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Media Statement

Charges against the Winner of ethecon Black Planet Award 2006

MONSANTO Tribunal Tries Winner of ethecon's Negative Award!

[MONSANTO, winner of the ethecon Black Planet Award](#), will be tried in The Hague next weekend. Back in 2006, the big corporation received the well-known negative Black Planet Award from ethecon – Foundation Ethics & Economics for its crimes against humanity and the environment. MONSANTO endangers our blue planet through its goal of bringing global agricultural production under its control and through its upcoming merger with the BAYER corporation.

MONSANTO's advertising slogan is 'Food – Health – Hope', but in reality this turns out to be an empty promise of salvation. [In 2006, ethecon – Foundation Ethics & Economics](#) internationally pilloried the agro giant for this.

In addition to contaminating conventional crops with GM seeds, the corporation commits large-scale biopiracy. For example, Monsanto tries to claim for itself all plants and animals containing the genetic chains for which the corporation holds patents. The corporation has filed millions of lawsuits against organic farmers all over the world.

In addition, the corporation has its critics spied on and deceives the population with insufficient information.

In 2006, MONSANTO's major shareholders and managers were shamed with the International ethecon Black Planet Award from ethecon – Foundation Ethics & Economics for their crimes and for endangering our blue planet threatening to turn it into a black planet. The [explanatory statement](#) says, amongst other things: 'The MONSANTO corporation is one of the leading representatives of the capitalist exploitation system.'

The [MONSANTO Tribunal](#) will take place in The Hague next weekend. The corporation is accused of ecocide, the crime of destroying the environment. As that crime has not yet been recognised by the International Criminal Court, the tribunal is of a symbolic nature. All the same, the trial will carry weight: it will be led by respected international lawyers and judges according to the procedural laws of the International Criminal Court.

The tribunal advocates for incorporating the crime of ecocide into international criminal law. Accordingly, it is going to carry out an extensive, qualified evaluation of all actions of the MONSANTO concern that are environmentally damaging or damaging to health, and to write a legal opinion based on those solid facts.

The [International Criminal Court](#) announced last week that it would prosecute environmental crime as well ('It would give special consideration to pursuing crimes involving environmental destruction and land grabs'). ethecon sees this as a possibility to take legal action against the big concern at that level as well.

In addition to the MONSANTO tribunal, the entire agro-industrial system will be debated this weekend. ethecon considers that system a serious danger to world nutrition, which is why a delegation of the group will be present in The Hague. Global resistance against the global players' profit system must be organised, and considering that the capital power of individual shareholders of corporations like Blackrock exceeds even the federal budget of Germany, it is also necessary to bring up the property issue.

Unlike the numerous concern, family, church, party and state foundations, [ethecon – Foundation Ethics & Economics](#) is one of the few grassroots foundations and follows the motto 'For a world without exploitation and oppression!' The foundation is still young and is looking for further endowment contributions, donations and supporting members.

Since 2006 ethecon has awarded two international prizes per year, one positive and one negative: the [International ethecon Blue Planet Award](#) for outstanding commitment to the protection and rescue of the 'Blue Planet' and the [International ethecon Black Planet Award](#) for outrageous contributions to the ruin and destruction of the Earth. The Blue Planet was awarded, for example, to [Vandana Shiva, India](#), [Uri Avnery, Israel](#) and [Jean Ziegler, Switzerland](#). The Black Planet Award has shamed, amongst others, managers and major shareholders of the concerns [BP, United Kingdom](#), [TEPCO, Japan](#), [DEUTSCHE BANK, Germany](#) and [FORMOSA PLASTICS, Taiwan](#).

Further information is available from

Sarah Schneider

sis@ethecon.org

Mobile: +49 (0)157 - 58 05 09 05

ethecon

Foundation Ethics & Economics

Schweidnitzer Str. 41

D-40231 Düsseldorf

Germany

Phone +49 - (0)211 - 26 11 210

E-mail aks@ethecon.org

Internet www.ethecon.org

We can only avert imminent ecological and social catastrophes if we develop and implement economic and social models that are environment-friendly and fit for human beings. ethecon – Foundation Ethics & Economics works with vision and perspective and far beyond the generations ahead.

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