**Burnell, Randall & Rakner: Politics in the Developing World 4e**

**Study questions**

**Chapter 17**

1. Do you agree with the claim that most environmental objectives are luxuries that the governments of poor countries should not make high priority?
2. How can developing countries ensure that the environmental issues that they attach most concern to are given high priority on the agendas of those international organizations that have environmental goals?
3. How can developing countries combine a strategy to gain the economic benefits of trade and inwards foreign investment with protection of their natural environment?
4. In the developing countries with which you are familiar, what political changes would have to occur inside the country if development policy was to pay more attention to the environmental consequences?
5. How do the new Sustainable Development Goals balance the need for development with the need to protect the environment and climate?
6. Which environmental issues are identified as the most urgent by politicians and civil society groups within developing countries?
7. What can be learned from examples of environmental policy success stories in developing countries?
8. To what extent, in developing countries, is environmental degradation an exclusively middle class concern?
9. To what extent do the developed world's environmental concerns provide developing countries with a valuable bargaining counter?
10. Is it politically realistic to expect China and India to accept targets for greenhouse gas emissions comparable to the targets being talked about for the OECD countries?
11. Do you agree that democratization in developing countries can damage the chances of their governments giving higher priority to environmental concerns and less priority to increasing material consumption?
12. Is the granting and operation of resource concessions such as the extraction of oil by foreign oil companies in Nigeria's Niger Delta politically contentious? Give reasons for your answer.
13. Should the governments of hungry developing countries ignore the legal patent rights that foreign companies have established on the growing of genetically modified crops?
14. What makes access to clean drinking water an explosive domestic political issue in some developing countries?
15. Does developing country experience tell us that the main custodians of environmental sustainability are social movements and civic associations with strong transnational connections?
16. What connections exist between environmental concerns and ideas of security in the developing countries?
17. Should the governments of developing countries take steps to curb population growth?
18. Which environmental issues have the greatest urgency specifically for developing countries?
19. Should China be expected to take the West's environmental concerns seriously and adjust its development policies accordingly?
20. Is it true that climate change is a bigger threat to developing countries than developed countries, if yes, why?