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**UNITED
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Report
2001

"We resolve therefore ... to give greater opportunities to the private sector, non-governmental organizations and civil society, in general, to contribute to the realization of the Organization's goals and programmes."

[United Nations Millennium Declaration – paragraph 30]

The increasingly international nature of research agendas and the rapid advances in information and communication technology have made networking critical to knowledge generation, education and outreach. These trends have made possible the creation of new networks of practitioners and researchers. New technologies should also enable us to develop even broader partnerships, bringing together UN organizations, academic entities, professional associations, private sector bodies and other elements of civil society.

Over the past few years, UNU has been striving to start new initiatives and to reach out to prominent research groups, international organizations and business groups as well as participating in external networks that have similar objectives to UNU. A list of new agreements signed in 2001 is given in Annex 2. UNU is particularly aiming to strengthen links to other UN agencies. It also hopes to strengthen its links to research and other related institutions, particularly those located in developing countries. (See Annex 3 for existing links.)

This section outlines some of the thematic areas in which UNU is leading or participating in major networking activities.

Food and Nutrition Network

The ongoing revolution in biology, slow but steady economic development, and rising aspirations in every region of the world present unprecedented opportunities to assist in enhancing well-being by improving food and nutrition conditions throughout the globe. For over 25 years, the UNU Food and Nutrition Programme (FNP) has worked with leading international organizations, such as the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO), the World Food Programme (WFP), the World Health Organization (WHO), the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and UNICEF to improve food security and nutrition worldwide. The FNP assists developing regions to enhance individual, organizational and institutional capacity in the area of food and nutrition, under-

takes research activities that require global efforts, and serves as the academic arm for the United Nations system in areas of food and nutrition that are best addressed in a non-regulatory, non-normative environment.¹²

In 2001, the FNP's capacity development activities focused on Africa. As part of the African Capacity Development Initiative, ten-year action plans to help meet Africa's contemporary food and nutrition challenges were developed in a series of four workshops held over the last two years, involving regional leaders from Southern, Eastern, and West and Central Africa. The plans' principal aims are to secure inspired African leadership in nutrition that is sustainable and capable of meeting the continent's challenges, to drive the nutrition agenda at national levels, and to mobilize inter- and intra-regional cooperation to achieve the eradication of malnutrition in the regions as a public health problem. During 2001, the Food and Nutrition Programme's major activity was the preparation for and the follow-up of the ACC/SCN's annual meeting held in Nairobi in April. The FNP co-chaired the SCN's working group on capacity development with the International Union of Nutrition Sciences (IUNS) and targeted Africa as the principal focus of the SCN's attention.

The FNP is working with WHO to develop new growth references for infants and young children. The new reference will be characterized by major technical improvements and, importantly, also serve as a major tool for advocacy in support of child health. The reference under development will include children from every region of the world, unlike the present one that includes children from only one country. UNICEF also has partnered with WHO and UNU in this important research activity. The INF is the responsible unit within the FNP for the Global Cereal Fortification Initiative and the Iron Deficiency Anemia Program Advisory Service. The aim of the former activity is to assess the health outcomes of lysine fortification of the food supply, and the aim of the latter is to significantly reduce iron deficiency and eliminate iodine deficiency in the countries of Central Asia and Mongolia. These activities are carried out in collaboration with the Asian Development Bank, UNICEF and other organizations.

¹² UNU continues to support *The Food and Nutrition Bulletin*, edited by N. Scrimshaw, and *The Journal of Food Composition and Analysis*, edited by Barbara Burlingame and published by Academic Press, on behalf of both UNU and FAO.

The FNP has worked with WHO, WFP, FAO, OECD and IAEA in activities that are best addressed in a non-regulatory, non-normative environment. The INF takes primary responsibility for the *Food and Nutrition Bulletin* (FNB) and International Network of Food Data Systems (INFOODS). INFOODS is a joint activity undertaken with FAO. The FNP has worked closely with WHO in its review of technical information relevant to international policies related to infant feeding. The FNP is working closely with WHO and FAO in developing updates for the evaluation of protein and energy requirements, and discussions are underway with both agencies for reviewing the harmonization of approaches for developing dietary standards published by individual countries. The programme also has assisted OECD in its update of issues related to the safety of genetically modified foods and the IAEA in its development of programs related to the use of stable isotopes in nutrition-related research.

Directory of professional African women in natural resources management

There is lack of information on the number and quality of African women professionals in research, training and advisory services in natural resources conservation and management. To help solve this problem, UNU/INRA created an online directory of African women professionals containing background information on the women, their areas of specialization and competence, and their contact addresses. This information will serve the needs of policy makers, Africa's development partners, educational institutions and civil society seeking professional women consultants. At the end of 2001, there were over 1,000 entries in the directory. The online directory contains a registration form that women professionals can use to add their names to the database.

The Professional African Women in Natural Resources Management database is online at www.unu.edu/inra/.



A small oasis in the Sahara.
(Photograph: Dr. Iwao Kobori, UNU Senior Programme Adviser)

Integrating Land Management in Dry Areas

The objective of this project is to assist developing countries in dry areas to manage their land resources while achieving sustainable utilization of the water and biodiversity resources contained therein. Integrated management of natural resources and development of multidisciplinary approaches are key to achieving these objectives. The project is implemented through a network of researchers and institutions. The main purposes are to enhance information exchange and to identify the specific research needs of marginal lands in terms of capacity development. The International Center for Agricultural Research in Dry Areas (ICARDA) and UNESCO are key partners in the implementation of this project.¹³

¹³ See Z. Adeel (ed.), *New Approaches to Water Management in Central Asia*, UNU Desertification Series No. 3 (2001) and Z. Adeel (ed.), *Integrated Land Management in Dry Areas*, UNU Desertification Series No. 4 (2001).

DISSEMINATION

"We request the General Assembly to review on a regular basis the progress made in implementing the provisions of this Declaration, and ask the Secretary-General to issue periodic reports for consideration by the General Assembly and as a basis for further action."

[United Nations Millennium Declaration – paragraph 31]

In order to enhance the impact of our work, the University disseminates its findings to academics, policy makers and the public. It aims, particularly, to promote the dissemination of scientific information and best practice to the developing world. The main mode for dissemination of research is through books, articles in journals, policy briefs and articles in the press. UNU is also seeking to disseminate its work in innovative ways, such as through CD-ROM, the Internet and video.

KOSOVO

*and the Challenge
of Humanitarian
Intervention*



Selective
Indignation,

Collective Action, and
International Citizenship

Edited by
Albrecht Schnabel
and Ramesh Thakur

UNU Press

With an expanding international reputation and limited funding, the efforts of UNU Press during 2001 were concentrated upon "doing more with less." The Press responded to the challenge of meeting demands for services and maintaining an excellent standard in both quality and quantity of materials published, while streamlining operations and conserving financial resources.

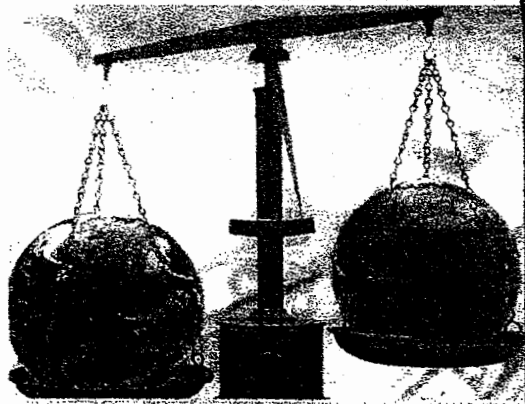
Recognition of UNU Press as a fast, efficient and flexible publisher has continued to grow within the international academic and publishing communities. This has resulted in a steady stream of serious offers for manuscript submission from UN-affiliated and independent institutions as well as individual scholars. The increase in quality and quantity of manuscript submissions has enabled UNU Press to select from a number of high-calibre manuscripts and to add a distinguished selection of titles to its publishing list.

Book Award – Kosovo and the Challenge of Humanitarian Intervention

Among the notable achievements of UNU Press in 2001 was the receipt of the prestigious Library Journal Notable Government Documents Award for the book *Kosovo and the Challenge of Humanitarian Intervention: Selective Indignation, Collective Action, and International Citizenship*, edited by Albrecht Schnabel and Ramesh Thakur, published in 2000.

In 2001, UNU Press published 17 new titles. Of these, 12 were the direct result of research projects carried out by the University, while five books were based on manuscripts submitted by independent scholars in areas related to the University's research (see Annex 5). The Press's innovative and commercially successful "fast track" service was commissioned to produce *Financing for Development in Latin America and the Caribbean*, edited by Andrés Franco, a project sponsored by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Colombia. In addition to UNU Press publications, other publishers published

Edited by GARY P. SAMPSON



The Role of the World Trade Organization in Global Governance

another 21 books stemming from UNU research projects during the year.

UNU Press books continue to be made available at prices significantly lower than those of larger university presses. In order to promote the broadest possible distribution of its titles in developing countries, UNU Press continued to encourage the production of inexpensive local editions by indigenous publishers. In 2001, the four titles were issued under co-publishing agreements between UNU Press and local presses. In addition, three books were published in translation.

In keeping with the University's dissemination mandate, UNU Press continued to promote free distribution of its publications in appropriate quarters. In association with the Big Brother Foundation, 10,000 books were donated to recipients in the Philippines. The Asia Foundation assisted with distribution of 4,000 books in Asia, while 500 books were sent to recipients in Africa with the cooperation of Book Aid UK.

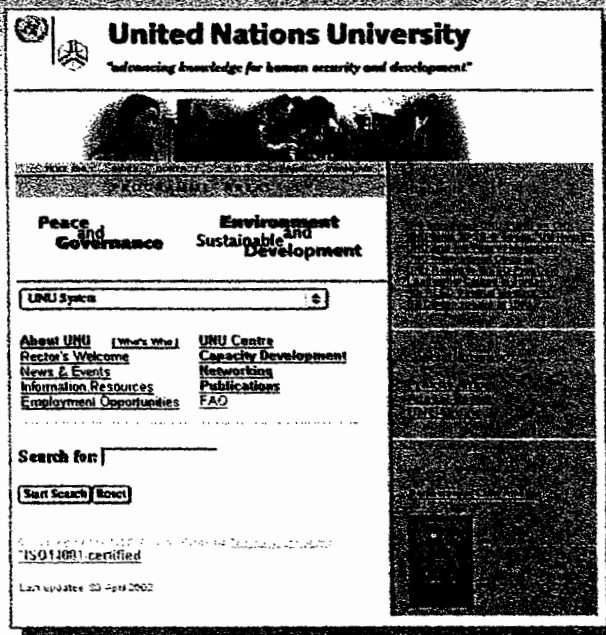
Book Launch – *The Role of the WTO and Global Governance*

The World Trade Organization (WTO) has found itself at the centre of controversy in areas that are well outside the domain of traditional trade policy. UNU's new book *The Role of the World Trade Organization and Global Governance* received considerable press coverage after high-profile launches in both New York and Geneva. The book contains chapters by Supachai Panitchpakdi, incoming Director-General of the WTO; Kofi Annan, UN Secretary-General; Peter Sutherland, former WTO Director-General; Mary Robinson, UN High Commissioner for Human Rights; Claude Martin, Director General, WWF International; James Orbinski, President, International Council of Médecins sans Frontières; and Maria Cattau, Secretary-General, International Chamber of Commerce.

Electronic Dissemination

UNU Press has continued to explore new opportunities for electronic dissemination of UNU research results as well as endeavouring to harness the growing sales potential of e-commerce technology. In co-operation with SMI, UNU Press has made electronic sales of UNU Press environmental titles available via the Earthprint homepage. Negotiations are currently underway with ebrary to sell UNU Press publications through their Internet portal. UNU Press publications are already available on a subscription basis through CIAO (Columbia International Affairs Online), at The Internet Book Shop, and through netLibrary. UNU Press titles are also carried by the leading e-commerce sites for books: Amazon.com and Barnes & Noble.

In cooperation with the Humanity Development Library in Antwerp, additional UNU Press titles were made available in full text in the "Publications" section of the UNU homepage, where they can be downloaded free of charge, along with past issues of UNU's *Food and Nutrition* bulletin. A comprehensive collection of UNU Press titles in the fields of environment, development,



and food and nutrition are also available on the third edition of the CD-ROM *Collection on Critical Global Issues*, which is sent to individual researchers and institutions throughout the world and distributed free of charge in developing countries.

In 2001, UNU produced a new Spanish-language homepage to provide an overview of the University for Spanish-speaking audiences in Europe and around the world. The Japanese-, French- and Spanish-language windows on UNU activities are regularly updated, and linkages to the main English-language site are created to reflect any changes.

Public Information

The other main channels to inform potential users about UNU's work are brochures, newsletters, publications catalogues, the Internet homepage, public events and other promotional materials. Also, the work of UNU was mentioned in the press over 500 times in 2001.

UNU on CNN — A second series of television public service announcements giving a general introduction to UNU and its international network of research and training centres and programmes is being broadcast to television viewers worldwide, thanks to CNN. The 60-, 30- and 15-second advertisements are being broadcast on CNN International six to nine times a day until February 2002. The objective of the campaign is to attract viewers to the UNU website to learn more about the organization and its affiliated institutes and programmes.

Global Seminars in Japan

UNU Global Seminars, intended to bring about a better understanding of the UN and global issues among young people in Japan, have become a firm institution among students and young professionals in the host country of UNU Centre. With more than 2,100 participants since their inception in 1985, UNU Global Seminars have contributed to raising the international awareness of students and young professionals living in Japan. In 2001, we organized Global Seminars on:

- "IT, the Family and Gender — Coping with Socio-economic Change in the Information Age," in Shimane, southwestern Japan, in July;
- "Issues and Prospects of the Global Environment" in Hayama (near Tokyo), in September;
- "Building a New Asia and the International Order" in Kobe, in October;
- "Global Issues and the United Nations" in Kanazawa, in November; and
- "Cultures in Globalization: Towards World Peace" in Okinawa, in December.

A total of over 300 young people from Japan and other countries participated in this year's seminars, which were taught by a faculty of more than 40 academics and policy professionals from Japan, the UN system and other organizations.

