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Sent: Wednesday, March 06, 2002 7:54 PM

Subject: UNEP/SETAC Life Cycle Initiative: Workshops in Vienna

Dear colleagues interested in the UNEP/SETAC Life Cycle Initiative,

We are happy to inform you that the UNEP/SETAC Life Cycle Initiative will be officially launched on April 28 in Prague, at UNEP's 7th High-level International Seminar on Cleaner Production (CP7). The launch will take place in the presence of Klaus Töpfer, UNEP's Executive Director and Jacqueline Aloisi de Larderel, Assistant Executive Director and Director of UNEP-DTIE in Paris. SETAC will be represented by Lorraine Maltby, SETAC President, Rod Parrish, Executive Director of SETAC global, Tony Fuell, Executive Director of SETAC Europe, and Jim Fava for the life cycle community. The meeting in Prague will be an inauguration of the International Life Cycle Panel (ILCP), the highest authority of the UNEP/SETAC Life Cycle Initiative.

At the working level, this will pertain to the implementation of three definition studies: on the LCI program, on the LCIA program and on the LCM program respectively. This means that it has been decided that indeed there will be a separate program on LCM, with the main object how to bring Life Cycle Thinking and LCA into practice. The Terms of Reference (ToR) for these three definition studies will be sent to you in short notice.

To initiate the work on the definition studies we plan to organise two workshops on the two programs whose ToRs have been finalised already (LCI with a special focus on databases, and LCIA), in Vienna on Thursday May 16. These will be linked to, and also be a formal part of the 12th annual SETAC conference. The workshops will be open to participants of the conference, as well as to other interested people. However, non-conference participants will probably be asked to pay a one-day fee to SETAC. This has still to be discussed with the conference organisation.

The two workshops will start at 9 a.m. with a general introductory program, explaining the progress made in the last year, and about the plans for the future. After this, participants will break into two workshops. A first point on the agenda will be a discussion about the ToRs for each of the two definition studies. Another issue will be the organisation of the work process, including the establishment of a working group for each program. Here, we will have to make a distinction between a formal working group on an invitation basis, with a balanced global and stakeholder representation, and a more informal discussion platform that is open to all experts in the field. The workshop will end about 4 p.m.

A final program for the two workshops will be distributed soon. Please let us know before April 15 if you would like to take part in one of these two workshops, and also whether you are attending the SETAC conference. Those interested in LCI are asked to contact Greg Norris (norris@sylvatica.com), and those interested in LCIA please contact Olivier Jolliet (olivier.jolliet@epfl.ch), with a cc. to Anne Solgaard (anne.solgaard@unep.fr). Due to room considerations and lunch reservation, it is important that you announce your intent to take part in either workshop beforehand. We will inform you shortly about the price of the workshops.

For more information about the workshops in general please contact the undersigned, Greg Norris, Olivier Jolliet or Guido Sonnemann. For more information about SETAC's 12th Annual conference, please go to:

<http://www.setac.org/vienna.html>

We look forward to seeing you in Vienna!

With best regards,

on behalf of the Organising Committee of the Life Cycle Initiative,
Helias A. Udo de Haes (e-mail: udodehaes@cml.leidenuniv.nl)

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