



Knowledge to lead



## Series of e-Courses on International Environmental Law

6 February - 30 March 2012

### Background

The United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) has over 40 years experience in the delivery of training in the field of international law. As of 1997 international environmental law was introduced as a focal issue for international law training within the Institute. To better respond to the numerous requests for innovative training, UNITAR is complementing its face-to-face and distance learning training activities on environmental law with internet-based courses. Thus, since 2006, UNITAR has been successfully delivering e-learning courses on environmental law through its Internet Platform.

**The Series of e-Courses on International Environmental Law (IEL)** allows participants to combine learning and work and to benefit from high quality courses in IEL. The Series is composed of 4 courses which are given by renowned experts and professors in international law. They will guide participants in their learning process and answer their questions. In addition, UNITAR staff will provide technical support on how to use the learning tools available on UNITAR's e-Platform.

Furthermore, participants also enjoy the flexibility of being trained at their own pace with full access to the course anytime and anywhere. Another advantage of the e-learning course is that participants have an opportunity to share relevant experiences and knowledge with fellow trainees from different backgrounds and countries.

### Goal of the e-Courses on IEL

The aim of the Series of e-Courses on IEL is to provide a broad introduction to international environmental law's main topics, introducing its fundamental principles, law-making processes, main actors, implementation and compliance procedures, and negotiations of Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) based on the current legal challenges in international environmental law.

### Learning Objectives

At the end of the Series participants will be able to:

- Identify the sources, principles, concepts and law-making procedures framing international environmental law;
- Differentiate the role of main actors involved in the development of international environmental law who can negotiate and conclude agreements and formulate policy instruments;
- Identify the techniques and procedures to further improve compliance and enforcement of international environmental obligations at national level;
- Describe and explain the international environmental law negotiation process and be able to properly participate in a MEA negotiation;
- Examine and interpret the content of MEAs.

### Series of e-Courses on IEL

The UNITAR Series of e-Learning Courses on IEL is comprised of the following courses:

**e-Course 1:** Introduction to International Environmental Law, 6 to 17 February 2012.

**e-Course 2:** International Environmental Governance, 20 February to 2 March 2012.

**e-Course 3:** Techniques and Procedures in IEL, 5 to 16 March 2012.

**e-Course 4:** International Environmental Negotiations, 19 to 30 March 2012.

The Courses can be taken separately. However, to follow **e-Course 3** properly participants are strongly advised to have previously followed course 1. Each year UNITAR runs two sessions of the e-courses on IEL, thus the courses can be taken in different sessions.



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### Organization and Methodology

The Series of e-Courses on IEL will be conducted in English and be delivered during eight weeks starting on Monday, 6 February 2012. Each one of the four courses is to be completed in two weeks time. **The completion of the four courses requires an average study-time of 8 hours per week.**

The e-courses will be given through UNITAR's virtual platform. Thus, participants need a minimum hardware and software equipment (nearly all computers fit this) and basic computer skills such as logging into websites, navigating the Internet, using Microsoft Word, uploading/downloading documents, and of course a reliable Internet connection.

- Platform: Windows 95, 98, 2000, 2003, 2007, NT, ME or XP; MacOS 9 or MacOS X.
- Hardware: 64 MB of RAM, 1 GB of free disk space.
- Software: Adobe Acrobat Reader (download for free at <http://get.adobe.com/fr/reader/>)
- Browser: Mozilla Firefox (download for free at <http://www.mozilla-europe.org/fr/>) or Internet Explorer (download for free at <http://windows.microsoft.com/fr-FR/internet-explorer/products/ie/home>). Note JavaScript & Cookies must be enabled.
- Modem: 56 K.

The learning activities are based on sound adult learning pedagogical principles. They include, among others, self-assessment activities, case studies, discussion forums, drafting short essays, etc.

In order to assure interactive exchange as well as provide participants with personalized learning assistance the number of participants per moderator will not exceed 30.

Participants who successfully complete an e-course on IEL will receive a Certificate of Participation issued by UNITAR. Participants who successfully complete all four e-courses on IEL will receive a **Certificate of Completion** (even if the e-courses were followed in different sessions).

### Target Audience

- Government officials from ministries of environment and related ministries such as agriculture, forest, water, tourism, foreign affairs;
- International civil servants and NGO representatives working in the field of environmental law, environmental management, international relations, international politics and other areas relating to sustainable development;
- Judges, prosecutors and lawyers dealing with environmental issues;
- Academics, private sector professionals and graduate students who would like to specialize in international environmental law.

### Course Fees and Registration

A fee is charged for taking each e-course. However, **partial fellowships** are available in the form of reduced fees exclusively aimed at participants from least developed countries, developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

Please consult the following link:

<http://www.unitar.org/ilp/> to know the exact amount for fees **per country and per course.**

Interested individuals can register directly for the Courses at: <http://www.unitar.org/event/>

### Contact

For more detailed information about the Series of e-Courses on IEL, please visit UNITAR International Law Programme's website <http://www.unitar.org/ilp> or contact Ms. Monica Nunez at [monica.nunez@unitar.org](mailto:monica.nunez@unitar.org)



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