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#### REMINDER: ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2005

UNEP FI's Annual General Meeting (AGM) for 2005 will take place on 24 October, in New York, followed by the Global Roundtable (25-26 October). This year's AGM will focus on setting the 2006 Work Programme and Budget, as well as defining the Initiative's on-going strategy. Further details on the agenda and venue will be circulated via the Signatory Relations Team in the course of quarter 2.

Please note that the 2004 AGM minutes, as well as the new Constitution, which was approved at the last AGM, are now online at <http://www.unepfi.org/agm/>

#### 1. UNEP FI ACTIVITIES IN Q1

- **SIGNATORY EVENTS**

**Steering Committee Meeting, 18 January, London.**

On the occasion of their first meeting in 2005, Steering Committee members approved UNEP FI's new Constitution, appointed Martin Hancock, Westpac, as the new Steering Committee Chairman, and established the 2005 Work Programme.

#### **Meeting of French Signatories, 20 January, Paris.**

Hosted by Groupama Asset Management, this informal meeting gathered key French Signatories for the first time to discuss their involvement in UNEP FI and the possibilities for collaboration within the group.

#### **4<sup>th</sup> regional meeting of Nordic Signatories, 2 February, Oslo.**

Hosted by Storebrand as a side event of its annual CSR Conference. The group first came together in Sweden on 29 March 2004, in a meeting hosted by Handelsbanken, and is set to meet on a regular basis to continue exchanging regionally-specific experiences and best practices.

#### **UNEP FI/ VfU Roundtable meeting for the German-Speaking Region, 1 March, Bonn.**

Signatories and other interested organizations met to discuss the creation of a Roundtable for German-speaking institutions and to set up a defined work programme. There will be several workshops to tackle sustainability issues and all interested institutions will attend the German Roundtable's Annual General Meeting.

### **▪ WORKING GROUPS**

#### **Professional Development Workshop for young analysts, 11 March, New York.**

Convened by UNEP FI and the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD), the workshop focused on: practical analytical tools; opportunities for professional differentiation through value-added research; sharing knowledge and making connections within the financial sector and with other industries such as insurance and consultancy.

### **▪ REGIONAL TASK FORCES**

#### **African Task Force (ATF) Annual General Meeting (AGM), 25 February, Johannesburg.**

The third ATF AGM was held at Investec Bank where over 20 people, including ATF members, associates and broader financial sector guests, gathered to discuss the progression of the ATF work programme and to plan future strategies for 2005-2006.

#### **Training on the Social and Environmental Aspects of Credit Risk, 9-10 March, Bogotá.**

Conducted by the Latin American Task Force (LATF) in collaboration with the Colombian Business Council for Sustainable Development (CECODES), to assist financial institutions in the Andean region to identify and assess environmental and social risk in credit lending and investment.

#### **CEO Meeting on Sustainable Finance, 16 March, Warsaw.**

Convened by the Central & Eastern Europe Task Force (CEETF) in collaboration with the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), the event gathered over 60 participants, marking a successful start of the Task Force's awareness raising programme in the region.

### **▪ PROJECTS**

#### **Meeting with Nymphaea Water, International Rainwater Harvesting Alliance, and financial institutions, 13 January, Geneva.**

Discussions centred on how to bridge the gaps between financial institutions and policy makers on water-related issues and further examined how financial institutions can support and encourage the use of new technologies geared towards reducing pressures on water resources.

#### **UNEP FI / Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI) meeting, 10 March, Geneva.**

UNEP FI /SIWI co-hosted a meeting with financial institutions, international organizations and several experts in the water sector to discuss the pressing challenges for the financial community and their business partners that need to be assessed and overcome in the coming years.

## 2. FINANCIAL REPORT QUARTER 1

UNEP FI's financial report for quarter 1, 2005, will be circulated to all Signatories by email in the coming weeks via the Signatory Relations Team. This will feature Signatory contributions to 31 March, the profit and loss account for the year's first quarter, and audit results for 2004.

## 3. CALENDAR FOR QUARTER 2

(please note information in this section is subject to change)

### ▪ UNEP FI 2005 AT A GLANCE

Recently compiled by the Signatory Relations Team, *UNEP FI 2005 At a Glance* is a must-read for all UNEP FI members. This document presents all current UNEP FI Working Groups, Task Forces and Projects in a collection of one-page outlines which include major activities planned for 2005, as well as detailed membership lists and contact details.

Available as a complete set (18 pages), or as individual leaflets by Working Group/Task Force/Project, in English and French (pdf only).

Contact: Kiki Lawal, [Kiki.Lawal@unep.ch](mailto:Kiki.Lawal@unep.ch)

### ▪ SIGNATORY EVENTS

#### **Steering Committee Conference Call, 8 April, Geneva.**

The second 2005 meeting of the Steering Committee will focus on further defining the Initiative's Work Programme for the rest of the year.

#### **Informal meetings at the sub-regional level**

Thu 05/05/05

Associazione Bancaria Italiana (ABI), Corporate Social Responsibility Working Group meeting, Rome  
UNEP FI, including the Initiative's first Italian Signatory, Monte Paschi di Siena, has been invited to present its work to the members of ABI, the association of Italian banks.

Thu 19/05 2005

First UNEP FI Western European forum, Barcelona  
Hosted by La Caixa and supported by Deutsche Bank, the forum will provide Western European Signatories with an opportunity to share sustainability experiences and best practices on a regional level in key areas such as: microfinance; climate change; qualitative risk and investment performance.

**30 PLACES ONLY – REGISTER NOW!**

Contact: Kiki Lawal, [Kiki.Lawal@unep.ch](mailto:Kiki.Lawal@unep.ch)

### ▪ WORKING GROUPS

#### **Asset Management Working Group (AMWG)**

Tue 05/04 - Wed 06/04 2005

Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI) Expert Group meeting, Paris

Contact: James Gifford, [James.Gifford@unep.ch](mailto:James.Gifford@unep.ch)

Wed 13/04 - Thu 14/04 2005

CERES Conference 2005: Building Equity, Reducing Risk, Boston MA

Contact: Jacob Malthouse, [Jacob.Malthouse@unep.ch](mailto:Jacob.Malthouse@unep.ch)

Mon 18/04 - Wed 20/04 2005

Conference: Pensions and Investments in Asia, Singapore

Contact: James Gifford, [James.Gifford@unep.ch](mailto:James.Gifford@unep.ch)

Tue 10/05 - Wed 11/05 2005  
CERES/UN Foundation Investor Summit II, New York  
Contact: Jacob Malthouse, [Jacob.Malthouse@unep.ch](mailto:Jacob.Malthouse@unep.ch)

Wed 29/06 -Thu 30/06 2005  
Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI) Expert Group meeting, Toronto  
Contact: James Gifford, [James.Gifford@unep.ch](mailto:James.Gifford@unep.ch)

#### **Climate Change Working Group (CCWG)**

Wed 18/05 –Thu 19/05 2005  
UNEP Sustainable Finance Energy Initiative (SEFI), Advisory Board meeting, Paris

Wed 25/05/2005  
IR magazine Event: Climate of change- carbon, companies and the bottom line, London

Mon 06/06 –Tue 07/06 2005  
Conference: Climate Change & Investment - Asset allocation in a carbon-constrained world, London

Contact: Lisa Petrovic, [Lisa.Petrovic@unep.ch](mailto:Lisa.Petrovic@unep.ch)

#### **▪ REGIONAL TASK FORCES**

##### **African Task Force (ATF)**

June 2005  
African Task Force Meeting, South Africa  
Contact: [Niamh.Osullivan@unep.ch](mailto:Niamh.Osullivan@unep.ch)

##### **Central & Eastern Europe Task Force (CEETF)**

June 2005  
CEETF Awareness Raising Conference, Croatia

Tue 07/06 -Wed 08/06 2005  
CSR Conference, St Petersburg

Contact: Regina Kessler, [Regina.Kessler@unepfi.org](mailto:Regina.Kessler@unepfi.org)

##### **Latin American Task Force (LATF)**

Wed 04/05 - Thu 05/05 2005  
Training event, Buenos Aires  
Contact: Mareike Hussels, [Mareike.Hussels@unepfi.org](mailto:Mareike.Hussels@unepfi.org)

##### **Australian Outreach Programme**

Mon 02/05 – Tue 03/05 2005  
Edmonds Management Sustainability Series Seminars, Melbourne/Sydney  
Contact: Helen Bloustein, [Helen.Bloustein@unep.ch](mailto:Helen.Bloustein@unep.ch)

## **4. ROUNDTABLE 2005 UPDATE**

The marketing campaign for UNEP FI's Global Roundtable, 25-26 October 2005, New York, has officially begun. UNEP FI will be collaborating with several partners on advertising the 2005 Roundtable.

Ethical Corporation (EC), a leading publisher and events producer on business ethics and corporate responsibility based in London, is UNEP FI's first official network partner. As such, EC will be advertising the Global Roundtable in its weekly and monthly e-newsletters as of Quarter 2 and in the run-up to the event. In return UNEP FI monthly e-bulletin subscribers will be made aware of key Ethical Corp events during the same period.

For further information about Ethical Corporation, visit <http://www.ethicalcorp.com>

Information on the Roundtable will be provided regularly via UNEP FI's e-bulletin and on the Roundtable web page: <http://www.unepfi.org/roundtable>

Contact: Trevor Bowden, [Trevor.Bowden@unepfi.org](mailto:Trevor.Bowden@unepfi.org)

## 5. PUBLICATIONS

### ▪ PUBLISHED IN QUARTER 1

#### 0.618 Issue 5 - Total Risk

The 5<sup>th</sup> issue of UNEP FI's official newsletter was published in January 2005.

#### Challenges of Water Scarcity: A Business Case for Financial Institutions

The full report on this joint UNEP FI – SIWI study. Launched during the World Conference on Disaster Reduction held in Kobe, Japan , January 2005.

#### CEO Briefing: Sustainability Banking in Africa

Summary analysis and examples of the finance sector's role in promoting sustainability in Africa. Published by the African Task Force (ATF), the full report was launched in Johannesburg, September 2004.

### ▪ COMING UP IN QUARTER 2

#### UNEP FI 2004 Overview

Due first week of April, this concise, easy-to-use publication provides a summary of all UNEP FI activities and news for the year 2004.

## 6. UNEP FI WEB SITE

### New feature available soon on UNEP FI's "Our Signatories" page

The Signatory Relations Team is currently collecting Signatory profiles describing UNEP FI members' activities and sustainability commitments in order to post them on the Initiative's website. Ultimately, the Signatory page will be linked up to an exclusive, members-only the Signatory Extranet; it is hoped that this new tool will further facilitate networking and information sharing between UNEP FI members.

If you haven't already done so, please send your profiles now (templates available upon request):  
Kiki Lawal, [Kiki.Lawal@unep.ch](mailto:Kiki.Lawal@unep.ch)

## 7. ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

### ▪ BARCLAYS, EBRD AND WESTPAC SUPPORT BNDES' RENEWED COMMITMENT

UNEP FI welcomes the initiative taken by BNDES and Steering Committee members Barclays, EBRD and Westpac, to meet for an exchange of information following the establishment of BNDES new environmental department. Requesting a meeting with its peers was part of BNDES on-going strengthening of its commitment to the Initiative.

At a time when UNEP FI has made a priority of ensuring that all members are actively engaged in the Initiative's activities, this meeting is a perfect illustration of how members can benefit from sharing experiences in sustainability practices.

**END.**

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The **UNEP FI Signatory Bulletin** is a quarterly publication of the United Nations Environment Programme Finance Initiative.

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Division of Technology, Industry and Economics  
Economics and Trade Branch  
Finance Initiative Unit

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