



**VII INTERNATIONAL MEDIA FORUM ON THE PROTECTION OF NATURE
Viterbo, 25-29 November 2009**

Towards Copenhagen: Greenaccord invites environmental journalists from all over the world

Climate change: scientists, witnesses, and journalists meet in Viterbo

**The schedule presented for Seventh International Forum of Information
for the Safeguarding of Nature**

Rome, 22 September 2009 – More than **80 journalists** from **50 countries** will meet in **Viterbo from the 25 to the 29th of November**, with the objective of reflecting on the urgency of measures and actions to take in order to face climate change. **Greenaccord** will stimulate an in-depth examination and dialogue among people in the communications field with the **VII International Media Forum on the protection of nature**. During the proceedings of last year's Forum, the journalists and scientists present realized the need to face the theme of climate change given the parallel timing of the **Copenhagen Climate Summit**, organized by the United Nations, during which the terms of an international agreement about climate change will be defined.

Noteworthy representatives of science, economics, and communications will present their work and their research as well as the testimony of common people from all over the world, and render visible the effects of climate change in the everyday life of various peoples and ecosystems.

During the day of Wednesday, 25 November, after a greeting from the authorities present, three economists will present: **Leena Srivastava, Executive Director of TERI** (The Energy and Resources Institute) will talk about the next agreement on climate change. **Janet Larsen, director of the research division of the Earth Policy Institute**, will hold a talk on "how to defend the climate and get out of an economic crisis." **Andrew Light**, Senior Fellow at the Center for American Progress will talk about climate and economics, and about new economic opportunities in the plans of the President of the United States **Barack Obama**. Closing the day's talks on Wednesday will be the discussion of Professor **Stefano Zamagni**, from the University of Bologna, who will speak about the relationship between economic crisis and environmental crisis.

On Thursday, 26 November, **Brian Fagan**, professor of anthropology at the University of California, will open the day with an interesting talk about what history teaches us about climate change. **Antonio Navarra**, Director of the Euro-Mediterranean Center for Climate Change, will immediately thereafter analyze the evidence for climate change in the Mediterranean. **Joell L. Russell**, professor at the University of Arizona, will then present his study on the melting of the glaciers in the Antarctic. Thursday afternoon and Friday morning will be reserved for testimony. In cooperation with the WWF, people whose socio-economic reality has been directly affected by climate change will recount their experiences.

Saturday, with the help of important experts, an overview of the health of the planet will be presented. The first talk about this theme will be that of **Erik Assadourian**, researcher at the

Worldwatch Institute, followed by **Riccardo Valentini**, professor at the Università della Tuscia, who will discuss the evidence of climate change in the agro-alimentary sector. Next will be **William Rees**, professor in British Columbia as well as originator, along with Mathis Wackernagel, of the concept of an “ecological footprint,” will give a talk on “carbon footprints” in relation to the problem as related to natural resources.

Saturday afternoon and Sunday the forum will proceed with other important direct testimony, as well as the proposals of the journalists of the Greenaccord network, proposals which are aimed at better and more efficient environmental communication and a more in-depth knowledge of the importance and urgency of adopting immediate measures to reduce and contain the effects of climate change.

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Greenaccord is a non-profit cultural association with Christian inspiration, founded to stimulate the engagement of people of any creed or religion with the topic of the safeguarding of nature. Greenaccord organizes national and international forums for information professionals, with the aim of soliciting a in-depth, lay examination through a continuing debate about the role and the responsibility of information professionals with regards to ecological topics.

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