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****In the News****

-- 17/10/2006: Network for Corporate Accountability (CorA) founded in Germany

"We are convinced that the path to binding and effective corporate regulations worldwide is not only ethically due, but also economically indispensable for the common good. Binding responsibility can be achieved by a combination of instruments, particularly through financial policy instruments, limiting values, incentive- and sanctions systems, as well as guidelines for regulatory policy. In the long term responsibility can be attained by varied structures that pioneer an economic model that is socially and ecologically compatible, and above all based on human rights."

Read the whole Founding statement (PDF; 103 KB):

<http://www.corporate-accountability.org/eng/documents/2006/cora.pdf>

****New Papers****

-- Civil Society Perspectives and Recommendations on the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative. By PWYP.

The report is intended to present the perspective of PWYP on EITI

country-level implementation thus far, and hence is the product of our collective "eyes on EITI." It is based on interviews with members of civil society and PWYP coalitions in sixteen out of the twentyone endorsing countries.¹ It makes fourteen recommendations to various stakeholders that the coalition believes are necessary for effective implementation of EITI and achievement of its ultimate objectives. PWYP calls on all stakeholders to work together with the new EITI Board and Secretariat to address issues raised in this report and to implement the recommendations outlined below. We believe these are essential steps to ensuring that extractive sector revenues are a source of development and prosperity for all citizens of resource-rich countries around the world.

Download the whole report (PDF; 584 KB):

http://www.corporate-accountability.org/eng/documents/2006/eye_on_eiti.pdf

--Carrots and sticks for starters: current trends and approaches in voluntary and mandatory standards for sustainability reporting. By UNEP & KMPG.

This report provides an overview and analysis of current trends and approaches in mandatory and voluntary standards for sustainability reporting. It summarises arguments in favour of both voluntary and mandatory approaches, and suggests key considerations for public and private sector decision-makers in addressing different regulatory approaches and possible policy mixes. It also provides a listing of reporting and related standards in mainly OECD countries, including the European Union (EU), as well as the emerging market economies of Brazil, India and South Africa.

Download the whole report (PDF; 784 KB)

http://www.corporate-accountability.org/eng/documents/2006/carrots_and_sticks.pdf

-- Commerce, Crime and Conflict. Legal Remedies for Private Sector Liability for Grave Breaches of International Law.

There is growing evidence that business activities can have a detrimental impact on human rights in wars and dictatorships. Yet, to date, there are few effective remedies available. In war-torn or repressive states, host governments lack the capacity or the will to enforce domestic laws relating to business conduct. Likewise lacking are international policy or legal instruments to hold accountable those whose economic transactions contribute to and profit from the perpetration of human rights violations.

Download the study (PDF; 188 KB):

http://www.corporate-accountability.org/eng/documents/2006/commerce_crime_and_conflict.pdf

-- Human Rights Policies and Management Practices of Fortung Global 500 Firms: Results of a Survey

Several elements of the SRSG's mandate, especially the request to compile a compendium of best practices, require the collection of new or additional information on what firms and governments currently are doing in relation to business and human rights. Accordingly, the SRSG has undertaken a number of

research projects, one of which is a questionnaire survey of the Fortune Global 500 companies (FG500).¹ This paper summarizes the key features of the human rights policies and management practices reported by the respondents. The questionnaire and responses - overall, by sector, by region, and the response rate by country - are appended.

Download the Survey (PDF; 112 KB):

http://www.corporate-accountability.org/eng/documents/2006/hr_fortune_global_500.pdf

-- Corporate Social Responsibility - An Introduction From the Environmental Perspective

Corporate social responsibility (CSR) provides an intelligent way to combine economically viable development, social responsibility and conservation of natural resources. I encourage companies to embrace their responsibilities to society and the environment and to incorporate CSR into their business activities on a voluntary basis. Not only is this important for social cohesion, it is also good for business. After all, integrating CSR indisputably boosts acceptance of a company's operations and enhances its international reputation, and can also help it to open up fresh market opportunities, strengthen its innovative and competitive edge and create new jobs.

Download the Introduction (PDF; 484 KB):

http://www.corporate-accountability.org/eng/documents/2006/csr_introduction_environmental_perspective.pdf

www.corporate-accountability.org aims to facilitate the flow of information among NGOs and social movements who believe their governments, private sector and civil society need to make greater efforts to ensure the accountability of business and industry, especially Transnational Corporations, to society. It contains information about ongoing civil society campaigns on corporate accountability and about NGOs and trade unions who are active in this field. It provides comprehensive material on codes of conduct, multi-stakeholder initiatives and intergovernmental processes.

Finally, this site makes available documents and publications on corporate accountability and links to relevant research institutes and databases.

Feedback and suggestions are highly appreciated!

Corporate-Accountability-News mailing list

Corporate-Accountability-News@lists.trilos.net

<http://lists.trilos.net/mailman/listinfo/corporate-accountability-news>