

*2007 Appeal
of the International Forum of Women for an International Court of the Environment¹*

On the occasion of the International Conference on “*The Protection and Sustainable Development of the Mediterranean-Black Sea Ecosystem*” held in Venice, from 24 to 26 May **2007**;

Being conscious that women and children prevalently but not only in Third World countries are very often the principal victims of environmental deterioration, degradation and disasters;

Disturbed by the continuing and accelerating rate of environmental deterioration;

Convinced that the institution of an International Court of the Environment is necessary in order protect the sustainability of life on earth, to enforce the right to environmental information and participation and, above all, access to justice not only for States but for associations and individuals, to guarantee the fundamental human right to the environment and to protect the global environment and biodiversity for future generations;

Desiring to raise the awareness of citizens everywhere as well as nations about this important project and to promote debate and information exchange regarding it;

Appeals

To all World Leaders, Heads of State, Governments, civil society and each and every concerned citizen to join forces with the International Forum of Women to call for the imminent **establishment of an International Court of the Environment** as a safeguard for the environment itself and for the generations to come.

Sheila ABED de ZAVALA, Chair, Commission on Environmental Law, IUCN, Gland, Switzerland
Astrid CLAUDEL-RUSIN, Ministry for Public Works, the Environment and Urban Development, Monaco
Bettina CORKE, International Alliance of Women, Aquila, Italy
Annalisa CORRADINI, Environmental Law Office, City Council of Reggio Emilia, Italy
Francine COUSTEAU, President, Equipe Cousteau, Paris, France
Maguelonne DEJANT-PONS, Head, Spatial Planning and Landscape Division, Council of Europe, Strasbourg, France
Deirdre EXELL-PIRRO, International Relations Officer, ICEF, Florence, Italy
Patrizia FANTILLI, Senior Legal Officer, WWF, Rome, Italy
Majda KRŠIKAPA, Supreme Court, Belgrade, Serbian Republic
Marianne LAUDATO, Département Espaces Naturels et Protégés, Corsica, France
Pinuccia MONTANARI, Ecoistituto ReGe, Genoa, Italy
Nilufer ORAL, Bilgi University, Istanbul, Turkey
Emma PIETRAFESA, University La Sapienza, Rome, Italy
Letizia POSTIGLIONE-BLOMMESTEIN, Project Manager, ICEF, Rome, Italy
Melina PYRGOU, Director, Legal Advisory Services, PWC, Nicosia, Cyprus
Viktoriya N. RADCHENKO, Director, International Oceans Institute, Operational Centre, Kiev, Ukraine
Celestina TINELLI, Lawyer and Member of the Judiciary Council, Rome, Italy
Agni VLAVIANOS-ARVANITIS, President, Biopolitics International Organisation, Athens, Greece

¹ Membership of and support for this Forum is strictly personal and do not necessarily reflect the views of the bodies which members represent.