

bd_report



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THE BERNE DECLARATION JUNE_2009



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Berne Declaration, Coni Hörler

Marion Nitsch, Marion Nitsch, Ursula Meisser

 **BD**
Berne Declaration
Déclaration de Berne
Erklärung von Bern



Forty Years and Still Going Strong

BERNHARD HEROLD, PRESIDENT

The financial crisis that erupted in 2008 as a result of catastrophic neo-liberal policies fostering greed, speculation and growing inequalities will have a devastating effect on the world economy in the next years. Once again it will be the poorest who will pay the highest price. Many are loosing their homes, jobs and pension funds – if they have any. Millions more will go hungry and will be forced into migration. At the same time there is a high risk that the governments of rich countries will concentrate more and more on their own problems. Government development aid will come under pressure. Reaching the Millennium Development Goals by 2015 has become an illusion.

Even so we must not lose sight of what we have achieved in the last year: In its fortieth year the Berne Declaration (BD) has surpassed the number of 21,000 members. This is a great success for an NGO that concentrates on something as unspectacular as advocacy and lobbying for fair relations between the global South and North but does so in often spectacular ways. We have to work hard to make ourselves heard but we often succeed, as you can read on the following pages of this report.

There is one positive side to this whole financial turmoil: some governments are beginning to re-discover their responsibilities towards their citizens and the active role they must play in the economy. And they are definitely losing their patience with tax havens, which in the past have helped their wealthy citizens hide their money to avoid paying desperately needed taxes. Thus 2009 possibly marks the beginning of the end of the Swiss banking secrecy, against which the Berne Declaration has been fighting for the last forty years.

Bernhard Herold
President of the Berne Declaration

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There Is a Revolution Going On

“Revolution in the fashion industry!” That was last year’s slogan for the Clean Clothes Campaign (CCC) and while the industry has not yet completely changed direction, the campaign has certainly helped to stir things up.

BY CHRISTA LUGINBÜHL_PROGRAM COORDINATOR FOR “CLEAN CLOTHES CAMPAIGN”

Sustainably and fairly produced fashion is possible today. With the production of its “Saski-Rekha-T-Shirt”, made from organic cotton and meeting exemplary production criteria, CCC last year demonstrated not only how it’s done but that there is a demand for fair fashions: in the space of a few weeks the 3000 T-shirts priced at just 26 francs were sold out and the “Revolution in the fashion industry”-campaign was underway. Even the DVD documenting the making of the campaign T-shirt was ordered more than a 1000 times so far and shown at various public screenings.

Industry Survey 2008: Fair Fashion in Switzerland?

A comprehensive study involving 23 Swiss fashion companies revealed that most fashion businesses in this country are no paragons of corporate responsibility. The results of the BD’s latest industry survey was published in the publication “Fair Fashion? A Comparative Look at Swiss Fashion Companies”. The study was internationally coordinated, also, and additional European company profiles are available online at www.fashion-check.ch. Moreover, a petition calling on Swiss fashion companies to show more responsibility was signed by 21,057 consumers, even though it was launched with little publicity. The fact that companies such as Mammüt, Odlo, and Blackout recently joined the Fair Wear Foundation, a verification service for fair labor practices, shows that this kind of pressure is having an effect.



Building up pressure: MORE THAN 21,000 PEOPLE signed the petition for fairly produced textiles.

The BD also used the results of the fashion survey to produce a pocket shopping guide and evaluate the behavior of Swiss fashion companies. With over 80,000 copies distributed so far the credit-card-size pocket shopping guide has been a great success and impressive proof of a great interest among consumers for more information about the conditions under which a product is made.

Other Areas of CCC Activity

Urgent Appeals: in August 2008 Jitra Kotshadej, the union representative at a Thai subsidiary of the Swiss corporation Triumph International was fired for spurious reasons. Over 2,000 factory workers responded to her dismissal with a solidarity strike and an alert was sent throughout the CCC network. For local unions the CCC network is frequently something of supporter of last resort when things go wrong locally. In many cases the network has been able to generate international pressure leading to an intervention. The case of Jitra Kotshadej is still in the balance and continues to occupy the CCC in 2009.

Mandating social criteria by means of the law: every year the confederation, the cantons and communes de-

vote approximately one quarter of their budgets to public procurement. A sizeable portion of the goods they buy are textiles such as work clothes for hospital employees. Rules for public procurement including social criteria like human rights and labor rights are thus particularly effective. The CCC has been active in a coalition of NGOs to draft a response to the government’s proposal for a complete revision of the federal procurement law.

Change at CCC-Coordination Switzerland

After eight years as CCC-coordinator, Stefan Indermühle was ready for a new challenge. He is now working for a local peace NGO in Bogotá. He was succeeded by Christa Luginbühl in July 2008.

OUTLOOK

In their publicity, outdoor companies like to present themselves as environmentally conscious producers and fair-minded social employers. But: How fair are their working conditions really and how much true commitment is behind their advertising? In 2009, CCC Switzerland will keep a sharp eye on outdoor companies.

PUBLIC EYE AWARDS 2008

More “Stress” Than Ever for the Corporate World

Thanks to brilliant keynote speakers and worthy laureates the ninth Public Eye on Davos more than held its own against the World Economic Forum. Some of the pilloried companies responded and made actual concessions.

BY OLIVER CLASSEN, MEDIA SPOKESMAN AND COORDINATOR "PUBLIC EYE"

Three months after the awards ceremony of January 2008 the Public Eye Awards had their hitherto greatest effect: after countless pretexts and excuses the commodities multinational Glencore came around and finally accepted its “Swiss Award” and vowed to change its ways at its Colombian coal mines. And indeed, a collective labor agreement was signed there in December that grants significant improvements to mineworkers and local communities alike. No doubt this success owes much to the media resonance generated by actress Melanie Winiger, newly-elected National Assembly member Bastien Girod and Rapper Stress whose provocative and committed stage presence put even

more pressure on the “prize-winning companies” to make amends than the award ceremonies of previous years.

Even cement giant Holcim, “merely” ranked third on the shortlist for one of the shaming awards, supplied us with all kinds of documents right after the publication of the winners. Less constructive by contrast were the lines signed by Anne Lauvergeon, CEO of the French nuclear company Areva – winner of both the Global and the People’s Award. In a statement dripping with irony the CEO declared herself “truly honored” by the awards for the scandalous conditions at its uranium mine in Niger. The winner of the newly created audience award was chosen online on the campaign home page www.publiceye.ch. With over half of all the 13,000 votes, Areva’s “victory” was never in doubt.

NGOs from all over the world had nominated some forty foreign and domestic companies for the awards. Along with three cacti – negative awards – the BD and Pro Natura, the Swiss affiliate of Friends of the Earth, also awarded a rose. Presented for the

second time, this positive award went to Hess Natur, the German eco textile mail-order company, for their commendable bio cotton project in Burkina Faso.

In his keynote address, Bastien Girod from the Green Party presented innovative ideas for the promotion of consumer awareness by the state. What was needed in addition to increased product transparency, he said, were specific subsidies for fair trade goods, i.e. import goods from developing countries. “To offset the negative effects of globalization certified fair trade products should be temporarily freed from the value added tax”, Girod proposed.

Attac co-founder Susan George, the second keynote speaker, focused her criticism on the World Economic Forum, calling its conference tag line – The Power of Collaborative Innovation – “simply laughable” in view of the (then already unfolding) financial crisis. “The large investment banks, many of them strategic partners of WEF, are responsible for this disastrous course of events brought about by their speculating. The only viable antidote is comprehensive government regulation introduced right away.” Today even the staunchest advocates of deregulation have to admit that the grand old lady of globalization criticism was right on the money very early in the game.

Her appearance at the Public Eye CAUGHT THE MEDIAS ATTENTION: actress Melanie Winiger.



Ursula Meisser

OUTLOOK

MC Anatole Taubmann adds a touch of Hollywood to the anniversary edition of Public Eye 2009 and Greenpeace takes the place of partner Pro Natura. Keynote addresses with a political message will be delivered by former German government minister Heiner Geissler and Susanne Leutenegger Oberholzer, a social-democratic member of Swiss parliament.

INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL RELATIONS

Temporary Success for Opponents to Ilisu Dam Project in Turkey

Years of determined effort for a stricter application of social and environmental standards for major dam projects seeking export insurance have paid off. On December 23, 2008, the Swiss export risk insurance (SERV) announced that it was suspending all credits and guarantees to the controversial Ilisu Dam project for a period of six months because Turkey failed to meet World Bank conditions for the protection of 60,000 people (faced with relocation), a unique biosphere, and the ancient cultural heritage sites impacted by the project.



Christine Eberlein

Protests on the Tigris

The BD supported many activities of the affected population in the Tigris Valley. In March 2008, representatives delivered the ambassadors of Switzerland, Germany, and Austria with 1,500 asylum requests from residents seeking to emigrate if their homeland was flooded as a result of the dam building. In May, the Turkish pop star Tarkan spoke out for the preservation of the cultural heritage sites in the Tigris Valley. In a show of loyalty and support, several hundred people joined a convoy from Istanbul to Hasankeyf in August and 5,000 people attended the Ilisu conference. A growing number of personalities publicly expressed their displeasure with the project, among them various well known Turkish actors and TV-stars.

Protesting AGAINST THE ILISU DAM PROJECT in November.

BY CHRISTINE EBERLEIN, PROGRAM COORDINATOR FOR "INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL RELATIONS"

Even though the dam project is not yet completely off the table, the Ilisu campaign generated enough pressure to force – for the first time ever – the suspension of an already approved project.

In 2008, the Berne Declaration regularly informed the press and the export insurers in Switzerland that project standards were not being met. At a June meeting with representatives from the Swiss, German, and Austrian export risk insurers and other international experts, the BD was able to voice its criticism directly. In October, after ignoring even the most high-level warnings, the Turkish government was given an official ultimatum by the three export insurers. They were ordered not to start construction and provide evidence within sixty days for measures to relocate the affected population and protect the environment and cultural heritage. In December, the BD received pictures from the construction site near the village of Ilisu which showed that work on the dam had already begun. That did it – all export risk guarantees were suspended.

New Call for Tenders for Yusufeli Dam Project

Because Turkey also failed to meet the agreed conditions for the Yusufeli Dam project, the French export risk insurance refused to provide coverage for French construction firms, terminating all orders for the Swiss subsidiary of Alstom in the process. Starting in December, the agency charged with building the dam invited new construction bids and is threatening to forcibly resettle 30,000 residents of Yusufeli Valley to make the area more attractive to investors. The BD supports the Yusufeli campaign and briefs the local population about its rights.

OUTLOOK 2009

The BD will continue to monitor the situation at the Ilisu Dam site and will keep the public informed. Also, the BD will increasingly focus on climate change and examine the World Bank's new climate fund.

PRIVATE FINANCE PROGRAM

Success in Turbulent Times

2008 was a wild year in finance and Switzerland with its banking center found itself shaken pretty thoroughly, as well. With its twin focus on “large banks” and the Swiss financial center’s “aiding and abetting tax evasion” the private finance program of the BD was right on target. Ours was one of a very small chorus of voices that criticized the manner in which UBS was bailed out and pointed out the potential costs for the country’s population.

BY ANDREAS MISSBACH_
COORDINATOR OF THE PRIVATE FINANCE PROGRAM

Turbulences notwithstanding we worked like we always do, i.e. we tracked cases of controversial financing by Swiss banks and built up pressure to end them. In one case we were successful. Early in the year we heard from partner organizations in Indonesia that a delegation of bankers, including some from Switzerland, with an apparent interest in mining projects were visiting the North Sulawesi province. The potential investment object

was easily identified; it was the Toka Tindung gold mine project opposed by the local population. We contacted Credit Suisse and told them about the popular resistance against a mine that would destroy the local population’s livelihood – fishing and ecotourism – and warned the bank not to get involved.

Yet at the end of June 2008, Archipelago Resources, the project’s operating company, announced that Credit Suisse had agreed to lend the project 48 million dollars. The bank on the other hand told the BD that contrary to the announcement of Archipelago Resources it had not yet signed a formal agreement. The BD responded by generating publicity for the project on its own website and Swiss media reported about the controversial plans. With the help of the BD the people directly affected by the project turned to Credit Suisse once more and urged the bank not to lend money. In early November, Credit Suisse announced that talks about its possible participation in the financing of Toka Tindung had been ended by mutual agreement.

With Credit Suisse out of the picture the odds have increased that the mine might never begin operating. Archipelago Resources announced it would seek alternative sources of financing but in the current financial crisis it might be difficult to raise money for a high risk project that was dropped by a major international bank. And so the Berne Declaration helped the people who live near the gold mine construction site achieve an important partial victory.

Stop Tax Evasion: Almost There

“Will Switzerland wait once more until it is pressured from without?” the BD asked in January 2002. In order to stop tax evasion we demanded that tax evasion be made punishable. Since the beginning of 2008 pressure has been building so much that a breakthrough seems possible within the year and Switzerland would begin to cooperate with other countries in matters of tax evasion, too. We increased the pressure from the inside by showing that aiding tax evasion prevents development. According to our calculations, developing countries lose annually between 5.4 and 22 billion Swiss Francs to tax evasion in Switzerland. In any case, the amount of tax revenue lost by these countries dwarfs the annual 1.26 billion Swiss Francs in Swiss development aid.

Heading for hard times: the pressure on tax havens like Switzerland WILL CONTINUE TO INCREASE IN 2009.



Attac Germany/Planungsbüro Stadtblind

OUTLOOK: BANKS AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Despite some successes here and there we have not yet reached our goal – transparent and comprehensive human rights standards for all business sectors of major Swiss banks. In 2009, we will continue to look for shady business dealings to increase the pressure on the banks.

AGRICULTURE, BIODIVERSITY AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Of Biopirates and Syngenta's Corporate Responsibility



The BD has been taking up cases of biopiracy for many years to show how corporations and universities from the North are illegally enriching themselves with genetic resources from the South. And for many years we have been criticizing the agri-corporation Syngenta for its inhuman business practices. Both campaigns were alive and well and successful in 2008.

BY FRANÇOIS MEIENBERG, PROGRAM COORDINATOR FOR
"AGRICULTURE, BIODIVERSITY AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY"

In 2008, together with the African Center for Biosafety (ACB) we filed several appeals to the European Patent Office in Munich against patents held by Dr. Willmar Schwabe Pharmaceuticals. This German company holds most patents for medicinal uses of the Cape pelargonium. From this species of geranium, Schwabe developed Umckaloabo, its eminently successful bronchitis medicine. This medicine is based on the traditional knowledge of indigenous South African communities and is in contravention of the provisions of the convention on biodiversity.

To end biopiracy, a more effective international agreement is needed. Negotiations are currently underway within the framework of the Convention on Biodiversity. The BD is a front line participant in these negotiations.

The BD is also actively lobbying for a case that involves the patenting of plants and animals from conventional breeding. The case is to set a precedent that will settle this question conclusively. In a joint effort with the "No Patents No

Seeds" network, the BD is trying to prevent the further patenting of plants and animals.

Syngenta's Corporate Responsibility

The BD has criticized Syngenta for many years for selling paraquat, a highly poisonous pesticide which may no longer be used in Europe. With an event at the Syngenta general assembly 2008 we drew attention to the contradictions of the Swiss multinational. Syngenta keeps insisting that paraquat poses no risk to users if used correctly. But are pesticides used correctly? In 2008, Syngenta actually published a study of its own, only to find that in countries like Bangladesh or the Philippines not even 10 per cent of users wear a minimum of protective clothing. Still, Syngenta keeps on selling the highly toxic paraquat.

In its corporate social responsibility report meanwhile, Syngenta tries to sell itself as a perfectly responsible company. The BD subjected the 2008 report to a detailed analysis. Sobered, we wrote in the report "Wild Contradictions between Appearance and Reality" that sources of information are almost completely missing, the bases of estimates are not given, and methods of computation are repurposed to the Syngenta's advantage. Moreover, Syngenta does not mention concrete, quantifiable objectives and time periods by means of which the company's responsibility could be measured and improved.

Agrofuel – No Thanks

The BD was asked several times to comment on the food crisis and each time we pointed out the role played by the exploding production of agrofuels. In our documentation "To the Last Drop – How Agrofuels Are Exacerbating the Fight for Resources" we showed that it is irresponsible to use fertile soil and water for the cultivation of fuel instead of food. A majority of the Swiss parliament shared this view in a parliamentary initiative that demands a moratorium on the import of biofuels.

**Speaking out
against biopiracy: In
2008, the BD (here:
François Meienberg)
FILED AN APPEAL
AGAINST PATENTS
ON PELARGONIUM.**



Marion Nitsch

CONSUMER CAMPAIGNS

Social Responsibility in the Shopping Cart

Child labor, salaries below subsistence level, and inhuman working conditions: these are some of the annoying news items from the consumer world that keep making headlines. What we want are goods produced under socially and environmentally sustainable conditions. The Berne Declaration has been working towards this goal for many years.

BY ANDREA HÜSSER_
CONSUMER AFFAIRS

In August 2008, the Berne Declaration created a new division to coordinate its consumer campaigns. We disseminate

information to raise consumer awareness and turn the Swiss population into more discriminating consumers. Under pressure from consumers, so the BD hopes, corporations will start behaving more responsibly. And we expect politicians to draw up fair rules.

The Sweet Temptation

The subject of our first new campaign is chocolate, the sweet temptation that most Swiss find hard to resist. There exists, however, a surprisingly worrisome connection between chocolate and child labor in Côte d'Ivoire – the world's leading exporter of cocoa. Young boys and girls are sold to plan-

tations as slave laborers and forced to harvest cocoa under inhuman conditions. Most chocolate producers cannot prove that no child labor was used in the production of their chocolate. By means of postcard actions, media reports, direct dialogue and online actions the BD consumer campaigns call attention to these shortcomings and influence consumer decisions. By means of pressure from consumers chocolate companies are urged to adopt sustainable purchasing practices. The campaign was launched on February 19, 2009, at the NATURE Fair in Basel and will run until the middle of May 2009.

TRADE POLICY: INCREASED FOCUS ON HUMAN RIGHTS

Bilateral Instead of Multilateral

The WTO negotiations for a successful conclusion of the Doha Round failed again last year, mainly because of the unwillingness of industrialized countries to accommodate the demands of developing countries. Industrialized countries are therefore increasingly focusing their liberalization efforts on bilateral agreements.

BY THOMAS BRAUNSCHWEIG_
PROGRAM COORDINATOR FOR "TRADE POLITICS"

Switzerland is particularly active in this respect and is currently negotiating an agreement with India under the aegis of EFTA. The BD called attention to the economically different structures in bilateral agreements between industrialized and developing countries. In par-

ticular, the BD criticized the demand for lower tariffs, the Swiss demands for a further deregulation of the financial sector and for stronger patent protections that would prevent Indian farmers from freely exchanging their seed.

Even before Federal Councillor Doris Leuthard travelled to India in April to promote the free trade agreement, The BD coordinated the resistance against the agreement with like-minded Indian NGOs. In October, these representatives visited Switzerland and presented their objections to the planned agreement to the Swiss negotiating team. Together, the BD and its allies drew up a list of demands and increased the pressure on the Swiss government, to consider these minimal demands in the current negotiations.

Passing the Baton

After more than ten years as head of Trade Policy, Marianne Hochuli left the BD at the end of May. After a short interval, Thomas Braunschweig was hired to fill her position.

Looking Ahead

The Berne Declaration will continue to monitor and criticize free trade agreements between Switzerland and developing countries. We want to make sure that the respect for human rights is not sacrificed to multilateral deregulations of the market place.

HEALTH

From the Patents Debate to the Research Debate

The Berne Declaration advocates a policy of pharmaceutical research and development (R&D) oriented towards the needs of public health and not just the market. A comprehensive summary of the actual problems of pharmaceutical R&D and an analysis of possible ways to solve the problem of neglected diseases in the South can be found in a thematic brochure from 2008. The BD appeals to Switzerland to respect its commitments related to the action plan adopted in May 2008 by the World Health Organization (WHO).

BY PATRICK DURISCH_
COORDINATOR HEALTH PROGRAM

The pharmaceutical industry, dominated by multinational corporations in the North, justifies the existence of patents with the necessity to cover the cost of research for new medicines. However, nearly 60 per cent of worldwide R&D expenditures in health matters are borne by the public sector if public subsidies and other fiscal incentives for private industry are taken into account. Originally, the system of patents was supposed to stimulate innovation and the development of new products. However, it now rather induces pharmaceutical giants to defend their achievements to the detriment of the most basic needs of public health in developing countries.

Today, the problem of R&D for neglected diseases is at least recognized as such, but a solution to its long term financing is still lacking. In May 2008, as a result of a process that had lasted many years and in which NGOs such as the BD had played a vital role, the World Health Organization (WHO) adopted a strategy and an

international plan of action for pharmaceutical research oriented towards the needs of public health and no longer just to the market. The challenge lies foremost in disassociating R&D financing from the price of medicines so that these are available at affordable prices, in the North and the South.

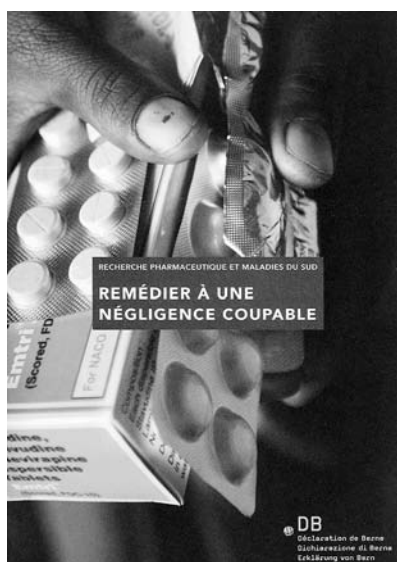
Flexibilities of WTO Agreements in Peril

The BD closely follows the negotiations on bilateral or multinational free trade agreements where Switzerland has adopted a tough position to strengthen intellectual property rights for its multinational firms. These initiatives are aimed at preventing countries in the South from utilizing the flexibilities provided in the WTO agreements such as the possibility to import or produce generic versions of patented medicines without the patent holder's consent. Early in 2008, the BD harshly denounced diplomatic pressures exerted by Switzerland on Thailand to review its decision to grant such compulsory licenses on anti-cancer medicines by Roche and Novartis. The local production of generic versions of these medicines at affordable prices would have permitted the treatment of underprivileged Thai patients. Supported by other NGOs, the BD sent a letter of protest to the Swiss government. Members of parliament were also informed of this unacceptable intervention by the Swiss government.

Switzerland Must Respect Its Commitments

The BD demands Switzerland to strengthen its support for R&D mechanisms with regards to diseases in developing countries and implement the commitments stemming from the action plan of the WHO. It also demands that the right of countries in the South to fully utilize the flexibilities of WTO agreements be respected. No further intellectual property constraints are to be imposed on these countries.

Pharmaceutical research and diseases in the South. Culpable negligence needs to be cured. Berne Declaration, September 2008, available in French and German (see WWW.LABD.CH/SANTE).



BALANCE SHEET

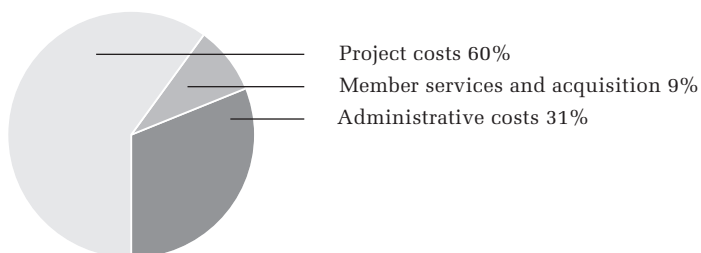
ERKLÄRUNG VON BERN

DÉCLARATION DE BERNE

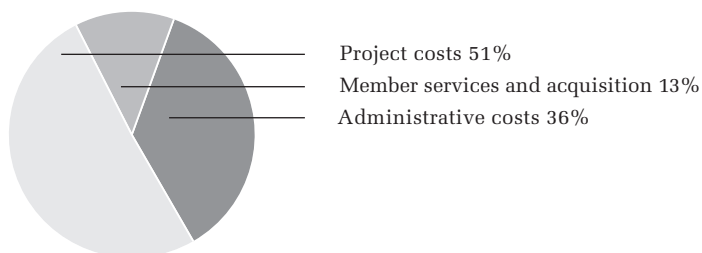
	31.12.2008	31.12.2007	Change		31.12.2008	31.12.2007	Change
	CHF	CHF	%		CHF	CHF	%
Assets							
Current assets							
Liquid assets	1 022 469	950 422	8 %		95 388	78 630	21 %
Accounts receivable	17 558	22 259	- 21 %	¹	4 870	208	2239 %
Inventory	23 893	8 330	187 %		-	-	41 %
Accrued income and prepaid expenses	¹ 56 103	14 899	277 %		21 189	62 224	- 66 %
Total current assets	1 120 023	995 910	12 %		121 447	141 063	- 14 %
Capital assets							
Financial assets	² 50 106	27 905	80 %	²	17 500	25 500	- 31 %
Fixed assets	³ 170 357	186 727	- 9 %		1 359	2 561	- 47 %
Total Capital assets	220 463	214 632	3 %		18 859	28 061	- 33 %
Total Assets	1 340 486	1 210 542	11 %		140 306	169 124	- 17 %
Liabilities							
Outside capital							
Accounts payable	⁴ 32 647	51 615	- 37%		99 479	116 388	- 15 %
Accrued expenses and deferred income	⁴ 123 001	197 807	- 38%		15 167	62 149	- 76 %
Accrued liabilities	⁵ 10 000	10 000	-		-	-	-
Total Outside capital	165 648	259 422	- 36%		114 646	178 538	- 36 %
Fund capital							
Earmarked funds	⁶ 385 000	275 000	40 %		0	0	0 %
Total Fund capital	385 000	275 000	40 %		0	0	
Organizational capital							
Reserves	-	-	-	³	25 000	2 000	1 150 %
Organizational capital	⁷ 676 120	660 486	2 %		- 11 414	- 6 939	64 %
Surplus	113 718	15 634	627 %		12 074	- 4 475	370 %
Total Organizational capital	789 838	676 120	17 %		25 660	- 9 414	373 %
Total Liabilities	1 340 486	1 210 542	11 %		140 306	169 124	- 17 %

EXPENSES BREAKDOWN 2008

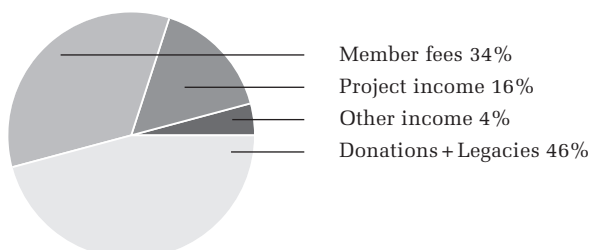
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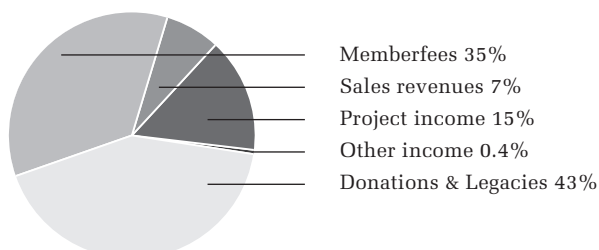
DÉCLARATION DE BERNE

**INCOME BREAKDOWN 2008**

ERKLÄRUNG VON BERN



DÉCLARATION DE BERNE



ACCOUNTS

	ERKLÄRUNG VON BERN			DÉCLARATION DE BERNE		
	31.12.2008	31.12.2007	Change	31.12.2008	31.12.2007	Change
	CHF	CHF		CHF	CHF	
Income						
Donations	1 127 395	1 023 590	10 %	296 380	272 693	9 %
Legacies	⁸ 138 483		100 %	5 000	–	100 %
Membership fees	911 112	838 992	9 %	248 410	242 817	2 %
Member fees Literature Club	⁹	110 160	– 100 %	⁵ 51 177	5 241	877 %
Other project income	¹⁰ 443 855	366 719	21 %	⁴ 107 359	53 423	101 %
Other income	¹¹ 108 434	68 834	58 %	2 855	27 157	– 89 %
Total Income	2 729 279	2 408 295	13 %	711 181	601 331	18 %
Cost						
Project costs						
Personnel costs	¹² – 835 615	– 662 711	26 %	– 234 182	– 222 368	5 %
Other project costs	¹³ – 647 494	– 678 718	– 5 %	⁶ – 138 007	– 97 910	41 %
Total Project costs	– 1 483 109	– 1 341 429	11 %	– 372 189	– 320 278	16 %
Key services/Marketing						
Personnel costs	¹² – 470 034	– 413 119	14 %	– 149 723	– 142 170	5 %
Member services	– 162 323	– 161 216	1 %	⁷ – 77 994	– 74 521	5 %
Member acquisition	– 31 580	– 28 415	11 %	–	–	–
Fundraising	– 38 525	– 34 025	13 %	–	–	–
Operational cost	– 184 053	– 205 328	– 10 %	– 66 633	– 68 744	– 3 %
Other costs	– 86 963	– 97 165	– 10 %	⁸ – 15 416	– 3 168	387 %
Depreciation and amortization	– 39 844	– 35 980	11 %	– 9 202	– 12 189	– 25 %
Total Key services/Marketing	– 1 013 322	– 975 248	4 %	– 318 967	– 300 791	6 %
Net Operating income	232 848	91 618	154 %	20 025	– 19 738	201 %
Financial expenses	– 5 820	– 4 671	25 %	– 2 803	– 2 568	9 %
Financial income	– 1 609	– 1 539	5 %	241	387	– 38 %
Financial Profit	– 7 429	– 6 210	20 %	– 2 562	– 2 181	17 %
Net Organizational income	225 419	85 408	164 %	17 463	– 21 919	180 %
Extraordinary income	15 963	9 720	64 %	– 1 426	– 591	141 %
Extraordinary expenses	¹⁴ – 127 664	– 79 495	61 %	⁹ 19 037	18 035	6 %
Annual Income	113 718	15 633	627 %	12 074	– 4 475	370 %

NOTES ERKLÄRUNG VON BERN

1 These are amounts carried forward of already disbursed expenditures for the year 2009. This mostly concerns the Public Eye on Davos event that takes place in January 2009. **2** Financial assets as of 12.31.08 include: stocks 14,975 (ABB 592, UBS 148, Novartis 8,432, Syngenta 802, ABS 5,000), loans 10,000 and a share certificate of 50 from Mobility. Also included is a newly added rent deposit of 25,000. The value of our shares in UBS, ABB, Novartis, and Syngenta dropped by 2,880 from one year ago. **3** Despite ongoing investments for the renewal of our infrastructure our fixed assets are declining steadily due to the high cost of depreciation on the 2007 rebuilding costs. **4** At year's end there are far fewer outstanding accounts and expected invoices than the year before. **5** A reserve of 10,000 helps to secure the loan. **6** Earmarked funds include reserves to secure salaries (150,000) and research projects (235,000). **7** The organizational capital increased by the amount of last year's profit (15,634). **8** Last year three decedents included us among the beneficiaries in their will. **9** The Literature Club has been operated by artlink, Büro für Kulturkooperation in Bern, since January 1, 2008. **10** Food projects 43,378, cultural projects 2,351, finance projects 75,701, textile projects 124,465, trade + WTO projects 28,850, Public Eye on Davos 59,418, school outreach project 14,410, contributions to organizations and foundations 95,282. **11** Sale of materials 89,416, fees 17,848, magazine subscriptions 1,170. **12** Staff costs are up considerably from the previous year because we filled a vacant position and created a new position for consumer issues. **13** Food 33,731, culture 200, consumers 5,705, finances 34,148, textiles 169,045, trade policy 10,302, Public Eye

on Davos 52,013, childrens' book fund Baobab 50,000, school outreach project and youth work 12,225, special campaign 110,784, documentations 98,421, BD-News 9,986, share of cost for magazine (1/3) and distribution (1/3) 52,991 and interdisciplinary actions 7,943. **14** Included therein are 3/4 of the legacy income, i.e. approx. 110,000, which we have added to our reserves or more precisely to our research projects fund.

NOTES DÉCLARATION DE BERNE

1 In 2008, our automatic invoicing system was put into place. The sum of Fr. 4869.85 represents the outstanding accounts as of 12.31.2008. **2** The BD holds Roche and Novartis shares as instruments of influence and pressure at their general assemblies (for the benefit of its health program). **3** The reserves have increased by Fr. 23,000 in 2008. **4** In 2008, we received several financial contributions for big projects linked to our campaigns (bilateral agreements, Clean Clothes Campaign, health program), notably from the Fédération Genevoise de Coopération and the Fédération Vaudoise de Coopération. **5** Two groundbreaking products went on sale in 2008. The practical guide *L'argent responsable* (responsible money) and the T-shirts for the campaign to revolutionize the textile industry. **6** This increase is linked to numerous campaigns that we conducted in 2008. **7** The slight upswing is due to the fact that we continued to update our address files, including the follow-up of members, the search for new members, and fundraising. **8** In 2008, we revised our presentation brochure and marked the value of our promotional exchanges with the Alternative Bank ABS und the Association for Transport et Environment. **9** We profited from a debt write-off of 15,000 on the part of the German chapter of the BD.



THE BERNE DECLARATION

Forty Years of Commitment to Global Justice

The Berne Declaration (BD) aims to combat the root causes of poverty, not only its effects. As part of a worldwide network of human rights groups, environmental and development organizations, the BD promotes a more equitable and human global development and takes a critical view of globalization.

The Berne Declaration (BD) is an independent organization specializing in questions of development. Financed for the most part by its members and donors, the BD operates two autonomous offices in Zurich and Lausanne and a small branch office in Bellinzona. The BD is committed to global justice and addresses issues of trade policy, agriculture, food, fair trade, and economic relations in general. It seeks to influence the public debate and decision-makers on issues of development policy in Switzerland; it informs the public about unequal relations between North and South; and it intervenes with international institutions of finance and economics.

The Berne Declaration was founded in 1968 by a group of protestant theologians as a manifesto about "Switzerland and the developing world". Thousand individuals signed this manifesto and committed to donating three per cent of their income to development cooperation. In 1971, the Berne Declaration was incorporated as a non-profit association. Today, the BD has over 21,000 members in Switzerland and is financed by membership dues, donations, and the sale of its own publications.

The BD Report appears once a year and provides a summary of the past year's activities in the various BD program sectors. The BD Report is distributed free of charge to an international public and is also available in digital form at www.evb.ch.

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