

# **Dialogue on the Engineers Role in Sustainable Development - Johannesburg and Beyond**

June 24, 2002  
US National Academies  
Washington, DC 20418

*Organized by*  
NAE, State Department, American Association of Engineering Societies, AIChE

*In Affiliation with*  
ASCE, Engineers International Round Table, WFEO-ComTech

## ***A Declaration by the US Engineering Community to the World Summit on Sustainable Development***

The survival of our planet and its people requires the collaboration of all professions in both developed and developing countries to sustain future generations. The goal of improving the social and economic well being of all peoples in the developed and lesser-developed countries is a pre-requisite for creating a stable, sustainable world. Although achieving this goal will require a broad coalition of well-crafted policies, it will only be realized through the application of engineering principles and a commitment to public/private partnerships involving professionals from all fields including the social sciences, engineering and medicine. It will also require collaboration for development, acceptance and dissemination of innovative solutions and better use of existing technologies.

Creating a sustainable world that provides a safe, secure, healthy life for all peoples is a priority for the US engineering community. It is evident that US engineering must increase its focus on sharing and disseminating information, knowledge and technology that provides access to materials, energy, water, food and public health while addressing basic human needs. Engineers must deliver solutions that are technically viable, commercially feasible and, environmentally and socially sustainable.

Today's world is increasingly complex. The technical challenges required for sustainability have become enormous. The US engineering community must become engaged earlier in the policy formulation and decision-making process through its technical and professional societies to provide knowledge of environmental impacts, costs and feasibility. Engineers must be actively engaged in the entire decision making process from conceptualization, to project design, development and implementation. This includes the interdisciplinary process of building the evaluation/decision framework and the institutional infrastructure to realize a sustainable future.

We, the undersigned, commit to moving forward in support of the US engineering community to meet societal needs through capacity building, improved education, training, information development and dissemination, and engaging the engineering profession in all stages of the decision process.

Agreed, on the occasion of the Engineers Dialogue on Johannesburg and Beyond, June 24, 2002. The undersigned are participants in the dialogue and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of their stated associations.

### **Participants at Meeting**

#### **Engineers Role in Sustainable Development - Johannesburg and Beyond**

#### **National Academy of Engineering**

June 24, 2002

#### Alphabetically by members organization affiliation

Henry J. Hatch – Chairman

#### Members/EDs

Earl Beaver	AIChE
Basil Doumas	AIChE
Harold K. Forsen	NAE
Al Grant	AAES, ASCE, RNRf
Nellie Guernsey	AIME
Russel Jones	EIR
Bill Kelly	EIR
Peter Lederman	AIChE
Pat Natale	NSPE
Win Phillips	AAES
Tom Price	AAES
Bill Salmon	CAETS
Michael Sanio	ASCE, ASME, EIR
Donald Schutz	ANS
Wayne Skaggs	ASAE
Richard Tucker	ACEC
Steven Weiner	AIChE
Shelly Wolff	SWE
William Wulf	NAE

#### Others

Jane Alspach	WFEO-ComTech
Diana Bauer	EPA
David Berry	SDI Group
John Boright	NAS
David Gately	AAES
Ted Heintz	Dept of Interior
Miriam Heller	NSF
Kathryn Holmes	ASME
Barbara Karn	EPA
Corinna Kester	AIChE
Walt Marlowe	ASCE
Andy Reynolds	Department of State
Jo Rogers	AIChE
Allison Salyer	AAES
Darlene Schuster	AIChE
Sumi Singh	ACEC
Martin Spitzer	House Science Committee
Bob Stern	AAAS

This statement is endorsed by:

- American Association of Engineering Societies
- American Institute of Chemical Engineers
- American Nuclear Society
- ASME International - Environmental Engineering Division
- National Academy of Engineering
- National Society of Professional Engineers