



Werner Kiene to head the World Bank's Inspection Panel

The Inspection Panel is pleased to announce that Werner Kiene, an Austrian national, is the new Chairperson of the Inspection Panel, effective September 1, 2007. He succeeds Edith Brown Weiss, whose term as Chair of the Panel and member of the Panel expired on August 31, 2007. Dr. Kiene has been a Member of the Panel since November 1, 2004.

Dr. Kiene earned a Ph.D in Agricultural Economics from Michigan State University. He worked with the Ford Foundation from 1972 to 1982, including three years in New York, three years in North Africa and several more years as Program Adviser in Nigeria. He served in senior positions with German Development Assistance (GTZ), and then became the first Director of the Office of Evaluation of the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) in 1994. He was the WFP Country Director for Bangladesh from 1998 through 2000, and also served during part of that time as UN Resident Coordinator.

Dr. Kiene has written about topics in agriculture and economics; rural poverty and social services; emergencies, humanitarian assistance, and food security; development policy and program coordination; and international trade and international relations. He is involved in professional organizations including the Society for International Development, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the American Evaluation Association, the European Evaluation Society, and the International Association of Agricultural Economists.

In his varied capacities, Dr. Kiene has spent many years working on social and environmental issues and concerns related to development. Among other endeavors, he has worked on approaches to address desertification in the Sahel region and problems of land degradation and food security in Asia and Latin America, in close dialogue and consultation with local communities.