

Date : 1 November, 2010
Time : 14:10 to 16.30 Hrs
Workshop : 9
Title : Global Challenges and Global Governance
Session : 1
Coordinator : Rixa Schwarz
Rapporteur : Poornima



Session 1

Chair : Brendan Mackey
Co-Chair : Bharat Desai

Speaker : Alexander Likhotal
Topic : Governance and ethics

Notes:

- Encouraging to see so many young eyes.
- Refer to yesternight musical event and said about India tradition and culture, its philosophical depth. It's the land of understanding meaning of life and meaning of human being which are two message of importance.
- Need to bridge the governance. There are 41 institutions within UN dealing with environmental governance. Their is problem of effectiveness in governance.

- It's easy to blame government and company, they are just feeding our needs. Giving an example of TV set remote, in a big city of Mumbai, if everybody keeps the red light of the remote on; the amount of energy required for the same will be equal to have a small nuclear power plant. The governments are feeding not needs but artificial need. We need to change ourselves to change the world.
- People doubt about UN bodies and wish to have negotiations outside in G7 or other bodies but climate change can't be just economically driven. Business is about making profit which it is best at.
- We can say we are living in Midas civilization, whatever we touch turns into money but money can not be the driver.
- Talking about role of EC, he referred; EC is important as reference document telling whether we are doing well. EC has holistic view including international system, organisation and individuals. EC says about global interdependence.
- Recently General Assembly of UN approved the right to water. It is because of EC principals.
- Concluding his remarks he said however, EC is not something that will change the planet, it's a text book and how much we learn from text book is upto us.

Speaker : Miroslav Polzer

Topic: Global governance and its effectiveness

Notes:

- New approaches to new governance in three parts;
 1. blueprint for philanthropy,
 2. EC principal and global governance and
 3. Four suggestion
- The objective of new approaches are partnership with UNESCO and intergenerational equity and said that science is not enough, it only tells the probability of disasters.
- To ethical shift EC can play an important role.
- New lines of actions are required. There are two options, one is smooth negotiation which can be achieved by education and the second is the worst case scenario where extreme weather events will force the world to change something.
- Four suggestions are
 1. To organise thematic debate in General Assembly of UN.

2. EC can be linked with normative framework of UN like Article 29 that tell the principals of UN declaration of Human Rights
 3. _____
 4. To launch global philanthropic citizenship
- I propose that Indian billionaire could support global philanthropic initiative but I was told that Indian look at local charity.

In the question answer session of the workshop, some interesting comments were made. For example, Ella from Philippines asked about the plans for the Global Compact as to how to mobilize the civil society? Answering the question, Mirsalov said that however, it is still an idea, observing the financial transparency of resources. Ella said that if grasroot are not mobilised, it could be another 1992 referring to Rio movement. Later, at the session Brat Desai joined talked about the mobilization of resources and politicians. We need youth to be mobilized. Alex said that 1992 would not happen because merging of NGOs is not possible, which is tragic and funny at the same time. We are just contradicting each other and unless we resolve this we will not be able to achieve governance. It is not for UN to mobilize the civil society. He referenced to Russian demonstration “Legitimate source of power is people and Gandhi’s seven sins- “faith without sacrifice” to conclude his remark

Another question was put up Snigdha as to if failure COP15 is to be considered as a failure of social civil society? Answering to the question, Bharat Desai who joined the session late, said that there is an immense pressure on government and the civil society. The problem is of split civil society and the questions should be framed in the cultural context as well. At the end of the workshop, youth participation was discussed in the form of the presentation.