



UNEP to present Youth Climate Report film project

RIO DE JANEIRO, May 15, 2012 – In partnership with Canadian production company Neko Harbour Entertainment, Inc., the United Nations Environment Programme is pleased to announce its new film project will be premiering at Rio+20, the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development at the UNEP Pavilion 13:00 – 14:00 on Friday, June 15, 2012. Refreshments will be served.

The documentary film project **Youth Climate Report** (YCR) will present to delegates the latest climate research from around the world as reported by young people. Students worldwide were recruited to videotape interviews with their local climate researchers, scientists and professors to provide a comprehensive film report of recent findings internationally.

"This project has two goals," said YCR founder and producer John Kelly, "to provide UN delegates clear and concise video reports of the world's most current climate research and to engage a new generation of environmentalists to actively participate in the international policy process." The film is the third in a successful partnership between UNEP and the producers of **The Antarctica Challenge: A Global Warning** (COP15, Copenhagen, 2009) and **The Polar Explorer** (COP16, Cancun, 2010).

Filmmaker Mark Terry won the Gemini Humanitarian Award in 2011 for his work with UNEP on these film projects. He and producer Holly Lee are again working with producer John Kelly on this third film aimed at providing new climate data for UN delegates and promoting climate literacy worldwide. Unlike the previous two films, **Youth Climate Report** will be presented at more than one UN environmental conference in 2012. In addition to Rio+20, it will also screen at the International Union for Conservation of Nature's World Conservation Congress in Jeju, Korea, September 6 to 15, 2012 and COP18, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in Qatar, November 26 to December 7, 2012.

"It will be the young people of this world—the next generation— who will inherit the failed policies or the decisive actions of this generation of world leaders. These films serve to remind delegates at Rio+20 of the urgency to act to catalyze a transition towards a low carbon, resource efficient Green Economy as a pathway towards transforming sustainable development from patchy implementation into a reality for seven billion people rising to over nine billion by 2050," said Nick Nuttall, Spokesperson and Acting Director of the UN Environment Programme's Division of Communications and Public Information.

The project will also be ongoing as annual updates will provide continually current climate research from around the world in subsequent film reports.

Some of the prestigious names showcased in this year's film include Professor William Rees, Emeritus Professor at University of British Columbia's School of Community and Regional Planning on Ecological Footprints; Professor William Collins, Senior Scientist and Department Head, Climate Science Department at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, on the vision of a post-carbon energy infrastructure; and Professor Ulrich Stimming, a Carl von Linde Senior Fellow, Technical University of Munich, on designing and building the world's first fleet of purpose-built electric taxis for Singapore. For more information about Youth Climate Report: www.youthclimatereport.org.

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BACKGROUNDER:

Neko Harbour Entertainment, Inc. (NHE):

NHE is a Canadian film production company that produces environmental documentaries aimed at promoting climate literacy throughout the world. Its partnership with UNEP brings the latest scientific research directly to international policy-makers in accessible film and multimedia formats.

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP):

UNEP, established in 1972, is the voice for the environment within the United Nations system. UNEP acts as a catalyst, advocate, educator and facilitator to promote the wise use and sustainable development of the global environment. To accomplish this, UNEP works with a wide range of partners, including United Nations entities, international organizations, national governments, non-governmental organizations, the private sector and civil society.

United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20):

Rio+20 – the short name for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development to take place in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in June 2012 – is an historic opportunity to define pathways to a safer, more equitable, cleaner, greener and more prosperous world for all. Twenty years after the 1992 Earth Summit in Rio, where countries adopted Agenda 21 – a blueprint to rethink economic growth, advance social equity and ensure environmental protection – the UN is again bringing together governments, international institutions and major groups to agree on a range of smart measures that can reduce poverty while promoting decent jobs, clean energy and a more sustainable and fair use of resources. Rio+20 is a chance to move away from business-as-usual and to act to end poverty, address environmental destruction and build a bridge to the future.