of the costs will be borne by the Brazilian side, amounting to about 370 000 Euro.

The registration fee should raise 137 000 Euro, thus covering the coffees, lunches and participation kit. This is under the condition that 750 participants (50% of the total) pay 180 Euros registration fee. The participation fee should be set at about 200 Euros, but a reduction will be granted if the registration takes place until a fixed date (probably end of February). Payment can be done by Paypal, credit card or IBAN transfer.

It was thus decided that the registration fees and donations which come with it should go directly to the Brazilians while other donations should be directed to the Swedish Green Forum account.

American Federation:

The Federation of the Americas has offered to cover the travel costs of the Latin American participants and the cost of all American participants who need it. They will also cover the

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region of the Amazonas and cover the cost of travels of participants from Brazil from that region.

Green Forum:

Has offered to cover the travel costs of most African participants as well as some Easterners.

The Steering Committee still has to raise the rest of the budget amounting to 180.000 euros.

Waiting for confirmation are the participation of Heinrich Böell ; of the European Green Party ; of the Green Group .

Some individual parties contributed already to the Young Greens Meeting, which was the first step of the Congress, and to a fund that is still available in the Green Forum (22.000 euros) for an African meeting. (Italians, French, Finish, Austrian etc)
British Greens will be contacted to sponsor the internet broadcasting.

Donations :

A letter will be sent end of the month to parties asking them to forward to all their members.

Criteria for funding participants are being established and we will ask everybody (Foundations, parties etc) to try to respect them.

Gender balance will be one of them. Also we will ask that each delegation comprises young people.

E. WEB PAGE :

Two web sites are operative: the general Globalgreens.info that Mike Feinstein is keeping up to date and where all general information regarding Global Greens can be found.

On the Brazilian web page: all information regarding the 2008 Conference will be found.

The web group is working on the links between the two.

The domains globalgreens.org and globalgreens.net have been bought from a Queensland Greens who has kindly taken custody of it for some years so at the time you read these lines the site to refer to will be: globalgreens.org

We will try to use the web as much as possible for a data base: names of donators, but also list of workshops where people can register etc

2. CALENDAR AND OTHERS :

- American Federation Meeting : 6 - 10 November, Caracas, Venezuela
- Africa : Western African Green Meeting : 29/11- 2/12 Ivory Coast :

This will be the founding Congress of the Western African Green Federation.

Green Forum has offered a big budget (100.000 euros) to help the Africans coordinate: a contract has been signed with the Green Belt Movement of Wangari Maathai to employ a

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bi-lingual coordinator. This budget will also help financing the transportation of African delegates to GG 2008

We invite you to follow up all infos on the web site and BE INVOLVED !!!!

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