

This initiative also builds on the "US Third Border" policy, which recognizes the Caribbean as the third most important neighbor of the USA next to Canada and Mexico.

The presentation in Aruba was intended to officially present the WW2BW Initiative to the invited environmental organizations, trade and industry representatives and government and government agency officials. It also served to promote participation of a national delegation from Aruba in an upcoming conference in 2004 as part of this initiative.

The local environmental organizations present at the presentation, being Marine Mammal Foundation Aruba, Fundacion Arubano pa Medio Ambiente, Centro Ecologico Aruba, Rainbow Warriors International and the local WIDECAST representative showed their appreciation for the invitation from the US government, and although skeptical about the US to carry such an initiative, were willing to commit and urged to representatives to involve them actively in the WW2BWI network.

#### WW2BW Miami Conference

Five representatives from Aruba attended the WW2BW Miami Conference, held March 22-26, 2004.

Rainbow Warriors Core Foundation (Rainbow Warriors International) participated in the Miami Conference as an international organization, the participation of which was made possible by numerous local sponsors in Aruba and the United States Department of State itself.

**In its report** *White Water to Blue Water Partnership Conference: The Way Forward in Aruba and the Wider Caribbean Region To incorporate the WW2BW Partnership.*

*Final Report on the WW2BW Partnership Conference in Miami* Rainbow Warriors International outlined programs and projects on a local and regional level, which could be embedded in the WW2BW Partnership.

#### Southern Caribbean Eco-Region Initiative

During the WW2BW Partnership Conference in Miami, the Southern Caribbean Eco-Region was announced by the Country Teams and NGOs from Aruba, the Netherlands Antilles, Venezuela, Colombia and Trinidad and Tobago, to work on common challenges regarding the marine and coastal environments, with special attention for:

- Fisheries research;
- Coastal zone management;

- Monitoring pollution;
- Education and training, and development thereof; and
- Funding mechanisms for common programs and projects.

#### **The partners in this project are**

Fundacion Agua Clara, Fundacion Rio



**Conference held in Aruba**

Manzanares and Fundacion Caribe Sur (Venezuela), Coral Resource Management (Bonaire), INVEMAR (Colombia), Institute of Marine Affairs (Trinidad & Tobago), and Rainbow Warriors International (Aruba)

#### Southern Caribbean Eco-Region Conference

After the WW2BW Partnership Conference in Miami was concluded, contact within the Southern Caribbean Eco-Region Initiative group was maintained by Rainbow Warriors International, and at the end of May 2004 the WW2BW Steering Committee announced the possibility of submitting proposals for funding.

Rainbow Warriors International submitted a proposal, which called for the organization of a Southern Caribbean Eco-Region Conference, to be held in Aruba, which would bring together the original plus additional parties to formulate a partnership protocol and a resolution with programs and projects defined within a fixed time frame.

On June 26, 2004 notification of the Small Grant to be awarded to Rainbow Warriors International to organize the conference was received from the US State Department on behalf of the WW2BW Steering Committee.

The conference was held from November 1-3, 2004 at the Holiday Inn Sunspree Resort Aruba.

como e di tres region/pais bisina mas importante di Merca despues di Canada y Mexico.

E presentacion na Aruba a sirbi pa oficialmente presenta e alianza WW2BW na ambientalista invita, representante di gremio comercial y gobernantenan y oficialnan di

*to Blue Water Partnership Conference: The Way Forward in Aruba and the Wider Caribbean Region To incorporate the WW2BW Partnership. Final Report on the WW2BW Partnership Conference in Miami* Rainbow Warriors International a delinea programa y proyecto na nivel local y regional, cual por ser incorpora den e alianza WW2BW.

#### Iniciativa Southern Caribbean Eco-Region

Durante e Conferencia di WW2BW na Miami, e Southern Caribbean Eco-Region Initiative a ser anuncia pa e teamnan nacional (Gobierno y NGOs) di Aruba, Colombia, Antiyas Holandes, Venezuela y Trinidad y Tobago, como resultado di e Conferencia di WW2BW, estableci pa provee solucionan pa e retonan comun marino y di zonanan costal di e Eco-Region di Caribe Sur den e areanan di:

- Investigacion di pesca;
- Maneho di zona costal;
- Monitoreo di polucion marino den e region;
- Educacion y entrenamento, y desaroyo di tal, y
- Mechanismonan pa financia proyecto.

E partnernan den e proyecto aki ta Fundacion Agua Clara, Fundacion Rio Manzanares y Fundacion Caribe Sur (Venezuela), Coral Resource Management (Bonaire), INVEMAR (Colombia), Institute of Marine Affairs (Trinidad y Tobago) y Rainbow Warriors International (Aruba).

#### Conferencia di Southern Caribbean Eco-Region

Despues di e conclusion di e Conferencia di WW2BW na Miami, contacto den e grupo di e iniciativa di e Southern Caribbean Eco-Region a ser manteni pa Rainbow Warriors International y na final di mei 2004 e Comite Directivo di WW2BW a anuncia e posibilidad pa somete propuesta pa ricibi fondo pa proyecto.

**Cont pag # 22**

departamento di gobierno.

Y alavez pa promove participacion di un delegacion nacional di Aruba na un futuro conferencia na 2004 como parti di e iniciativa aki.

E organisacionan local ambiental presente na e presentacion aki cu tawata Marine Mammal Foundation Aruba, Fundacion Arubano pa Medio Ambiente, Centro Ecologico Aruba, Rainbow Warriors International y e representante local di WIDECAST a muestra nan aprecio pa e invitacion di Gobierno Mericano, y aunke tawata reina algun skepsis pa cu e hecho cu Merca a bin cu e iniciativa, a muestra nan voluntad pa participa y a urgi e representantenan mericano pa inclui nan activamente den e red di partners local pa e iniciativa WW2BW.

#### Conferencia di WW2BW na Miami

Cinco representante di Aruba a participa na e Conferencia di WW2BW na Miami, teni 22-26 maart 2004.

Stichting Rainbow Warriors Core (Rainbow Warriors International) a participa den e conferencia na Miami como un organisacion internacional, cual participacion a ser haci posibel pa numeroso sponsor na Aruba y e Departamento di Estado di Merca mes.

**Den su raport** *White Water*

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