

UNITED NATIONS



NATIONS UNIES

POSTAL ADDRESS - ADRESSE POSTALE : UNITED NATIONS, N.Y. 10017

CABLE ADDRESS - ADRESSE TELEGRAPHIQUE : UNATIONS NEWYORK

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL  
CABINET DU SECRETAIRE GENERAL

REFERENCE:

9 November 2007

Dear Ms. Castaño,

I write to express my thanks and appreciation for the copy of UNEP's Global Environment Outlook 4 (GEO-4) which you so kindly shared with me under cover of your letter dated 31 October, 2007.

This is a comprehensive report which I am sure will prove to be a valuable source of information for our work.

Yours sincerely,

  
Vijay Nambiar  
Chef de Cabinet

Ms. Juanita Castaño  
Director – New York Office  
United Nations Environment Programme  
New York

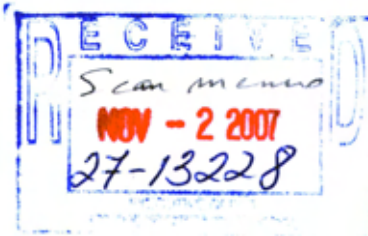
RECEIVED  
NOV 12 2007

27-13228



# United Nations Environment Programme

برنامج الأمم المتحدة للبيئة • 联合国环境规划署  
PROGRAMME DES NATIONS UNIES POUR L'ENVIRONNEMENT • PROGRAMA DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA EL MEDIO AMBIENTE  
ПРОГРАММА ОРГАНИЗАЦИИ ОБЪЕДИНЕННЫХ НАЦИЙ ПО ОКРУЖАЮЩЕЙ СРЕДЕ



31 October 2007

*✓ (w/ report) (kept by CDC)*

Dear Mr. Nambiar,

On behalf of the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Mr. Achim Steiner, I have great pleasure in sending you a copy of UNEP's Global Environment Outlook 4 (GEO-4) which was launched at the United Nations Headquarters, New York, on 25 October with multiple launches around the world.

The GEO-4 report is a culmination of a complex global consultative process in which governments are the main stakeholders. Some 400 individual scientists and policy makers, and more than 50 GEO Collaborating Centres and other partner institutions around the world participated in the assessment over the past four years with many of them volunteering their time and expertise.

The launch of the GEO-4 coincides with the 20th anniversary of the release in 1987 of the report, Our Common Future, which was prepared by the World Commission on Environment and Development. The report uses Our Common Future, as a reference to assess progress in addressing key environment and development issues over the past two decades. With an underlying theme "environment for development", it highlights the vital role of the environment in development and human well-being. Like Our Common Future, the assessment does not paint a picture of doom or defeat, but presents a message of progress, hope and opportunities and offers tools and pathways, which may help, realize such opportunities.

GEO-4 touches on different areas of the United Nations including environment, development, vulnerability, equity, poverty, gender, science and technology, human rights, peace and security, women and children, education, and many others which are key to the realization of the Millennium Development Goals. It also highlights current topical issues such as climate change, biodiversity, water, land and global commons.

Mr. Vijay Nambiar  
Chef de Cabinet  
Office of the Secretary-General  
om S-3830

*A. Achim Steiner*  
*by*

*Dear Janice 11/11  
Could you prepare  
a nice  
acknowledgement  
letter for us?  
Many thanks, JA*

*SIR  
prepared by Janice,  
for your signature.*

*JA 9/11*

WORK OFFICE 2 UN Plaza, Room DC2-0803, New York, NY 10017, USA  
963-8210 - Fax: (212) 963-7341 - e-mail: info@nyo.unep.org - www.nyo.unep.org



I hope you will find the GEO-4 report a useful tool to make the informed decisions in your work. It will be available in the official UN languages to enable people around the world to make use of its findings, form their own opinions and chart the necessary course of action towards sustainability. Additional materials associated with the report can be found, in six languages, on UNEP's website (see [www.unep.org/geo/geo4](http://www.unep.org/geo/geo4)).

It is my hope that this new global assessment will further enhance people's awareness and commitment to the care of our natural environment on which we all depend for our sustenance.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Juanita Castaño".

Juanita Castaño  
Director