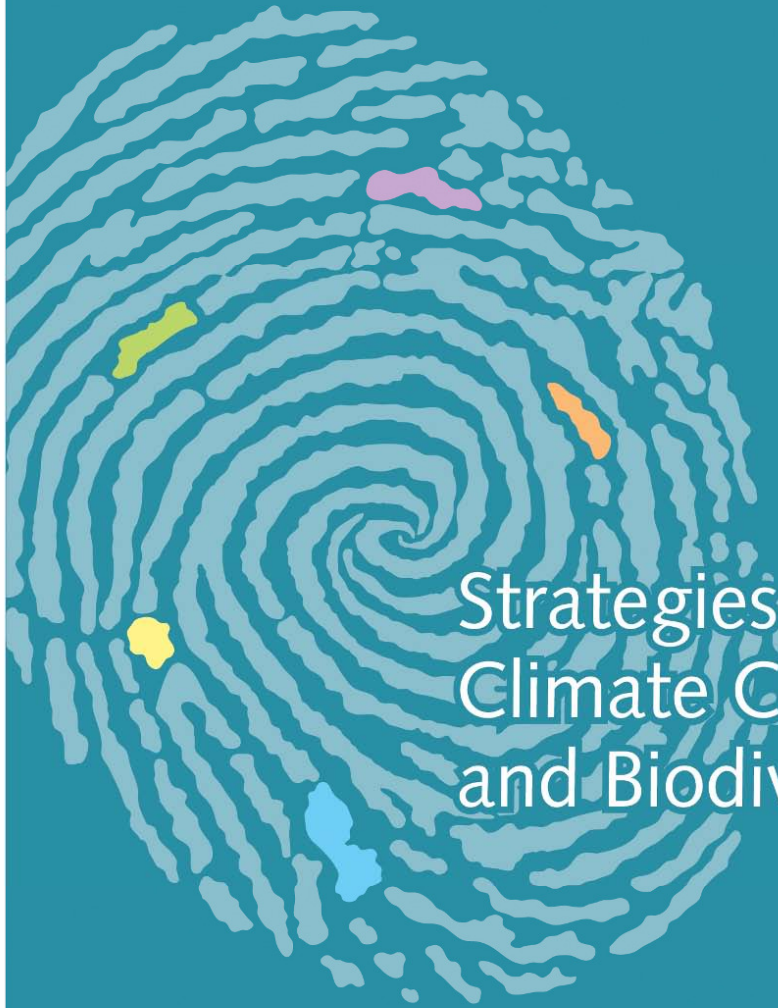


Reunion Island, 07-11 July 2008

# The European Union and its Overseas Entities



## Strategies to counter Climate Change and Biodiversity Loss

An Official Event under the French Presidency of the European Union

**DRAFT PROGRAMME - Version of 05 June 2008**



**ONERC**  
Observatoire National sur les Effets du Réchauffement Climatique



## Welcome

It is a great pleasure to welcome you to the conference “**The European Union and its Overseas Entities: Strategies to counter Climate Change and Biodiversity Loss**”, which will be hosted on Reunion Island from 07 to 11 July 2008, under the auspices of the French Presidency of the Council of the European Union.

In view of the increasing challenges of climate change and biodiversity loss, the conference will bring together for the first time representatives from the EU's 7 Outermost Regions (ORs) and 21 Overseas Countries and Territories (OCTs). These will be joined by delegates from EU member states, the European institutions, selected Small Island Developing States (SIDS), international and regional organisations, research institutes, civil society and the private sector. The CO<sub>2</sub> emissions will be compensated through projects in the region.

The conference aims to enhance and reinforce actions relating to climate change adaptation, sustainable energy, biodiversity conservation and ecosystem management. It will propose new strategies and an action programme to address these issues across the EU's overseas entities and the regions that surround them.

This programme is a draft version subject to changes. We thank you for your understanding and invite you to check regularly the last available information on the conference website: [www.reunion2008.eu](http://www.reunion2008.eu)

Organised by:

IUCN - International Union for Conservation of Nature  
French National Observatory on the Effects of Global Warming (ONERC)  
Regional Council of Reunion Island  
French Ministry of Internal Affairs and Overseas and Territorial Collectivities

Supported by:



Notes :

- unless otherwise indicated, the participation of the mentioned speakers in the conference is confirmed,
- exact time slots still have to be confirmed with speakers whose names appear in italic
- speeches in French or English, translation to French, English, Spanish and Portuguese

**Day 1 — Monday 07 July 2008**

Venue: Theatre of Champ-Fleuri, Saint-Denis de la Réunion

- 10:00 Registration desk opens
- 11:00 **Press conference**
- 12:00 **Welcome cocktail**
- 13:30 **Opening: Setting the stage - perspectives on the conference objectives**
- . Paul Vergès, President, Regional Council of Reunion Island and ONERC
  - . Yves Jégo, Secretary of State for Overseas Entities, France
  - . Russ Mittermeier, IUCN Council Member, President of Conservation International
  - . Anna Bijleveld-Schouten, State Secretary for the Interior and Kingdom Relations, The Netherlands (to be confirmed)
  - . Francisco Carlos da Graça Nunes Correia, Minister for Environment, Spatial Planning and Regional Development, Portugal (to be confirmed)
  - . Danuta Hübner, European Commissioner for Regional Policy (to be confirmed)
  - . *Stefano Manservigi, Director General, DG Development, European Commission*
  - . *Michel Delebarre, Vice-President, Committee of the Regions of the European Union*
  - . *Paul Néaoutyine, President, North Province, New Caledonia*
  - . Rajendra Pachauri, Nobel Peace Prize, Chairman, Inter-Governmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) (to be confirmed)
- 15:00 **Session 1: The European Union's overseas entities and their environmental challenges**  
*Presentation of the 7 Outermost Regions and 21 Overseas Countries and Territories (OCTs): statute, situation, natural heritage, regional context*
- . Jean-Christophe Victor, Director, Laboratoire d'Etudes Politiques et Cartographiques, "Le Dessous des Cartes", Arte
  - . Jean-Philippe Palasi, Programme Coordinator, EU Overseas Entities, IUCN
  - . Tara Pelembe, Overseas Territories Officer, Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC)
- 15:45 30' *Pause*
- 16:15 **Session 2: Climate change and biodiversity in the ORs, OCTs and their regions**  
Facilitator: Jean-Christophe Victor  
Chair: María Artola González, Director, Fundación Biodiversidad, Spain (to be confirmed)
- 5' Introductory remarks
  - 15' The reality of climate change and its physical consequences (to be confirmed)
  - 15' Climate change and its impacts on terrestrial biodiversity and ecosystems (Chris Thomas, University of York)
  - 10' Film on the impact of climate change in the UK overseas territories (JNCC/CANARI)
  - 15' Impacts on oceans and marine resources (Charles Sheppard, University of Warwick, Environmental Adviser for British Indian Ocean Territory)
  - 15' Potential socio-economic consequences (health, agriculture, fish stocks, water resources, ecosystem services) (Rolph Payet, Special Advisor to the President of the Republic of the Seychelles, Lead Author of the IPPC Chapter on Small Islands)
  - 20' Tourism, climate change and biodiversity: threats and opportunities
    - *Eugenio Yunis Ahués, Director of Programme and Coordination, World Tourism Organisation*
    - *Annie Aubanel, Government of French Polynesia*
  - 25' Plenary discussion
- 18:15 Return to hotels
- 20:00 Departure from hotels
- 20:30 **Reception hosted by the Regional Council of Reunion Island**  
(On the west coast of Reunion Island)

Venue: Theatre of Champ-Fleuri, Saint-Denis de la Réunion

Facilitator:

**09:00 Session 3: Adapting to the climate crisis**

Chair: Kenrick Leslie, Director, Caribbean Community Climate Change Center (to be confirmed)

- 5' Introduction to the challenge: what is adaptation?
- 15' Specific challenges for the EU overseas entities (Jérôme Petit, Research Officer, EU Overseas Entities Programme, IUCN)
- 10' *Adaptation mechanisms and activities under the UNFCCC (Rocio Lichte, Programme Officer, Adaptation, Technology and Science Programme, UNFCCC)*
- 10' The Green Book on Climate Change Adaptation (Lieve van Camp, Policy Officer, Adaptation and Climate Science, DG Environment) (to be confirmed)
- 25' Climate change adaptation plans in the EU overseas entities and elsewhere:  
- *exemples, opportunities and limitations (Jeff Price, WCMC)*  
- *a case study from an OR or OCT (to be confirmed)*
- 25' Plenary discussion

10:30 30' *Pause*

**11:00 Session 4: Protecting and managing ecosystems to counter climate change**

Chair: Peter Bridgewater, Chairman, Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC)

- 5' Introductory remarks
- 15' Are we losing past investment in biodiversity and ecosystem conservation? An assessment of required management tools and operating budgets (Jeff McNeely, Chief Scientist, IUCN)
- 15' The role of ecosystems in climate change adaptation: managing mangroves and coral reefs to favour resilience and reduce the vulnerability of islands (Bernard Salvat, IFRECOR)
- 20' Invasive species: how to face an existing threat compounded by climate change?  
- *Dominique Strasberg, University of Reunion Island*  
- *Darren Christie, Environment Officer, South Georgia*
- 20' The role and perspectives of local NGOs  
- *Benoît de Thoisy, Kwata, French Guiana*  
- *Jennifer Gray, Executive Director, Bermuda National Trust*
- 25' Plenary discussion

**12:45 Lunch on site**

**14:00 Session 5: Towards sustainable energy and energetic autonomy**

Chair: Chantal Jouanno, President, French Environment and Energy Management Agency (ADEME) (to be confirmed)

- 5' Introductory remarks
- 15' The current situation in islands and the EU overseas entities, and their assets regarding renewable energies (Jean-Francois Lhuissier, Deputy Director, Systèmes Energétiques Insulaires, EDF)
- 35' Renewable energies: technological progress and future perspectives
  - . Marine energy (Michel Paillard, Coordinator Renewable Energies, IFREMER - Institut français de recherche pour l'exploitation de la mer) (to be confirmed)
  - . Solar energy (Daniel Cintolesi, Head of Sales, Q-Cells) (to be confirmed)
  - . Energy storage (Juan Ruiz Alzola, Director of Research and Technology, Instituto Tecnológico de Canarias) (to be confirmed)
- 20' Achieving the green energy revolution on Reunion Island by 2030 (Philippe Berne, Regional Council of Reunion Island and Jean Ballandras, Prefecture of Reunion Island)
- 30' Challenges, costs and benefits of the Energy Revolution: a plenary discussion around a SWOT analysis (*José Manuel Melim-Mendes, Executive Vice-President, AREAM - Agência Regional da Energia e Ambiente da Região Autónoma da Madeira*)

15:45 30' *Pause*

**16:15 Session 6: The European Commission and its relations with the ORs and OCTs**

Chair: Reuben Meade, Minister of Agriculture, Land, Housing and the Environment, Montserrat

- 5' Introductory remarks
- 15' Ana-Paula Laissy, Head of Unit, Coordination of Outermost Regions, DG Regional Policy
- 15' Lut Faber-Goossens, Head of Sector, Overseas Countries and Territories, DG Development and Relations with African, Caribbean and Pacific States
- 15' Ladislav Miko, Director, Protecting the Natural Environment, DG Environment
- 15' A representant from an Outermost Region (OR)
- 15' A representant from an Overseas Country and Territory (OCT)
- 25' Plenary discussion

18:00 Return to hotels - evening at own leisure

**Day 3 — Wednesday 09 July 2008**

07:00 Departure from hotels to Bébour-Bélouve Primary Forest

08:30 **Reunion Island: its Ecosystems and the National Park**  
 Visit of the primary forest of Bébour-Bélouve with guides of the National Park, National Forestry Office (ONF) and local NGOs



12:00 **International launch of the National Park of Reunion Island**  
 Hubert Falco, Secretary of State for Spatial Planning, France  
 Julia Marton-Lefèvre, Director General, IUCN

12:30 Creole Lunch, Plaine des Palmistes

**14:00 Session 7: Round-table or parallel workshops**

Venue: La Plaine des Palmistes

Round-table A	Workshop 1	Workshop 2	Workshop 3
<b>How to adapt to climate change, enhance ecosystem resilience and reduce the vulnerability of human cultures and activities?</b>	Economic valuation of biodiversity and ecosystem services: what role in development strategies? Past experiences and future perspectives	What strategies to counter invasive alien species?	How to strengthen the role of civil society on environmental issues in the ORs and OCTs?
Chair: <i>Mohan Munasinghe, Vice-President of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)</i>	Chair: to be identified	Chair: Clare Shine, Barrister and Consultant in Environmental Policy and Law	Chair: <i>Marie-Anne Isler Béguin, Member of the European Parliament</i>
Coordinators: Neville Ash (Head, Ecosystem Management Programme, IUCN), Jeff Price (WCMC)	Coordinators: <i>Mustapha Kleiche (AFD), Tara Pelembe (JNCC)</i>	Coordinators: Eladio Fernández-Galiano (Head of Biological Diversity Unit, Council of Europe), Soudjata Radjassegarane (Regional Council of Reunion Island)	Coordinators: Sarah McIntosh (Canari), Yves Renard (IUCN), Alistair Gammel (RSPB), Benoît de Thoisy (Kwata)
Around 250 participants	Around 50 participants	Around 70 participants	Around 50 participants

17:30 Return to hotels - evening at own leisure

Venue: Reunion Island University, Saint-Denis de La Réunion

**09:00 Session 8: Round-table or parallel workshops**

<b>Round-table B</b>	<b>Workshop 4</b>	<b>Workshop 5</b>	<b>Workshop 6a (day long)</b>
<b>What strategies to advance sustainable development-related research in the ORs and OCTs?</b>	What partnership between ORs, OCTs, the EU member states and the European Commission to promote the protection of habitats and species?	How to achieve the energy revolution in the EU overseas entities?	How to integrate the marine environmental challenges in the overseas entities into EU policy?  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sustainable fisheries</li> <li>• Marine protected areas</li> <li>• Integrated Coastal Zone Management</li> <li>• Coral reefs</li> <li>• Species conservation</li> <li>• Maritime traffic management</li> </ul>
Chair: Philippe Berne, Vice-President, Regional Council of Reunion Island, Board member of NET-Biome	Chair: Ladislav Miko, Director, Protecting the Natural Environment, DG Environment	Chair: to be confirmed	Chair: Carl Gustav Lundin, Head, Global Marine Programme, IUCN
Coordinator: Josiane Irissin-Mangata, Coordinator, NetBiome Initiative, Regional Council of Reunion Island	Coordinator: Paul Delduc and H�el�ene Souan, Ministry of Ecology, Energy, Sustainable Development and Spatial Planning, France	Coordinators: Philippe Beutin (ADEME), Franck Al-Shakarchi, (ARER)	Coordinators : Despina Symmons, Director (EBCD), Yves de Soye, (IUCN), Carole Martinez (IUCN French national Committee)
Around 250 participants	Around 50 participants	Around 70 participants	Around 90 participants

12:30 Lunch on site

**14:00 Session 9: Round-table or parallel workshops**

<b>Round-table C</b>	<b>Workshop 7</b>	<b>Workshop 8</b>	<b>Workshop 6b (day long)</b>
<b>How to reinforce regional cooperation on environmental issues?</b>	Towards a permanent working platform focused on the environmental challenges in ORs and OCTs?	Sustainable financing mechanisms to address ecological challenges in the ORs and OCTs	Marine workshop continued (day long workshop)
Chair: Wilfrid Bertile (Vice-President, Regional Council of Reunion Island)	Chair: William Jackson, Director of Global Programme, IUCN	Chair: <i>Jean-Yves Grosclaude, Director of Rural Development, Environment and Natural Resources, French Development Agency (AFD)</i>	Continued (day long workshop)
Coordinators: Claude-Anne Gauthier, Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, France, Yves Renard, Caribbean Initiative, IUCN	Coordinator: Arnaud Collin, and Jean-Philippe Palasi, IUCN	Coordinator: <i>Romain Renoux, WWF France, Laurens Warnink, Government of the Netherlands Antilles</i>	Continued (day long workshop)
Around 210 participants	Around 50 participants	Around 90 participants	Around 90 participants

18:00 Return to hotels

20:00 Departure from hotels

**20:30 Reception hosted by the French Presidency of the Council of the European Union (Pr efecture of Reunion Island)**

Venue: Theatre of Champ-Fleuri, Saint-Denis de la Réunion

Facilitator:

**09:00 Messages of welcome to the closing day**

- . Hubert Falco, Secretary of State for Spatial Planning, France
- . Elena Espinosa Mangana, Minister for Environment, Rural and Marine Affairs, Spain (to be confirmed)
- . Connie Hedegaards, Minister for Climate and Energy, Denmark (to be confirmed)
- . Nassimah Dindar, *President of the General Council of Reunion Island, President of the Overseas Entities Committee in the Grenelle Environment Forum*
- . Clive Stanbrook, President, Overseas Countries and Territories Association (OCTA)
- . Ahmed Djoghlaif, Executive Secretary, Convention on Biological Diversity
- . Angela Cropper, Deputy Executive Director, United Nations Environment Programme (to be confirmed)
- . Michel Jarraud, *Secretary General, World Meteorological Organisation*

10:00 30' *Pause*

**10:30 Session 10: Roundtable and plenary debate:**

**What alliances between the European Union, ORs, OCTs, ACP countries and Small Island Developing States to counter climate change and biodiversity loss ?**

Chair: Rolph Payet, Special Advisor to the President of the Republic of the Seychelles, Global Island Partnership, Sea Level Rise Foundation

20' Overview of existing mechanisms and needs, by the Chair

100' Podium debate and plenary discussion

- . *José Gaillou, Vice-President of the Regional Council of French Guiana, Chair of the Conference of Presidents of Outermost Regions*
- . *Aleqa Hammond, Minister of Finance and Foreign Affairs, Greenland*
- . *Reuben Meade, Minister of Agriculture, Land, Housing and the Environment, Montserrat*
- . *Russell Nari, Director General, Ministry of Lands, Energy, Environment, Geology, Mines and Water Resources, Government of Vanuatu*
- . *Gerald Miles, Regional Director for Asia Pacific, The Nature Conservancy, Global Island Partnership*
- . *Yves Renard, Caribbean Initiative Coordinator, IUCN*
- . *Monique Esoavelomandroso, Secretary General, Indian Ocean Commission*
- . *Patrick McMullan, Mission of the Maldives Government to the European Union*
- . *Richard Mann, Deputy Director General, Secretariat of the Pacific Community*
- . *Stefano Manservigi, Director General, DG Development, European Commission*
- . Sir John Kaputin, Secretary General, ACP Secretariat (to be confirmed) or Glenys Kinnock, Co-President, ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly (to be confirmed)
- . Representants from EU member states (to be confirmed)

**12:30 Lunch on site**

**14:30 Session 11: Wrap-up of the conference and workshop results**

Chair: Struan Stevenson, Member of the European Parliament, Chair of the Intergroup on Sustainable Development

- 20' Introductory remarks & video
- 20' Synthesis of the issues dealt with during the conference (speaker to be confirmed)
- 30' Conclusions from the round-tables and workshops (*Anne-Claire Goarant, South Province, New Caledonia; Helen Otley, Falkland Islands (malvinas) ; Letitia Buth, Government of the Netherlands Antilles; Frederico Cardigos, Government of the Azores*)
- 20' Presentation of the proposed Action Programme (William Jackson, Deputy Director General & Director of Global Programme, IUCN)

**16:00 Session 12: Presentation and adoption of the declarations**  
Chair: Jean-Michel Severino, Director General, French Development Agency (AFD)

5' Introductory remarks

15' **Appeal to save the threatened species of the EU overseas entities**  
Sébastien Moncorps, Director, IUCN French National Committee & John Fa, Director of Conservation Science, Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust (to be confirmed)

15' **Declaration of the States of the Indian Ocean Commission** on their joint mobilisation against environmental threats. Monique Esoavelomandroso, Secretary General, Indian Ocean Commission (to be confirmed)

15' **The Message from Reunion Island**  
read out by two school children from Reunion Island, and *Evelyne Tarnus, President of the Reunion Island Forum of young researchers in Science and Technology*

17:00 30' *Pause*

**17:30 Closing speeches**

- . Paul Vergès, President, Regional Council of Reunion Island and ONERC
- . Kurt Tibbett, Leader of Government Business, Cayman Islands, Chair of the OCT Ministerial (to be confirmed)
- . Thomas Remengesau, President, Republic of Palau (to be confirmed)
- . Hilary Benn, Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, United Kingdom (to be confirmed)
- . Stavros Dimas, European Commissioner for Environment, European Commission (to be confirmed)
- . Hans Pöttering, President, European Parliament (to be confirmed)
- . Julia Marton-Lefèvre, Director General, IUCN

**Declaration of the French Presidency of the Council of the European Union**

18:45 . Michèle Alliot-Marie, Minister of Internal Affairs and Overseas and Territorial Collectivities, France

**19:00 Press conference**

**21:00 Closing party hosted by the General Council of Reunion Island (Villa du Département)**

**Day 6 — Saturday 12 July 2008**

**Optional excursions**

South of the island and the Piton de la Fournaise

09:00 Departure from hotels  
17:00 Return to hotels

or

Piton Maïdo

08:00 Departure from hotels  
12:00 Return to hotels