#### Electronic Mail

Groups and individuals can instantly send written messages to each other for less than the cost of using the post office, with greater dependability than the phone, and more flexibility than fax! Quick, reliable, secure, inexpensive and easy to use, APC's electronic mail accesses 16,000 international peace and environmental users on our networks in 94 countries, and millions of users on other networks.

## **Computer Conferences**

The conference ('electronic forums' or 'bulletin boards') is an indispensable tool which enables any number of users to:

- share information and opinions
- assemble information from many sources
- collaborate on research, writing, or the planning of events
- distribute and respond to "Action Alerts"
- use the latest tools in group communication and event coordination
- ask questions that can be seen and answered by any other user watching that conference

Geographically dispersed people can quickly communicate with ease on any subject. Messages remain visible to all users, or to a preselected group. Many organizations also maintain their own conferences for internal administration and discussions.

#### Information Resources

APC offers hundreds of public conferences containing a wealth of information. These include: UNCED documents, events calendars, newsletters, legislative alerts, press releases, action updates, late-breaking stories, and calls for support — as well as ongoing discourse on issues of global importance. APC also maintains databases to search for lists of speakers, grantmaking foundations, bibliographies, or lists of

#### APC Member Networks

AlterNex - IBASE

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ComLink

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Tel: +49(511)350-3081

Email: support@comlink.apc.org

GlasNet

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Email: support@gn.apc.org

Institute for Global Communications

EcoNet/PeaceNet/ConflictNet 18 de Boom Street

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Nicarao

CRIES

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Web

Niry Centre 401 Richmond St., Suite 104 Toronto, Ontario, M5V 3A8

CANADA Tel: +1(416)596-0212 Fax: +1(416)974-9189

Email: support@web.apc.org

#### How can I benefit from APC?

APC allows you to participate in and influence worldwide discussions on the most vital issues of our time. For example, APC's Brazilian member AlterNex is leading the telematics installation at UNCED and the Global Forum to provide electronic mail, fax, database and conferencing services at several sites in Rio. All APC networks carry the following conferences to help people and organizations stay informed about UNCED:

General dialogue on UNCED (en.unced.general)
All official UN documents in English (en.unced.docum)
Official documents in Latin languages (cnued.document)
Regular UNCED or related newsletters (en.unced.news)
International NGO Forum for Rio (unced.ngoforum)
US Citizens Network on UNCED information
(cnu.information)

UNCED preparatory process in Canada (unced.canada)
Schedule & details for UNCED meetings (en.unced.shed)
Strategy on the UNCED process (en.unced.infox)
Southern and Northern NGOs preparation of papers for
UNCED (unced.dialogue)

Treaties to be signed by the NGO International Forum for Rio (unced.treaties)

APC is collaborating with NGONET to disseminate UNCED news through a variety of communication channels to those who do not have access to a computer. Based in Uruguay, NGONET distributes information on environment and development using electronic mail, community radio and print media technology appropriate for diverse NGOs in a wide range of locations.

Join The World Without Borders
I would like to join: (insert name of Network from list on left)
My preferred user name is: (Up to 12 characters, a-z 0-9 no punctuation e.g. "jvelazques" or "mariak"
Name
Organization
Address
Telephone
Major Areas of Interest
Where did you hear about our Network?
Organizational Affiliations
It would be useful to us to know:
Computer make & model
Modem type & speed
Communications Software (version number)

Please send this form to the address of the closest member Network, or to the APC Secretariat. You may be asked to forward a deposit before your account is opened.

#### What is APC?

The Association for Progressive Communications is a worldwide partnership of member networks dedicated to providing low-cost computer communications services for individuals and organizations working for the environment, peace, development, health and public interest.

Problems such as ozone depletion, the greenhouse effect, desertification, deforestation, hunger and human rights abuses need solutions. Regional, national and global solutions will only emerge from efficient communications — and that's what APC offers you.

The focus of our work is to empower local indigenous organizations by encouraging expertise in and technology for computer networking. Computer networking is a powerful and effective communications tool to foster true global partnership, information exchange and international decision-making.

All APC members are independent organizations who retain full control of their network. Members pay a percentage of their income to the APC Secretariat to diversify the growth of the network.

## **APC Secretariat**

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## Who is using the Network?

A sample of user organizations include: Amnesty Int'l, Casa Alianza, CRIES (Nicaragua), DESCO (Peru), Dublin Portswatch, Findhorn, Finnish Peace Union, Green Party, Instituto del Tercer Mundo, Int'l Peace Bureau, Mujer a Mujer, North Atlantic Network, Oxfam, Physicians for Social Responsibility, Sierra Club, SIPRO (Mexico), InterPress Service, Southscan, Survival Intl., Swedish Peace & Arbitration Society, Vlaamse Vredesuniversiteit, War Resisters Int'l, Zimtecnica......Languages in use on the network include: Spanish, Portuguese, Estonian, Serbian, Russian, German, English, Swedish, Polish, Esperanto......

## Is the Network widely connected?

Electronic mail can be exchanged with GeoNet, Internet, Poptel, Janet, Bitnet, UUCP, CompuServe, and most other academic or commercial networks. You can send and receive telex and send fax messages directly from the Network.

#### How much does it cost?

We purposely keep our rates low. At NordNet in Sweden, for example, a startup fee of US\$24 provides 90 minutes connect time, a manual, a mailbox and a communications program. A monthly charge of US\$5 includes 30 minutes use; additional use is 25 cents per minute. In the U.S., the average user spends less than \$30 per month. Contact the APC network nearest you for their rates. The fees are generally payable in local currency.

## What if I need help to use it?

Our system is designed to be easy and quick to use. We will help you every step of the way, supplying step-by-step user manuals as well as online and telephone help. Some APC members can provide assistance and training in the purchase, installation and use of equipment.

## Dial Locally, Act Globally

If you have a personal computer and a modem, or have access to a university system, you can send electronic mail, share information, pool resources and plan events with people all around the world.

## Global Cooperation Through APC Networks

# How Environmental & Peace Groups are Using the APC Networks

On a 'typical day', users of the Network are doing the following:

- At a meeting in Australia, the trustees of an organization need a 12-page report to proceed with an agenda item; but the only copy is in England. Within half an hour they have the entire report in hand for less than the cost of postage.
- The editor of a newsletter in Brazil receives article submissions online, eliminating the need to key in the desirable articles herself.
- A peace group in Nicaragua sends ideas to all the other members of an international peace network by writing them just once in a private conference.
- A solidarity group in England updates themselves on events of the last few days in Central America (in English or Spanish), and sends a message to the project they support in El Salvador.

APC Networks help all of these people to communicate and cooperate more effectively.

## APC Networks



Association for Progressive Communications

> Global Computer Communications for Environment, Human Rights, Development & Peace