

PRESS RELEASE

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IDLO ANNOUNCES 2008 CLIMATE CHANGE PROGRAMS FOR DEVELOPMENT COUNTRIES

Following last week's UNFCCC conference in Bali, the International Development Law Organization (IDLO) has announced that it will be providing a range of development law programs in 2008 to tackle the legal issues raised by climate change mitigation.

Speaking directly after the conference, IDLO Director-General, William T. Loris, said:

"Climate change will affect the world as a whole, but its most vulnerable victims will be the poorest in the developing world. Protecting not only the physical environment, but also the livelihoods and security of these people will require an unprecedented global effort.

"Governments, businesses and civil society in these countries require not only incentives to mitigate climate change, but also a great deal of practical assistance, both in terms of navigating the myriad of international environmental agreements and learning how to implement and financially benefit from emissions reduction."

IDLO's new programs are designed to assist policy-makers, legal practitioners, business managers and community representatives working on climate change issues at a grass roots level:

Climate Change and Developing Countries: International Legal and Market-based Instruments

This program will analyze the multilateral environmental agreements and provide a practical understanding of the rules and tools promoting climate change mitigation and adaptation in developing countries. Participants will assess national environmental governance strategies and identify the means to support their consolidation.

Legal Aspects of Water Resources Management

The program will examine the legal status of water as a fundamental resource for human life, agriculture, social, economic and ecologically sustainable development. A key focus will be placed on water governance, the role and responsibilities of the stakeholders in water resources management, government authorities, the private sector, the civil society and the environment.

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NOTES:

IDLO (International Development Law Organization) is an international, inter-governmental organization with a mandate to promote the Rule of Law and good governance in developing countries, countries in economic transition and countries emerging from post-conflict situations. Since its establishment in 1983, IDLO has contributed to the training of more than 17,000 lawyers, magistrates and officials from approximately 176 countries.

IDLO has its Headquarters in Rome, Italy and two Regional Offices; in Cairo, Egypt, covering Arabic-speaking countries and in Sydney, Australia, covering the Asia Pacific area. IDLO currently operates Project Offices in Afghanistan, Indonesia, Sri Lanka and Kyrgyzstan.

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