

Celebrating Our Victories, Strengthening Our Roots



Our Challenge for the 21st Century

SUMMIT II BRIEFING



**SECOND
NATIONAL PEOPLE OF COLOR
ENVIRONMENTAL LEADERSHIP
SUMMIT**



October 23-27, 2002
Hyatt Regency Hotel Capitol Hill
Washington, DC 20001

Defining the Environment

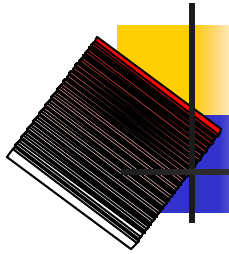


- ✍ Where We Live
- ✍ Where We Work
- ✍ Where We Play
- ✍ Where We Go to School
- ✍ Where We Worship
- ✍ Physical and Natural World

Environmental Justice Principle

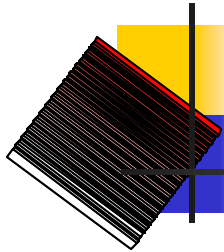


✎ Environmental justice embraces the principle that all peoples and communities are entitled to equal protection of our environmental, health, employment, housing, transportation, and civil rights laws.



A New EJ Paradigm

- ✍ Environmental Racism
- ✍ Environmental Justice
- ✍ Economic Justice
- ✍ Climate Justice
- ✍ Disparate Impact
- ✍ Transboundary Waste Trade
- ✍ Toxics Refugees
- ✍ Vulnerable Populations
- ✍ Just Transition
- ✍ Clean Production
- ✍ Reparations
- ✍ Economic Globalization



A New EJ Paradigm

- ✍ Eco-Genocide
- ✍ Radioactive Colonialism
- ✍ Economic Blackmail
- ✍ Garbage Imperialism
- ✍ Toxic Schools
- ✍ Military Toxics
- ✍ Toxic Products
- ✍ Throwaway Communities
- ✍ Sacrifice Zones
- ✍ Toxic Terror
- ✍ Corporate Welfare
- ✍ S.L.A.P.P Suits
- ✍ Bio-Tech and Bio-Piracy

Impetus for Paradigm Shift



- ✍ Grassroots activism
- ✍ Alliances and coalitions
- ✍ Community-driven research
- ✍ Conferences
- ✍ People of Color Environmental Leadership Summit

People of Color Summit Washington, DC, Oct., 1991



Speaking for Ourselves



Delegates Called the Shots

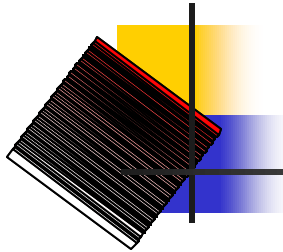


- ✍ The 1991 Summit was organized by and for People of Color
- ✍ Developed 17 Principles of EJ
- ✍ Over 1,000 delegates set a course for building a multi-ethnic movement

Overview of Summit I



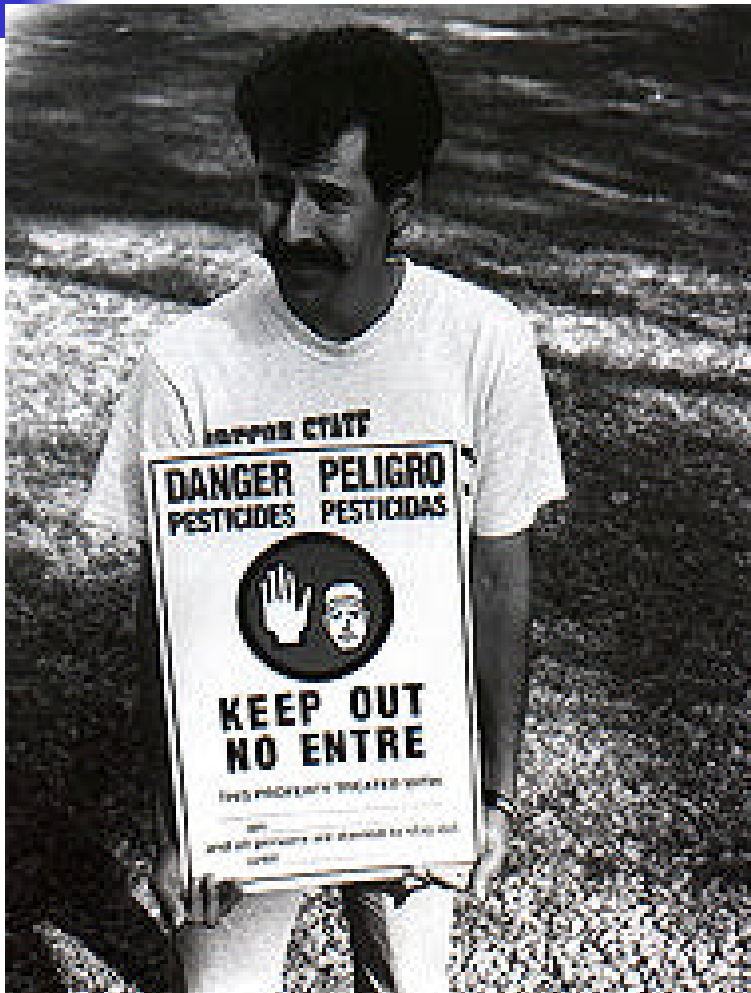
- ✍ The Summit was convened by the United Church of Christ Commission for Racial Justice
- ✍ In addition to the resources provided by the UCC, the Summit I received funding from over 27 foundations, organizations, and institutions



Goals of Summit I

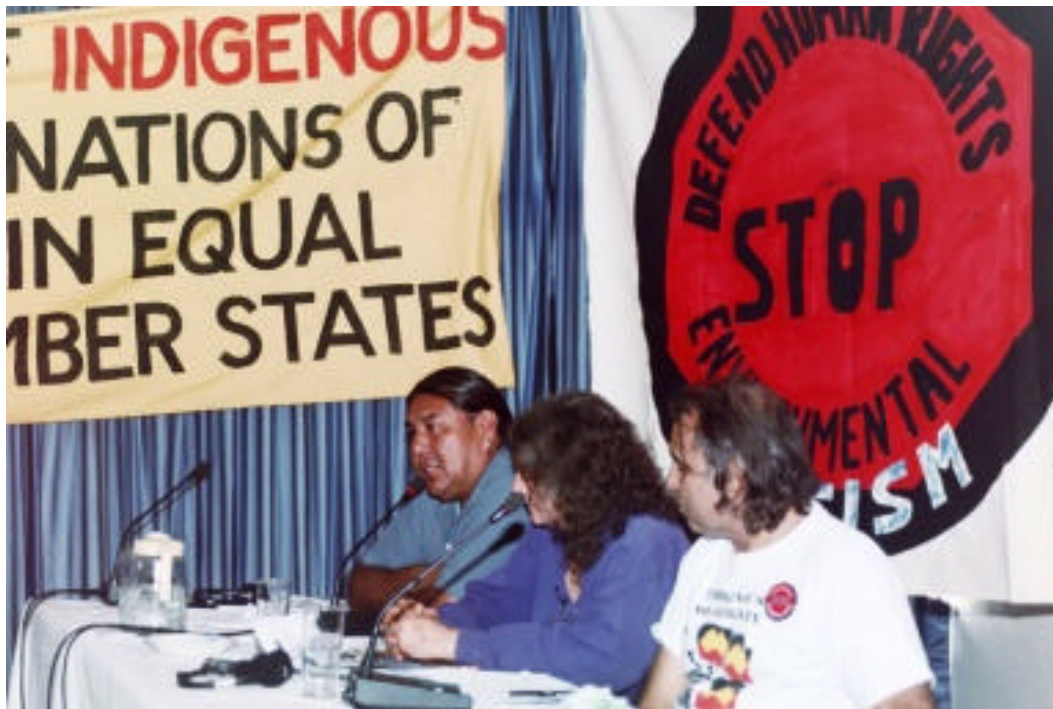
- ✍ To facilitate an ongoing process of people of color leaders to strengthen their national, regional, and local organizations and communities which are involved in challenging environmental injustice;
- ✍ To provide an opportunity to initiate dialogue between people of color leaders and the heads of the national environmental organizations;
- ✍ To identify key environmental policy questions from the perspective of people of color leadership; and
- ✍ To impact the decision-making process in public policy in the interests of environmental justice at the federal, state, and municipal levels.

Accomplishments of Summit I



- ✍ Principles of Environmental Justice
- ✍ Broadened EJ beyond anti-toxics to include issues of health, workers, land use, energy, transportation, sustainability, etc.
- ✍ Demonstrated that it is possible to build a multi-ethnic movement around environmental and economic justice

Growth of EJ Since 1991



- ✍ The 1991 *People of Color Environmental Groups Directory* listed some 300 EJ groups in the United States
- ✍ The 2000 *Directory* lists over 1,000 EJ groups in the U.S., Puerto Rico, Canada, and Mexico



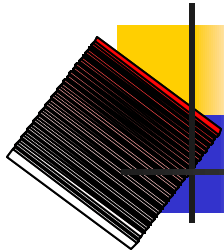
Why Hold a Summit II

- ✍ It has been over ten years since Summit I, the last comprehensive, all-inclusive meeting of the environmental justice movement.
- ✍ We are at a critical juncture in the environmental health needs of People of color and low income communities.
- ✍ We must move from reacting against environmental racism and to a proactive strategy to build sustainable alternative organized response.
- ✍ In 1999, the Environmental Justice Fund and numerous advocates in the United States coalesced to convene the planning of Summit II.
- ✍ After several preliminary area meetings, a National Planning Committee was formed with representation from the U.S., Puerto Rico, and Mexico.
- ✍ An Executive Committee and several other committees were also established.

Summit II Planning History



- ✍ The National Planning Committee met in Chicago, IL from October 13 -15, 2000 and in Tarrytown, NY from April 4 -7, 2001
- ✍ The Youth Committee met in San Francisco, CA from July 15 -20, 2001
- ✍ The Executive Committee has held regular monthly conference calls for the last 16 months



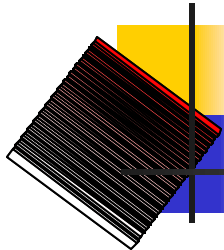
Summit II Collaborations

- ✍ EJ Networks
- ✍ Community Based Organizations
- ✍ Grassroots Leaders
- ✍ EJ Centers
- ✍ Civil Rights Groups
- ✍ Environmental Groups
- ✍ Youth Groups
- ✍ Organized Labor
- ✍ Legal Groups
- ✍ Faith Based Groups
- ✍ Community Development Corporations
- ✍ Foundations
- ✍ Policy Makers

Summit II Vision Statement



- ✍ To make a major positive impact on the lives of people living in communities affected disproportionately by environmental hazards.
- ✍ To bring to the forefront the issue of environmental justice and to keep the movement alive until our communities are places where our families can live in healthy conditions and enjoy nature in its totality.



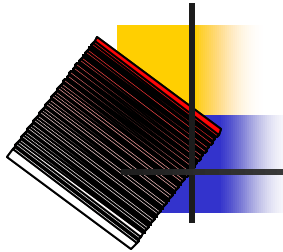
Goals of Summit II

- ✍ To gain concrete assessment of the progress made since 1991 and evaluate the strategies that have been successful and the ones that have not;
- ✍ To lay a foundation and provide background information for new environmental justice workers, groups, and networks;
- ✍ To broaden the scope of the environmental justice vision to strengthen its analysis and strategies regard to economic, immigrant bashing, globalization, welfare, governmental accountability, and the overall health of communities;
- ✍ To pave the way for concrete improvements in the lives of people of color over the next ten to fifty years;
- ✍ To spur the growth of grassroots involvement at a level sufficient to achieve systemic change;
- ✍ To formulate and prioritize strategy responses to environmental justice opposition; and
- ✍ To develop strategies to capitalize and build on the asset of the past and current environmental justice movement.

Summit II Governance



- Summit II is governed by a 47-member National Planning Committee
- An 11-member Executive Committee serves as the decision-making body
- The Executive Committee has two co-chairs – Beverly Wright and Tom Goldtooth



Summit II Decision Making

- ✍ **The Executive Committee bears primary responsibility for driving the ongoing process of planning and devising a plan to bring Summit II to fruition.**
- ✍ **The other Summit II committees perform related work and advise the Executive Committee**
- ✍ **The Summit II Coordinator executes, galvanizes and coordinates the effort by the Executive Committee to secure financial support from prospective funders, pro bono and in-kind services from the private sector, and the private philanthropic world.**



Summit II Committees

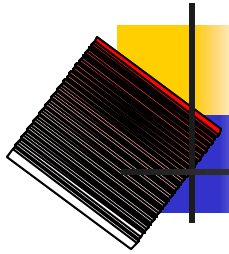


- ✍ Program Committee
- ✍ Outreach Committee
- ✍ Policy Committee
- ✍ Publicity Committee
- ✍ Fund Raising & Budget Committee
- ✍ International Committee
- ✍ Youth Committee

Summit II Deliverables



- Host national meeting of at least 500 persons
- Revisit and Re-Ratify Principles of Environmental Justice
- Develop Principles of Collaboration
- Develop Plan of Action (Movement Direction, Legislative Agenda, Model Legislation)
- Develop Policy Papers
- Develop Summit II Proceedings & Video
- Design Press/Media Dissemination Plan



Summit II Expected Outcomes

- ✍ Better understanding of the EJ movement's past, present, and future
- ✍ Raised awareness of new paradigms for addressing domestic and international environmental and economic justice
- ✍ Clearer models and opportunities for collaboration across racial/ethnic, geographic, disciplines, sectors, and other lines and boundaries.