MEPOPEDIA / Sci-Tech Digest

[International Participation] UNCSD to be Held in Brazil, Former Academia Sinica President Yuan-Tseh LEE Will Give Address on June 20

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Academia Sinica Newsletter (2012/06/18) The United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development Rio de Janeiro, 2012 (UNCSD, Rio+20) and its related event series were to take place in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil between June 13 and 22. The conference is the globally topmost-level meeting among the leaders of the governmental and non-governmental organizations in the world. The conference in this year is the third time gathering organized by UN since 1992. The world leaders, along with thousands of participants from governments, the private sector, NGOs and other groups, will come together to shape how we can reduce poverty, advance social equity and ensure environmental protection on an ever more crowded planet to get to the future we want.

Former Academia Sinica President Yuan-Tseh LEE was selected as the successive president of the International Council for Science (ICSU) in October, 2008 and began to lead the council on the promotion of global sci-tech cooperations since he officially succeeded to the task in September 30, 2011. The council was appointed by UN to organize the five-day "Forum on Science, Technology & Innovation For Sustainable Development," in which the project "Future Earth" was planned to be inaugurated. The project was initiated by the globally main scientific groups, scientific government sectors and the relevant organizations under UN, and it was a long-term, significant international project on the research of the sustainability. Also worth a mention, the founding of the project was obliged to the financial support by many entrepreneurs in Taiwan, inspired by LEE's canvass.

On June 20, LEE will give an address at a major forum in UNCSD, Rio+20. He will represent the global sci-tech industries and give a briefing to the world leaders and the participants about the conclusions reached in "Forum on Science, Technology & Innovation For Sustainable Development," presenting several significant scientific information and suggestions.

Besides the official talk at UNCSD, Rio+20, LEE will also take his part in the Nobel Laureates High-level Dialogue on Global Sustainability. He will also be one of the representatives signing Rio Declaration along with other world leaders and UN officials participating in the symposium. The declaration will be referred to UN Conference after the signing.

LEE has been devoted to the global affairs and the future of humanity. It is highly significant that LEE can represent Taiwan to address the opinions and suggestions from the global sci-tech groups and industries on the issues of our contemporary difficulties. This indicates Taiwan's determination of international participation, especially joining in the international sci-tech cooperations and organizations at the level of academia whose concerns always transcend political ones.

Related Websites:

ICSU: http://www.icsu.org/

Future Earth Project: http://www.icsu.org/future-earth

UNCSD 2012, Rio+20: http://www.uncsd2012.org/rio20/index.php?menu=17

Related Historical Message:

[Academic Activity] "Let's Dedicate This University to the Spirit of the Universe!" NTU Held Special Exhibition Commemorating the Sixtieth Anniversary of the Death of Former President Sinian Fu 2010/12/26

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Reference:

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Local NGOs to send 15 representatives to Rio+20 [Taipei Times 2012-06-12] | Re: [International Participation] UNCSD to be Held in Brazil, Former Academia Sinica President Yuan-Tseh LEE Will Give Address on June 20

Local NGOs to send 15 representatives to Rio+20

[Taipei Times 2012-06-12]

http://www.taipeitimes.com/News/taiwan/archives/2012/06/12/2003535141

By Lee I-chia / Staff reporter

Environmental activists hold a press conference in Taipei yesterday to announce that they will form a delegation of 15 representatives to the UN Conference on Sustainable Development that will begin in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, on Wednesday next week.

Photo: Chang Chia-ming, Taipei Times

Non-governmental organizations (NGO) yesterday said they would send a team of 15 representatives to attend the UN's upcoming Rio+20 Conference on Sustainable Development — also known as Rio Earth Summit 2012 — in Brazil, to exchange knowledge on green economy and the institutional framework for sustainable development with the world.

Although Taiwan is not a member state of the UN, the Taiwan Action NGOs (TANGO) — an association of eight Taiwanese NGOs that is concerned with environmental issues — said they would head to Rio de Janeiro as civic participants tomorrow to interact with more than 150 civic groups from around the world.

TANGO team leader and Taiwan Environmental Protection Union president Juju Wang (王俊秀) said at a press conference that the meaning of "green economy" had been simplified as green energy and carbon reduction by the government, which he said is a clear misunderstanding, and so TANGO's main goal is to bring back experience and knowledge from other countries.

Wang said the team would also present environmental issues on agriculture, food safety, community development and other aspects, as well as introduce the 22 endemic species of wild birds in Taiwan to other countries.

At the press conference, Democratic Progressive Party Legislator Tien Chiu-chin (田秋堇) said many people outside the country have the impression that Taiwanese are good at doing business and that many products are made from factories in Taiwan, but the importance of TANGO's participation is to show the world that there are also many people who are making efforts to protect Taiwan's environment and be responsible members of the global community.

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"We hope to learn how other countries deal with environmental issues at a community level, such as the problematic use of toxic furnace bottom ash," TANGO member and Tainan Community University instructor Lin Yuan-li (林元笠) said, adding that "voices from communities are more direct, without the information being screened by the governments in advance."

Another attending member, lead vocalist Chiang Yu-ta (江育達) of the band The Village Armed Youth (農村武裝青年) sang a song called Formosa Etude at the press conference and said that aside from being seen at the exhibition stand, he hopes Taiwan's voice can also be heard by the rest of the world.