

International Sustainable Energy Organisation for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency

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Newsletter

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Progress with ISEO towards the Clean, Sustainable Energy Age

ISEO passed important milestones in Geneva: the Preparatory Commission Meeting on 21 February and the Constitutional Assembly and Registration on 18 March 2003 – on the day a cruel oil war started !
ISEO-IUCN Credo: Reserve 17/18 June 2003 for the 1st ISEO General Conference in Geneva

Intact Nature & Health through Clean Energy - Renewable Energy from an intact Nature & Climate

ISEO Preparatory Commission Meeting at WMO

The 1st Preparatory Commission Meeting of ISEO was held at WMO premises on 21 February 2003 with delegates from Governments, Local Communities, NGOs, Academia, Utilities and Industry.

Opening address by M. Jarraud, Deputy Secretary-General, World Meteorological Organization, Geneva:

"It is a great pleasure for me to be with you on this occasion of the Preparatory Commission Session of the International Sustainable Energy Organization for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (ISEO). On behalf of the Secretary-General of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), Professor G.O.P. Obasi, I wish to welcome you to the WMO Secretariat and to our new building. The building responds in a way to the objective of ISEO as it makes innovative use of energy conservation techniques. It bears testimony to WMO's commitment to the protection of the environment and the rational use of energy."

Your agenda covers a wide range of subjects related to renewable energy and energy efficiency. The shift to renewable energy and a more efficient use of such energy resources are critical for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and for the protection of our climate. This will help nations meet the goals of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

In a number of areas mentioned in your agenda namely bioenergy and architecture, weather and climate information is vital for developing renewable energy resources and for its efficient use. In this regard, the National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) of WMO Member countries can assist in many ways to achieve these goals. Among others, the NMHSs provide wind, information on solar radiation, hydrological parameters, wave data for sustainable energy generation use. They can also provide data for building design and orientation as well as information for the design and use of solar devices. The provision of long-term climate outlooks and hydrological forecasts help countries to predict and match energy supply and demand.

On its part, WMO supports Member countries on sustainable energy issues, through the coordination of observations of weather, climate and water and the exchange of such data. It further assists Members to establish and maintain climate databases and provide capacity building for application of climate information in relation to energy matters. It also gives advice to

Members on policy matters related to sustainable energy issues. Under the Commission on Climatology, WMO has an Expert Team responsible for Climate Services for Energy. The group develops recommendations for the enhancement of climate services in support of energy development and operations with particular attention to the needs of developing countries. WMO also interacts with other international organizations and partners working on issues relevant to renewable energy resources.

I hope your meeting will be another useful step towards the effort of realizing the global need for sustainable, renewable and efficient energy, in particular to the developing world.

I wish you every success in your deliberations."



ISEO PrepCom panel chaired by Buruhani S. Nyenzi, WMO (middle) with John Widmer. Future ISO President (right) and G.R. Grob, Executive Secretary

As requested by the Swiss Government, it was decided to call for a constitutional Assembly to get ISEO formally registered at the Geneva Commercial Registry like other major international organizations such as ISO, IEC, Red Cross and Green Cross.

A draft budget was presented for the start-up phase and the statutes were reviewed with the suggestion to expand memberships in the framework of the hybrid governmental-private sector scope of ISEO as follows:

- A – State Governments & Political and Economic Integration Organizations (like EU & ASEAN)
- B - National & International Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO, INGO)
- C - Local Communities, local Volunteering Groups
- D - Industries & relevant Trade Associations
- E - Academia, R&D Institutes & Individual Experts

The main goal of ISEO is its umbrella function by international networking and partnerships with its Website www.uniseo.org, which will be frequently updated with all suitable links, contacts, energy systems sources, implementation tools and standards. It is backed up by experts, ranging from simple solar cookers in remote areas to the latest generation technologies, low-energy architecture, energy efficiency means, muscle power, emission-free vehicles to integrally clean community concepts.

ISEO Constitutional Assembly in Geneva

On 18 March 2003 the historic act of incorporating ISEO as a Swiss-based international organization was accomplished with John Widmer as President, Dr. Branko Bosnjakovic and Dr. Hans Hänni as Vice Presidents, Irène Baumgartner and Christophe Hell as treasurer and auditor, respectively, and Gustav R. Grob as Executive Secretary - with unanimous votes on all points on the agenda, thus formally responding to the Swiss all-party parliamentary motion by Roland Wiederkehr, to establish ISEO in Geneva.



President John Widmer with Treasurer Irène Baumgartner and ISEO Executive Secretary Gustav R. Grob (from left to right) in front of the Geneva Commercial Registry beneath the historic Red Cross memorial plate.



Irène Baumgartner, the ISEO Treasurer and fully dedicated co-founder at her computer work place.



The ISEO registration act was done in the same historic building where the Red Cross was born 139 years ago as the first international organization, starting Geneva's fame as world capital of international bodies, including the "League of Nations" - the predecessor of the United Nations - and more recently also the "Green Cross", also a Wiederkehr initiative with Michael Gorbachew, to supplement the WHO & Red Cross to heal not only people, but also the suffering environment, besides several hundred truly international NGOs ranging from the world famous ISO and IEC to the International Road Union IRU, the World Council of Churches, the Hunger Project and many other humanitarian and peace organizations to better the world !

ISEO General Conference 17/18 June 2003

All interested Governments, NGOs, Communities, Academia and Industry representatives are called upon to join the 1st plenary session of ISEO for the election of regional governors, to discuss the work program, budget and final statute version.

An action plan will be presented for discussion to determine work priorities and sub-committee assignments, including following subjects:

- Financing of Sustainable Energy Projects
- Legal Mechanisms for Sustainable Energy
- Policy Tools for Change to Sustainable Energy
- Educational Mechanism for Sustainable Energy
- Complete Statistic & Forecasting Standards
- Efficiency and more Rational Use of Energy
- Clean Transport Concepts and Clean Fuels
- Muscle Energy Usage (Human & Animal)
- Hydropower Development (ecologically)
- Wind Power Development (ecologically)
- Benign Bio-Energy Development
- Geothermal Energy Development (Heat & Power)
- Ocean Power Harnessing (OTEC, Waves, Tides)
- Solar Thermal Energy and Photovoltaics (PV)
- Sustainable Low-Energy Architecture
- Cogeneration and Heat Pumps

The application of the Global Energy Charter for Sustainable Development and the "Blueprint for the Clean, Sustainable Energy Age" will also be further discussed and pro-actively elaborated.

Planned partnership with IUCN and WMO

Under the joint motto:

Intact Nature & Health through Clean Energy
Renewable Energy from an Intact Nature & Climate

ISEO, IUCN, the International Union for the Conservation of Nature, and WMO, the World Meteorological Organization, will appeal with UNEP and IPCC to all leaders and decision makers of the world to stop the destruction of the natural treasure and the unbalancing of the climate by drastically reducing energy pollution and arms races.

WMO offers an unique global mechanism of monitoring all atmospheric forces for renewable energy systems like wind energy, hydro power and biomass, which are all depending on natural precipitations without acid pollution from coal fired power stations and flooding due to global warming.

Jointly with other positive forces in the UN system like UNEP, the United Nations Environmental Program, WHO, the World Health Organization, UNESCO, the UN Educational and Science Organization, FAO, the UN Food Organization and the many NGOs, Academia and Financial Services, Sustainable Development is made possible by ISEO to replace all harmful concepts in the energy, industry, agricultural and residential sectors.

Reserve 17 & 18 June 2003 for the General Conference of ISEO in Geneva – more information will appear on www.uniseo.org