

The logo for the Asian Development Bank (ADB), consisting of the letters 'ADB' in white serif font on a dark blue square background.

STRENGTHENING CAPACITY FOR ENVIRONMENTAL LAW IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC : DEVELOPING ENVIRONMENTAL LAW CHAMPIONS

Manila, June 1st – 5th, 2015

**SESSION SEVENTEEN: DESCRIPTION of IUCNAEL and IUCN
WCEL**

Professor Rob Fowler/Professor Ben Boer





INTRODUCTION –THE IUCN ACADEMY OF ENVIRONMENTAL LAW

- The Academy is a unique global network of University Law Schools and specialist research centres dedicated to teaching and/or research in the field of environmental law;
- It was established in 2003 through the IUCN Environmental Law Commission and was launched at the 1st Academy meeting (Colloquium) in Shanghai in November 2003

LAUNCH OF THE IUCN ACADEMY OF ENVIRONMENTAL LAW, SHANGHAI, NOVEMBER 2003



THE VISION & MISSION OF THE ACADEMY

- Vision of the Academy:
“Environmental law is essential for the achievement of a sustainable world that values and conserves nature under the rule of law and justice. “
- The mission of the Academy is to promote the teaching and research of environmental law, particularly in developing countries
- The Academy web-site: www.iucnael.org

THE ACADEMY & IUCN

- The Academy is independent of IUCN but uses the name of IUCN under a license agreement;
- It works collaboratively with the IUCN Environmental Law Centre (located in Bonn – Director, Dr. Alejandro Iza)) and the IUCN World Commission on Environmental Law (chaired by Justice Antonio Benjamin, Deputy Chair Professor Ben Boer)
- The ELC and WCEL have ex officio representation on the Academy's Governing board

THE ACADEMY SECRETARIAT

- The Academy is an incorporated not-for-profit body under Canadian law;
- Its Secretariat was established in the Faculty of Law at the University of Ottawa (Canada) in 2006;
- The first Director of the Academy was Professor Ben Boer (2007-9)
- Current Co-Directors are Professors Jamie Benidickson and Yves Le Bouthillier (University of Ottawa Faculty of Law)
- Other member of the Secretariat is Ms. Winnie Caruth (who oversees membership services and provides general administrative support)



GOVERNANCE OF THE ACADEMY

- The Governing Board was first elected in 2008 and has 10 members representing different regions of the world (plus representatives of the IUCN WCEL and CEL)
- Elections are held each year for 3-4 positions on the Board
- The Chair is also elected each year:
 - 2003-2008: Professor Nicholas Robinson (Pace University, USA)
 - 2008 – 2013: Professor Robert Fowler (University of South Australia, Australia)
 - 2013 – present: Professor Nilufer Oral (Istanbul Bilgi University, Turkey)
- Current Board members for Asia are Professor Wang Xi (North Asia); Professor Bharat Desai (South & West Asia); and Gloria Ramos (SE Asia)

COLLOQUIUM, MEXICO CITY, 2008



MEMBERSHIP OF THE ACADEMY

- Over 180 Law Schools from across almost 60 different countries are members of the Academy
- Comprises more than 800 individual scholars
- The South & West Asia Region has 8 members (6 from India, 1 from Bangladesh and 1 from Kuwait)
- The SE Asia region has 8 members (5 from Indonesia, 2 from the Philippines and 1 from Malaysia)
- The Academy needs you ! South , West and SE Asia are under-represented in the Academy membership.

MEMBERSHIP CRITERIA AND FEES

- **Membership criteria for Law Schools:**

- One or more lecturers specialized in the teaching of environmental law ;
- Teaching, on a regular basis, at least one environmental law subject
- One or more lecturers with a record of publishing an environmental law journal or articles and books on environmental law
- Commitment to supporting participation of one or more of its environmental law lecturers in Academy activities.

- **Membership fee:**

- C\$140 pa (middle income countries, including Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines and Sri Lanka)
- C\$70 pa for low-income countries (including Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Vietnam and Western China)
- For online version of application form, see: <http://www.iucnael.org/en/join-the-academy/membership>

ACTIVITIES – ANNUAL COLLOQUIUM

- 12 Colloquia held so far, most recently in Tarragona, Spain (June 2014);
- Proceedings of Colloquia are published by Edward Elgar Publishers as an edited book on the relevant Colloquium theme;
- The next (13th) Colloquium, hosted by Atma Jaya Catholic University, will be held in Jakarta, Indonesia from 9-12 September 2015 with the theme of Forest and Marine Biodiversity : to register, go to <http://iucnael2015.fh.atmajaya.ac.id/>
- The 14th Annual Colloquium of the IUCN Academy of Environmental Law on the theme “*The Environment in Court*” will be hosted by The University of Oslo in Oslo, Norway from **June 20 - 25, 2016**. A call for Abstracts will be sent out in July 2015
- Scholarship Prizes (for senior and junior scholars) in both teaching and research are awarded each year at the Colloquium

ACTIVITIES - RESEARCH

- Research seminars and conferences (climate change, biofuels, protected areas etc.)
- Also special research workshop is conducted immediately before each Annual Colloquium
- Meeting and networking of postgraduate students during each annual Colloquium
- Collaborative research projects amongst Academy members
- Register of research expertise among Academy scholars compiled by Academy Secretariat
- Networking/ hosting visitors to Secretariat at University of Ottawa

ACTIVITIES - PUBLICATIONS

- **The Electronic Journal:** The Academy's E-Journal is a particularly valuable source of "country reports" detailing recent developments in many jurisdictions around the world. Contributions are welcome: see <http://www.iucnael.org/en/e-journal/about-the-ejournal.html>
- **IUCN Academy Colloquium Proceedings and Other Publications :** through Edward Elgar Publishers.
- **Environmental Law Presentations from Past IUCN Academy Colloquia** (classified in over fifty fields) available on Academy web-site
- Translations into French and Spanish of the **UNEP Training Manual on International Environmental Law** are currently under preparation

ACTIVITIES – TEACHING AND CAPACITY-BUILDING

– Courses, syllabi and teaching workshops

- Course on implementation and enforcement of multilateral environmental agreements
- Course on protected areas law and policy
- Climate law teaching resources (syllabi)
- For further details, see *IUCN Academy of Environmental Law – Teaching Resources* (course folder, session 17)
- Also, teaching workshop held each year immediately before the Annual Colloquium

ACTIVITIES – TEACHING AND CAPACITY-BUILDING

– Training the Teachers (TTT) Project

- Flagship activity of the Academy is its Training The Teachers (TTT) Project (Basic and Advanced courses)
- Under development by Academy since 2004, but concept originated with the ADB-funded training programme conducted by the Asia-Pacific Centre for Environmental Law (APCEL) at National University of Singapore in 1997 and 1998;
- First delivered in China (2011 and 2013)
- Now being pursued in the Asian region with the support of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) - Developing Environmental Law Champions
- Further discussion, Session 19.

1ST MEETING OF ACADEMY'S TEACHING & CAPACITY-BUILDING COMMITTEE, BONN, 2008



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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- **APCEL, National University of Singapore**
- **Chongqing University School of Law**
- **RIEL, Wuhan University**
- **University of Ottawa Faculty of Law**
- **Vermont Law School**
- **USAID**
- **Asian Development Bank**



THE IUCN WORLD COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL LAW (WCEL)

- WCEL is one of six specialised Commissions within the IUCN
- It was established in 1960 as the Special Committee on Legislation and Administration
- Became a Commission in 1963, renamed Commission on Environmental Law in 1990 and WCEL in 2013
- is a network of environmental law and policy experts from all regions of the world who volunteer their knowledge and services to IUCN activities
- Now has over 700 members across 120 countries
- Members serve in their personal capacity, although they might come from governmental or non-governmental organisations, might be active in private law practice, attached to a university or an international organisation.

WCEL CHAIRS

- **1963-1969** W.E. Burhenne
1969-1976 Lyndon Keith Caldwell
1977-1990 W.E. Burhenne
1990-1996 Parvez Hassan
1996-2004 Nicholas Robinson
2004-2012 Sheila Abed de Zavala
2013-present Antonio Herman V. Benjamin



WCEL SPECIALIST GROUPS

Specialist Groups

Group	Chair
Access and Benefit-sharing (WCEL/SSC Joint SG)	Tomme Young
Armed Conflict and the Environment	Carl Bruch, Michael Bothe
Energy Law and Climate Change	Richard Ottinger
Enforcement and Compliance	Kenneth Markowitz
Ethics	Klaus Bosselmann
Indigenous Peoples, Customary & Environmental Laws and Human Rights (SPICEH)	Rodrigo de la Cruz Kristen Walker
Oceans, Coastal and Coral Reefs	David VanderZwaag, Nilufer Oral
Protected Areas Law and Policy (WCEL/WCPA Joint SG)	Antonio Benjamin Ben Boer
Sustainable Use of Soil	Ian Hannam
Water and Wetlands	Owen McIntyre



OTHER WCEL ACTIVITIES

- *Promote the IUCN Academy of Environmental Law* – WCEL will promote the Academy as the world’s leading network of academic institutions, universities and professors engaged in the research and teaching of environmental law;
- *Support the Judiciary* – WCEL will continue to work with the judiciary and relevant institutions, both international and national, to build their capacity to provide access to justice, to effectively adjudicate environmental issues, and to apply and enforce environmental law, through cooperation with judicial institutes and associations of judges and the use of information



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

- To apply for membership of WCEL, refer to the online application form available at:
 - https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1fxLZhVJQajX1GRDud86Kd51J4EmgC0nl_y24jiYee5M/viewform

