

# PEOPLE



**J**onathan M. Hutton has been appointed Director of the UNEP-World Conservation Monitoring Centre by Klaus Toepfer, Executive Director of UNEP. Previously Regional Director of the Africa programme of Flora and Fauna International, he has had a distinguished

career in wildlife conservation and natural resources management spanning over 20 years in government services and the private sector.

**Maude Barlow** and **Tony Clarke**, campaigners for water rights for the poor, are among four winners of this year's Right Livelihood awards, to be presented in the Swedish Parliament in December.

The Canadian campaigners, who have embraced many causes over the years, have recently focused on water resources, working with a network of activists in developing countries. An important part of their work has been visiting and assisting communities struggling for water rights.

Barlow – long a high-profile leader in the Canadian women's movement, and an adviser on women's issues to **Pierre Trudeau** during his premiership – played an important part in a successful campaign for a constitutional amendment in Uruguay, adopted by referendum, which enshrines piped water and sanitation as a fundamental human right and lays down that social considerations should take precedence over economic ones in creating water polices. She is now deeply involved with an international campaign for a UN Convention on the Right to Water, building on the new Uruguayan legislation.

Clarke – who has worked on a wide range of social justice issues – has worked closely with Barlow for many years. His latest book, *Inside the Bottle*, highlights concerns about the bottled water industry and its impact on the water resources of the poor.

They share the 2 million Swedish kronor award with **Irene Fernandez** and the organisation First People of the Kalahari and its founder **Roy Sesana**. As Chair of the Pesticide Action Network in the 1990s, Fernandez worked to include the gender

dimension of the issue, making visible the previously little-noticed women farmers of Asia. This also led her into campaigns on health, GMOs and control of seeds. More recently she has campaigned for the rights of migrant workers in her country, Malaysia. Sesana, a Bushman, and his organisation were given the award for “resolute resistance against eviction from their ancestral lands, and for upholding the right to their traditional way of life.”

The 2005 Honorary Right Livelihood Award is to go to the leading Mexican artist, **Francisco Toledo**, for “devoting himself and his art to the protection, enhancement and renewal of the architectural and cultural heritage, natural environment and community life of his native Oaxaca.” ■



The secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) has announced, with deep sorrow, the death of its Executive Secretary **Joke Waller-Hunter**. Ms Waller-Hunter, from the Netherlands, was the UN's first Director for Sustainable Development from 1994 to 1998, and was then Director of the Environment Directorate of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) until joining the UNFCCC, where she oversaw the entry into force of the Kyoto Protocol.

Kofi Annan, the Secretary-General of the UN, called her “a firm believer in the principles of sustainable development”, adding that she “knew that global cooperation was essential to advancing that cause.”