



Global Environment Facility

GEF/C.19/3
April 16, 2002

GEF Council
May 15-17, 2002
Agenda Item 5 (b)

**PROPOSAL OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF UNEP
ON THE COMPOSITION OF STAP III**

Recommended Council Decision

The Council, having reviewed the *Proposal of the Executive Director of UNEP on the Composition of STAP III* (document GEF/C.19/3) approves the composition of STAP proposed by the Executive Director of UNEP on the basis of the recommendations put forward by the Search Committee. The Council fully supports the recommendation that Dr. Julia Carabia Lillo serve as Chair of STAP and Dr. Habiba Gitay serve as Vice Chair. The Council also approves the recommendations of the Search Committee regarding the process to be followed so as to achieve the goal of staggering the terms of STAP members.



NOTE ON THE RECONSTITUTION OF STAP FOR THE THIRD PHASE OF THE GEF

BACKGROUND

1. “*The Instrument of the Establishment of the Restructured Global Environment Facility (GEF)*” states that “UNEP shall establish, in consultation with UNDP and the World Bank and on the basis of guidelines and criteria established by the Council, the Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel (STAP) as an advisory body to the Facility”. The Instrument also states that “Council shall . . . approve and periodically review . . . the mandate, composition and role of STAP”.
2. “*The Terms of Reference of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel (STAP): Mandate, Composition and Role*” approved by the GEF Council in October 1995 states that “The Executive Director of UNEP, in consultation with UNDP, the World Bank and the GEF Secretariat, shall appoint the members of STAP and shall also designate a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson”. The tenure of the current STAP shall expire at the end of FY02 (June 2002) and as a consequence the new STAP’s term of office will commence at the beginning of FY03 (July 2002) for a period of four years.
3. The GEF Council at its meeting held in December 2001 had before it a progress report of the Executive Director of UNEP on the reconstitution of STAP for the third phase of the GEF (GEF/C.18/12). The Council expressed its appreciation to UNEP for the efforts that it has made in establishing a Search Committee to recommend candidatures to become members of STAP during its third term and for the progress achieved. In this regard, the Council agreed that the number of STAP members should be increased from twelve to fifteen to accommodate the new emerging areas being addressed by the GEF. The Council stated that “it looks forward to receiving UNEP’s recommendations as to the composition of STAP III for review and approval at the Council meeting in May 2002”. The present report is being submitted pursuant to the request of the Council.

SECTION I : PROCEDURE AND CRITERIA FOR RECONSTITUTION OF STAP

4. In accordance with the mandate entrusted to the Executive Director of UNEP in “*The Instrument for the Establishment of the Restructured Global Environment Facility*” and in consultation with the Chief Executive Officer/Chairman of the GEF and other Heads of Implementing Agencies, the Executive Director established in November 2000 A high-level Search Committee for the Reconstitution of STAP III. In establishing the Search Committee, the Executive Director emphasized that the reconstitution process should be guided by the need to learn from the lessons of the previous reconstitution, and that a minimum of continuity be ensured based on an objective evaluation of the performance of the current STAP Members. The importance of an equitable geographical

representation, gender balance of the new STAP and the principle of geographical rotation were highlighted as well the need to address the expertise.

5. In accordance with past practice, the Search Committee comprised the representatives of the GEF Secretariat and the Implementing Agencies. The Chairpersons of the Scientific and Technical Subsidiary Bodies of the Conventions for which the GEF serves as the financial mechanism, the International Council of Scientific Unions (ICSU) and the Third World Academy of Science (TWAS) are also closely involved in the work of the Search Committee.
6. The Search Committee convened its organizational meeting on 19 March 2001 in New York with the participation of the Executive Director of UNEP. The Second meeting was convened by teleconference on 26 June 2001. The third meeting was held on 17 September 2001 in Paris. The Chairs of the scientific subsidiary bodies of the GEF related conventions including POPs and the Convention to combat desertification as well as the Head of International Council for Science (ICSU) and the Third World Academy of Science (TWAS) were invited to attend the meeting. The fourth and final meeting of the Search Committee was held by teleconference on 22 January 2002.
7. In accordance with the guidelines contained in the *‘Terms of Reference of the STAP: Mandate, Composition and Role,’* a number of principles guided the work of the Search Committee.
 - (a) Recognized leadership in applied science or technology in the GEF focal areas of Biological Diversity, Climate Change, International Waters, and Ozone Depletion, as well as Land Degradation as it relates to the four focal areas and with an ability to address the economic, social and policy dimensions of science or technology;
 - (b) Geographical and gender balance;
 - (c) Experience in the management of science and with knowledge of issues in the implementation of complex international initiatives;
 - (d) An understanding of the organizational and operational setting of the Implementing Agencies, particularly in the context of programme and project development and implementation;
 - (e) Extent to which experts are involved with networks of their scientific and technical peers, including knowledge about the scientific processes required for the implementation of relevant conventions in developing countries and familiarity with relevant international assessments; and
 - (f) Continuity in the membership of STAP.

SECTION II: RECOMMENDED CANDIDATURES FOR STAP III

8. On 22 January 2002, the Search Committee completed its work and based on the 79 nominations received from the GEF secretariat, the Implementing Agencies, the secretariat and the chairs of the scientific subsidiary bodies of GEF related conventions recommended to the Executive Director the following 15 members of STAP for the third phase of the GEF :

BIODIVERSITY

Dr. Julia Carabias	-	Mexico
Dr. Christian Samper	-	Colombia
Prof. Brian Huntley	-	South Africa
Dr. Peter Schei	-	Norway

CLIMATE CHANGE

Prof. Dennis Anderson	-	U.K.
Prof. Peter Hennicke	-	Germany
Dr. Anjali Shanker	-	France
Dr. Saleemul Huq	-	Bangladesh

LAND DEGRADATION

Dr. Olanrewaju Smith	-	Nigeria
Dr. Habiba Gitay	-	Australia

INTERNATIONAL WATERS

Prof. Leonard Nurse	-	Barbados
Dr. Alexei Maximov	-	Russia

POPs

Dr. S. Tanabe	-	Japan
Dr. Xu Xiaobai	-	China

BIOSAFETY

Prof. Anne Papuscinski	-	U.S.A.
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9. The Search Committee also recommended Dr. Julia Carabias Lillo from Mexico as the Chair and Dr. Habiba Gitay from Australia as Vice Chair. The biographical notes of the recommended STAP for the third phase of the GEF are contained in the Annex of this report.

SECTION III: APPOINTMENT OF STAP MEMBERS FOR STAGGERED TERMS

10. At its first meeting held on 19 March 2001, the Search Committee decided to include on its agenda the issue of appointment of STAP members for staggered terms. The GEF Council, at its Meeting in December 2001 indicated that it looks forward to receiving UNEP's recommendations on the issue of appointing STAP Members to staggered terms for review and approval at its next meeting in May 2002.
11. At its fourth meeting, the Search Committee adopted the following recommendations on the appointment of STAP III members for staggered terms :
 - (i) The Chair and the Vice-Chair will be nominated for the duration of the third phase of the GEF;
 - (ii) All other STAP III members will be given an initial appointment of two years (1 July 2002 – 30 June, 2004);
 - (iii) The Search Committee will be reconvened in the second half of 2003 to review the evolving needs of the GEF from a scientific and technical viewpoint and to make recommendations on the composition of STAP for the remaining part of Phase III (1 July, 2004 – 30 June, 2006). After consultation with the CEO and the other Heads of Agencies, the Executive Director of UNEP will submit his recommendations for the Council review at its spring meeting of 2004.
 - (iv) In finalizing its recommendations on the operational modalities for the staggering of membership, the Search Committee will consider the feasibility of the proposal of establishing a system through which a third of the STAP members having served during three years will be replaced every year.
 - (v) Any member(s) who also served a full term on STAP II would not be recommended for the remaining term of STAP III;
12. In order to ensure continuity it must be noted that two STAP members from STAP II are recommended to continue serving in STAP III. In addition a three days GEF familiarization seminar to be organized jointly with the GEF Secretariat and the Implementing Agencies will be held in Washington, DC on 17-19 June 2002 for the recommended STAP III members. A joint meeting between the outgoing and incoming STAP will be also organized on 20 June 2002 in order to ensure a smooth hand over. A reward ceremony for the outgoing STAP member is also planned.

CONCLUSION

13. Consistent with the guidelines for STAP Reconstitution contained in "The Terms of Reference of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel (STAP): Mandate, Composition and Role" approved by the GEF Council in October 1995, the Executive Director of UNEP after consultation with the CEO/Chairman of the GEF, the President of the World Bank and Administrator of UNDP endorsed the recommendations made by the Search Committee for STAP Reconstitution for the third phase of the GEF.

ANNEX

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES OF STAP III

BIODIVERSITY

JULIA CARABIAS - CHAIRPERSON

Julia Carabias Lillo was born in 1954 in Mexico City, Mexico. She completed her undergraduate and graduate degrees in the Faculty of Sciences of the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM). In UNAM she developed scientific research in ecology and education from 1977 to 1994. The focus of her research in ecology has been in the areas of tropical forest regeneration, environmental restoration, natural resource management and conservation, and environmental policy making. She has published numerous scientific articles on these issues, in addition to co-authoring various books. She is currently a member of several consultative councils and forms part of the academic councils of various national and international organizations. In 1994, Ms. Carabias became President of the National Ecology Institute. In November of same year she was asked by the President of the Mexican Republic to form part of his cabinet as the Secretary of Fisheries. In December 1994, the Ministry of the Environment Natural Resources and Fisheries was created, of which Ms. Carabias served as titular till November of 2000. She is back at UNAM doing research on Natural Protected Areas and is responsible of the master programme of restoration ecology at UNAM.

BRIAN HUNTLEY

Brian Huntley was born in Durban, South Africa and studied at the universities of Natal and Pretoria. His research experience (1963-1990) includes studies in the sub-Antarctic (Prince Edward Islands), tropical savanna (South Africa, Angola) and Namib Desert (Namibia, Angola). From 1975 to 1990, he initiated and coordinated inter-disciplinary, multi-organizational ecosystem research programmes (fynbos, savanna, karoo, forest, grassland), the results of which are in a series of books. He has been responsible for the execution of several major environmental impact assessments. Since January 1990, he was appointed Chief Executive of the National Botanical Institute, based at Kirstenbosch, and to the Harold Pearson Chair in Botany, University of Cape Town. Professor Huntley has been Chairman of the South African National Committee for SCOPE (1988-97), Chairman of the South African Committee for Antarctic Research (1989-92), Chairman of the South African Committee for the IUCN (1992-96) and serves or has served as chairman of many other national bodies.

Professor Huntley has served / serves on the Executives of a diversity of international scientific and conservation committees, including IUCN-SSC, IUBS, SCOPE. He is the initiator and Steering Committee Chair of the Southern African Botanical Diversity Network (SABONET), the largest biodiversity capacity building project of its kind in Africa.

PETER SCHEI

Peter Schei has been holding the position of the International Negotiations Director at the Norwegian Directorate for Nature management since 1995. He has extensive experience in nature conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, the integration of biodiversity into national master and sector plans and in the planning of research programmes and integration of scientific knowledge into policymaking and management. He participated in major negotiations of the Convention of Biodiversity, Ramsar and CITES as head of delegation, and he was Chairman of SBSTTA in 1996-1997. He is member of the Executive Bureau for the Pan-European Biodiversity and Landscape Strategy. He obtained his degree in zoology from the University of Oslo in 1971.

CRISTIAN SAMPER

Cristian Samper was born in San Jose, Costa Rica in September 1965 and grew up in Colombia. Studied Biology at the Universidad de Los Andes in Bogota, and then went on to obtain his M.A. and PhD at Harvard University. He has done extensive fieldwork on the Andean cloud forest ecosystems, as well as the Andean Paramos and lowland forests of the Chocó region.

He served as Director of the Environment Division of the Foundation for Higher Education (FES) in Colombia, and was also an adjunct professor of biology at the Universidad del Valle. From this position he was actively involved in the establishment of a private reserve network, that now includes more than 200 reserves throughout Colombia, as well as designing and implementing an environmental education program (Caja Ecologica) that is now used in more than 10,000 schools. He was also involved in the process that resulted in the creation of the Ministry of the Environment of Colombia in 1993.

In 1995 he was appointed as the founder and first Director of the Alexander von Humboldt Institute, the national biodiversity research institute of Colombia. From this position he was in charge of coordinating the biodiversity inventory of Colombia, and also promoted research in areas of taxonomy and systematics, conservation biology, ethnobiology and environmental economics. At the same time he served as chief science advisor for biodiversity to the Ministry of the Environment and the Government of Colombia, and served on the boards of many environmental institutions. For his achievements in the area of conservation and contributions to Colombia he was awarded the National Medal of Environment, Colombia's highest honor in this field. In April 2001 he became the Deputy Director of the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, based in Panama, one of the leading tropical research institutions in the world.

He has also been an active player in linking science and policy, especially through the United Nations. He has served as head of the delegation of Colombia to the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity since 1995, and was also the Chairman of its Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) from 1999 to 2001. From this role he has been actively involved in the development of a global strategy for plant conservation. He is also the chairman of the Scientific Advisory Council of the World Conservation Monitoring Centre (WCMC) of the United Nations Environment Programme, and Vice-chair of the Species of the Species Survival Commission of IUCN, The World Conservation Union.

CLIMATE CHANGE

DENNIS ANDERSON

Dennis Anderson is Professor of Energy and Environmental Studies at Imperial College of Science, Technology and Medicine in London, where he directs the College's interdisciplinary research group on Energy Policy and Technology, and leads a large research programme on advanced energy technologies, policy studies, and energy for sustainable development. He is a former U.K. Economic and Social Research Council Fellow of Global Environmental Change Programme, a Visiting Professor of Environmental Economics of University College London, and Member of St Antony's College, Oxford University. He was also member of the team preparing the Special Report on Emissions Scenarios for the Third Assessment Report of the IPCC. He was the Senior Energy and Industry Adviser of the World Bank from 1992-96, and the Principal Economist on the 1992 World Development Report on Development and the Environment. From 1969 to 1986 he was a senior economist in charge of operational research assignments with operational experience in more than 30 developing countries. Before then he was an engineer in the UK energy industry. From 1987 - 1989 he was Chief Economist of

the Royal Dutch Shell Group, and from 1989-91 a visiting Professor at University College London and Visiting Scholar at Oxford University. He has published over 200 papers and reports for academic journals, government and industry, including 10 books and monographs in the areas of energy, ecological economics, economic growth and development. He is the co-editor of the Annual Review of Energy and the Environment (to 2002). He served on STAP II for four years.

ANJALI SHANKER

Anjali Shanker has fifteen years experience in the design, economic analysis, and implementation of projects in the power sector in Asia and Africa. After an initial professional experience as a banker - on capital markets and project finance, she has developed specific expertise in the design and implementation of decentralized electrification projects based on renewable energy, working on issues of market assessment, local industry development and financial viability. She also has applied her skills in the area of energy sector policy formulation, power sector planning, focusing on economic and financial evaluations. She has in recent times been particularly involved in issues regarding the financing and organizational structures of renewable energy projects, focussing on private sector participation. Anjali Shanker is also involved as an expert in various forums implying project and program evaluation (IEA, G8 Renewable energy Task Force, STAP/GEF conferences) as well as policy formulation for donor agencies (in particular the European Commission and European Parliament). She was a member of the G8 Task Force on the promotion of renewable energies in developing countries from October 2000 to March 2001. She holds an MBA from ESSEC, PARIS. Ecole Supérieure des Sciences Economiques et Commerciales and a (DEA) in Development Economics - from the National Center for Scientific Research (CNRS - CIRED), France

PETER HENNICKE

Peter Hennicke is an expert in climate protection and energy policy, in particular in energy scenarios, and economic instruments. In August 1994 he was appointed as Professor at the University of Wuppertal and the at the same time was granted an exemption leave of absence to fulfill his duties as Director of the Energy Department of the Wuppertal Institute. Prof. Dr. Peter Hennicke studied chemistry and economics from 1962 to 1979 at the University of Heidelberg, and obtained his PhD at the University of Bremen. He also has a Postdoctoral qualification in Economic Policy with a focus on Energy Policy from the University of Osnabrueck.

SALEEMUL HUQ

Dr Saleemul Huq was the founder Executive Director of the Bangladesh Centre for Advanced Studies, which is the major non-government research and policy institute working on environmental planner at national and environmental issues. As a leading environmental planner at national and international level, he has worked for numerous international agencies on global environmental issues. He has advised national government planners and international agencies on global environmental issues and on climate change programmes. He has considerable consulting experience on behalf of many donor agencies to review participatory environmental planning and climate change programmes. Currently he is the director of Climate change Programme at the International Institute for Environment and Development. He holds a PhD in Botany, Imperial College, London University, UK 1979.

LAND DEGRADATION

OLANREWAJU BABATUNDE SMITH

Olanrewaju (Ola) Babatunde Smith is a livestock production and health specialist. Dr Smith has about 30 years of experience and expertise working variously as a veterinary practitioner, a researcher and professor of animal production and health, a research manager, and an International Development expert. He is currently a Senior Program Specialist at the International Development Research Center (IDRC) where his responsibilities include the development, management and evaluation of research and development approaches. He is a Senior Scientific Advisor to the International Foundation for Science, and is the chairperson, advisory committee, for the development of a framework for action for the Humid and sub-humid zones of West and Central Africa under the auspices of the SPAAR donor group. He holds a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine from the University of Liege and a Doctor of Tropical Veterinary Medicine from the Institute of Tropical Medicine, both in Belgium. His graduate studies in Animal and Poultry Science were carried out the University of Guelph, in Ontario, Canada, where he obtained a Masters of Science, and a Doctor of Philosophy degrees.

HABIBA GITAY – VICE-CHAIR

Habiba Gitay is an ecologist (based in the Environmental Management and Development Program of the National Centre for Development Studies) at the Australian National University where her major responsibility is teaching graduate students, mostly from developing countries, in a course with emphasis on global change (ie. land cover and land use change, land degradation, loss of biological diversity, over-exploitation of resources, ozone depletion) and its impacts on ecosystems. She has worked in grasslands, wetlands and tropical and temperate forests in many parts of the world. Her research explores the effect of disturbances, such as fire and grazing, and more recently climate change, on grassland and forested ecosystems.

Over the last 8 years she has been an author in the assessments carried out by Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC); in particular jointly heading chapters on the impacts of climate change and the adaptation options in 1) “Deserts” (completed in 1995); 2) “Middle East and Arid Asia” (completed in 1998) and 3) “Ecosystems and their goods and services” (completed in 2001). She was also one of the members of the core writing team of the recently completed IPCC report: “Climate Change 2001: Synthesis Report” of the IPCC that has addressed specific questions from the Policy Makers with special emphasis on what is happening to the Earth’s climate how that affects the human needs (clean water, adequate food, clean air) and human health. She is jointly leading a Technical Paper of the IPCC on “Biodiversity and Climate Change”. She has been involved in other international activities with a major emphasis on global and climate change, e.g. as a steering committee member of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, as a senior adviser to the World Resources Institute Report 2000-2001 “People and Ecosystems: the fraying web of life” and co-leading the capacity building component of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment. Habiba Gitay holds a BSc in Environmental Biology and a Ph.D. from the University of Wales.

INTERNATIONAL WATERS

LEONARD ALFRED NURSE

Leonard Nurse has more than 15 years experience in coastal and marine research, including the design and implementation of major coastal zone management projects. He has directed the two largest integrated coastal management projects ever executed in the English –speaking Caribbean, namely ‘The Coastal Conservation and Pre-Investment Study for the west and south Coast of Barbados ‘ (1991-95) and ‘The study of the North, East and South –East Coasts of Barbados’ (1996-99). He has also worked with many regional Governments, consulting firms, development agencies and institutions on wide range of coastal zone management issues. He is also presently a part-time Lecturer (Coastal Ecology and Management) in the Natural Resource Management Program, University of the West Indies, Cave Hill campus. Leonard Nurse was appointed Permanent Secretary to the Ministry of Physical Development and the Environment of Barbados in October 2001.

Leonard Nurse’s recent professional interests focus on the impact of human activity on coastal processes, and the effect of climate change on the coastal ecology of small island states. He is also the Vice-Chair of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission Sub-Commission for the Caribbean (IOCARIBE). He has served as Lead Author for the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) for the Second Assessment report, published by the Cambridge University Press in 1996,1998 and 2001, respectively. He holds a PhD. Coastal Geomorphology/Coastal Resources Management, McGill University, Montreal Canada, 1986.

ALEXEI A. MAXIMOV

Alexei A. Maximov has 30 years of experience in water economy and environmental protection at various levels, which is actively used through his involvement in preparation of technical backgrounds for appropriate strategic governmental decisions and in realizing national and regional purpose-oriented sustainable development programmes. As an authority in those fields, in the conditions of economies under transition, he had an important influence in the introduction of the concept of national ecological safety. During a number of years was a regional Coordinator in implementing the WMO international programme on monitoring of the environment in the Caspian Sea region (CASPAS). As a Scientific Secretary of the Russian National Committee for the UNESCO Programme in hydrology (IHP) he made a substantial contribution to the III and IV IHP phases (1986-1995). In recent years he has been at the head of the Department of science and international cooperation in the Federal Service of Russia for hydrometeorology and monitoring of environment. He obtained the degree of water engineer from Moscow Engineering Institute and the degree of economist from the Academy of International Economy in Moscow.

POPs

SHINSUKE TANABE

Dr. Shinsuke Tanabe is a Professor of Environmental Chemistry and Ecotoxicology at the center for Marine Environmental Studies (CMES), Ehime University. He received his first degree from Ehime University and his Ph.D. from Nagoya University in 1985. The emphasis of his research has been the global environmental monitoring of POPs and their biological accumulation and toxic effects in marine ecosystems, particularly in mammals and birds. His research group has developed new analytical methodologies for PCBs, dioxins, organochlorine pesticides, organotins and heavy metals, and made clear their environmental behavior/fate, temporal and spatial contamination in marine ecosystems, and

mechanisms of toxic action in wildlife and humans. He has authored and co-authored over 200 research papers in peer reviewed international journals.

He was the recipient of the Okada prize from the Oceanographical Society of Japan in 1985, Nissan Science Prize from the Nissan Science Foundation in 1999, Citation Classic Awards in Japan from ISI Thomson Scientific in 2000, and World Scientists Forum International Awards-Science and Medicine “Eminent Scientist of the Year 2002” from International Research Promotion Council (Asia-Pacific Chapter) in 2002. Dr. Tanabe is currently the editorial board member of the journal “Marine Pollution Bulletin” and “Marine Environmental Research”. He is a member of the International Mussel Watch Committee and its Scientific Director in Asia-Pacific Phase.

XU XIAOBAI

Xu Xiao-bai has extensive expertise in environmental chemistry, in particular in the isolation and identification of environmental carcinogens, endocrine disruptors, risk assessment and in the study of the fate of toxic chemical substances in the environment, especially POPs. She has led major projects in the field of environmental behavior and ecological effects of typical chemical pollutants like PAHs, nitro-PAHs, PCBs PCDD/Fs, etc. She was also involved in energy-related environmental studies and in the issue of the incineration of solid waste. She published 3 monographs and more than 200 papers in the the above fields. She has been a research professor since 1982, a visiting scientist at UC Berkeley, UC/SF, and a visiting professor Member, CAS since November 1995. Xu Xiaobai is a member of the National Committee of Environmental Monitoring; a Persistent Organic Pollutants member of SGOMSEC (Scientific Group of Methods of Safety Evaluation of Chemicals), Board Member, Advisory Committee of SCOPE, CHINA; Board Member of the Chinese Chemistry Society; Chair, Committee of Environmental Chemistry, Chinese Chemistry Society. She is also the editor of several important journals

BIOSAFETY

ANNE R. KAPUSCINSKI

Anne R. Kapuscinski, Ph.D., is a Professor of Fisheries and of Conservation Biology, the founding Director of the Institute for Social, Economic and Ecological Sustainability (ISEES) and an Extension Specialist in Biotechnology and Aquaculture at the University of Minnesota. She is an international authority on biosafety policies and science, ecological effects of genetically engineered organisms, and genetically engineered fish and other marine organisms. She has served on federal biotechnology advisory committees under three administrations since 1992. In 2001, she received a Pew Marine Conservation Fellowship, the world's preeminent marine conservation award, in recognition of her past leadership and to support her work with industry, government and public interest groups to improve the safety governance of biotechnology.

Kapuscinski presently serves on the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture’s Advisory Committee on Agricultural Biotechnology (ACAB) and a National Academy of Science committee on conservation of Atlantic salmon. In 1997, the Secretary of Agriculture awarded Dr. Kapuscinski the Department of Agriculture’s highest individual honor (USDA’s Honor Award for Environmental Protection) for promoting sound public policies on biotechnology in aquaculture and on conservation of genetic diversity in fish. Under Kapuscinski’s guidance, the Institute for Social, Economic and Ecological Sustainability is working with leaders in the business, consumer, public interest, foundation, and academic communities to develop and implement a “Safety First” approach to governing genetically modified organisms for environment and human health worldwide Dr. Kapuscinski also runs a research lab that investigates the effects of fisheries

and aquaculture on genetic diversity of wild fish populations and the development of sustainable aquaculture.

Dr. Kapuscinski has a B.A. in Biology from Swarthmore College. She received M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Fisheries (minor in Water Resources) from Oregon State University.