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Helge Ole Bergesen and George Parmann, eds. GREEN GLOBE YEARBOOK 1993 : AN INDEPENDENT PUBLICATION ON ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1993. 271 pp. US\$49,95 cloth ISBN: 0-19-823323-X . Part (75%) recycled paper.

I have waited with a rare sense of anticipation for the publication of this second Yearbook from the Fridtjof Nansen Institute. My anticipation has not been misplaced. The previous edition's fairly equal division of essays and reference material has been continued here, giving the work considerable added value over the more usual collections of essays on the environment.

In the first section, readers are offered articles by a distinguished and experienced group of authors. The areas covered are: the role of NGOs at the 1992 Rio Summit, forestry and biodiversity, international business and sustainable development, GATT, the World Bank, and the attempts to solve pollution problems in the North Sea through international cooperation.

These topics have been chosen to further the Yearbook's objective of demonstrating: "(1) how far the international community has come in solving environmental and development problems, (2) what the main obstacles are to effective international solutions, and (3) what needs to be done to overcome these hindrances" (13). Like sustainability itself, the achievement of these objectives is a long-term project to which the authors make a useful contribution.

Good as the essays are (and they are very informative), what makes the Yearbook really stand out is the reference section. The first part of the reference section systematically details 42 international agreements on the environment and development. Agreements on biodiversity, atmosphere, marine environment, hazardous substances and nuclear safety are included. The specifics on each agreement include: objectives, scope, time and place of adoption, entry into force, number of parties, any affiliated protocols, annexes and organizations, any secretariat, rules and standards, monitoring/implementation, decision-making, and publications. The participation of individual states in each agreement is summarized in a separate table.

The second and third parts of the reference section give similar treatment to 18 major inter-governmental organizations and 24 NGOs. The details offered for each of these include: objectives, organization, secretariat, activities, decision-making bodies, finance, and publications. As before, national participation in each of these organizations is summarized in tabular form.

The reference section offers unparalleled easy access to the world of treaties, coordinating bodies, and international pressure groups. For individuals who are (or think they may be) interested in a particular treaty or organization, this book (and its sister volumes) offers a splendid starting point. It will be of value to decision-makers in the public, private and voluntary sectors, as well as to educators, researchers and students. However, being available only in hardback, its price is likely to mean that it will be bought by institutions rather than individuals. For this reason, I would suggest strongly that librarians place a standing

order to receive each volume as it appears. Those with an interest in the environment and development will especially benefit from this essential reference resource.