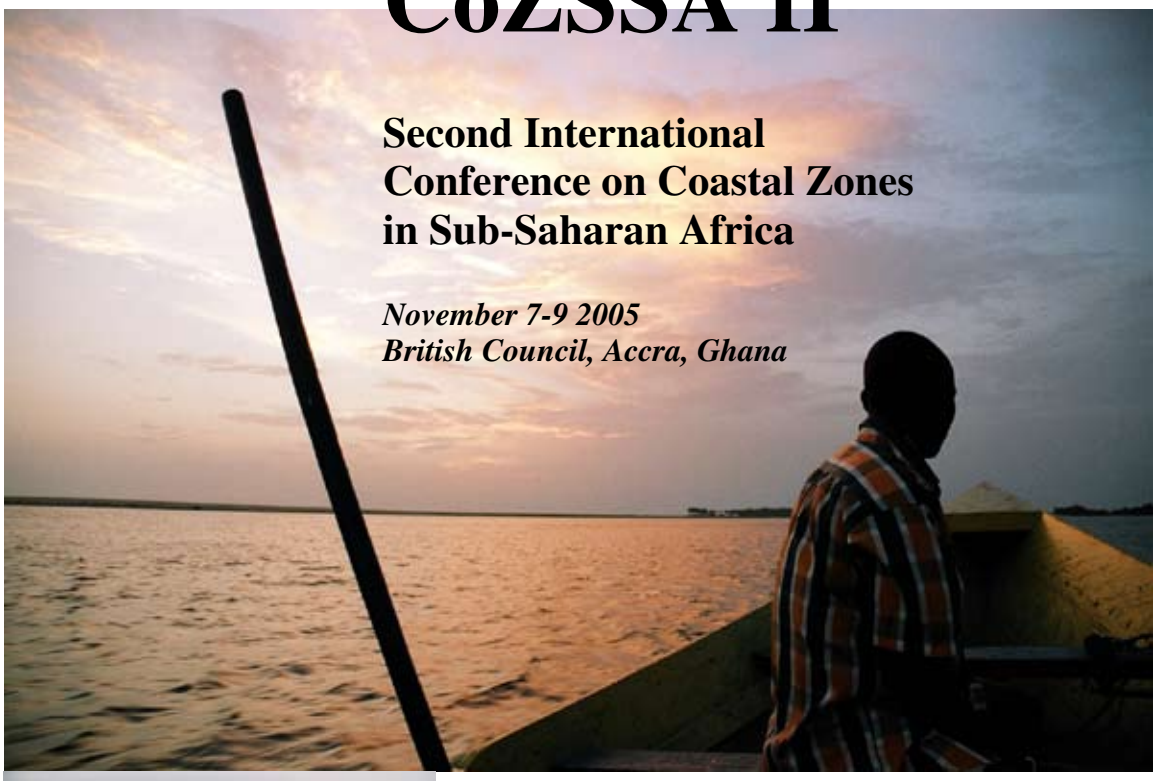
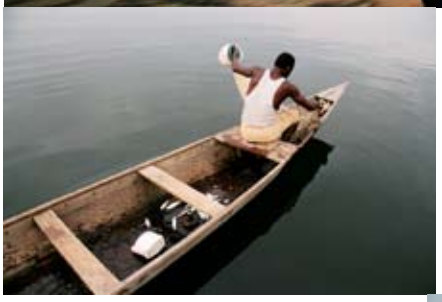
CoZSSA II



Second International Conference on Coastal Zones in Sub-Saharan Africa

November 7-9 2005
British Council, Accra, Ghana



Photos: Camilla Ween

Arts, Urbanisation and Climate Change in Sub-Saharan Africa

Conference report by
Prof. Lord Hunt of Chesterton

elsie owusu architects with
FEILDEN+MAWSON

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2.0.SECOND CONFERENCE ON COASTAL ZONES IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA CoZSSA II

Arts, urbanisation and climate change and the sustainable growth of sub-Saharan African cities

"This year offers a unique set of opportunities. I am committed to using the UK's G8 and EU Presidencies to try to make a breakthrough on Africa and climate change."

Rt Hon Tony Blair MP, World Economic Forum, Davos, Switzerland, January 2005

November 7-9, 2005
British Council, Accra, Ghana

Co-chairs:

- **Lord Hunt of Chesterton, President, Advisory Committee on Protection of the Sea (ACOPS)**

- **Hon. Jake Obetsebi-Lamptey, Minister of Tourism and Modernisation of the Capital City, (Ghana)**

1.0. Summary

Following the successful Conference on Coastal Zones in Sub-Saharan Africa (CoZSSA I) held at the Natural History Museum, London in May 2003, the second international conference (CoZSSA II) was held at the British Council in Accra, Ghana, on October 24/25/26 2005. The conference involved scientists, politicians, urban planners, academics, artists, financial experts, architects, writers, environmentalists and developers. It heard authoritative reviews of the problems of environmental change in coastal zones (including climate change) and critical issues of urban development, but also artistic, cultural and political perspectives that showed how communities were in fact thriving in very challenging conditions. The conference agreed about the need to reinforce and connect existing networks and initiate cross-disciplinary projects concerned with sustainable regeneration in the coastal zones and urban areas of sub-Saharan Africa, in collaboration with donor countries and international agencies. This report introduces the background, objectives and organisations involved in the conference, summarises the main findings and recommendations for future actions both in Africa and internationally.

2.0. Introduction

The unplanned and uncontrolled urbanisation of the Africa's coastal zones is an issue of major concern. According to UN-HABITAT, Africa's rate of urban growth is the fastest in the world, with 72% of the population, or 187 million people, living in slums or informal settlements. It is estimated that the percentage of Africans living in cities will rise from the present 37% level to 53% in 2030.

2.1 The need for sustainable urban growth in coastal cities of sub-Saharan Africa

Up to 38 per cent of the African coastline is considered to be under a high degree of threat from developments which include cities, ports, road networks and pipelines. In 1995 projections showed that western and central African coastal populations would double to 50 million by 2020, leading to a continuous chain of cities in the Gulf of Guinea.

Photo: Camilla Ween

Figure 1. Makola Market in the rapidly expanding Central Business District of Accra

The demand for resources and infrastructure development in the coastal zones is now putting immense pressure on fragile ecosystems which are under severe threat from development-related activities. Pollution from major coastal cities is already widespread and has reached alarming levels in many areas, with industrial pollution, mining and oil exploration activities adding to the strain. Although the current level of industrial development in sub-Saharan Africa remains relatively low, it is accelerating along the coastal zone and many industries still discharge untreated wastes directly into rivers and the oceans.

2.2 Urban growth in sub-Saharan coastal zones

The rich and diverse resources of Africa's coastal and marine environments have encouraged rapid population growth, industrial expansion and infrastructure development. Many early colonial settlements in Africa were established on the coast in order to maximise trade opportunities. As a result, all but three of the African countries from Mauritania to Namibia have their capital cities on the coast. In the 32 coastal countries in sub-Saharan African, more than 50% of the population lives within 100 km of the coast. This varies between less than 2% of the population in Ethiopia to 100% of the population in the island states of Seychelles, Mauritius, Comoros and Cap Verde. In Nigeria, for example, about 20 million people (22.6% of the national population) live along the coastal zone; about 4.5 million Senegalese (66.6% of the national population) live in the Dakar coastal area. About 90% of the industries in Senegal are located within the Dakar coastal zone. In Ghana, Benin, Togo, Sierra Leone, and Nigeria, most of the economic activities that form the backbone of the national economies are located within the coastal zone. With a high level of education and literacy of the population in these zones, and the availability of natural and economic resources, there is every opportunity for economic lift-off over the next 20 years.

Photo: Camilla Ween

Figure 2. Degradation of coastal eco-systems at Ada, east of Accra

2.3 Overcoming the degradation of coastal eco-systems

While coastal and marine resources in sub-Saharan Africa have not been completely assessed, many studies have shown that they are under increasing threat from development-related activities, with loss and modification of habitats, unsustainable exploitation of living

resources, pollution, coastal erosion and climate change as major causes of marine biodiversity loss (ACOPS, 2002; DFID/DEFRA, 2005). Some of the exploitation is foreign, and some is local, so programmes to overcome the degradation of the coastal ecosystems have to be international. New technologies may play an important part in future sustainable development. Africa's coastal ecosystems and marine biodiversity contribute significantly to the economies of many coastal countries, notably through fishing and tourism, and also in an uncontrolled way to the economies of developed countries who exploit these resources. Coastal zones in sub-Saharan Africa are especially important for the tourism industry, which generate significant employment and foreign exchange revenues for an increasing number of countries. As the tourism industry in most sub-Saharan African countries is heavily dependent on the quality of the marine and coastal environment, coastal zone degradation has serious and profound implications for the industry. At the same time, unless managed in a sustainable manner the tourism industry itself can impact negatively on the marine and coastal environment.

2.4 Growth of rural poverty

With the growth of coastal cities, rural poverty increases as young people and those with marketable skills are attracted away from their homes and villages in the countryside. Sustainable urban regeneration demands an understanding of rural, suburban and peri-urban poverty and the measures required mitigate the effects of the massive exodus to the city.

3.0 Conference

3.1 Objectives and participants

This conference was a follow-up to CoZSSA I, which reviewed the priority issues of coastal ecology: erosion, climate change, and the degradation of coastal habitats. CoZSSA I used the best available scientific evidence to promote the commitments made at the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD). Many of the more successful and innovative measures taken in Africa, as well as the outstanding practical, political and conceptual problems were described and compared. A significant outcome was the presentation by three ministerial representatives on the importance of the environment in African development, held in the House of Commons in Oct 2003. The UK Secretary of State for International Development, Rt. Hon. Hilary Benn attended and noted in his remarks how dealing with environmental issues was critical to meeting the Millennium Goals agreed by the UN in 2000.

Photo: Camilla Ween

Figure 3. Climate change presentation from Morning Star School, Accra

CoZSSA II was one of the first conferences ever to be held that combined the contributions of science and the arts in the study of urbanisation and regeneration. This presented particular challenges and opportunities in the coastal zones of sub-Saharan Africa in environmental, economic, social and political terms. In 1997, the United Nations Population Division stated, "At the start of the 20th century, 95 per cent of Africans lived in rural areas... in the 1960s, Africa remained the least urbanised continent, with an urban population of 18.8 per cent. By 1996, this had doubled, and at least 43 per cent of the population is expected to live in urban areas by 2010". Recent statistics suggest that 50% of the global population are now living in urban areas.

CoZSSA II was held in the year that the G8 group of major industrial countries met with other world leaders to consider the development needs of Africa. A supportive letter from Mr Tony Blair, UK Prime Minister and the 2005 chair of G8, to Lord Hunt was read to the conference in the opening session.

The aim of this conference was to bring together scientists, academics, politicians, artists, architects, urban planners, and the business communities, to consider the issues affecting sustainable development of coastal cities in sub-Saharan Africa especially in the context of threats from environmental change, population growth, health problems, and at the same time to ensure economic growth. Participants came from Europe and Africa and America, with the majority from Ghana.

The specific objectives of the conference were to:

- bring together scientists, artists, academics, writers, urban planners, technologists social scientists and financial experts to present and discuss scientific, technological and artistic wok relating to these issues, especially to review current research and data (environmental, economic, social, demographic) and identify critical issues and deficiencies on environmental issues and trends in coastal cities in sub-Saharan Africa, especially mitigating and adapting to the effects of pollution and erosion of coastal eco-systems: in the planning and design of sustainable cities and relate these studies issues connected with the major on-going developments for industries, infrastructure development agriculture, fisheries , tourism and urbanisation.

- encourage participation of school children (13-15 year olds) who made a power point presentation on climate change in Africa

- discuss practical proposals for remediation, especially in the context of development plans, continued scientific, technical and artistic collaboration and capacity building through exchanges on coastal cities management experiences in Africa and elsewhere.

- consider to connect, reinforce and perhaps initiate scientific, artistic, literary, technical, and political networks around these questions and facilitate North-South collaboration (e.g. by twinning cities and institutions).

- discuss development policies and strategies aimed at poverty alleviation and the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals, particularly in slums and informal settlements and explore the contribution of novel and wider uses of alternative energy sources, energy efficient technologies and greater reliance on renewable energy sources and technologies.

- legal and institutional frameworks for good governance and project development, democracy, civil society and cultural diversity in urban development, including private and public sector partnerships, micro-credit and new financial instruments: small and large projects for regenerating coastal cities

Photos: Camilla Ween

Figure 4. Site visit to Ahyiresu Naturalist Centre, Aburi

Site Visits

Integral to the conference were two half-day site visits, followed by reports back to the delegates when the findings were discussed with the Minister present.

1: Visit to an organic farm, winner of the International Green Apple Award 2004; located in a poor rural area, this is a small family business with a scholarly and enterprising owner who

has aspirations to create a centre of excellence for tropical biodiversity. The visit also included Ghana's National Botanical Gardens.

2: Visit to Kwame Nkrumah mausoleum and Jamestown, the historic harbour area; a traditional, highly dense, urban fishing community, affected by pollution and coastal erosion and high degrees of urban poverty, but with the potential for growth as a vibrant hub for cultural-tourism and creative and cultural industries

3.2 Supporting Organisations

The Conference was jointly sponsored and organised by:

- Shell
- Hilden Trust
- University College London's Environment Institute
- Arts Council England
- British Council
- International Institute of Environment and Development
- Ministry of Tourism and Modernisation of the Capital City, Ghana (MOTM)
- Royal African Society (RAS)
- Royal Society of Arts
- UK Society of Black Architects (SOBA)
- Advisory Committee for Protection of Sea (ACOPS)
- World Rythms Ltd
- Elsie Owusu Architects
- Transport for London
- Greater London Assembly

University College London's Environment Institute coordinates a programme of research (with other academic institutions in London) on Urban Environment and Climate Change, especially coastal cities. London's environment is a major focus (Hunt 2005). Because of the environmental footprint of coastal cities and the greater vulnerability of their populations to environmental degradation and natural disasters, the issue of coastal cities has been taken up by several UN Agencies, the World Bank and IOC-UNESCO. The first Conference on Climate Change and Coastal Cities was held in Houston, Texas, in February 2005, with support from the Foreign and Commonwealth Office: (http://www.britainusa.com/houston/ccc.pdf). The second was held in London in April 2005 in collaboration with the German government (http://www.britishembassy.de/en/embassy/environment/climate_change/workshop_climate_change.pdf).

ACOPS' participation is a continuation of its role as executing agency of the Global Environment Facility Medium-sized Project for the Development and Protection of the Coastal and Marine Environment in Sub-Saharan Africa (GEF-MSP), also known as the "African Process" which

(a) identified the major issues and threats impacting on the coastal and marine environment in Sub-Saharan Africa; and

(b) developed portfolio of 19 regional and sub-regional project proposals to promote sustainability and poverty alleviation, addressing such threats to the coastal and marine environment.

ACOPS also co-organised, together with UNEP, the World Conservation Monitoring Centre (WCMC) and IOC-UNESCO, the first Conference on Coastal Zones in Sub-Saharan Africa (CoZSSA I) (see www.acops.org). Participants in the conference were drawn from Africa, Europe and the external partner community. Various international agencies were invited to provide their support. Ghana's Ministry for Tourism and Modernisation of the Capital City (MOTMCC) was established in 2003, by H.E. President Kufuor, to promote the regeneration of Accra. The link with tourism confirms the importance of Accra's location with the coastal zone and the primacy of international cultural links to the future of the country's economy. MOTMCC is the sponsoring ministry for the Heart of Accra (HOA) a strategic framework for sustainable regeneration of the city. With its mix of deteriorating coastal areas, dense and congested Central Business District and unregulated suburban development, Accra is a typical African city. HOA seeks to analyse the current urban dynamic within Accra, in order to make strategic proposals for future growth and development of the city, particularly the CBD and the neglected seafront. Comparisons can be drawn between Accra and Thames Gateway as a European coastal zone (see Hunt 2005).

4. Highlights of the presentations

Presentations were made on many important aspects of African coastal zones, especially the urban areas. They were followed by many vigorous and revealing discussions. The key points of the presentations and discussions are summarised below (with names of the presenters in brackets) .Recommendations are listed in the final section 5.

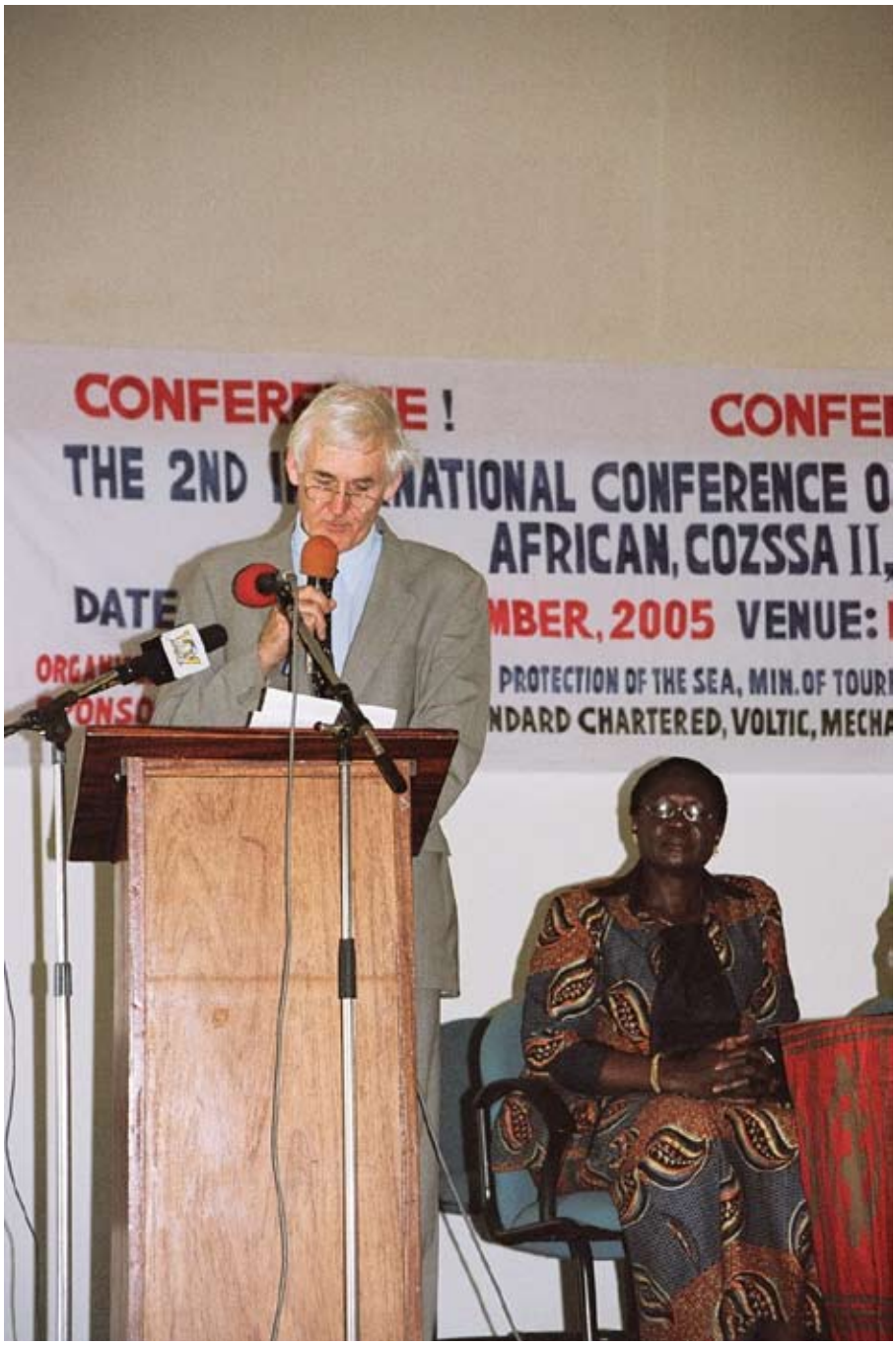

Photo: Camilla Ween

Figure 5. Opening remarks from Prof. Lord Hunt of Chesterton, President of ACOPS (CoZSSA Co-Chair)

4.1 Climate change and environmental hazards in coastal zones

(i) The climate, geology and environment of the coastal zones of West Africa, like those of other areas of the world are undergoing long term change, some of which are natural and unrelated to human influence while others seem more likely to be explained by global and local human influences.

Photo: Camilla Ween

Figure 6. Effects of coastal erosion on Volta Estuary, a potential attraction for eco-tourism

Data shows that sea level has been rising relative to the level of the land along the coast of Ghana for at least the past 100 years (Kporku). 1 km of land was lost near the Volta River estuary and lagoon at Keta over this period. This may be caused by subsidence along a slowly moving fault system running close to and parallel to the Ghanaian coast. Accra is located near the intersection of the Akwapim fault zone directed towards the North East and the fault system parallel to the coast. Both fault zones are presently active. In the past earthquakes at the Eastern end of the fault zone have caused severe damage in Accra, the last one in 1939 was of magnitude 6.5.Another earthquake is quite likely in the future and might well lead to tsunami damage along the coasts; the lack of preparations were criticised at the conference.

The rising sea level is likely to be accentuated in future with the contribution of the global sea level rise of up to 0.8m in the next 100 years. The extensive engineering project ($85m) at Keta in 2001-2004 (Kporku) has not only halted the loss of coastal land but has encouraged sand to accumulate so that new land has been created and a substantial coast road has been constructed. The wider environmental impact has been considered in this case here to be favourable, though it was reported that major coastal projects in other countries in W. Africa have been delayed because of these concerns. The Keta project is being closely monitored (Armah).

The climate data presented by the African Centre for Meteorological Applications for Development (ACMAD) in Niger (Kamga) showed how rainfall in the Sahel region at the southern edge of the Sahara varies over a period of decades - it was falling until 1999 and is

now rising again. But the systematic rise in temperature, which is not oscillating, and which is associated with global warming is causing greater evaporation and a net reduction in the flow along the major rivers in the Sahel region. However the increase in precipitation over the past five years has caused the desert to retreat northwards, as also happened in the 1980's - there appears to be a regular cycle over about 20 years. This has a serious impact on irrigation and food supplies. Recent analysis of data shows that the rise in temperature may be much greater in certain months; a 2^{o}C rise in average February temperatures over the past 30 years has been recorded on the coast of Gabon.

New data analysed by the Ghana Meteorological Agency (Minia) confirmed the seriousness of climate change along the W. African coast, where it is found that the rainfall has steadily decreased by 20% over the past 30 years, while the average temperature has risen faster than the global average. It was noted that this detailed data had not previously been made public and that the exchange of such critical data for scientific purposes is restricted. (This may be because the Met Services need the funds derived from selling the data to commercial users). Another important development in the use of improved meteorological data and computational modelling is to provide forecasts of precipitation and temperature three to six months in advance, to help farmers and to warn emergency services.

Recent seasonal forecasts have been successful, e.g. in predicting heavy precipitation on the W. African coastal zones in 2004.These forecasts were developed with the help of the UK Met Office and other international agencies and are issued in collaboration with many countries across Africa. But ACMAD is concerned that this information, which is provided freely, is not reaching all the relevant government agencies, the local communities, and the private sector that need it.

Photo: Camilla Ween

Figure 7. Beach-front polluted with plastic containers

Several speakers (Armah, Biney, Allotey) described the environmental degradation of the coastal zones and how these areas are further threatened by the growth of urban areas and by climate change. With population growth, as we saw on our site visit, coastal lagoons are very polluted and biologically degraded. Without active policies to protect the traditional uses of wood for fuel (including curing of fish), mangrove trees and their associated ecological benefits being lost. This reduces protection from storm-waves (as in 2004) leading to accelerated coastal erosion. In one area all the insects from the mangroves invaded the nearby town when the trees were felled which quickly led to a realisation of their importance. These wetlands may be critical for other aspects of public health since migrating birds can bring in alien species - a subject that needs discussion between government agencies. Sea level rise, which will be accentuated by global warming, is causing salt water from the sea to penetrate the aquifers inland, poisoning wells and agriculture on land which is not particularly fertile.

There is now a general recognition of the link between the environment of coastal land areas - 'all cities are world cities', 'white water to blue water' are two recent catch phrases. Much of the fuel used by coastal communities comes from inland forests, which are rapidly diminishing. There are now replanting schemes with rapidly growing trees, but the fish-smoking businesses are apparently not yet ready to use these different kinds of wood. The conference heard of initiatives to maintain and restore natural habitats and local plant and animal species in organic forms (Danso), community projects to encourage eco-tourism (Bellamy), and zoological projects organised by NGOs.

Photo: Camilla Ween

Figure 8. Address by Hon. Jake Obetsebi-Lamptey (CoZSSA Co-Chair) Minister of Tourism & Modernisation of the Capital City

Hon. Jake Obetsebi-Lamptey, in his opening address, explained how the loss of fish stocks and the natural state of the sea bottom are equally serious, along all the coasts of Africa. International agreements using new technology to track large rogue fishing boats combined with national enforcement policies are beginning to be effective in some countries. Without such efforts the whole fishing communities are endangered, putting further pressure on limited land based food supplies. An equally serious international environmental problem is caused by the release of oil from shipping, especially oil tankers. Tar balls are regularly seen on the beaches; as the oil sinks it damages the ecology of the sea bed. The excavation of sand and coral form the coastline for buildings continues to accelerate coastal erosion, and is not adequately controlled.

Tourism is a growing economic activity in Africa as in every country; but in African coastal zones it is based to a great extent on the beauty of the coasts, and the whole natural environment as well as on the unique historical heritage in some areas (such as Ghana). Because this point has not been sufficiently appreciated in economic planning, there has been inadequate investment in preserving the environment, especially in coastal zones (Yoro Fall).

Understanding, predicting, and dealing with environmental degradation, including the effects of climate change, is also critical to human health (see below) especially for the elderly, very

young children and the sick (Danso). This was apparent from the site visits to poorer communities in Accra.

4.2 Planning, governance and business in coastal cities

In African coastal cities there are rapidly growing populations living at very high density, comparable with that in other world cities (100,000 per square kilometre). To live, people need jobs which can in practice only come from the informal sector. **(240,000 children enter the job market each year; there are only 4,000 'formal' jobs being created - mostly outside the city).** In Accra these jobs are predominantly in the informal settlements along the coast and on open ground near the Korle Lagoon. Plans to develop and improve these settlements are being considered for other areas on the outskirts of the city. But to be acceptable these settlements have to provide similar opportunities for business, jobs, transportation, facilities and space for building and extending houses. Without the provision of these 'basics' in the new areas people will not move from the existing inner city settlements, even if the sanitary and waste facilities are much better in the new areas and almost non-existent in the existing settlements. This point was made forcibly by the Hon. Obetsebi-Lamptey when it was suggested in discussion that ‘strong’ leadership is needed to resolve these difficult planning development problems.

The need to combine planning with accommodating the informal sector was emphasised in presentations dealing with overall urban policy for the developing world (Anantharishnan) and with the wider issues of transportation planning (Owusu, Ween). It was suggested that experiences of urban development in other cities such as Bogota, Curitiba (Brazil), London and Copenhagen could be relevant to African cities. In all these cases people are making significant changes to their living patterns, particularly by making more use of public transport and bicycles. (However in some Chinese and some Indian cities the there are large changes, but in the opposite direction, with the greater use of more private cars).

Photo: Camilla Ween

Figure 9. Lack of planned public transport leads to reliance on taxis and the informal sector

The transportation policy is not only important for ensuring the efficient movement of people and freight, but also for improving air quality. According to WHO, over the whole globe, about 800,000 people (mainly elderly) die prematurely per year as a result of air pollution. In Accra, respiratory illness leads to the second highest number of outpatients (the highest being malaria) (Hammond). Although lead has been removed from petrol in Ghana (though not everywhere in Africa) the level of air pollution remains high, since vehicles are not regularly maintained or inspected. A strong public education programme was called for. Comparisons were made with Lagos and other African cities which have recently experienced episodes of very high pollution. It was pointed out that in Europe and USA air pollution forecasts are now regularly provided for urban areas as a whole and hot spots near busy roads and airports. Providing this information on a daily basis enables those people who are vulnerable to air pollution to take appropriate measures to lessen the impact (e.g. www.cerc.co.uk). Ghana is currently collaborating with the US Environmental Protection Agency in monitoring its pollution.

North Elevation *Photos: Paul Rynsard*

South Elevation

Adoso House, Jamestown

Figure 10. A historic building, now saved from demolition, following a campaign by UNESCO

From our discussions, the governance and planning of cities in Ghana is clearly highly controversial, with different kinds of plans being proposed; the government plans are based on building new settlements and improved transport links; while local communities in the informal settlements are urging an acceptance of their existence while calling for provision of local improvements in infrastructure. The government accepts that the former plan will require external funding, massive investment and determined administration of transfer arrangements over several years. There does not seem to be any way that the latter plan could realistically be consistent with cleaning up the water along the coast and in the lagoon.

The methods being applied in many countries to achieve efficiency in large public infra-structure projects were discussed with emphasis on the use of public-private partnership or wholesale privatisation. The UK's and Ghana's experiences over several years have shown how to run such schemes (e.g. from buildings to whole transport systems) both effectively and, latterly, with some flexibility (Rynsard). Ghana has begun to follow this approach, first with its privatisation of the railways, whose efficiency was reported to be steadily improving.

The strategies for the sustainable development are now a high priority for UN agencies, especially UN Habitat (Krishnan), which is organising with the Canadian government, the UN Urban Forum in 2006 in Vancouver. The main objective there will be to show how ideas can now be taken forward to action.

Other aspects of investment to improve the economy of coastal cities (Ofusu-Armah) were also discussed; restoring and publicising historical areas for tourism (Owusu, Yoro Fall); facilities for conference-tourism (Accra has a big centre planned); higher education and research institutions which are now participating more fully in governmental and private sector projects (e.g. Armah); developing entrepreneurship and financial and managerial expertise. In Latin America, stimulated by NGO competition for entrepreneurs (Cohen).there have been examples of rapid growth of small IT and industrial companies .But throughout the developing world such developments are limited by difficulties of establishing property rights. (It seems as if the concept of cooperatives is not being encouraged, which might avoid some of these problems?)

4.3 Culture, the arts and design of cities

The contribution of artists and designers are increasingly being drawn into the planning and redevelopment of cities; designers and architects can work with artists to relate the disparate aspects of jobs, transport, materials, ecology, and people's perceptions and expectations. They understand the great variations between communities in a city. Very original presentations to this conference reinforced this message, giving us new insights and suggestions about how artists could be involved more fully in future. At the same time through art we gain an external perspective and as conditions change art can be a 'cultural barometer'. Although climate change is beginning to transform our natural environment , whether in the retreating polar ice caps or dwindling rivers in Africa, and although people are polluting their local streams and air, artists can both enable us to appreciate the beauty of the nature , while on the other hand to see and feel the importance of these changes (Crimmin).

Photo: Camilla Ween

Figure 11. "Koom", a performance by Noyam Dance Troupe
Choreographed by F. Nii Yartey, Artistic Director, National Dance Company of Ghana

We heard vivid word pictures describing the urban congestion ('pouring water from a calabash into a glass') (Abbey), and the coconut palms 'waving like flirtatious women' along the coasts where 'the sea wants to cover the land like the sky' (Danquah). The transforming visions of modern sculpture help define the new spirit of cities around the world (Crimmin).

Dance can explain our feelings and our intense interactions with the environment whether it is active or passive. Perhaps the stamping on the ground of Zulus is forcing the earth to accept human dominance. This is one view. Another proposed by advocates of sustainable development is that humans have to live in harmony with the environment (Nii Yartey). A Dutch film by Koolhaas of City of Lagos (introduced by Nash) showed powerfully how art can change one's views. We saw the unbelievably stressful and dangerous life of young men hustling for business in highly polluted and dangerous streets. Yet we heard them say how much they enjoy their lives there and would not want to be anywhere else, mainly because jobs are so scarce outside the cities.

Presentations on environmental art related experience in Europe and Africa, nationally and locally funded public art projects in informal spaces and derelict land have shown to communities and perhaps legislators and developers the value of these areas, that otherwise are used for formalised buildings, etc. In the work of artist Katie Holten, for example, "Using simple technologies, easily transported materials and high-street services to make her work on

site, Holten's approach emphasises communication, the exchange of information and an enthusiasm for diversity in her engagement with other creative networks".

Figure 12. Plot: Installation by Katie Holten *Photo: Katie Holten*

The role of design in the formal landscaping of cities is equally valid. In Accra there are fine examples, especially around Nkrumah's mausoleum. Art using recycled materials is proving effective as public educations (e.g. a dynamic constructions (Greenfort) showed how a plastic water bottle takes several kg of water to make the plastic!). In coastal communities in Africa there are a growing number of projects to recycle plastic into saleable art objects. This is a small contribution to removing the plastic refuse that clogs up waterways and drains everywhere in urban areas.

It was noted how in India sustainable development in communities is being encouraged through local information centres. But in Africa, where internet facilities are available even in the most informal settlements, perhaps they could be used more by government agencies and NGO's to provide free environmental, health and other public information.

Photo: Camilla Ween

Figure 13. Awareness campaign on HIV/AID, Sexual and reproductive health

Through dance and drama in schools some of the most urgent social problems can be discussed more openly, and change perceptions more effectively than by straightforward teaching. The Digital Interactive Video Online (DIVO) Project presented a film (http://www.divoproject.org) involving performances and discussions between girls in to schools in UK and Ghana on many issues including racial stereotypes, teenage pregnancy and sexual health. The DIVO Pilot phase took place between young Muslim women from Accra, Ghana and students from Elizabeth Garrett Anderson School for Girls in London, UK. It was a powerful film and seems to have broken down some international misconceptions. This kind of project linking schools would be usefully replicated, using computers and the internet.

Finally the chairman of the opening session (N. Nunoo Amarteifio) a former mayor of Accra, emphasised to the conference that the spirit of every city especially its environment is imbued with myth and religious overtones. The god of Accra's river, according to the local priests affirmed, has been concerned about the river and forecasts dire consequences! From their early natural history Rome has its traditional story of a she-wolf, while London has not forgotten that there used to be whales in the Thames; their ambergris oil still features in coronation ceremonies! (Hunt 2005)

4.4 Contributions to networks and international agencies

With the formation of NEPAD (New Partnership for African Development; www.nepad.org) networking and collaboration in Africa is entering a new phase across the whole range of development issues. The environmental initiatives of NEPAD have been particularly championed by President Wade of Senegal which has resulted in the formation of the NEPAD Environment Secretariat in Dakar (Cheikh). It is considering all the main issues of (1) land degradation drought and desertification, (2) wetlands, (3) coastal zones, (4) climate change, (5) trans-boundary issues including forests and sustainability of urban areas. Cross cutting themes of health and early warning systems are related to all these issues. With the support of the secretariat, projects and networks are being organised from centres in many African countries, but detailed proposals have been slow in completion (e.g. the World Bank supported projects with ACOPS on the 'African process' (www.acops.org) have been used as the basis for project proposals, including those on marine coastal ecosystems. External or local funding for these projects is directed to each centre and not via the secretariat, for which the only financial support is currently from the Senegal government.

One of the few networks to have been set up is COSMAR (Coastal and Marine Programme of NEPAD) (Mohamed), which since 2003 is based in and part funded by the Dept. of Environment, Government of Kenya, Nairobi (see www.nepadcosmar.org and www.africanoceans.net). It is also funded by the Intergovernmental Oceanic Commission (IOC) of UNESCO, and it collaborates with other UN agencies, development agencies of other countries and NGOs.

Its work is firstly operational, day to day exchange of environmental information (e.g. tsunamis, pollution, ecological events, etc.), and secondly coordination of the many coastal projects, particularly those connected with urban water/marine pollution this is increasing rapidly with the growth of cities in Africa. This requires collaboration with many agencies of countries in Africa and also with 'donor' agencies. The work of COSMAR is well explained in their newsletter and website. To progress their work they are planning to increase collaboration with other networks, research centres and agencies. The fact that COSMAR is part of NEPAD gives it considerable political strength and a wide level of support in Africa.

UN agencies recognise the importance of coastal urban areas (Ananthakrishnan; Yoro Fall) for sustainable development. But with limited funds and manpower these agencies welcome collaboration with governments, communities and NGO's. With their international networks, they can provide expertise and a wider forum for exchange of information about best practice. They are beginning to support networks in Africa, such as COSMAR, which collaborates with NEPAD. This kind of development may be extended in future, provided there is a strong support by one or more countries (as the Kenyan government has supported COSMAR).

In the fields of meteorology, health and agriculture there are existing centres for African-wide collaboration, such as ACMAD in Niger and other regional centres in Kenya and South Africa (which are responsible for exchange of weather and climate forecasts and training).

These centres, which are supported by UN agencies and 'donor' countries, have a high reputation for their technical work (Kamga). It was noted that currently the work of these centres is not sufficiently integrated in to other relevant networks or government agencies (e.g. dealing with natural disasters or long term climate change). They do not receive even all the relevant data from member countries .Extra resources are urgently needed for up- to- date books and journals.

Figure 14. CoZSSA II provided opportunities for networking and future collaboration

5. Recommendations and conclusions

(i) In order for the seriousness of climate change in Africa to be widely appreciated, it is necessary to publish a report describing the available local data, such as was produced at this conference and its relation to the regional and global trends as measured and predicted by ACMAD and international climate centres. The local meteorological data needs to be exchanged (and where necessary funded), as well as being maintained. The recent UK (DFID-DEFRA) report (2004) on climate in Africa is not well known in African climate centres. It needs to be updated with more involvement with African experts and African data. A collaborative bilingual African climate internet site should be created by the main African meteorological/climate centres, in collaboration with other international institutions. Equally important is that the information should be available in a form that public agencies and the private sector can utilise it more effectively, to overcome the current problems of lack of information perhaps using public information/internet centres.

Photo: Camilla Ween

Figure 15. Bilateral and multilateral programmes can protect the local fishing industry

(ii) Advice and assistance is needed to deal with offshore international environmental problems, most crucial being monitoring and policing the 200km economic zone to prevent illegal fishing and illegal dumping/release of oil. (Bilateral and multilateral programmes for this problem need to be more effective.)

(iii) Practical measures to improve the environment are urgently needed both in informal and the new settlements. Some of them require action by national or local government, but often can be initiated on individual or local community level. Information and guidance needs to be disseminated at both levels to make progress. Novel developments in local scale energy and waste/water processing systems are not available in the informal as well as the newly constructed settlements (e.g. solar panels/wind turbines for electricity, cooking, sewage processing, water purification, etc.). Demonstration projects of such systems could perhaps lead to self funded systems since TV and satellite aerials can be afforded in many homes. It is important to avoid mistakes of providing municipal provided facilities (e.g. certain types of toilet) that are not in practice acceptable to communities.

(iv) Assistance with urban and environmental planning is called for at the municipal and governmental level. Currently in most African cities there are very few people in municipal government urban planning departments both for the functions of design and for regulations. With more officers at this level, the cities could make more use of advice, software, funding. One suggestion is that planners from developed countries should be seconded to African cities, or retired officers could be funded to provide such advice. Another suggestion is that software systems used for urban and environmental planning should be made available, e.g. air quality systems developed in the UK and used in China, South Africa, Hong Kong, etc. (www.cerc.co.uk). Information centres (e.g. based on the internet) are essential for communicating public information (with help from IT companies?).

(v) Entrepreneurial advice and micro-banking facilities are needed; the example of a Latin American entrepreneurial competition might be taken up (possibly with help from major banks).

(vi) Recognise the importance of enhancing and publicising the cultural heritage and natural environment for stimulating international and national tourism, improving local amenities, and for enhancing the self esteem of local communities. Successful experience of the economic value of this approach need to be disseminated both from developed and developing countries. Artists, designers and local communities can play a central role in developing this strategy (see below).

(vii) NEPAD's existing networks for coastal zones in Africa COSMAR need to be encouraged, and connected to other relevant organisations (www.africanoceans.net; www.nepadcosmar.net). Currently based in the department of environment at the Kenyan government, and supported by IOC

(UNESCO), it now has the capacity and support from African countries to expand its activities. But it needs both financial support and technical collaboration from other countries to realise its primary goals of coordination and information exchange between all the large numbers of projects in Africa. It can expand its early warning and disaster response capability using existing national and international networks. As a result of the conference there will now be formal collaboration and data exchange with ACMAD (www.acmad.ne) for seasonal weather/climate forecasts. Earthquake warning and protective measures should also feature in their work. COSMAR's links with university and research institutions and environmental NGO's in Africa and elsewhere need to be strengthened. The African Institute for Mathematical Science could help provide modelling and theoretical capability for the many special geophysical and environmental problems of the coastal zones (see www.aims.org). Climate research in Africa is being coordinated through a world wide network African Monsoon Multidisciplinary Analysis AMMDA (www.mediasfrance.org), but the results of this research could well be applied more effectively by governments and other agencies receiving the data.

Photo: Camilla Ween

Figure 16. Work of local artists and artisans are central to the success of local economies

(viii) The conference concluded that a new network is needed to promote understanding about information exchange and projects as well as sustainable cities in Africa. The proposed title for the new organisation is **cause,** "CULTURE, ARTS and URBANISM for a SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT". This initiative would enable implementation of the objectives shared primarily by NEPAD and UN Habitat, but also by other organisations such as UNEP, WMO, WHO.

It is proposed to establish an international committee for **cause** is as follows:

President:	Madam Anna Tibaijuka
Co-Chair Africa:	Hon. Jake Obetsebi-Lamptey
Co-Chair Europe:	Prof. Lord Hunt of Chesterton
Convenor:	Korkor Armatefio

This and many other conference studies have concluded that ambitious objectives require involvement of arts and design as well as technical scientific and political aspects of urbanism. The spirit of the CoZSSA (II) conference showed that this is not only possible, but exciting and very fruitful.

An organisational meeting is planned in collaboration with NEPAD environmental secretariat (Dakar) and UN Habitat. It is hoped to present the concept at the Urban Summit in Vancouver 2006.

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Appendix B

PROGRAMME
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
ON THE COASTAL ZONES OF SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA
7th TO 9th NOVEMBER 2005
Venue: British Council, Accra

Day 1
7 November 2005

8.00am -9.00am	Registration Exhibition opens
9.00am – 10am	**Opening session** Welcome: Hon Christine Churcher, Minister of Science & Environment, Ghana **Opening remarks** Hon. Jake Obetsebi-Lamptey, Minister of Tourism and Modernisation of the Capital City (MOTMCC), Ghana and Prof. Lord Hunt of Chesterton, Professor of Climate Modelling, University College London **Key-note address** Hon Jake Obetsebi-Lamptey
10.30am -11.00am	Break
11.00am – 1.00pm	Session 1, Chair: Nat Nunoo-Armatefio, Ex- Mayor of Accra (Ghana) **Planning and design for sustainable cities; extreme events, pollution and damage to coastal eco-systems** Mark Nash, St Martins School of Art, London: Film on Lagos Felix Abbey, President, Ghana Institute of Architects Charles Biney, Director, Water Research Institute, Council for Industrial and Scientific Research, (Ghana) A.K. Armah, Head of Department, Dept. of Oceanography and Fisheries, University of Ghana
1.00pm – 2.30pm	Lunch
2.30pm – 4.00pm	Session 2, Chair: Frank Tackie, Planner (Ghana) **Coastal urban development and climate change; science technology and the arts – changing visions and habits** Lord Hunt Michaela Crimmen, Head of Arts, Royal Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufacture and Commerce (UK) Z. Minia, Director, Hydrological Services Department, Ghana Meteorological Agency (Ghana) Joe Osae-Addo, Architect, Director of Construct LLC: Regaining our urban tradition, a process of defragmentation (Ghana) Ali Mohamed COSMAR, NEPAD (Kenya)
4.00pm – 4.10pm	Break
4.10 – 4.30pm	**Panel discussion on main issues arising from presentation** Chair: Elsie Owusu OBE, Principal, Elsie Owusu Architects (UK/ Ghana) Morning Star pupil (Ghana) Lord Hunt Michaela Crimmen Nat Nunoo Armatefio Frank Tackie
4.30pm – 5.00pm	Chairman's summary by Lord Hunt

6.00pm **Evening reception**
Hosted by Hon. Jake Obetsebi-Lamptey

Day 2
8 November 2005

8.30am – 1.00pm **Site visits**
Old Accra – Co-ordinated by Prosper Quarshie (MOTMCC)
Ahyiresu Naturalist Centre, Aburi; co-ordinated by Kirstie Adu-Gyamfi
World Rythms Ltd

1.00pm – 2.00pm Lunch

2.00pm – 3.00pm **Reports from visits**
Chair: Bridget Katsriku, Chief Director, MOTMCC (Ghana)

3.00pm – 3.30pm Break

3.30pm – 5.00pm Session 1, Chair: Nat Nunoo Armatefio
Brand Africa: conserving our heritage through arts and the creative industries
"Koom" performance on water by Noyam Dance Troupe (Ghana)

Speakers:
F. Nii Yartey (Ghana), Senior Research Fellow, Institute of African Studies Director of Noyam and Choreographer of "Koom", Artistic Director, National Dance Company of Ghana: The environment, African cultural and artistic perspectives

Prof. Yoro Fall (Cameroon), Senior Programme Specialist on Culture, UNESCO: Social changes and heritage –challenges and opportunities for the redevelopment of Old Accra

Nana Ama Danquah (Ghana), writer, English Department, University of Ghana: Memory, heritage and identity through place

Tue Greenfort (Germany), visual artist: Presentation on his works which discover the details of city life and reveal the structures behind urbanity through small changes and mechanisms

6.00pm – 8.00pm Film Evening

Day 3
9th November 2005

9.00am – 11.00am African/ international partnerships for sustainable development
Chair: Lord Hunt

Speakers

Paul Rynsard (UK) Economist Managing Partner, Feilden and Mawson LLP: strategies for sustainable management of government estate

Katie Holten (Ireland) visual artist: work concerned with how people make sense of, and cope with, their environment

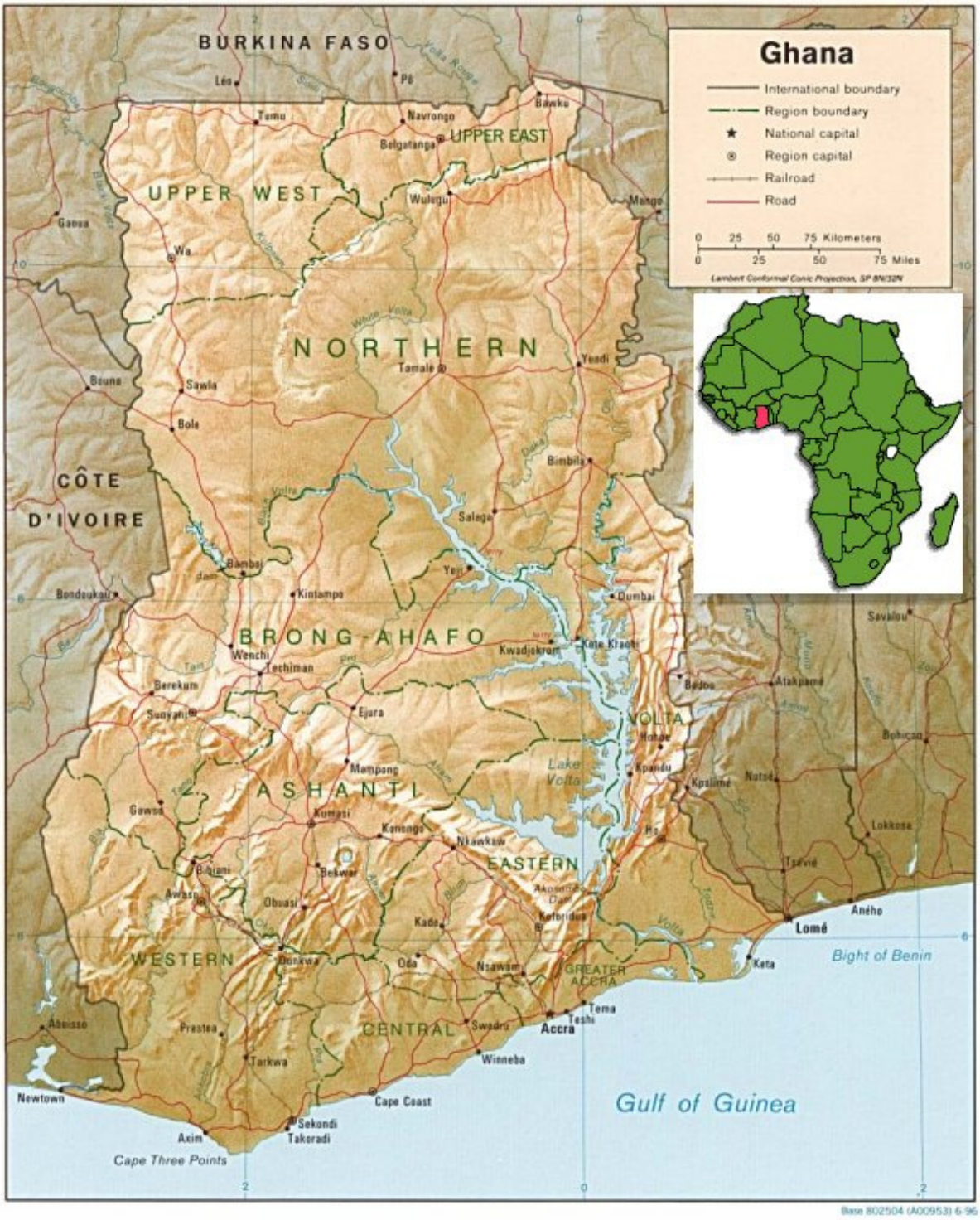
Andre Kamga (Niger): Evidence of climate variability and change in Sub-Saharan Africa, and the use of meteorological information for preparedness and response

Fofana Cheikh (Senegal) SINED/NEPAD Action Plan for the Environment Initiative: the African process on marine and coastal protection and the

	implementation of the conservation and sustainable use of marine and coastal resources
11.00am – 11.30am	Break
11.30am- 1.00pm	Urban planning and the London Plan Chair: Lord Hunt **Speakers** Camilla Ween (UK) Principal Transport Planner, Transport for London: City growth and the London Plan Ebo Hammond (Ghana) Head of Transport, Ghana Health Services: The impact of urban transport on air quality in Accra Elsie Owusu: Urban transport strategies in Accra and Bogota
1.00pm – 2.30pm	Lunch
2.30pm – 3.30pm	African development: best practice in networks and communications Chair: Frank Tackie Dillon Cohen (US) Cultural Entrepreneur concerned with development versus environmental conflicts in Sub-Saharan Africa Togbi Kporku (Ghana): Implementation of coastal defence strategies in Keta, Ghana Mr Danso (Ghana), Naturalist and Proprietor of Ahyiresu Naturalist Centre, Aburi: Conserving the natural habitat in rural Ghana
3.30pm -4pm	Break
4.00pm -5pm	Final Plenary Session Special Conference Address by Dr Anna Tibaijuka (Tanzania), read on her behalf by Ananthakrishnan Subramonia (Norway/ Sri Lanka) UN-HABITAT
4.00pm – 5pm	Legacy and partnerships and launch of CAUSE (Culture, Arts and Urbanism for a Sustainable Environment) network Hon Jake Obetsebi-Lamptey and Lord Hunt

Appendix C

Map of Ghana



Appendix D

Speech by Prof. Lord Hunt, House of Lords, 26 January 2006 (*Extract from Hansard)*

[THE LORD BISHOP OF MANCHESTER]

All that must be seen in the wider context of development aid, with the Government not stepping back from their commitment to reach 0.7 per cent of gross national income spent on aid by 2013. I think that all parties are agreed on that; indeed, I think that the Liberal Democrats would like to push the target two years earlier. Nor must the Government do anything other than press, as the noble Baroness, Lady Jay said, European governments, especially those of Germany and Italy, to keep to their G8 commitments. I hope that the Minister will be able to assure us that that will not take 300 years.

The Government must also work for increased coherence in their policy on the delivery of aid. The DTI must take a more pro-poor stance on trade and the Foreign Office must consider its policy on arms. I thought that it was a shame that there was nothing in the text of the G8 agreement about this Government's commitment to work for an arms treaty. The Government will, I know, not want to forget the role that the Churches and NGOs have, not least in matters of common concern, such as increasing the number of teachers, doctors and health workers in developing countries to help to meet the millennium development goals.

The worry about all this is the record to date of many western initiatives. Too often, the end result is far behind the commitments made and the rhetoric used. For example, it is a scandal—to use the Prime Minister's words, "a scar"—that 50 years after the independence era began Africa's prospects now seem worse than ever. Its average per capita national income is one-third lower than that of the world's next-poorest region, south Asia. Its entire economic output is a mere 1.3 per cent of world GDP; its school enrolment is falling; its life expectancy is declining; and its attractiveness to global corporations is almost nil. As President Mbeki has said, the prospect of Africa escaping precipitous decline depends heavily on western assistance.

I dwell on Africa because it is a continent that I have visited often. I have many times witnessed in towns and remote villages the results of the obscene gap between this world's rich and poor. The noble Baroness, Lady Jay, spoke of Sudan, and I made similar points in the recent debate in this House on the tragic situation there. In a debate that engages us with the G8 commitments, I feel bound to say that commitment at its best is a two-way process. Gordon Brown has asked what the developing world, rightly empowered, can do for itself. He properly urged developing countries to produce their own poverty-reduction and development plans.

I have recently been reading Martin Meredith's well informed book, *The State of Africa*, in which he observes that at the core of the crisis on that continent is the failure to provide effective government, apart from, of course, Mandela and, I suppose, Seretse Khama in Botswana. I quote from the book:

"Mostly, Africa has suffered terribly from Big Men and elites whose pre-occupation has been holding power and self-enrichment. That has spawned a culture of corruption at every level".

An African Union report has estimated that corruption costs Africa more than $150 billion a year, which is over 25 per cent of the whole continent's GNP. Your Lordships may be familiar with the highly publicised speech given in Nairobi 18 months ago at a business leaders' conference by the British high commissioner, Edward Clay, who graphically questioned the honesty of Ministers and senior officials.

I say all this because the partnership between the African Partnership Forum, which the noble Baroness, Lady Jay, mentioned, and G8 is hugely important, not least as being an observable and potentially very effective counter to this great worry, which has basis, about honesty and corruption. It is essential that this Government should do everything that they can, not only to fulfil G8 commitments on development aid in 2006, but to face up to the challenge of the enormously difficult task of addressing those issues of governance and corruption in Africa and elsewhere that so speedily undermine the very issues of aid that we on these Benches, and I am sure noble Lords across this House, so deeply desire to see dealt with and so fervently support.

3.13 pm

Lord Hunt of Chesterton: My Lords, I congratulate the noble Baroness, Lady Jay, on securing this important debate. We should also congratulate the Government, the Prime Minister and the Secretary of State on their support for developing countries. It is important that they took the unusual step of trying to connect issues—that is always dangerous for politicians but they did so—to the global campaigns for mitigating climate change and for improving the environment, which have particularly major effects in developing countries. They also gave some teeth to that approach through their support for the appointment of a chief scientist to the Department for International Development—Professor Gordon Conway. I understand that he is slowly working through the system to ensure that everyone at DfID recognises that science and the environment are important tools in the department's poverty programme.

I declare an interest as president of ACOPS—an NGO that deals with sustainable development. I am a professor at University College, London and a member of the Advisory Council on Natural Disaster Reduction. In November, we held a conference in Ghana on coastal zones in sub-Saharan Africa. Those are the areas where many of the people in Africa live, and we have already heard about Nigeria. We organised the conference through a UK NGO and the government of Ghana. I am afraid that we did not get support from Her Majesty's Government, but we shall tell them the important results of the conference. However, there was interesting support from the UK in the form of the Arts Council, which sent experts in

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various aspects of the arts in recognition of the fact that the response of societies to climate and the environment is as challenging at a cultural level as it is at an economic or technical level. That aspect will be increasingly important. It was interesting for us to see how the issues of climate and water are seen in a dramatic way in Africa.

At the meeting, we learnt how there is a steady reduction in rainfall and a rise in temperature in the coastal zones of West Africa—a source of great concern. It is also of concern at a policy level that those data are not widely disseminated. That is largely a question of inadequate funding. In fact, these important data were unknown to experts from the African Centre for Meteorological Applications to Development, in Niamey, Niger, and are unknown to experts around the world. So clearly there is a great need to make use of information that is already being obtained in Africa.

A related point is that the African centre in Niamey, which provides important advice to governments in West Africa about drought and other extreme weather events, does not have the funds to make use of the relevant research and data being published in scientific journals and reports in the developed world—in Europe, Japan and the United States. Surely, as parliamentarians, we should be concerned that the significant funds being applied in the UK and the EU to investment in tropical research are not reaching the countries affected. As part of their Africa year, DfID and Defra organised a conference and produced a tremendous report, which was completely unknown among all the scientists whom I met in Africa. Therefore, the information issue is very important. I am glad to say that my previous organisation, the UK Met Office, provides some support through the Ministry of Defence but not enough to cover even such basic requirements.

However, one should applaud the fact that DfID, through the expanded governmental programme, has contributed substantial funds for the relief of hunger and other humanitarian problems associated with the drought that we saw last year in Niger. But surely it would be worth while sending a few thousand pounds to the experts in Niger so that they can find out all the information that they need to advise their governments beforehand.

Advice given to governments in Africa by their own experts needs considerable support and help. Evidence shows that if funds are provided to governments centrally under the DfID programme through budgetary support, very little of the money finds its way to those providing vital services for information and technical assistance. Surely some new ways are needed to fund specific programmes. One might be to use non-governmental organisations and specialist UN agencies. Here, the Royal Society, for example, is developing links with scientific organisations in Africa, but it needs funds to do that.

Noble Lords may recall the remarks of the Prime Minister, who sometimes seems to think that science is simple. He suggested that the environment does not need rocket science. Actually, it needs much more complex science than rockets, which just go up and down and are rather easy. Very complex scientific questions need to be answered if integrated and more cost-effective solutions are to be found. Accra is typical of large African cities where health is affected almost as much by bad air pollution as by malaria—a point referred to by the noble Lord, Lord Roberts. In Nigeria, that combination is devastating for young children and also for the elderly.

Plans for slum neighbourhoods are highly controversial, as Ghanaian experts and the Minister explained how health, the environment, commerce and transport all have to be considered together. Juggling acts are performed—to take up the point made by the noble Lord, Lord Roberts. In the UK we have well-known jugglers—people in town planning departments. Accra has only three planning experts in the city; the figure is 600 in Amsterdam. The Ghanaian Government appealed to the UK and other countries to second our experts. Perhaps retired experts would welcome the opportunity to help. Again DfID needs some flexible means for funding such secondments.

My second point relates to the response to natural disasters. UK citizens and the Government generously responded to the great humanitarian need following the tsunami and earthquake events in Asia. But we debated in this House how the government of Sri Lanka regrettably had not been very effective in using the available funds. Sri Lankan friends of mine had to arrange their own containers and transport to ensure that aid really reached the affected villages. Recently the US press reported on the vital railway link between Columbo and Galle on the southern coast, which was extremely badly hit by tsunami. The railway was destroyed by a huge tidal wave, and the railway workers, who are much maligned by the Sri Lankan press as being communists, were at first actively discouraged by the Sri Lankan Government from doing anything. The Government said, "Don't do anything. There will be money coming from the aid programme, and then we will have lots of it to do the work. Don't start it or that will upset everything". Nothing happened, so the workers got up early in the morning, involved all the villagers, and the railway was back running without any aid arriving.

Surely if that is the effect of an aid programme, something must be done. We need to have systems that can be applied much faster and which are more closely related to local efforts. Once again, that may require aid agencies and DfID to work more closely with international NGOs, and perhaps give money only when something is really happening on the ground. I have seen programmes in Russia similarly delayed and delayed because aid might be coming. We should surely operate in a different mode.

As the right reverend Prelate said, the effects of government aid on bureaucracies and politicians can be almost debilitating, even though the aims are humanitarian and idealistic. Are we looking at ways of avoiding that danger? Unless we do so, there may be growing doubts throughout the aid-giving world about our programmes, which is an important issue.

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