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UNEP Announces Asia Region Winners of Ozone Video Competition

Bangkok, October 2, 2001 - Film makers from Indonesia, China and Sri Lanka have been judged regional winners in the United Nations Environment Programme's ozone video competition.

The global competition, open to amateur and professional video producers in developing countries, aims to raise awareness of the efforts still needed to ensure protection of the ozone layer.

The South East Asian regional winner is Pusat Pendidikan Film Dan Televisi of Jakarta, Indonesia for a film titled 'When the Umbrella has Broken'. Produced by Budiwati Abiyoga and directed by Kiki Taher, the 11 minute video is presented as a journey through human life, with recognition of the impacts of technology and the need to save the environment for future generations.

The South Asia regional winner is Beijing Huadu Film and Television and Culture and Art Company for 'Ozone Action in China', directed by Lin Wang and produced by Zhenjiang Yue. The 20 minute documentary film outlines the causes of ozone layer destruction, international efforts to prevent it, the experience and actions taken in China, and the importance of public awareness.

The two regional winners will each receive US\$2000 and their entries will be considered for the overall global prize, to be screened during the 13th Meeting of Parties to the Montreal Protocol for the Protection of the Ozone Layer in Sri Lanka in October.

A runner up prize of \$1000 was also presented to Sri Lankan film maker Mr GS Alagma of The Open University in Colombo for a nine minute educational film for school use called "Friendship with Ozone".

The regional winners were selected from entries provided by national ozone officers.

UNEP's South Asia regional network coordinator Ludgarde Coppens said the standard of entry was high and the films provided a valuable resource for future public awareness campaigns.

"With production and use successfully halted in industrialised countries, developing countries now have to complete their commitments to phase out of ozone depleting substances," Ms Coppens said.

"Awareness-raising activities such as this video competition play an important part in helping us reach the goal of protecting the ozone layer."

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Background information and other resources about ozone protection is available at http://www.unep.org/ozone/ozone_day2001/

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