

## **Newsletter Peer review Netherlands Sustainable Development Strategy**

March 27th, 2007

This newsletter is intended to inform all those interested in this project and is updated regularly. For questions please contact Fieke Krikhaar, project manager, +31 70 3155213 or Fieke.Krikhaar@rmno.nl.

Have a view at our website for the latest news; [www.rmno.nl](http://www.rmno.nl).

### **What has happened since 22nd January?**

\* Scoping meeting: During the scoping meeting on 1-2 February 2007, reviewers met for the first time. They also met with Dutch experts and the consultant, Barry Dalal-Clayton. They shared expectations, discussed the background report, set the agenda for the review and assigned tasks among themselves. Pancho Ndebele, one of the reviewers from South Africa was nominated to become the chair of the review team.

\* Interviews: The chair of the peer review team and the consultant conducted several interviews with Dutch stakeholders on 19-20 February 2007. Reason for the interviews was to get a better grip on the Dutch sustainable development. The following people were interviewed:

1. Mr. Fred Langeweg (Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency, MNP).
2. Mr. Johan van Reenen (Head of Environment Department, City of Delft).
3. Mr. Cees M. Plug (Director, Soil, Water and Rural Environment Directorate, Ministry of Housing, Spatial Planning and the Environment, VROM).
4. Mr. Jeroen Bordewijk (Council Member of RMNO, former director Sustainability of Unilever).
5. Mrs. Alice Bouman-Dentener (Secretarty General) and Mrs. Margaretha Bakker (Sustainable Development & International Affairs Officer) ( Netherlands Council of Women).
6. Mr. Gert de Bruijne (Programme Manager, WASTE – advisers on urban environment and development).
7. Mr. Frans Evers (Council Member of RMNO and SCF Secretariat, Globus, Tilburg University).

\* Teleconferences: On 13-15 February 2007 five telephone conferences were organized about process, water, energy and rural area's and agriculture to give more insight in those themes.

\* Additional Information: The RMNO disseminated various literature among the reviewers, by creating a digital library on the website.

### **Coming up**

\* Review: The review will take place from 1 to 5 April 2007. For each session a group of Dutch people is invited, to meet and discuss with the review team. Approximately 12 persons for a plenary session and 6 to 8 for a parallel session. The programme is as follows:

Saturday/Sunday morning  
Arrival of peers in The Hague

Sunday 1 April, The Hague and Rotterdam

13.00 Meeting peers to reconnect and start-up  
15.30 Presentation Fred Langeweg about Sustainability Outlook, MNP  
16.30 Bus leaves for Rotterdam  
17.00 Harbour cruise Rotterdam, reception by Mayor Opstelten  
17.30 Presentations and discussion:  
Sustainable Development in the Rotterdam region, with a focus on energy  
19.30 Dinner

#### Monday 2 April, The Hague

08.30 Plenary session Government (ministries, provinces, cities, water boards)  
10.00 Welcome by Jacqueline Cramer, Minister of the Environment and Spatial Planning  
11.00 Plenary session NGO's and Business  
12.30 Lunch  
13.30 Plenary session Politicians (parliament, provinces and cities)  
15.15 Parallel sessions Planning bureaus and Science/Education  
17.00 Reflection among the peers  
19.00 Dinner

#### Tuesday 3 April, The Hague

09.00 Plenary session Rural area's/agriculture  
12.15 Lunch  
13.30 Parallel sessions Water and Energy  
17.00 Reflection among the peers  
19.00 Dinner

#### Wednesday 4 April, The Hague

09.00 Plenary discussion on Process  
12.15 Lunch  
13.30 Observers discussion with peers  
14.40 Peers discuss and form recommendations  
19.00 Dinner

#### Thursday 5 April, The Hague

09.00 Peers discuss and form recommendations  
12.15 Working lunch: Presentation of draft recommendations to steering committee  
14.00 Presentation of draft recommendations to representatives of several ministries  
16.00 Bert Koenders, Minister of Development Cooperation (with reservations)  
17.00 Drinks and farewell

\* Presentation: The review rapport with results will be presented on a conference, 27th June 2007. Before that, on April 5th, at the end of the review, the (draft) recommendations are presented.