



Global Greens News

October 2012

Global Greens – next steps

In Dakar, one of the most important decisions was about strengthening the Global Greens structure and functioning so we can work more effectively to implement the Global Greens Charter. Here's a quick update.

Secretariat

Three locations have been proposed for the Global Greens Secretariat -- Europe, Canada and Australia. The GGC will make a decision at its upcoming meeting in Athens in November.

Legal recognition

The GGC has initiated registration of the Global Greens as a legal entity under Belgian law. Belgium is one of the few countries offering legal status as an international non-profit organisation, which is the best fit for the Global Greens. The European Greens are also registered in Belgium under the same provisions. It will take some months to prepare the necessary statutes and have them approved.

Funding

For the Global Greens and its Secretariat to work effectively, we need to boost the funding available. In Athens the GGC will be considering ways to do this, including membership fees, federation contributions and donation requests. We will also be asking all Global Greens supporters to help. You can already donate at www.globalgreens.org/donate

Indigenous Greens Network

One of the networks formed in Dakar is the Global Indigenous Greens Network. This will aim to contribute practically to improve the situation of indigenous peoples who suffer marginalisation and human rights violations. The network will share information on indigenous issues such as cultural rights, land issues, indigenous/traditional ways of life and take action to support projects run by and for indigenous peoples. There are plans to hold a conference of indigenous greens in Taiwan in coming months. To get involved or for more information please contact: Hsinhui Chui (Taiwan) and Robin Dewa (Slovenia) at indigenous@globalgreens.org

Dakar Resolutions

Final versions of Dakar 2012 Congress resolutions are now available online at <http://www.globalgreens.org/news/dakar2012-resolutions>



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www.globalgreens.org
secretary@globalgreens.org

Green snippets

Federation of Green Parties of the Americas

Venezuela Presidential Elections - October 7.

Venezuela is about to hold one of the most significant elections in its history. The political climate is highly polarized, there have been a series of environmental disasters caused by the burgeoning oil industry, and incumbent Hugo Chavez has overseen growing crises in housing, food scarcity, and electricity shortages. The green environmental movement in Venezuela is pleased to support the exciting candidacy of 'sustainable growth' opposition candidate Henrique Capriles Radoski. Capriles has pledged to end Venezuela's dangerous liaisons with countries such as Iran, Syria and Belarus and pursue more cooperative relationships with neighbouring countries in Latin America. The support of Green brothers and sisters from around the world is important to demonstrate the Venezuelan Greens' place in the global Green family and to encourage the Venezuelan electorate to vote for the party of nature and ecology.

US Presidential Elections– November 6th

The Green Party of the United States (GPUS) is trying to shake up the US Presidential Campaign with the candidacy of Dr Jill Stein (pictured, left, with running mate Cheri Honkala). Jill is a physician, teacher and pioneering environmental-health advocate.

The Green New Deal is a key campaign theme. This is an emergency four-part program of specific solutions for moving America quickly into a secure green future. It is based on the four pillars of: an economic bill of rights, a transition to a sustainable economy, real financial reform and a functioning democracy.



After winning the GPUS nomination in July, Jill and her team succeeded in gaining ballot access in 39 states, and write-in candidate access (where voters have to write the candidate's name themselves) in another 6 states. This means that 85% of US voters will be able to vote Green in 2012. Nearly half of eligible voters are expected to sit out of the election but as Jill says "That's because they haven't heard about us yet." Stein is currently polling 2.1% of the vote, a significant increase on previous results and the campaign has not yet kicked in to full swing!

African Green Federation

New AGF Secretariat

The African Green Federation has established a Federation secretariat and office in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso. This follows the recent legal registration of the Federation in Burkina Faso.

The Secretariat will be headed by Fatoumata Boussim (pictured 2nd from left) and has been established with the help of the Swedish Green Forum. The Secretariat will support the AGF in its main objective to *"promote the integration of principles and values of the Greens on the continent,"* said AGF President Frank Habineza.

The Global Greens congratulate the AGF on this achievement, and look forward to working with the new secretariat and the federation in strengthening the Green parties of Africa.



Re-launch of the Democratic Green Party of Rwanda

Rwandan green party leader Frank Habineza (pictured) returned to his home country enabling the party to be successfully re-launched on the 13 September 2012. The Party elected an interim executive committee led by President Habineza and released its political program which includes proposals for sustainable agriculture, a green economy, education for all and establishing a parliamentary committee for Truth, Unity and Reconciliation. The Party will hold its founding Congress in November and will immediately request registration so that it can contest the national elections in September 2013.



European Green Party

Athens Council Meeting

The EGP Council will meet in Athens, Greece from November 9-11th. Key issues for this council include:

- Inside views of the Greek crisis
- The future of the EU
- Digital rights and
- Pre-campaign plans for the 2014 European elections

This Council will also elect a new Committee to manage EGP affairs for the next 3 years. You can read more about the candidates at <http://europeangreens.eu/athens2012/egp-committee-candidates>



Athens Express

The EGP's individual supporters network have organised a week long train journey for Greens to travel to Athens together. Using night trains and stopping in Hungary, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Romania and Bulgaria, the trip will provide the opportunity to meet activists from Member Parties and engage in local actions. For more information visit the EGP's [Athens Express Page](#).

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secretary@globalgreens.org

Asia Pacific Green Network

Invitation to attend Korea Greens inauguration ceremony

The Green Party of Korea recently had to re-register itself as a national political party under local electoral laws. This required re-establishing five local Green parties, each with 1000 members, which the Korea greens are proud to have achieved.

The Korean Greens are pleased to invite Green friends from around the world to celebrate their inauguration on the 13th of October in Hongsung, Choongnam province. They are even offering a few humble accommodations for 3 nights for limited numbers of guests as well as transport from Seoul airport. It's short notice, but interested Greens should contact Green Party of Korea International Secretary June Gyeon Lee, june.greenparty@gmail.com as soon as possible.

Liaquat Ali Shaikh released

GGC member and Chair of the Pakistan Greens was detained on 19 September sparking calls from around the world for his immediate release. The Global Greens welcome his release a few days ago but remain deeply disturbed about the circumstances of his detention, including being held incommunicado and without charge.



Green achievements in Japan

Deeper alliances within the Japanese green movement have led to the birth of a new party Midori no To (Greens Japan). The new party brings together the political organisation Midori no Mirai (Green Future) along with anti-nuclear and environment groups and plans to field 10 candidates in mid-2013 upper house elections and late-2013 lower house elections for the Tokyo district. The party launch was attended by Green Parliamentarians Bärbel Höhn from Germany and Scott Ludlam from Australia as well as representatives of Green parties in India, Taiwan and Korea.

Greens Japan's core policy is to substantially increase the use of renewable energy sources and end Japan's dependence on nuclear power, the subject of recent large protests (pictured). The Japanese government's recent announcement that it intends to phase out nuclear power by the 2030s is a significant step forward. However Greens Japan argues that this transition cannot wait until the 2030s and needs to happen now.



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