Office of the Chairman

24 September 2008

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

I write to give my warmest recommendations and support to the initiative entitled “World Wide Views (WWV) on Global Warming”. I am particularly honoured to accept the WWV invitation to serve as their Ambassador, because of its strong commitment to the involvement of civil society in contributing to a fair, effective and reasonable solution to the challenge posed by global warming.

I feel strongly that we can integrate successful climate change policies into our overall sustainable development strategy, thereby solving the two most pressing and interlinked issues of this century. Policymakers will be more likely to accept and implement “win-win” solutions, where we address not only climate change adaptation (to protect the world’s poor and vulnerable) and mitigation (by curbing the greenhouse gas emissions of the more affluent), but also other immediate development issues like poverty, hunger, ill health, energy and water scarcities, etc.

This project is unique, in that it enables citizen participation on a global scale -- and what topic could be better than global warming, which is going to affect every human being on the planet! We need everyone’s commitment to identify and implement the right solutions. “World Wide Views on Global Warming” therefore provides a most welcome opportunity for civil society (and business) to make their views known. This will help policy makers make speedy and effective decisions on a climate policy that will also make development more sustainable in the future.

My hope is that the negotiators at COP15 will pay attention to the views of the citizens mobilised globally through this project, and I encourage concerned institutions, organisations and individuals around the world to contribute as much as possible to its success.

Yours sincerely,

Mohan Munasinghe.
Chairman, MIND
Director-General, Sustainable Consumption Institute (SCI), University of Manchester, UK.
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