



# International Environment Forum

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Please leave completed form in box at IEF exhibit, or alternately apply online at <http://www.iefworld.org/memappl.htm>

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

COUNTRY: \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE: + \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

I WISH TO BECOME: a Member [ ] an Associate [ ]

I HAVE ACCESS TO INTERNET: [ ] Yes [ ] No

AGE ABOVE 21: [ ] Yes [ ] No: year of birth \_\_\_\_\_

I AM A MEMBER OF THE BAHÁ'Í COMMUNITY OF:  
(leave blank if not applicable)

I WOULD LIKE TO BE ACTIVE IN THE FORUM:

Working with the web site [ ]

Writing for the newsletter [ ]

Editing articles and publications [ ]

Developing educational materials for children, youth and/or adults [ ]

Mentoring for choice of studies and careers [ ]

As an issue monitor for a particular topic [ ] (specify):

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE:

SPECIAL ENVIRONMENTAL INTEREST:

## BACKGROUND

The challenges of the global environment and of achieving sustainable development have become major preoccupations around the world. While scientific knowledge is helping to define solutions, implementation is hindered by a lack of motivation and commitment, suggesting that the problems are as much social, cultural and spiritual as they are technical or scientific. Since environmental problems and development aspirations are both global and diverse in scope, so too must the solutions be sought through the exploration of the many approaches and rich experience of different communities, peoples, cultures and faiths.

The International Environment Forum, through its global membership and expertise, is working to advance environmental stewardship and sustainable development at all levels and offers its support to the international community of nations, which has both recognized the importance of the protection and wise management of the environment and encouraged the involvement of non-governmental organizations.



The International Environment Forum  
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# International Environment Forum



The International Environment Forum is a Bahá'í-inspired professional organization that facilitates learning about the application of spiritual and ethical principles to the challenges of the environment and sustainable development. The IEF welcomes members from the Bahá'í Faith and wider community.

[www.iefworld.org](http://www.iefworld.org)



## ABOUT

The International Environment Forum was created in 1997, and now has over 215 members in 56 countries on five continents. The IEF maintains links with many more professionals and groups. The IEF was accredited by the United Nations to the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg 2002) as a scientific and technological organization, and IEF representatives actively participate in the UN processes. The IEF is governed by a board of directors elected annually by its world-wide membership during the general assembly.



## ANNUAL CONFERENCES

IEF annual conference themes and locations since 1997 have included:

- To build the world anew: Fostering a Bahá'í Approach to Education for Sustainable Development (USA, 2003)
- Cultivating Sustainable Lifestyles – A conference in anticipation of the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (2005-2014) (Greece, 2004)
- Education for Sustainable Development: The Spiritual Dimension (USA, 2005)
- Faith, Science and Global Warming: Arising to the Challenge (UK, 2006)
- Responding to Climate Change: Scientific Realities, Spiritual Imperatives (Canada, 2007)
- Growth or Sustainability: Defining, Measuring and Achieving Prosperity (Netherlands, 2008)
- Environments (USA, 2009)

Conference reports are available on the IEF website ([www.iefworld.org](http://www.iefworld.org)).

## ACTIVITIES

Working virtually by e-mail and the website, and occasionally at international meetings, the IEF shares results and resources, builds a growing international network of interested people, organizes annual conferences and takes part in various international events.

The IEF:

- Provides a forum for members to deepen their understanding of the social and ethical principles in the Bahá'í Writings and other scriptures that relate to environmental stewardship and sustainable development, including the principles of oneness, unity in diversity, moderation, ecological balance, reciprocity and consultation, and explore the application of these and other principles in their work and activities;
- Encourages and engages with individuals and other groups in a humble posture of learning to apply collective knowledge for the benefit of society;
- Shares knowledge and experience through semi-annual newsletters and technical and academic papers, and annual conferences;
- Maintains a web site (with English, Spanish and French portals) of relevant written materials and resources; and
- Promotes environmental awareness and sustainable development by producing educational materials to empower children, junior youth, youth and adults.



For more information visit the IEF website ([www.iefworld.org](http://www.iefworld.org)).

Membership is free and open to all with an interest (subject to Governing Board approval).

## REQUIREMENTS FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENT FORUM

Membership is open to any interested person on the condition that they are sympathetic to the Bahá'í teachings and that they accept to abide by the IEF Statutes, By-laws and the decisions of the Governing Board.

Applications for membership should be submitted to the Governing Board, which will decide if the above conditions are met. The Board's decision to accept or reject the application need not be justified.

### MEMBER

A member will receive all the materials of the Forum and announcements of all activities, may participate in the annual General Assembly, conferences and discussions by e-mail or in person, and is entitled to a single ballot whenever elections take place as provided for in the Statutes and By-laws. A member is eligible to be elected to the Governing Board or to any positions within the Forum that are filled by election. Each member will provide an electronic (e-mail) contact address, if available, for use by the Forum in its electronic mailing list(s), as well as a completed membership questionnaire, resumé or curriculum vitae detailing experience in environment and sustainable development, and ability to provide advice or service to others in the environment field. Members' contact information and summaries in standard format derived from the resúmes will be published in the Directory of Members sent to all members, included without addresses in the Forum's public directory on the Internet and made publicly available in other appropriate hard-copy and electronic publications.

### ASSOCIATE

Interested individuals who do not wish to vote, to be eligible for election, or to appear in the directory may become associates. Associates are placed on the appropriate electronic mailing list(s) and will receive the materials of the Forum and announcements of all activities. They may participate in conferences, discussions and working groups organized by the Forum, and may attend the General Assembly as an observer, without the right to vote or be voted for.

To apply to become a member or associate of the IEF, please see the attached application.