

**Media Advisory** -- Press Briefing, February 9<sup>th</sup>, Thursday,  
9:30 am

## **Secret Arbitration Panel Meets in DC This Weekend. Will Chevron case take down trade pact investor-state system?**

### **Chevron's New Hail Mary In \$18 Billion Ecuador Case Violates Country's Constitution & International Laws to Evade Environmental Liability**

Amazon Defense Coalition, For Immediate Release, 7 February 2012, Contact: Karen Hinton, 703-798-3109, [karen@hintoncommunications.com](mailto:karen@hintoncommunications.com)

WASHINGTON, DC -- After having lost on the merits in Ecuador and U.S. courts, Chevron has turned to a secret panel of private lawyers, nicknamed "The Club," to help the company avoid paying anything for its deliberate poisoning of the rainforest.

Chevron is trying to use a controversial private enforcement process under the U.S.-Ecuador Bilateral Investment Treaty that, in Chevron's mind, empowers the panel to direct Ecuador to interfere in its judiciary system by blocking enforcement of or reversing the \$18 billion judgment.

The arbitration panel has no such authority. Yet, this closed-door panel will conduct hearings this Saturday and Sunday (February 11-12) in Washington, DC, as if it did.

Public Citizen, Amazon Watch and the Rainforest Action Network are standing up to Chevron's kangaroo court by organizing a rally and conducting a Teach-In at American University about Chevron's abuse of the arbitration process this Thursday. They also will be conducting a press briefing. You are invited to attend all events. Details below:

**Press Briefing, February 9th, Thursday, 9:30 am, Public Citizen: 1600 20th Street NW, Washington, D.C., (202) 588-1000**

**You may attend in person or participate by telephone: The conference call number can be obtained from the media contact above.**

Humberto Piaguage, Spokesperson for the Secoya Indigenous Organization of Ecuador and a representative of the Ecuadorians suing Chevron

Lori Wallach, Director, Public Citizen's Global Trade Watch Division

Aaron Page, Forum Nobis, PLLC, lawyer for Ecuadorians in U.S.

Rob Collier, Corporate Campaigns Director, Amazon Watch

**Teach-In, February 9th, Thursday, 7-9 pm, American University: School of International Service Atrium, AW Main Campus, 4400 Massachusetts Ave, NW, Washington D.C., (202) 885-3264**

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**Rally, February 10th, Friday, Organization of American States, Constitution Avenue & 17th St., NW, Washington D.C., (202) 458-3000**