



Berlin, March, 23, 2015

Invitation
Civil G7 Dialogue

hosted by
**the Association of German Development and Humanitarian Aid NGOs (VENRO)
and the German NGO Forum on Environment and Development
in association with the German G7 presidency**

Monday, April 20, 2015, 9.30 – 17.30
Bavarian Mission to the Federal Government,
Behrenstr. 21/22, 10117 Berlin

Dear Madam, dear Sir,

Germany took over the G7 presidency in June 2014. This year's summit will take place on 7 and 8 June 2015 at Schloss Elmau in Bavaria. Important issues will be discussed in a year where new policies, new approaches to global challenges are needed.

VENRO and the German NGO Forum on Environment and Development, in cooperation with the German G7 presidency, take the opportunity to organize an international dialogue forum. Civil society representatives will discuss the key G7 agenda issues with the German G7 presidency, including a session with the involvement of the Chancellor Dr. Angela Merkel.

The range of topics of this cooperation event varies from the role of the G7 in general and its role in the global economy to how it relates to the post 2015 agenda and many important topics of sustainable development. For further details please refer to the program attached below.

Your participation in this event would be very welcome, and we cordially invite you to take part.

For further inquiries please contact Nina Schröder (n.schroeder@venro.org).

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Bernd Bornhorst
Chairman, VENRO

Jürgen Maier
Director, German NGO Forum
on Environment and Development

Programme

Facilitation: Jule Reimer, Journalist, Deutschlandfunk

9.30 – 10.00	Registration open
10.00 – 10.30 Plenary	<p>Welcome and Introduction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Dr. Marcel Huber – Head, Bavarian State Chancellery/Germany ▪ Prof. Dr. h.c. Christa Randzio-Plath – Vice Chairperson, VENRO/Germany ▪ Jürgen Maier – Director, German NGO Forum on Environment and Development/Germany ▪ MinDir Prof. Dr. Lars-Hendrik Röller – Personal G7 Representative of the German Chancellor, German Chancellery/Germany
10.30 – 12.00 Plenary	<p>Panel: The G7 Summit 2015 – Civil society expectations, criticism and perspectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ben Jackson – Chief Executive BOND/United Kingdom ▪ Sunita Narain – Director General, Centre for Science and Environment /India (tbc) ▪ Amélie Canonne – President, Association Internationale de Techniciens, Experts et Chercheurs /France (tbc) <p>Topics to be discussed: Role of the G7 and its member states in the global economy – are the G7 agenda and policies adequate for the world’s crises – the global economy and financial architecture between green growth and sustainable development: how does the G7 relate to sustainable development and the post-2015 agenda – with respect to post-2015: fundamental principles, eradication of poverty and inequality domestically and globally, planet-sensitive development, human rights based approach, national implementation, monitoring and review process, financing sustainable development – multilateralism and “club governance”</p>
12.00 – 13.00	Lunch Break
13.00 – 14.30 Meeting rooms 1 – 6	<p>Parallel thematic sessions</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Global Economic and Financial Architecture <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ John Hilary – CEO, War on Want/United Kingdom (tbc) ▪ Jürgen Maier – Director, German NGO Forum on Environment and Development/Germany 2. Climate and Energy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Wael Hmaidan – Director, Climate Action Network International/Lebanon ▪ Sven Harmeling – Climate Change Advocacy Coordinator, CARE International/Germany 3. Oceans <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Heike Vesper – Head of the Division of Oceans and Coastlines, World Wide Fund For Nature/Germany (tbc) ▪ Francisco Marí – Policy Adviser for agricultural products and fisheries, “Bread for the World”/Germany ▪ Monica Verbeek – Executive Director, Seas At Risk/Belgium

	<p>4. Health</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Renate Bähr – Executive Director, Stiftung Weltbevölkerung/ Germany ▪ Tankred Stöbe – President, “Doctors without Borders”/Germany ▪ Patrick Bertrand – Global Health Advocates/France <p>5. Women’s Empowerment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Prof. Dr. h.c. Christa Randzio-Plath – Vice Chairperson, VENRO/Germany ▪ Abia Akram – Chairperson, National Forum of Women with Disabilities/Pakistan ▪ Dr. Agnes Abuom – Moderator of World Council of Churches central Committee; Executive Director, Taabco Research/Kenya (tbc) <p>6. Agriculture and Nutrition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Million Belay – Coordinator, Alliance for Food Sovereignty in Africa/Ethiopia (tbc) ▪ Marita Wiggerthale – Policy Adviser for global food affairs and agricultural issues, OXFAM/Germany ▪ Ashish Gupta – Vice President, International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements/India <p>In each Parallel Thematic Session a representative of the G7 Presidency will take part in the discussion.</p>
14.30 – 15.00	Coffee Break
15.00 – 16.30 Plenary	<p>Discussion with German Chancellor Dr. Angela Merkel</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Dr. Agnes Abuom – Moderator of World Council of Churches central Committee; Executive Director, Taabco Research/Kenya ▪ Maude Barlow – National Chairperson, Council of Canadians/Canada ▪ Dr. Bernd Bornhorst – Chairperson, VENRO/Germany ▪ Sebastian Schönauer – Steering Committee, German NGO Forum on Environment and Development/Germany
16.30 – 17.30 Plenary	<p>Way forward</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ John Ruthrauff – Director, InterAction/United States of America ▪ Eiichi Sadamatau – Japan NGO Center for International Cooperation/Japan

The conference will have simultaneous translation (English/German).

Get-together

Parallel thematic sessions

Meeting room 1	<p>Global Economic and Financial Architecture</p> <p>Topics to be discussed: financial market regulation, tax evasion and tax avoidance (BEPS), free trade agreements, deregulation and corporate accountability – growing inequality and what must be done against it – responsibility along global value chains: who benefits, and how to change them</p>
Meeting room 2	<p>Climate and Energy</p> <p>Topics to be discussed: G7 impulses on renewable energy and climate risk management for developing countries, climate finance roadmap (divestment), in the context of G7 contributions to international climate deal</p>
Meeting room 3	<p>Oceans</p> <p>Topics to be discussed: Oceans as ecosystems and source for food, overfishing and pollution, global ocean governance, mining and resource extraction</p>
Meeting room 4	<p>Health</p> <p>Topics to be discussed: increased investments in research and development for health tools (diagnostics, vaccines, prevention technology, drugs) for poverty related and neglected diseases accessible for all – public or private funding of medical research – role of pharmaceutical companies – treatments (incl. rehabilitation measures) of poverty related diseases, NTDs and the development of pediatric medicines (including GAVI and G8 Muskoka commitments) – intellectual property rights, trade policies and the pharma sector – growing resistance to antibiotics and its causes – accessible health systems strengthening (including financial investments in accessible health through existing and new mechanisms)</p>
Meeting room 5	<p>Women’s Economic Empowerment, including women and girls with disabilities</p> <p>Topics to be discussed: empowerment of employed and self-employed women – protection of working women from exploitative working conditions such as in the Bangladesh textile sector – social security mechanisms also for women working in the informal sector, gendered impact of G7 economic policies on women and men, impact of gender based violence on women’s economic empowerment, access to financial and productive resources, markets, financial services, care economy, improved formal and vocational education/training for girls and women</p>
Meeting room 6	<p>Agriculture and Nutrition</p> <p>Topics to be discussed: G8 New Alliance, its state of affairs and evaluation – seeds and who owns them – soil degradation and conservation – Green Innovation Centers – role of agriobusiness in development cooperation and developing countries</p>

Details on the Organization

1. Registration

As spaces are limited, we invite you to fill out an application to attend this conference – **until 10 April 2015** at the latest (please [register here](#)).

We would like to draw your attention to the fact – and hope for your understanding – that participation in the event will only be possible with a binding registration confirmation.

In the case of queries with respect to the application please contact Sabine Kirchleitner: s.kirchleitner@venro.org

Please note that in completing this registration form a security assessment by the German Federal Criminal Police Office (BKA) will come along.

2. Expenses

Any travel and accommodation costs are to be borne by the participants themselves.