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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Victor Menotti

For Immediate Release:

16 December 2009

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in Copenhagen

Copenhagen talks in disarray due to rich countries' failure to deliver on developing country concerns

In response, the International Forum on Globalization, together with allies present at 15th Conference of the Parties of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change,

reinforces need for energy conservation, indigenous rights, and providing finance technology package.

Three publications to be released:

- 1. "Net Energy" report reveals how no mix of "alternative" energy sources can save us with crash course on conservation;**
- 2. "Ensuring Indigenous Rights" report essential to REDD;**
- 3. Call-to-Action by US Climate Technology Leaders;**

Copenhagen, Denmark:

"The current crisis in the Copenhagen talks is based not in the process but in the content, actually, the *lack* of content, in proposals from developed countries to reduce their emissions and provide robust financing and technology for developing countries," stated **Victor Menotti, Executive Director of the International Forum on Globalization (IFG)**, a North/South policy think tank based in San Francisco, California in the United States.

IFG Press Conference

16 December 2009

UNFCCC – COP 15

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Menotti continued: "The governments assembled here at the 15th Conference of the Parties of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change are facing a 'crisis of content' and are in desperate need of real, not false solutions, to the global climate crisis. To that end, the IFG is calling on developed countries to deliver by prioritizing conservation, ensuring indigenous rights, and transferring climate technologies. Together, these three elements would accelerate the global economic transition required to solve the climate crisis and increase equity.

Johnny Weiss, Executive Director of Solar Energy International (SEI), an NGO which trains people worldwide in the design, building and maintenance of solar energy technologies, said "SEI is proud to join with other Americans who are ready to help poor countries and communities to leapfrog dirty development into a clean energy future. All we need now is for the Obama Administration to finance a UN-based platform for the US to share its technological skills and know-how with others who want to avoid the mistakes we made with fossil fuels. Weiss went on: "That's why this call-to-action is a moral imperative for global cooperation to share what we know for the higher good of the survival of people and the planet."

Victoria Tauli-Corpuz, Chair of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, Vice-Chair of the IFG Board of Directors, and a member of the Philippine delegation at COP 15, will release IFG's new report on "*Ensuring Rights in Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation (REDD)*" – which records the commitment made by major international environmental NGOs to supporting indigenous rights. Support from conservation groups for indigenous peoples' rights is essential to the instrumentality of REDD, and the application of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples is the right tool to do it.

Finally, IFG's Director of Communications, Claire Greensfelder, will officially launch a groundbreaking new report co-published by the IFG and the Post-Carbon Institute: *Searching for a Miracle, Net Energy Limits and the Fate of Industrial Society*. **Greensfelder said:** "This report demonstrates that no combination of alternative and renewable technologies will provide enough energy to meet peoples' needs without a massive "powering down" of energy use, in particular, but not limited to the developed world." "The missing item from the COP 15 agenda," **Greensfelder added**, "is the urgency of conservation. This imperative must be a top priority for the post-Copenhagen process."

A number of IFG colleagues from NGOs present at COP 15 will also join the press conference to express their support for indigenous peoples' rights, robust financing for technology transfer, and including the conservation imperative in further negotiations of the UNFCCC.

NGOs in collaboration with IFG who may speak at this press conference include 350.org, the World Future Council and Tebtebba -Indigenous Peoples' International Centre for Policy Research and Education (partial list).

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