

Am 22.04.12 wollte Kumi Naidoo eigentlich in Berlin die Abschlussrede bei McPlanet halten. Wie bekannt, ist es dazu nicht gekommen. Wir möchten aber gerne die Stichpunkte, die sich Kumi Naidoo für die Rede gemacht hat, hier veröffentlichen, es handelt sich also nicht um eine wörtliche Mitschrift.

Wir tun dies aus Respekt vor den Besuchern und auch vor Kumi Naidoo, der extra aus Südafrika angereist war.

Notes for closing speech at the McPlanet.com Conference

Dr. Kumi Naidoo, Greenpeace International

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McPlanet as conference is important for interested (young) people as a platform to get informed and engaged in important issues of our time

- McPlanet is an opportunity for civil society to meet and discuss issues that are important for our planet and society, but most importantly a place where activists get to meet with each other and with civil society get to create a platform to share ideas and solutions.

It is important to remember politicians and ourselves that our planet is the one that needs a bail out

- In my 2010 book Boiling Point, I warned of the growing frustration among citizens around the world who are excluded from public life. The levels of alienation and inequality are getting out of control, particularly for young people. This development is not only unjustifiable, but patently unsustainable. So when people from the Arab spring, the Indignados or the Occupy movement say "enough," they mean enough corruption, enough exclusion and so on.
- 20 years after the UN Conference on sustainable development, the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro, I still see the plundering of our planet and the livelihood of billions of people

as well as the people plundering them for the sake of short term profit.

- Examples to demonstrate the destruction of our planet by governments and companies
 - Arctic: we and many other civil society organisations have been saying it forever, but when it comes from a business leader, I guess they listen more. One of the world's leading insurers, Lloyds of London, who set the global gold standard for risk assessment, is warning investors that a spill in the Arctic would constitute "a unique and hard to manage risk." For the oil industry - particularly the international oil companies (IOCs) like Shell - the Arctic is the last frontier. With the end of easy to extract oil, the only places left to go are environmentally risky, technically challenging and financially crippling, like the ultra deepwater of the Gulf of Mexico, the Canadian tar sands and now the Arctic.
 - Another example of greedy business I face when I look at my home continent Africa where one of the Greenpeace ships – the Arctic Sunrise just spent 4 weeks monitoring big (European) fishing trawlers plundering the coasts of West Africa leaving the people without one of their fundamental source of food and work – fishing.
 - **Toxics:** Looking further to the East, I see yellow rivers full of chemicals that are used for the production of shirts and trousers to be sold all over the world.
 - **Deforestation** in Brazil; the host of Rio+20 conference, could be passing soon, a Forest Code that will be disastrous to the Amazon. The Brazilian government's monitoring system picked up a 37% increase in deforestation compared to 2010 in Mato Grosso state as a result of a move to change the Forest Code, the main law in Brazil that protects the forests. The changes would allow an amnesty for past forest crimes, creating an incentive for illegal activity now and leading to an increase in deforestation before the law has even been changed. Brazil must decide whether it wants to be known as the nation leading the path to sustainable prosperity and zero deforestation, or as a nation that showed that deforestation could be halted, but failed to do so to cater to short term special interests.

McPlanet shows that there are lots of solutions on the table for the Rio+20 Conference – Greenpeace expectations of the conference

- So there is still a lot of work ahead of us and the Rio+ conference is one of the first steps that will follow and where we have once again the chance to raise our voice and tell politicians what we think needs to be done.
- The theme for Rio+ is the Future I want, the McPlanet conference shows that there are a lot of solutions on the table.
- I can only repeat what **Tim Jackson** had said on Friday that a Green Economy that aims to grow further and further will not save our planet. We need to respect our planetary boundaries and acknowledge that they are the foundation for every life and prosperity on earth, which means that our nature is the foundation for sustainability.
- The energy future I want is efficient and renewable. The Energy Revolution scenario Greenpeace has developed together with business partners shows that globally we can deliver energy to more people, especially the poor in developing countries, cut emissions by more than 80% by 2050 – and create more jobs doing so, by investing in energy efficiency and renewable energy instead of fossil fuels and nuclear power. By implementing the Energy Revolution, governments can help businesses create 3.2 million more jobs by 2030 in the global power supply sector alone. In South Africa 149,000 direct jobs could be created by 2030, 38,000 more than the current government's plan. That's the kind of decisive action, leading to wins for planet and the poor alike that I want.

Leaders must listen to the people – and people must demand their voice to be heard

- A fair and just Green Economy is achievable. But it requires action. Promoting sustainable practices is essential. But, above all, governments must put a decisive end to unsustainable practices. An economy based on nuclear energy, oil and coal, genetic engineering, toxic chemicals or the overexploitation of our forests and seas will never be sustainable or green. Instead, a fair green economy is one that provides

sustainable livelihoods for all while fully respecting ecological limits – our planetary boundaries. In a truly Green Economy, the economy will be a mechanism to deliver societal goals, and economic growth as an end goal in and of itself will be abandoned.

- The transformation is still taking place too slowly, but the good news is, it is already proven.
- Taking Brazil as an example, Brazil has shown that it is possible to cut deforestation rates through effective governance and good business practices: Deforestation in the Brazilian Amazon has declined year on year and 2011 it was at its lowest ever level.
- Talking about all these global problems I don't want to leave you with the impression that these are far away from our daily life or that one person alone can't do anything. Talking as executive director of Greenpeace I can tell you that our work wouldn't be possible without the 3 millions of supporters we have. They not only guarantee our independence but also give us the power and mandate to contribute to change. On the other hand we aim to give all those people a voice in the political debate and have the possibility to pressure those with the power. And the same goes for all the other civil societies gathered on this conference which all have their different focus but all work together to make the world a better place.
- McPlanet is great because it is a platform to inform oneself about those alternatives which are ready to grab and it is a chance for all of us to think about our personal contribution in this transformation. I guess you have learnt about alternatives during the last three days, you can talk at McPlanet to others that are interested in the same issue, who fight for the same goal and you can use the conference to think about ideas and possibilities to take action on.
- BE INFORMED. BE CONNECTED AND BE ENGAGED. If any one of you changes one little thing after going home, this is already a start. If any one of you further talks about this to friends and family, maybe just about one issue that is important to you – we can already make a difference. I see that the McPlanet program already offers a lot of ideas:

change your energy supplier for one that is only relying on renewable energy or change your bank account to a bank that is investing in sustainable ideas and projects. Another issue addressed during the conference is also the possibility to eat less meat or no meat at all or think twice about what clothes to wear or how far away must be the next holiday destination or how often to change digital toys.

- LOOK WHAT YOU GUYS HAVE DONE IN GERMANY - In Germany, 81 % of all installed power capacity in the last decade was renewable! I observe Germany's energy revolution as an example that is possible because there are a lot of people demanding it. I have been witnessing this after the disaster in Fukushima. Germany was one of the countries where population stood up against Merkel's policy to let nuclear power plants run longer than agreed. There was no other European country with such massive demonstrations taking place and people raising their voice. Further I see that Germany having independent small energy supplier relying on renewable energy which won a lot of new clients after Fukushima also contribute to changing energy market and the respective structures. The german energy revolution therefore is not only changing the sort of energy supply but also induces structural changes such as ownership relations of the big energy suppliers. This example demonstrates that changes can emerge out of small groups and that every single person supporting the idea is then an important part of the transformational process.
- It is important that we stand together and put pressure on those with power and for this we need all of YOU. All the organizations present at McPlanet conference help to put up pressure on politicians or corporations but all of us need people like you that help us do our work and give us strong support and your voice to speak for society. As I said before, I can say for my organization that it would be a different one without our activists and volunteers. Every single person supporting our work is important for our campaigns.
- I see all of you here, young people interested in informing themselves about the important issues of our days and feeling that there needs to be done something. In other parts of the world there are the people of the Occupy Movement or the Arab Spring and it gives me hope because people are standing up and raise their voice saying that it is enough... And there's one thing I have learned about systemic change: the overthrow

happens, when normal and reasonable men and women stand up and say that it is enough.

- This is also something that we as organisations need to permanently have in mind. Civil Society organisations can work on new ideas and help organize events such as McPlanet or demonstrations etc, but our foundation is the people. We need you, we need society to back up and believe. We need to work hard on ourselves as well to reach more people and to convince them that it is important to stand up and to resist all the injustices we face every day. We also need to work on a further common engagement of NGOs – McPlanet is one example one of these rare places where organisations come together, openly discuss differences and exchange ideas and also agree on some joint actions. I see that this is one place where we have a lot of groups to critically reflect, connect and mobilize in the run up to the Rio Earth Summit in June.