Former CEO to Steward UNEP’s Financial Partnership

Geneva, 24 February 2014 - The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) announced today the appointment of Charles Anderson as the new director to head the UNEP Finance Initiative (UNEP FI).

UNEP FI, the platform bringing together the United Nations and the global financial sector, promotes the integration of sustainability concerns into the mainstream financial system by ‘Changing Finance’, and the mobilization of finance to foster a more sustainable economy by ‘Financing Change’.

For the past 21 years, through its partnership with the global financial sector, UNEP FI has been reaching out to decision-makers within governments and financial institutions with key research and insights that have helped produce policies and mechanisms to spur sustainable capital flows.

Mr. Anderson has more than 30 years of experience in the financial sector and has played key leadership roles in integrating Environmental, Social and Governance concerns into the private sector. As CEO of Sovereign, New Zealand’s largest life and health insurance business, he successfully chartered the public-private divide, and was active in the global process that produced the landmark Principles for Sustainable Insurance (PSI) launched at Rio+20 by UNEP FI.

Previously he worked at Aviva as Managing Director for Asia Pacific and was an Associate of UK based Leader's Quest, a not-for-profit promoting social change. He has also served as a Board member of the New Zealand Council for Sustainable Business Development and as Deputy Chair of the Financial Services Council in New Zealand.

UNEP FI is committed to supporting leadership from both the private and public sectors and is deeply involved in developing and sharing best practice, in establishing new institutions such as the Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI) the Principles for Sustainable Insurance (PSI), and has been intimately involved in global policy making from the 2012 UN Conference on Sustainable Development to the upcoming Climate Summit in September 2014.

UNEP FI is also contributing to the recently launched UNEP Inquiry into the design of a sustainable financial system by drawing on the commitment and wealth of practical expertise from its 235 financial institutional members, as well as from its networks of partners, including finance industry associations, policy makers, financial regulators and other Sustainable Finance Initiatives.

Note to editors:
About UNEP Finance Initiative (UNEP FI)

The United Nations Environment Programme Finance Initiative (UNEP FI) was established in 1992 as a partnership between policy makers and financial intermediaries. With over 200 members representing banks, insurers, and investors from around the world, UNEP FI contributes the perspectives of financial institutions to the United Nations and global activities on sustainable finance. UNEP FI’s mission is to bring about systemic change in finance to support a sustainable world by ‘Changing finance, financing change’.

www.unepfi.org

For more information, please contact:

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