



3rd of December 2015
#MonsantoTribunal

Tribunal Monsanto

The Hague –12th -16th of October 2016

For an increasing number of people from around the world, Monsanto today is *the* symbol of industrial agriculture. **This chemical-intensive form of production pollutes the environment, accelerates biodiversity loss, and massively contributes to global warming.**

Since the beginning of the twentieth century, Monsanto, a US-based company, has developed a number of highly toxic products, which have permanently damaged the environment and caused illness or death for thousands of people. These products include:

- *PCBs* (polychlorinated biphenyl), one of the twelve Persistent Organic Pollutants (POP) that affect human and animal fertility;
- *2,4,5 T* (2,4,5-trichlorophenoxyacetic acid), a dioxin-containing component of the defoliant, Agent Orange, which was used by the US Army during the Vietnam War and continues to cause birth defects and cancer;
- *Lasso*, an herbicide that is now banned in Europe;
- and *RoundUp*, the most widely used herbicide in the world, and the source of the greatest health and environmental scandal in modern history - this toxic herbicide is used in combination with genetically modified (GM) RoundUp Ready seeds in large-scale monocultures, primarily to produce soybeans, maize and rapeseed for animal feed and biofuels.

Monsanto promotes an agroindustrial model that contributes at least **one third of global anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions**; it is also largely responsible for the depletion of soil and water resources, species extinction and declining biodiversity, and the displacement of millions of small farmers worldwide. This is a model that threatens peoples' food sovereignty by patenting seeds and privatizing life.

According to its critics, Monsanto is able to ignore the human and environmental damage caused by its products and maintain its devastating activities through a strategy of systemic concealment: by lobbying regulatory agencies and governments, by resorting to lying and corruption, by financing fraudulent scientific studies, by pressuring independent scientists, by manipulating the press and media, etc. The history of Monsanto would thereby constitute a text-book case of impunity, benefiting transnational corporations and their executives, whose activities contribute to climate and biosphere crises and threaten the safety of the planet.

The Monsanto Tribunal, which will be held in The Hague from 12 to 16 October 2016, aims to assess these allegations made against Monsanto, and to evaluate the damages caused by this transnational company. The Tribunal will rely on the "Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights" adopted at the UN in 2011. It will also assess potential criminal liability on the basis of the Rome Statue that created the International Criminal Court in The Hague in 2002, and it will consider whether a reform of international criminal law is warranted to include crimes against the environment, or ecocide, as a prosecutable criminal offense.

Recognizing ecocide as a crime is the only way to guarantee the right of humans to a healthy environment and the right of nature to be protected. Aware of these planetary stakes, the initiators of the Monsanto Tribunal are appealing to civil society and to all citizens of the world to participate in financing this unique operation through the biggest international crowd-funding campaign ever carried out. Defending the safety of the planet, and the conditions of life itself, concerns us all. Only collective action can stop this machine of destruction!

Speakers (in alphabetical order)

Dr. Arnaud Apoteker has participated in numerous Greenpeace campaigns on pesticides, protection of the Mediterranean Sea, ocean ecology, fisheries, nuclear waste and nuclear testing. In 1996, he developed a GMO campaign in France, which became one of the priority campaigns of Greenpeace France. From 2011 to 2015, he was in charge of the GMO campaign for the Greens/EFA group at the European Parliament. He wrote the book *“Du poisson dans les fraises, Notre alimentation manipulée,”* (Fish in Strawberries: Our Manipulated Food).

Valerie Cabanes is a lawyer in international law with expertise in international humanitarian law and human rights law. She's a consultant and a trainer in the people's security sector and in the health and social sectors. She has been the spokesperson for the world citizen movement – End Ecocide on Earth - which aims to add ecocide to the list of most serious international crimes.

Ronnie Cummins is currently the International Director of the two-million member Organic Consumers Association (USA) and its Mexico affiliate, Via Organica. Cummins also serves on the steering committee of Regeneration International, a transnational NGO dedicated to reversing global warming and rural poverty. Cummins is currently serving as global coordinator for the Millions Against Monsanto Campaign. He is co-author of the book, *“Genetically Engineered Food: A Self-Defense Guide for Consumers.”*

Dr. Hans Rudolf Herren is President and CEO of the Millennium Institute and President and Founder of Biovision. He was coordinator of the Agriculture chapter of the UNEP Green Economy Report, 2011, and of the UNEP Report on the Ecological Bases of Food Security, 2012. He has been selected as a High Level participant for the UN's High Level Consultation on Hunger, Food Security and Nutrition in the Post-2015 Development Agenda.

Andre Leu is author of the award winning book, *“The Myths of Safe Pesticides,”* and the President of IFOAM Organics International, the world umbrella body for the organic sector. IFOAM Organics International has around 800 member organisations in 125 countries. He is a founding member of Regeneration International. He speaks at numerous conferences, seminars, and workshops, as well as United Nations events on every continent. He meets with governments, industry, farmers, consumers and NGOs on the multi-functional benefits of regenerative organic agriculture. Andre has written and published extensively in multiple media.

Marie-Monique Robin is an award-winning journalist and author. She has directed numerous documentaries across Latin America, Africa, Europe and Asia, receiving thirty awards. She wrote the best-selling documentary (and book by the same name), *“The World According Monsanto,”* which has been broadcast on fifty international television stations, and translated into 22 languages. She sponsors the Monsanto Tribunal.

Dr. Olivier De Schutter, Co-Chair of the International Panel of Experts on Sustainable Food Systems (IPES-Food), is a Professor at the Louvain University (Belgium) and former UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food (2008-2014). He is currently a member of the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

Dr. Vandana Shiva founded Navdanya, a national movement to protect the diversity and integrity of living resources - especially native seed, the promotion of organic farming and fair trade - in 1999. She has initiated an international movement of women working on food, agriculture, patents and biotechnology called *“Diverse Women for Diversity.”* Time Magazine identified Dr. Shiva as an environmental “hero” in 2003, and Asia Week has called her one of the five most powerful communicators of Asia. Forbes magazine in November 2010 identified Dr. Vandana Shiva as one of the top seven most powerful women on the Globe.

Members of the organizing committee (in alphabetical order)

- **Dr. Arnaud Apoteker**, Former GMO Expert for Greenpeace and the Greens/EFA group in the European Parliament.
- **Françoise Boulègue**, Film editor for M2R Films.
- **Valerie Cabanes**, Spokesperson for End Ecocide on Earth and co-author of “*Crime climatique stop!*”.
- **Ronnie Cummins**, International Director of the Organic Consumers Association and member of Regeneration International.
- **Tjerk Dalhuisen**, Secretary of Action for Solidarity Environment Equality and Diversity. Active in the Food Otherwise movement in the Netherlands, the board of ASEED and the Toxic Soy campaign to expose the greenwashing of Monsanto's Roundup Ready soy as 'responsible'.
- **Luigi D’Andrea**, Executive Secretary of *Alliance Suisse pour une agriculture sans génie génétique*.
- **Esther Gerber**, Biologist and member of the Forum Civique Européen, worked in biological control of weeds and carried out research on ecosystem impact and on management of invasive plant species
- **Benny Haerlin**, Former member of the European Parliament, campaign coordinator of “Save Our Seeds” campaign.
- **Dr. Hans Rudolf Herren**, 1995 World Food Prize winner, Right Livelihood Award 2013, President of the Millennium Institute and Biovision, and member of Regeneration International.
- **Hannes Lammler**, Agronomist, member of the Forum Civique Européen and campaigner for Falea21-Mali.
- **René Lehnerr**, IT Specialist, member of the Forum Civique Européen.
- **Gilles Lemaire**, Member of the commission on ecology and society of *Attac* France.
- **Corinne Lepage**, Lawyer, Honorary President of Institute CiiGen, former French Minister of the Environment and former Member of the European Parliament.
- **Andre Leu**, President IFOAM Organics International and member of Regeneration International.
- **Michel Pimbert**, Executive Director of the Centre for Agroecology, Water and Resilience at Coventry University. Michel Pimbert is the Director of the Centre for Agroecology, Water and Resilience at Coventry University in the UK. An agricultural ecologist by training, he has worked on both the technical and policy dimensions of sustainable food and farming in several tropical and temperate countries. His research interests include: policies and practices for agroecology and food sovereignty; the political ecology of biodiversity and natural resource management; participatory action research; and deliberative democratic processes.
- **Marie-Monique Robin**, Filmmaker, TV journalist, writer, and author of “The World According to Monsanto”.
- **Bessie Schadee**, President of Network Vital Agriculture and Nutrition and member of *Gezonde Gronden* (Netherlands). She has been a founding member of the International Board of the Global Action Plan for the Earth, a foundation that empowers citizens to make their households sustainable. Today, she's founder/director of the Healthy Soils Foundation and chair of the Dutch Network of Vital Agriculture & Nutrition, a small society of farmers, scientists and citizens, that focuses on healthy practices for producing sustainable food.
- **Mindi Schneider**, Sociologist, Agronomist, and Assistant Professor at the International

Institute of Social Studies (ISS) of Erasmus University Rotterdam in The Hague, Netherlands. Her research centers on global agrifood politics, including corporate consolidation and control in food and agricultural systems. For the past several years, Mindi's work has focused on the causes and consequences of dietary change and rising meat consumption in China, examined through the politics of industrialization in the country's pork sector. She has published widely on state- and corporate-led vertical integration in China, and its relationship to peasant dispossession, environmental degradation, public health, and the organization and contestation of power in both domestic and international relief.

- **Doro Schreier**, Founder of *Netzfrauen*.
- **Ruchi Shroff**, Coordinator of *Navdanya*.
- **Dr. Olivier De Schutter**, Professor at the Louvain University (Belgium), Jurist, former UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food (2008-2014), member of the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.
- **Gilles-Eric Séralini**, Scientist, Professor of Molecular Biology at the University of Caen, and Director of the Scientific Council of CiiGen.
- **Dr. Vandana Shiva**, Right Livelihood Award 1993, Sydney Peace Prize 2010, Fukuoka Asian Culture Prize 2012, Founder of *Navdanya*, and member of *Regeneration International*.
- **François Veillerette**, Spokesperson for *Génération Futures*, President of the Pesticide Action Network Europe.

Supporting organizations

- ASEED www.aseed.net
- ATTAC www.attac.org
- End Ecocide on Earth <http://www.endecocide.org/>
- CRIIGEN <http://www.criigen.org/>
- Forum Civique Européen www.forumcivique.org
- FSC – Fondation Sciences Citoyennes – [sciencescitoyennes.org](http://www.sciencescitoyennes.org)
- Générations Futures www.generations-futures.fr
- Gezonde Gronden www.gezondegronden.nl/
- GRAIN www.grain.org
- IFOAM – Organics International <http://www.ifoam.bio/>
- La Via Campesina <http://viacampesina.org/en/>
- Millennium Institute www.millennium-institute.org
- Navdanya International <http://seedfreedom.info/>
- Netwerk Vitale Landbouw en Voeding (Network Vital Agriculture and Nutrition) <http://www.nvlv.nl/>
- Netzfrauen www.netzfrauen.org
- Organic Consumers Association www.organicconsumers.org
- Pesticide Action Network Europe <http://www.pan-europe.info/>
- Regeneration International www.regenerationinternational.org/about-us
- SAG/StopOGM - Alliance suisse pour une agriculture sans génie génétique www.stopogm.ch
- Save Our Seeds <http://www.saveourseeds.org/>
- Supermacht www.supermacht.nl

Marie-Monique Robin

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Marie-Monique Robin is an award-winning journalist and author. She has directed numerous documentaries across Latin America, Africa, Europe and Asia, receiving thirty awards. She wrote the bestselling documentary (and book by the same name) “The World According Monsanto” which has been broadcast on fifty international television stations, and translated into 22 languages, included in the United States of America. She is the Monsanto Tribunal sponsor. She has been working for 10 years on the history and practices of the Monsanto transnational company, representing one of the biggest polluters of the industrial era and contributing largely to climate warming thanks to its promotion of non sustainable agricultural models emitting greenhouse gases in big quantities. She could witness, in many parts of the world, the human and environmental damages caused by the company, ready to do anything “not to lose one single Dollar of benefit” as asserted in a declassified internal document dated 1971.

Welcoming speech

Good Morning to everybody!

I am very happy to welcome you at this Press Conference, inaugurating the creation of Monsanto Tribunal, which I feel honoured to sponsor. This initiative started in the Netherlands one year ago and spread since then all over the world, while rallying international leading figures as well as numerous civil movements and non-governmental organizations. All of them intend to make an example of this trial, since this exceptional trial obviously does not aim solely at Monsanto but also at all the transnational companies and other enterprises moved solely by the quest for profit, and therefore, endangering the planet safety. We chose to initiate the tribunal at the exact time when the big UN Conference on climate takes place in Le Bourget, because the American company is a large contributor to climate change due to the agro-industrial model it promotes. This model embodied by the GMO pollutes our environment- water, air, soil, food – and takes its part in the progression of what the WHO calls the “epidemic of preventable chronic diseases”. It also threatens in the future the people food sovereignty. Since the release of my movie and book *The World according to Monsanto* I constantly followed the transnational corporations’ practices whose victims now range into the hundreds of thousands, thanks to massive use of Roundup which caused one of the major sanitary and environmental scandals of the industrial era. Those victims will join the ranks of the POP or Orange Agent victims, sharing their incapacity to defend themselves or to obtain compensation for damages owing to the impunity Monsanto enjoys together with all similar enterprises. This is precisely in order to emphasize this systematic impunity threatening both the humans and the planet that the Monsanto Tribunal has been created.

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Andre Leu is the author of the award winning book, *The Myths of Safe Pesticides* and the President of IFOAM Organics International, the world umbrella body for the organic sector. IFOAM Organics International has around 800 member organisations in 125 countries. He is a founding member of Regeneration International.

Andre has a degree in Communications and post-graduate qualifications in adult education. He lectures and teaches at many universities, institutions and workshops around the world. He speaks at numerous conferences, seminars, workshops as well as United Nation events on every continent. He meets with governments, industry, farmers, consumers and NGOs on the multi-functional benefits of regenerative organic agriculture.

He has an extensive knowledge of farming and environmental systems across Asia, Europe, the Americas, Africa and Australasia from over 40 years of visiting and working in over 100 countries. Andre has written and published extensively in multiple media, as well as doing media interviews on many areas of regenerative organic agriculture.

Monsanto Wrecking our Health and Environment with Glyphosate

Numerous scientific studies show that Monsanto's flagship product, glyphosate, is responsible for multiple diseases and the current widespread use is clearly unsafe for people and the environment.

Glyphosate and Cancers

The International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) classified glyphosate as the second highest level of cancer causing substances, based on a range of scientific studies showing that it causes a range of cancers including non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, renal cancers, skin cancers and pancreatic cancer.

Research published in the peer-reviewed scientific journal *Food and Chemical Toxicology* in 2013 found that glyphosate at residue levels commonly found in people caused a five- to thirteenfold increase in the multiplication of estrogen-sensitive human breast cancer cells. 80% of breast cancers are estrogen-sensitive.

The only published, peer reviewed, lifetime comparison feeding study by Seralini et al. published in *Environmental Sciences Europe* found that rats fed a diet that contains a proportion of GM maize or minute residues of Roundup had significantly higher increases of tumours, kidney disease, liver damage and other negative health effects.

Cell Damage—Precursors to Cancer and Birth Defects

Research has shown that glyphosate can cause genetic damage, developmental disruption, morbidity, and mortality even at what are currently considered normal levels of use. Research by Mesnage et al. found that Roundup from 1 ppm to 20,000 ppm causes cells of the human body to die through necrosis. At 50 ppm it delays the cellular apoptosis that is essential for the normal functioning and regeneration of cells, body tissues, and organs. The delaying or stopping of apoptosis is considered as one of the hallmarks of cancer.

Teratogenicity (Birth Defects)

There are numerous studies showing how glyphosate causes birth defects in animals. One of the most significant studies investigating the toxicity of both Roundup as a formulation and of glyphosate as the active ingredient, published by Alejandra Paganelli et al. in 2010, explains one of the ways they cause teratogenicity. The researchers identified that glyphosate and Roundup disrupted a key biochemical mechanism, the retinoic acid signaling pathway, to cause the malformations

Endocrine Disruption

Thongprakaisang et al. found glyphosate acted like estrogen to cause the multiplication of estrogen-sensitive breast cancer cells. Gasnier et al. in 2009 reported endocrine-disrupting actions of glyphosate at 0.5 ppm. According to the authors this is "800 times lower than the level authorized in some food or feed (400 ppm, USEPA, 1998)." The study led by Professor Gilles-Eric Seralini and published in *Food and Chemical Toxicology* has found that both the GM maize and Roundup acted as endocrine disrupters and resulted in the females dying 2 - 3 times more than the control animals.

Disruption of Metabolic Pathways

One of the most significant studies was published by Samsel and Seneff in the peer-reviewed scientific journal *Entropy* in 2013. This comprehensive review showed how glyphosate disrupted numerous biochemical pathways within the human body, including gut microorganisms, and consequently could lead to numerous diseases.

Disruption of the Gut Microbiome

Samsel and Seneff's paper identified how glyphosate disrupted the gut microbiome, causing the

suppression of biosynthesis of cytochrome P450 enzymes and key amino acids. They showed how the current increase in celiac disease and gluten intolerance in people was linked to glyphosate's adverse effects which kills the beneficial gut bacteria, leading to a rise in intestinal diseases.

Kidney and Liver Disease

Since the 1990s, researchers in Sri Lanka have reported an epidemic of kidney failure in rice paddy workers exposed to glyphosate in combination with minerals in hard water. According to Jayasumana et al., glyphosate's strong chelating properties allow it to combine with heavy metals and arsenic in hard waters, resulting in damage to renal tissues and thereby causing chronic kidney diseases.

Oxidative Stress and Cell Damage

Oxidative stress is an imbalance between free radicals and the body's ability to repair the damage caused by free radicals. Oxidative stress is one of the hallmarks of cancer and a contributing factor to many chronic diseases. It has been linked to Alzheimer's, cancer, and Parkinson's disease, among other health issues. Cattani et al. found that both acute and chronic exposure to Roundup induced oxidative stress resulting in neural cell death and neurotoxic effects in the hippocampus region of the brain in immature rats. Lushchak et al. found that a ninety-six-hour exposure to low levels of Roundup in water caused oxidative stress to the cells in the brains, livers, and kidneys of goldfish. Studies by El-Shenawy and de Liz Oliveira Cavalli et al. confirm that Roundup and glyphosate caused oxidative stress and necrosis in cells, including the liver, testis, and Sertoli cells in rats.

Glyphosates linked to 22 diseases in US

Research conducted by Dr. Nancy Swanson and colleagues shows a link between the increase in the use of glyphosate, the acres of land under GMOs, and 22 diseases in the United States. Dr. Swanson used statistical data from credible sources such as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the United States Department of Agriculture and turned them into graphs that showed the correlations. To ensure the accuracy of the correlations they were adjusted using a standard statistical method of analyzing data called Pearson's correlation coefficients.

The Pearson's correlation coefficients show a less than 1 chance in 10,000 ($< 10^{-5}$) that it is a coincidence that the increase in glyphosate applications is not linked to the increase in hypertension, diabetes, obesity, Alzheimer's, senile dementia, autism, inflammatory bowel disease, intestinal infections, end stage renal disease, acute kidney failure as well as cancers of the thyroid, liver, bladder, pancreas and kidney.

Environmental Concerns

There are numerous studies showing how glyphosate is contributing to the decline of frogs, bees, Monarch butterflies, birds and other species such as fish and corals.

For example, Clements et al. published a study in 1997 showing damage to DNA in bullfrog tadpoles after exposure to glyphosate. The scientists concluded that glyphosate's "genotoxicity at relatively low concentrations" was of concern. A 2003 study by Lajmanovich et al. found that up to 55 percent of tadpoles exposed to a glyphosate herbicide had deformities to the mouth, eyes, skull, vertebrae, and tails. A 2003 study by Dallegrave et al. found that the offspring of pregnant rats dosed with glyphosate had increased skeletal abnormalities.

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Dr. Vandana Shiva is trained as a physicist. She later shifted to inter-disciplinary research in science, technology and environmental policy, which she carried out at the Indian Institute of Science and the Indian Institute of Management in Bangalore, India. In 1982, she founded an independent institute, the Research Foundation for Science, Technology and Ecology in Dehra Dun dedicated to high quality and independent research to address the most significant ecological and social issues of our times, in close partnership with local communities and social movements. In 1991, she founded *Navdanya*, a national movement to protect the diversity and integrity of living resources, especially native seed, the promotion of organic farming and fair trade. For last two decades Navdanya has worked with local communities and organizations serving more than 70,000 men and women farmers. Navdanya's efforts have resulted in conservation of more than 3000 rice varieties from all over the country and have established 120 community seed banks in 16 states across the country. In 2004 she started Bija Vidyapeeth, an international college for sustainable living in Doon Valley in collaboration with Schumacher College, U.K. Time Magazine identified Dr. Shiva as an environmental "hero" in 2003 and Asia Week has called her one of the five most powerful communicators of Asia. Forbes magazine in November 2010 has identified Dr. Vandana Shiva as one of the top Seven most Powerful Women on the Globe. She has initiated an international movement of women working of food, agriculture, patents and biotechnology called, *Diverse Women for Diversity*.

Monsanto's Crimes against biodiversity and Farmers

Monsanto is responsible for introducing patents on life on the world through the WTO agreements on Intellectual Property.

IPRs expanded to cover living systems and organisms is a distortion of "Innovation" and "invention". This distortion was introduced by corporations such as Monsanto in the TRIPS (Trade Related Intellectual Property Rights) Agreement of WTO. Corporate influence on Patent Law began with the drafting of the Trade Related Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) Agreement of the WTO by the Intellectual Property Committee (IPC) of the multilateral corporations.

As I have written in my book Biopiracy, James Enyart of Monsanto is on record illustrating just how deeply the TRIPs agreement is aligned to corporate interest and against the interests of nations and their citizens:

"Once created, the first task of the IPC was to repeat the missionary work we did in the US in the early days, this time with the industrial associations of Europe and Japan to convince them that a code was possible....

Besides selling our concepts at home, we went to Geneva where [we] presented [our] document to the staff of the GATT Secretariat. We also took the opportunity to present it to the Geneva based representatives of a large number of countries... What I have described to you is absolutely unprecedented in GATT. Industry has identified a major problem for international trade. It crafted a solution, reduced it to a concrete proposal and sold it to our own and other governments... The industries and traders of world commerce have played simultaneously the role of patients, the diagnosticians and the prescribing physicians."

India's laws do not permit patents on seeds and in agriculture. But that hasn't stopped Monsanto from collecting close to USD 900 million from small farmers in India, pushing them into crushing debt and to suicide. 300,000 farmers have committed suicide in India since 1995, most of the suicides are in the cotton belt, and 95% cotton seed is Monsanto's Bt cotton.

Monsanto-Mahyco Biotech Ltd collected royalties for Bt Cotton by going outside the law and charging "technology fees" and "trait value". These are just clever names for royalty collection. In 2006, out of the INR 1600 (per 450 grams) price tag, INR 1250 — almost 80% — was charged by MMB as the trait value. Compared to Bt Cotton, local seeds used to cost INR 5-9 per kg before Monsanto destroyed alternatives, including local hybrid seed supply, through licensing arrangements and acquisitions.

Monsanto's false promises of Bt as a pest control technology has also contributed to farmers distress.

A whitefly epidemic has devastated the Bt cotton crop in Punjab and farmers have used 10-12 sprays, each costing Rs 3200. And in addition there is the high cost of Bt seeds sold by Monsanto Mahyco. In Maharashtra, Haryana, Punjab farmers growing non Bt desi cotton have not been impacted by pests like Bt cotton has. And organic farmers in Punjab had no whitefly attack.

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Dr. Herren's main interests and experience are in the area of holistic, integrated and sustainable development. He has hands-on experience in research, capacity development, management of agricultural and bio-science research organizations and is also active at the policy level, to assure that knowledge, science and technology contribute effectively to sustainable and equitable development by informing development policies at national, regional and global levels. Some examples include work to influence and inform the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and the Post 2015 Development Agenda, including the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Dr. Herren promotes a special emphasis on a systemic and local empowerment approach by including the economy, society and the environment into a single analytical framework, the Threshold 21 (T21) model, developed in multistakeholder environments. He's the founder and president of Biovision.ch Foundation for Ecological Development, Switzerland, 1998-present.

Awards and Honors: Awarded the Sir and Lady Rank Prize for Nutrition in 1991 by Mrs. M. Thatcher in London. Received the Kilby Award for Extraordinary Contribution to Society through Science, Technology, Innovation, Invention, and Education in Dallas, May 1995. Received the World Food Prize 1995, in recognition for having advanced human development by improving the quality, quantity and availability of the world's food supply. Received the Tyler Prize for Environmental Achievement in 2003 for outstanding contributions to the field of environmental health. Elected as a Foreign Associate in US National Academy of Sciences in 1999. Member of the Third World Academy of Sciences since 2005. Received Honorary Doctor of Science from Kenyatta University, Nairobi, Kenya in 2003. Recognized as Honorary Professor, Hubei University, Wuhan, PRC in 2004. Selected as a High Level participant for the UN's High Level Consultation on Hunger, Food Security and Nutrition in the Post-2015 Development Agenda.

The link between Agribusiness and Climate Change

The International Assessment of Agricultural Knowledge, science and Technology for Development, a Report commissioned by six UN Agencies and the world Bank at the Sustainable Development Summit in 2002, and published in 2009 under the Title "Agriculture at a Crossroads" did point to a series of issues with the present agriculture and food systems, and stated that "business as usual was not an option". It clearly indicated that an agriculture (conventional/industrial) which contributes a substantial amount to Climate Change via green house gases, between 47 and 51 % of the total in the developed countries according to a 2011 UNCTAD/Grain report, which in turn is one of the biggest concern regarding food security in the decades ahead, needed a radical transformation towards agroecological and regenerative practices, which take into account all three dimension of sustainable development, environment, society and economy. The report further noted that the transfer of R&D responsibility by Governments to the Private Sector, with the justification of tight government budgets needs to be reversed.

The major obstacles for a transformation of the food system towards sustainability are the vested interests of large agriculture and food corporations, such as Monsanto who leads in terms of herbicide resistant crops. These have been pushing, under the name of efficiency and low food prizes (=high profits) for a simplification of the production system, the introduction of reductionist approaches such as large scale mono-crop systems, open ground and the use of herbicides, pesticides, fertilizers, mega mechanization, irrigation which then, and now even more, showed the short sightedness of their approach to produce more and cheaper food, transferring the externalities of such systems to the general public while cashing in the profits, in particular the subsidies, on which this bankrupt system depends. These practices have practically replaced the free, but valuable, ecosystem services (nutrient cycling, water storing and release, pollination, pest management, biodiversity with a business making alternative, which leads into costly treadmills. The ecosystem services, all carbon storing and money saving systems were forced to yield to carbon producing, as well as ultimately costly external inputs (fertilizers, GMOs, pesticides, herbicides, irrigation), to which Monsanto and other GMO and pesticides companies's varieties are addicted to. The fact that labor was replaced with ever larger and more fossil fuel consuming machines did further add to the carbon footprint of conventional/industrial agriculture.

FAO has now picked up on the demand from farmers and (part) of the scientific community and consumers with its Symposia on agroecology at global and now regional levels while the G8 and the business community have settled for the reductionist Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA), which is simply more of the same, i.e., green revolution 2.0, with all its drawbacks.

The COP21 needs to make a very strong effort in the promotion of agroecological, regenerative, organic and other forms of truly sustainable and diverse agriculture to capture a large part of the carbon stock in the atmosphere, not only reduce its own production or absorb the daily industrial CO₂ production, to have even a small chance to remain below, not 2, but 3.5 Degrees Celsius. Its possible, it needs too be done. Agribusiness as we know it is unlikely to be part of that transformation.

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Ronnie Cummins is a lifetime civil society activist, writer, lecturer, and campaign director. He is currently the International Director of the two-million member Organic Consumers Association (USA) and its Mexico affiliate, Via Organica. Cummins also serves on the steering committee of Regeneration International, a transnational NGO dedicated to reversing global warming and rural poverty. Cummins has directed campaigns against the Monsanto corporation, corporate agribusiness and the biotechnology industry since 1993, currently serving as global coordinator for the Millions Against Monsanto Campaign. He is co-author of the book, *Genetically Engineered Food: A self-Defense Guide for consumers*. Cummins currently divides his time between the US and Mexico.

Monsanto's Crimes Against Humanity and the Environment

Thanks for attending this press conference. The time is long overdue for a global citizens tribunal to put the Monsanto corporation on trial for their crimes against humanity and the environment. For the past 22 years I have coordinated consumer and farmer campaigns against Monsanto, such as the Millions Against Monsanto marches and protests, exposing the toxic chemicals, GMOs, animal drugs, artificial sweeteners, and corrupt political lobbying, and scientific fraud that have made this corporation one of the most hated corporations in the world. Even before 1992 I was an activist in the 1960-70s Movement against the Vietnam War, exposing and protesting, among other atrocities, the genocidal actions of the US occupation force spraying massive quantities of Monsanto and Dow's Agent Orange herbicide defoliate on South and North Vietnam, poisoning several million Vietnamese people (and now their children and grandchildren) and hundreds of thousands of USA Vietnam Veterans (and now their children and grandchildren). In the 1990s through the present time I have also written and campaigned against the violence and ineffectiveness of the U.S.-sponsored and funded War on Drugs, which has included, among other crimes against humanity and the environment, the indiscriminate aerial spraying of Monsanto's Roundup herbicide on millions of acres of forests, farmlands, and rural communities in Mexico and Latin America.

The last 70 years of "modern" industrial food and farming in the United States and the world, led by Monsanto and its allies, has involved the massive use of evermore toxic chemical, drug, GMO, and stealth food ingredients, resulting in ever increasing damage to the soil, oceans, forests, and atmosphere. Monsanto's illegal and criminal behavior only be characterized as a "Fatal Harvest," for public health, the environment, climate stability, biodiversity, farm animals, and rural communities. Monsanto's illegal and criminal GMO, factory farm, junk food system has not only polluted the environment, depleted aquifers, destroyed topsoil, reduced seed biodiversity, driven small farmers off the land, and destabilized the climate by pumping billions of tons of CO₂, methane, and nitrous oxide gases into the atmosphere; but has also engendered an epidemic of obesity, heart attacks, antibiotic resistance, cancer, reproductive disorders, and hormone disruption—not to mention millions of cases of farmer suicides, food poisoning, allergies, and childhood chronic disease.

Whether we're looking at the annual damage to public health from the consumption and overconsumption of billions of pounds of GMO, pesticide-tainted, sugar, fat, and salt-laden processed junk foods; exacerbated by thousands of tons of antibiotic residues, growth promoters, and hormones in dairy, meat, and eggs (80% of all antibiotics in the U.S. are given to farm animals to force them to grow faster and to survive the hellish conditions of factory farms); or the damage to the air, soil, water, and climate from dumping billions of pounds of chemical fertilizers; toxic pesticides, herbicides, and fungicides on crops and land; compounded by massive applications of industrial waste and sewage sludge; and, Monsanto and their allies in the Big Food, Big GMO sector can only be described as corporate criminals, guilty of crimes against humanity and nature.

Even beyond the continuing human health and environmental damage hazards of GMO and pesticide-tainted junk food, genetic engineering, and factory farms, the global climate consequences of allowing a Monsanto-style system of chemical-intensive factory farming, food processing, and long-distance food transportation will be apocalyptic.

We are in Paris this month to address the most serious threat that humans have ever faced in our 100-200,000 year evolution—global warming and climate disruption. Why is there so much carbon dioxide, methane, and nitrous oxide in the atmosphere and not enough carbon organic matter in the soil? Corporate agribusiness, industrial forestry, the garbage and sewage industry and agricultural

biotechnology have literally killed the climate stabilizing, carbon sink capacity of the Earth's living soil. Industrial agriculture and deforestation have eroded and depleted the soil food web, annihilating soil microorganisms and destroying plants, trees, and soil's natural capacity to clean the atmosphere and sequester CO₂. This climate-disrupting ecocide is a direct result of the suicidal use of billions of pounds of synthetic nitrogen fertilizers, soil destroying pesticides, herbicides and fungicides, insecticidal GMO crops, factory farm waste, and toxic sewage sludge--instead of feeding the soil and maintaining soil vitality (and its ability to sequester carbon) with organic compost and fertilizers and cover crops. In 2016 the Organic Consumers Association (USA) and our allies across the world will begin to expose this deadly chemical and GMO attack on the planet's soil food web by Monsanto, and put this corporation on trial for crimes against humanity, the climate, and the environment...

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Speech

In order to assess the conduct of Monsanto, the Tribunal will rely on the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, endorsed by the UN Human Rights Council in June 2011, as the most authoritative definition of the human rights responsibilities of corporations. The Guiding Principles state that companies should respect the full range of human rights, including the right to life, the right to health, and the right to a healthy environment. They serve to define the expectations of society towards businesses, and they shall be the standard on which the plaintiffs shall rely, in their quest to seek compensation for the damage inflicted by Monsanto's activities. In addition however, the Tribunal will be asked whether some of the activities of Monsanto might justify a finding of criminal liability, either under existing international criminal law or under the emerging crime of ecocide.

The plaintiffs shall be represented by an experienced lawyer, and Monsanto, as the defendant, shall be provided ample opportunity to respond to the allegations made and to challenge the legal qualification of their conduct, as well as the claims made by the alleged victims. As regards the admission of evidence and the assessment of civil liability, the Tribunal shall follow the general principles of civil procedure.

It is not unusual that companies have to defend themselves in such procedures, in which human rights violations give rise to claims in civil liability. The most relevant examples are the range of cases filed before United States federal courts under the Alien Tort Statute, a provision of the First Judiciary Act 1789: companies such as Royal Dutch (for complicity in the execution of Ken Saro-Wiwa and other activists denouncing the pollution of Ogoni land in Nigeria, or for the environmental consequences of oil exploitation in that region), Texaco/Chevron (for massive pollution resulting from oil exploitation activities in Peru and Ecuador), the Californian oil company Unocal (for complicity in forced labor in Burma/Myanmar), or BNP Paribas (for its role in the Holocaust), have been facing similar suits.

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Valerie Cabanes is a lawyer in international law with an expertise in international humanitarian law and human rights law. She spent almost 20 years conducting international solidarity programmes in the field of health and human rights. Today, she's a consultant and a trainer in the sector of people 's security and in the health and social sector.

Her offer also includes legal counselling and advocacy related to the rights of indigenous people. At the same time, for the past three years, she has been committed to being the spokesperson of the world citizen movement – End Ecocide on Earth- which aims to add the ecocide crime to the most serious international crimes. She's a co-author of the proposal of 17 amendments to the International Criminal Court Statute, in order to define the crime of ecocide and its implementing rules.

Speech

The End Ecocide on Earth movement requires that a legal framework likely to guarantee the safety of the planet is defined in order to protect the right to a healthy and sustainable life for current but also future generations. To this end, it is necessary to preserve the conditions of life on earth itself, otherwise it will be difficult to guarantee the living conditions of mankind in the long run. This implies that the Living must become a subject of law. It also means that we need to consider the most serious violations relating to the living conditions on earth as ecocide crimes. Indeed, decisions and actions which lead to a threat of the ecosystemic services upon which human populations depend, a partial or total destruction of planet commons (the poles, the atmosphere and the extra-atmosphere, cross border rivers, international waters, migratory species, the genetic heritage and biogeochemical cycles- necessary to the earth ecosystem balance- can be sanctioned. Hence, it will be possible to make more responsible decision makers, legal entities but also individuals, at the root of practices identified as dangerous for the safety of the planet and security of mankind. Such a framework will provide the guarantee of an international climate and environmental justice that can prevent and mitigate the effects of global warming, prosecute and sanction the most serious environmental crimes and thus allow to safeguard mankind and nature. The criminalization of ecocide is based on the principle according to which human beings are inalienable parties of Nature and their actions have consequences not only on their environment but also on their own future. Hence, banning ecocide would guarantee the human right to a sound environment for present and future generations but also would enshrine the right of nature for protection.

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Arnaud Apoteker is graduated in Applied Biology and Physico-chemistry at Paris 12 University and spent 2 years of post-graduate at the University of Arizona, Tucson, USA.

After a few years in Bolivia, where he worked with the French Agency for development research (IRD) and one year as a scientific books editor (InterEditions), he entered Greenpeace. During 20 years, he participated in numerous campaigns of the organization (pesticides, protection of the Mediterranean Sea, ocean ecology, fisheries, nuclear waste and nuclear testing). In 1996, he developed the GMO campaign in France, which became one of the priority campaigns of Greenpeace France. From 2011 to 2015, he was in charge of the GMO campaign for the Greens/EFA group at the European Parliament.

He wrote the book *Du poisson dans les fraises, Notre alimentation manipulée*, (Fish in strawberries; our manipulated food) Ed. La Découverte, Paris, Avril 1999, that has been translated into Italian and Spanish.



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