
The Global Forum for Environmental Education

Volume 13, number 1 + 2, 2003



CONFERENCE 2003 – Kisumu

CONFERENCE 2004 - Thessaloniki
July 1-6



Caretakers of the Environment
A global network for teachers, educators and students

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CEI headquarters:
.1 Homtje 10
1862 BB Bergen NH
The Netherlands
tel.++ 72-5814857
fax.++72-5814858
e-mail: wals38@zonnet.nl

CEI homepage:
www.caretakers4all.org/

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Nassauplein 8
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Notes for contributors
We welcome contributions in the form of articles, poetry, art work or reports related to environmental education in the broadest sense, as long as they are at least of interest to teachers and/or students at the upper secondary school level.

Text
Text should be in WORD format for windows or else without format in plain text or rtf. An article can have a maximum length of 750 words. Footnotes should be avoided. Please accompany each article by a short summary and an address for further information. If you are unable to use a computer, we still welcome your contributions!

Tables, figures and illustrations
Do not include tables, figures and illustrations as part of the text. Gather them together in a separate file or on paper. In the text you can point out the approximate position of tables, figures and illustrations. We would also like to receive captions to the illustrations you send us. **We always welcome pictures and photographs!**

Deadlines
Global Forum appears twice a year in June and in December. Contributions for the June issue have to be received before May the 1st. Contributions for the December issue before November the 1st.

Please send your contributions to:

E-mail: Mr Cris Leibner (USA and the rest of the world!) cris@kmsd.edu

Or by snail mail to:
Kettle Moraine High school
349 Oak Crest Drive
Wales, Wisconsin 53183 USA

or Mr Denis Charron (Europe)
charron@ac-grenoble.fr

2004 Conference – GREECE – July
1-6



Presidential message

Dear friends,

The threat of global terrorism has had a big impact on Caretakers since I became President at the Italian conference in July 2002. An understandable reluctance to travel because of the perceived safety risks plus the lack of sponsors for the 2003 conference in Kisumu, western Kenya, reduced the global impact of such an event. The conference was however a big success at a regional level. It was chance to bring together teachers, educators (at primary, secondary and university level) and environmental organisations to discuss the future for the education of young people and how to empower them to make effective decisions. The international views came from the delegates from Finland, India, Ireland and Hong Kong. I must praise them for their contribution without which the global flavour of Caretakers would have been lost.

On a personal level, I would like to thank the support of Council members, Clara Brandao from Portugal and Anne-Marie Beggs from Scotland. Their experience was invaluable in ensuring that the conference ran smoothly. I would also like to thank Caretakers USA who gave financial support to the Kenyan organisers.

Anyone who attended the conference was struck by the good natured enthusiasm of the Kenyan people but at the same time the absolute levels of poverty which are hindering development. Having witnessed the structures set up under Caretakers Kenya, I would encourage anyone reading this publication to help them in anyway they can to progress the various projects set up at the conference. They would welcome money of course but also need equipment, basic materials and stationary. Details can be found for Caretakers Kenya at the back of this publication. You can rest assured that this is a legitimate organisation.

We now look forward to visiting Greece for the 18th annual conference in July 2004. It is important that you all register early, confirm your participation by submitting a project outline, start booking provisional flights to Thessaloniki or Athens, start selecting delegates

and start seeking sponsors. The delay in announcing the conference lies in the fact that it was not possible to confirm arrangements during the Kenyan conference. We are confident that the team in

Greece have the experience and support to run the conference with the Caretakers ethos. Apologies are due to Global Forum subscribers for the delay in production. This delay has been as a result of a combination of the uncertainties described above and a lack of articles submitted for recent editions. I would encourage young people especially to write for the Global Forum. It really is a chance for you to publish your work.

Thank you to Cris Leibner for taking on the honourous task of editing the Global Forum. See you all in Thessaloniki in July!

Until the next message,
Andrew Cox
Waterford Orienteers
Public Relations Officer
Website: www.iol.ie/~newtownw/wato
Alternative e-mail:
wato2@waterfordireland.com
Irish Orienteering website: www.orienteeering.ie

Orienteering is competitive navigation on foot. If you enjoy running or walking, if you are interested in maps and navigation, or if you like outdoor sport, then orienteeering is for you.

Caretakers of the Environment International 2004 Conference, Greece, Thessaloniki.

Date 1-6 July 2004

Theme: School and Agenda 21.

Organiser: Dina Tamoutseli,

2 Lyceum Neapolis,

Kalidou 88,

Thessaloniki

55131 Greece

For more information e-mail:

ktam@nured.auth.gr

Editorials by Cris Leibner

Normally the Global Forum is distributed to Caretaker members twice each year. There will only be one issue for the year 2003. It was decided to delay the release of the GF until such time that information for it would be up to date accurate, and timely. Both conference sponsors, Kenya and Greece, had to establish national branches following specific guidelines set forth by their respective governments. This takes time to be done properly. They also had to organize conference site accommodations, enlist staff and volunteers, plan agenda, procure presenters, and find funding. Both countries have done an outstanding job accomplishing much in a limited time. Kenya's conference was a success and we are looking forward to Greece in 2004.

Caretakers of the Environment Leadership Change

I have known Arjen Wals, the past president of CEI, and Andrew Cox, the current president, since the first CEI conference in The Netherlands in 1987. Arjen had played an outstanding role in leading the Caretakers through incredible growth providing thousands of youth with enriching experiences about their place in their own environments. It was a somber day in Italy, 2002, when Arjen announced his retirement from the position of president of Caretakers International from the steps of the convention center in Turin. But the crowd of Caretakers standing around these steps knew that the aims and objectives they believed in would be continued because they knew the level of commitment and involvement of the new president, Andrew Cox, was unsurpassed by anyone there. If you

have ever hill-walked with Andrew like I have, you know the man certainly has the energy and drive to carry out the Caretakers mission.

A bit about myself

I am Mr. Cris Leibner and I am from Delafield, Wisconsin, USA. We are about two hours by automobile north of Chicago, and about two hours by airplane west of New York City (22 hours by automobile). I have been a biology and general science teacher at Kettle Moraine High School for 32 years. I have taken students to 12 Caretaker annual conferences including the very first one in Holland in 1987.

I am pleased to assume a larger role in the production of the Global Forum and would encourage all of you to contribute articles, photos, and new ideas about environmental education to this publication so it will be meaningful and useful to all who read it.

Mr. Denis Charron is also accepting contributions (Europe) charron@ac-grenoble.fr

Partner School Wanted For Marine Project

A high school in Landskrona, southern Sweden, is looking for a partner school to plan, conduct and evaluate a marine comparative project. Examples of project focus could be benthic habitats and the diversity/abundance of their inhabitants or a settling experiment involving pelagic larvae. We offer special courses in marine biology and the school also has boat access in the Oresund region. Ages of students are 17-18 years. Does this interest you? Do you have other ideas about what to study? Contact mats.svensson@lks-gy.org



**18th Caretakers of the Environment
International Youth Conference
Thessaloniki, July 1st to 6th 2003**



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Justification for the Forum

Local involvement is a key component of Agenda 21; local communities and environments are the most significant action fields. Education for sustainable development is committed to changing values attitudes and actions. But it is the way in which these changes take place that is fundamental, especially for young people.

If actions are changed through the full participation of young people this is likely to empower them, to produce an appreciation of the value of democratic processes and to strengthen concepts of citizenship. Schools are also important focal points for local communities and the catalytic impact of participatory schools on the sustainable actions and values of local communities cannot be over estimated.

If Agenda 21 is essentially about the creation of a sustainable, ecological, economic and social future; it is for the young people of the planet that this sustainable future is most important.

Conference fees:

170 Euros for the first 162 participants who will be accommodated in AFS premises
220 Euros for the ones to be accommodated in Hotels.
Plus **15 Euros** membership fee CEI

Fees cover full accommodation for 5 days (5 nights bed) & breakfast and two meals and coffee breaks per day. It also includes the transport cost for one day excursion to a seaside resort, the site visits and transport from the hotel to and from the venue place.

Organizers

- Directorate of secondary education west
Thessaloniki Environmental education office

- Caretakers-Greece
- Caretakers of the environment international

Collaborators

- Directorates of Education of East Thessaloniki, Magnesia and Pella Counties
- National Center of Environment and Sustainable Development
- Municipalities of Neapolis, Sikies, Polichnis
- Association for the Development of NW Thessaloniki

Proposed Activities of the Conference

The conference would involve those interested in the practice theory and policy of education for sustainable development (ESD) through local Agenda 21. Delegates would include university lecturers, advisors, and education officers for NGOs and other agencies. Those involved in the implementation of ESD in schools, teachers, outdoor educators, community educators. Most importantly it would involve those for whom ESD is most important; pupils.

The conference would last 5 days It would consist of three main activities:

1. Keynote presentations from academics, policy makers, practitioners and pupils to all delegates. These would take place at the start of each of the sessions of the conference. These will refer to the principles of children's participation, participation in design, the involvement of local communities and evaluation.
2. seminars, poster sessions and workshops
3. The final session would be the only one organised on parallel lines.

Each of the three sectors would be divided into discussion groups of about 15 delegates to discuss the main recommendations they would make to increase and make more effective children's participation in local Agenda 21 through schooling.

The recommendations of each group would then be co-ordinated by sector and then presented at concluding

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plenary session. The organising committee would collate these presentations and forward the recommendations of the conference to the governments of the all the countries participating in the conference, the European Union, UNESCO, UNICEF and other interested parties

About / The Concept

Prevention is better than cure

There is only one Earth. Even so we are not looking after it as we should. We exploit faster than we replenish. We use rather than reuse. The greatest challenge facing mankind, today and in future, is how to look after the Earth's resources and create an ecologically sustainable society. So that the next generation will really be the next generation. The only option is to find, explore and utilise preventive environmental strategies.

Suggested Topics

- School agenda 21
- Sustainable cities
- Sustainable tourism
- Sustainable Nature Resource and energy management
- Sustainable agriculture
- Equal opportunities of access to nature, social, cultural, economic resources for all people on the planet
- Sustainable transport
- Sustainable management of nature and cultural heritage



Pictures above show students carrying out mapping and identification of flora using two detailed transects in each 3x10 meter area.

Waste Project

Caretakers of the Environment-Kenya (CATEK) in Oyugis town started this clean up activity in 1999. They began by conducting clean up awareness workshops in the area around the town. Local people embraced the idea and word spread. Soon students, school staff,



market owners and homeowners willingly joined in the clean up efforts.



Entire communities take part in cleaning

The idea of classifying rubbish into organic and toxic classes was a new idea introduced to the area. The concept of recycling was also new and resulted in planning for a facility to be used by all community members. Some of the waste collected has been found to be a suitable substitute for lighting charcoal stoves (Jikos). CATEK has made long term plans to continue assisting with and supporting the effort to keeping a cleaner environment.

Thanks go to the following groups for their generous contributions to making this a successful project:

- Clean up International Committee
- Heifer project- International
- Oyugis town council staff
- Omwagore Retail Shop
- CATEK staff
- All volunteers including U.S. Peace Corps (Jack and Ann serving in the area)

2003 Kenya Caretakers Conference Photo Gallery

Catek Tree Nursery



CEI President Andrew Cox and conference attendees



Nayandiela Secondary School Visit



**Article on RIACA for Global
Forum
by Lotier Rose
Secretary, RIACA**

RIACA, where it came from and where it is going...

The CEI coordinators of Argentina, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Mexico, Nicaragua, Portugal, St. Vincent (the Caribbean) and Spain formed the Caretakers Network for Iberoamerica and the Caribbean (RIACA) as a platform to strengthen the presence of the Americas in CEI and in the world at large.

This organization was formally established on the 3 of July 2002 during the II Global Environmental Youth Convention of Caretakers of the Environment International (CEI) held at Pracatinat, in the province of Turin, Italy.

The following CEI country coordinators were elected as part of the first executive committee, which will be on duty until 31 of July 2004:

President: Jose Miguel Molina
(Costa Rica)
e-mail: gaia@correo.co.cr

Vice-president: Gustavo Horacio Vera
(Argentina)
e-mail:
caretakersarg@fullzero.com.ar

Secretary: Lotier Rose
(St. Vincent, Caribbean)
e-mail:
sjcmgevc@hotmail.com

Treasurer: Eugenio Saro
(Dominican Republic)
e-mail:
eugeniosaro@hotmail.com

Assistant Treasurer: Beatriz Reyes
(Mexico)

e-mail: bettyre@hotmail.com

Committee Member: Cris Leibner
(United States)

e-mail: cleibner@wi.rr.com or cris@kmsd.edu

Committee Member: Jose Ramon Casanova
(Spain)

e-mail: jrcasanova@ya.com

The main objective of our organization is to work collectively sharing ideas related to different environmental problems and finding solutions to these problems through the promotion of Environmental Education in each country.

This organization is being established as a non-governmental organization affiliated with Caretakers of the Environment International (CEI), providing emphasis on environmental education at all educational levels in both public and private schools.

RIACA has recently opened a web page within the web site of Jose Ramon Casanova's school in Galicia, Spain. This will be used by student and teacher members of RIACA as a forum for the exchange of ideas, programs, projects, etc. We are currently involved in our "Proyecto Puentes" building environmental bridges across our countries. To send your contributions or just to visit the site go to www.apinguela.com and then open our page by clicking RIACA.



First meeting of RIACA organizers in Turin

OUR AMERICA

Kenneth Ochoa Vargas
kennethochoa@hotmail.com
BOGOTÁ, COLOMBIA

When I close my eyes and I hear taking about America, what should I understand? I live in Colombia, a country that belongs to South America, Latin America, Hispanic America, Iberia America, but really, where does it belong?

When most of the people hear the word "America", they think immediately about the United States of America (USA), but no more. If they hear "North America", their concept grows till Canada and in maybe Mexico, other people think about some countries of Centre America, or they just forget them.

But the real America, the union of 49 countries and colonies, the 42'037.000 squared kilometres of land, the 680 million of people the 15.300 kilometres of length from south to north, for some years has been misunderstood. People reduce the concept just to a 23% of the American Land, this is U.S.A., like I refer before.

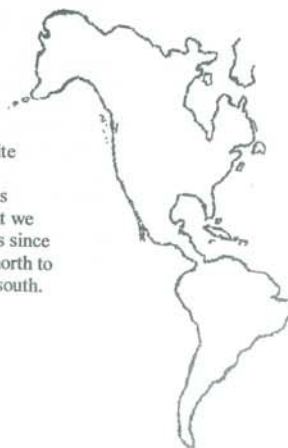
America, the new world, Cristobal Colon's salvation, the mother of the Apaches, Red Skins, Mayas, Muiscas, Chibchas, Mexitas, Incas, Aztecs, and other indigenous cultures, the mine of gold of Europe, nowadays it is not considerate like just one being this is a big mistake telling that we are in different places: America and Latin America. This is as similar as telling that sub-Saharan Africa is not part or is

different to Africa, as Europe has little Europes (Mediterranean, Scandinavian, etc).

It could be interesting to know if, when someone talks about continents, Europe is not just one, Asia is not just one, Africa is not just one, the Antarctic is not just one ... so, America is also just one: North, Centre and South America, English and Latin America, we are just one, we are not some, we are not two or three, we are just one.

At the end of the XV century and the beginning of the XVI century, the Italian Amerigo Vespucci (Amerigo Vespuccio as he was known in Spain), went round the coast of South America, from Brazil till the Patagonia, and because he discovered that those lands were not the ones that at the beginning Spanish were looking for, but the New World, M. Waldseemüller decided to baptise it in his honour: AMERICA.

So now, in the year 2002, 510 years after the discovery of the new world, let's recognise one more time that we are part of the same land, a same continent, a same mother Earth, who has seen us born and grow up, let us accept that our mother America is just one and put away every thing that invite us to split up. Let us recognise that we are Americans since the Extreme north to the Extreme south.



NUESTRA AMERICA
(In Spanish)

Kenneth Ochoa Vargas
kennethchoa@hotmail.com
BOGOTÁ, COLOMBIA

Cuando cierro los ojos y oigo hablar de América, ¿qué debo entender? Vivo en Colombia, país perteneciente a Sudamérica, Latinoamérica, Hispanoamérica, Iberoamérica, pero realmente, ¿a dónde pertenece?

Cuando la mayoría de las personas escuchan la palabra "América", inmediatamente piensan en los Estados Unidos de América (EUA), pero en nada más. Si escuchan "América del Norte", su concepto se amplía a Canadá, y en algunos casos, México; algunos piensan en países de Centro América, otros simplemente los olvidan.

Pero la verdadera América, aquella unión de 49 países y colonias, los 42'037.000 kilómetros cuadrados de tierra, los 680 millones de personas y los 15.300 kilómetros de longitud de sur a norte, desde hace unos años ha sido mal entendida. La gente reduce el concepto solamente a un 23% del territorio Americano, esto es EUA.

América: el nuevo mundo, la salvación de Cristóbal Colón, la madre de los Apaches, Pieleros rojas, Mayas, Aztecas, Incas, Chibchas, Mexitas, Muiscas, Quimbayas, Araguakos, entre otras culturas indígenas, la mina de oro de Europa, hoy en día ya no es considerada como una sola, por algunos, y es aquí cuando se comete el error. Decir que América y Latinoamérica son diferentes equivale a decir que África

Subsahariana está en otro continente, o no es igual, hablando en términos de masa continental, al total de África. O que Europa tiene pequeñas Europas (mediterránea, escandinava, etc.).

Sería interesante saber si, cuando se habla de continentes, Europa es una sola, Asia es una sola, África es una sola, la Antártida es una sola y Oceanía también es una sola. Pues así mismo América es una sola: Norte, Centro y Sur hacen parte de un solo continente, América Inglesa y América Latina, somos un solo continente, no somos varios, no somos dos o tres o miles de Américas.

A finales del siglo XV y comienzos del XVI, el italiano Amerigo Vespucci (Américo Vespucio como era conocido en España) recorrió la costa de América del Sur, desde Brasil hasta la Patagonia, y gracias a que descubrió que dichas tierras no eran las que en un principio buscaban los españoles, sino un Nuevo Mundo, M. Waldseemüller decidió bautizarlo en su honor: AMÉRICA.

Pues ahora, en el año 2002, 510 años después del descubrimiento del Nuevo Mundo, reconozcamos una vez más que pertenecemos a un mismo territorio, a un mismo continente a una misma madre tierra que nos ha visto nacer y crecer, aceptemos que nuestra madre es América que es una sola y dejemos de lado todo aquello que nos invite a separarnos. Reconozcamos que somos Americanos desde la punta del norte hasta la punta del sur.

**Caretakers of the Environment
International (CEI)/Indonesia**
<http://caretakers.boker.org.il>



What does it take to enable students to see the planet as one interdependent environment? Caretakers of the Environment, CEI, believes this can be best achieved by encouraging students to meet and work together. By organizing annual international conferences, publishing a periodical for teachers and students by teachers and students, establishing national branches and organizing national and regional workshops, CEI is creating a worldwide network of secondary school teachers and students who are actively concerned about environmental issues and who are willing to do something about these issues through their education and their actions.

The network aims to heighten awareness of the fact that many countries share a variety of environmental problems and that solutions are best achieved by international cooperation based on a shared sense of responsibility. CEI encourages the building of trust, friendship and cooperation among people of different cultural backgrounds and the development of links between organizations. The CEI's goals are to face environmental challenges, share successful and encourage international data exchange and interdisciplinary activities.

Caretakers started in 1986. Constitution and statutes of CEI were written by students and teachers and in 1989 it was established as a non-for-profit cooperation.

The Indonesian national branches was established in 2001 and is called 'Caretakers of the Environment International/Indonesia' (CEI/Indonesia).

Pandu Pertiwi
(CARETAKERS OF THE
ENVIRONMENT INTERNATIONAL/
INDONESIA)

Email: pandupertiwi@telkom.net
Fax + 62-31-7415017

Contact person: Stien Matakupan
C/o Sekolah Ciputra
Kawasan Puri Widya Kencana
Citra Raya. Surabaya 60219
Indonesia
e-mail: stein_m@hotmail.com

LONG DISTANCE COURSE ON
BIODIVERSITY 2003-2004
and
ASIA AND PACIFIC ENVIRONMENTAL
YOUTH CONVENTION 2004

Organized by

Pandu Pertiwi
(Caretakers of the Environment
International/Indonesia)

Together with

Sekolay Tinggi Manajemen Informatika dan
Teknik Komputer (STIKOM) Surabaya
Universitas Negeri Surabaya (UNESA)

BACKGROUND

One third of the world's population are youngsters, teenagers and youth, and they need a voice to find and determine their own future. Their active role in environment protection and preservation and their involvement on decisions about the environment and development really determines the success of this earth's long term plans.

A road map to a sustainable development is now taking shape. The global momentum to achieve a sustainable development and the applicance of agenda 21's principal, will be

successful with the involvement of every aspect continuously including the policy for teenagers' guidance in sustainable development.

Long distance course on Biodiversity which is followed with Asia and Pacific Environmental Youth Convention are proof of agenda 21's commitment. A series of activities will prepare the high school students to explore issues and the concept of diversity and improve the strategy of integration in environmental education in school using a high school competitive based curriculum in an era of decentralisation.

GOAL

- o Build awareness in biological variety effort with principle of togetherness tolerance and participation.
- o Sharing experience.
- o Digging up the meaning of biological variety issues in regional Asia and Pacific level.

EXPECTED RESULT

- o Strengthening high school network in Asia and Pacific level who are actively concerned about environmental issues and who are willing to do something about these issues through their education and their actions.
- o Sharing experience about biodiversity project in local area.
- o Develop information skill and critical attitude towards Biodiversity issues.

WHAT IS LONG DISTANCE COURSE (LDC)?

During almost 6 months high school teachers and students will take part in Asia & Pacific environmental project. The topics on LDC are Basic Understanding on Biodiversity; A Portrait of biodiversity; Human roles in biodiversity, and the last step in February the project will culminate with five days convention in Surabaya. Here all participants will be able to meet all the people they have got to know and find new friends, as well as learn a lot of new things about Biodiversity.

How to get started?

To start your participation in the course, start your web browser and open <http://cei.stikom.edu>.

Participants

- o High school students and their teacher and or mentor.
- o One delegation consists 3-4 students and one teacher and or mentor.

Place and time

- o Time: February 8th – 13th 2004
- o Place: Surabaya-East Java

Program

- o Presentation of students' Biodiversity project
- o Field trip
- o Workshop
- o Earth Ceremony
- o Cultural night
- o Environmental Education Exhibition

Registration

Registration fee is US\$ 165/person (one hundred and sixty five US dollars/person).

The registration fee will cover the following expenses only:

- o Five nights accommodation in East Java
- o Meals and transportation during the event program

The registration fee does not cover:

- o Airfare ticket, visa, Health Insurance, Personal expenses and Post conference tour

Note

- o All the program will be conducted in English Language
- o For further information, please contact CEI/Indonesia



- Policy and planning
- Innovative technologies
- Intermodal transport
- Non-motorized transport

European Environment Agency
<http://www.eea.eu.int/>

Europe's biodiversity needs to be used wisely to ensure a sustainable future. Europe is the most cultivated and exploited continent in the world. In every corner of Europe the biodiversity we have and depend on is directly and indirectly shaped by human use and influence over time-by the dense urbanization and infrastructure and intensive agriculture and fisheries, but also by use of chemicals and climate change, even in the most remote and most natural areas. Despite all nature protection efforts and environmental practices, we are still losing far more than we gain and we are very long way from real sustainable development.

To further awareness and understanding of this, the European Environment Agency is producing a report on conditions and use of biodiversity across Europe. The first chapter, now available on this website, describes the Mediterranean Sea. It will be followed by chapters on all the other regional seas and biogeographical regions.



national branches

Caretakers Cameroun

Augustine Njamsnhi
Bt 292 Yaounde
CMEROUN
Tel/Fax: +237 314125
E-mail: Abniamnshi@yahoo.com

Caretakers Canada

Ms. Kathryn Graves
P.O. Box 672
Halifax, NS, CANADA
Tel: +1-902-477-5003/Fax: +1-902-454-6605
E-mail: ah718@chebucto.ns.ca

Caretakers Costa Rica

Mr. Jose Miguel Molina
P.O. Box 1000-1000, COSTA RICA
Tel: +506-2335018
Fax: +506-2554527
E-mail: jmolina@vida.org

Caretakers India

Mr. Ravi Dutt
16 Northend Complex
Ramakrishna Ashram Marg.
New Delhi-11001, INDIA
Tel: +91-113364957/Fax: +91-11-9411111

Caretakers Indonesia

Stein Johanna Matakupan
Sekolah Ciputra
Kawasan Puri Widya Kencana
Kota Mandri Citra
Surabaya 60219 --INDONESIA
Telp: 62-317415017-18;7410214
Fax: 62-31-74515016
HP: 62-0818327182

national branches

Caretakers Ireland

Mr Andrew Cox
C/o Newtown School,
Waterford, IRELAND
Tel: 35351860232
E-mail: caretakeire@waterfordireland.com

Caretakers The Netherlands

Ms. Joke Wals
'tHornje 10
1862 BB Bergen NH
The Netherlands
Tel.: +31715814857, Fax: +31715814858
E-mail: Wals36@zonnet.nl

Caretakers Pakistan

Mr. M. Majid Bashir
Attorney at Law 48/16
M.A. Road, Dohatta Colony, Ichra, Lahore PAKISTAN
Tel.: +92425752239/Fax: +92425753268
E-mail: bashirmajid@hotmail.com

Caretakers Portugal

Ms. Fatima Matos Almeida
Aspea, Apartado 4021
1501 Lisboa-Codex, PORTUGAL
Tel.: +351-21-7724827
Fax: +351-21-7724828
E-mail: matosfatima@iol.pt

Caretakers Scotland

Ms. Anne-Marie Begg
E-mail: anne@ukr@aol.com

Caretakers South Africa

Ms. Mana Moate
C/o Dept. of Environmental Affairs & Tourism
Private Bag X447, Pretoria 0001
South Africa
Tel: +27 12 310 3628
Fax: +27 12 322 5056
E-mail: mamoate@ozonc.pwv.gov.za

Caretakers Sweden

Ms. Birgitta Norden
Sparnosgaten 7
22652 Lund, SWEDEN
Tel.: 46462220248
Fax: +46-462220240
E-mail: birgitta.norden@iiee.lu.se

Caretakers Israel

Mr. Ezra Pimentel
Midreshet Sde Boker
84990 ISRAEL
Tel: 972-8-6532820
Fax: 972-8-6556287
E-mail: pimentel@boker.org.il

Caretakers Italy

Ms. Alba di Carlo
c/o Liceo E-Majorana
C.so Tazzoli 188
10137 Torino, ITALY
Tel.: +390113099128/Fax: +390113118900
E-mail: albadic@libero.it

Caretakers USA

Ms. Isabel Abrams
2216 Schiller Avenue, Wilmette
Illinois 60091 USA
Tel.: +17082518935, Fax: +13126708301
E-mail: isua847@aol.com
And Mr. Ed Radatz (Chair)
E-mail: eradecr@aol.com

Caretakers Kenya

Mr. Odhiambo O. Rapemo
Catek, P.O. Box 497
Oyugis, Nyanza Province, KENYA
Tel. 25438431009/31037
Fax: 254 381 31194
E-mail: rapemoo@hotmail.com

CEI-International Office

'tHornje 10
1862 BB Bergen NH
The Netherlands
Tel.++ 72-5814857
Fax: ++72-5814858
e-mail: wals36@zonnet.nl
CEI homepage: <http://www.caretakers4all.org/>