

A healthy planet



For future generations

NGO Committee on Sustainable Development VIENNA

BOARD

President Ingeborg Geyer (Zonta International)

Secretary Claudia Exenberger (ZONTA International)

Deputy Secretary John Clark (WUPJ)

Treasurer Marion Prechtl (Soroptimist International)

<https://ngocsdvienna.org/>

Report to the CoNGO General Assembly

Leadership of the Committee

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| Chair | Ingeborg Geyer, Zonta International |
| Treasurer | Marion Prechtl, Soroptimist International |
| Secretary | Claudia Exenberger, Zonta International |
| Vice Secretary | John Clark, World Union of Progressive Judaism |

The Committee lost its past chair and current vice-chair Ilona Graenitz on July 17th, 2022. She was a mainstay in the Vienna NGO community. Her strategic, international and articulate thinking, as well as her relentless and profound commitment to women's affairs and environmental justice, inspired and encouraged many members of the NGO community. We will long remember her sincerity and resolve. A commemoration is attached.

Aims and objectives of the Committee

About the Committee: The focus of the committee is on the environmental, social and economic dimensions of sustainable development. It provides a forum for NGOs interested in discussing and analysing the work of the UN intergovernmental bodies in the field of sustainable development, as well as the related activities of the Vienna-based UN organizations. It encourages new initiatives and seeks inputs into civil society's contribution to the 17 Sustainable Development Goals adopted by the United Nations in September 2015.

The work we do: The Committee interacts with the high-level political forum on sustainable development, the successor body to the UN Commission on Sustainable Development, the Vienna-based UN organizations (UNOV, UNIDO, UNODC, IAEA and CTBTO) and the Vienna-based NGO Committees, as well as with other international organizations in Austria, such as IIASA.

The Committee focuses on the potential for practical cooperation with the United Nations and other international organizations in areas it deems especially relevant, such as:

- Sustainability in the context of global economic expansion, with particular attention to

- Sustainability in the early stages of economic development
- Sustainable technology at various stages of economic development
- Food security: provision of the necessary quantity and quality of food for all
- Provision of sustainable energy for all
- Education for sustainability

Membership of the Committee and amount of annual membership fee

Currently the Committee on Sustainable Development has 30 member organisations with each organisation having at least one representative. The amount of the annual general membership fee is 30,-- EUR.

Significant activities of the Committee

a. Actions set in 2021 and 2022

- follow up of the initiatives of 2020: address root causes of environmental disasters, of climate change etc. by promoting the relevant conventions through
 - Side event during CCPCJ (combining thematic themes and environment)
 - Public lectures to build awareness within NGO community
 - Campaigning for signing and ratification of the Aarhus Convention
 - Identifying missing links in the Conventions and try to get in dialogue with member states (France, Finland)
- Draft statements and interventions for profiling/supporting/campaigning for resolutions concerning transnational environmental crime during CCPCJ, UNTOC sessions
 - Written statement Crime Congress March 2021 (submitted through SI): Advancing Crime Prevention, Criminal Justice and the Rule of Law: towards the Achievement of the 2030 Agenda)
 - Oral Statement at CCPCJ 30th session, TOP 5: Environmental crime - a trigger for forced migration (delivered by Ilona Graenitz SI)
 - Draft of written Statement for COP26: *Challenges of Climate Change* (submitted by CoNGO)

Due to Corona pandemic restrictions the following actions were organized online:

- public lecture about environmental legacies and corruption – campaigning/awareness raising for a legal framework:

Some are Hazardous Environmental Legacy Sites, some are Monsters: Why sustainable development needs to include environmental crime (Ms Verena Winiwarter BOKU Vienna)

- Criteria for sustainable cities were continued to be discussed by participating in a series of webinars *Change the World*, organized by the Alliance of NGOs on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice:
<http://crimealliance.org/what-we-do/change-the-world>
- Side event at CCPCJ May 2021: *Environmental Crimes as root causes of (forced) migration*:
https://www.unodc.org/res/commissions/CCPCJ/session/30_Session_2021/side_event_program_tue_18-05_html/Invitation_Side_Event_NGO_CSD_May_18_2021_final.pdf
- lecture on *How can Finland make a just transition to a carbon neutral society by 2035* co-organized by the Finish Embassy Vienna (Mr. Muurman, Senior Ministerial Adviser Ministry of the Environment, Environmental Protection Department, Climate) May 2021
- lecture about *climate change and climate justice* by Ms Tricia Callendar (Head of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion at Thinx Inc.) November 2021
- lecture about *consumer behaviour* (Ms Sigrid Stagl, Institute for Ecological Economics, Vienna) December 2021
- Follow up of the statement at Crime Congress: to be shared widely with international institutions and missions, who supported the resolution, addressed in the statement. February 2022
- Joint meeting with NGO CSW celebrating International Women's Day by highlighting CSW66 priority theme: Achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls in the context of climate change, environmental and disaster risk reduction policies and programmes. Live Interviews and actual reports from Madagascar, March 8th, 2022
- Briefing on Resolutions combatting crimes that affect the environment H.E. Mr. Xavier STICKER, Ambassador, Permanent Representative to the United Nations in Vienna (France), May 10th, 2022
- In person excursion to Zentralanstalt für Metereologie und Geodynamik (ZAMG) with lecture about their research activities (October 6th, 2022)

There is regular information about events and/or publications on sustainable development for the member organisations. In every meeting there are reports by the

chair and the member organization. New member organisations have the chance for formal presentation of their goals.

b. Activities co-sponsored or co-organized, and with whom

- Side event at CCPCJ May 2021 (IIASA, Socialist Women International, Soroptimist, ZONTA International):
https://www.unodc.org/documents/commissions/CND_CCPCJ_joint/Side_Events/2021/CCPCJ_Side_Event_Report_2021.pdf, page 14
- Lecture about carbon neutral society, co-organized by the Finish Embassy
- Statement for COP26, drafted by the committee, finalized and delivered by CoNGO
- Joint meetings with NGO CSW Vienna
- Parallel event: CSW66 Climate Justice for Women and Girls, March 22, organized by Alliance, CSW, CSD
- Parallel event CSW66: Rural women and sustainable development, Panelist Ingeborg Geyer March 23, organized by Frauenring
- Side event: CRIMINALIZING ECOCIDE – A NEW DETERRENT TO CRIMES THAT AFFECT THE ENVIRONMENT, organized by SIW, NGO SDC, Stop Ecocide CCPCJ (May 2022)
- Side event: Civil Society Contribution to Combat Transnational Organized Crime: organized in memoriam Ilona Graenitz by NGO CSD, Alliance, GWI at COP11 (October 2022)
- Exhibition in the Rotunda: Stop non-State Torture. Enforce Human Rights of Women and Girls (14 – 17 November 2022), organized with Alliance, NGO CSW Vienna, CSD

UN Entities the Committee consult, work with, and involve in its work

Contacts with staff of Civil Society Unit, CCPCJ, CND, UNIDO, UNODC Research, inviting them for briefings and lectures

Name what you consider as the greatest achievement of your committee

Monthly online meetings and SDC Talks could increase the number of participants at meetings and raise awareness of the linkages between climate change, environment, (transnational) crime, health, wellbeing, security and safety to a wider range of NGOs.

Documents, including statements, you have produced as a Committee (give title and a short description)

- Statement for 14th Crime Congress in Kyoto, Japan, March 2021
Advancing Crime Prevention, Criminal Justice and the Rule of Law: towards the Achievement of the 2030 Agenda
https://www.unodc.org/documents/commissions/Congress/documents/written_statements/NGO_statements/ACONF_234_NGO4_V2100948.pdf

- Side event at CCPCJ 30th session with IIASA, Socialist Women International, Soroptimist, ZONTA International):
*Environmental factors as an important trigger for migration
Reconsidering the definition of smuggling migrants in the context of (transnational) environmental disasters and hazardous legacies*
https://www.unodc.org/res/commissions/CCPCJ/session/30_Session_2021/side_event_program_tue_18-05_html/Invitation_Side_Event_NGO_CSD_May_18_2021_final.pdf

- Oral Statement at CCPCJ 30th session, TOP 5
Environmental crime - a trigger for forced migration

- Draft of written Statement for COP26:
Challenges of Climate Change (submitted by CoNGO)
- Oral statement at 2022 CCPCJ Expert Discussions on Crimes that Affect the Environment in February 2022: *Strengthening international cooperation to address crimes that affect the environment* (16 February 2022)
https://www.unodc.org/documents/commissions/CCPCJ/CCPCJ_Sessions/CCPCJ_31/expert_discussions/statements/day3/Ilona_Graenitz.pdf
- written statement at CCPCJ 31st, May 2022: *Strengthening the international legal framework and international cooperation in the context of crimes that affect the environment:*
https://www.unodc.org/documents/commissions/CCPCJ/CCPCJ_Sessions/CCPCJ_31/NGO_papers/ECN152022_NGO5_V2202671.pdf
- Side event: CRIMINALIZING ECOCIDE – A NEW DETERRENT TO CRIMES THAT AFFECT THE ENVIRONMENT, organized by SIW, NGO SDC, Stop Ecocide et al. at CCPCJ 31st, May 2022

https://www.unodc.org/documents/commissions/CCPCJ/CCPCJ_Sessions/CCPCJ_31/CCPCJ_Side_Event_Report_2022_final.pdf (Page 24)

Relevant social media links: Website: www.ngocsdvienna.org