

AI INDEX: IOR 30/08/97 News Service 189/97

Embargo: 16:00 hrs (GMT) 13 November

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL TO PUT HUMAN RIGHTS ON APEC AGENDA

Amnesty International will be trying to inject the reality of human rights issues into the dialogue by APEC leaders when they meet in Vancouver, November 20-25. Led by Secretary General Pierre Sané, an international delegation will be meeting with government and business leaders and participating in the parallel non-governmental forum, the "People's Summit on APEC", 19-23 November.

"Recent economic shocks and environmental crisis in the region are a reminder that development is about more than just markets," Mr Sané said. "Genuine, sustainable development depends on the rule of law, government accountability and transparency -- the same factors that guarantee human rights."

Also on the delegation are Makoto Teranaka, Chairperson of Amnesty International's membership in Asia/Pacific, Bob Goodfellow, Managing Director of AI Canada (ES) based in Ottawa, Mel James and John Kellock from the Legal and Intergovernmental Program and Asia Program at the organization's International Secretariat in London.

On 20 November, Mr Sané will sit on a panel of judges for a workers tribunal from 7- 10 p.m. at the Plaza of Nations, 700 Pacific Boulevard South. The tribunal is part of the International Forum on Workers Rights and Democratic Development at the "People's Summit on APEC".

Mr Sané will co-present the recommendations from the panel at a press conference at 10:30 a.m. on 21 November in the Conference Centre Gallery of The Empire Landmark Hotel at 1400 Robson Street. He will also facilitate a workshop on the *International Trade Union Movement and Human Rights Groups Working Together* being held at The Empire Landmark Hotel.

Mr Sané will open the NGO-sponsored Human Rights Forum at 1 p.m.on 21 November at the Plaza of Nations. Members of the delegation will be sitting on panels discussing labour rights and putting human rights on the APEC agenda. AI Canada has organized a Film Festival on 20-22 November at the SFU Harbour Centre on West Hastings Street.

Members of the delegation will be available for interviews and queries. For further information, or to receive a copy of Amnesty International's APEC media pack, please call:

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