



## PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

### PANEL DISCUSSION:

*Right Relationship: Building a Whole Earth Economy*

*Padilha Vidal Room*

*April 21, 2009*

*3: 00 PM to 6:00 PM*

**Background and Overview:** The current economic system assumes endless growth and limitless potential wealth. This has resulted in overconsumption of natural resources and other challenges to the natural world, along with growing tension between rich and poor, global north and south. A comprehensive new vision of the economy is required - a vision that assumes the fact that the Earth's resources are finite and must serve people and all of life's commonwealth.

Ultimately the economy, and indeed life itself, is a series of interconnected relationships. An economy based on the idea of “right relationship” offers not only the promise of a bountiful future but also an opportunity to touch the fullness of human meaning. Using the core principle of “right relationship”—interacting in a way that is respectful to all and that aids the common good—as the foundation for a new economic model, *Peter G. Brown and Geoffrey Garver* propose new answers that combine an acute awareness of ecological limits with a fundamental focus on fairness and well being of all people.

A panel of experts has been convened by the OAS Department of Sustainable Development to address the five basic questions posed in “Right Relationship: Building a Whole Earth Economy”: What is an economy for? How does it work? How big is too big? What's fair? And how can it best be governed? Panelists will examine the potential contribution of citizens and organizations to the system of governance that will be needed to get and keep the economy in right relationship with the global environment.

#### 3:00 WELCOME REMARKS

- *Alfonso Quiñónez, Executive Secretary, Executive Secretariat for Integral Development*

#### 3:15 BOOK PRESENTATION RIGHT RELATIONSHIP: BUILDING A WHOLE EARTH ECONOMY

- *Geoffrey Garver, Co-Author*

#### 3:30 NEW ANSWERS TO FIVE BASIC QUESTIONS POSED IN RIGHT RELATIONSHIP:

- *Mara Burr, Deputy Assistant USTR for the Environment and Natural Resources*
- *Claudia S. de Windt, Chief Environmental Law, Policy and Good Governance*

#### 4:30 CLOSING OBSERVATIONS