



Photo: (Left to right) Dr.W.E.Burhenne, Dr. Mostafa Tolba, UNEP Executive Director, Dr. Françoise Burhenne-Guilmin, Mrs. Birgitta Dahl, Minister of the Environment (Sweden), and Mr.Saburo Kawai (Japan).  
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*The blurb is not ours, but how "The European" newspaper announced the winning of the world's most valuable environment prize to Wolfgang Burhenne, our Editor-in-Chief, and his Belgian wife, Françoise Burhenne-Guilmin.*

*The couple were awarded the 1991 United Nations International Environment Prize on 5 June at an award ceremony in Stockholm to mark World Environment Day. Sweden was the host this year for the ceremony which was held in the golden room of the Town Hall, better known as the setting for the Nobel awards.*

*Mrs. Dahl was the first to congratulate with a short speech underlining the increasing importance of environmental law.*

*Presenting the award, UNEP's Executive Director, Mostafa Tolba, said that the judges were unanimous in honouring their outstanding work. "No two people have done more to strengthen the position of international environmental law as a fundamental element of environmental management. They have been involved directly in nearly all of the major international conventions concerned with conservation over the past 20 years". Previous winners have included, inter alia, Aurelio Peccei, and The World Commission on Environment and Development.*

*Jury member Lord Clinton-Davis, speaking on behalf of the Chairman of the Prize Committee, H.E. Dr. Pastrana Borrero, former President of Colombia, said that "...a vital condition, a condition precedent, for achieving positive environmental action is the creation of international legal frameworks. Our environment recognises no national borders. To be effective, environmental action must take place within international laws that respect national freedom, but which also ensure common standards.*

*But it is easy to forget that these legal agreements do not come into being by some magical force. Their object is the improvement of the lot of people, their quality of life, and the environment, and their existence is due to the unselfish and dedicated work of a large number of individuals".*

*Maureen Jahoda*

30 June 1991

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

RE: Australian Practice Pursuant to the  
World Heritage Convention  
c.c. Editor, Environmental Policy and Law

Dear Dr Richardson,

I recently received via Canada a copy of your paper published in *Environmental Policy and Law*, 20/4-5 (1990) (re the above)

I found the paper informative and interesting and generally in accordance with my experience and understanding of the implications of World Heritage Listing of Australian natural properties.

Your paper includes this quotation: "Often a commitment to preserve a World Heritage property is rationalised, not in terms of its World Heritage values, but rather in economic terms such as potential tourist revenue.

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