



INVITATION

Special High Level Event - Earth Charter and GRI

You are warmly invited to participate in a special high level event to explore the synergies and relationship between the Earth Charter and the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI).

The event, which will be held in Amsterdam on Thursday 8 May 2008 as part of the Amsterdam Global Conference on Sustainability and Transparency, will bring together leaders and organizations from government, business and civil society to discuss how the Earth Charter and the GRI can better advance their shared mission.

The Earth Charter, an inspiring and visionary set of widely endorsed values and principles on how to build a just a global society, has a strategic alliance with GRI. Both initiatives involve working on the sustainable development agenda and represent the work of thousands of people worldwide, from multiple stakeholder groups. But they also take different approaches, and have some important differences of scope and approach.

A special feature of the meeting will include the official release of an Earth Charter guidance paper describing the complementary - and different - aspects of the Earth Charter, the GRI and the UN Global Compact. The paper deals with how they fit together, how can they build on their respective strengths, and how can they be used to drive change.

Discussions will cover issues such as:

- How organizations can make best use of the Earth Charter and related initiatives
- How the different global instruments can complement each other
- User experiences and suggestions

Time: 12.45 -14.00hrs, Thursday 8 May 2008

Venue: Griffioen Room, Okura Hotel

All registered participants of the Global Conference are invited to attend.
The draft program for the event is set out overleaf for information.



Special High Level Event - Earth Charter and GRI

Programme

12.45 Welcome by Chair, Ruud Lubbers, Minister of State, former Prime Minister of The Netherlands and Earth Charter co-founder/Commissioner.

12.50 Introductory remarks by:

- High Level Representative of the Dutch Government
- High Level International Representative
- High Level Representative of the UN Global Compact
- Member GRI Stakeholder Council

13.10 Presentation of paper on Earth Charter, GRI and UN Global Compact

13.20 Questions and discussion

13.45 Concluding remarks by the Chair.

Copies of the paper 'The Earth Charter, GRI and the Global Compact: Guidance to Users on the Synergies in Application and Reporting' will be made available at the meeting, together with other Earth Charter materials.