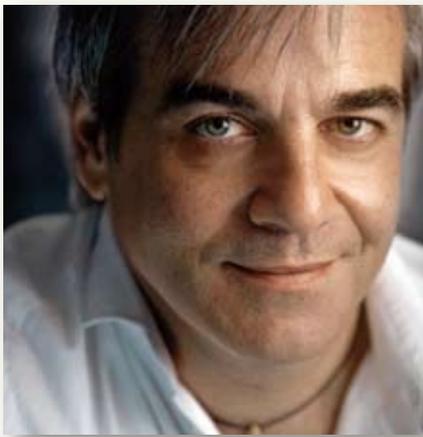


The MIDORI Prize for Biodiversity Announcement of the Recipients



Biologist, Explorer, Filmmaker
Mr. Jean Lemire



Professor, Stanford University
Dr. Gretchen C. Daily



Chairman of the Advisory Council to President of Indonesia
Former Minister of State for Population and the Environment

Dr. Emil Salim



Special Prize
[for the International Year of Biodiversity]
German Chancellor Angela Merkel

October 27, 2010

AEON Environmental Foundation
-The MIDORI Prize for Biodiversity-
Special Prize for the International Year of Biodiversity

The tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP10) is being held in Nagoya, Aichi Prefecture, Japan.

AEON Environmental Foundation which also celebrates its 20th anniversary this year, established The MIDORI Prize for Biodiversity(*1) and announced the three recipients (*2) at a press conference held at the UN Headquarters in New York, USA, on September 21, 2010.

In addition, a Special Prize was established at the suggestion of the Judges, in commemoration of the International Year of Biodiversity declared by the United Nations. Based on the discussion that took place at the Judging Committee Meeting, German Chancellor Angela Merkel was selected as the recipient of the Special Prize for the International Year of Biodiversity.

(*1) The MIDORI Prize for Biodiversity

This Prize is to honor individuals appropriate as “Persons of Biodiversity” who have made outstanding contributions to conservation and sustainable use at local and global levels, developmentally influenced various efforts related to biodiversity, and raised peoples’ awareness about biodiversity.

This Prize was established as an international award for biodiversity following the implementation of the “Japan Awards for Biodiversity 2009, which were co-organized by AEON Environmental Foundation and Japan’s Ministry of the Environment.

(*2) The recipients of the Midori Prize are:

Mr. Jean Lemire (Canada, biologist, explorer and filmmaker),

Dr. Gretchen C. Daily (USA, Professor, Stanford University), and

Dr. Emil Salim (Chairman of the Advisory Council to the President of Indonesia, former Minister of State for Population and the Environment).

1. Outline of the Recipient

<Special Prize for the International Year of Biodiversity>

Angela Merkel (Germany): Chancellor of Germany

German Chancellor Angela Merkel provides strong leadership in global environmental issues including biodiversity and climate change. Her achievement in placing biodiversity as a top agenda item at the Heiligendamm Summit in 2007 was particularly noteworthy. She undertook the review of TEEB and built the foundation for a discussion about the present economy and biodiversity based on the “Potsdam Initiative Biological Diversity 2010” launched at the G8 Environment Ministers Meeting held prior to the 2007 Summit. Also, she is contributing to the mainstreaming of biodiversity from a socio-economic viewpoint by energetically promoting the participation of the business sector, such as in the organization of CBD/COP9 and the establishment of B&B initiatives.

2. Organization and Cooperation

Organization: AEON Environmental Public Incorporated Foundation

Support: Ministry of the Environment, Japan (MOEJ)

Cooperation: Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), United Nations University (UNU)

3. The Judging Committee

Committee Chairman

Takuya Okada (Chairman, AEON Environmental Foundation/Honorary Chairman, AEON Co. Ltd.)

Judges

Ahmed Djoghlaif (Executive Secretary, Convention on Biological Diversity)

Kunio Iwatsuki (Director, The Museum of Nature and Human Activities, Hyogo/Professor Emeritus, University of Tokyo)

Konrad Osterwalder (Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations/
Rector of the United Nations University)

Shiro Wakui (Professor, Department of Environmental and Information Studies, Tokyo City University/Professor, Chubu University)

Eric Falt (Assistant Director-General for External Relations and Public Information, UNESCO, ex-Director of the Outreach Division, Department of Public Information, United Nations)

Advisor Daizaburo Kuroda (Senior Councilor, Ministry of the Environment, Japan)

4. Award Ceremony and Prize Money

- The Award Ceremony of the MIDORI Prize for Biodiversity will be held on October 27 (Wednesday), 2010 during the reception hosted by the Japanese Minister of the Environment in Nagoya, Aichi Prefecture, Japan.

Mrs. Ursula Heinen-Esser, the Parliamentary State Secretary of the Government of

Germany, will be present at the Award Ceremony on behalf of the German

Chancellor Angela Merkel.

- A wooden plaque and a prize of five hundred thousand US dollars will be awarded to the recipient of the Special Prize for the International Year of Biodiversity.

5. Attachment

- “Reason for Awarding and Biographical Summary” of the recipient

6. Comprehensive cooperation between AEON Environmental Foundation and the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity

Based on the establishment of the Midori Prize for Biodiversity, AEON Environmental Foundation and the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity reached agreement

on October 26, 2010, that they should comprehensively cooperate domestically and internationally on the conservation of biodiversity.

(Cooperation between the two parties)

①

Implementation of programmes related to biodiversity such as education for youth, PR activities and planting of trees.

② Promotion of the Midori Prize for Biodiversity.

Inquiries

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*The image of the German Chancellor is licenced under the Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 2.5 Generic

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Attachment

Reasons for Awarding and Biographical Summary German Chancellor Angela Merkel (Germany)

Born in 1954 (age 56)

German Chancellor

German Chancellor Angela Merkel has demonstrated strong leadership in global environmental issues including climate change and biodiversity conservation policy at national, EU and international levels since assuming office in 2005.

Based on the results of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (2005), Chancellor Merkel incorporated wording that “biodiversity constitutes the indispensable foundation of our lives and of global economic development” into the Chair’s conclusion, demonstrating recognition that biodiversity and ecosystem service are the very basis for economy and society.

Under Chancellor Merkel’s strong leadership, Germany has endeavored to mainstream biodiversity and nature conservation in development strategies especially in respect of the private sector. For the first time at a Group of Eight (G8) Summit, Chancellor Merkel focused on biodiversity at the Summit held in Heiligendamm, Germany, and raised head-of-state awareness about biodiversity as an important political issue. Similarly, intensive discussion about biodiversity was conducted at the G8 Environmental Ministers’ meeting in Potsdam, and then the Potsdam Initiative (Biodiversity 2010) was adopted. As a part of the Potsdam Initiative, TEEB (The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity) and B & B (Business and Biodiversity initiative) were promoted, and such initiatives greatly promoted the mainstreaming of biodiversity from a socio-economic viewpoint.

It is a notable achievement that Chancellor Merkel hosted the 9th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD/COP9), stimulated the discussion about business and biodiversity, and consolidated the mainstreaming of biodiversity that started at CBD/COP8.

Germany took the lead in providing financial support for the conservation of biodiversity in the High-Level Segment of CBD/COP9, announced in 2008. Merkel pledged EUR 500 million for the protection of forests and ecosystems between 2009 and 2012 and an additional EUR 500 million each year thereafter under the Life Web initiative.

Chancellor Merkel has also recently proposed to set up a new body to deal with the science of biodiversity to support decision makers in formulating their biodiversity conservation policies, the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES), a similar institution to the UN panel of climate scientists, the

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).

In summary, Chancellor Merkel has successfully raised global awareness of biodiversity as an important political issue. She has contributed to mainstreaming of biodiversity from a socio-economic viewpoint including initiating TEEB and B&B and greatly promoted the implementation of the Life Web Initiative, which contributes to expanding protected areas, and the establishment of IPBES. Her achievements are highly valued and deserve this year's special prize that commemorates the International Year of Biodiversity (IYB).

Biographical Summary

- 1973~1978 Studied Physics at Leipzig University
- 1986 Awarded a doctorate
- 1978~1990 Member of the academic staff at the Central Institute of Physical Chemistry at the Academy of Sciences
- 1990 Deputy Government Spokeswoman of the de Maizière Government
- 1990~ Member of the German Bundestag
- 1991~1994 Federal Minister for Women and Youth
- 1994~1998 Federal Minister for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety
- 1998~2000 General Secretary of the CDU Germany
- 2000~ Chairwoman of the Christian Democratic Union Germany (CDU)
- 2002~2005 Chairwoman of the CDU/CSU parliamentary group in the German Bundestag
- 2005~ Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany

Record of Honors and Awards

- From 2006 to 2009 The Most Powerful Woman in the World (*Forbes Magazine*)
- 2007 Honorary doctorate from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem
- 2008 Grand Cross of the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany
- 2008 Charlemagne Prize
- 2008 Honorary doctorate from Leipzig University
- 2008 Honorary doctorate from University of Technology in Wrocław (Poland)
- 2008 CBD Award