

World Nuclear Association

Energy For Sustainable Development

From the Director General

28 April 2003

To the Awarders of the Sassakawa Prize:

I am pleased to have the opportunity to express approval of the nomination made by Christopher Layton, Hon Director General of the Commission of the European Union.

I agree that Aubrey Meyer is the outstanding candidate for the Sassakawa Prize, for two reasons:

First is his simple but brilliant constitutional concept of Contraction and Convergence for avoiding catastrophic climate change.

Second is his relentless and increasingly successful international promotion of this concept over the last fifteen years.

At any rates specified, the C&C model plots two simple things:

- Future greenhouse gas emissions on a global path, via a contraction rate – or contraction budget – that would stabilise the atmospheric concentration at a safe level; and
- The tradable international permits or shares in this budget that become equal per capita globally at a rate of convergence that is deliberately faster than the contraction rate, and so fair against the historic emissions of the industrial countries.

In the debate about climate change, an impression has been created that the problem is too daunting and complex to prevent. Contraction and Convergence provides a way forward that it is both fair and feasible.

It fulfils the stated goals of the UNFCCC. It satisfies the U.S. Senate's Byrd-Hagel Resolution. And it answers the developing countries' demand for equity.

As such, C&C would resolve the North-South stalemate and enable us to achieve our urgent global emissions-reduction imperative.

Aubrey has matched the craft of his C&C model with the skill and guts to fight for – and win – friends for it all over the world. For more than a decade, he has done this independently and with no institutional support.

wna@world-nuclear.org www.world-nuclear.org
Tel +44 (0)20 7225 0303 Fax +44 (0)20 7225 0308

12th Floor, Bowater House West, 114 Knightsbridge, London SW1X 7LJ, United Kingdom

Incorporated in England No. 1215741 VAT Reg No GB 340 2373 93

His achievement is not just impressive but inspirational. C&C is now at the centre of the IPCC and UNFCCC policy debate as the most widely referenced and cited approach. It has been profoundly influential in commercial, religious and academic circles, as well in the civil service, civil society and the media.

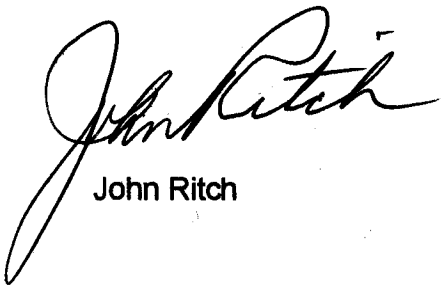
C&C is rapidly becoming the most widely recognised successor to the Kyoto Protocol.

Whatever technologies come into play in humanity's quest to make and share a sustainable future, C&C will inevitably be the framework we use.

By recognising Aubrey's achievement, the Sassakawa jury will help speed our quest for a solution to a global crisis without precedent.

I can think of no person and no idea more deserving of your reward.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Ritch', with a large, stylized initial 'J'.

John Ritch

THE·JOHN·RAY·INITIATIVE

promoting·environmental·sustainability

From the Chairman: Sir John Houghton CBE FRS
Brynhyfryd, Aberdyfi, Gwynedd, Wales LL35 0SN
Email: john.houghton@jri.org.uk

RE: NOMINATION OF AUBREY MEYER FOR THE SASAKAWA PRIZE 2003.

I have been closely connected with the national and international concern and debate regarding Climate Change for some 15 years, particularly through my involvement with the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (as chair or co-chair of the Science Assessment Working Group 1988-2002), the UK Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution (as chairman 1992-1998) and the UK Government Panel on Sustainable Development (member from 1994-2000). The urgent need for international action to mitigate climate change has become increasingly apparent over this period. How the necessary reductions in global emissions of carbon dioxide over the next few decades can be achieved is a vexing question that is concerning all nations in the context of the Framework Convention on Climate Change (FCCC) which they all have signed.

The Principles that should govern international action are generally agreed namely the Precautionary Principle, the Principle of Sustainable Development, the Polluter-Pays Principle and the Principle of Equity (both intergenerational and international). The problem is to turn these into detailed practical long-term arrangements to which all nations can agree. Aubrey Meyer and the Global Commons Institute that he directs, 15 years ago, proposed an arrangement called 'Contraction and Convergence' that was formulated using the simplest possible logic and that well satisfies the four principles. The proposal is visionary in that it clearly addresses the long-term problem; it is also admirably practical. Further, because at its heart is equal per capita sharing of emissions allocations, it provides a unique solution to the equity principle that is the hardest one for the international community to address.

Since the formulation of 'Contraction and Convergence', Aubrey Meyer has tirelessly and selflessly argued for and promoted it with great energy and tenacity in scientific, economic and political fora. Admiration is frequently expressed regarding its elegance and simple logic and it has been widely accepted by policy makers and by NGOs as a basis that should underlie the next stage of policy formulation. For instance, the UK's Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution, in an influential study on Energy published in 2000 used it at the basis of its recommendations. In fact there is no other proposal in play that meets so many of the required principles and criteria or that has any real chance of succeeding. It is bound to be strongly influential in the crucial round of international negotiations in the FCCC that is about to begin.

The personal dedication of Aubrey Meyer, born of a deep concern for global humanity and its future, is what has brought the Contraction and Convergence proposal to the influential position it holds today. I am most pleased to strongly support his nomination for the Sasakawa Prize. I cannot think of a more appropriate recipient.

JOHN HOUGHTON
26 April 2003

Sir John Houghton CBE, FRS (Chairman)
Mrs Claire Ashton (Executive Secretary)
Mr Paul Houghton (Treasurer)
Mr John Salter (Company Secretary)
Dr Peter Carruthers (Executive Director)
Company Registration No: 3420063

JRI, Room QW212, Francis Close Hall,
University of Gloucestershire
Swindon Road, Cheltenham GL50 4AZ
Tel 01242 543580 Fax 01242 532997
jri@glos.ac.uk www.jri.org.uk
Registered Charity No: 1067614

Elisabeth Guilbaud-Cox
Sasawaka Prize
UN Environment Programme
Division of Communications and Public Information
PO Box 30552
Nairobi
Kenya

29 April 2003

Nomination for Sasakawa Prize 2003: Aubrey Meyer, Global Commons Institute

It is my great pleasure to write to nominate Mr Aubrey Meyer, director of the London-based Global Commons Institute, for the Sasakawa Prize 2003. This written nomination follows my nomination of Mr Meyer both on the UNEP website and via e-mail.

Since 1990, Aubrey Meyer has been the director of the Global Commons Institute, a small, underfunded and yet astonishingly effective think tank and advocacy organisation focussed on international climate change. From a background in classical music, Aubrey has emerged to be at the forefront of the global climate agenda.

He has run an extraordinary campaign on global climate policy – usually single-handed, and frequently in the face of extreme financial difficulties – which has seen him invited to present his ideas in countries all over the world, attracted the support of governments, heads of state and parliamentarians around the globe, and won the admiration of a bewildering array of leaders in environmental advocacy and campaigning.

At the heart of his efforts has been the ‘Contraction and Convergence’ (C&C) framework for international climate policy, which he devised. C&C is a simple and yet remorselessly logical framework that mandates:

- ❖ a contraction in global emissions, consistent with limiting emissions to a safe level of concentrations in the atmosphere (reflecting the objective of Article 2 of the UNFCCC), and
- ❖ a concurrent convergence of national entitlements under this ‘global emissions budget’ so that all countries arrive at equal per capita entitlements to the atmosphere by an agreed date.
- ❖ full international emissions trading in order to maximise flexibility as well as to give developing countries an incentive to take part in quantified entitlements.

Despite starting out on his campaign with no prior experience of political advocacy work, no funding, no staff and no idea that we would still be running the same campaign more than a decade later, Mr Meyer has clocked up a sequence of extraordinary achievements in his campaign for the logic of C&C to be recognised and adopted. Indeed, there is every possibility that his idea may come to be the basis of how international climate policy is structured in future commitment periods.

As well as promoting C&C within the UNFCCC and beyond, Mr Meyer has also been a tireless and passionate campaigner for the ability of developing countries to participate fully and meaningfully in international climate negotiations, despite their lower capacity compared to developed countries. He played a critical role in helping developing countries to ensure that their concerns over IPCC WG3’s Second

Assessment Report contribution were listened to and acted on – indeed, it is probably no exaggeration to suggest that without Mr Meyer's help, the Second Assessment Report would have gone to press still containing calculations that valued an individual life unequally in developed and developing countries.

I believe that Mr Meyer exemplifies the qualities that the Sasakawa Environment Prize exists to honour. He has shown wisdom, compassion, an understanding of global interdependence that has been an example to me and to many others whom have worked with him, and above all extraordinary and continuing perseverance and tenacity in his campaign. I hope very much that you will consider this nomination positively.

Enclosed is a selection of GCI materials published over the last twelve years (as well as a CD containing the same material), which I hope will be useful to you as background. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of any further assistance to the Selection Committee in its considerations.

Yours sincerely

Alex Evans
Energy and Environment Research Fellow

FROM THE RT HON MICHAEL MEACHER MP
MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND AGRI-ENVIRONMENT

DEFRA
Department for
Environment,
Food & Rural Affairs

Nobel House
17 Smith Square
London SW1P 3JR
Tel: 020 7238 5404
Fax: 020 7238 5976

Aubrey Meyer's contribution to the policy debate on how to avoid dangerous climate change has been sustained and outstanding.

Since 1989 he and his tiny organisation - the Global Commons Institute (GCI) - have been successfully challenging officials around the world including politicians like myself to adopt "Contraction and Convergence", GCI's global framework for climate change policies based on precaution, logic and equity

With scant material support and an extraordinary dedication and persistence, he created and communicated this visionary concept for a long-term global framework for negotiating the international allocation of greenhouse gas emissions permits.

He has already convinced numerous leading figures in the international negotiating community, the insurance industry, the scientific community, the environmental media and politics of the absence of effective alternatives to "Contraction and Convergence". So much so that in June 2000, the UK's Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution made it a key recommendation to this government. The concept has been endorsed by the European Parliament and many members of the UK parliament as well, including the former Secretary of State for the Environment, John Gummer and Ministers from practically all European countries. Under GCI's advice the concept was led at the UN negotiations by the Indian Government in 1995 and again by the Africa Group of Nations in 1997. Again as a result of GCI publications, C&C has also been endorsed by numerous eminent individuals and institutions and is more and more widely quoted in prestigious academic publications.

Lest we make the planet uninhabitable, the international community must come soon to an agreement on how to organise the global effort to avoid this. Contraction and Convergence is a very powerful idea and I have no doubt that the concept will continue to be an influential force in discussions, as one model of how greenhouse gas emissions can be allocated in a fair and equitable manner.

If ever there was an initiative that deserved recognition and support, it is the brilliant and relentless campaign waged by this fiercely independent, creative and apparently quite tireless individual.

**Citation of Aubrey Meyer, Global Commons Institute,
for the Sasakawa Prize, 2003**

by

Dr Andrew Dlugolecki

Advisory Board Director, Carbon Disclosure Project

Adviser on Climate Change to UNEP Finance Sector Initiative

Aubrey Meyer's insight into the problem of mitigation of climate change bears the true hallmark of genius: it is simple and robust. His "Contraction and Convergence" model provides a transparent framework that incorporates the clear objective of a safe global level of greenhouse gases, AND allocates the responsibility for achieving this internationally with the irresistible logic of equal shares. At the same time, the model recognises the practical need for an adjustment period to permit nations to conform to the new logic and prepare for a climate-friendly economy. It is no doctrinaire solution, but a brilliantly pragmatic and elegant solution.

Aubrey and his tiny organisation GCI, have laboured tirelessly to bring the concept to every conceivable stakeholder's attention, from governments to NGO's, to the business world, in which I operate. Too often, mitigation is portrayed as being detrimental to economic development. Aubrey has demonstrated through his brilliantly simple graphics, that in fact mitigation is the guarantor of wealth creation, not its nemesis, and that market forces can accelerate the transition to a safer climate. This is a key message in mustering the support of the business world, and already the UNEP Finance Sector Initiative has commended "C&C" to policymakers as a basis for negotiation.

In the forthcoming discussions on how to follow up "Kyoto" with more meaningful action, surely Contraction and Convergence will be the pivotal proposal that reconciles developing and developed nations' ambitions. It is only fitting that Aubrey Meyer should be recognised for creating such a seminal concept, and promoting it so effectively.



ROYAL COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION
Third Floor 5-8 The Sanctuary Westminster London SW1P 3JS

From The Chairman
Sir Tom Blundell FRS FMedSci

Direct Line: 020 7799 8984
Enquiries: 020 7799 8985
Fax: 020 7799 8971
E-mail: chairman@rcep.org.uk
Website: <http://www.rcep.org>

**Citation of Aubrey Meyer, Global Commons Institute
for the Sasakawa Prize.**

I write to support the nomination of Aubrey Meyer for the Sasakawa Prize. Over the past fifteen years Aubrey Meyer has developed the idea of Contraction and Convergence as an international solution to the challenge of global warming and climate change. He has done this through the Global Commons Institute with very little funding and infrastructure. These ideas influenced the Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution in the development of its report "Energy: the Changing Climate" and Contraction and Convergence was the basis of the recommended 60% reduction in carbon emissions. This recommendation has been taken up by the government in its recent Energy White Paper and is now the generally accepted basis for policy by a range of government, industry and non-governmental organisations.

Aubrey Meyer is a visionary, but it has been hard to get the message through to governments. The award of the Sasakawa Prize would give much support to this very important work, and be a splendid recognition his important contributions.

Sir Tom Blundell,
Chairman,
Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution.

The idea of contraction and convergence is destined to be one of the most important principles governing international relations in the twenty-first century. It is a powerful ethic that incorporates global justice and sustainability and thereby bridges the dominant concerns of the last century and this one. It is the only way to accommodate the interests, ethical and economic, of developing countries and rich countries in the struggle to find a solution to the most important environmental problem facing the world.

The widespread international recognition and endorsement of contraction and convergence is due largely to the efforts of Aubrey Meyer and the Global Commons Institute. Aubrey has been an indefatigable advocate of the principle as the only long-term solution to the enormous threat posed by climate change.

His commitment has come at considerable personal cost. If the world did not have a few score individuals such as Aubrey it would be a much poorer place, for all great ideas of history must have their passionate advocates. I believe that we are reaching the end of the first phase of the idea of contraction and convergence and it would be fitting to acknowledge Aubrey's extraordinary contribution thus far.

Yours sincerely

Dr Clive Hamilton
Executive Director
The Australia Institute



Association For Sustainable & Responsible Investment In Asia

25th April, 2003

To Whom It May Concern,

Aubrey Meyer is testimony to the fact that individual effort can make a difference. It is absolutely remarkable that the idea of Contraction and Convergence has taken such a firm hold worldwide in such a short space of time, especially when you see the tiny operation which has championed this essential idea. I remember at Kyoto in 1997 when policy-makers derided the proposition without a second thought. That type of response has all but disappeared, certainly within the more thoughtful arenas of climate policy.

Through sheer determination, focus and good manners Aubrey has broken through global ignorance and prejudice to make just, common sense prevail... and he has done so on climate change, the most chronic threat which the world currently faces.

We all have a great deal to thank Aubrey for, and I firmly believe that there is no-one better to receive the Sasakawa Award. Please give Aubrey Meyer your greatest consideration.

Yours faithfully,

Tessa Tennant
Executive Chair



climate network
Africa

Wood Avenue, Kilimani
P.O. Box 76479
Nairobi, Kenya.
Tel: 254-2-564040
Fax: 254-2-573737
E-mail: cna@lion.meteo.go.ke
Web: <http://lion.meteo.go.ke/cna>

28 April 2003

SASAKAWA PRIZE 2003 NOMINATION

RE: AUBREY MEYER

It is with great pleasure that I support the nomination of Aubrey Meyer of Global Commons Institute for the 2003 Sasakawa prize. It is rare to find people with both drive and determination, pushing for a global cause single handedly, the way Aubrey Meyer has done with the concept of Contraction and Convergence for approximately fifteen years.

Aubrey has demonstrated talent, courage and patience with the concept of Contraction and Convergence throughout the history of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UN-FCCC) negotiations. They say patience pays. Yes, it does as today, many governments around the world have accepted the concept of Contraction and Convergence as the only equitable response mechanism to the threat of climate change. Without equity considerations, implementation of the Climate Change Convention and the Kyoto Protocol will continue to elude all countries with the tragic consequences of the devastating impacts of climate change.

Many African countries as well as NGOs are aware that the African continent will suffer the most from the impacts of climate change. It is with this in mind that in 1997, the African Group at the UN-FCCC publicly supported in the plenary, the concept of Contraction and Convergence.

I therefore fully support Aubrey Meyer's nomination for the 2003 Sasakawa Prize.

Grace Akumu,
Executive Director,
Climate Network Africa.

**PROFESSOR DAVID CRICHTON, MA, FCII,
Chartered Insurance Practitioner**

28th April 2003

United Nations
Nairobi

Dear sir/madam,

The UNEP Sasakawa Award

I am a consultant specialising in advising insurance companies on climate change issues. I have advised insurers and governments in four continents on these issues in recent years, and I wish to support the nomination Aubrey Meyer of the Global Commons Institute for this award.

The campaign for "Contraction and Convergence" is fifteen years old this year. The fact that it is now seen by many individuals, governments, and organisations around the world as the only long term equitable and practical solution to global climate change is a tribute to Aubrey's commitment and personal hard work.

The global insurance industry is three times bigger than the fossil fuel industry and controls more than 30% of the world's stocks and shares. The more enlightened sections of the insurance industry, such as those which have signed up to the Statement of Environmental Commitment of the UNEP Insurance Industry Initiative, recognise that it is essential that efforts are made at every level to mitigate future climate change, and Contraction and Convergence is the only effective and fair way to achieve this.

The Global Commons Institute is a very small organisation and if Aubrey were to be awarded a prize, it would make an enormous impact in assisting him in spreading this important message.

Yours faithfully,

David Crichton

I first met Aubrey Meyer early in 1992 just prior to INC/V being held in New York. He was trying to arrange a conference on climate and equity issues. Throughout our long telephone conversation I was struck by the beauty of the argument now called the "Contraction and Convergence" theory as well as its simplicity.

In addition, Aubrey himself seemed driven by an utter belief in the principle enshrined in the "C+C" approach. When he later sent me copies of the graphics that back up the "C+C" argument I was blown away by their incisiveness and attention to detail. I have been a believer in "C+C" ever since and maintain that it is the only credible answer to a very complex climate problem.

Aubrey has operated without any major funding ever since I have known him. He relies on other people's goodwill and donations. He has never compromised himself or his idea in order to obtain inappropriate funding. This has to be commended in an ever more commercial world. He tirelessly campaigns for the cause and will never give in despite the forces ranged against him.

Climate politics are entering a decisive phase as we approach the adoption of the Kyoto Protocol and it's strengthening by what ever means are deemed politically acceptable. Never before has GCI needed backing, recognition and funding as now.

To miss this opportunity would be a great shame for a beautifully simple idea that could literally change the future of the human race.

Dr Julian E Salt
Director
Climate Solutions Consultancy

ZEAL

Zululand Environmental Alliance

An alliance of associations and persons pro the environment

P. O. Box 12194 Empangeni South Africa 3880

Phone: 035-772-5967 (Chairman's home)

Email address: jmphelps@iafrica.com

30 April 2003

Per email to cna@lion.meteo.go.ke

This letter went to: -

The Director
Climate Network Africa (CNA)
Wood Avenue, Kilimani
P.O Box 76479
Nairobi 00508 - Kenya

Dear Grace

Re: Nomination of Aubrey Meyer for the 2003 SASAKAWA PRIZE

It is with great pleasure that I support the nomination of Aubrey Meyer of Global Commons Institute for the 2003 Sasakawa prize.

Aubrey has brought to bear exceptional determination in advancing the brilliant concept of Contraction and Convergence, over long hard years with the Global Commons Institute—fifteen in all so far. It has been a frequently solitary struggle, and pursued with very limited resources. But Aubrey has not been daunted. Instead he has persevered, driven by his clear-sighted vision of the workability of Contraction and Convergence. His work offers not only a hope that global warming and environmental catastrophe can be averted, but that human reason can be our guiding star. He is one of the rare and vital people in the world today. He has given his life for others, not for personal gain. In a world deluged by self-centred motivations, Aubrey's efforts stand out as a beckoning call in the right direction.

Aubrey has evidenced outstanding intelligence and patience in advancing the concept of Contraction and Convergence during the history of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UN-FCCC) negotiations. His patient efforts have been rewarded because many governments in the world today have accepted the concept of Contraction and Convergence as the only equitable response mechanism to the threat of climate change. Without equity considerations as devised in Contraction and Convergence, the Climate Change Convention and the Kyoto Protocol will remain un-implementable and leave all people on earth facing the devastating effects of climate change.

We in South Africa are aware that although the major industrial nations are causing the greatest air pollution, our own country needs comprehensively and urgently to reform its power generation and energy use systems. Aubrey is a South African by origin, and we would hope that if he should be successful in achieving the 2003 Sasakawa Prize, this would help bring a new awareness to our country about contraction and Convergence, and to the world of the threat of global warming to Africa's lands and peoples.

We wholeheartedly support Aubrey Meyer's nomination for the 2003 Sasakawa Prize.

Yours faithfully

Prof. James M. Phelps
Chairman
Zululand Environmental Alliance (ZEAL)



09/05/2003

Christopher Layton
Hon Director General,
Commission of the European Union
44 Copperfields
Horrabridge
Near Yelberton
DEVON PL20 7UB

SUPPORTING THE NOMINATION OF AUBREY MEYER FOR THE SASKAWA PRIZE 2003

Aged 42 and halfway through a notable career as a violinist and composer, Aubrey Meyer turned abruptly from music to environmental concerns in 1988 after hearing of the murder of Chico Mendez and the plight of Amazonia and its peoples.

In 1989 to address climate change, he founded the Global Commons Institute (GCI) on the principle Equity and Survival serving since then as Director. GCI's mission has been to arrest global warming addressing its unequal human causes and effects, using the ghg emissions management model developed at GCI called *Contraction-and-Convergence(C&C)*.

Meyer contributed extensive analytical work to the Second and Third Assessments of the IPCC (1995 and 2000), memorably challenging the short-sighted economic discourse in the Second and establishing a beachhead for C&C in the Third.

C&C has gradually had significant impact and success. In 1997 Meyer was awarded the British Environment Media's Andrew Lees Memorial Award, with this citation: -

"Aubrey Meyer, almost single-handedly and with minimal resources, has made an extraordinary impact on the negotiations on the Climate Change Treaty, one of the most important of our time, through his campaign for a goal of equal per capita emissions entitlements, which is now the official negotiating position of many governments, and is gaining acceptance in developed and developing countries alike."

He received the Schumacher Prize in 2000 for continuing these efforts and writing them up in their briefing number 5,

"Contraction and Convergence - the Global Solution to Climate Change.

His unifying inter-disciplinary analysis, original visual imagery, tenacious and focused messaging, amplified now through the rapidly growing e-list the Global Commons Network (GCN), have now made C&C the most widely known and probably the most widely supported proposal for global solution to the global problem of climate change. C&C has generated tens of thousands of references and citations in the media and academia in at least eight languages and C&C is now a byword in the international debate supported by a growing number of eminent individuals and institutions in the sectors of commerce, politics, academia, civil service, civil society and the faith community.

The campaign is still run on a near voluntary basis with one full and one part time staff member on an annual average budget of £15,000. Against the enormity of the issue, this effort to address it has seen GCI recently described as, *the most efficient NGO in history.*

GCI's director is one of the under-sung heroes of our time.

Richard Sandbrook

15 Cambridge Road
London
SW20 OSQ

Phone +44 208 947 2885
Fax +44 208 947 5130
rsandbrook@aol.com

26 May 2003

To whom it may concern re:

Aubrey Meyer and the Global Commons Institute

I am a private consultant in the arena of Sustainable Development. I am one of UNEP's global 500 award winners and have been associated with the agency since its inception. I was a co-founder of Friends of the Earth and the Director of the International Institute for Environment and Development for 11 years (1988- 1999) I want to support the nomination of the above for the Sassakawa prize.

Contraction and Convergence is the idea of Aubrey Meyer. It is not a complex idea – not at all. But then that is its beauty. It has even been criticised on this basis as if complexity was needed in matters of fairness and global security. It simply has it that all mankind should move progressively toward a common and defined right to emit greenhouse gases. This is the only long-term way to look at the issue and the only long-term way to solve it without discord. To get there we need contraction by some in their emissions and we have to allow for increases by others if they are to develop. We should converge to one level for all.

We cannot achieve the millennium goals and the challenges of Kyoto without contraction and convergence – even if we call it by another name. Aubrey has over the last 15 years persisted in promoting the idea – sometimes to the point of exasperation toward him – sometimes to see the idea renamed and represented under another guise. He is one of those hidden heroes of the environmental movement – unsung and unrecognised - but right.

If this award is about people and institutions that make a real difference then he should be recognised by it. In 50 years time we will talk of Meyer's principle much as we talk about the Kyoto agreements now. I commend him and the Global Commons Institute to you.

The Sassakawa Prize, 2003

Citation of: -

**Aubrey Meyer,
Global Commons Institute,**

By: -

Roger Doudna
Findhorn Community
Scotland
26/05/2003

We at Findhorn have been keenly aware of Aubrey Meyer's "Contraction and Convergence" (C&C) proposals. Noting the growing support for them for some years, last Easter we asked him to come here and speak at our 'Restore the Earth' conference.

Compelling integration is what his presentation revealed - how to unify and conceptualise an international programme for the avoidance of the greenhouse gas emissions that are causing global climate to change. With C&C he has done this. He has created a well focused, inclusive - and indeed beautiful - language of principles and practice, and demonstrates this language with images and messages that are clarifying, eclectic, universal and extraordinarily powerful. Perhaps because he is a violinist and composer, he also communicates this as an artist - with insight, integrity and compassion.

His proposal unites the diverse aspects of the climate change problem into the flexible but constitutional simplicity of the C&C solution. This is the great strength of C&C; - shaping adversarial detail into a precautionary, cooperative and enabling rights-based whole. It is wholly numerate and counted into an arrangement founded on precaution and equity. Consequently, hopefulness and empowerment replace the despair that is increasingly felt about the faltering present arrangements for avoiding climate change. As Aubrey says, *"this equity in diversity is not just for its own sake; it is also for survival."*

Aubrey has inspired us with this work. He is now the veteran author of, as well as pilgrim for, this approach. Over fifteen years - with conventionally scant resources and against the odds - he has persuaded more and more people of the merits of the C&C approach. As we are increasingly anxious about the enormity and global complexity of the climate change dilemma, we are grateful that he is being increasingly successful at getting the attention, acceptance and support for C&C from all over the world from ordinary and powerful people in a great diversity of institutions, disciplines and cultures.

We commend him and his work to you to be honoured with your award.