

“green alliance... issue 4  
spring 03

INSIDE **TRACK**

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# SEEING STARS

**What Europe means  
for the environment**

**Peter Hain MP  
James Cameron**

The quarterly magazine of Green Alliance

Edited by Sarah Flood

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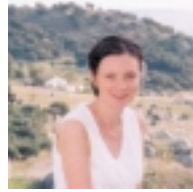
are you doing your bit?

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The views of contributors are not necessarily those of Green Alliance.

# comment



**Charlotte Marples,**  
Policy Co-ordinator

With the European Union set to increase from 15 to 25 Member States next year, it has no option but to embark upon far reaching changes to its political and economic constitutions. With very little media attention or public interest, the Convention on the Future of Europe is working to draft a new statement of roles and responsibilities for the institutions of the newly enlarged Europe. 50 years on from the founding of the Union, this means shaping a new identity for Europe fit to meet the challenges of the next half-century.

So far the Convention has been mired in the detail of institutional reform. Rows about the power balance in the new Europe have taken precedence over discussion of the values the Union should uphold. And debates on how the Union should define its role on the international stage have been at the expense of what vision it promotes in the wider world.

Green Alliance has been attempting to inject a sense of moral purpose into the draft Constitution for an enlarged Europe. Together with environmental, social and development NGOs in existing EU Member States and candidate countries, we have put forward the case for a revitalised mission for the Union.

In this edition of *Inside Track*, Peter Hain, Welsh Secretary and UK Government representative on the Convention, argues that being in Europe is good for the environment, and throws down the gauntlet to green groups to engage with the European agenda rather than sniping from the sidelines. James Cameron puts forward an international perspective on European enlargement, examining the likely impacts on environmental policy and diplomacy, and my article calls for the Convention to debate vision and values alongside institutional reform.

Also in this edition, Green Alliance's Executive Committee member Tom Burke pays tribute to Maurice Ash, who died earlier this year. Maurice was the first Chairman of Green Alliance back in 1979, and was an inspiration to many in the green movement.

We are keen to build our links with members and supporters, and to include you in the work we do. On page 4, we give you a taster of the projects we have planned for the year ahead. Our full business plan is available on the website. We would welcome your comments, feedback and involvement in our work.

# new institutions for energy – but White Paper fails to deliver on the detail

In publishing the long-awaited Energy White Paper this February, the Government said all the right things about the goal of a low-carbon economy, but refused to be drawn on how, exactly, it would happen in practice.

The vision in the White Paper is radical. Combating climate change is, at last, a central aim of energy policy, and renewable energy and energy efficiency are put forward as the best route for carbon reduction. Crucially, the White Paper provides no help for nuclear

energy. Green Alliance has argued throughout the process that support for nuclear power would make no sense either economically or environmentally.

The aim is clear - but will we make it? The Government expects to get there mainly through existing policies and funding options for renewable energy and energy efficiency. There are a modest number of new initiatives – a proposal to review buildings regulations, and a small amount of extra money for renewable technologies – but these fall far short of the measures that the Government's own think-tank, the Strategy Unit, said would be necessary. Whereas the Strategy Unit called for a binding target to ensure that 20 per cent of electricity was generated through renewable energy by 2020, the White Paper only includes an 'aspiration' to do so.

The White Paper does, however, herald important changes to the institutional structures for energy policy, many of which were suggested by Green

Alliance in its 2001 report, *Institutional Design for a Low-Carbon Economy*. The White Paper takes an explicitly interdepartmental approach to energy policy, which our analysis suggested was sorely needed, and provides a central co-ordinating unit. A Sustainable Energy Policy Network will be established, linking government departments, devolved administrations and regulatory bodies, as recommended by Green Alliance. There is also a new web-based portal for businesses wanting access to energy support schemes, and a promise to review low-carbon delivery programmes next year. These measures will begin to address the institutional incoherence, which was severely undermining the government's ability to deliver joined-up policy on energy and climate change.

*Institutional Design for a Low-Carbon Economy* is available to order from Green Alliance. Press and briefings on the Energy White Paper are also available from our website.

## putting the value into VAT

**Henry Leveson-Gower, an Environment Agency economist who has been on part-time secondment at Green Alliance, writes about his work getting Treasury officials to see the benefits of thinking green.**

The Green Book is little-known outside government, but infamous within Whitehall. It sets out rules for the economic appraisal of Government policies, programmes and projects. It must be followed by all departments and agencies, so although it seems somewhat arcane, it is very influential. Last Autumn, we made a submission to the Treasury's consultation on the revision of the Green Book.

Green Alliance's submission supported many of the proposed revisions to the Green Book, particularly the proposal to discount the future less and recognise equity issues. However,

we criticised over-emphasis on market valuation of environmental impacts and the lack of integration between the Green Book's economic appraisal approach with sustainability and integrated appraisal techniques.

Continuing our work on environmental tax policy, we have also turned our attention to value-added tax, or VAT.

A briefing, *Making VAT work for the environment*, sets out the steps that could be taken. At EU level, officials are beginning to discuss reforming the rules for how each country applies VAT on its products and services.

Currently, VAT is charged on a whole range of products and services, with no regard to their environmental impact. We are arguing that products that are certified to be better environmentally should be eligible for reduced VAT. For example, VAT could be reduced on green goods such as energy efficient appliances; goods with the EU eco-label, and those made from recycled materials. Reform of VAT was recommended by the Strategy Unit, in its 2002 report *Waste not, Want not*. It would be a very practical application of the polluter-pays principle, by making polluting goods more expensive than their environmentally benign alternatives.

*Making VAT work for the environment* is available to download from Green Alliance's website [www.green-alliance.org.uk](http://www.green-alliance.org.uk)

# ... a taste of what's to come

Environment is still sidelined by decision-makers in the face of competing priorities. We have set ourselves a major challenge to address this over the next three years. Here is a taste of what Green Alliance has planned for 2003-04.

## pressure points

We aim to push the environment up the political agenda and keep it there. To make sure that environmental consideration is instilled in all government spending decisions we are continuing to work with the Treasury on the next Spending Round, as well as following progress in other areas of government environment policy.

By keeping up our dialogue with the Conservatives and the Liberal Democrats, we are promoting a strong vision on environment and informed criticism of government policy by the opposition.

Energy and aviation policy, and the Convention on the future of Europe, will be among the top issues for the policy work we co-ordinate for other environment groups at the UK and EU level.

## lighting the way

Micropower - such as solar PV, solar thermal, small-scale wind and hydro generation and domestic fuel cell – does not have the same clout as bigger business renewables, simply because it is so disparate. But it can make a significant contribution to reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. During 2003 we will be helping to form a collective lobby of these small enterprises, to give them a voice in the energy debate.

Our project on the huge potential of selling services rather than products to improve resource productivity - e.g. selling warmth rather than electricity and painting rather than paint - will be reporting in June 2003.

Turning the UK from a laggard to an international leader on waste policy has been a strong strand of our public policy work over the past five years.

This year we are coupling this to our work on resource productivity to make recommendations on waste minimisation and producer responsibility.

### a different angle

With this stream of work we are specifically aiming to introduce new policy perspectives and links with other policy areas. This year we will look into three areas: health, design and the role of trade associations. Look out for our *New Politics* pamphlets during the year.

### striking while the iron is hot

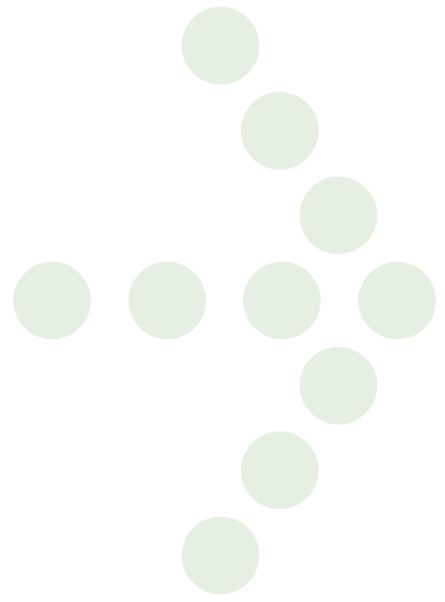
Creating the space to respond to immediate events beyond our planned work has made it possible to carry out some highly successful, timely activity over the past year on waste, energy and tax proposals. We will be following major developments affecting the environment, including heading joint initiatives with other NGOs, responding when needed through e-publications and press work.

### joined up thinkers

Throughout this year we will improve our membership administration still further, including making subscription payment easier with new ways to pay. We will also continue to sign up new members from the policy community, across government, business and NGOs, as well as people from other walks of life, who support our mission. We aim to involve our Corporate Support Scheme members more in our policy debates and to continue with our popular programme of corporate briefings.

### simplify

Our work can sometimes seem obscure, as policy issues are complex, diffuse and loaded with jargon. A major theme for Green Alliance this year is to make clearer what we do and why and to broaden our audience. With this in mind we are redesigning our website and carrying the theme through all our meetings and publications.



Full details of our work programme are available at [www.greenalliance.org.uk/Documents/WorkProgramme.pdf](http://www.greenalliance.org.uk/Documents/WorkProgramme.pdf)

## Green Alliance's mission is to promote sustainable development by ensuring that the environment is at the heart of decision-making.

Our aims are:

- to make the environment a central political issue
- to integrate the environment effectively in public policy and decision-making
- to stimulate new thinking and advance the environmental agenda in new areas

We have set ourselves four delivery priorities for 2003-06:

- to make **smart** responses to current events affecting the environment
- to expand our **network** of people and organisations to further our aims and to help fund our work
- to **communicate** clearly the outcomes of our work; to raise our profile and reinforce our reputation as an influencer
- to be **efficient, effective and ethical**, and a good employer

The innovative writer, environmentalist and planner Maurice Ash, died in January, aged 85. A former chairman of the Town and Country Planning Association and the Dartington Trust, Maurice was also the first chairman of Green Alliance from 1979 to 1983. Here, **Tom Burke**, Director of Green Alliance at the time, reflects on his life and his contribution to Green Alliance's early years.

# remembering Maurice Ash



Maurice Ash in the study at Dartington Hall. Photo: Kate Mount, kindly provided by The Dartington Hall Trust Archive

It was very easy to underestimate Maurice. He was a quiet man whose gentleness enveloped him like an overlarge overcoat. But he was as determined as he was gentle and as persistent as the wind. And he was as generous as he was determined. Without him Green Alliance would never have got off the ground. It is not easy now, in these more sophisticated days, to finance an organisation whose modus operandi is networking and managing processes. Twenty years ago it was a great deal harder. Maurice's generosity got Green Alliance going and sustained it through the early days of defining and delivering a distinctive role for itself.

When I became Director of Green Alliance, Maurice was still its chairman. That meant that I had the pleasure of dining with him from time to time to bring him up to date with what we were doing, and of course, to remind him that we would be looking to him for more support again next year. These dinners took place at the Reform Club. I remember them as much for Maurice's concern to refine an uneducated palate for wine as I do for his gentle insistence that we think more deeply about what we were doing.

In many ways Maurice was a very Victorian figure, a disinterested idealist. He engaged with the new while being deeply rooted in the past. Though he was for many years, Green Alliance's principal, often only funder, he always put his duty to the

organisation before his own opinions and never sought to impose his views on the rest of us. He funded Green Alliance because he thought it was a good thing to do expecting nothing by way of recognition or reward.

Green Alliance was set up with a specific goal in mind. Maurice was one of a small group of people who had recognised by the end of the seventies that there was a curious lacuna in the debate then taking place on the environment. Somehow it did not involve the political world. Rather, it was confined to a small group of passionate enthusiasts, mostly to be found in the campaigning NGOs and some isolated journalists and academics. Green Alliance was founded to 'project an ecological perspective into the political life of the United Kingdom.'

But agreeing the goal is not the same as agreeing how to go about achieving it. Environmentalists are rarely renowned for their lack of energy or conviction in putting their point of view. This can add much length to their internal debates. Maurice presided over the extended debate that searched out, and eventually found, Green Alliance's niche with a calm patience that brought us safely over the many crevasses in our opinions.

The gentle, almost shy, demeanour and disinterested discharge of duty should not be seen as marking any lack of deep conviction. Maurice was a person of powerful passions though they were for the most part reflective rather than proactive. His occasional papers were calls for thought rather than action. He was a champion of the need to think holistically about the fate of mankind. If this sometimes made him appear a little naïve, it did not make him wrong.

For full obituaries of Maurice Ash please go to [www.guardian.co.uk/obituaries/story/0,3604,894250,00.html](http://www.guardian.co.uk/obituaries/story/0,3604,894250,00.html) [www.independent.co.uk/story.jsp?story=373406](http://www.independent.co.uk/story.jsp?story=373406)



# in search of euro-vision

Major decisions are currently being made on the future direction of Europe but no one seems interested. **Charlotte Marples**, Green Alliance's policy co-ordinator explains why sustainable development could be the solution to unite and inspire.

What does Europe stand for? The question is being posed in many places, whether in debates about terrorism, world trade or agriculture policy. The EU has established a constitutional Convention on the Future of Europe to draft a new statement of roles and responsibilities for the institutions of an integrated Europe. Against a backdrop of European enlargement and global insecurity, the Convention on the Future of Europe is charged with shaping the identity of the new Europe and defining its role in the wider world.

The role of the Convention is examined in Green Alliance's latest publication, *Breaking with convention: towards a new European future* by Ian Christie. If the big EU projects have failed to capture public imagination, the same can certainly be said of the Convention so far. Dominated by interminable discussions about the merits of European presidents, the Convention has failed to inspire public interest and debate. Whilst the institutions and their processes are of vital importance, they need to be connected to a vision of what matters for the Union and for the world.

According to Christie, sustainable development is the only serious contender for that vision. Already enshrined in the EU Treaty, sustainable development offers the best chance to overcome the challenges the Union faces over the long term. In our

increasingly globalised world, there is a growing acceptance that the nation state alone cannot deliver the most important things that people need: security; economic opportunity; environmental and social protection. The biggest threats we currently face - climate change, international and regional instability and global inequalities - require international solutions and must be addressed by a revitalised EU mission statement.

Sustainable development also offers us the best chance of demonstrating the purpose and values of the Union to its citizens. In the last decade the EU has been dominated by arguments about major integration projects; a focus on means rather than ends. This has helped to create an image of the EU as a baffling, bureaucratic mechanism whose goals are unclear to its citizens. It has become a cliché that many more people in the UK voted for the winner of Big Brother than voted in the last general election, but with a turnout as low as 25 per cent in some Member States for the last EU elections, European politics has an even bigger democratic deficit to overcome.

The gap between the Union and its citizens is not only a problem of process but of content. Yet there is a way forward. Research has shown that people value the role the EU has played in improving social and environmental

protection. Ensuring these achievements are built on and opening up debates on the values of the Union will help to overcome the democratic deficit at its heart and bring it closer to its citizens.

Making sustainable development the guiding vision for the EU will reap dividends for the economy, society and the environment. Through sustainable development we can start to tackle voter apathy, work towards social inclusion, create new, more sustainable jobs, preserve and improve our clean air and beaches, and define the role of the EU on the international stage. Unless the Convention really addresses these issues and delivers a new euro-vision alongside institutional reform, the results will be increased global insecurity and an ever-widening gulf between the EU and its citizens.

For further details of Green Alliance's work on Europe, contact Charlotte Marples. *Breaking with convention: Towards a new European future* by Ian Christie is available to download from [www.green-alliance.org.uk](http://www.green-alliance.org.uk). Order a hard copy by calling 020 7233 7433. Details on the Convention are available on <http://european-convention.eu.int/>

# why being in Europe is good for the environment



**Peter Hain** argues that globalisation can be positive - when it is the globalisation of responsibility - and Britain cannot be effective in environmental protection unless it participates fully in Europe.

Britain simply cannot be effective on its own in protecting our environment. Air or water pollution is no respecter of borders. Being at the heart of the European Union, makes us better able to protect our environment. We can use its policy procedures and co-operate with our neighbours to establish common standards to prevent us from polluting each other.

Being in Europe also enables us to press the green agenda globally, on issues such as climate change. Britain has more muscle as part of Europe acting collectively in international negotiations on the environment than by working alone.

We can't stop global warming on our own. Kyoto is a good example of Europe's key role in this global effort. The determined and concerted collective EU negotiating effort was a crucial factor in ensuring that agreement was eventually secured. Climate change is truly a global issue.

European membership enables us to engage more effectively in the new global politics, if we do so positively and practically. If we choose the alternative - sitting back cynically, predicting gloom and doom, from the comfort of an armchair or a rhetorical pose - we will miss the opportunity. Take the EU contribution to the Doha

Trade Round in November 2001, where members of the WTO agreed to the 'Doha Development Agenda' which aims to improve the terms on which the poorest participate in the global economy and increasing their capacity to do so. We could never have argued this except at a European level. Our

negotiating position is strengthened massively by a joint position - a 50 per cent reduction in protectionist measures - would, according to estimates, boost developing economy incomes by around \$150bn a year and lift 320 million people out of poverty by 2015.

“Britain has more muscle as part of Europe acting collectively in international negotiations on the environment than by working alone.”

Equally, we were able to argue on a Europe-wide basis for an agreement to negotiate liberalisation of trade in environmental goods and services, promoting sustainable development through more efficient use of natural resources and the dissemination of cleaner technology.

Similarly we have used the UK's influence in the EU to begin to change the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) under the Agenda 2000 programme - moving away from supporting production to focus much more on the things today's society increasingly values: environmental benefits, food safety and rural sustainability.

So, our involvement in Europe enables us to make a positive contribution to issues that we would on our own have little or no influence over.

The rejectionist anti-globalisers, who present themselves as the 'green left' but are actually the 'anti-trade left' see globalisation as their target. Yet by seeking to 'abolish' it - just like that - they in the process reject any progressive multi-lateral initiatives to regulate trade, or to reform the international financial architecture. But what is the alternative?

Progressive internationalists should unite with the many non-governmental organisations, some greens included, who are now campaigning for 'global justice' rather than simply anti-globalisation. For our task is to master globalisation in the interests of the poor and not just the rich; in the interests of protecting our environment and not degrading it; in the interests of increasing the sum of world prosperity and ensuring a fairer distribution of it; in the interests of the many and not just the few.

Globalisation, has left behind too many countries and people. One in five of the world's population live in desperate poverty, without adequate food, access to clean water or sanitation, and with no education or access to healthcare.

I appeal to greens to support a push for 'progressive internationalism' which promotes global justice, human rights, conflict resolution and environmental sustainability, and which has three main features.

First, we are internationalists, not nationalists. That is why we support the United Nations, the World Trade Organisation, NATO and the European Union.

Second, we are multi-lateralists, not unilateralists. That is why we play an active and leading role in supporting international treaties like Kyoto. Third, we are interventionists, not

rejectionists. We believe that it is our duty to do what we can to negotiate better international agreements. By deploying the European Union's influence and huge resources,

its potential as a catalyst for progressive change, we can promote an international agenda of which greens should be proud. An empowering agenda for fighting poverty, re-distributing wealth and preventing the spread of weapons of mass destruction. An agenda that

recognises there is no security at home without freedom, stability and good governance abroad, and that human needs must no longer be met by treating the environment as a free resource to plunder at will.

But the international community must do more to demonstrate there that it can forge a global alliance to tackle global challenges such as poverty, resource efficiency and access to energy and water, in much the same way that we have forged a global alliance against terrorism. Europe can make a major contribution to that effort. This kind of multi-lateral diplomacy is difficult and often frustrating. Progress tends to be incremental, not dramatic. But when progress can be achieved, it brings wider benefit for more people than action by one country alone can ever secure. Multi-lateral diplomacy also needs prodding and pushing by protest - radical if necessary - that is purposeful rather than rejectionist. We need greens that engage rather than pose, intervene rather than reject.

Our progressive internationalism should be a project for the *globalisation of responsibility* around which everyone on the left could unite, from Greenpeace radicals to Labour Ministers – even if we respect the different roles each quite properly plays. We must try to unite on such

a new agenda, because it is the biggest challenge of our times.

Over the last 30 years European regulations have paved the way

for cleaner beaches, cleaner air and cleaner drinking water. Greenhouse gases, which cause global warming, are 3.5 per cent lower than in 1990. The use of ozone damaging CFCs has fallen sharply in Europe. Acid pollution from sulphur dioxide, nitrogen oxides

and ammonia is down. The EU has been a major factor in cleaner water. Four fifths of our water legislation comes from Europe, leading to the number of drinking water samples failing to meet standards has fallen by over 91 per cent in the last ten years. The proportion of rivers meeting quality standards is over 90 per cent and rising steadily. Our bathing waters achieved a new record for compliance last year. 98 per cent of bathing beaches in England and Wales met EU standards, compared with just 91 per cent two years ago and 76 per cent a decade ago.

We prize these things – cleaner air, cleaner water, cleaner beaches – but we cannot have them by turning our backs on Europe. It would be no good our coastal resorts investing in sewage treatment if pollutants were being pumped into the sea by neighbouring countries. And acid rain doesn't stop at Calais.

So, I believe that the environment is at the heart of Europe – and so it should be. And I also want the green movement to be at the heart of Europe, shaping it; not isolated on the fringe.

Rt Hon Peter Hain MP is Secretary of State for Wales and is the Government's representative on the Convention on the Future of Europe.

“Our involvement in Europe enables us to make a positive contribution to issues that we would on our own have little or no influence over.”

# giving Europe a green voice



**James Cameron**  
sets out the case  
for environmental  
ambassadors to make  
European negotiations  
pack some punch

The construction of the European Union is an heroic enterprise. It stands as the single most impressive political structure since the creation of the UN. As a manifestation of the potential of international law to make and keep the peace, to distribute economic welfare through trade and to enhance freedom, it is probably without parallel. And yet the Union itself is suffering from considerable growing pains. The two massive enterprises of enlargement and monetary union create great risk of overreach and will place enormous strain on the existing institutions both political and legal. Amongst many other consequences, this strain will affect the EU's capacity for policy-making on the environment both within the region and externally through Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs).

There is no question that on balance the creation of the EU, the adoption of law and policy and the progressive integration of Member State laws, has led to greater economic advancement and levels of environmental protection than could possibly have been achieved through individual state action. The management of transboundary air pollution, the clean up of the great rivers, the creation of protected habitats across borders and the collective will

to deal with climate change, all demonstrate the value of the EU. Individual Member States cannot on their own deliver true sustainable development for their citizens, no matter how determined their political and business decision-makers are

to reach that end. Sharing sovereignty has been good for sustainable development.

The question that looms large now for the EU is how to forge a coherent global environmental policy whilst enlargement and

monetary union is taking place? It is already very difficult indeed to arrive at common positions on the environment without undermining the effectiveness of the EU as a negotiator in MEAs. The MEAs are complex affairs requiring expert negotiators. What are the national interests in play? Is the national interest the same as the global interest? What are the non-governmental actors doing? What are the experts saying? How can international agreement be translated into domestic law? What pluri-lateral partnerships are needed to be effective? All these questions place enormous demands on individual negotiators. The EU Presidency has a very short period of time to get through its agenda and this often interrupts the international negotiations and creates

“The question that looms large now for the EU is how to forge a coherent global environmental policy whilst enlargement and monetary union is taking place?”

“Often there is no memory of past negotiations that need to be respected today.”

imbalances in the presentation of the European case within those negotiations. Often there is no memory of past negotiations that need to be respected today. In contrast many of the developing country delegations stay with a negotiating process for many years. And the US has enormous power to exercise through a single head of delegation, usually from the State Department.

We need to find the best way of representing a truly European public interest in international negotiations on the environment. This extends into the negotiations on economic and political affairs that affect the environment of which those relating to the WTO stand out. But there are others within the UN system and indeed within the network of institutions that affect investment in our global economy which need attention. I am convinced that we need to change the way that the EU is represented in international negotiations. A number of governments have experimented with an Ambassador for the Environment position. There is good sense in such an appointment but I think it can be made even more specific. It would be entirely in keeping with the long history of ambassadorial representation to create ambassadorial positions for specific negotiations of real significance to the EU. There needs to be separate ambassadors on climate change, the integration of environmental policy in economic agreements, such as the WTO and in furtherance of the EU's commitment

to sustainable development, and for the cluster of agreements dealing with biodiversity, endangered species and habitat protection. These can be appointments made from an enlarged EU, drawing on a great pool of expertise and providing an extremely strong negotiating mandate.

What could go wrong in an enlarged Union? Despite all the effort put into the new Convention, it becomes nearly impossible to negotiate meaningful harmonized standards across the wider Europe. The techniques for creating legislation capable of having direct effect in national law simply cannot sustain the diversity of situations of the Member States. What results is general regulation that is not capable of direct effect. The result is that effectiveness of European law throughout the whole of the EU is reduced. If we have difficulties today in getting to grips with the complexity of the trade and environment debate within Europe then an enlarged Europe will simply magnify those difficulties. If we find it difficult to negotiate effective, enforceable, regional law on the environment we are also going to find it extremely difficult to negotiate en bloc in the MEAs which affect not only the region but the planet.

I have suggested how this might be improved through the idea of an ambassador but that is simply a device and not in any way a panacea. It will be extremely difficult to grant the EU, especially the wider Union, exclusive negotiating authority in an MEA.

The authority given to the EU in respect of trade negotiations has been a hard fought battle and remains controversial even today after many years of practice. Because environmental agreements are so-called “Mixed Agreements” to give exclusive competence to the EU, led by the Commission, would be a severe political challenge. And yet if we want to seriously pursue sustainable development, and to properly integrate environmental issues into economic affairs, there is every justification for the authority of environment negotiations to equal that of trade. I think the ambassador role will help and that the effort associated with constructing a mandate to represent the whole, exclusively, would be worth expending if it enabled a distinct and confident European voice on the environment in international negotiations.

Finally, global environmental policy whether in the EU or simply for the United Kingdom is an aspect of modern foreign policy. I believe the ambassadorial position I have suggested ought to reside within the foreign service of a national government and the external relations directorate of the EU.

James Cameron is a Barrister, of Counsel to Baker and Mackenzie, Chicago, and a member of Green Globe Network.

Green Alliance is an independent charity. Its mission is **to promote sustainable development by ensuring that the environment is at the heart of decision-making**. It works with senior people in government, business and the environmental movement to encourage new ideas, dialogue and constructive solutions.

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# members' news

## Introducing...



As Green Alliance's new membership officer I would like to introduce myself to all current and potential members. Since

its formation in 1979, Green Alliance has attracted high-profile members, including well-known personalities and politicians of all political colours. Today, we welcome as members all those who actively support our mission and aims and my vision for the coming year is to develop a stronger dialogue with members.

If you would like to find out more about membership or would like to explore ways of contributing your expertise to our work, please feel free to contact me, Catherine Pamplin, on 020 7233 9033 or email [cpamplin@green-alliance.org.uk](mailto:cpamplin@green-alliance.org.uk)

## New members

Green Alliance welcomes the following new individual members: Gideon Amos, Dr Elena Ares, Tim Ash-Vie, Phil Barton, Sebastian Berry, Dr Andrew Brown, Christopher Catling, Abigail Costolloe, Martin Gibson, Samantha Heath, Mike

Lachowicz, Jean Lambert MEP, Russell Marsh, Melissa Mean, Julian Murray (donor member), Anita Neville, Dinah Nichols, Kathryn Packer, Zoë Parks, Anthony Perret, Jim Potter (donor member), Jennie Price, Prof. RW Radley, Daianna Rincones, David Steven, Solitaire Townsend.

## Unlocking potential

Issue 3 of *Inside Track* (title: *Bags of Potential*) was on the theme of sustainable production and consumption. Green Alliance member Dr Alan Morton, Senior Curator of the Science Museum, has sent us his proposal to literally unleash the potential of bags through the replacement of disposable bags with 'green bags'.

To read his idea go to:  
[www.green-alliance.org.uk/MembersPage.htm](http://www.green-alliance.org.uk/MembersPage.htm)

## Reminder

Standard individual membership subscription is going up to £40 a year from April 2003. Donor and life membership rates remain the same, at £100 a year (donor) and £400 (life).

## Green Globe changes

Green Globe Task Force, a network of independent advisers on international environment policy, has been run from Green Alliance for the past five years. Following a review, the task force will be changing its name from April 2003 to Green Globe Network (GGN).

Paul Chambers, who has been convener of Green Globe since 2001, has now returned to DEFRA, from where he joined us on secondment. He is now working in DEFRA's Sustainable Energy Policy division on follow-up to the energy White Paper. The new Green Globe convener is Kate Hampton. Kate previously ran the climate change campaign for Friends of the Earth International.