

Women Campaign Globally for an Equal Say at UN «Fate of the Earth» Conference

New York

Women around the world are campaigning for an equal say when «Fate of the Earth» decisions are made at the biggest UN environment and development conference ever held, to be convened next year in Brazil.

The 1-12 June 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) could draw summit-level delegations from as many as 160 nations. An additional 20,000 citizen activists also are expected in Brazil for a parallel People's Congress. Together, they will comprise the largest forum ever held for international, legal and other actions on such issues as climate changes, saving species, Earth ethics and financing sustainable development. The decisions taken at UNCED will affect life on Earth well into the 21st century.

To make sure women's voices and concerns are heard at UNCED and in the national and international meetings preparing for it, women activists-experts from around the world have mobilized for a World Women's

Congress for a Healthy Planet, to be held 8-12 November, 1991, in Miami Florida.

Congress organizers expect one thousand women at the five-day meeting in Miami, with the majority coming from developing countries. The Congress is open to all.

Congress participants will act as jurors, taking this evidence along with their own experiences to a series of workshops where they will develop recommendations and actions for a healthy planet.

Their Women's Action Agenda for a Healthy Planet will be presented November 12 to a Summit Meeting of women heads of government, top UN officials and other world leaders at the concluding session of the Congress. Among those expected to take part are Norwegian Prime Minister Gro Harlem Brundtland, who led the influential World Commission on Environment and Development, and UNCED Secretary-General Maurice Strong. ●

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