



Knowledge to lead

# e-Courses on International Environmental Law

7 February to 3 April 2011

## 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 training activities with internet-based ones. Thus, since 2003, UNITAR has been successfully delivering e-learning courses through its Internet Platform.

The e-Courses on International Environmental Law (IEL) allows participants to combine learning and work and to benefit from high quality courses in IEL at low cost. The courses are given by renowned experts and professors in international law who 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.

## e-Courses' Goal

The aim of the 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

- 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;
- Examine and interpret the content of MEAs.

## e-Courses

UNITAR offers four e-courses on IEL which will be moderated by well-known international experts in environmental law.

**Courses 1 and 4** can be taken separately. However, to take **Course 2** participants must have previously followed course 1, and to take **Course 3** participants must have followed courses 1 and 2.

Each year UNITAR runs two sessions of the e-courses on IEL. Please note that the courses can be followed in different sessions.

- e-Course 1** Introduction to International Environmental Law, from 7 to 20 February 2011
- e-Course 2** International Environmental Governance from 21 February to 6 March 2011
- e-Course 3** Techniques and Procedures in IEL from 7 to 20 March 2011
- e-Course 4** International Environmental Negotiations from 21 March to 3 April 2011



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## Organization and Methodology

The e-Courses in IEL will be conducted in English and be delivered during 8 weeks starting on Monday, 7 February 2011. Each one of the four courses is to be completed in two weeks time. **The completion of the four courses requires 8 weeks of committed study, with an average study-time of 8 hours per week.**

The e-courses will be given through UNITAR's virtual platform. The learning activities are based on sound adult learning pedagogical principles. They include, among others, self-assessment activities, case studies, discussion forums, 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 45.

## Target Audience

The e-courses are addressed to stakeholders involved in environmental issues. Specifically, the e-courses target:

- 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. Reduced fees are available for participants from least developed countries, developing countries and countries with economies in transition. **Thus, course fees range from USD 100 to USD 400 per e-course.**

Please consult the following link:

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

Interested individuals can register online at:

<http://www.unitar.org/ilp/>

**The deadline for registration is 28 January 2011.**

## Final Certificate

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).

## Contact

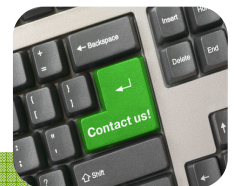
For more detailed information about the e-courses on IEL, please visit the International Law Programme's website at <http://www.unitar.org/ilp/> or contact:

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