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## **Congressman George Miller (D-CA), Leading Environmental, Human Rights and Development Groups to Give Briefing on Earth Summit with a Live Update from Johannesburg**

Washington DC: Today Congressman George Miller (D-CA) joined with leading environmental, human rights and development groups including Friends of the Earth, Amnesty International USA, Oxfam America and Sierra Club to give a briefing on the Earth Summit and the Bush administration's resistance to working with the international community to address corporate accountability for environmental and social issues.

"President Bush told the nation that corporate self-regulation is not enough. This statement must also apply to environmental and social protections," said Dr. Brent Blackwelder, President of Friends of the Earth. "Yet the administration has steadfastly refused to work with other governments to develop international rules that will hold corporations accountable."

"What is new and worrying about the emphasis the administration is giving to voluntary partnerships is it appears ready to abdicate the United States' responsibility to deliver on its political commitments," said Blackwelder.

"While the Bush administration continues to push for new trade agreements and stronger investor rights, multilateral agreements to address specific social and environmental issues are simply out of the question," said Blackwelder.

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With over 100 people in Johannesburg, Friends of the Earth International will have one of the largest environmental delegations campaigning on corporate accountability, climate change, trade, biodiversity, water, environmental justice, mining and other issues. Arrangements can be made to interview FoE campaigners in South Africa by contacting one of the above media contacts.

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Visit Friends of the Earth's "Corporate Accountability and the Johannesburg Earth Summit" website for updates and more information at [www.foe.org/earthsummt](http://www.foe.org/earthsummt)

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