INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL LAW Nongovernmental Organizations (Associations)

James W. Hart Associate Senior Reference Librarian University of Cincinnati Law Library

This guide lists only two sources: *Associations Unlimited* and the *Yearbook of International Organizations*. The former lists 27,000 international associations while the latter lists over 64,000. The UC libraries have a subscription to the online version of *Associations Unlimited*, while Langsam Library has the hard copy of the *Yearbook of International Organizations*. Both will give you the name of the association, its acronym, the address of its headquarters, its main interests and activities, its staff, its subdivisions, the URL of its website, its meeting schedule, and its publications.

1) Associations Unlimited (Gale Research, 1996-),

It's available online through our catalog, UCLID, at http://uclid.uc.edu/search/ttsearch-tt

Or you can try to access it directly from this URL: http://galenet.galegroup.com/servlet/AU/form?l=1&u=n&u=i&u=r&u=s&locID=ucinc main&n=10

If the last URL doesn't work, you may need to sign on to UC's personal virtual network so that servers outside the University will see you as coming from UC. To do this type sslvpn.uc.edu into a browser. Use the same username and password to sign in as you do for your email. On the next page, click on the "Start" button. It may want to download some software from Juniper to your computer. This is necessary to run the sslvpn. The next screen may look exactly like the former one. The system gives you no sign that the sslvpn is ready to use. It usually takes no more than a minute if the download is unnecessary. Then you ought to be able to click on the URL above or type it into the address box of any browser to get into Associations Unlimited.

Searching Associations Unlimited:

Searches are not case sensitive. Enclose phrases in double quotation marks: "climate change." Search for plurals by combining the singular and plural with an "or": river or rivers. If your search includes words that have a period or hyphen, enclose them in double quotation marks: "St. Marks." The search software does not recognize apostrophes; delete them. The asterisk (*) is a root expander. Put it at the end the root of a word to find all variations on that root. Organiz* would find organization, organize, organizing or organizer. The question mark (?) can substitute for any letter or number in a word such as m?n for man or men. You can also use several means of combining terms into sophisticated searches:

- the Boolean, "and," "or," and "not": river* or stream* and biodivers*;
- w (within) finds two terms within a certain number of terms in that order: river* w10 stream w10 creek; and
- n (next to) finds two terms within a certain number of terms in any order: law n2 sea.

The following is taken verbatim from the Help utility on Associations Unlimited. You can find the complete utility at http://galenet.galegroup.com/servlet/AU/help?l=h&u=n&u=i&u=r&u=s&s=1&locID=ucinc main&n=10

2) *Yearbook of International Organizations. Annuaire Des Organisations Internationales,* Union of International Associations (v 4(1951/52)-) JX1904 .A45 LANGSAM Latest in Ref.

Langsam lacks a few years since v. 4.

The Yearbook has been published since 1910 by the Union of International Associations, http://www.uia.be (last visited 2/11/2011). The Union is a research institute and documentation center based in Brussels. Its website gives the organization's aims and objectives as the following:

- Contribute to a universal order based on principles of human dignity, solidarity of peoples and freedom of communication
- Facilitate the development and efficiency of non-governmental networks in every field of human activity, especially non-profit and voluntary associations, considered to be essential components of contemporary society
- Collect, research and disseminate information on international bodies, both governmental and non-governmental, their interrelationships, their meetings, and problems and strategies they are dealing with
- Experiment with more meaningful and action-oriented ways of presenting such information to enable these initiatives to develop and counterbalance each other creatively, and as a catalyst for the emergence of new forms of associative activity and transnational co-operation
- Promote research on the legal, administrative and other problems common to these international associations, especially in their contacts with governmental bodies