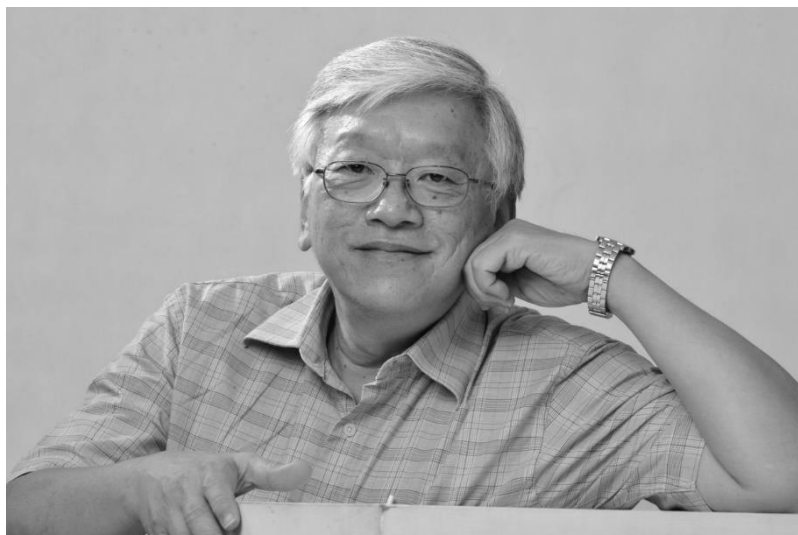


# ***IN MEMORIAM – MARTIN KHOR (1951-2020)***

*LEADER. THINKER. ACTIVIST. INSPIRATION. MENTOR. FRIEND.  
FATHER. GRANDFATHER. HUSBAND. BROTHER. SON.*



*It is with the deepest sorrow that we share the news that Martin Khor (1951-2020), TWN's Chairman and former Director, passed away peacefully in the early hours of 1 April 2020 in his home in Penang, Malaysia. He had lived with cancer since 2015 but worked even harder as the inspiring mentor, strategic and action-oriented thinker, indefatigable advocate and wonderful husband, father and grandfather.*

*We cannot even begin to reach out to all of Martin's friends and supporters who over decades, young and old, have marched with him to reject injustice and inequity among peoples especially of the South, and to defend nature again and again.*

*Let us all continue on the journey that Martin helped to chart. If you wish to remember Martin you are most welcome to send a message to [twn@twnetwork.org](mailto:twn@twnetwork.org)*

*The TWN Family*

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In Memoriam - <https://youtu.be/Dkao841j-C8>

SUNS South North Development Monitor, Issue No. 9100  
Special Tribute Issue in honour of Martin Khor:  
<http://www.sunsonline.org/contents.php?num=9100>

## Up close & personal with Martin Khor

Saturday, 30 Jan 2010

12:00 AM MYT

By **SOO EWE JIN** (ewejin@thestar.com.my)

The Star Online - <https://www.thestar.com.my/business/business-news/2010/01/30/up-close--personal-with-martin-khor>

THERE is a certain small-town charm about Martin Khor that has stuck with him all these years. He is most comfortable in his trademark batik shirt although he has to be properly suited up these days as he interacts with policy-makers and world leaders on the global stage. And home is still where the heart is.

"I am based in Geneva but due to my job, which is to understand and be involved in global issues, I travel a lot, to many parts of the world. Fortunately I am able to come back to Penang and Malaysia at least twice a year. It is very important for me to touch base with home and my home country," he says.

After all, it was in Penang that Khor's formative career as a consumer advocate and an intellectual icon for the developing world took shape.

After graduating from Cambridge where his peers included Singapore Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong, and a three-year stint teaching economics at Universiti Sains Malaysia, Khor took up the position of research director at the Consumers Association of Penang.

It was in this organisation that he developed a keen interest in consumer and environmental issues. Apart from his research work, he edited the Utusan Konsumer, which became a major alternative media that fearlessly championed the rights of consumers.

Khor pays tribute to CAP president S.M. Idris, whom he says was able to connect the problems facing ordinary people in their daily lives to their environment and the market place, and who developed the art of bringing these problems to the attention of the Government for it to solve.

"From identifying thousands of individual problems, CAP was able to get the Government to establish new laws and even new institutions to protect the consumer and the environment. I worked with a very dedicated, idealistic and skilled team of staff and volunteers who pioneered a lot of social work combined with advocacy, public education and community organising," says Khor.

As a consumer advocate, Khor's views were sought after by the media and even at the official level, like pre-Budget meetings, as he was known for his reasoned arguments. His views represented the common people but they were always backed by solid research.

It was through such initial work that Khor's journey from Penang to Geneva took shape.

CAP found that national work was not enough because many of the problems had their source in international systems, and thus it established the Third World Network (TWN) in November 1984 connecting NGOs in other developing countries.

Khor initially worked at both CAP and TWN before becoming full time director at the latter. The international secretariat is based in Penang but TWN also has regional offices worldwide, including one in Geneva.

TWN's mission is to connect the concerns of local communities and national groups in developing countries to the international arena and institutions such as the United Nations, the World Trade Organisation, the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, which have such influence over national policies and the lives of people.

Khor travelled extensively on this job but he still found time to write a regular column for The Star. His first column was entitled Dollars and Sense in 1978 which focused more on local issues. The next column was Earth Trends (1988) where issues of the environment took prominence and his current column is Global Trends (2003) which appears every Monday.

Khor's career took a paradigm shift in March 2009 when he was appointed executive director of the South Centre, an inter-governmental organisation whose members are 51 governments from developing countries.

The centre was set up after the South Commission chaired by former Tanzanian President, Julius Nyrere, released its report on Challenges to the South in 1990.

Malaysia had a big role in setting up the commission because the idea arose at a Kuala Lumpur conference on the South, and the then Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad went to see Nyrere in Tanzania to request him to chair and set up the commission.

"While the developed countries have many organisations like the OECD and the European Commission as well as national think-tanks that do research for them on international issues, there are few in the developing world. So the South Centre was set up to fill in the void," says Khor.

With a small team of less than 10 professionals backed up by eight administrative staff, Khor is in charge of both the research and the management of the centre.

"We conduct research on economic issues like the impact of the global crisis on developing countries and the reform of the international financial system, on climate change and sustainable development, on trade negotiations in the WTO as well as the free trade agreements, on intellectual property and its effects on development," he says.

"Our aim is to implement South-South cooperation, especially in the area of policy formulation and experience sharing, so that the developing countries can voice their views in a more united and effective way in international fora such as the WTO and the United Nations."

Khor got his baptism of fire in his new position at the recent Copenhagen Climate Change Conference when he had to deal mainly with world leaders and their officials. This is in contrast to the time when he would be participating from the NGO side.

Copenhagen conference

"The climate change issues are complex, so it is not surprising that they take time to sort out, and we knew that Copenhagen would not be able to complete the negotiations. Still, some progress was made in the official conference involving almost 200 countries," he says.

"Unfortunately, the host country felt that if a small meeting of 26 heads of governments could be held, they could somehow in one or two days solve all the problems that the negotiators were still grappling with.

"Of course, this was impossible to organise successfully and there was a lot of chaos because even the 26 could not agree. Meanwhile there were another 100 over political leaders that were left on the sidelines with nothing to do and getting frustrated, while thousands of other officials were trying to narrow their differences but feeling their issues were being hijacked somewhere else.

"The way forward is to get back to the official two working groups in which all countries can take part, and sort out the issues one by one.

"This year more progress can be made in these groups and hopefully there can be a conclusion. But the multilateral and inclusive process must be given the chance to do its work, instead of a small group of politicians or countries trying to do a short cut by meeting among themselves and then asking everyone else to sign on."

Khor says democracy may seem slow as it involves all, but in the end it is more sustainable and thus, faster in getting lasting results.

He is apparently quite used to change taking time.

"Change is a complex and difficult process. Moving from one state of knowledge, practice and structure to another requires a combination of factors.

"Initially there has to be identification that there is a problem, and what are its causes, and what are the alternatives. Then there is the action to make people aware of the problem and committed to act to find its solutions. "I think the most important aspect is to find in oneself and in other people the desire to search for truth including about life and society, and to find out where are the problems that people face, especially the poor and vulnerable people, and how to help them and empower them to find solutions.

"It is important to have the spirit and conviction not to accept the problems that you see around you as something inevitable but instead as something that can be changed and overcome."

Asked if he feels like he is constantly facing impossible odds, Khor says, "Yes, often!"

"The problems of the world are so huge. The problems faced by each group and even each person seem so intractable. At the international level, the powers-that-be seem to have set up their systems to maintain their dominance so well. But each problem can be tackled if the hard work of analysis, writing, communicating, organising people and so on are done practically, and not just in theory or rhetorically.

"There is no magic formula of how best to effect change. It requires a combination of spirit, idealism, knowledge and actions, and all kinds of people. There is a role for everyone."

His current workplace certainly helps him view things from a global perspective.

"The staff includes people from many countries and regions. But I meet an even wider range of people from Africa, Asia, South America and the Caribbean, as well as from Europe and North America. They include diplomats, policy makers, ministers and sometimes Prime Ministers and Presidents.

"We have to understand their different situations and views, and yet try to assist them to find their common interests and to fight for these."

And what does he do to relax?

"I don't seem to have much time to relax, given the nature of my work. I watch TV or movies, and read some books. I like browsing in bookshops whenever I have the chance, but I don't have the luxury to finish reading the books.

"Talking to people at dinner is another pastime, and it is nice to walk around the small Geneva town at weekends. When I am back home in Penang, I try to swim a lot."

## I. From the Third World Network family (past and present)

Lim Li Ching

Oh Meena. Sending our love and hugs to you all now across the miles. Our hearts are broken but Martin will live on in the work we do always.

-----

I'm crying as I read all the news articles and tributes and messages. Remembering Martin, his sharp intellect, his ability to make complex things simple, his charm and warmth. His sense of humour. His caring nature, his sense of justice. So many wonderful attributes. We miss you so much Martin. Thank you for being our mentor, leader, colleague and friend.

Lim Li Lin

I'm so so sorry Meena. If only I could carry your broken heart with mine. Please convey our deepest condolences to Rebecca and his family. Dearest Martin, rest in peace. Your fight is over now. We will never stop because you never stopped.

-----

Dear Meena,

I want to send you my love and support. I wish it could be real and tangible. Please let me know what I can do for you.

I wrote a little poem for Martin, it's not very good but I know he likes poems, hopefully even bad ones by me. love, Lin

-----

O Captain, my Captain

When I was young

I stood on your shoulders

The shoulders of a giant

I spoke my hurt

When I thought you left

In my simple foolishness

Forgive me

O Captain, my Captain

Many good works have we shared

My head held high, my heart calls you

My great leader, my father, my friend.

Chee Han Lim

Meena, very sorry to hear that, my deep condolences

😞 It is our collective huge loss. He is legend, his works will live on.

Ranja Sengupta

Meena, so sorry to hear this... Unimaginable for you and for us... But heard at least he was not in pain... Take care!

Sanya Reid Smith

I am so sorry Meena. I'm glad his family could be with him. He has left a huge hole in the world and in our hearts and will be missed by governments and activists across the world. Countless lives have benefited from the bad deals he stopped and his positive initiatives and

we have all learned so much from him. Sending love and hugs from Geneva

Yvonne Miller

Dear Meena,

So sorry, this is a very sad day, for all who had the chance to know him, and those who didn't.

Deepest condolences

Sangeeta Shashikant

Dear meena, its a truly sad day for all of us. Martin will always be known for his vision n optimism for a fairer world. He has inspired so many of us n his work will continue. Sorry we are miles away. But lots of love n a big hug to you n family.

Evelyne Teh

I have no words Meena. I'm glad he left peacefully. He'll be sorely missed by everyone.

Pratibha

Dear Meena, my deepest condolence to you and family.

Praying for your strength in these difficult times. It's a great loss for all who have met Martin or have been influenced by his writings. He will always remain with us in our hearts. Take care!

Tony Salvador

So sorry, Meena. Sincerest condolences and ardent prayers.

Chee Yoke Ling

Knowing Martin he will watch over us and continue to inspire and be with us.

Shangeetha

Condolences to his family. God bless him. Such an inspiring soul. This is very sad indeed.

Karina Yong

Praying comfort for us all, especially for Meena and family. Heaved and sobbed when I found out, I don't quite know how to articulate the grief. But I do know that Martin has changed the world, changed us all and left behind in us something that will burn brightly and cannot be extinguished. We will fight the good fight, run the race, wherever we are, in whatever way we can ❤️ much much love TWN family.

Lee Aruelo

Dear Meena: it was indeed a a very sad news! I an really sorry to hear about Martin. May he Rest In Peace. we will miss Martin so much. His presence itself was such a big moral support. My deepest condolences & prayers to you & his family!

Janet LM

RIP Martin. Your many stories and sense of humour will be sadly missed. 🙏

Lutfiyah Hanim

RIP Martin, thank you. I learnt so much from you.

Meena, my deepest condolences to you and his family

Navya via Naomi (Yokeling's daughter)

Just got off the phone with Navya, she said her twitter feed was flooded with messages about Martin, what an amazing person he was and his work and impact, it made her wish she could have met him, and she sends all her love ❤️

Bhumika Muchala

Dearest Meena,

I wanted to send you my most sincere, tender and heartfelt condolences and remembrance. Trust that you are surrounded by a world of family, friends, well-wishers and warmth. I feel so much grief that I did not get to say goodbye to Martin. He is truly the most visionary, inspiring and brilliant Leader and mentor I have ever known and will likely ever know. I have no words to express how much I learned from Martin and how fundamentally my commitment to global justice for the South is shaped and solidified by his teachings and life example. I feel so much gratitude for Martin and also yourself and so much remembrance. His legacy will undoubtedly be carried onward and forward by so many activists, diplomats, colleagues and policymakers around the world, but most especially by the TWN Family. Martin's larger than life legacy shall thrive on! Sending you love, peace and solidarity, In deep remembrance,  
Bhumika

Roberto Bissio

When I last met him, not so many weeks ago in Penang, he was actively organizing the continuation of the work on many fronts and advising the generation that he trained and inspired to search for and motivate the youth. That is how "a luta continúa"!

Vice Yu

Good bye Martin, rest in peace and power now. No words can be found to express how deeply your stay on this Earth has positively affected those of us who have had the fortune and privilege to have worked with you, learned from you, been mentored by you, read your works, listened to your stories, been impressed by your work ethic and discipline, been inspired by your passion and commitment to social justice, equity and environment, followed your leadership and guidance, and grown thanks to your example and inspiration in the social, economic, environmental and climate justice movements all over the world. Friend. Intellectual. Mentor. Guide. Leader. We miss you already. The developing countries have lost a great champion, but at the same time, through the seeds that you have grown in the different institutions that you have contributed to, your vision, ideas, passion and commitment will continue to be carried forward as our struggle continues towards that more sustainable and more equitable

future that you worked so hard to help achieve. Thank you for your lifelong nurturing and guidance of the TWN, CAP, and SAM as leading developing country institutions, and the more than 9 years of inspiring, effective, and humanely caring leadership at the South Centre (2009-2018) that established the South Centre as a key global actor on behalf of developing countries – the Global South owes you a huge debt of gratitude for all of these organizations.

To Meena, big hugs ... the words "deepest condolences" cannot convey the depth of love, respect, friendship and solidarity that all of us in the TWN family bear for you and for Martin.

Kinda Mohamadieh

Dear Meena, dear TWN colleagues,

We lost Martin so early, but as many had written so far, we remain with strong memories and stronger convictions for equality, justice and structural transformations that he helped shape in each one of us. I got to work closely with Martin during the first years I joined the South Centre and while he was still predominantly in Geneva. I actually came to Geneva to work with Martin. It was because of Martin's work, and that of TWN, that I pursued work on international trade and investment. When working on trade at the Arab NGO Network for Development, we organised with TWN several workshops in the Arab region and had the support and valuable contributions from Martin, Sanya, Sangeeta and other TWN colleagues.

During the years working at the South Centre, for me Martin was not only the executive director, he was a leader who inspired and shaped our sense of purpose with his vision and his ability to speak to us through what matters to each one of us. He provided a structural framework through which we could see the world, its inequalities and other challenges, with more clarity, and which helped shape our sense of purpose and drive on a daily basis.

Martin didn't only share his knowledge and vision, he also shared love for art, culture and music. I remember him singing while we are leaving the office of the South Centre close to 9 pm on a regular working day, and asking Vasanthan to put on the Sri Lankan music while heading back home (I happened to live in the same neighbourhood as Martin and Meena and got the benefit of a ride with Vasanthan and Martin back home :).

He was a thoughtful leader and intellectual and advocate, but also a human who cared about the story of each one of us.

Knowing that I am descendant of a family who was expelled from Palestine in 1948, he never stopped reminding me, and explaining to me, how our struggles at the international level, link back and into the struggles for peace and justice at the national and community level. He often shared with me books on the Palestinian struggle. The last time I saw him in Penang, he did not forget to leave me with another book on Palestine and its cause for justice and peace.

I will never forget how he picked up from a big flea market in Geneva an art album by a Lebanese painter that was hidden among hundreds of other items, and

offered it to me. I think he knew how comforting it will be to me to have something from my country while I am living away from it. When I first arrived in Geneva, Martin and Meena used to check if I eat enough and well :) and offered to share their food. Martin was a caring and conscientious human being on all levels. I believe one of Martin's major strengths is his belief in other people, in working with and empowering others, helping them understand, deconstruct and frame what shapes our world, global economy, and eventually our daily lives. This is the way sustainable collective movements for justice and equity are built, and will survive.

My experience working with Martin left me with a conviction that it is the human to human relations that will change the world. Even when working with negotiators and diplomats, it is the human to human connection and care for the story of one another that will enable any change we struggle for.

Martin was a wonderful human being and I am so grateful for the opportunity to have known him. May he rest in power and peace.

Pauline Fan

Deeply saddened by the passing of Martin Khor, a dear old friend of my mother's from their student days at Cambridge. Martin was a regular dinner guest when we lived in New York, whenever he was in town or on his way to Washington for meetings (at that time he was advising countries of the 'global south' in their complex negotiations at the World Trade Organisation). And when Lillianne and I returned to Malaysia, he became our first boss. What I cherish most about the brief time we spent with Third World Network was the conversations with Martin, the introduction to figures of Penang social activism, especially the iconic SM Idris, Meena Raman and the CAP community, and meeting young idealists Martin had rallied to his cause, including Yin Shao Loong. I last spoke to Martin last September as Sharaad Kuttan and I were putting together a special session for the George Town Literary Festival called 'Journey to Activist Island'. We had invited Martin to be part of this session, and although he could not physically participate due to his declining health, Martin took the time to share his insights and suggestions, and kept checking with me to make sure we managed to get the right people for the session. My mother visited him several times last year, most recently in November. Farewell, Martin. Rest in power.

---

Dear Meena

In this time of sadness there is still the light ignited by Martin with which we can all continue forward and continue his legacy.

I will always cherish the the time when Martin told me that he that we used to play Hide and Seek in his parent's house and garden whenever there were parties and family get together. It brought back sweet memories of us children running all over the place. We would have our meals quickly and then off to play with him, his siblings and cousins.

In the short time that we have worked together, he showed me what it is to be the humble servant of God championing the poor and marginalised.

He always shows his appreciation for whatever you do whether it is big or small and this has encouraged me to want to continue working with the wonderful TWN, CAP and SAM families.

Eternal rest grant onto him O Lord and May the Perpetual Light shine upon him.

With deepest sympathy  
Pauline

Eva Sirinathsinghji

I am so sorry to hear the news about Martin, and I send my love and condolences to you all at TWN.

Warmest hugs  
Eva

Dr Celine Tan (ex TWN staffer), University of Warwick  
Rest in power Martin Khor. Your legacy lives on in all of us you taught, mentored, cajoled and badgered into making this world a better one. We can only keep on fighting as you always ask us to while not giving up your irrepressible optimism that things will change.

'There are many facets and shades of Martin's life to fully grasp. Self-effacing, he pushed others to the forefront while providing intellectual research and boost. Industrious, working overnight wherever he was to ensure key materials were in the hands of decision-makers timeously.

Intellectual giant, with so many books, articles and a Star column to his name. Caring, always lending a helping hand or ear to those around him. Truly, a legend in his lifetime and well after.' (Gurdial Singh Nijar)

Riaz Tayob (ex TWN)

The embodiment of all that is good in humans: service above self. A teacher, a guru, leadership through service, incorruptible and a friend.



Last night I received desolating news of the passing of a dear friend and mentor, Martin Khor. Martin was an inspiration and moral compass to many. He inspired us as a great thinker and generous and kind person through his absolute commitment to justice. He believed in me and touched my life in the pursue of a fair world, and his legacy carries on, particularly in this time of darkness. He is in our hearts defending those who can't advocate for themselves in this ruthless world. Rest in Power, dear Martin.



YOUTUBE.COM

Tribute to Martin Khor (1951 - 2020)

Sir, Rest in Power. And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in d...

**Perna Bomzan**

\*an irreplaceable loss not only to us TWN family but to the entire global South..... you saved the best of your prolific writings for the last with 'secret to happiness' carrying the message: live simply and you'll live richly..... most simple yet most profound..... rest in power, martin! \*

**Hira Jhamtani**

Selamat jalan [Martin Khor](#), guru dan sahabatku. Saya diberkahi karena punya teman sepertimu, yang memfasilitasi saya menganalisis banyak hal tentang ketidakadilan global. Semoga kau bahagia di alam sana..

**Yin Shao Loong**

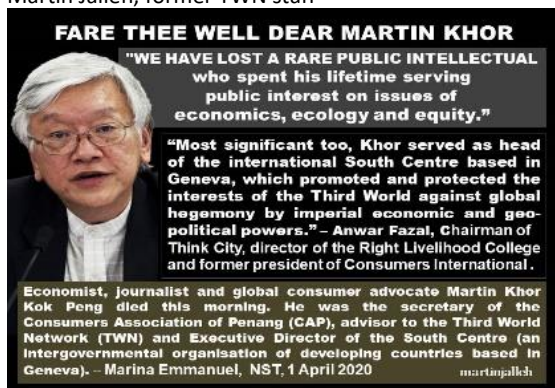
Dearest Meena, I'm so sorry for your loss, our loss, the world's loss.

Martin was a fighter, a warrior for all that is good and just. A shield against invisible perils few could see. Like some benevolent Olympian of legend he gifted us the power to see them and fight for our rights, our country. I weep that he left you at such an unsettled time in our nation's history. It is a double blow to Malaysia to lose Martin and Idris, teacher and student, one year after the other.

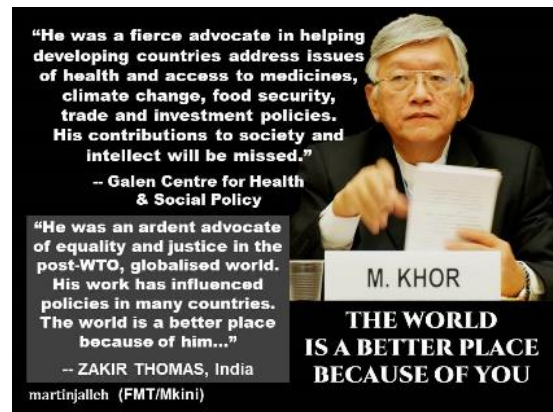
I know how hard it must have been to witness the ravages of cancer on someone you love. At least we know that his suffering has ended and he has earned a warrior's rest.

I will keep on fighting. He made it quite clear when we last met that the battle to stop the CPTPP must go on. In this time of lockdown we cannot gather around you to mourn him, but perhaps we can video conference a wake with friends around the globe. Something to consider when you are ready. We are all here for you. Reach out and we will be there.

**Martin Jalleh, former TWN staff**



Martin Khor, an intellectual giant who fought for countries of the Third World on issues of Economics, Ecology and Equity, passes away. May he rest in peace! -mj



The world, especially the Third World, is a better place because of you, Martin Khor! May you rest in peace and may God reward you for the great and good work you have been doing! -mj

**Fauwaz, former TWN staff**

Meena, I am very very sure that the amount of love and admiration that people all over the world have for Martin is more than enough testimony for him. While the world mourns losing him, I feel warmly assured that Martin is in good hands now." Fauwaz

**Ally Wong**

Thank You!  
RIP, Mr. Martin!

**Mirza Alas**

I will always think of Martin because he was a mentor, an inspiration and a great leader. He always made me feel like I could and needed to do much more, to think harder, to read more, to ask more questions. I remember how he very seriously said that antimicrobial resistance was the most pressing issue of our time and I had to become the expert. I am still not the expert, but I have grown as a professional thanks in huge part to Martin. But beyond that, I learned the most from him while observing the way he treated people with so much kindness and respect.

He would make them feel appreciated and respected and people, in turn, will respond to his requests with a deep commitment. I deeply admired his ability to make people feel empower and with a sense of purpose. I am one of those people. I wished I had had more time with him, but I will continue to carry his vision forward. Rest in peace great human.

The poem below from Eduardo Galeano makes me think about Martin. He was a blazing light.

"Each person shines with his or her own light. No two flames are alike.

There are big flames and little flames, flames of every color. Some people's flames are so still they don't even flicker in the wind, while others have wild flames that fill the air with sparks. Some foolish flames neither burn nor shed light, BUT OTHERS

BLAZE WITH LIFE SO FIERCELY THAT YOU CAN'T LOOK AT



THEM WITHOUT BLINKING, AND IF YOU APPROACH YOU SHINE IN THE FIRE.”

Deepest condolences to Meena and all his family.  
Mirza Alas

Gopalakrishnan Manicandan, Industrial Global Union  
Dear Meena and Ranja

As Martin Khor passes away, we lost one of the most resourceful and inspiring leaders of our time. He is such a powerful communicator, effortlessly communicated complex issues with precision and a perspective. After his every speech it felt like I read a book and made me curious to know more. Importantly Martin inspired you to take action. I feel that, by inspiring many young professionals, he ensured that more people take responsibility to defend people's interests in the policy-making processes.

He is such a multifaceted personality will be missed by anyone who interacted with him. Being part of OWNFS network provided numerous opportunities to listen to him. I am proud that I was part of TWN albeit briefly. It is a great loss for TWN family. Please accept my heartfelt condolences. His life and work continue to inspire us.  
In solidarity  
Mani

Karen Chen

I was grieved to hear of Martin's passing away. My heart is truly saddened and I would like to express my heartfelt condolences to Martin's family members at this time, while no words can ease the loss.

Martin was a wise leader and more than just a wonderful person. I was honoured to have chance to work with him in TWN. He will always remain within our hearts.

Sincerely,  
Karen Chen

Cecilia Oh

To the TWN family:

It is no easy thing to put into words what will amount to a fitting tribute to Martin.

Many of us will have our favourite “Martin” story: stories about Martin’s (only slightly obsessive) quirks. Such as all the times he would plan meetings down to the smallest detail, because (and TWN folks all know this) “*what can go wrong, will go wrong. What can go right, will also go wrong*”! Or, the mountains of papers and documents he collected, which literally filled houses. And the unerring way he would tell you that the fantastic 1984 paper on industrial policy can be found in the middle of the stack, on the third shelf of the fourth bookcase from the door. And of course, everyone has their own story of working, writing or simply waiting – all night – with Martin, because it was something that just had to be done.

It took me a while, but I realized that all these stories distilled into lessons from Martin; that conviction of the just and the good needs persistence and patience. I have lost a mentor, teacher and friend; above all, an inspiration. And the most fitting tribute to his memory is for me to remember these lessons and to put them into practice.

Thank you Martin, and good bye.  
cecilia

Chien Yen Goh

I learned from Martin to unlearn what I’ve been taught about the messy economic edifice we live in. Through the thicket of geo-economic strategems, diplomatic doublespeak and legal sophistry, it is easy to miss the wood for the trees, but Martin was never lost. He saw, like no other that at the heart of these highfalutin discourses lies the palpable struggle for justice not just for the “wretched of the earth” whom he laboured more than most for, but against greed, blinding self-interest, and ignorance. In this, Martin was especially gifted, he revealed simply and without pretension the human costs and ecological burden to every wrongheaded neoliberal economic precept that tried to get itself encoded as law and policy, long before it was discredited. Martin tirelessly brought his wisdom to all four corners of the world convinced that the right message needs repeating. He did so, not with moral zealotry but always with humour, kindness and love. We are all now poorer without him, even as he succeeded in his life long dedication to realise a better world than he has found it.” - chienyen, TWN Geneva (2001-2008)

## II. From Governments and International Organizations

### A. General Messages

Mahathir Mohamad, former Prime Minister of Malaysia

**DR. MAHATHIR BIN MOHAMAD**

1<sup>st</sup> April 2020

Ms Meenakshi Raman  
Wife of Martin Khor Kok Peng  
11A Springtide Residences  
Jalan Tanjung Bungah  
11200 Pulau Pinang

*Dear Meenakshi*

It is with sadness and deep regret that Hasmah and I received news of the demise of your beloved husband, Martin Khor Kok Peng this morning.

Please accept our heartfelt condolences and deepest sympathies for your loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family during this difficult time. We pray his soul will rest in peace.

*Sincerely*



**DR MAHATHIR BIN MOHAMAD**

No. 1, Jalan P8H, Presint 8, 62250 PUTRAJAYA  
Tel : 603-8885 8900 Fax : 603-8889 1114

Benjamin Mkapa, former President of Tanzania,  
Chairman Emeritus of the Board of South Centre  
I HAVE JUST LEARNED FROM Vice Yu of the passing on of  
your dear husband and my deeply respected colleague  
at the SOUTH CENTRE, Martin Khor. I am much  
saddened by the news. I held him in high esteem and he  
was a totally dependable right hand of my chairmanship  
of the South Centre. The legacy of the two of you will be  
forever inscribed in the annals of SOUTH COOPERATION.  
With deepest sympathy,

Ben Mkapa

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Dear Vice

Thank you for the news of Martin Khor passing on. I am  
truly saddened, and pray that he rests in eternal peace. I  
am sending condolences to his wife. The two of  
them have established a record of dedicated service in  
pursuit of third world causes.

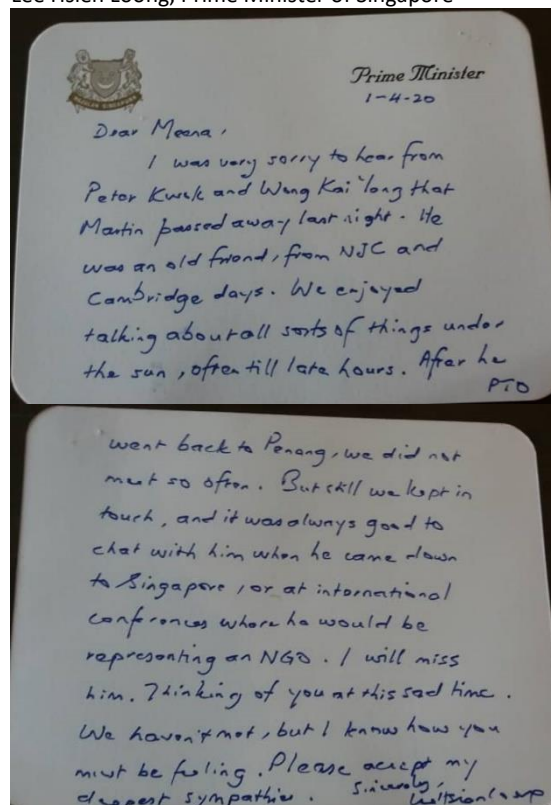
Ben Mkapa

Anwar Ibrahim, former Deputy Prime Minister, Malaysia  
Sincere condolences

A long time friend

Dedicated to the cause of justice and clean environment  
Please convey to Martins family

Lee Hsien Loong, Prime Minister of Singapore



Jomo K Sundaram, former Deputy Director-General FAO  
and UNDESA ASG

My dear Meena, I am so sorry to learn of his passing. I  
am relieved that he passed peacefully. Please do not  
hesitate to let me know how I can help. As we had many  
hundreds of mutual friends, I would like to inform them  
with a message from you if possible. For a broader  
audience, please have someone send me a bio of no  
more than 1000 words for international dissemination.  
Perhaps something TWN has. I will ask Yoke Leng for the  
latter as well but please do not hesitate to let me know  
what you would like done. We embrace you in this time  
of grief we share. May Martin rest in peace after a full  
life in which he built and achieved so much.

Saifuddin Abdullah - former Malaysia foreign minister  
and now communications and multimedia minister:  
Deeply saddened to hear of the passing of an old friend,  
Martin Khor. He was a distinguished journalist,  
economist, former Director of the Third World Network  
& South Centre, and once served on my consultative  
council at @MalaysiaMFA  
. He will be dearly missed.

Socialist Party of Malaysia

Our deepest condolences to the family of Dr Martin  
Khor from all in PSM. A great thinker, fighter. Thanks for  
all the guidance in fighting the TPPA comrade, RIP.

Maryam Rahmanian, Iran. Former co chair of FAO High Level Panel of Experts:

Dear Ching,

I was very sorry to hear about the passing away of Martin Khor. I had never met him but I have always respected the work of TWN, which he played such a huge role in. May he rest in peace.

Big hug,  
Maryam

Rashmi Banga, UNCTAD

really sorry to hear about Martin. May he Rest In Peace. we will miss Martin so much. His presence itself was such a big moral support.

Karin Timmermanns - formerly WHO, now UNITAID

I feel so privileged to have known him. He truly was one of the great thinkers of our times

Jose Antonio Ocampo, former UN USG for DESA

We will miss you dear Martin

Tan Sri Othman Hashim

Former PR of Malaysia to the UN in Geneva(2009-2012)

and former Secretary General Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Malaysia

Dear Mrs Meena Khor,

I learned with sadness the passing of Dr Martin Khor. I worked with him very closely when he was the Executive Director of South Center in Geneva. We worked very well on issues of interest to developing countries.

The late Dr Martin Khor was a good man and a giant champion for the developing countries especially on international trade/WTO, intellectual property rights, environment and climate change. He was very much respected by Ambassadors & PRs in Geneva.

I lost a dear friend.

My profound condolences on the passing of your beloved husband. May his soul rest in peace and may you and the family be given strength in your grief.

Tenu Avafia, UNDP

Dear Sangeeta,

Just shared some very sad news with us earlier today. I immediately went back to the Addis meeting in March 2005 which is where I first met Martin, Sanya and you... Please do let us know if there's any way to contribute to honoring Martin's incredible legacy. Some of us owe him a great debt of gratitude

Kindly,

Tenu

Aimee Gonzales, formerly with WWF now with PEMSEA, Philippines

Today is a sad day for social activists around the world with the passing on of Martin Khor, a passionate champion of Third World rights and causes.

I had the privilege of collaborating with Martin on advocating for integrating environmental and social imperatives in trade and investment policies when I was

working with WWF and he was with Third World Network.

The collaboration was challenging on many fronts, but we Asians have a way of bonding together... exchanging documents and trade secrets at that time when WTO was still schizophrenic about NGO access and transparency and always over bad and overpriced cantonese food in Geneva! He knew where the good and bad Chinese eateries were in town.

The tactical alliance was a high point on the global trade-SD campaign and advocacy because all of us tradeniks from

major conservation organizations to labour, human rights, social, grassroots and anti Globalization NGOs worked together to fight against the multilateral agreement on investment in OECD and the WTO... and we won!

Rest in power Martin. You will be sorely missed, but know that you are loved and admired by many.

Modest Mero, Ambassador of Tanzania

This is very sad news for all of us who worked with him, he was professional and a true friend, he shared all what he had to all of us. May almighty lord rest his soul in eternal peace.

Izzat Abdel Hadi, Palestine Ambassador to Australia

My deepest condolences to Martin Khor's wife and family.

He was a close friend, whom I worked with him closely for many years, genuine supporter of the Palestinian people and a strong advocate for the Palestinian rights. He was a global fighter for peace and justice, as Ziad mentioned, and a friend of Civil Societies in the Arab World.

Permanent Mission of Venezuela, NY, Draft NAM

Communique on Martin Khor

Joaquín A. Pérez Ayestarán, Embajador, Representante Permanente Alterno de Venezuela ante la ONU.

As soon as we learned of this sad news, Venezuela proposed to the Non-Aligned Movement to consider issuing a Communiqué so that our developing nations could pay their respects to and honor the legacy of our friend Martin Khor. Today, 120 countries from the South agreed on this text.

No. 000056

The Permanent Mission of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to the United Nations presents its compliments to the honorable Permanent Mission of the honorable Republic of Azerbaijan to the United Nations, in its capacity as Chair of the Coordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), in the opportunity of referring to the recent passing away of Dr. Martin Khor, former Executive Director of the South Centre.

In this regard, the Permanent Mission of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to the United Nations would like to transmit attached herewith copy of a Draft Communiqué of the Coordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) to be issued, should there be consensus, on the subject at hand.

Moreover, the Permanent Mission of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to the United Nations respectfully requests the good offices of the honorable Permanent Mission of the honorable Republic of Azerbaijan to the United Nations for circulating this communication and its attachment amongst the Member States of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) for their due consideration.

The Permanent Mission of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the honorable Permanent Mission of the honorable Republic of Azerbaijan to the United Nations, in its capacity as Chair of the Coordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), the assurances of its highest esteem and consideration.



New York, 31 March 2021

H.E. Mr. Yashar T. Aliyev  
Ambassador, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the United Nations  
Chair, Non-Aligned Movement (NAM)  
New York.-

Permanent Mission of Azerbaijan in New York as Chair of the Coordinating Bureau of the NAM  
Coordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), UN New York



CHAIR OF  
THE COORDINATING BUREAU  
OF THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT



**COMMUNIQUÉ OF THE COORDINATING BUREAU OF THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT (NAM) ON THE PASSING AWAY OF DR. MARTIN KHOR, FORMER EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE SOUTH CENTRE**

1. The Coordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) is profoundly saddened at the passing away of Mr. Martin Khor, former Executive Director of the South Centre, think tank of the countries of the South established in 1995 and closely linked to and supportive of the Movement, insofar as an Observer to it.
2. The Coordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) seizes this opportunity to pay tribute to the life of a champion for, among others, sustainable development, South-South cooperation, climate and social justice; of a firm promoter of solidarity and understanding amongst the countries and peoples of the South; of an advocate for the establishment of a truly just and equitable world order, in which globalization benefits all, especially developing countries, without distinction.
3. The Coordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), while confident that his legacy of moral and intellectual leadership will be endured through the years, extends its deepest condolences to the Khor's family, to the Malaysian people, to the South Centre and to all others around the world, particularly in developing countries, whose lives were touched by his remarkable work.

New York, 02 April 2020

Nitin Desai, former UN USG, India

I am deeply grieved at Martin Khor's passing. We connected with each other quite extensively for more than 20 years when I was in the Brundtland Commission secretariat, later when preparing for the Rio summit, running the CSD and the Johannesburg summit. We continued to connect when he was associated with the South Commission. He was an articulate and honest voice for the interests of developing countries and the interests of the environment. He wielded significant influence on the reflection of developing country interests in the outcomes of U.N. Conferences. My deepest sympathies to his family and to his colleagues in TWN.

Nagesh Kumar, UNESCAP South and South-West Asia Office

We are deeply saddened by the news of demise of Martin Khor! It is a big loss for the Global South and the development community! Martin was a great champion of the just and fair world economic governance and dedicated his life to building one! I had the privilege of interacting and working with Martin on many occasions over past nearly 20 years, during my time as the head of RIS and later from UNESCAP. He will be deeply missed. Our deepest condolences to his family, friends and colleagues!  
Nagesh

Niloy Banerjee

Resident Representative

UNDP Malaysia, Singapore & Brunei Darussalam

Dear Madam Meenakshi Raman,

The UNDP team would like convey our deepest condolences to you and family. UNDP is appreciative of the amazing work Martin did in supporting UNDP over the years. Stay strong in this difficult time. Our thoughts are with you.

United Nations Development Programme



Empo  
Resilie

02 Apr

Dear Madam Meenakshi Raman,

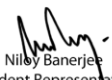
It is with deep sadness that I learned of the passing of your husband, Mr Martin Kf Peng. Together with my colleagues from the UNDP Malaysia country office, I offer my si condolences to you and your family.

Martin spent his lifetime serving the public interest on issues of economics, ecol equity, and to promote and protect the interests of the developing world in the merging order. I personally bear fond memories of reading his essays and articles as a young ecoi fresh-out-of University.

His positive outlook on the challenges faced, his thoughtful and forward-lookin and his unflagging hope for a better future, particularly for those in need, will rer inspiration to us all.

Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family in this time of personal gr we wish you the very best as you honour your husband's life and contribution.

Yours sincerely,

  
Nilay Banerjee  
Resident Representative  
for Malaysia, Singapore and Brunei Darussalam

MINISTERIO DE RELACIONES EXTERIORES  
Y MOVILIDAD HUMANA  
MISIÓN PERMANENTE DEL ECUADOR  
ANTE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS  
NUEVA YORK



Mr.  
Carlos María Correa  
Executive Director  
The South Centre  
Geneva

New York, 31 March 2020

Dear Mr. Executive Director,

I am deeply saddened by the news of the passing of Mr. Martin Khor, with whom I had the privilege of working together and also the good fortune to getting to know well not only at a professional level, but also personally through his deep sense of solidarity and altruism towards the peoples and countries of the South.

Mr. Khor always contributed to the efforts led by Ecuador in the international arena. He strived for a more equitable and humanistic development, and he showed enormous support for social issues, true conviction for the protection and promotion of human rights, and strong defense of our fundamental freedoms.

Martin will be remembered by his contributions to the South Centre and the civil society movement, as well as his commitment to multilateralism. His presence and influence at the Task Force on Environment and Human Settlements, and the Working Group of Experts on the Right to Development at the Commission on Human Rights, will be recognized for years to come.

Please accept my heartfelt condolences. My deepest sympathies go out to Mr. Khor's family and friends in these difficult moments.

Yours sincerely,

Luis Gallegos Chiriboga  
Ambassador

Permanent Representative of Ecuador to the United Nations in New York

866 United Nations Plaza, Room 516. New York, NY 10017 Tel: (212) 935 1680 / Fax: (212) 935 1835

Raja Nurshirwan, Ambassador of Malaysia to China Hi Dato'. Great man, and equally great Malaysian. Able to condense complex ideas into simple form and with a sense of humour too; the true test of intelligence! I hope that someone will soon pick up his mantle.

Yilmaz Akyuz and Richard Kozul-Wright, UNCTAD

Dear Friends,

We are greatly saddened by the passing of Martin Khor, a long-time friend and colleague, an undaunted fighter for the poor and underprivileged, a passionate believer in a more balanced and inclusive multilateralism, a rare intellectual and eloquent orator, an icon of the Global South worthy of veneration, greatly respected for his struggle for justice and fairness against the dominance and double-standards of big economic powers.

Martin was born in 1951 in colonial Malaysia, still under British rule, to a family of journalists. After his primary and secondary education in Malaysia, he left for the UK in 1971 to study at the University of Cambridge, where he obtained his B.A Hons and M.A. in economics, before completing his second Masters in Social Sciences at the University of Science, Malaysia in 1978. In his Master's thesis, he grappled with the changing nature of external dependence and surplus extraction in Malaysia as it moved from colonial to post-colonial status, with a view to its implications for the scope and limits of industrialization and development; a study which left an indelible mark on his subsequent engagement and

activities in a world characterised by increasingly asymmetric power relations.

He started his professional career as an Administrative Officer at the Ministry of Finance, Singapore before joining the University of Science, Malaysia as lecturer in Economics in 1975.

He became the Research Director of The Consumers' Association of Penang in 1978, an independent non-profit international research and advocacy organization on issues related to development. The Third World Network (TWN) was created in 1984 at an international Conference on "The Third World: Development and Crisis" organized by the Consumers' Association of Penang. In 1990, Martin became the Director of the TWN, perhaps the most important NGO from the developing world with operations globally, both in the North and the South, through offices, secretariats and researchers, including in Penang, Kuala Lumpur, Geneva, Beijing, Delhi, Jakarta, Manila, New York, Montevideo and Accra.

Martin held both positions at the Consumers' Association of Penang and the TWN until 2009 when he became the Executive Director of the South Centre in Geneva, an intergovernmental organization of developing countries established in 1995 to undertake research in various national and international development policy areas and provide advice and support to developing countries in a variety of international negotiating fora. Under his leadership, the South Centre became an important voice in discussions on international trade and investment, intellectual property, health, global macroeconomics, finance, sustainable development, and climate change. During his tenure, the Centre extended significantly the scope and quality of its policy research and advice, building an enhanced reputation and level of trust among developing countries in the struggles to protect and promote their interests. After leaving the South Centre in 2018, Martin returned to Penang, already suffering from cancer, and acted as Chairman of the Board of TWN until his death on April 1, 2020.

Martin was a staunch multilateralist but not an advocate of globalization, at least in the neo-liberal guise it acquired from the early 1980s. On the one hand, he was well aware that individually developing countries could not obtain fair deals with major (and minor) developed countries in the international economic system. On the other hand, he knew that multilateral rules and practices were unbalanced, designed to subject developing countries to the discipline of unfettered international markets shaped by transnational corporations and self-seeking policies of dominant powers in the North, denying them the kind of policy space they themselves had enjoyed in the course of their industrialization. His efforts focussed on reshaping multilateral rules and practices as a way to bring about systemic changes in the service of development.

Martin did this on three fronts. From the mid-1980s he focussed mainly on international trade issues, particularly those raised by negotiations during the Uruguay Round, and subsequently in the WTO and the proliferating free trade agreements and bilateral

investment treaties that accompanied the shift to a neo-liberal international economic order. Martin was instrumental in bringing the attention of policy makers and activists to the implications of new trade rules for the industrialization and development of the Global South arising from more demanding obligations on tariff and non-tariff measures, industrial subsidies, investment and intellectual property rights. He made several proposals for reform in these areas to remove imbalances and constraints over industrialization, and economic diversification more generally, in the Global South. He opposed free trade agreements with developed countries on the grounds that, by simultaneously curtailing the policy space available to governments while expanding the space for abusive practices by the large international firms that dominate international trade, they posed an even greater threat to development than the earlier generation of trade rules under the GATT. In the aftermath of the Marrakech agreement, Martin was a prominent figure blocking efforts by OECD countries to push for a multilateral investment agreement, to extend the neo-liberal agenda at the first WTO ministerial in Singapore and subsequently at the third meeting in Seattle and to water down the Doha Development Agenda at the Cancun Ministerial in 2003.

The second front concerned the issues around the operations of the Bretton Woods Institutions, notably debt and development finance. Martin had been a long-time critic of the Washington Consensus, and in particular, the use of policy conditionalities attached to lending by the IFIs which sought to push a series of damaging measures on developing countries in the name of efficiency, competitiveness and attracting foreign investors. But he started to pay greater attention to these after the 1997 Asian financial crisis, arguing against austerity, advocating capital controls, orderly debt work-out mechanisms, multilateral discipline over exchange rates and financial policies of major advanced economies and global regulation and supervision of systemically important international financial firms. He was a particularly strong advocate of these positions in his role as a member of the Helsinki Group on Globalisation and Democracy. Martin took the helm of the South Centre just before the 2009 Global Financial Crisis hit and was quick to provide substantive assistance to developing countries during the 2009 UN Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and its Impact on Development, identifying the key issues for them and working to ensure their insertion in the Outcome Document. He continued to push hard on these issues through the research output from the Centre while adding the related areas of illicit financial flows and international tax issues to its workload as developing countries sought support on these matters.

The third, and increasingly prominent, front was climate change and sustainable development which gained added importance in international discussions in the new millennium. Environmental issues had always been part of Martin's work as head of TWN and as a member of the Commission on Developing Countries and Global Change. But this widened significantly after the UN

Conference on the Environment and Development in 1992 in Rio de Janeiro. Subsequently, Martin became a member of the Consultative Group on Sustainable Development and a regular attendee at the UN Climate Change Conferences that began in 1995 playing a particularly important role in the Copenhagen COP in 2009 where the neglect of the development dimension by advanced economies, their reluctance to acknowledge common but differentiated responsibilities and their naïve belief in market-friendly solutions to the climate challenge led to acrimonious discussions and the eventual collapse of the conference. While he clearly recognized the need to reduce the pace of emissions and protect the environment, Martin was wary that the measures promoted by industrial countries could become instruments to stem development in the Global South. Under his leadership an important part of the work in the South Centre focussed on this issue. During this time Martin was a strong critic of tighter intellectual property rights, particularly through trade agreements, that restricted the transfer of the technologies developing countries needed to help in the fight against rising global temperatures and to mitigate the climate damage they were already experiencing. This work had a parallel in Martin's fight to ease the burden of TRIPs on developing countries in dealing with public health emergencies which, thanks to a successful civil society coalition where Martin was a pivotal figure, eventually succeeded in a permanent amendment to the TRIPs agreement in 2017. Martin's support to developing countries in the climate change negotiations, carried out through the South Centre and TWN, fostered greater coordination among developing countries in protecting and promoting their development policy space in the climate negotiations, highlighting equity, and stressing the international obligation of advanced economies to provide support to developing countries.

Martin's approach to advancing progressive solutions on all these fronts was always one of quiet determination driven by a passionate commitment to strengthening the voice of developing countries. He had an enviable ability to synthesise and explain complex negotiating issues to a broad audience and in a way that could bring on board activists and policy makers alike. He became a trusted advisor to policy makers and diplomats across the developing world. But Martin was equally comfortable engaging in a productive debate with policy makers from advanced countries and in mainstream institutions. His was a uniquely calming but authoritative voice for increasingly anxious times, one that has been silenced too soon and at a moment when his commitment to building a fairer and more resilient world was needed more than ever.

Yilmaz Akyüz, Former Director, Globalization and Development Strategies Division, UNCTAD; and Former Chief Economist, South Centre, Geneva.

Richard Kozul-Wright, Director, Globalization and Development Strategies Division, UNCTAD, Geneva.

Andrew Cornford, former UNCTAD, Geneva  
Martin's death is a sad event. But one also looks back on a life

extraordinarily well spent as an effective initiator and director of organisations and projects, and perhaps most importantly as a tireless supporter of alternative ideas concerning economic and social development. Andrew Cornford

Arjun Kumar Karki, Ambassador of Nepal



Ambassador

**EMBASSY OF NEPAL**  
2730 34<sup>th</sup> PLACE, N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20007

April 4, 2020

Dear Meenakshi Raman, Yoke Ling and friends in TWN,

I'm deeply saddened learning of Martin's passing away, please accept my heartfelt condolences. The Global South has lost a genuine, passionate, charismatic advocate and leader.

It was a pleasure to know him as a dear friend and passionate leader in our path of development politics and international relations, since almost three decades. In our fight for a better and just world through system change, I will always remember and appreciate his support, cooperation and passion for the concerns and challenges faced by the LDCs as an important constituency. As I remember him at this moment of loss, I'm reminded especially of our strategic engagement during the LDC-IV conference in Istanbul in 2011 and thereafter, the other key moment was during the LDC TRIPs waiver lobby in Geneva in 2012 with him, Meena and TWN team. The last time I properly met him was in Lima COP in 2014 when I was on pink badge and we even had a lunch meeting together with our HoD. It is indeed a moment of recollecting as well as saluting to his contributions and achievements for defending the interests of the developing world.

Heartfelt condolences to Martin's family members and friends in TWN. May he rest in peace and sending warm remembrance and strength to you, take care.

Dr. Arjun Kumar Karki

Muchkund Dubey, President, Council for Social Development and former Foreign Secretary, India  
Dear Meena,

Martin's demise has come as a great shock to all of us who had the privilege of working with him for protecting and ensuring the rights of the Third World countries in the world economic order

I feel particularly grieved as I knew him for decades, since the early 1990's when both of us were members of the International Advisory Group of the Red Cross (ICRC) Martin was a giant among Third World intellectuals and activists. He was a man of vision and a great leader in the realm of both thinking and action for bringing about a just and equitable world order. I have not known any Third World personality who was as unrelentingly and unspairingly devoted to his mission and Martin was As a result, he has left a monumental legacy of which all developing countries have reasons to be proud and the obligation to preserve

I send you and other members of the family my heartfelt condolences and pray for the peace of the departed soul  
Sincerely, Muchkund Dubey

Dr. Andrés Peñaloza Méndez

Presidente, Comisión Nacional de los Salarios Mínimos, Gobierno de México

Hace unos quince años tuve el honor y gusto de conocer en Ginebra a Martin Khor (1951-2020), intelectual profundo y especialista en comercio internacional. Ya desde 1992 leía con vivo interés sus artículos en la

revista de la Red del Tercer Mundo. Deja su impronta en las filas del altermundismo humanista y sustentable. Un compañero de viaje en las batallas por un nuevo y sureño paradigma civilizatorio. Vaya mi afecto solidario a familiares y camaradas del gran Martin Khor.

Nazrul Islam, UNDESA

Dear colleagues:

I'm very sorry to hear that Martin Khor has passed away. The message below from Yilmaz and Richard says it all, and there is hardly anything to be added about Martin's enormous contribution in defending the rights and interests of developing countries in the three areas, namely trade, BWIs, and sustainable development, including climate change.

Martin participated in several EGMs that our Branch organized in the past.

I was always impressed by the clarity with which he could discuss issues and present his arguments.

We often used his writings for our publications.

He was great friend of the developing countries and will be greatly missed.

However, the causes that he advocated need to be upheld in the coming days too.

On behalf of DRB, we offer sincere condolences to his family and friends.

Regards,

Nazrul Islam

UN-DESA/EAPD/DRB

Virginia Dandan, former UN Independent Expert on Human Rights and International Solidarity

It is such sad news to hear of Martin Khor's demise. He was a good friend whom I could count on for sound advice and strong support. Please extend my deepest sympathies to his family. He will be missed very much.

Virginia B.Dandan

Ibrahim Thiaw, Executive Secretary, UNCCD Secretariat  
Bjr grand frère. Espère que ta famille et toi allez bien. Je viens aussi de voir que Martin est parti pour toujours. Toute ma sympathie à vous tous

Arturo Lozano, G77 New York Secretariat

Dear Yoke Ling,

Thank you so much for your thoughtful note and my apologies for the slow reply.

Indeed, the news of Martin's untimely passing came as a shock when I received the SUNS and saw that there was only one story. It hit home and couldn't believe what I was reading. Thankfully he died in peace. Martin addressed many G-77 ambassadorial meetings in New York and his presentations, particularly on climate change, were eye-openers and you always left the room a different person after hearing him. He was a man on a mission, a militant for the South. It's a huge loss that will be difficult to replace.

It was a blessing and a privilege to have had the opportunity to know him and hope that his legacy will live forever. I trust that once things return to normal proper tributes will be paid in honour of his memory and his contributions to the South.

Best regards,

Arturo

Ambassador Ajit Kumar, Convenor, Council of Representatives of South Centre:

Dear Carlos,

Very sad to learn about passing away of our dear friend Mr Martin Khor.

He was an intellectual giant. His sterling service to the South Center and to the rights of South will always be remembered forever. His writings and talks were stimulating and thoughtful provoking. It is because of him that South Center is still functioning as he lead by example during its darkest days. His knowledge was always admired. He assisted many countries of the South, when he was ED and even after his tenure was over. His single minded devotion to the South was unmatched. He rose to the occasion defending South's priorities in many international fora. During my tenure as Ambassador and PR of India, we had many useful interactions.

He was respected by his peers and his detractors. He had visited India several times and had many friends, including in high places, like our former Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh. We will miss him as a good friend of India. Personally it is a great loss. They do not make humans like him any more. He was always helpful and understanding.

Please convey our deepest condolences to Mrs Khor. May God bless his soul. RIP Martin.

Warm regards

Ambassador Ajit Kumar

Omar El-Arini, former Executive Secretary, Montreal Fund, South Centre Board member

Dear Mr. Chairman and Dear Colleagues,

Martin Khor, the pride of the South fought many battles on behalf of the South. Unfortunately, he could not win the personal fight against cancer. As a towering intellectual from our midst, he was acutely hypersensitive to all the injustices wrought by a grossly unjust post-colonial world order.

With the zeal of a visionary, the humility of a savant, the prowess of his logic, the inclusiveness of his leadership and the genetic wisdom of a southerner, he advocated for justice and for the protection of our shared Planet. His nascent and superb intellect and his mastery of discourse his tools to carry the voice of the voiceless and to vocalize the words of the speechless.

Like another giant from the South, Dr. Frantz Fanon who, in the 1950s, exposed colonialism and its impact on the people of the South, Martin endeavoured to expose the ills of globalization and their impacts. To Martin's wife, Ms. Meena Raman, to you, Mr. Chairman and your predecessor, to you dear Colleagues present and former members of the Board and to the Convener and Vice-Convener and former Convener, and to the staff and experts of the SC Secretariat, past and present, I convey my condolences for the Martin passing.

To commence honoring Martin, I wish to seek the approval of the Board to consider the attached draft text "In Memoriam- Martin Khor" instructing the SC



Secretariat to post it on the SC website, as soon as the text meets your approval. I also propose to include an item on "Remembering Martin Khor" in the agenda of the 44<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Board.  
Thank you for your consideration.  
Sincerely,  
Omar E. El-Arini

Vicky Tauli-Corpuz, UNSR for IPs, South Centre Board member, Tebtebba  
Martin has been a big influence in my trajectories in life. He encouraged and supported me to set up Tebtebba Indigenous. He brought me to the bigger circles of activists and thinkers. He always made himself available when I needed advice on the work I am doing. Most of all he was one of the most compassionate and empathetic friends I had in my life. Losing him is very painful as he is a great thinker, brilliant strategist, a role model of an environmentalist, an activist and a change maker, a prolific writer and a friend who will lay his life for his friends. He will be missed, especially at this time when the world faces its most serious crises, such as climate change, health crisis, and an economic recession. Thank you Martin for all what you have done. My deepest sympathies to Meena, Rebecca, Isabel, Evelyn and the TWN and CAP family. As well to his brothers and sister. We mourn his death but we also remember his legacies.

Ransford Smith, former Commonwealth Deputy Secretary General, South Centre Board member  
Dear Colleagues,  
I join in the expressions of sorrow at the passing of Martin Khor, who I knew for more than thirty years. Martin was a giant among the many, past and present, who have been at the forefront of the struggle to promote and advance the cause of developing countries.  
In truth, few so ably combined the qualities of activist and thinker! His steadfastness, courage, and intellectual honesty will be sorely missed.  
Martin was, above all else, tireless! He not only constantly wrote to inform, influence, and persuade, but was constantly engaged, and was always ready to act in accordance with his beliefs.  
His written output was prodigious: it reflected, in particular, a rare talent to treat with technical and complex subjects simply and clearly. This ability was another of Martin's unique and perhaps irreplaceable gifts.  
The South, the Centre, and humanity are much the poorer now that he has left us.  
Sincerely  
Ransford Smith

Rubens Ricupero, former UNCTAD SG and Brazil foreign minister, former South Centre Board member  
Dear Yilmaz,  
I was deeply moved by the thoughtful and inspiring tribute you and Richard paid to Martin's enduring legacy. I felt that you spoke for all Martin's friends and admirers at this sad and somber hour. Very best personal regards to both of you,

Rubens

Deepak Nayyar, former Chief Economist, India, former South Centre Board member  
Many thanks, Yilmaz and Richard, for this superb tribute to Martin, who championed the cause of the Global South and poor people everywhere in the world. He was very very special. There are so few with his passionate commitment and mix of talents. And we will all miss him.  
Regards  
Deepak

Aileen Kwa, South Centre  
Dearest Meena  
I am truly truly sorry for your loss Meena. You and Martin had such a sweet relationship. I will always remember you bringing him his Chinese potions... and food... and nagging him 😊  
It has been very good to read all the tributes to him. I am attaching one from Faizel Ismail, and below another from Rob Davies and a message from Edouard (Rwanda).  
As for myself, I already have been missing him. We didn't agree always on everything, as you know. But we did agree on wto issues... and I always appreciated probably ranting to him when he would be in town on the latest twists and turns and horrors... Our passions matched and I will always appreciate and miss that. He was also an immense pillar of strength in our EPA fights, suggesting that we should be setting up a 'war room' on the issue, and asking one of our colleagues if he was willing to lay down his life for his continent (half in jest, but not really also).  
You take very good care Meena... I cannot even begin to imagine how it is for you... May you be blessed with courage and strength in the coming days and months... Our thoughts and prayers are with you.  
Aileen

Mariama Williams, South Centre  
The world and the south has lost a great champion. In solidarity.  
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Tribute to Martin Khor (Martin)  
Since April 1, 2020, the physical world has lost a multi-dimensional man, a husband, a brother, a father, a grandfather, an organizer, an activist and a leader. But the universe has gained another bright shining guiding star. I sometimes joke to friends that God or the master(s) of the universe are now in great discomfort as between Martin, Bernaditas (Mueller), Norman (Girvan) and Amin (Samir), there is a high-level posse of organizers now roaming the universe trying to right wrongs.  
But truly, we, here in this place and in this time, are bereft of a powerful leader, thinker, friend and comrade.  
Martin Khor was a brilliant, dedicated, visionary and enlightened leader, thinker, story teller, historian, economist, climate change fighter, and a social scientist. We could add many more accolades; but, most

of all, he was humble, funny and attuned to the movements of the society and people around him. I don't know how he did it. He would be able to sing a line from a calypso or rocksteady from years ago and in the next breath update you on the latest happenings of lady Gaga or other enterprising entertainers. He also knew the value of the most mundane things. Like what was a good suitcase to buy and where to get it. I would say Martin, "how do you know these things." He would say I read about it or I heard about it. He noticed what was going on about him; and he seemed to remember everything. He loved this world and the men, women and children in it. He loved writing and reading. He loved books, magazines, newspapers. He paid attention to the news big and small. On trips to meetings, he would seem to not sleep but a wink, no matter the length of the journey. He was always working. But he also had time to listen. He never made one felt that he was too busy. Yet he got so much more accomplished than most any one I know. Martin's advice and recommendations were valued by ambassadors, ministers and presidents who knew him and sought him out. Because his understanding of issues—complex and technical and or political and sensitive was thorough, he was excellent at communicating it to people so they could easily understand it and grasp its nuances for their eventual decision-making. Their interactions with him whether public or private was a sacred trust and like his staff they felt safe and cared for. As the executive director of the South Centre, his leadership was unparalleled, he excelled in his work and his constituency of developing countries valued and trusted in his leadership. He brought the Centre back from fading into irrelevancy and financial hardship. Under his leadership, the Centre regained its purpose and mission and grew in prominence. Members came to feel connected and valued and so they resumed their contributions, which had been faltering over the years. He helped to build a healthy board with sterling supportive leadership. He also believed in surrounding himself with great talents. He was a mature man and a secure leader. He inspired people. He recruited talents from the South as he was able, given the budgetary constraints he inherited at the Centre. Martin Khor was also an adept and proficient fund raiser. He left the Centre in financial surplus and with an empowered and thriving staff. I joined the staff of the South Centre, initially as a consultant, in late 2010 and was very fortunate to work with Martin until his illness forced him to refuse to be re-contracted as the ED. That was a monumental loss for the Centre. But I knew Martin before that. I knew him when he led TWN—through the MAI battle, the WTO Singapore issues and the Debacle in Seattle. 'No new round turn around'; that came from TWN's effort. Martin laboured night and day working on trade and investment issues environment and climate issues. Yet he loved food, good conversations and sharing strategies with folks. He would often invite us to join him in his temporary

quarters in Geneva, in Studio House, Acacias, where a few of us would hold-out during those intense WTO struggle days. Back then, I was in Geneva, first, representing the Network Women in Development Europe (WIDE, based in Brussels) and, later, the International Gender and Trade Network (IGTN) with frequent travels to Geneva. I would often be with Martin at bus stops in the cold somewhere in Europe after long day of meetings, when he would bolster my flagging spirit with a joke or a line from the 'banana man' and Harry Belafonte and other melodies from Jamaica and the Caribbean musical lore. His energy was indefatigable.

He did not find a thing he could not organize about. I remember when once in Stockholm, I somehow got food poisoning. I was sick, embarrassed, and trying to be low key about it. Martin knew, and to my chagrin, when he preceded me on a panel, he announced to the audience. "You folks are always worried about our food and getting sick in the developing world, yet look at poor Mariama Williams who got sick from eating your food here!" Though embarrassed (but grateful) by all the attention that I then later received from my hosts, I could not help but laugh with him about it as we walked back to hotel later that evening. "Martin, I said to him, laughing till I almost keeled over, "is there nothing you will not organize about." He said. "But they needed to know that one can get food poisoning here; they are always worried about eating in the South." And, of course he was right. He was always defending the South. We bonded on that trip. Him, me and Meena, then still at FOE. He would tease me mercilessly about feminism but he always said we would work more closely together. Ultimately, it happened when he became ED of South Centre and encouraged me to come aboard. What a stimulating, learning and life-altering journey! That was Martin, always thinking ahead, planning a head, but living in the present.

Before ending this tribute, I want to speak about Martin's leadership as I think he was one of the few remaining leaders of a generation that we have lost and that we will surely powerfully miss. He was a leader with professional and personal impeccable integrity, though not perfect, as after all he was a human being. He cared about people, the person in front of him and the vast majority of the so-called faceless, nameless poor in the developing countries; it was personal; their struggle was personal as well as political for him. Paradoxically, a feminist trait, for he was not a feminist. He was a male leader, but not predatory. He was a good listener, an excellent motivator and an 'empowerer'. He walked and worked with Purpose, Presence and Perseverance grounded in a strong ethical foundation that was so characteristics of many of past leaders of the South. Though it might be quaint to say, he had faith in his work, something that I greatly admired. He would always see the long play, the long game, the greater good. Even when myself and others despaired. These qualities enable him to be a strong, powerful, visionary and enlightened leader and a paripatic fund-raiser. Donors knew their investment in the South Centre and whatever Martin chose to do would be wisely used and give value-for-money. They also felt his understanding

and empathy for their work and mission and knew that he would protect their interests as well as the organization's interest. They and us, his staff, grew to know that for him, their giving, however large or small, was not a casual thing to be taken for granted, but a sharing in the cause; a reflection of their passion for social, economic and environmental justice.

Lastly, his profound spirituality is demonstrated in his parting gift to his granddaughter, Isabel, but surely for me, a true gem, the little book, *the Secret to Happiness* (2019, Consumer Association of Penang).

Nuff respect!

We miss you Martin Khor Kok Peng. Rest in Power.

Mariama Williams, Villette, Geneva, Switzerland. April 14, 2020

Nakshatra Pachauri, South Centre

Hello madam. This is Nakshatra. I still cannot believe that the ED left us. I wanted to meet him but alas time ran out. When Vice told me that all TWN had met him in Penang, I told him that I hoped that soon I can get there too. I wouldn't forget his laughter and his ability to calm things down in the most difficult circumstances. His ability to shoulder the responsibility for his people. His caring attitude for all who worked with him. His strenuous hard work, non stop travel but never ever flinching in his commitment. I have always told purnima that I learnt commitment from him. I learnt how someone can be a master of all trades. I am so glad to have worked under him. For me he will remain the eternal ED. And I will tell my son who to look upto. We will ensure and try our best to keep his flag flying high. I just wanted to send this to you. I know you believe in God. HE will see over his well being in the heavens from where I hope the ED will see over all of us. Please do not hesitate in case I or my family can ever be of any assistance to you. We will do our best. Always.

Xin Cui, South Centre staff

Oh no... terribly sorry to hear that. All my sincere condolences to you & family. You and him were like a family to me. He was a great boss and I was honored to work for him. We all learned a lot from him and he will be always be remembered. There are no words to express my heartfelt sorrow. My thoughts are with you. May he Rest In peace. 🙏

Nirmalya Syam, South Centre staff

Dear Meena,

I am writing with a heavy heart to express my condolences at the passing away of Martin.

I have been deeply saddened ever since I came to know. Martin was the kindest, most empathetic person I have ever known. He cared deeply about the people of the global South, and he deeply cared about each and every one of us. He was like a tree that gave me shade when I needed it most. Thanks to his support, about which we never spoke, my son has been able to access the educational support that he needs. At a personal level, I will be forever grateful for that.

I am also grateful for the opportunity to work with Martin and learn from him. His ability to see through the complexity of any issue and bring out the critical

challenges for the developing countries, and then explain it in the simplest manner possible, has left a lasting impression on me. I consider myself to be fortunate to have known Martin.

Through the day today, my mind went back to the last time I saw Martin, at the picnic by the lakeside. His infectious smile, his joy for life, empathy for fellow human beings, are qualities that will continue to inspire us. I hope God gives us the strength to be worthy of Martin's legacy.

Regards

Nirmalya

Marie Merigeau, former South Centre staff

Dear Meena, Dear TWN,

It is with great sadness that I have heard of the passing of Martin.

I have worked for almost 10 years under his leadership at the South Centre and I have always admired his dedication to his work. He was a kind person and he has left a lasting impression on me.

I would like to express my most sincere condolences to you Meena and to the rest of your family.

Warmly,

Marie Mérieau

Anna Bernardo, South Centre staff

Hello TWN,

This is Anna Bernardo from the South Centre.

Very sad news we received last night. I am sending you my deep and most sincere condolences.

Mirza told me that we can send tributes to you? What I only have is a short message:

Martin Khor was a fighter for the cause of the South, one of the greatest minds of our time. But to me, he was the journalist, the editor, my mentor who taught me everything I know about editing. A really hard worker who I admire...May you Rest In Peace, Sir.

Thank you and take care all of you.

Best,

Anna

Adriano Timossi, formerly South Centre, now with FAO Geneva

Dear former colleagues. I am really sorry to hear the sad news about Martin. Our dear former boss, great friend and grandfather left us. His great wisdom, hard work and commitment to the cause of the most vulnerable was a great gift to humankind. It was for me and I am sure for you also, a great privilege to work with him and learn from him, a humble person and hard worker. He was a great human being, a giant of the South. We shall continue our mission of working for the people, the most vulnerable people and for a better world for all inspired by his legacy. I pray for God to take care of our dearest grandfather...I wish all strength in these challenging times. Very best wishes. Adriano

**Remembering Martin Khor as the Executive Director of the South Centre**

Vicente Paolo Yu

Former Project Officer (2002-2004), Team Leader (2004-2006), Programme Coordinator (2006-2019), Head of Administration (2010-2016), and Deputy Executive Director (2016-2018) of the South Centre

#### **Martin's main achievements at the South Center**

Martin put the Centre on a stable footing both financially and institutionally throughout his entire tenure as ED from March 2009 to June 2018 – e.g. fiscal surpluses were maintained annually, institutional governance and staff relations were smooth, and the institutional issue coverage expanded sustainably from mostly trade-related issues (including WTO, EPAs, IPRs) in the pre-2009 period to include work post-2009 to 2018 on global macroeconomic and finance, debt, tax, investment, sustainable development, climate change, disaster risk reduction, agroecology, biodiversity protection, antimicrobial resistance, and global health issues.

The expansion of issue coverage was part of a strategic work programme developed and agreed with the Board and Member States of the South Centre to enable the Centre to respond more effectively to the need of developing countries for policy research and direct technical assistance in a wide range of multilateral negotiations as well as national policymaking in these issue areas.

Martin saw and acted on the potential of the South Centre to serve as the South's vehicle to promote Southern solidarity in order to pursue systemic and structural changes in the global system to address historical and current inequalities within the framework of advocating social and economic justice and environmental sustainability in these areas; and implemented it by combining and articulating the Centre's own and other global Southern institutions' policy research and analysis on multilateral development issues with effective policy and technical support through directly working with developing country governments, civil society, and other actors involved in international negotiations and national policymaking on these issues, and encouraging and supporting developing country governments to cooperate and work together in order to address the power and institutional imbalances that exist in international institutions and global governance dynamics in favour of the Global North.

Martin made and strengthened the South Centre's capacity and institutional credibility in terms of its strategic and development-oriented policy research and analysis, technical assistance to developing countries, its ability to support and bring about developing country collaboration in many multilateral negotiations, and bringing about Southern government-NGO dialogue on many multilateral issues. He was also very clear about his responsibility as the Executive Director of the South Centre to serve as the Centre's primary fundraiser, staff morale booster, and institutional persona, and comported himself as such.

#### **Making a difference in many areas of multilateral policy**

Martin's leadership of the South Centre supported developing countries in strategically highlighting development policy space and structural approaches to

support developing countries in order to address systemic inequalities in the global arena.

For example, he directed the Centre's research in trade issues to focus on the fulfilment of the development components of the WTO Doha Round, including on special and differential treatment, implementation-related issues, elimination of Northern agriculture subsidies, and non-reciprocity by developing countries in the market access negotiations. The Centre's work on economic partnership agreements also scaled up between 2009 to 2015 even as the WTO negotiations stalled in the same period; the work on EPAs and other regional free trade agreements helped some developing countries in Africa and Asia, for example, to understand better the risks these EPAs pose to their development policy space and refuse to sign them.

On sustainable development, he led the close engagement in terms of policy research and technical assistance by the South Centre with developing countries (including through the Group of 77) during the Rio+20 negotiations in 2012 and the subsequent working group negotiations on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that were adopted in 2015; this included providing suggestions in relation to the conceptualization of SDGs that eventually found themselves reflected in both the design and content of the adopted SDGs.

On the multilateral response to the 2008-2009 global finance crisis, he led the South Centre in supporting the UN General Assembly's Conference on the Global Financial Crisis and the development of its outcome document. Thereafter, the research that he directed the Centre towards on global macroeconomic issues, including on global macroeconomic fundamentals, sovereign debt, financing for development, and international tax cooperation resulted in a greater understanding of the impacts of the developed countries' policy responses to the 2008 crisis on the Global South; highlighted the need for systemic structural macroeconomic fundamentals to change; resulted in renewed calls by developed countries in the early 2010s for a new sovereign debt workout mechanism; supported the Group of 77 in the UN financing for development negotiations; and the establishment of a nascent Global South cooperation forum for developing country tax authorities.

On investment, Martin pushed the Centre into looking at the development policy space impacts of international invest-state dispute settlement mechanisms on developing countries, which eventually led to developing countries becoming more active through the Group of 77 in Vienna, New York, and Geneva on UNCITRAL negotiations on ISDS reform. He pushed the Centre into more direct engagement on human rights issues, particularly on the right to development, human rights obligations of transnational corporations, and unilateral coercive measures, believing that the global human rights narrative also needs to be shaped by developing countries to also highlight economic and social rights.

On health issues, Martin foresaw the need for developing countries to see health as part of their development policy arsenal. This resulted in greater

engagement by the Centre on health issues, including on the WHO's research and development framework, its work on antimicrobial resistance, and on the use of TRIPs flexibilities to ensure greater access to essential medicines for developing countries and decrease the role of intellectual property rights in pharmaceutical access. Due to this, a broad international NGO coalition on antimicrobial resistance, working together with the WHO and governments, was established with the support of the South Centre. Developing countries' views were reflected in the WHO R&D Framework. A programme through which the Centre conducted national trainings for developing country patent examiners on the use of TRIPs flexibilities with respect to pharmaceuticals was funded and put in place. On climate change, Martin's impact included the articulation of a development and environmental equity-oriented approach to the climate change problematique. Martin also championed the fostering and development of developing country perspectives in the climate change negotiations based on this approach that both supported the universal Group of 77 and brought together like-minded groups of individual developing countries from Africa, Asia, the Middle East, and Latin America and the Caribbean to become strong and effective articulators of their sustainable development rights and interests in the climate change arena. This ensured that the outcomes of climate change negotiations under the UNFCCC such as the 2015 Paris Agreement also reflected key developing country concerns in the areas of common but differentiated responsibilities, adaptation, loss and damage, and the twin obligations of developed countries to scale up their emissions reduction ambition and to scale up their provision of finance and technology to developing countries so that the latter can be supported in enhancing their emission reduction and adaptation actions.

Martin was a strong believer in the value of South-South cooperation and solidarity. He ensured that the Centre would work closely to support through policy research and direct technical advice in various multilateral negotiations the Global South's various collective groups. These groups included the Group of 77 and the Non-Aligned Movement, as well as the large number of ad hoc negotiating groups and alliances that developing countries often form to articulate their interests in various multilateral negotiations, including the LDC Group, the African Group, the African-Caribbean-Pacific Group, and like-minded groups of developing countries in various fora.

In all of these areas of work that Martin led while at the South Centre, he also sought to ensure that effective engagements with Southern and Northern civil society organizations and social movements, including with TWN, OWINFS, EAG, etc., were undertaken by the South Centre in order to foster a better dialogue between developing country governments and civil society and thereby also impact on the global narrative on these issues.

#### **Working with developing country governments**

Martin continually encouraged developing countries to work together and to cooperate at the multilateral

negotiations level, by focusing on their common development priorities and objectives rather than on highlighting their differences or letting bilateral issues affect their multilateral cooperation to address global systemic structural inequalities. At the same time, Martin saw to it that the Centre's work sought to promote developing country unity and solidarity around policies and approaches that prioritize the development needs of the poorest developing countries, such as LDCs and those in Africa, as well as the poor living in other developing countries. He always emphasized developing country solidarity needs to be built and pushed around the needs of the poorest among them, and the poor within them, so that policies are shaped to promote social, economic and environmental justice and equity that address the needs of the poor.

Martin respected developing country governments' sovereignty and perspectives. He also saw developing country negotiators and diplomats as individual persons rather than simply as instruments of State power, while also recognizing that they also had duties and functions to perform on behalf of their governments. As a result, he was able to engage deeply with them on a personal human level, while also being cognizant of the official roles that they would be playing in negotiations and at the same time seeking to ensure that they had the policy analysis and information and technical assistance available from the Centre and its partners so that they are better equipped to negotiate with their developed country counterparts.

His engagement with developing country governments with respect to multilateral and national policy issues sought to link issues of national development interest and impact to the underlying global systemic and structural conditions that gave rise to challenges or difficulties being faced by developing countries in achieving their national development objectives. He did so in a way in which complex international policy considerations were linked to concrete national development challenges; this made it easier for national policy makers to grasp the importance of fully engaging in multilateral negotiations and also made it easier for the diplomats and negotiators to explain the direct relevance of their multilateral negotiations work to their capitals.

Martin was equally at ease speaking with presidents, prime ministers, and ministers as well as lower ranking government officials and functionaries, according to each of them equal consideration and attention; he understood the importance of lower ranking officials in ensuring that policy decisions are shaped, proposed, adopted, and implemented by policymakers, while at the same time recognizing that the continuity of policy adoption and implementation often also depends on high ranking official buy-in into the policy position plus strong public support for that policy.

#### **Leading the South Centre**

Martin was our leader at the South Centre. He had a clearly enunciated vision of what the Centre could be and should be for, by, and on behalf of the Global South and its peoples, especially the poor and the marginalized.

His long history of social activism and policy advocacy pushed the Centre into areas and modes of work that made it more effective in supporting the Global South across the multilateral policy complex. Martin set the example that inspired us, his colleagues, and to which we aspired in terms of work ethic, clarity of vision and mission, strong advocacy for the poor and the marginalized, especially of the Global South, and humaneness in leadership.

He was not bureaucratic in his institutional leadership, focusing instead on getting the job done using an effective mix of both authority delegation and detail-oriented management while ensuring that rules are observed.

Martin also believed in the capability of his colleagues, including the younger ones, to find their own way and to develop their own skills and contributions towards the institutional vision and mission that he set forth; he trusted and inspired colleagues to contribute their best to the organization. Often, he saw his personal mission as using his own reputation and credibility to open the door for his younger colleagues to then be able to develop their own work, reputation, and credibility. For many of us, including myself, he was a mentor, teaching us, guiding us as well as co-learning with us in how to become better advocates for social justice and environmental sustainability and grounding ourselves in the history of the independence struggles of the peoples of the South from colonialism and imperialism as the springboard for modern-day policy research, analysis and activism for justice, equity and systemic structural change in the global arena.

He showed us that development and equity-oriented policy research and analysis need to be paired with effective policy advocacy and partnerships among governments, civil society, trade unions, and social

movements, in order to be able to effect policy change, create a better and more just world, and, more importantly, that it was not impossible to do so.

Martin was also a good friend, always willing to share his thoughts, stories, books, love of good food and song, and lessons learned from a life of thinking and activism; to admonish and remind, where needed; and to share and listen to our thoughts, stories, and analytical theories, and provide feedback on them.

As the South Centre's Head of Administration (2009-2016) and Deputy Executive Director (2016-2018) while concurrently coordinating the Centre's Global Governance for Development Programme, during Martin's tenure as the Executive Director of the South Centre (2009-2018), I saw how Martin's leadership was marked by effective and humane institutional management and governance, a focus on ensuring smooth human relations, a clear emphasis on effective and relevant policy analysis and advocacy, and a deep commitment to the Global South and to development equity and justice that can be effectively translated into both policy research and policy action. He was inspiring to work for, given his work ethic, intellectual brilliance, and commitment and passion which would be difficult to match.

His passing is a deep loss for all of us who work in the world of ideas and advocacy and in the world of activism for social, economic, and environmental justice and equity. But his legacy and example, through his works and through those of us who have had the fortune to have worked directly with him and been inspired directly or indirectly by him, will continue to live on as we all seek to shape a better world for all for today and tomorrow.

Vicente Paolo Yu

## B. Macroeconomics, Trade, Investment, Finance Officials

Tan Sri Azman, former Khazanah head  
Dr. Martin Khor. Rest in peace. A towering Malaysian, defender of the oppressed the world over, a big friend of Khazanah. Lived life simply, simplified very complex things for the rest of us, outstanding author, activist and public intellectual. Founded Third World Network, led the South Centre in Geneva, a pillar for Consumer Association of Penang.

Many memorable moments with the great man. A meeting with him at Pantai Hospital cafe in late 2004 convinced me to form a team to defend the nation's interest in negotiating trade agreements. We went on to negotiate 7 or 8 FTAs, including the ones on US FTA and TPPA. Unforgettable on how he in very cool deadpan told off then PM Dato Sri Najib in a closed door meeting of how he was unraveling the legacy of Development and key bumiputra agencies such as FELDA of his late father Tun Abdul Razak, with his dalliance with TPPA. Martin was a big advocate for Khazanah's work on GLCs and SOEs, on his own volition, spending more than half

of his allotted hour with PM7 Tun Mahathir, in the early days of the PH government...to no avail.

Even more than his very considerable intellect and scholarship, we marvel at his courage and activism; be it speaking out against environmental degradation in his native Penang, defending the rights of developing countries on trade and other issues in the international political economy, or exposing the hypocrisy of the large and powerful. Always having the underdog and the oppressed in mind, he taught us to think and go the extra mile. He was a great teacher, in ways that is often not immediately obvious. He would encourage, argue, cajole, use third parties behind your back in a good way to send strong messages. Inevitably, you can't argue with his mind, let alone his heart. I will remember him as a humanist most of all, his courage in standing up for what's right and helping the poor and oppressed. When we heard he was suffering from late stage cancer, I am glad Mas and I were able to visit him and his dear wife Meena last October at their home in Penang. It was a happy meeting, along with another towering

Malaysian, Tan Sri Andrew Sheng. Smiles and a lot of humanity. He also passed me a copy of his latest writings, as always, and this time it was a beautiful publication of a note or letter to his grandchild. Poignant, forward and future looking, a summation of a life's work and learning, wrapped in scholarship and more so with love. I shall spend time rereading it now. A post Covid Malaysia and world will certainly miss him, but we have a large pool of his knowledge and experience in his writings to draw on and more so for the many who were blessed to have met Martin at close quarters, we hope that we will honor his spirit and courage to ultimately strive for the social justice that he ultimately dedicated his life for. Our condolences to his dear and lovely companion Meena and Rest in peace, Dr Martin Khor. A life well lived and a great example to us all. 🙏🌍



DR Khalid of former MEA who was in charge of the CPTPP study:

please convey my deepest condolences to his family and friends.

Nelson Ndirangu, Kenya

Sanya,

I received the sad news this morning with disbelief! I cannot imagine that my dear friend Martin Khor is no more. I personally benefitted a lot from Martin's brilliant analysis of trade issues. Those of us who interacted with Martin should carry on the good work that he tirelessly undertook.

May the Almighty God place his soul among the angels in heaven.

Regards,

Nelson

I was saddened to learn about the untimely passing on of Martin Khor, someone I came to know and we became friends since my posting in Geneva in 1999. He was forthright and very conscious about the developing countries' interests in the WTO. I personally remember his invaluable support to the debate on TRIPS and access to affordable medicines. We have lost a great soldier of the south whose replacement will be very difficult to find.

May the Almighty God rest his soul among the Angels in heaven.

Amb. Nelson NDIRANGU

Kenya

Anny Rojas, Venezuela

Rest in Peace, Martin. 🙏

Mentor for so many global justice activists in both the Global North and South.

I'll always be proud to have shared with you ideas and projects by and for a better world.

Junaidi Mansor, Director, Khazanah Research Institute  
Hi Sanya,

I've just read the news this morning about the passing of Martin. We share the same sadness and loss. Martin and Tan Sri Azman triggered the debate on trade policy more than 10 years ago at Khazanah. Let's keep in touch and see what we can do in his memory.

Take care Sanya, wherever you are at the moment.

Junaidi Mansor

Thomas Mathew, former CAP staff, formerly working in the Malaysian Mission in Geneva and later UNCTAD  
Another sad day for the world, Beng Tuan. A man who fought passionately and relentlessly for consumerism and the legitimate rights of the ordinary person.

He never knew anybody by their color, or race or creed. He only knew humanity.

May his soul Rest in eternal peace, and at the same time, may Our Lord provide solace and strength to his wife, daughter and his family and friends.

Please, Beng Tuan, extend my most deepest and heartfelt condolences to his wife and daughter- whenever you meet them. TQVM.

Phan Chi Thanh, Secretary General,

The National Council for Sustainable Development and Competitiveness,

The PM Office, Vietnam.

Dear Sirs and Madams,

I would like to convey my deepest condolences to Martin's family and all his colleagues at TWN. I had a chance to meet and listen to him several times in the year 2000s. I always remember him, a very nice and highly respected man, and as an outstanding Asian and Malaysian thinker I am proud of. It has been quite a long time since the last meeting with him but I continued reading his books and articles from time to time. Here in Vietnam, my family and I will always remember and pray for him!

Max van den Berg

Secretary General Dutch Development Organization

(NOVIB)1988-1999

MEP PES 1999-2007

Herewith my condolences, please pass it on to family, friends and TWN.

With deep sorrow we got the message that Martin died this morning in his hometown Penang. I am deeply moved and am travelling in mind & hart to the place were we jointly had found so much common ground for a more just and sustainable world.

From preserving and defending the nature of Serawak to meaningfull debates on development concepts ,always respecting each other,always with a priority to fight poverty and support the poor and their initiatives worldwide. With mr Mohamed Idris, Mena, Evelyn, Roberto Bissio and so many others TWN became a strong independent voice from the South. Jointly - many times coming back to Penang- we helped each other in the advocacy fight, having create with Juan Somavia, the Social Summit ,producing the Milleniumgoals. And intensive debates for a fairer globale trade system ,respecting much more regional, national and regional peoples autonomy.

As member of the European parlement and leader of the PES delegation in the trade negotiations in Seattle and Doha we have seen the great respect the EU commissioner and later WTO secr general Pascal Lamy had for the intellectual and social capacities of Martin. He was a pilar for those in the NGO- world who were fighting restlessly for more just and sustainable world. We are deeply moved and send our love to his family and friends and will tomorrow share our common emotions with all the diverse friends Martin knew and was connected to. He will stay alive in our memories.

Rajeev Kher, former Commerce Secretary, India

Dear Meena

Heard of the terrible tragedy. My deepest condolences. As a functionary of the Department of Commerce in Government of India I had numerous interactions with Martin. It was always a pleasure to interact with him. His sensitivity , commitment , and hard work in the cause of bringing developing worlds perspective on contemporary issues was infectious. His contribution to the cause of capacity building in the developing world is immeasurable. I am aware that he was ailing and this had to come but one suddenly feels the void.

I pray for peace to him and courage and fortitude to you and the family to bear this loss. Martin no doubt has left a void among us.

Warm regards

Rajeev Kher

Former Commerce Secretary

Government of India

Rob Davies, former Trade Minister, South Africa

Martin was an exceptional analyst, scholar and activist. His quest was always to improve the lot of poor people in the poorest parts of the world. He was one of those rare individuals who dedicated his undoubted talents and abilities to that cause. His was a voice always backed up with solid analysis based in the reality of the lives of the many. There were those in powerful positions that shunned engagement with him, but those few with the courage to do so came away knowing that they had engaged someone with substance. Martin will be sorely missed. As the world grapples to find a better future after COVID-19, we need more of the likes of Martin Khor.

Edouard Bizumuremyi, former WTO delegate, Rwanda

Our dear Martin Khor will remain with us forever and the best way for this to prevail is to continue his legacy. Keep it up; let's continue joining hands through all means to defend a Just World which was the cornerstone of Martin's battle!

Faizel Ismail, former WTO ambassador, South Africa

I got to meet and know Martin Khor while I was the head of the South African delegation to the WTO and Ambassador from 2002 until 2014. Martin was a friend, mentor and inspiration to all of us from the developing world; young and old, policy makers and negotiators, NGOs and government officials, parliamentarians and trade unionists, environmentalists and human rights activists. He was able to maintain such formidable admiration and respect because of his formidable intellectual capacity, his modesty and his dedication to fight for the causes of the poorest and most marginalized countries and peoples in the world. As we say in South Africa; Hamba Kahle, my brother. Your wisdom will live on in all those who knew you and learnt from you.

Faizel Ismail

Zhang Xiangchen, Ambassador to the WTO, China

Dear Aileen,

Hope this email finds you well.

It is so sad to hear the bad news that Martin passed away on 1<sup>st</sup> April. Martin and I know each other long time ago, and in spite of different views on some issues, we forge profound friendship and his professionalism, expertise and determination in pursuit of development goals always encourages colleagues of developing countries including me. It is a big loss for us to lose such a strong fighter and we could only wish him rest in peace.

Please kindly convey my sincere condolence to his family. In this difficult period of time, we have no choice but to unite together with a view to defending our interests as developing countries and to upholding the multilateral



trading system. We count on our continuous support and assistance.

Best wishes to you and your family. Take care and stay healthy.

ZHANG Xiangchen

Ambassador and Permanent Representative  
Permanent Mission of the People's Republic of China to  
the WTO

Kaisavapany Krishnasamy, Ambassador of Singapore  
Our paths crossed on many occasions. It was in Geneva that Martin and I interacted most intensely. During the trade negotiations that led to the setting up of the WTO, Martin played a key role in shaping the interests of the developing countries. As a result, the WTO became a more democratic body. The advent of Trump has upset this carefully worked out balanced ,over 11 years of negotiations. Coronavirus has shown how stupid Trump's actions are. Once this phase is over, WTO will get back to re-setting the balance. Martin's contributions for the creation of a Just and Free World will become vogue again.  
Kesavapany

C. Trevor Clarke

Dear Friends and Colleagues

I do share in the sadness that this message brings. I have known Martin during my years as Barbados' ambassador (2003-2009).

He has always been a most warm and pleasant professional who never spared any effort to help developing countries understand trade challenges and solutions.

May he rest in peace.

Thanks Ryz

C. Trevor Clarke

Humberto Campodonico, former energy minister, Peru  
Dear Meena and friends: It is with great sorrow that I received the communication of Martin's passing away. We all know that his work and endeavor for human solidarity and social justice will remain with us. I met Martin in Geneva, in 1988, when we attended UNCTAD's invitation to learn about the implications of GATT's Uruguay Round. Since then we developed a friendship and fought continuous battles to overcome the globalization process led by Transnational Corporations of developed countries.

Martin's contribution with TWN and with the South Centre helped us all to engage more and more developing countries, organizations of civil society (in the North and in the South) and international institutions to continue these battles, that also included external debt, international trade, intellectual property rights, medicines, free trade agreements and climate change, among others.

The corona virus international economic crisis demonstrates the necessity to overcome neoliberal policies in order to reach for a new economic, social and political world

order, as Martin always told us. His presence would have given us important tools to continue in that path. In this difficult and crucial epoch for humanity, we will continue to learn from his example and his work. Martin, comrade and friend, rest in peace.  
Humberto

Christoph Spennemann, UNCTAD

Dear Sangeeta,

Please receive our deep condolences for the passing of Dr. Martin Khor. He leaves a big gap in the development community.

On behalf of UNCTAD's Intellectual Property Unit,  
Christoph

Hilda Al-Hinai, Deputy Ambassador to WTO, Oman  
A hug loss for the world and developing countries at a very critical time. He was fighting for the good of this world not only for the South. May his soul rest in peace'. She said to convey her sincere condolences to you. 'Martin was my mentor. I learnt a lot from him'.

Dino Delgado Gutierrez, Organization of American States

Dear Yoke, Ching and Lin:

I learned from my mother the news of Martin Khor passing away. I'm really sorry for this incredible loss. I never knew Martin but have read his books and know the great professional he was.

I hope you all find peace and that you also stay healthy during this difficult context the world is facing.

Please send my best wishes to everyone in TWN.

Warm regards,

Dino

Kamal Malhotra, UNDP Vietnam

Dear Meena,

Its has been a few weeks now since when I first heard and it took me by great surprise. I cannot imagine a world without Martin's passion, presence, endless energy and good humour. He has left an indelible mark both globally and in Malaysia which will never fade and can never be replaced. I know you have received many fitting accolades to his life and work, all of which cannot, even if put together, pay just tribute to his many contributions benefiting developing countries and people all over the world over decades. For me, he was a comrade in arms for a just and better world for developing countries and their peoples and while we worked together in many capacities, I particularly wish to pay tribute to his contribution and advice to the work we did together on the book on the global trading system we collaborated on over 15 years ago when I was at UNDP.

There is little doubt in my mind that his legacy will live on long and bright. I decided to wait a few weeks before writing since you must have been flooded with tributes earlier and I thought this may be more meaningful to you and colleagues at Third World Network, one of Martin's enduring legacies, during the period of eerie silence which often comes a few weeks after the initial flood of tributes and condolences. I hope these few

words—even though not adequate--- with help you, your and his family and loved ones at a time of great and unimaginable grief for you and TWN colleagues. My warmest regards, in solidarity, Kamal (Malhotra)

Olga Ofico, Mozambique WTO delegate  
Dear Aileen and South Centre Colleagues  
It was with deep sadness that we got to know about the passing away of Dr Martin.  
We associate ourselves to you, to humbly pay tribute to Him as well as recognise His hard and very well appreciated extremely important contribution, aiming

at helping and assist our countries on each one's economic challenges, which surely most of them are similar.  
Our heartfelt Condolences to His Family, South Centre Family as well as to all who are extremely touched with this big loss.  
May His Soul rest in Peace.  
Sincerely  
Olga

## C. Climate, Biodiversity, Environment, Agriculture Officials

### 1. LMDC in UNFCCC

Amr Osama, Egypt  
Dearest Meena, so sorry for your loss. Please accept my deepest condolences

Abdullah Tawlah, KSA  
Dear Meena, my deepest condolences on our big loss.

Antonio Canas, El Salvador  
Oh! Meena, so sorry, he was a true leader, a true teacher and friend to many of us. My sincere condolences.

Ayman Tharwat, Egypt  
My deepest condolences, it a big loss for us all. GOD bless his soul.  
He will be always here with us and we will never forget him. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Martin\\_Khor](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Martin_Khor)

Nicolas Zambrano, Ecuador  
Dear Meena, I am truly sorry for the big loss, my sincere and deepest condolences.

Ivan Zambrana, Bolivia  
Dear Meena, I only met him once in perdon, but his wisdom and commitment were transformative to me and my professional path. My deepest condolences.  
Sincerely,  
Ivan Zambrana

Mona, KSA  
So sorry for your loss Meena... Please accept my deepest condolences.

Lloyd Pascal, Dominica  
Dear Meena. I am deeply sorry for you loss for the passing of your husband and our Dear friend Martin Khor.  
Please Accept My Sympathy.

Hanan Malallah, Kuwait  
So sorry Meena  
God bless his soul  
accept my deepest condolences

sincerely  
Hanan

Paul, Ecuador  
Dear Meena, sorry for your loss my deepest condolences

Ahmad Rajabi, Iran  
Dear Meena  
I am so sorry to hear it. Please accept my deepest condolences. God bless his soul. He was good teacher for us.

Mohammed Gad, Egypt  
Dear Meena, my heartfelt condolences. Martin Khor was a unique and committed individual, and it was a privilege to have known and worked with him over the years.

Walter Schuldt, Ecuador  
Dear Meena, please receive my deepest condolences for this temporary physical separation, which is also a loss to all our LMDC Family. We will always remember him as a true leader, an inspirational guide and a friend to all of us who had the honor to fight on his side for many years, not only in the climate change process, but in other fronts in NY, FfD, Debt, Trade, and more, while learning from him on each of the strategic meetings of our group. God bless his soul!

Isabel di Carlo, Venezuela  
Dear Meena,  
On behalf of former and present delegates of Venezuela ve to the UNFCCC in the last 10 years, I want to express our sincere condolences to you and to our Climate Change Group.

☹️☹️☹️ very sad news today ...  
He was an inspirational leader and a mentor for many of us in the fight against climate change and the rights of the developing world.  
Big applauses to him, Martin Khor !!

Majid Shafie Pour, Iran

Dearest Meena  
What a great loss. We have lost our mentor and the greatest inspiration to LMDC. Please accept my heart felt profound condolences. May his soul Rest In Peace.  
Warmest regards Majid

Ashok, India  
Dear Meena ji, deepest condolences for your personal and our community's loss. Our prayers for resting his pious soul in eternal peace.

Mohammed Nasr, Egypt  
Dear Meena, this is so sad news, our deep Condolences to u and the family and to all of us,  
He was a mentor to many of us, a true visionary leader, a strong believer and supporter to the rights of developing world

Wael Aboulmagd, Egypt  
Dearest Meena, my most sincere condolences to you and to the whole family. Martin was a friend and a mentor to so many generations of negotiators... this is a loss for all of us. Wish we could have been with you during these difficult times, but rest assured that if you need anything you have hundreds of brothers and sisters around the world who would be delighted to help and console. May his gentle soul rest in peace and may God give you the strength to cope with your loss.  
Wael Aboulmagd

Wael Keshk, Egypt  
Dear Meena  
Sorry for your loss, please accept my deepest condolences to you and your family and all of us.

Noura Al-Otaibi  
Meena so sad to hear this news, my deep Condolences to you and the family

Mohamed Khalil, Egypt  
Dearest Meena so sorry to hear about that. What a great loss. My deepest and sincere condolences. God bless his soul. May he rest in peace

Paul Oquist, Nicaragua  
A great loss for our countries and our cause. A tireless fighter for the global South who we can honor by keeping his example alive in all our efforts. Meena, strength, you have all our support. Paul Oquist  
-----

Dear Meena,  
Once again, we feel the loss of Martin in the soul, for really being a backbone of the fight of the countries of the South in international organizations.  
Please find attached the official grief note of the Government of Reconciliation and National Unity, the President of the Republic of Nicaragua, Commander Daniel Ortega, and Vice President Rosario Murillo.  
Un Abrazo,  
Paul Oquist

Ahmad Farid bin Mohamed, Malaysia

Please accept our deepest condolences for your loss.  
May his soul rest in peace

Maria del Carmen Herrera, Cuba  
Dear Meena, I am so sorry for this big loss. Please, accept my most sincere and deepest condolences and solidarity. God bless his soul. Sincerely, Maria

Pham Van Tan, Vietnam  
My deepest condolences to your lost, dear Meena. May his soul now rest in peace. Sincerely yours, Tan.

Ravi Prasad, India  
Its an irreparable loss - Martin meant a lot to us not only because of his intellectual abilities and deep understanding of issues, but also because of his ability to get the developing countries together on various issues like trade, climate change and so on. He was widely respected across the spectrum.  
Personally- will miss his warmth, infectious smile, guidance and many other qualities that set him apart. Our thoughts and prayers are with you Meena-  
RIP Martin

Javier, Nicaragua  
Dear Meena: our condolences from Nicaragua, we regret the loss of a brother, Martin will be a reference for all of us. RIP Martin

Nagulendran, Malaysia  
Our deepest and heartfelt condolences Meena. 🙏 A very sad news and a huge loss.

Richa Sharma, India  
Our deepest condolences Meena . Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this time. May the departed soul rest in peace .

Qian Zhou, China  
Dear Meena, so sorry to hear your loss. Please accept my deepest condolences 🙏

Abishek, India  
Dear Meena, deepest condolences. It is a great loss for all of us

Irfan Tariq, Pakistan  
Dear Meena, Please accept deepest condolences on the sad demise. Irfan

Ihab Gamaleldin, Egypt  
Oh my God. What a big loss. He will always be remembered. A person I respect, a friend, and a decent human being. May he rest in peace and may God give Meena strength  
With a very heavy heart and deep sorrow , I learned the passing away of a very dear friend Dr Martin Khor. May God give his wife Meena strength to endure this great loss. He will always be remembered for he always had the people of the developing countries , in particular the poor among them, in his heart and mind . He struggled for giving them their fair share of the global pie and their right to development. He fought for equity and

justice in an unfair world. His knowledge, wisdom and expertise in economic development, international trade , environmental affairs, and in particular climate change will remain his legacy for decades to come. All his friends, students, and collaborators will dearly miss him and will continue his passion for a better and more just world. Martin Khor, was an honourable man, a person I respect, a friend, and a decent human being. May he rest in peace . Sincere condolences dear [Meena Raman](#)

Jaime Hermida, Nicaragua

Dearest Meena,

Your Nicaraguans Sisters and Brothers deeply grieve along with you, with your Family and Friends as our Dear Martin departs in his journey to join our ancestors. Martin, the Real Warrior, the Brother and Friend, always defending the poor, the vulnerable and workers everywhere, will always be with us in the conquest of a Better World, at our side, battling for the oppressed of the World.

As we salute and celebrate Martin life, commitment and legacy, Dear Meena, we are here, for and with you.

Hasta la Victoria Siempre

Jaime

Ayman Shasly, KSA

Dear Meena, with sincere sadness and loss of words my deepest condolences to you and your family members. Martin was the creator and inventor of the LMDCs family and he had mentored, led, and inspired all of us on how to be fighters to defend and stand for developing countries rights. May Allah be with you at this difficult time and our thoughts and prayers are with you for a peaceful and calming time ahead.

Dong Guanyang, China

Dear Meena,

It was heartbreaking to know that Martin just left us, and please accept my most sincere condolences for your loss.

Please find enclosed a letter from Mr. LI Gao, the Director General of Climate Change Department of Ministry of Ecology and Environment, China, to convey his condolences and the regards from our entire delegation of negotiators.

I was not lucky enough to be enlightened by Martin in person, but his leadership and legend constantly inspired me since the moment I joined the climate team. I always feel proud to be a member of LMDC. The Group that Martin, you and the TWN team founded and nurtured has become the rock and family to all of us. Please accept my greatest respects and gratitudes for building the strong LMDC. All the blessings for Martin's soul. And please let me know if I could do anything. I am always here for you.

With deepest condolences,

Guanyang

Minister Xie Zhenhua, China:



Dear Meena and Vice,

On behalf of Minister Xie Zhenhua, please find his message below:

Dear Meena,

I am deeply sorry to hear the sad news. Please accept my deepest condolences and my strongest solidarity with you, his other family members and all the TWN colleagues. I fully respect Martin Khor and highly appreciate for his great contributions to defend the common interest of developing countries and to build up the LMDCs coalition in the multilateral process on climate change. I have learnt a lot from his views, wisdom and passion on combating climate change and achieving sustainable development. This is indeed such a great loss for all developing countries! Please take care.

XIE Zhenhua

Su Wei, China:



sw1228@yahoo.com

07:28

To: ramankhor@gmail.com & 5 more... >

## Martin LMDC Khor

Dear Meena, I was fully shocked to learn the sad news about Martin early in the morning. I wish it were just an April Fool's Day thing. His face and voice is so vividly springing into my mind and around my ears. He has been a world famous great fighter for climate justice and wellbeing of humanity. Marin is not just your Khor, but he is also the CORE of the LMDC, as it's CREATOR and MASTERMIND. I regard Martin as a mentor, comrade, good friend and elder brother. May him Rest in Peace! Please accept my deepest condolences for the loss of our Great Martin Khor. He'll always be living in our hearts and we'll continue to fight his cause left unfinished. Su Wei, from Beijing, China

发自我的iPhone

Li Gao, China

## 中华人民共和国生态环境部

Dear Meena,

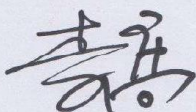
I was shocked at the heartbreaking news that Martin passed away. Please accept my deepest condolences to you, and the most sincere regards from all Chinese negotiators. This is a huge loss to LMDC and the developing countries as a whole.

Martin was a true warrior leading the fight for developing countries' interests in crucial multilateral processes including climate change and WTO. He played a key role in establishing the LMDC, which has become a major force defending the interests of developing countries. His faith in justice, fighting spirit, and tireless dedication are the eternal treasure in the climate change process. In the meantime, please accept my deepest appreciation for his unwavering support to China and his enlightening wisdom to the climate cause in China. Personally, I also bestowed my heartfelt gratitude for his valuable advice and help. In fact, he was a great mentor to many negotiators in our delegation. Martin will be dearly missed, and his legacy will continue to shape the process through you, through LMDC, and through each of us. Let's live his spirit in the continual fight together for equity and justice to defend developing countries' interests.

May Martin's soul rest in peace.

Best regards,

LI Gao



Rene Orellana. Bolivia

Dear Meena. I am very moved. It is a shock for all of us. I have just known about the departure of our good friend Martin. He was our inspiration a light in this world full of darkness. We have lost a leader and a good friend, a wonderful human being. We cry. We already miss him. We need him to continue walking this path of compromised militancy for justice. How will we continue without his wisdom? He made us a family of fighters for a new world. And taught us to study and make science as part of our duty. He will always live in our hearts and we will try to follow his example and continue working for a better world. Let's reinforce and affirm our commitments and brotherhood inspired in his life. I am with you at this moment. Far from you but feeling your heart. We all love him and you dear Meena. Thank you Vice. I am very moved. It is a shock for all of us. He was a light in this world full of darkness. We have lost a leader and a good friend. And a wonderful human being. He made us a family of fighters for a new world.

And taught us to study and make science as part of our duty. He will always live in our hearts and we will try to follow his example and continue working for a better world. Let's reinforce and affirm our commitments and brotherhood inspired in his life.

Amit Narang, India foreign ministry official



Amit Narang

@Amit\_Narang

Replying to @3rdworldnetwork

The moral voice of third-world solidarity, encyclopedia of knowledge on trade, IPRs and climate change and a passionate champion of global equity, it was a privilege knowing & working with Martin. He leaves a void that can't be filled.

RIP 🙏

@South\_Centre @UNFCCC  
#ClimateChange

12:58 · 01 Apr 20 · Twitter Web App

Hamid Al-Sadoon, KSA

Dear Meena and Vice,

I am not sure if you will receive this email, but allow me to pass my condolences to your team for the passing away of Martin.

May he rest in peace and may your common message and reach the world.

Yours faithfully,

Hamid

Jorge Ferrer, Cuba

Dear Meena and friends from TWN:

It is a sad news the decease of the great friend and defender of developing countries Martin Khor, former Executive Director of South Center and leader of TWN, after fighting for 5 years for his health.

I regret very much his departure as an old friend for 15 years and as a great loss for the causes of developing countries and for all of us. I convey my sincere condolences to Meena, to his relatives, friends and to the TWN family.

We will never forget his tireless long battles for many years in Geneva and elsewhere, from the TWN and the South Centre, to assist and advise developing countries on all economic, financial and development issues like the Doha Development Round, the WIPO agenda for development, climate change, the creation and building of the Green Climate Fund, Finance for Development, Sustainable Development and 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, among many other issues of the international agenda and negotiations.

Martin was always together with Meena willing and able to assume, study and advise on any emerging and complex issue that arise in the international arena with

his smile, sagacity, hard work and great capacity. I also recall his will to always work together and conspire in favour of the interests and of the unity of the developing countries.

We should follow his path to ensure that the road that Martin and other great intellectuals, activists and statepersons of developing countries have opened will continue open and widen for the causes of the peoples of developing countries.

Let his soul rest in peace as he deserves.

With my sincere sympathies,

Jorge Ferrer

GCF Alternate Board Member (from Cuba)

Zou Ji, China

Dear Meena,

I would associate myself with Su Wei's message below.

This is really a sad news and big shock to us!

I got acquainted with Martin in early 2010's in a Chinese restaurant aside Rhine in Bonn during a SBSTA/SBI session. I cannot remember how many meetings we had with Martin and his team. Climate change is only one of the topics we touched upon, rather, we also discussed about trade, IP, growth, and so on. He is so knowledgeable on many world issues with profound insights. He seems to me a writing/speaking machine and a super think tank to elaborate the views on political economy of climate change and development issues.

However, what I am moved even more is his firm position to protect the interests of developing countries and his deep sympathy to the poor and the vulnerable people from developing countries. His talent, his courage and his passion are the legacy owned by all of us. He was, is and will be a forever friend, mentor and hero in our mind. he is a great human being! We would wait for him for another paper, book, speech, and talk about the just world.

Meena, please allow me to mourn for Martin deeply and bless him for a peaceful rest and a forever live in our hearts!

Zou Ji from Beijing

Shweta Singh, India

Dear Meena, deepest condolences on your irreparable loss! I have heard about Martin's contributions to bring together LMDC. A great loss to many.

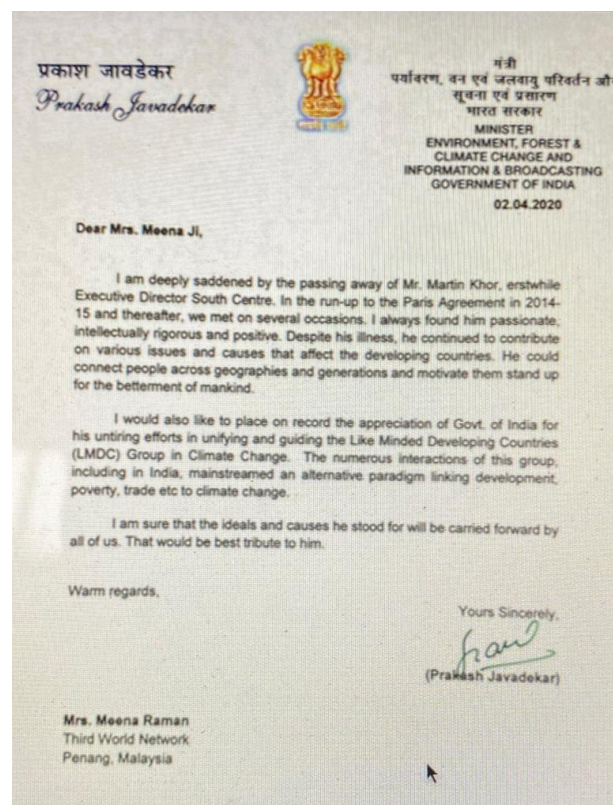
Imran, Pakistan

Dear Meena! My sincere condolences on this irreparable loss!

Claudia Salerno, former Vice-Minister and Ambassador of Venezuela

Dear friends...it is with a heavy heart that I just received this sad news: Martin Khor, (South Center) has passed away. He will always be in our hearts and in the hearts of all those that, with his precious help, were able to defend developing countries rights and interest. My condolences to you, dear [Meena Raman](#). ☹️

Minister Prakash Javadekar, MOEFCC, India



PC Maithani, India

DEAR TWN FAMILY,

THE NEWS ABOUT DR KHOR'S DEATH WAS A SHOCK. FOR A LONG, I HAVE BEEN FOLLOWING DR KHOR'S WORK IN THE AREAS OF INNOVATION, TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER AND TECHNOLOGIES UNDER CLIMATE CHANGE REGIME. HIS VERY INSIGHTFUL ANALYSIS AND PAPERS ALWAYS SERVED AS BENCHMARK. I FONDLY REMEMBER MANY OF HIS WORKS SUCCINCTLY BROUGHT OUT THE DOUBLE STANDARDS (IN PARTICULAR TECHNOLOGIES UNDER CLIMATE CHANGE MECHANISMS) WHAT THEY SAY AND WHAT THEY DO. I AM INDEBTED TO DR KHOR FOR THE LEARNING I HAD, AND ALWAYS PUT HIM IN PLACE OF A GURU. WHENEVER I HAD OPPORTUNITY TO MEET, FOUND IN HIM A COOL AND CONSIDERATE PERSON. IT IS A GREAT LOSS TO THE DEVELOPING WORLD. PRAY ALMIGHTY GIVE THE FAMILY PATIENCE AND STRENGTH TO BEAR THE LOSS, AND THE DEPARTED SOUL REST IN PEACE  
REGARDS,  
P C MAITHANI

Ramiro Ramirez, Venezuela

So sad to hear of Martin's death. A great loss to all of us who had the pleasure of knowing him. My heart felt condolences to Meena.

Pei Fern, Malaysia

It was one of the late nights after the climate change negotiations in Bonn. To lift our spirits Gary played the piano, all others sang. Martin was the orchestra leader!! You'll be dearly missed..



Helga Serrano, Ecuador

Dear friends,

A warm greeting of solidarity from Ecuador. During climate change negotiations, Martin's leadership and vision along with TWN guided many of our progressive proposals as official delegates. It was inspiring not only to receive inputs and exchange proposals, but also to work together, governments, civil society and social movements. We will remember Martin's legacy and we are sure TWN will continue working relentlessly for a just and peaceful world, with dignity for all.

Warm regards,  
Helga Serrano

TS Tirumurthi, Vice Foreign Minister, India

Dear Meena

It is with great shock and sadness that I received news of the passing away of Martin.

It's difficult to believe that Martin is no more with us. He was always someone I looked up to and looked forward to meeting whenever I attended the numerous climate related meetings over several years when I was part of the Indian delegation. His energy and enthusiasm was infectious. You could feel the energy whenever he entered the room and we always looked forward to his views and contribution.

Martin was intellectually a giant. But he used his intellect to ensure that the position and rights of the less developed countries were protected. He never hesitated to take up positions which were unpopular but fully in the interest of his constituency, which included practically all of us fighting for a more just, representative, compassionate and balanced world

order. His knowledge covered a range of issues agitating the contemporary world and Martin had very clear perspectives on each of them.

Whenever I interacted with him, I found him extremely insightful. I sought him out on several occasions - too numerous to remember, and I always came back enriched and better informed. We became very close personally as well. I will cherish each and every moment I spent with him.

Given Martin's outstanding contribution for the cause of Global South, at Martin's request, our then Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh immediately gave a large grant to South Centre so that the Centre continued to serve the cause of the developing world. Such was the respect that Martin commanded from our leaders.

I know that his passing away is a great blow to all of us. It is a big blow to me personally. I am, however, confident that you will continue to uphold his ideals and take his message and work forward with even more renewed vigour. You have fought along with him in the trenches for a better world and I know that you will take his legacy forward. We will look forward to that.

Please accept sincere condolences on behalf of my wife and me. I pray to God to give you the strength to bear this loss.

Hope this trying period will pass and we will meet again.

Regards

Tiru

Herman Rosa, El Salvador

Dear Meena,

I was saddened to learn about Martin's passing. While my interaction with Martin were brief, I came to appreciate the passion and clarity in his vision. Now that the Covid-19 pandemic is sending the world into a completely new scenario none of us could have imagined, Martin's voice will be missed, but should also be an inspiration. I realize this is also a terrible and painful blow to you personally and my thoughts and deepest sympathy are with you.

Warmest regards,  
Herman

Ismail Elgizouli, Sudan

Dear Yoba

Good day . With the deepest sorrow I received the saddest news of the pass away of our colleague and one of your closest friends. My condolences to you , his family ,friends and colleagues all over the world . His contributions to the nature and society around the globe is very clear supporting the poor and marginalised . May God bless him and live in peace in heaven  
Ismail Elgizouli

RR Rashmi, former India UNFCCC HOD, India MOEFCC

Dear Meena, Am reconnecting with you after a long time. Am shocked and deeply pained to hear about the loss of Martin. Your bereavement and pain is as much as ours. Can't think of a more kind hearted, gentle and an accomplished person with such deep commitment to the cause of developing countries. His genius, academic versatility and readiness to help others at all times always mesmerised me. I truly believe we have lost in

him not only a great intellectual, but a very kind person, soul of TWN, and a rare human being. My deepest condolences to you. With fond memories and regards. R  
R Rashmi

Tosi Mpanu, Democratic Republic of the Congo, UNFCCC SBSTA Chair 2020

Dear Meena, on behalf of the delegation of the Democratic Republic of Congo, I would like to present our sincere condolences and convey all our sympathy on the passing of Martin. At the same time, it is an opportune moment for us to reflect on Martin's life and to express our deepest gratitude for his relentless work on behalf of developing countries and his indelible legacy. His charismatic leadership and his strategic vision will be sorely missed. Not to mention his countless achievements which were second to none. He has courageously paved the way for us to follow with footsteps which are so difficult to fill, given his irreproachable integrity and his sound understanding of world affairs. His reliable guidance and trustworthy advice will be missed. Martin was our father, our brother and our mentor. May his soul rest in eternal peace.

Farrukh Khan, Pakistan

Very very sad to hear this. Spent countless hours in discussions with Martin. May God give Meena and rest of the family, courage to bear this loss

Julia Hopstock, Argentina

Very sad news!! The world has lost a leader and a warrior for developing countries, I have only words of appreciation and admiration for his wisdom and dream of a more inclusive and fair world. He expressed the voice of those who have no voice and was a great teacher to all developing countries' negotiators! I will always take you in my heart dear Martin as a great teacher and model of humility and greatness, we will continue your fight and your legacy will always be alive! My prayers are with you and with dear Meena, you count with me always

Gobierno de Reconciliación y Unidad Nacional  
Unida Nicaragua Triunfa



Managua, 02 April, 2020

The Government of Reconciliation and National Unity of the Republic of Nicaragua conveys its sincere condolences to the family of Martin Khor, from Penang, Malaysia, Founder, Chairman and former Director of Third World Network and former Executive Director of South Centre.

Martin Khor worked closely with Nicaragua in Copenhagen, Paris and at all the Conferences of the Parties (COP) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, preparing policy analyses and organizing meetings prior to all COP and Green Climate Fund meetings through the South Centre and Third World Network (TWN), which has served as the secretariat for the Like Minded group of countries.

Martin Khor promoted and protected the interests of developing countries and the poor of the world against the global hegemony of imperial economic and geopolitical powers.

Today the world has undoubtedly lost a champion in the struggle against Climate Change and the abuses of global hegemonic imperialism, but his example and inspiration lives on in all those he inspired and are ready to carry on this every day fight for our Mother Earth and a more just world.

May he rest in peace.

Yeb Sano, former Vice-Minister for Climate Change, Director, Greenpeace SEA, Philippines  
Martin, rest in power dear friend. Deepest condolences, Meena

Diego Pacheco, Bolivia  
TWN Family and Meena

I want to mourn the passed away of Martin, a great and humble fighter for the causes of the peoples and countries of the South.

He taught me very wisely how to navigate through the troubled waters of international negotiations.

It will always be in my memories



## 2. Other Officials

Zaheer Fakir, South Africa  
in honour of Martin who led the clarion call on climate equity and justice



In memory of a wonderful human being. Martin you will be missed dearly by all. Sincere condolences dear Meena. Zaheer Fakir

Yeo Bee Yin, former Malaysia environment minister  
Hi Meena, this is Yeo Bee Yin. Just heard the news of the passing of Martin from Dr Nagu. My deepest condolences to you and the family. Martin has had an impactful life, his legacy will live on. Take good care.



Richard Sherman, South Africa  
I am lost for words right now , we had a saying in the liberation struggle when comrades past that the spear had dropped and that we would pick it up to continue the struggle. My deep condolences to TWN colleagues, Meena, we will pick up the spear and continue the struggle

David Cooper, Deputy Executive Secretary, UNCBD  
So sorry to hear of Martin's passing. The whole movement has lost a great leader and a wonderful person. I hope you all in TWN are doing Ok in these difficult and strgaange times. Best, David.

Michael Zammit Cutajar, former UNFCCC Executive Secretary and AWGLCA Chair

Dear Meena,

It is ages since we were last in touch – way back in the climate change negotiations – but, having learned of Martin's passing, I wanted to convey to you my deep condolences on your loss. I think of the two of you as a team and am sure that you were a stalwart support for him during his illness, as you were before. And now you must miss him so.

My thoughts are with you, sincerely,  
Michael

Malaysia Minister of Environment, FB page:  
<https://www.facebook.com/100809974885668/posts/120236352943030/?sfnsn=mo>

Saya dan seluruh warga Kementerian Alam Sekitar mengucapkan takziah atas pemergian mendiang En Martin Khor.

Beliau ialah seorang tokoh yang sangat komited dan dedikasi. Banyak kepakaran beliau dalam bidang kelestarian alam sekitar dan perubahan iklim telah disumbangkan untuk Malaysia serta peringkat antarabangsa. Kepimpinan beliau membangunkan NGO Third World Network sebagai sebuah badan yang berpengaruh sangat dihormati.

KAS sangat menghargai sumbangan kepakaran beliau selama ini. Pemergian beliau adalah satu kehilangan besar kepada negara.

#MalaysiaSejahtera  
#KementerianAlamSekitar



**KENYATAAN MEDIA  
KEMENTERIAN ALAM SEKITAR**

**UCAPAN TAKZIAH ATAS PEMERGIAN EN MARTIN KHOR**

**PUTRAJAYA, 1 APRIL 2020** – Saya dan seluruh warga Kementerian Alam Sekitar mengucapkan takziah atas pemergian mendiang En Martin Khor.

Bellau ialah seorang tokoh yang sangat komited dan dedikasi. Banyak kepakaran bellau dalam bidang kelestarian alam sekitar dan perubahan iklim telah disumbangkan untuk Malaysia serta peringkat antarabangsa. Kepimpinan bellau membangunkan NGO Third World Network sebagai sebuah badan yang berpengaruh sangat dihormati.

KAS sangat menghargai sumbangan kepakaran bellau selama ini. Pemergian bellau adalah satu kehilangan besar kepada negara.

-TAMAT-

**YB MENTERI ALAM SEKITAR**

1 April 2020

Nedal Katbeh, Palestine UNFCCC Focal Point  
Dear Vice. My deep condolences for the loss of Martin.  
Pls take care and keep safe.

Burhan Gafoor, UNFCCC HOD, Singapore  
Very sad news; he was a warrior for developing countries. My deepest condolences to his dear wife and his family.

Kunihiko Shimada, Japan  
Really sad:-( May he Rest in Peace

Selwin Hart, Barbados  
Really sad to hear of Martin's passing. He was a fearless warrior in defense of the interests of developing countries. Deepest condolences to his family. May his soul Rest In Peace.

Paul Watkinson, France  
Sad news, condolences to those close to him

Janos Pasztor  
His departure is a huge loss for all of us ! :-)

Margaret Mukahanana, Zimbabwe  
Such a loss. May Martin's soul rest in eternal peace. He may be gone but his contribution will live forever

Chrissy Sims, National Biosafety Authority, Zambia  
Dear TWN Family,  
My deepest condolences to the TWN family. This is indeed untimely we

will miss you and your hard work Martin. YOU WERE INDEED A CHAMPION!  
MHSRIP.  
Kind regards,  
Chrissy.

Amb (Rtd) Dato' Selwyn Das, Malaysia  
Dear Meena,

I read with sadness on the passing away of Martin. No words can describe your loss. Please accept my deepest condolences and sympathies and may God give you the strength and courage during this difficult time. I recollect our time in 2008 during the UNFCCC negotiations on how Martin, you and TWN were so helpful to the Malaysian delegation. May his good work, insight and guidance be always continued by you and others.

Take care as we uphold you and the family in our prayers.

Songli ZHU, Energy Research Institute, China  
Dear TWN,

Please accept my sincere condolence to the pass away of Dr. Martin.

Personally I don't think Dr. Martin knows me, though we met in meetings in Beijing years ago and I saw frequently in COPs when he was sitting behind the podium to make speech or intervention to protect the rights of developing countries in a very convincing way. Actually I admire him much.  
Bless him rest in peace

Folke Sundman, Finland

I heard about Martin's condition last autumn from a common friend, so I knew to expect this sad message. We knew each other since the late 1980ies, when Martin was the leading profile of the TWN and I was executive director of KEPA, the umbrella of Finnish development NGOs.

Our contacts and cooperation continued in different forms and capacities over the years, including The Helsinki Process on Globalisation and Democracy, and in the recent past, the Climate change negotiations up to Paris in 2015. During these years Martin was leading the South Centre, I was a climate finance negotiator on behalf of the Finnish Government and the EU.

I always had great respect and admiration for Martin's extraordinary analytical approach to world politics and the huge challenges we faced.

We represented different constituencies with our own loyalties. But that did not prevent us from developing an open dialogue and a true spirit of friendship at the personal level.

The global progressive movements and forces have lost an important leader and thinker.

My condolences to his family and loved ones.  
R.I.P. Martin.

Folke Sundman

Dr. Sarah A.H OLEMBO-formerly of the African Union Commission

I would like to join the world in paying a personal tribute to Martin Khor.

Martin Khor of TWN has left an indelible footprint in Africa as a key partner and player among the icons -Sue Edward, her husband Prof Tewolde of ISD, Swedish Society for nature conservation, and FAO that facilitated, spearheaded and supported the African Union during the 1st Agroecology conference of 2008 that brought together more than 87 participants in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. This conference until now remains the key reference point of the ongoing Ecological Organic Agricultural Initiative (EOAI) an initiative of the African Union that has scaled out its programs in all African regions. As well as contributing to the current African common market, through the provision of quality products, this initiative addresses several provisions of the Sustainable Development Goals that include the eradication of poverty and hunger not only in Africa but throughout the world.

Salut Martin Khor. The world of Agriculture will miss you

Sergio Serra, Brazil

Dear friends at TWN, dear Meena,  
I am very sorry to hear this. Martin will be sorely missed. Not only by his family and his associates and coworkers, but by everyone who had the chance to witness his talent, his drive and his tenacity in the battle against climate change from the viewpoint of developing countries.

I was lucky to be, for a period (2007-2014), one of these witnesses.

Please accept my deepest condolences.

Sergio Serra

Surya Sethi, India

Dear Meena  
Just read the TWN circular about Martin. Martin was among the first persons that came close to me during climate negotiations at IPCC and UNFCCC. He inspired me in multiple ways. He and Ditas taught me so much. First one, and now the other leading voice of the third world is gone. I will miss him and his loss will be felt by everyone seeking equity in today's world. I am distraught, I hope this reaches you Meena. You and Martin were a formidable team.

I pray to God to give you the strength to bear this loss. Please contact me if I can be of any help/assistance. My sincere condolences to you and your family.

Warm Regards  
Surya

PS: Indrajit, kindly share Meena's email with me in case I have an incorrect e-mail id for her.

Dr Shazelina Zainul Abidin, with Dato' S. Thanarajasingam

Tribute to Martin Khor

This week Malaysia lost one more of its iconic figures. Martin Khor, the champion of the developing world, was no more. His had been a life dedicated to mobilizing the less-developed countries of the world to stand together in the face of injustice and inequality. As tributes to this quiet, unassuming man pour in, we could not let his

contribution to Malaysia's foreign service go unremarked.

For those of us in Wisma Putra who worked on the 1992 Earth Summit, Martin Khor was a well-known and respected figure. Thana was first introduced to him by SM Idris of the Consumer Association of Penang well before the Earth Summit began. Ably assisting SM Idris was Martin Khor – a Cambridge scholar with a keen intellect who was ardent and committed to the sense of justice as well as the defence of the environment. Even in those early days, Martin was a prolific writer and a captivating speaker. He didn't have to raise his voice to be heard, his quiet and reasonable tones had this mesmerizing quality that made even the most disagreeable of persons feel calmed and swayed by his arguments. It wasn't long before Malaysia's Preparatory Committee for the Earth Summit, headed by Wisma Putra's Secretary General Tan Sri Kamil Jaafar, came to rely on this resourceful and knowledgeable individual, among others.

Prior to 1992, it was unheard of for a government to partner closely with an NGO to advance a certain cause. The Earth Summit was where history was made, and where the Government of Malaysia (its officials – experts and administrators alike) sat together with NGOs like Martin Khor and hashed out a plan that was to ultimately be the rallying cry of the developing world. We went to the Earth Summit fully prepared. In New York, the charge was led by Tan Sri Razali Ismail, Malaysia's Permanent Representative to the UN; in Rome for biodiversity issues it was led by Malaysia's Ambassador to the FAO, Dato' Ting Wen Lian; in Kuala Lumpur the Preparatory Committee was led by Dato' Renji Sathiah and by Dato' Thana. Among the many NGOs who lent their ideas, proposals and advanced possible solutions was Martin Khor and his Third World Network (TWN). Years later, we can safely say that without Martin, Malaysia could not have led the G77 countries to argue for a "common but differentiated responsibility" and the developing countries could not have stood so firmly against the developed countries in taking responsibility for the environment.

Martin went on to answer a higher calling – he took the TWN international, then led nursed the ailing South Centre in Geneva back to health, and back to its former respected stature. Wisma Putra and its officers never lost tabs of this great man, meeting up often just to catch up. Dato' Thana and his wife Datin Saradha were closest to Martin, and the way all three of them told it, it sounded like a veritable meeting of the minds every other weekend when they could manage it. Every time I was in Geneva, I would always pay my respects to Martin over a cuppa.

In 2007, Wisma Putra was able to team up again with Martin Khor. There was a new initiative out of Finland, called the Helsinki Process for Globalisation and Democracy in which Malaysia took the lead for Global Governance. In those days that included a call for a new architectural framework to govern the world's financial and trade systems. Martin did the concept note, argued in favour of some speakers, and generally did what he was known for – partnering with government to achieve an aim.

For the Helsinki Process, we had Tan Sri Rastam Md Isa in New York, and Dato' Seri Syed Hamid Albar immersing himself with the conference, from beginning to end. Martin Khor held countless meetings and worked tirelessly, as only he can do. I have never seen an individual work so hard, and then to successfully persuade so many thinkers to get on board with the Process.

When I learnt of Martin Khor's passing, I contacted Dato' Thana – it was best to talk to someone from Wisma who knew him perhaps best of all. He immediately penned down a tribute, some of which I have included in this piece. Dato' Thana's last paragraph, "what began as a difficult relationship between government and civil society turned into a productive partnership as Martin led many initiatives to promote the south". There is only one Martin Khor. And he will sadly be missed.

## D. Health Officials

Dr Christopher Lee, former MOH DG of Health, Malaysia Just heard about Martin. My deepest condolences to his family and his extended family at TWN. He was an institution in his own right! I'm glad I had a chance to work with him briefly in his later years. He shall be dearly missed.

Tushar Chakraborty,  
Formerly, Principal Scientist and Head , Gene Regulation Laboratory,  
CSIR- Indian Institute of Chemical Biology  
Feel extremely sad to learn that Martin Khor , famous political economist and journalist, Exe Director of the South Centre , and former Exe Director of Third World Network passed away . He was a stalwart in building resistance against MNC corporate plundering of developing countries in south , in the name of globalization. On many critical issues , I always sought for his comments and analysis, and got immensely enlightened .

Lumumba Di-Aping, South Sudan, former G77 UNFCCC Chair

Yes indeed ... It has been a terrible beginning of the month for me. Martin was a very good friend who was at forefront of fight for global justice and development.

Delfin Ganapin, former environment vice-minister of Philippines and head of UNDP Small Grants Program  
Could not believe this when I heard this from a friend I was discussing inclusive conservation with. I got to know Martin when we were young activists and he was then heading the Consumers Association of Penang. We were then forming a network of environmental activists in Asia-Pacific. He has continued on and never wavered. I will miss this veteran, committed, persistent political-environmental activist.

It is a great loss for all of us , who are trying to boost people's struggle and working for capacity building against monopoly capitalism and exploitative technologies. He was a strong supporter of anti GMO movement in south . That is how I came to know him. Final salute to this People's hero , and condolence !  
Dr . Tushar Chakraborty

Nithima Sumpradit, Medicines Regulation Division, Food and Drug Administration, Ministry of Public Health, Thailand

Dear TWN colleagues,  
It is very sad news. I feel honoured to have met Dr.Martin Khor. He was very kind and full of wisdom. My deepest condolence to you and his family for the loss. May his gentle soul rest in peace.  
Nithima

## III. From Civil Society Organizations and Individuals

### A. General Messages

Tom Kruse, RBF  
Heartbroken with news of Martin's death. We mourn together. Hope you and your family are well. Love to you and the TWN family.

Reji K Joseph  
Very sad to know that Martin Khor is no more. We have lost a stalwart of developing countries causes. RIP.

Dinesh Abrol  
Shocking and sad let us remember him online I met him in late eighties a gentleman committed to people and

forthright in fight against neoliberalism imperialism salute to my friend can't help feel that one has lost a stalwart with great heart

Cikgu Azmi:  
Salam.  
Yoke Ling..I am truly sorry hearing the shocking news of Martin.  
My condolences to you and all the family and to CAP and TWN.  
My thoughts and prayers to all .

A great lost to Malaysia and to the voice of the third world. He has dedicated his life to the struggle for an equitable world.

Two great sons of Malaysia have left us. We will continue their legacy to carry on.

I am truly sorry for not being able to visit and give my last respect to him.

My regards to everyone.

Gurdial Singh Nijar:

**For Martin Khor: 1951 - 2020**

Martin Khor passed away in the early hours of April 1<sup>st</sup> 2020 in Penang after a 5-year formidable struggle with cancer.

Martin, you will be remembered for your commitment to things that matter most in life. From the preservation of the local environment to the global attenuation of the hazards of climate change. Hence your crucial leadership of the Consumers Association of Penang (CAP) - which waged struggles to preserve the treasures and bounty of Penang – fighting against plans to ‘develop’ Penang Hill, against hill slope construction, the reclamation of lands from the sea and mega projects.

From ensuring not only the national sovereign interest but more significantly the collective integrity of developing countries. Marked by what must easily be your greatest admirable feat: inspiring the creation of developing country blocs to face developed countries in international negotiations: starting from the 1992 Rio de Janeiro Earth Summit until the more recent 2010 Climate Change Agreement. With loads of other treaty negotiations in-between. Primarily through the internationally renowned Third World Network (TWN) which you founded in 1984 together with your mentor the late S.M Mohamed Idris and other international luminaries.

Martin cut a familiar figure with diplomats at the World Trade Organisation (WTO). I recall in the early 1990s he would drag me to the WTO building, overlooking the picturesque Lake Geneva, where we would sit patiently outside the negotiation room and rush to diplomats as they emerged. To hand them sheaves of Martin’s well-prepared policy arguments on each issue of fundamental concern to developing countries: such as the need to limit the deleterious effects of intellectual property for medicines and the like.

Thus did his reputation grow as an indefatigable aide to developing countries, earning him welcome access to the inner caucuses of third world governments. Aptly culminating in his appointment in 2009 as the chief of the South Centre - an intergovernmental policy research and analysis institution of developing countries headquartered in Geneva. His term ended in 2015.

He was a constant at our ministries and agencies, reaching to the very top to push for national policy positions. I recall being invited together with Martin by the previous Pakatan Harapan government to address members of the Cabinet and the Attorney-General on issues relating to the ratification of the CPTPP, a trans Pacific trade agreement. Where he lucidly recounted the downside of the dispute settlement mechanism which could impoverish developing countries in suits brought against the government if they carried out reforms in the

national interest; which corporations claimed affected their economic interests.

There are many facets and shades of Martin’s life to fully grasp. Self-effacing: he pushed others to the forefront while providing the intellectual research and boost. Industrious: working overnight wherever he was to ensure key materials were in the hands of decision-makers timeously. Intellectual giant: with so many books, articles and a Star column to his name. Caring: always lending a helping hand or ear to those around him. Truly, a legend in his lifetime and well after.

On a personal note, just last week when his passing became imminent, I made a final request to his good wife Meena. The WhatsApp message read: “I feel you must let Martin know how inspirational he was to me and others in pursuing indefatigably his commitment to causes. He pushed buttons that no one even thought of. He brought change in ways that people in the know truly admire him for. I would tell him this myself personally but for this lockdown.”

All this re-echoed in the overwhelming outpouring of grief from friends and collaborators the world over. From renowned British author Ann Pettifor: “(Martin) a powerful, brilliant and effective fighter for poorest nations’ rights in global fora ... amplifying the voice of the poor.” From Finland’s foreign ministry: “You leave when we need you most, but we will use your example to work even harder for a just global economy.”

Martin, rest in peace.

Gurdial Singh Nijar

Denison Jayasooria

Dr Martin Khor (1951-2020) You will be missed.

I first met Martin in 1983 when he was with CAP and he invited faith based leaders for a discussion on faith & society action for the poor. It was a key moment for my social awakening. My last encounter with Martin was at Putrajaya last year at the Foreign Policy advisory group under Dato Saifuddin Abdullah. Martin - truly a Malaysian who has played a major role in international matters via Third World Network and South Centre.



Nizam:

A life well lived...  
A friend, a brother, a mentor,  
A comrade, of many, well-fought battle,  
A teacher that makes sense of life, a complicated world  
full of mess, he simplified and gave us hope,  
The other brightened, peaceful soul,  
Another proud and to be proud of Malaysian,  
A life well-lived,  
Wish I could live, such a fulfilled life,  
You will be missed my brother,  
Martin Khor Kok Peng

Lilianne Fan  
We're so so sad to hear of Martin's passing, Yoke Ling.  
Mum told us early this morning. All of us felt him so  
strongly this morning. Have been saying prayers and  
sending him messages for his journey all day. Reliving  
those moments, his brilliance, his wisdom, his humour,  
his humanity. Those hours sitting and going through  
newspaper cutting on his floor! I still have a hard copy of  
his Modes of Production thesis... I am so happy that  
Martin was happy and healthy the last time I saw him, at  
the GTLF 2018. We went for a meal at Woodlands with  
him and Meena. He really shaped our lives so  
profoundly. I wouldn't be who I am without him. We are  
really going to miss him.



Jens Martens, Director, Global Policy Forum  
Koenigstrasse 37a  
53115 Bonn  
Germany  
Dear Meena, dear TWN friends,  
my deepest condolences on the passing of Martin. His  
death is a very sad loss, but his messages and ideas for a  
world in solidarity will live on forever.  
It will be the task of all of us to continue his work, which  
is more important in these days than ever before.  
All the best,  
Jens

Stefano, Italy:  
Very sad news... an era is ending I suspect...

Azra Sayeed, Pakistan  
Dear Ranja and friends:  
I am so grieved. I had met Martin when I was still  
studying and found him to be a great mentor. The many  
meetings and publication from SUNS helped immensely  
in understanding the anti-imperialist standpoint being  
taken by TWN and other like-minded organisations.  
Martin will live through the struggles that were initiated

by him in the very first years of anti-globalisation  
movements.  
Rest in peace!  
Azra

Anand Grover, Lawyers Collective, India  
Dear Ranja,  
Indeed this is terrible news. Please accept the deepest  
condolences on behalf of Lawyers Collective.

Prafulla Samantara, Lok Shakti Abhiyan  
Bhubaneswar, India  
It is really loss for Anti globaliation-liberalisation -  
capitalism Movements in all over the world as Martin  
Khor was the source of inspiration .I was regular reader  
of Thierd World Resurgence in which his writings could  
influence me as an activist to fight against global  
capitalism.  
My deep tributes to the great departed soul.

Kalyani Menon-Sen  
A terrible loss indeed, just when the world needs him  
most.....but his legacy will continue. Heartfelt  
condolences to the TWN team and Martin's family.

Sukhpal, Professor, IIM, Ahmedabad  
Dear All  
That is a very shocking and sad news. I read so many of  
his papers.  
Sincere condolences to family and colleagues

Priti Darooka, ED PWESCR International  
Dear Ranja and friends,  
What a big loss!! He will be missed! May he rest in  
peace and may we all continue to work inspired by his  
work and commitment.  
Regards,  
Priti

Prof Jack Heinemann, University of Canterbury  
Dear Yoke Ling, Ching and Lin  
I've just heard about Martin. I am so sorry for your loss.  
All my thoughts  
Jack

Nurul Izzah Anwar (Anwar Ibrahim's daughter):



**Nurul Izzah Anwar**

4 mins • 🌐



There are various inequalities that exist in the world today - starkly shown through the challenges each country faces in dealing with the current pandemic.

Decades in, decades out, Martin Khor has been the consistent expert voice, reminding us all of the need to protect the vulnerable and ensure everyone benefits from policies that help address the ongoing inequality - whether economic or health.

His was a sharp incisive look at the existing economic regime - ranging from superfluous, complex trading rules, to the stranglehold exclusivity of patents - which have denied millions access to much needed life saving drugs.

His founding of the Third World Network back in 1984 helped set the gold standard for activism.

He remains a key referral to many politicians,

Incorrigibly optimistic, and encouraging until the end, his is a presence that Malaysia, the region, as well as other parts of the world - many whose lives, policy making and thinking he touched - will sorely miss.

Today and going forward, may we be able to better absorb his advice and reminders as we traverse the difficulties of the current global pandemic.

Kindly note that it was his wish that there be only donations to CAP or SAM in lieu of flowers.

- Consumers Association of Penang  
CIMB bank : - 7020582991
- Sahabat Alam Malaysia  
CIMB bank : - 7020585730

Rest in peace, Martin Khor.



Bina Agarwal, India

Dear TWN family:

I was very sad indeed to hear that Martin Khor had passed away.

I first met Martin in the early 1980s when I was based for a few months at the APDC in Kuala Lumpur. I had

heard a great deal about Martin and went to Penang to meet him. I was very impressed by his deep commitment to the causes of the Global South, his good humour and quick smile, and his sharp intellect. I kept in touch with him for a few years subsequently, but then was not directly in contact. However, I continued to follow his good work as head of the Third World Network. He will be deeply missed. Kindly convey my deep condolences to his family.

with best regards,  
Bina Agarwal (India)

Molly Anderson, Middlebury College, VT USA  
Ching, thank you for letting us know. This is indeed sad news; he was a great inspiration to many people.

Best wishes,  
Molly

Raj Patel, University of Texas – Austin  
Really sorry to hear this Ching. He was a real hero, and I learned a great deal from him. An email with his byline in it was always a clarion call, an education, and a journey into an element of international trade lore under the watchful eye of a seasoned sherpa. I'll miss his guidance, his kindness, and his sense of humour a great deal.

onward, with gratitude for a life well lived  
Raj Patel

Ruchi Tripathi, Action Aid

He was indeed such a gentle intellectual giant, really sad news. Condolences to his family and friends and all at third world network

Laura Trujillo, University of Chapingo, Mexico

It is always sad news when someone who spends his/her life working for a better world passway. I did not meet him, however knowing his reputation, it is a sorrow moment.

My sympathy to attached friends and family  
Laura

Bryn

Rest in Power, Martin Khor. He was one of the brilliant minds who got me into trade/health justice work. Sending sympathy to everyone in Malaysia.

Khadija Catherine Razavi, CENESTA, Iran

Dear Ching,

Me too I was very sorry to hear about passing away of Martin Khor, the last two years were not beautiful for you and us we have lost beautiful persons but we have to continue their pathway, I don't remember if I met him in the gathering of Philippines, but I know that he played such huge role in TWN. May rest in peace.

Warmly

Khadija

Ziad Abdel Samad, Executive Director, ANND



#### Tribute to Martin Khor

The departure of the fighter for justice, Martin Khor, is a great loss not only to his community and developing countries, but also to the international community and humanity as a whole.

This morning, the internationalist Malaysian intellectual, advocate, mentor, and caring human, Dr. Martin Khor, passed away. Khor was the founder and coordinator of the Third World Network; he played a leading role in the civil society struggle for over three decades on global trade and financial, as well as climate justice, health issues among many other issues crucial for the South and the peoples of developing countries.

He was a great friend of the Arab NGO Network for Development (ANND) and supported our struggles in the region particularly the struggle for Palestinians' rights and cause for justice. Martin Khor was a champion of the Palestinian cause and the Palestinian people in their struggle for the restoration of their sovereignty and national dignity. He has always adopted conscientious, clear and direct stances condemning the biased practices of the international community and double standards in its positions pertaining to this cause.

His valuable contributions played a crucial role in developing a collective civil society movement on trade issues and on other multilateral and bilateral negotiations within the framework of the United Nations, the international financial and trade institutions and regional governmental and non-governmental institutions. He has led the South Center for nearly a decade, transforming it into one of the most important centers for developing countries, the G77 and China, on all issues related to the global regimes, economic globalization, development and related issues.

Martin Khor is an irreplaceable loss for ANND, as he believed in the role it played as a solidarity network and was keen to provide, with his team, continuous moral and knowledge support.

On this painful occasion, ANND presents its deepest condolences to his family, his wife Meena and his children, his colleagues at the Third World Network as well as to his extended family at the global level.

Arab NGO Network for Development (ANND)

Willy Alanguai

Very sad news. Privileged to have met you and friends from Third World Network. Rest in peace, Martin

Celine Charveriat, formerly Oxfam now EIIP, Brussels  
Such sad news. An amazing thought leader, activist and caring person. Such fond memories of our work together in Geneva. May he rest in peace

Caroline Dommen, Graduate Institute of Geneva  
I am so sad to learn this. Martin, you were an inspiration with your sharp mind, your ability to constructively critique and your gentle friendly manner. You will be missed.

Srinivasan Iyer, Ford Foundation in India  
I am very sad to hear that Martin Khor has moved on. May he be in eternal peace. He was such a restless advocate for global economic justice and was gifted with strong analytical skills. That made him so very effective in supporting global negotiations. And most of all, he carried himself with such humility. There are very few like him

Mark Dorsey, Yale University  
LONG LIVE Martin Khor!! LONG LIVE!!!!  
<https://www.thestar.com.my/news/nation/2020/04/01/former-third-world-network-director-martin-khor-dies-of-cancer>

He was a GIANT.  
I will miss him dearly.

LONG LIVE Martin Khor!!! LONG LIVE!!!!

Walden Bello, Focus on the Global South

Dear Meena:

What a big loss! An irreplaceable figure. Martin represented indomitable spirit of the global South. My deepest condolences.

Solidarity,  
Walden

Dear friends:

My deepest condolences to Meena and Third World Network on the passing of Martin, a comrade in the struggle against global economic injustice.

He was a towering figure in international civil society. A pivotal figure in the struggle for a better world, for a new deal for the peoples of the global South, his example will forever be a source of inspiration.

Walden Bello

Hi friends:

Here is an attempt, imperfect undoubtedly, to capture the many dimensions of that global activist extraordinaire Martin Khor.

[Martin Khor: The Making of a Global Activist \(https://fpif.org/martin-khor-the-making-of-a-global-activist/\)](https://fpif.org/martin-khor-the-making-of-a-global-activist/)

Solidarity,  
Walden

Peter Saunders

Dear Ching,

I had heard the sad news directly because I'm still on the TWN mailing list, but many thanks for thinking of me and making sure I knew.

As I'm sure you know, Martin was really responsible for ISIS. I remember meeting him years ago on a lawn overlooking Green Park. He patiently and firmly explained to us -- Mae-Wan above all, of course -- why third world representatives needed scientific backing to help them take on the corporations and the governments who supported them. And through TWN he organised the financial support that made it possible for ISIS to do what he had convinced us was needed. May he rest in peace.

Peter

Margarita Flores, Colombia

Dear TWN Team:

I want to send to all the colleagues of TWN a solidarity greeting for the death of my great friend and teacher. I learned a lot in the time I was sharing in the TWN Board of Directors [YL: she means TWN Advisory Board] and in the numerous workshops and seminars where we coincide.

My personal condolences to Yoke and all of friends from Colombia

Hugs  
Margarita





Andrew Han

5 mins · 🌐

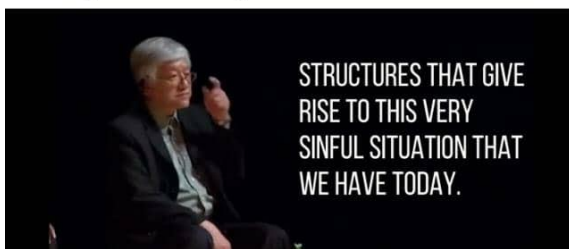
...

I always look forward to seeing him whenever there's a chance. He always has great stories to tell. Among the many stories, he once told me that he secretly followed a top politician to the restroom so that he could pass the politician an important research document and had quite a lengthy discussion in the toilet. He used that story to teach me about advocacy strategy. LOL.

Mr. Martin is like the classic literary figure of the wise old man, to me, his stories were told not just for mere entertainment but to motivate good works, to keep my political consciousness in check, and to constantly remind me the purpose of my life.

Here's a video of Mr. Martin Khor which I think encapsulates that idea. I edited the video to make it feel like he is giving a benediction before the end of a service. I would like to believe that this is his final message to me... and also to all.

Thank you sir. Rest in power.



Kamarul, AstroAwani

Nice to meet u too. My condolences about Martin. A great loss. His works help shaped me as a journalist. He inspired so many people all over the world. So nice to know that we are "connected"!

Somsook Boonyabancha, Chairperson, Asian Coalition for Housing Rights

We are deeply very sad to learn that Martin Khor, TWN's Chairman and former Director, passed away. He had initiated so many important actions and activities for those disadvantage and the poor to make a better and just society for Asia and third world countries. We have lost one of our key leaders in this battle to make a better equal world for all.

Please accept our deep condolences.

With best regards

Somsook Boonyabancha

Antonio Tricarico, ReCommon

Dear all at TWN, dear Meena, we write to share how close we are with you all in these days of sorrow because Martin left us. He has been a brilliant teacher, one among the smartest political strategist, a patient visionary, and above all a person who with his example of dedication, commitment and strength showed all of us what it means to engage in a very long fight for justice. We will miss him, his wisdom and political vision, but we are

sure that his ideas and commitment are alive and kicking in all of you and many social movements around the world.

All our thoughts are for his family and dears.

In solidarity we mourn Martin with high respect in such days of uncertainty for the entire world.

Antonio Tricarico and all at Re:Common

Lucía Sepúlveda Ruiz

[www.periodismosanador.blogspot.com](http://www.periodismosanador.blogspot.com)

Dear TWN family

Although I never met Martin Khor I sure know of his work: TWN. So I deeply regret his passing on and wish to send you my warm feelings about your loss. Please keep on his route. The days we are living thru make it more necessary than ever, we are all committed to find the way out of this mad path of destruction and death built by big business around the world.

Best regards

Ton Meijers, Oxfam Novib

Dear Meena and friends at TWN,

We learned today with a shock about the demise of Martin Khor. We are shocked to read this and would like to share our sincere condolences to the TWN team and Martin's family. The relationship between TWN and (Oxfam) Novib, between Martin and numerous Directors, campaign leads and lobbyists in our organisation goes a very long way; our memories date back till 1989-1990 when the then CEO Max van den Berg and Martin celebrated a special partnership between our organisations. Since then, we came across Martin and TWN in many ways, on several topics. We could argue, disagree and collaborate in an atmosphere of trust and commitment to building a world and economic systems which would be more just and fair, especially for those marginalized workers and producers who are not benefiting from the current system. We will remember Martin as a leading, global thinker and do-er to promote the alternative. We are grateful to his work, his legacy and will not forget him.

We wish you strength in the coming time to deal with this loss.

We are with you in our thoughts and prayers,

On behalf of many friends in Oxfam Novib

Ton Meijers

Director Programs and Campaigns

Kwasi Adu-Amankwah

I join the many around the world in paying tribute to Martin Khor for his selfless dedication to the cause of vulnerable people particularly in the Global South and for his great contribution as a champion for social justice in the world.

May Martin Khor's soul Rest In Peace.

Josep Xercavins Valls

Technical University of Catalonia

Dear Martin, dear TWN family,

Thank you for such time and quality of intellectual and organizational leadership!

We will miss Martin a lot but surely he will not be a goodbye forever!

Gigi Manicad, former Oxfam Novib  
Dear Meena, dear friends and colleagues at TWN,  
I am very saddened to hear that Martin passed away.  
We lost a formidable figure in the struggle for development and justice. We lost a truly inspiring colleague and an endearing person. Please accept my condolence.  
Martin was visionary and operational as well, a rare combination. Martin brimmed with innovative ideas, which were often followed by: "how do we make this work, now". Martin worked himself tirelessly, with Martin always demanding and delivering high quality work—and at the same time, caring and ensuring for the well-being of colleagues. For me, working with Martin also often meant being nourished with good Asian food. One of my most endearing memories were consistently observing Martin relating to students with the same level of attention and respect, as he would with high level officials.  
I will miss thinking, laughing and eating with Martin. He will always be an inspiration to me.  
With warm regards,  
Gigi Manicad

Apichai Sunchindah, Thailand  
It is with great sadness to hear of the untimely passing away of Martin Khor earlier today, 1 April 2020. TWN and the Global South Community has lost a strong advocate of Third World interests.  
May his soul Rest In Peace.  
In memoriam,

Mark Harrison, Director, Peace with Justice Program, United Methodist General Board of Church and Society  
Martin was such an inspiration. He was martyr for justice. I learned so much from him. May he rest in peace.

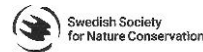
Walter Pengue, Argentina  
I REMEMBER HIM SINCE SEVERAL YEARS AGO WHEN WE WERE SO FEW, FIGHTING FOR A SYSTEM TRANSFORMATION.  
MY DEEP RESPECT AND THINKING FOR A MAN WHO FIGHT STRONGLY FOR A BETTER WORLD.  
A WARM HUG FOR THE FAMILY AND THE TWN TEAM

Jose Maria Chema Vera, Executive Director, Oxfam International  
Dear Meena, and friends at the Third World Network and South Centre,  
On behalf of the Oxfam confederation, I write to express our deepest condolences at the loss of our friend, our comrade and a true leader in the global movement for social justice, Martin Khor. Please find our letter attached.  
In remembrance, and solidarity.  
Chema Vera

Jorge Carpio, INPADE, Argentina

Acompañamos con nuestros recuerdos y saludos a familiares y amigos de Martin para afrontar la dolorosa pérdida

Maria Klerfelt, SSNC  
Dear Meena, Yoke Ling and all of you at TWN,  
With this letter we would like to share our deepest condolences upon receiving the news that Martin has passed away.  
I would also like to share my warmest condolences with you, and I am sorry for your loss.  
With warmest regards  
Maria



Stockholm, Sweden  
April 1, 2020

Dear partners and friends,

On behalf of the Swedish Society for Nature Conservation we would like to share our deepest condolences upon receiving the information that Martin Khor has passed away. Our thoughts goes to Meena, family, friends and colleagues of Martin.

Throughout the years and cooperation between TWN, CAP, SAM and SSNC a few of our colleagues had the pleasure of meeting Martin. He will be remembered by us for his dedication, strong knowledge and warmth.

Sincerely,

Leif Newman, on behalf of the entire staff  
Swedish Society for Nature Conservation.

hottarivaddofarmingen  
Swedish Society for  
Nature Conservation

Audgatan 11b, Box 4625  
SE-114 01 Stockholm, Sweden  
T +46 (0) 8 702 51 00

Dig nr. 802002-4286  
Postgata 10 1909-2  
Uruguay 165 6390

info@skogsfarmingen.se

Christine Andela, Cameroon  
Never can I forget Martin; He has been my inspiration during my first steps in the fight against injustice. May he rest in peace

Chennaiah Poguri, India  
Sorry to know the sad news. My deep condolences to the family and TWN family.

Indah Suksmaningsih, YLKI, Indonesia  
Dear colleagues,  
On behalf of Yayasan Lembaga Konsumen Indonesia (YLKI) and Mr. Tulus Abadi, I would like to extend our deep and heartfelt condolences on the passing of Mr. Martin Khor. A respected character of consumers rights, a passionate individual and a beloved public figure. We are heartbroken about the news of the passing of our respected colleague and beloved friend, Mr. Martin Khor. We have been working alongside each other for the longest time and it is truly devastating

for us to see him go.  
He had lived his life fighting for the right of people and contributed to political economy and globalisation. We will continue to fight for the right of people and remembering his spirit along the way.

Sitanon Jesdapipat Thailand

Dear Sir

I am shocked and deeply sad to receive your email. As a Buddhist I wish for Martin to Rest In Peace. The good deeds and great work he had left would guide him to a better world. Thx indeed Martin.

Manoj Kurian, WCC, Geneva

Dear Friends,

It is with deep sadness that I received this message of the passing away of Martin Khor.

The poor and marginalised of the world have lost a true friend. He was also a conscience keeper of the 'thinking activists'. He was the former director of the Third World Network and also formerly the Executive director of the South Centre. A consumer activist, a journalist, an academician, economist, thinker, prophet and a leader par excellence,

his demeanour was marked by humility, total dedication to the poor, selflessness and the ability to put across complex issues from the perspective of the person in the margins of society. He worked closely with the Ecumenical movement ( on issues of Economic Justice, Ecological Justice, and Health) and deeply appreciated the WCC. He was a great gift to humankind, and we have the responsibility, as those who have been inspired by him, to continue in his legacy.

I will work on a short obituary, also taking the points raised by Martin- and send it to you in the next half hour.

Sincerely yours,

Manoj

Philo Morris, India

Dear TWN members,

I had known and admired Martin. I used to read TWN magazine when I used to be in India and later met him at the UN when I was there for 10 years. I knew how true what he was saying and writing about. He introduced me to Bhumika Machala many years ago at the UN. He was a great pillar for us people of global south. I am sure he has groomed many young to be like him. His contributions was immense and he was never afraid to speak. May he rest in peace and may his dreams come true for our troubled world.

Philo Morris

Jan Gustav Strandenaes, Stakeholder Forum, Norway

Dear all in TWN

I received the news about Martin Khor with chock and deep sorrow. I have always had the deepest respect for him and the work that TWN has done over several decades. Martin's indefatigable quest for justice and fairness, his ability to see the large perspectives and expose the hidden truths has always been an inspiration to me and to many of my colleagues. TWN with its

incredible staff always producing noteworthy documents is proof of Martin's legacy. To honour his legacy, I hope we all may carry on and continue the work he initiated so many years ago.

I am truly sorry for your loss

Shahid Zia, Lok Sanjh Foundation, Pakistan

Dear TWN Family,

Sad to hear about the sad demise of Martin Khor. That is a great loss to civil society and TWN and the family. Our thoughts are with you and family.

best,

Shahid Zia

Ernst Weizsaecker, Germany

Dear friends,

this is very sad news. Martin was a friend of mine (and of my wife Christine von Weizsäcker who cultivated steady contacts with TWN) . I was not aware of his illness but cannot imagine him not working harder when he realized the danger attacking his body. May he rest in peace.

We shall never forget him.

Kind regards,

Ernst

Fareha Bugti

Pl accept and pass on to his family, my sincerest condolences on Martin's demise.

I met Martin during my stint at Geneva and benefitted from his insight and professionalism.

May he rest in peace and may his family & friends find solace in their time of sorrow.

Rajan Dhanjee, India

Dear All,

I am most saddened to hear about Martin's decease. He was an intellectual giant, dedicated to the Third World cause, skillful in negotiations and very human, always calm, friendly and pleasant. May God rest his soul.

My condolences to his family and also to the TWN family.

Rajan Dhanjee

Ndebesa Patt

Big loss, Martin has been a champion of the alternative paradigm to the OECD domination of the global development thinking. The south will miss him. However the tribute to pay him is to keep the struggle for development alternatives from the south alive.

Ndebesa M

Sarba Raj Khadka

Dear friends,

I am very much shocked and saddened by the news of untimely demise of Martin, who was one of the finest personalities and great advocates of our generations. It is an irreparable loss to all of us. I wish heartfelt Shradhanjali to the departed soul and deep condolences to the bereaved family members and friends of the departed soul. May the departed soul rest

in peace. More power and solidarity at this very difficult time.

With warmest regards,  
Sarba

Barry Coates, former Director of WDM and Oxfam NZ  
I am so sorry to hear of Martin's passing. He was an inspiration and a leader for so many who worked for international justice, equity and the environment. I was privileged to work with Martin across many years and campaigns. I and so many others will remember him, mourn his passing and celebrate his extraordinary life and achievements. My sympathies with all at TWN, Martin's many friends and his family.

Georgios Altintzis, ITUC

Dear Ranja, dear colleagues,  
Martin Khor lived as an inspiration for social justice. His thinking and breakthroughs guided many of us in new understandings of globalization and sustainable development and his work on global trade and investment rules helped to shape policy making for access to medicine, food security and climate action, among many other policy areas.

May Martin's commitment to solidarity, as reflected in his leadership in the Third World Network, become an urge for all of you and us to continue his work. Please convey ITUC's admiration for Martin's values and integrity to his family and colleagues, and our heartfelt sorrow for his loss.

All the best,  
Yorgos Altintzis

Beth Burrows, USA

in the midst of a pandemic of sadness:  
I awoke this morning to read the devastating news that an old friend and wily warrior has marched on. I suddenly remember a time on Penang Hill when we all had the luxury of being organized by Martin to look ahead and see what was coming. I remember he was brilliant, unrelenting, deeply kind, and profoundly correct.

With condolences to his family and in gratitude for the good fortune of having known Martin Khor,

Kavaljit Singh

I am saddened to hear of Martin's passing. My deepest condolences to Meena, family members and colleagues at TWN. Martin was a thinker, writer, and organizer. He was a constant source of inspiration. Many (including myself) were greatly inspired by his thinking and actions over the last three decades. Martin's ability to attract the best and brightest minds to develop collective consciousness and activism is unparalleled. This not only includes his colleagues at TWN but scores of writers, scholars, and activists across the world. No mean accomplishment in the present times where self-aggrandizement and egos often separate us from developing collective thinking and actions.

Apart from his professional accomplishments, what also attracted to me was his humility, simple living (always carrying an ecofriendly cotton handbag), and, of course, a great sense of humour. I have so many sweet memories which I will share some other time. Rest in Peace, Martin! We are carrying your ideals forward and so will the next generations.

Arujunan Narayanan, Malaysia

Mr Martin Khor was my lecturer for 'Introduction to Political Economy' in USM in 1975-1976. He was one of the best lecturers I had. He gave us knowledge and made us to think critically. He is in my memory since 1975. It is my big regret that I did not meet him after leaving USM but kept tract of his writings. I have his book on Malaysian Political Economy with me. His demise is a great loss to humanity. He will be remembered by many for long. My condolence to his family. May his soul rest in peace.

Claire, APMDD

Hi Prerna. Heard about Martin Khor's passing. I sent Meena a message but I know she got lots of messages and things may still be overwhelming for her at the moment. Please extend my condolences to her, her family and the rest of the TWN team.

And I also hope you and the rest are well and safe. ❤️

Samantha Burcher, formerly Institute of Science in Society

Dear Ching,  
I am writing to you to express my deepest sympathy about Martin's death. I know how fond you were of him and this has come at a very difficult time. I will remember his warm smile and kindness as well as how hard he worked for a fair world and social justice. I'm shedding tears as I write this because it seems that so many of the good people are leaving us. But what can we do?  
Wishing you and your family all health and happinesses.  
Warm regards,  
Sam

Claude and Norma Alvares, India

We will miss him. It was great knowing him and being associated with him and his projects. We are thankful that he is finally at peace, in the warm embrace of Mother Earth. My first intensive meeting with Martin I remember took place in his office at the Consumers Association of Penang, 87 Jalan Kelawei (then) in 1984. At that time, he had already taken charge of the Third World Network (besides being Director of CAP) which had been set up pursuant to the international conference called by Mohamed Idris on "Third World: Development or Crisis?" I had been invited to attend the conference. The Third World Network was set up pursuant to the meeting. It would keep us connected for 36 years. Whenever we visited Penang, Martin and Meena would invite us for a dinner, always at a different restaurant. The last one was a purely organic eatery. He was keen I

liked it because at that time I was intimately associated with the Organic Farming Association of India.

Eventually, the Third World Network became one of the sponsors of the Organic World Congress, which the Association organized in New Delhi, in November 2017. What shall always carry a deep impression with me about Martin was his impeccable sense of mischief and humour. In 2019, at the memorial function for S.M. Mohamed Idris in Penang, though already weighed down by his illness, he was at his humourous best. He made all attending that memorial function laugh and smile at his memories of Idris. Idris had a profound and indelible influence on his life.

This sense of humour, however, never detracted from his total seriousness, even rage, when the conversation shifted to corporations, WTO, free trade agreements, and their disastrous impacts on the lives and interests of ordinary people. Though Martin could have easily become a star writer or influential journalist, or a professor in any elite Malaysian institution, he preferred to remain committed as a social activist to the NGO world: CAP, SAM, Third World Network, the South Center (where he had succeeded Manmohan Singh as Director). Instead of classrooms and lecturing, he clearly preferred briefings, meetings, seminars, conferences where he met like-minded people and could take our kind of causes forward.

But, contrary to what social activists are wont to neglect, he also walked over to talk to the other side. By "the other side", I do not mean corporations or industrialized country governments. I mean officials from governments of the Global South. Martin was aware that most governments in Asia, Africa or Latin America professed to have little time or capacity to represent the cause of their own countries in international fora. Most of them were too busy exploiting their own poor populations for amassing wealth privately. But in this new found role – a unique niche he created for himself – he flowered. He dedicated endless hours to crunch numbers (he was a trained economist), digest reams of data, and prepare dossiers and briefing notes for officials of various governments. By doing this, he brought some measure of balance and equality to large numbers of discussions and negotiations on international trade.

Uncle Idris was against the very idea of international trade. He found it never did any good to anyone, except for the international financial and global elite. Martin respected his view, but felt that negotiations under the WTO and other international fora were ongoing exercises. Free trade agreements could be fought (as he helped fight the free trade agreements that the Malaysian government wanted to sign), but as long as they were being negotiated, officials and governments of the developing countries needed the help of a think tank that would assist them in their negotiations.

In my opinion, just simply doing this, and doing this simply, Martin ensured that a large number of developing country governments, representing millions of people, developed a stronger, more effective voice in such international meetings, especially when faced with constant bullying by Western nations. In fact, in the end, a large number of officials from the Global South began

to look in the direction of the South Centre and its ever alert director for advice and documents, and for counsel on how to read documents prepared by the more experienced staffers of the First World.

So more than Malaysia – where he gave SAM, CAP and TWN strong personalities, while continuing to work under the active vision and push of the late Mohamed Idris – it will always be the Global South, its institutions, its governments, who will acknowledge that Martin emerged just in time on the world stage to become an effective and unquestioned ally of theirs, with his consider knowledge and handling of international trade issues readily shared.

I do not think sitting with him that morning in Penang in 1984, 36 years ago, I could have predicted or even had an inkling of the eventual trajectory of this extraordinary Malaysian.

Claude & Norma Alvares



Ryz Tyb, SEATINI

We all at SEATINI cannot come close to understanding your loss. This is for Martin as we would not be able to give you all comfort at this time.

-----  
Be Your Soul and All Will Suffice

//Don't ask about the decree

and don't ask,

for it is about life;

and life is not a subject or a task

for it has already answered the question,  
so let it be.

//That is the highest decree,  
to be and to see.

//Every event or experience

is according to its decree.  
 Nature is truly a perfect cosmos  
 and not the outcome of random chaos.  
 //Manifestations are based on countless laws.  
 Some we know and see, many we don't.  
 The divine commands are so numerous,  
 to attempt to count them is superfluous.  
 If you made pens out of every tree  
 and used oceans as ink to explain  
 you would give up the attempt in vain!  
 //Infinite are the possibilities  
 in His domain -  
 so give up!  
 And sublimate,  
 witness and return -  
 then just be.  
 //Your ultimate desired destiny  
 is already rooted in your heart:  
 Intentions and actions.  
 //if bliss is what you want,  
 then be your soul  
 and all will suffice.  
 - Shaykh Fadhalla Haeri, 'Decree and Destiny'  
 from 'The Four Journeys' –



2<sup>nd</sup> April 2020  
 The family, Staff and Board,  
 Third World Network-Malaysia

Dear Sir/Madam,

RE: SEATINI-Uganda's Condolence Message to Martin Khor's Family and TWN Fraternity

We have learnt with great sadness about the death of our Mr. Martin Khor.

On behalf of Management and Staff of SEATINI-Uganda, I would like to express our sincere, heartfelt condolences on his unfortunate death. For the last 20 years, Martin Khor has, through his research and mentorship, supported SEATINI in building the foundations for campaigns towards improving our engagements towards processes, ideologies that are tilted against developing and least developed countries at the WTO global level and other regional negotiating blocks in which Africa is negotiating her interests in areas that include; Bilateral Investment Treaties, Climate Change and governance of global finance.

Founded in 1996, SEATINI is a Pan African NGO that works to promote pro development trade, fiscal and trade related policies for sustained equitable development and improved livelihoods in Uganda and the East African Community region. It has offices in Zimbabwe, Kenya and Uganda.

As SEATINI, we have lost not only a good friend but a visionary inspiring mentor and action-oriented thinker determined to unite the global south and change the South-North relationship. We take comfort in knowing that due to his dedication, Martin has left behind a generation of activists and intellectuals committed to socio-economic justice.

May his soul Rest in Peace.

Yours Sincerely,

Ms. Jane Nalunga

Executive Director,

SEATINI-Uganda

Anwar Fazal, Director, Right Livelihood Challenge,  
 Malaysia

"We have lost today ,Martin Khor ,a rare public intellectual who spent his life time in serving the public interest on issues of economics,ecology and equity. His work with the Consumers Association of Penang (CAP) of which he was still Secretary. Sahabat Alam Malaysia (SAM), Third World Network (TWN). Most significant too, he served as head the international SOUTH CENTRE based in Geneva, which promoted and protected the interests of the third world against global hegemony by

imperial economic and geopolitical powers. He took over the position from Manmohan Singh who moved back to India to eventually become the Prime Minister. Even Tun Mahathir invited Martin to brief the Cabinet, a rare thing for civil society activists. Although always appearing with a serious deep thinking demeanor he had a warm heart as in reflected in his most recent and last book which was titled HAPPINESS and dedicated to his granddaughter. His father Khor Cheang Kee was one of the greatest journalists in Penang having headed both the NST and the Star. Martin instead took his writing skills to the whole world. Malaysia and civil society have lost an outstanding writer and activist."  
 Dato' (Dr.) Anwar Fazal,  
 Former President of Consumers International and currently Director of the Right Livelihood College and Chairman Of Think City .

Friends today I received the sad news that Martin Khor has just passed away. He was another one of those towering Malaysians who chose to harness his high intellect for the purpose of social activism in the pursuit of a more just and equitable society. Many of us will remember him for his eloquence of speech and writing when exposing the hypocrisy of the West in their trade negotiations or environmental policies. He had the ability of taking apart the abstract language of international policy, made necessarily opaque to eschew transparency, and articulate them in a way the public could understand. A way that helped empower the public with knowledge so that citizens could organize themselves to fight against the nefarious powers of the global elite. I have seen him do this brilliantly since the negotiations for the Earth Summit in 1992 until the recent negotiations of the TPPA and its variants. But, for many of us here, he was also a mentor - a man who always made time to explain to us the latest mutative tricks of the virus of capitalism and who was always willing to contribute. Martin, just like his mentor S.M. Idris before, are from a generation of Malaysian activists who dedicated their lives towards critiquing and therefore influencing the way globalization reshaped Malaysia and many parts of the developing world. A reshaping that often gave the weaker countries agency in determining their own destiny. You will be missed, Martin

++++(&&&&&)&&&&+++

A POEM BY NIZAM MADHAR

A life well lived...

A friend, a brother, a mentor,

A comrade, of many, well-fought battle,

A teacher that makes sense of life, a complicated world

full of mess, he simplified and gave us hope,

The other brightened, peaceful soul,

Another proud and to be proud of Malaysian,

A life well-lived,

Wish I could live, such a fulfilled life,

You will be missed my brother,

Martin Khor Kok Peng

Penang Forum, Malaysia

The Penang Forum is deeply distressed at the loss of Martin Khor. We grieve with his family especially his partner and Penang Forum committee member Meenakshi Raman.

The passing of Martin has been marked by an outpouring of tributes to the man, nationally and internationally from Geneva to India. For his intellect, his dedication, his principles and his strength. Many have expounded on his unshakable beliefs and his abilities to work through the intricacies of international policies and smart talking politicians, to separate the wheat from the chaff and to offer clear sight lines for our understanding.

He has championed many deserving causes especially on climate change and spoken out for those who have not had the ability to do so themselves.

In the last few years while Martin fought his illness he still chose to give his full support and share his skills with the Penang Forum. He has shared planning meetings, analyzed proposals and written strongly worded press articles about Penang's mega projects and the environmental and economic pitfalls they present. Martin and Meena have been at the core of Penang Forum's attempts to bring about a more sustainable future for Penang. We are truly grateful and we will miss him terribly.

Penang Forum April 3rd 2020

Savi Bisnath, Center for Women's Global Leadership  
I'm very much influenced by his work on trade and the WTO. My PhD research reflects his influence. I feel honoured to have known him professionally. He was a person with a lot of integrity.

 drwanazizah



Murali Raman, Malaysia

**Men are Many, A Dedication to...  
Martin Khor**

Men are many, but you are unlike any  
Absolute focus in your aspirations and dreams  
Resolute in your strategies, policies and ideals, in  
honour of world order  
Thinking of the economically challenged world all over  
Inspiration to us all, you are a man unlike any

Nurturing passion, love, and human-compassion in the hearts of so many

Khor will be missed, trade discussions will never be the same

Humble, kind, witty, brilliant all coming together  
Ordinary Men could only look upon you in true wonder  
Rest in Power MARTIN KHOR, you will be missed, near and afar

Vivien Yew, UKM

Dear Madam Meenakshi Raman and family,  
I would like to convey my condolences to you and your family for the passing of the late Martin Khor.  
Both my husband and I are heavy readers of The Star papers. We have read many articles of his column. Many thanks.  
May his soul rest in peace.  
Sincerely,  
Vivien

Mohammad Ali Barzgar, Iran

With Deep Sorrow and grief I condole the demise of Martin Khor to his family, colleagues and friends in TwN, HAIAP, and PHM. Wishing his Soul Rest In Peace . Dr. M.A. BARZEGAR , IRAN

Susan Isiko Strba, Graduate Institute of Geneva

Thank to TWN for sharing the news of Martin Khor's passing and inviting us to send a message.  
I had the chance to meet and watch Martin Khor on several occasions as he passionately defended the rights and interests of the South. We will miss a warrior for the South. My sincere condolences to his family and friends, especially from the South.

Richard Gerster, formerly with Alliance Sud

Dear friends of TWN  
The news that Martin Khor passed away are a real shock to me. His death is an incredible loss for the NGO movement globally.  
My personal relationship to Martin dates back to 1980 when I had been responsible for Malaysian affairs with the Swiss NGO «Helvetas» contributing financially to the Consumer Association of Penang. Martin's commitment to equity and development made the relationship with Helvetas a convincing affair right from its start.  
In 1984 I had the honour to be invited by Martin to contribute to the «CAP Conference on Third World Development or Crisis?». My presentation «How international patenting affects developing countries» was well received, I felt at home. As is well known, this conference was the kickoff of the Third World Network taking up patenting as one of the issues to be followed up.

Later on I became director of the Swiss NGO «Alliance Sud» and Martin continued to share his analysis and ideas with us. It was not only his intellectual capacity which was fascinating but also his empathy for people. Once he stayed at my home and in the evening we attended the annual event of the local gymnastics club in my village. I remember well how he took a real interest in the presenting kids and members.

While desperately missing Martin's inspiring encouragement as well as his pertinent economic and political analysis, I am confident that the TWN will continue to build on his legacy. I wish Martin's family and TWN all the best for the future.  
Warm regards  
Richard Gerster

Hood Salleh, UKM  
To Martin's family: he is well remembered as an unstinting campaigner for rights of minorities, a sustainable world and global justice.  
There is much of great value that he had written on. He has left us a great legacy.  
May his soul rest in peace.  
Hood Salleh  
Emeritus Professor  
Institute of Environment and Development  
UKM

Haimanot Desalegne  
Director, ENDA-Ethiopia  
Dear friends,  
I am writing to express my sincere condolence to the whole Third World Network team after learning of the passing of Mr. Marthin Khor. He was a great contributor to the network and its partners.  
May God rest his soul in heaven!  
Sincerely,  
Haimanot Desalegne

Rajen Awotar, Executive Director, MAUDESCO  
Dear Colleagues,  
Maudesco sends its full sympathy to all concerned

Marumo Nkomo  
Dear Cecilia,  
I just read the tragic news of Martin Khor's passing. While I never had the privilege of meeting him, his work has been a great inspiration. Malaysia and indeed the world have lost an icon.  
My condolences.  
Regards,  
Marumo

Ranjit Devral  
Dear Ranja,  
I've had the good fortune to interact with Martin on many occasions during my years as a staffer with the Inter Press Service. He was always kind and supportive and ready with contributions when we needed them. We'll miss him, especially at this juncture. My condolences to his family.  
Biraj Patnaik  
Deepest condolences on an irreparable loss. Not just for TWN but for all trade activists across the world. A true champion of the Global South and internationalist if there was one.  
A mentor to many, his legacy will live on in the work that they do across continents.  
RIP Martin.  
Ever,  
Biraj

Vanaja Ramprasad  
Dear Ranja  
I was shocked to hear news of Martin  
Pass on my prayers to Meena may he rest in peace.  
Vanaja Ramprasad

Kunibert Raffer, Austria  
Dear Yilmaz:  
Sorry to learn that Martin has passed away. This is a great loss for all of us who are struggling to improve global relations, as well as for anyone in the world.  
Sad greetings from Vienna  
Kuni

Nafis Faizi, Aligarh Muslim University, India  
Hi,  
I am extremely sorry for this huge loss. In my limited capacity, I was so highly impressed by Martin that I kept looking for him at Malaysia last year (& did manage to talk for a couple of minutes). From speaking truth to power to getting the work done, getting civil society involved in the bigger platform, I was highly impressed by his stature, his work ethics and his nature.  
Such was his scale of work that I remember Uma talking in depth about him, as a person, as an individual who could fill a sense of responsibility and motivate people to do furthermore. Rarely do such people exist. I have always met Chee when she has been so busy during meetings, but Martin's contribution is so much that his name, his work, his attitude always used to find a mention. While this is something that might sound odd, I will say this. I envy all of you who could get to know him personally and could learn from him. I wish I could. This would remain a regret.  
I stand with all of you in this sad moment. Stay strong.  
In solidarity

Faiza Rady, Al-Ahram News, Egypt  
I know how dedicated he was in the struggle for social justice and I admired and respected him for it. I'd like to send his family my heartfelt sorrow over his passing and tell them he was loved and appreciated.  
Faiza Rady

Azeb Girmai, Ethiopia  
Rest in peace, Martin. Condolences, Meena and all in TWN.

Gauri Pradhan, Nepal  
Extremely sad to hear about this tragic news. Rest in peace, Martin. My deepest condolences to Meena Raman, family and all friends of TWN.

Herman Kumara Wijethunge, National Fisheries Solidarity Organization (NAFSO), Sri Lanka  
Our deepest sympathies. It is a great loss to all of us.

Eduardo Giesen Amtmann, Chile  
It is a great loss.

Hweimian Amy Lim, Malaysia



Dear Meena, my deepest condolences to you and your family.

Guy Standing, SOAS University of London  
Dear Yilmaz and Richard,  
A sad loss, and a nice obituary.  
Guy

Angela Kirchherr, Bread for the World  
Dear Yoke Ling,  
I hope you and your colleagues and families are well. I am writing today to express our sincere condolences on the death of your Chairman Martin Khor. We are very sorry to hear these news and would like to express our sympathy to his family and the entire TWN family. I have not met him personally but I know he has led an impressive life and has contributed greatly to revealing and solving injustice in the world. With our best wishes,  
Angela & the Worldwide Team

PV Satheesh, Deccan Development Society  
Dear Li Ching  
It is devastating to learn that Martin is no more. Martin was a giant of our times and shaped multiple minds to create a liberal, thinking society that all of us are sharing in the form of IPES, TWN and such groups. Being a radical economist who was also a great visionary Martin taught us a new way of looking at things and questioning them from multiple standpoints. That he was partly or fully responsible for the revolutionary stances taken by Mahathir and Malaysia is a crowning glory in the long career of Martin which went on to move from high to high. The Resurgence and Third World Economics will be textbooks for a whole generation which intends to understand the world from a non-imperialistic politics. My profound sympathies are with you, Li Lin, Meenakshi, TwN and Martins family. We will all rededicate ourselves to do the king of things we are doing in the name of Martin to make his soul find peace and happiness wherever he is.  
P v Satheesh

Dana Peris, FOE US  
Dear Lin,  
Sending you big hugs, and to the TWN extended family. I'm so sorry to hear about Martins passing, and hoping you are able to take time to grieve this tremendous loss.

Nick Dearden, Global Justice Now/World Development Movement  
Dear Ranja  
Some thoughts on Martin from his friends at Global Justice Now/ World Development Movement: Martin Khor was an extraordinary global activist, thinker and influencer. When one thinks of a global leader from the non-government sector who made technical issues on intellectual property rights, trade, finance, biodiversity, role of multilateral institutions, and the politics of the UN climate change negotiation more meaningful and

compelling for action, Martin would be one of the first figure to come to mind.

He laid bare the injustices in every north-south confrontation in the processes of multilateral institutions that he tried to influence. For us in Global Justice Now (formerly World Development Movement), Martin's analysis is one of our go-tos when we wanted to amplify and explain to our allies and partners here in Europe the position of southern movements and governments.

As fellow travellers in the struggle for social and economic justice, we salute the passing of a great inspiration and source of understanding. His ideas will remain with us as we continue to build reciprocal solidarity with our partners in the global south. We've had Martin's picture up in our reception area for the last 10 years. When we finally return to work after lockdown, we'll look at it in a new light and remember the incredible contribution he made to global justice! We offer our condolences to his partner Meena and his TWN and South Centre colleagues.  
Nick, Dottie and all at GJN

Nicoal Bullard, Terre Solidaire  
Dear Meena, dear TWN friends,  
I would like to express my deep condolences to you, Meena, and to the big TWN family at this very sad time. Watching a memorial video that was shared last week, I was reminded of Martin's great gift for communication, and his ability to explain complex issues with simplicity and humour and passion. For all of us in the global justice movements, he will be remembered for his deep analysis of how the world works, his unflagging commitment to the struggles of the South, and his capacity to educate, inspire and provide political direction. In these strange days, we need to remember Martin's legacy and vision as we analyse the impacts of the corona virus and strategise how to use this opportunity to build a fairer and more ecological future. My thoughts are with you. Stay strong.  
In solidarity,  
Nicola

Luis Gomez-Echeverri, IIASS  
BRILLIANT, SOFT-SPOKEN, CONSISTENT, PRINCIPLED, COMMITTED AND A GOOD FRIEND!!  
I AM VERY SAD TO HEAR THE NEWS OF HIS DEATH! WHEN I RETIRED FROM THE UNDP 15 YEARS AGO, HE GAVE ME A BIG LECTURE, IN HIS INSIGHTFUL AND SOFT-SPOKEN WAY (ALWAYS WITH A SOFT SMILE THAT CHARACTERIZED HIM), AS TO WHY I NEEDED TO REMAIN ACTIVE AND SPEAKING UP ON BEHALF OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. I PROMISED HIM THAT I WOULD. TODAY, I AM NOT SURE THAT I HAVE KEPT MY PROMISE ALWAYS AND I FEEL EMBARRASSED. BUT I MUST SAY THAT HE WAS ONE OF THOSE PEOPLE WHO INFLUENCED MY RESOLVE TO BECOME EVEN MORE ACTIVE AFTER MY EARLY RETIREMENT FROM THE UN. AND HIS PASSING IS A REMINDER THAT I NEED TO REMAIN ACTIVE AND OUTSPOKEN ON BEHALF OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. IF THERE IS ONE THING THAT THE COVID 19 GLOBAL CRISIS IS UNVEILING FOR ALL OF US TO SEE IS THE IMMENSE CRIMINAL INEQUALITY,

UNFAIRNESS AND THE UNJUST WORLD THAT WE LIVE IN. MARTIN WAS ALWAYS TALKING ABOUT THIS. ALTHOUGH MANY SAW HIM AS A CLIMATE CHANGE FIGHT CHAMPION, HE WAS MUCH MORE. MARTIN WAS AN ENCYCLOPEDIA OF KNOWLEDGE. BUT HIS THREAD OF CONSISTENCY WAS ALWAYS THE SAME – THE PLIGHT OF THE POOR AND POOR COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD. Martin - we will miss you BUT your message will resonate for decades to come.  
THANK YOU  
Luis Gomez-Echeverri

Lourdes Beneria, Cornell University  
I don't know who will receive this message. Whoever it is, I need to express my sadness at Martin Khor's death. He was a wonderful human being whom I met as some UN meetings and at Cornell University. He will be remembered.

Marie Kigalu, UPF Chairperson, Tanzania  
I learnt with a deep sorrow the death of my Good friend, a philosopher, a think tank to most of us. I met him last when he came to Dar es Salaam, and later on at a conference in Seoul – South Korea (UPF Leadership conference) ooh! He left us but will continue to be with us spiritually. May His Soul Rest in Eternal Peace – Ameen  
Marie Kapalata Kigalu –UPF Chairperson(Tanzania Chapter)

Daniel Querol, Nicaragua  
I am sad about Martin's early death. He was a necessary person. Huggs to all of you. Daniel

Ehiabhi Cyril Odion, UK  
I have gained tremendously since joining the network, am very sad to hear that the mentor has passed on. The flame he lit will surely burn on forever.  
Rest in peace

Thiru Balasubramaniam, Geneva  
My first abiding memory of Martin Khor was meeting him in my early 20s at Prosperous restaurant in Penang (either in mid 1997 or mid 1998). He was a close friend and colleague of my father's. I remember telling Martin about a friend who was at Goldman Sachs. Earlier that spring, my friend, over a tasty plate of mussels at Belgian restaurant in New York City, told me how Goldman had "made a killing" by short-selling the ringgit. That dinner conversation changed how I viewed the world. Anyway, I recounted this to Martin, and his immediate response was: "Would your friend like to write an article for SUNS?" (Or something along those lines!). An indelible memory I have of Martin was many years later in Switzerland; I don't think many people know this, but Martin had a very good singing voice. He was an amazing crooner, and I had the pleasure of beholding this at a karaoke session at his home. I remember planning conferences with him and my father; I had no idea at the time there was huge beef about scheduling "coffee breaks" versus "tea breaks"; we decided to compromise and have one each!

Barbara Adams, GPF  
Yilmaz and Richard,  
Thank you so much for this piece. I have so many memories of Martin that I wouldn't know where to start.  
As I was reading this I could hear Martin speaking, see him presenting and re-live many wonderful, amazing and fun conversations.  
I will re-read it many times.  
Thank you, Barbara

Asad Rehman, War on Want  
Our deepest condolences to Meena and all of Martin's friends, family and loved ones, you are all in our thoughts and prayers.  
Martin's loss will be deeply felt right across the world by all those who cherish justice and fight for a better world. For all of us at War on Want Martin has always been a much loved friend, comrade, and teacher, who not only provided us with the tools to better understand and challenge the injustices of this world. But through out the decades of struggle his love of humanity and his championing of the peoples of the global South has continued to inspire us to keep fighting for a better world.  
His legacy lives on in all of us. Rest in Power Martin Asad

Anna Pha, Guardian Workers' Weekly  
To everyone at the Third Network Family  
I wish to extend my sincerest condolences to you and Martin's family and friends. I know it will be a great loss to you, the people of the South and globally. For some decades I have read and learnt so much from his important work and I am confident that you will continue in his memory stronger than ever in these difficult times. He was a true hero of the people, a fighter for justice and the environment.  
Rest in Peace Martin Khor!  
Anna Pha

Daniela, Hotel Aigner  
**In Memory of Martin Khor**  
***Those we love don't go away,***  
***They walk beside us every day,***  
***Unseen, unheard, but always near,***  
***Still loved, still missed and vey dear.***  
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Dear Meena, dear Family of Martin,  
This is Daniela from the Hotel Aigner in Bonn.  
First of all I want to apologize for not having written earlier.  
Since the corona virus hit us in the middle of March we had to go through the shut down.  
The restrictions are now being relaxed, but I think this is happening much too fast...  
In the middle of this crisis we got the shocking message that dear Martin has passed away.  
We knew that he has been fighting against the cancer for some years.  
This is why we did not see him in Bonn any more.  
He came for a short stay though quite a while ago...

I am not sure if this was the last time we saw him.  
We did not see you, dear Meena, as often as in the beginning,  
This is absolutely understandable.  
You wanted to be with Martin to support him and give him strength and courage not to give up.  
Through the years we got to know each other better and a relationship developed.  
You all staid two weeks with us and we became your second home.  
It was always a great to joy and pleasure to see Martin.  
He was such a warm-hearted, wonderful person and modest at the same time.  
We highly respected Martin for all the things he achieved in his life,  
I know that his visions will be continued by you.  
So please accept our our deepest condolences.  
I can feel how deep your pain must be.  
I lost my father in 2014 and my mother in 2016.  
Nobody will ever be forgotten.  
They left so many traces and they live on in their children and grandchildren.  
You can be proud to have had such a loving husband, father and grandfather!!  
And we are proud to have met him, even though it was for a short period.  
Meena, our thoughts are with you, and of course with your family.  
We pray for Martin and for you.  
We all will see him again one day.  
But until that day we keep Martin alive in our hearts, our souls and in our doing.  
For me personally it was a very big compliment, Martin made me:  
He called me „his favourite German“.  
Stay strong and know that you are remembered in our thoughts and prayers!  
We embrace you and are with you in these hard times.  
Your Hotel Aigner Family

May and Colin Williams, Cambridge  
Dear Meena  
What sad news thank you for letting us know. It came as quite a shock. The world has lost one of the real nice guys.  
We spent yesterday remembering things about him like he would always share his meal if you went into his room while he was eating, having to kick him out at 2am when him and Colin sat talking and drinking home made beer as Colin had to be up in the morning for work. His mum came to stay and Martin cooked her breakfast she didn't even know he could cook as he wasn't allowed in the kitchen at home. We took her over to the Panton Arms and watching her face was hysterical as I don't think she had been in a pub before. We also remember our meal out with you in Penang, we often talk about our two visits there a beautiful place.  
We have read some of the things that people have said about him and all are true, quiet, unassuming, dedicated to his beliefs are just a few. He will be missed by many. Hope you are well in these strange times.  
Take care thinking of you  
May and Colin

Jennifer Yeo  
George and I are sad that Martin has passed on  
He has left a void in this world  
He was full of intelligence and had a passion to make the world a better place  
And he has gone on to the most desired place - heaven  
We thank God for Martin and pray that his soul will forever Rest In Peace  
Rest well Martin my friend from your endeavours.  
Our deepest condolences to you and the whole family and to Meena too  
Jen

## B. Climate Change, Biodiversity, Environment and Agriculture CSOs and Individuals

Jim Thomas, ETC  
We just heard the news this evening about Martin passing. How deeply sad and upsetting.  
I only met Martin a few times and he seemed always so wonderful, wise and warm - and of course he was one of the giants of our movements. I can't imagine how hard it must be for those of you who knew and worked with him so closely all these years. I add my condolences to what i'm sure is a mounting flood.  
TWN friends please let us know if there are ways that ETC can offer support or help in celebrating his legacy etc  
Yours in solidarity,  
Jim.

Million Belay (PhD), General Coordinator, Alliance for Food Sovereignty in Africa  
Hi Ching,  
What a devastating news. I am really sorry. My condolence.  
Yours,  
Million

Mariam Mayet, African Centre for Biodiversity:  
Dearest Ching I am so sad to hear the news about Martin. Some people play so many different roles in our lives, some like Martin, many roles that no one else plays. Because of his uniqueness. Ching, we must honour this man's memory and legacy but faithfully and with good humour, chart the post Covid shop forward

with tenacity, good grace and dignity but not forgetting good humour. With much love and sadness  
Dearest YL please accept our deepest, deepest condolences. Martin was like no other. A sparkling gem amongst us mere mortals. He has left an amazing legacy and should all be all the emboldened to chart the post COVID ship even as the waters become increasingly choppy. With much love and sadness  
Mariam

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Deepest condolences to all our friends and family at the Third World Network. Martin was superb activist, mentor, visionary and friend to us was instrumental in helping us establish the [African Centre for Biodiversity](#) when friends were few and far between. We will cherish the legacy you have left behind Martin and find the strength within us all, to charter that post-COVID 19 ship, even as the seas become evermore choppy. Rest in peace. with sincere condolences to my sisters at the TWN [Lim Li Ching](#) [Lim Li LinChee Yoke](#) [LingSangeeta Shashikant](#) our thoughts and prayers are with you all, [Meena Raman](#) please accept our deepest condolences at the loss of your partner, friend and beloved companion.  
Mariam



4 April, 2020

To our colleagues at Third World Network,

It is with great sadness that we heard the news that your outstanding chairperson and former director, Martin Khor, has passed away. On behalf of the staff at the African Centre for Biodiversity, I wish to extend our deepest condolences. Please know that our thoughts are with you as you navigate through this time of grief and upheaval.

We will always remember Martin as a towering figure who stood in solidarity with the many struggles of communities in the South, and the call to protect the Earth. He will continue to serve as a powerful inspiration for our collective endeavours going forward.

We are so grateful to TWN, as one of our closest and most enduring partners, and if there is any way we can ease the burden at this time, please let us know.

Warmly,  
Mariam Mayet

Executive Director  
African Centre for Biodiversity

Maryam Rahmanian, Iran. Former co chair of FAO High Level Panel of Experts:

Dear Ching,  
I was very sorry to hear about the passing away of Martin Khor. I had never met him but I have always respected the work of TWN, which he played such a huge role in. May he rest in peace.  
Big hug,  
Maryam

Jasper Inventor, Greenpeace  
Sad to see this. We lost a developing country champion today. RIP Martin

Neth Dano, ETC

Devastating news. Doom, gloom and more darkness. Martin choosing to go at this time is very Martin.

AHTEG meeting on risk assessment:

This morning at the online AHTEG meeting on risk assessment under the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, they paid their respects to Martin. Chair from South Africa said how much he is recognised for his work in the developing world.

Tasneem Essop, Executive Director  
Climate Action Network - International (CAN)  
Dear CAN family

It is with great sadness that we received news of the passing of Martin Khor, a giant in the climate movement. He passed away peacefully at home after battling cancer since 2015.

Martin was the Chairperson and former director of the Third World Network. Many of us would have had some connection with him in one form or another. His unwavering commitment and actions in fighting for justice and equity, especially for people living in the Global South, his sharp strategic intellect and preparedness to fight for the rights of people and planet, will be remembered by all.

While Martin's work stretched way beyond climate, our encounters with Martin was mainly in the climate space. He was never shy to push the difficult debates, no matter how uncomfortable it made us feel. Whether it was around the issue of the Carbon Debt, how the remaining carbon

budget needs to be shared in a manner that is fair and equitable, or whether it was calling out NGO's who were too willing to accept developed countries intransigence in taking ambitious climate action, Martin was strong and evidence-based in his arguments.

Many of the positions that CAN and the wider climate movement are starting to accept as mainstream were spearheaded by people like Martin.

Fighting battles for climate justice, voices being marginalised because they were too "radical" and "unrealistic", this was the context in which Martin remained steadfast. He inspired generations of activists. In South Africa, when someone who fought for our freedom passes, we call on others to "pick up the fallen spear". That is what we all need to do if we want to pay tribute to the life of Martin. We need to continue the work he dedicated his life towards - fighting for climate justice and equity. I believe that all of us in CAN are ready to do this.

We pass on our condolences to his family, friends and comrades. We wish you strength in this difficult time. Hamba Kahle (Farewell) Martin. May you rest in peace and with the knowledge that there are many who will pick up where you left off.  
Tasneem

Harrison, Sarawak activist

i am among the most unfortunate for not being able to meet Martin again after i left SAM. i have long planned to meet up with Martin again and was about to do so when this COVIC 19 suddenly strikes and thus unable me to fulfill my said plan. I first met Martin when I started

working for SAM in 1981 and i must be also among the most fortunate to have known and worked with Martin and the late President of SAM and CAP, Mr SM Mohd Idris. Both of them truly inspired and motivated me in/about life and not just in our work in SAM. In mid 1980s i did manage to convince and bring both of them to Sarawak to meet representatives and members of the various native communities in Sarawak in Marudi where SAM office was based. And i can see the sparkles in the eyes n faces of all those in attendance at our said meeting after they shared their very inspiring and motivating talks, views, ideas and suggestions with all those present pertaining to the myriads of problems ranging from the abuse of native rights and environmental destructions facing the native communities. many people would have just live their life comfortably n selfishly but instead they had chosen to dedicate their whole life to serve humanity. You and the rest of humanity will sorely missed you my friend. RIP. And deepest condolence to all members of the family

Gita Parihar, Climate Justice Fund Board  
Oh my goodness, so sorry to hear this! Such a wonderful man and activist of real passion and integrity. Deepest condolences to Meena, his family and close colleagues.

Sagari, Food Sovereignty India  
Dear Ranja  
Our deepest condolences to his family and all of you at TWN. He played such an important role in shaping the road on which we walk -and in turn we continue to make as we walk .  
Johar Martin Khor  
In solidarity  
from us all at FSA

Alliance for Sustainable and Holistic Agriculture (ASHA)  
Indeed a great loss for everyone, Ranja and friends.  
Please accept our sincere condolences.

Augustine Njamnshi, PACJA  
Oh my God! It is really sad to hear that Martin is no more. Our condolences to the family especially Meena. We have you in our prayers at this difficult moment.  
Augustine

Yan Hairong, Hong Kong Polytechnic University  
Dear Ching,  
I did not have the privilege to know Martin Khor, but I have known some of his works and known, through a friend of mine, about his great contribution in climate change negotiations.  
I'm saddened by the news of his departure and hope that his legacy will stay with us and will be remembered for a long long time.  
in sorrow,  
Hairong

Sarah Agapito, GenOK – Centre for Biosafety  
Dear Ching,  
I am so sorry to hear that Martin passed away. I have never met him but I know his contributions to TWN and partners all over the world.

My condolences to you and your colleagues.  
Best regards and stay safe  
Sarah

Ana Maina, Kenya Biodiversity Coalition  
Hi Ching, my condolences for the loss of Martin Khor.  
Pass my condolences to Meena and the team at TWN.

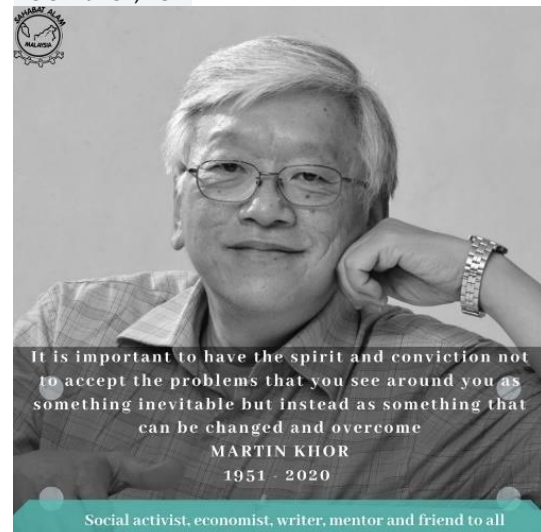
Cecilia Rocha, IPES  
Dear Ching,  
So sad for the news! Thank you for letting us know.  
My deep condolences,  
Cecilia

Olivia Yambi, Co-Chair IPES Food  
Dear Ching,  
This is very sad and a huge loss.  
May the Soul of Martin Rest in Perfect Peace.  
Olivia

Sivan Kartha, SEI  
Dear Meena,  
I'm thinking of you, and feeling grateful for all I've learned from Martin and you, and even more so for the passion that you've both shared and passed on to everyone around you. I gained so much from being able to spend time with you, especially my time in Geneva, limited though it was. Despite his importance and influence and stature, Martin has always been so kind and full of respect. This is so rare, so valuable, so needed, and will be so sorely missed.  
With much love and sympathy,  
Sivan

Alexandra Wandel, formerly FOEE, Executive Director, World Future Council  
May Martin rest in peace. He will be very much missed.

Nele Marien, FOEI



Wafaa Bassim, Egypt  
What a sad news . He was a fighter for all the just causes of the developing countries . He was a great friend of Egypt , a bright interlocutor , a charismatic speaker . He will be deeply missed . May he Rest In Peace !

Farhana Yamin, UK

A fierce and inspiring champion for justice. Condolences to his friends and family

Lisa Friedman

I'm so very sorry to hear that. I really enjoyed interviewing Martin over the years. His commitment to climate justice was inspiring. My his memory be a blessing.

Ann Doherty, FOEI

Hello Meena,

Marta has just sent me the article about Martin's passing. I have to stand still for a moment to take that in, so many emotions and memories of him are flooding through my heart and mind.

I should have reached out earlier to tell him all of this myself and now I'm too late. So I will tell you what an enormous impact he had on me as a young activist. I think I can speak for most people who were in Penang so many decades ago that this meeting that he and the rest of you at TWN pulled together changed my life. There was just no going back after that. I can hear him telling us that we were the ones who were going to carry the fight forward, that we had the power to change things, and that **we** gave **him** hope. He was so inspiring and so humble. So generous with his time, and so effective in his work. So gentle and so wise. Such a leader and such a friend. So critical and yet so positive. I recognise that I was so lucky to have been in his light on so many different occasions.

How we all cheered when you and Martin got together, that seemed like fate. Two of the most extraordinary people teaming up to carry out your lives together. You must be crazy with the loss.

You will be in my thoughts a lot during the next period. I hope that the work that Martin did his entire life was simply preparing us for a planetary reset, it sure does feel like something huge has to happen now in order for us to continue as a species.

Here in Amsterdam things are very different, but we are privileged in that there is space, there is enough food for now, and people are helping each other out. My parents are safe in isolation, I'm just not sure when we'll see each other again. Farming continues, so we should be able to feed our 100 families. I am grateful for that, and also for the fact that I can be outside most days, living with the cycles of nature, and staying away from the blow-by-blow news of tragedy unfolding around the world.

All of my love Meena.

Ann

Elizabeth Brazo, Accion Ecologica

My dear friends:

With great sadness I have learned (through social networks) of the departure of our dear friend and teacher Martin Khor. Beyond his political clarity and his commitment to humanity, I remember him as a friend, a person of great human warmth.

Please pass my message to Mina (I do not have her contact).

Receive also the condolences of those who do Acción Ecológica.

With great sorrow

Elizabeth

Daphne Wysham, CJA

He was one of my earliest inspirations as a young intern at Center for Investigative Reporting in 1984, working on the Bhopal aftermath. He remained a monumental figure beckoning the way forward toward justice and equity on so many issues over many decades. Such a loss for us all, but especially for Meena.

Tom BK Goldtooth, Indigenous Environmental Network  
Meena -

My condolences to you, to Martin's relatives and friends. He shall remain in our hearts and memories. I first met him at the WTO in 1999 in Seattle, Washington. His articulation of the contradictions of the WTO negotiations and economic globalization was an inspiration I'll never forget.

Tom BK Goldtooth

Francesco Martone, CJN

Dear Meena,

my most heartfelt condolences for Martin's departure from this Earth. If a word can describe what he has been for me and so many of us for so many years this is "lighthouse". Since when we started occupying and preoccupying about the Global South (in my case it was so many years ago in early 90's, with the North-South, Peoples' Survival, Biospher, Debt Campaign here in Italy) he has been for all us a guide, a source of inspiration, a mentor.

Warm regards

Francesco

Ronnie Hall, formerly FOE EWN, Director, Rise Up UK

Dear Meena and all, my deepest condolences, such very sad news. I find it hard to conceive of a world without Martin in it. I have many great memories of working with him on the MAI and the WTO and I particularly remember his no nonsense approach to telling governments what they should be doing and his sense of humour! A great loss indeed.

In solidarity

Ronnie Hall

Simone Lovera, FOE Uruguay

Dear Meena, and all,

What a sad news, my deepest condolences. Martin was such a cornerstone of the environmental justice movement. I met him when I just started to work on international environmental policy, before the Rio Summit, and like many of us I was deeply inspired by his vision and knowledge. He and other TWN colleagues truly learned me to look at the world through other eyes, recognising the fundamental inequities in many environmental and economic proposals. Moreover, I was really fond of him as a person, he was someone who combined intelligence, wits, and kindness with a strong, principled stance.

I wish you and all his friends and family a lot of strength to cope with this loss. He will be dearly missed, but I am sure his legacy will live on forever.  
Simone

Silvia Ribeiro, ETC

Dear Meena and all friends at TWN, this is SO SAD. Martin has been present in our lives and works for a better world for long long time, he has been essential for many of us to see and understand the injustices in the world. I also met Martin before Rio 92, and he was always full of energy, sharing insights and reflection, taking part of the organization of so many events, actions, publications, networks. His legacy will remain with all of us, that will continue constructing the path for a just and ecologically sane world. In the name of all the team at ETC Group, we send love and our deepest condolences  
Mamadou Goita, IRPAD Mali

Dear Ching

All my condolences for this big loss. I had a chance to meet Martin Khor in various occasions and really appreciated his dedication to TWN and trust for the global networking. May his soul rests in peace. All my moral supports to his family, colleagues and friends.  
Mamadou

Juan Lopez Villar, ex-FOEI

Dear Ching, Lin,

I was very sad to hear that Martin passed away. I remember some good times I share with him back in 2004. He was a very strong outspoken analyst and a great source of inspiration for the activist community. Un gran abrazo to all the TWN family,  
Juan

Emile Frison, ex-DG, Biodiversity International

Dear Ching,

I am sorry to hear this sad news. I offer my sincere condolences.  
Emile

Alex Rafalowicz, CJN

"I promise you the person who knows best what is happening right now is that kindly quiet Malaysian uncle in slippers sitting in the corner." That's how I was introduced to Martin Khor as an intern entering the Plenary hall of UN climate talks in 2009.

And it was all completely true. Martin was a rare leader who thought deeply, listened actively, and laughed a lot. His commitment to his principles and above all to justice have had a huge impact on our world.

Already I've heard so many stories of people who went to speak to Martin, awed by his reputation, to find him there to listen and talk and share about our actions and hopes to change the world. That's how he was with me and with everyone who crossed his path.

Love to his friends and family at this time Meena Raman.

May he rest in power.

Brandon Wu, Action Aid

Rest in power Martin and hugs to Meena and the countless others affected by his passing. (Rest autocorrected to "Resist" and that would be equally appropriate.)

Martin was a mentor for so many global justice activists in both the Global North and South. Of course he isn't a household name here in the US, but perhaps he should be. His leadership with Third World Network and Consumers Association of Penang was pioneering in demanding a global economic order that was more just for developing countries and the world's poor. He spoke with a quiet moral authority that was impossible to ignore (even or especially if you happened to disagree with him on something). We'll miss him terribly in the climate justice movement.

I'm sure more tributes will be written that do justice to his legacy, but here's the basic news story for now.

Nathan Thanki, EAG

Martin was a guiding light for the global justice movement. He remains so through his writings and the many champions he mentored and inspired. Rest in power.

Kate Dooley, FOE US

Dear Meena, my deepest condolences. Martin was a huge inspiration to me, we will all miss him. Big hugs to you right now xx

Harjeet Singh, Action Aid

Deepest condolences, Meena! Such a great loss to you... and humanity! He will be dearly missed! Take care!

Yurio, FOE Japan

I am so sorry, Meena, and my deepest condolences to you and his friends and anyone close to him

I still remember clearly when we met in Cancun at a hotel cafe, open to ocean, he asked me "Yuri, what is negative emissions?" and I was foolish enough to counter him back then. Ever since he and you have been my guide in a deepest way. I'm trying to contribute even in my smallest way back to him, the ways he sees this world, and his cause to which he has dedicated his life so much, to change. I thank him and you both for this and beyond, ever grateful deeply and truly...

Rachele Kennerley, FOE EWNI

Oh Meena - words seem inadequate at times like this when a friend, and the world, has lost someone so important. I am holding you and his family and friends in my heart and sending you condolences

Martin Vilela, Bolivian Platform on Climate Change

Dear Meena, There are no words that can be meaningfully expressed at this time. Martin leaves a beautiful legacy of hope.

From Los Andes, we send love and stand by your side in solidarity.

Brook Danbacher, IIED

Dearest Meena, my deepest heartfelt condolences to you and beaming much love your way. While I only met

Martin once, I have been so inspired by the many stories I have heard of his incredible contribution which I have no doubt will continue for generations to come

Nithi Nesadurai, CANSEA Regional Coordinator  
Great tribute to Martin, Tasneem, as well as from Neil and Fred.

Good of you Tasneem to highlight this great intellectual and champion of developing world issues, especially justice and equity. Your reference to "pick up the fallen spear" was powerful.

As a fellow Malaysian, it was my privilege to have known Martin Khor from literally the first week of my working life in early 1982.

He was then Research Director of Consumers Association of Penang and I had just joined the International Organisation of Consumers Union (now Consumers International). We were both attending the founding meeting of the Pesticide Action Network. A Development Economist by training, with a Master's from Cambridge University, Martin had the ability to explain complex economic and environmental issues in simple and easy to understand language. And in a polite and gentle way while strong and steadfast in his views. It was a treat to listen to him speak and his weekly column, Earth Trends and then Global Trends, in a leading Malaysian newspaper, which ran for more than three decades was not to be missed.

With our common interest in environmental and climate change issues, our paths crossed over the decades. Yet never from within the same platform.

The national NGO I joined in 1983, Environmental Protection Society Malaysia, with whom I still serve as a volunteer, was involved in the formation of CAN, CAN Southeast Asia and CAN Malaysia (known as Malaysian Climate Change Group). While having similar interests, Third World Network was in another sphere with different focus and priorities. At the personal level we knew each other and got on well.

I remember efforts at reconciliation between CAN, and TWN and non-CAN constituencies, first in Bali in 2007 during COP13 and then at a CAN Equity Meeting organised by CAN South Asia in South India in 2008. Martin was present and involved at both meetings. Unfortunately I recollect they did not achieve the desired outcome of greater collaboration.

From 2009 to 2015 Martin served as CEO of the South Centre, an intergovernmental research institution based in Geneva, during which he continued to attend the COPs.

I last met Martin some years ago at a new year's event at the home of a common friend, where we warmly exchanged greetings.

My thoughts go to his wife Meena Raman and family at this time of loss.

Many here will know Meena, Legal Adviser of TWN as well as former Chair of Friends of the Earth International, from her presence at the COPs over the years.

Finally, based on the outcomes of the recent CAN Annual Strategy Meetings, with a focus on Building

Power and Mobilisation, we may be on the way to picking up the fallen spear to continue to champion justice and equity.

Best regards.

Nithi

Vanessa Black, Biowatch, South Africa

Dear friends at TWN

Wishing you all love and light at this time. Although I have never met Martin Khor he has stood out as one of the giants in the forest whose voice will be missed.

Much love be with you in these challenging times

Vanessa

Fred Heutte. Sierra Club

Very sad to hear this, and I join Tasneem in honoring our friend, my friend, Martin Khor. Martin was tough, stubborn in a good way, friendly, thoughtful, dedicated to justice and equity and, in all ways, a true visionary for a much better future.

I had been reading his Third World Network commentaries on WTO and other trade negotiations for many years before finally meeting him over a decade ago at the UNFCCC meetings. We had many subsequent conversations, including a memorable long, long night sitting together

in the last plenary at COP 18 in Doha in 2012. His strategic view of the interaction between climate and trade policy was far ahead of anyone else.

We have lost a great leader, and we must not lose sight of his vision, kindness, and insights.

kia kaha

Liane Schalatek, HBF

Dear TWN colleagues,

So sorry to hear of the passing of Martin Khor. My thoughts and deepest sympathies are with his family and friends. May they derive solace from the impact that Martin and his work had in the lives of many, including my own.

When I began my work on globalization and structural inequalities some 20 years ago, it was foremost the voice and wisdom of Martin who shaped my understanding of the inequities and structural oppressions of the global economic (trade), starting with the WTO "Battle at Seattle" in 1999 and continuing over the next decade in the highlight of the anti-globalization movement with criticism of the Bretton Woods system and financialization. I have always admired (and was somewhat intimidated) by his keen intellect, moral integrity and honesty and his clear and impassioned voice for the oppressed, both countries and people in the Global South. He has helped me to try to understand better and also reflect better on my own role in helping to work towards a more just global system.

May he rest in peace knowing that his fight and work serves as inspiration for countless people all over the world to demand social, economic and environmental, including climate justice and to hold those in power to account.

In loving remembrance of Martin,

Liane



Nnimmo Bassey, Director, HOMEF  
Nigeria

Although we are certain of our mortality and limited time on Earth, few are prepared for the inevitable. Thus, the departure of Martin Khor came as a shock to us. He was a great inspiration to many of us in the environmental justice movement. His leadership, analysis of issues and overall determination to fight for justice for the global south was unmatched. He has left at a time when the world is in dire need for of his counsel. Our comfort is that he sowed a load of seeds in many lives, so we are confident that his legacy will not fade. This is a very comforting thought at this time.

I send deep condolences to Martin's direct and work families; and to all of us impacted by his departure. Peace and comfort,

Mariana Paoli, Christian Aid

Dear Meena and TWN family,

I am so sorry for your loss. I have found memories of Martin. His wisdom, leadership and influence on the climate justice movement have always been very inspiring and will be greatly missed. I learned a lot from him when I joined the movement. I am thinking of all of you during this difficult time.

Warm regards,  
Mariana

GRAIN

Dear friends at Third World Network

We were very sad to learn that Martin died and wanted to share our condolences with all of you, his friends and family.

Martin was a tower - intellectually, as a journalist and as a leader of TWN. He stood strong, showed light, spoke out articulately and pointed the way. While we may not have always agreed with him, we respected his leadership and enjoyed his comradery.

Most of all, Martin fought for political space - for civil society everywhere and for governments of the global South - and the world is better off for that.

Our respects to all

Andrew Khoo, Malaysia

Learning this morning of the passing of Martin Khor, a true giant of Malaysian and international civil society, who advocated for fair and ethical trade, human rights and balanced and sustainable development. Privileged to have met him on several occasions both here in Malaysia and in Geneva, Switzerland, and to receive and benefit from his quiet wisdom and sagacious counsel. A dedicated fighter for humanity. Rest in peace, Martin. Condolences to Meena and family.

Yours sincerely,

Prabir Purkayastha, Editor at Newslick, India

Please convey my condolences fo Meena for Martin. We will always remember him for his trailblazing work on trade, climate change, energy equity with respect to global commons. And his fighting spirit.

Pernilla Malmer, SwedBio:

Dear TWN colleagues and friends,

It is with deepest chock and sadness we learnt that Martin Khor has passed away.

He was one of these genuine personalities that could combine visionary thinking and sharp analysis with friendliness and humor. Decades ago, he shaped our growing insights of the unfair global policy landscape and the growing North - South divide, and inspired the creation of the global justice and environmental movements from the final decades of the 19th century and onwards.

My personal memories of Martin is mainly from my time at the Swedish Society for Nature Conservation (SSNC), when he was still the Director for TWN. At that time, we had such fruitful collaboration with all the three Malaysian organizations CAP, SAM and TWN which Martin had been part of initiating; each of them paving its own way, and continue to develop. Like later the Geneva based South Centre.

Martin will remain in the personal memories and insights of all of us who had the unique favor of getting to know him, but also in the continued work in all organizations and initiatives being shaped from his committed engagement and long term strategic thinking.

Our thoughts are all with you and Martins family in these times of sorrow and grief.

Warm regards from the SwedBio team,

Shalini Gupta, Assoc.. Professor, Department of Molecular Biology and Genetic Engineering, College of Biotechnology, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel University of Agriculture and Technology

So sorry to hear of Mr. Martin's passing. Words can't express how saddened we are to hear of the loss of Third Work Network. Please accept our heartfelt sympathies on the loss of the founder of the network.

John Vidal, The Guardian

Martin was one of the most clear-headed, far sighted, intelligent and generous people I have met. As a journalist with the Guardian newspaper in London, I had little understanding of many developing country problems. Over 15 years he unfailingly made the time to talk me through trade, environment, climate, and a host of other complex issues. He led thinking, understood difficulties, helped explain, taught people and opened doors. I send my respects and admiration to his family for a kind man who made the world bigger and better.  
John Vidal

Stephan Singer

Senior Advisor Global Climate Science & Energy Policies  
Climate Action Network International

Dear friends and colleagues, brothers and sisters in the common struggle.

I do personally like to express my deep condolence to relatives and friends of Martin Khor. Despite several disagreements we all had over the years, I do hope from my heart that we all understand that what unites us is much more important than what divides us as Civil

Society. We are all together in this fight for nature, people and the planet.

Martin was an outstanding character, academic, fighter and comrade. He opened many of our eyes and ears during the last decades on the pressing issues of equity, fairness and solidarity as preconditions for sustainable development. In that context, he had a very valuable and lasting impact on CAN and its community. And by its understanding of the Global South in particular. We all owe Martin a lot.

My best regards  
Stephan Singer

Sascha Gabizon, Executive Director, Women Engage for a Common Future (WECF)

Expressing my sadness and sorrow at hearing the news of Martin's passing. He has been an amazing leader for so many of us in the Sustainable Development movement. Sending my condolences to his family and strength to you all.

Warm greetings,  
Sascha and colleagues

Brian Tokar

Yes, so terribly sad. I met Martin only once in person, around the early UN Biodiversity Convention conversations in the mid-1990s when I was beginning to focus intensely on GMO issues. I'd already been a Third World Resurgence subscriber for a couple of years. And still use some of his analysis of the lead-up to the Paris Agreement in my teaching.

He was always a voice of truth, integrity, and tremendous insight. He'll be sorely missed. My sincerest condolences!

Brian Tokar, Institut for Social Ecology

Tom Wakeford, ETC

Dear Ching,

I was so sorry to hear the news about Martin.

I think I heard of him through the Ecologist and maybe the International Forum on Globalization. And his name kept popping up in my reading both before and after. I'm sorry I didn't get to meet him, but glad he touched so many lives and will continue to do so.

Sending you, your colleagues and family positive energies from Fiona, Laura and me (still holding on in Central London) at this sad time.

Take care,  
Tom

Winnie Overbeek, World Rainforest Movement

Dear Colleagues at the Third World Network,  
On behalf of the World Rainforest Movement (WRM), please accept our deepest condolences with the loss of your colleague Martin Khor.

WRM was founded more than 30 years ago in Malaysia and Martin was one of its founders. The international secretariat of WRM was hosted by your organisation for a number of years until it moved in the 1990ies to Latin America from where we continue working until today as an international organisation and movement.

Please receive the tribute below and attached, written on behalf of the WRM network by one of our Advisory Committee members, Larry Lohmann,

In solidarity,  
Winnie Overbeek  
International Coordinator WRM

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Martin Khor Kok Peng was a person who made a lot of good things happen – things whose effects were so lasting and far-reaching that even he might never have appreciated their full impact.

I first met Martin at one of the big international meetings in Penang organized in the late 1980s by Martin and colleagues including Mohamed Idris, Chee Yoke Ling, Meena Raman and Mohan. At this distance in time, it may be hard to appreciate how important such meetings were for the formation of crucial friendships and alliances that have flourished down to the present, including the World Rainforest Movement, which was based in Penang for a decade.

I remember traveling down from Bangkok on the train to Penang with Witoon Permpongsacharoen, the director of the Project for Ecological Recovery, the little Thai environmentalist organization I was working for at the time, for what was I think our first such international gathering. Witoon had grown up in a rural rice-growing village in western Thailand, and I remember trying to translate for him not only what all these people from all over the global South (and the North) were saying, but also why they were saying it, and what the fights were that had led to them saying it, and what he wanted to say to them in return, all the while striving to grasp for myself what a more globalized environmental struggle might look like.

In those days, and for the rest of his life, Martin was a guiding spirit, articulating as no one else could the state of the battle against neocolonialism, economic insanity and environmental injustice. I still remember his cogent global summaries from the 1980s and early 1990s (of course sprinkled with lots of "lah!"s, sometimes ending with a pause, followed by an "isn't it!"). As well as the paper bulletins and booklets that TWN would send out in brown envelopes all over the world – many of them authored by Martin, Vandana Shiva and other activists whose work has made such a difference over the years. But that, of course, was only the beginning. For decades afterwards, new and old generations of activists and engaged intellectuals from dozens of countries have continued to look to Martin's work in international politics and economics for inspiration.

For me, what was probably the most remarkable thing about Martin's leadership was his recognition of the diversity of struggles, and the ways he brought people together and helped them find a role for themselves in new global wholes. Not everyone always agreed with every single element of his strategic thinking, but few could mistake his kindness, his civility, and above all his desire to connect. Although he was always busy, it was in a way that never seemed to impede his efforts to reach out beyond his own personal experience to that of movements and groups where TWN found kinship: small organizations like PER, for example, or indigenous movements (he always pronounced it "indigéneous") in

countries near and far. The global South and its future was always at the centre of his vision, but he never forgot the European, North American and Australian groups and individuals who were also keen to join the struggle.

For all that he gave to global movements, and all that he did to shape them, I would love to be able to say to Martin: we remember.

Larry Lohmann, World Rainforest Movement  
Martin, we remember

Martin Khor (1951-2020), Third World Network's Chairman and former Director, passed away on 1 April 2020 in his home in Penang, Malaysia. Martin was one of the founders of the WRM and his organisation was the first to host the international secretariat. We have received this news with deep sadness and would like to share the following message, written by WRM advisory committee member Larry Lohmann on behalf of the organisation.

Martin Khor Kok Peng was a person who made a lot of good things happen – things whose effects were so lasting and far-reaching that even he might never have appreciated their full impact.

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For all that he gave to global movements, and all that he did to shape them, I would love to be able to say to Martin: we remember.

Larry Lohmann on behalf of WRM.

Anjali Appadurai, Sierra Club BC

Hey ji, not sure if you are still collecting words for Martin, but here's a few that I wrote yesterday. Sending you hugs in these times!

When I first met Martin Khor, I was a student, and in my eyes he was a formidable yet thrilling figure. He seemed to hold the key to another world, with his far-ranging knowledge of global politics and his laser-sharp political analysis. If the moral arc of the universe is long, Martin seemed to know its full history, and worked tirelessly to bend it towards justice. As young people, we heard tale after tale of justice battles and important victories that Martin had a hand in shaping. After spending more time in his orbit, I began to see other sides of Martin too: he was kind, patient, and dryly hilarious. His commitment to justice was expansive, ranging from the global systemic level down to each individual meeting with colleagues. In these meetings he would often ensure that us young people were given a chance to have a voice at the table. He shared his analysis with us freely, explaining complex concepts in the simple way that only a master could.

Though I didn't have a chance to spend much time with Martin, he was a guiding light for my work in the world, and I had always hoped to make him proud. He was an important person to me and many others like me -- an Elder, a wisdom-keeper, and a role model. May you rest in peace and power Martin. We will continue your work and hold you in light and love.

Marcus Colchester, Forest Peoples Programme, UK

Dear TWN,

I would like to join my voice to the chorus of appreciation that will be triggered by the very sad news of Martin's death.

How grievous and yet joyful it is to recall first meeting with Martin in 1986-7 when TWN and Sahabat Alam Malaysia convened two world-changing global meetings in Penang on the threat to the world's forests. We were called from all parts of the world to share our

understanding of this threat, as champions of freedom of information, halting climate change, biodiversity, conservation, social and life sciences, human rights, indigenous peoples, economics, green politics, law and global policy-making. Thanks to Martin and his close colleagues, we were melded together to conceive a shared vision of ecological justice, solidarity with the oppressed and support for the priorities of the global South.

Martin's presence, his resonant voice, incisive analysis and quiet dynamism inspired us to join our forces in setting up the World Rainforest Movement and build a movement in solidarity with the indigenous peoples of the forests, that grew into the Forest Peoples Programme. Only someone with his charisma could have inspired such a disparate crew to collaborate so effectively. And as our friendship grew, so did our respect for Martin's tireless energy and gritty determination. When the odds were down, or one of us put forward a specious argument or poorly thought out plan, Martin's jaw would jut forwards and like the best of teachers, without overt anger but some disappointment, he would let you soak up your own imbecility. Yet what I most remember from my almost annual trips down to Penang for a month or two over the next six years, was the generous hospitality, warm laughter, good-hearted humour, atmosphere of shared learning and mutual respect. And at the close of each workshop or conference, Martin would lead us in planning our campaigns. What were we trying to achieve, who were we seeking to influence, what was our analysis, who would write the report, when would we publish it to best effect? What had seemed in our minds a mess of conflicting ideas and priorities was suddenly distilled through Martin's lucidity into an action plan we could believe and take part in. The world has lost a great leader of ideas and mover of social change and we sorely grieve the loss, but our work is richer, more insightful and effective thanks to his open hearted engagement, and the social movements he helped to found will carry on. Best wishes to you at TWN and all the Khor family  
Marcus

Helena Paul, ECOROPA

I remember Martin from my early days at the Gaia Foundation, which I joined in December 1988. The work he was doing then was a great foundation on which we have all built in the years that followed. I never knew Martin particularly well, but have certainly felt the effects of his vision. And it's a great pleasure to be working with people like Lim Li Ching and Lim Li Lin, whom I seem to remember from very early days as well, and who are still doing such great work. And of course Chee Yoke Ling too, except that I have not been in touch with her for some years now. So thank you Martin for your work and your vision and your insistence on justice and equity and thank you TWN for all you have done and still are doing!  
Helena

Margaretha Wewerinke, Leiden University  
Dear Friends,

My deepest condolences with the loss of Martin. My thoughts are especially with Meena. I just wanted to leave a note with you to honour Martin, and to recognise how indebted I am to him for his mentorship. Martin was an intellectual giant and highly respected leader but he treated young people like myself at the time I got to know him, who were searching for a place in the struggle for global justice, with a natural kind of trust and camaraderie. He leaves behind a gaping gap in the movement, and I can't start to imagine the void he leaves in your personal lives. Please do count on me as we redouble our efforts to fight injustice and inequalities. I also pledge to always extend the same trust, camaraderie and mentorship to young activists who are at the start of their journey, and I will tell them about Martin's work and continue to share his ever-lucid writings on development, trade justice and climate justice. May he rest in peace, and may you all, and especially Meena, find the strength to cope with the terrible loss.

Warmest regards,  
Margaretha

Antonietta Ornella Gutierrez Rosati, Universidad Nacional Agraria La Molina, Peru

Dear TWN friends:

I just found out, by reading the TWN newsletter, that Martin has passed away. I wish to express my immense pain. Martin has greatly supported many countries, including Peru, with his human capacity to understand what the world should pursue towards sustainable development, always we will miss You dear Martin. I know all TWN and in particular you Joke, Lin and Ching, must be very sorry, that is why I send you all my love, dear friends.

In these last months, all countries in the world we are suffering this pandemic crisis and in this situation I think every day about the hard struggle we did, together with a lot of friends, to establish a world order in the use of LMOs. Today we see, how this dangerous virus attacks humanity, and it is what we thought, 20 years ago, may could happen to the world, if special care was not put in place when generating genetic changes in organisms. The fight to include the issue of Human Health in the CPB was a very hard work, and today it is proven the importance of this. The world will never recognize, that this virus has been produced with human intervention at the laboratory level, however, it is not necessary to demonstrate it, knowing that these viral particles only occurs when strange genetic changes are accumulated at the level of cell genomes, which after are infected by virus particles, that is why, it was also highly insisted at that time, that viruses and viroids be included on the definition of LMO in the CPB.

Please, dear friends, you have to continuing the arduous task of working international standards on the use of and/or products arrived from Synthetic Biology. Also, draw attention to what happens to humanity for not accepting controls, this worldwide emergency of COVID19 is an exact evidence.

I pray God to save healthy each one of you and your families. I do not know where you are living just now but please take great care.

Because of my age and ailments, I am alone at home, hoping that the worst will not happen in Peru, where we are working very hard to contain the infections. Please, extend my wishes for good health to ALL TWN members, wherever they are. Kisses and hugs my dear friends.  
Antonietta

Denise Fontanilla, Philippines  
Rest in power, Martin. Condolences to, Meena, Prerna, Indrajit, everyone in TWN.

Noah Zimba, Green Basin Naturals, Zambia  
I join you all to celebrate the life and invaluable contribution of Martin Khor. In this moment we salute all the contributions and sacrifice that was made for the well-being of humanity and ecosystem, simply said MHSRIEP.

Sanjay Vashist, Climate Action Network South Asia  
Dear Meena and Indrajit  
I would request you all to please forward this message of condolence to TWN colleagues. This is a message to share the grief from a fellow network to network. CANSA has lost equally a stalwart that guided us during Climate discourse in the South and stood with us to counter agenda against equity and climate justice. His life is an inspiration to us and we commit to pursue his views in our future work...  
CANSA stands with TWN to provide emotional support ...  
Sincerely...  
Sanjay

Riforma, Italy  
*Con profonda tristezza il movimento ecumenico mondiale segnala scomparsa dell'economista e ambientalista malesiano*  
Lo scorso primo aprile è scomparso l'economista **Martin Khor Kok Peng**.  
A darne notizia è il Consiglio ecumenico delle chiese (Cec).  
«Kok Peng, come professore e attivista per i diritti (Università di Cambridge e University Sains Malaysia) – scrive l'Organismo ecumenico – ha guidato il movimento della società civile malesiano a livello internazionale per decenni indirizzando l'attenzione su temi cari al Cec: la giustizia economica, ecologica e sanitaria, e ha fondato e guidato diverse organizzazioni». Peng iniziò la sua battaglia per la giustizia sociale sostenendo i diritti dei consumatori e divenendo dapprima il segretario dell'Associazione dei consumatori di Penang.  
Poi, come ambientalista, occupando il ruolo di consigliere in Malesia Sahabat Alam - Friends of the Earth Malesia. Nel 1984, insieme a **S.M. Mohamed Idris**, Khor co-fondò la Rete internazionale del terzo mondo, che diresse sino al 2009.  
Dal 2009 al 2015 guidò il South Center. l'Istituto intergovernativo di ricerca e di analisi delle politiche dei paesi in via di sviluppo con sede a Ginevra.  
«Attivista, giornalista, accademico, economista, pensatore, leader, il suo comportamento – ricorda il Cec

– è stato caratterizzato dall'umiltà, dalla totale dedizione rivolta ai poveri, all'altruismo e alla capacità di affrontare questioni complesse e a sostegno delle persone che vivono ai margini della società. Ha lavorato a stretto contatto con il movimento ecumenico in materia di giustizia economica, ecologica e sanitaria».

Kate Horner, FOE US  
So lovely to see your faces and hear your voices, and join in tribute to Martin.  
I'm not sure if these are the best emails for you all, but thought I'd give it a shot.  
I thought you might like this photo of these two powerhouses, catching a bit of much deserved snuggly shut-eye.  
Sending you all big, big love.  
Kate



Saskia Ozinga, FERN  
Dear Meena,  
I was very sad to hear of Martin's passing. I saw how happy you were together when we last met in the Netherlands and know this must be a very hard time for you. I am sending you love and prayers.  
Although we have hardly been in contact the last 20 years, his death hit me hard. Just know that we will all continue to work along the path that Martin showed us! To make sure his work in the forest world does not get forgotten I wrote a small obituary that Fern put out to thank him and commemorate his role in creating the WRM. It is here: <https://www.fern.org/news-resources/remembering-martin-khor-a-strong-voice-for-the-third-world-2120/>  
Big hug!  
Saskia

Nonette Royo, Executive Director of Tenure Facility  
I've followed Martin through all the years of his great journey, and feel his passing deeply. Last year, he asked me how the Tenure Facility can handle large grants to the local and indigenous peoples directly, without addressing their absorptive capacity. This my mantra now.

Nonette

Karin Hansen, Friends of the Earth International  
My dear Meena, a profound pain has invaded me after receiving the terrible news of Martin's departure. It is a very sad moment for me and for all of us who knew Martin. My deep condolences to you, the whole family and comrades from TWN, CAP and SAM. I want you to know that I am with you in this extremely painful time.

Martin was a very special person for me and for all of us. His sharpness in political analysis and his strategic vision have left profound roots in our common struggle for a better world. His amazing capacity to convey a geopolitical perspective and influence political debates will be very much missed. His openness for debates, even when we had disagreements, is something that only true comrades practice and I really appreciated that from Martin when I got to know him better. Great men like Martin never leave this world, as their seeds blossom in the struggles. We will make sure to honor his life and his great legacy.

With love, Karin

### C. Macroeconomics, Trade, Investment, and Finance CSOs and Individuals

Kevin Gallagher, Boston University  
RIP Martin Khor. You lived a life advocating for a globalization that would benefit all – especially developing countries. You leave when we need you most, but we will use your example to work even harder for a just global economy.

Sandeep Chachra (on Twitter): Saddened to hear the passage of Martin Khor, the former Director of South Centre and TWN. Thanks for your contributions on the political economy of globalization. We learnt so much from you and Thandika Mkandawire. #RIPMartin Khor



Sarojeni Rengam, PANAP  
Dear Meena and all friends in TWN, My deepest condolences in the passing away of Martin Khor. He was an important voice on WTO and climate change that we will miss sorely.

Helene Bank, Norway  
Dear Meena, Ranja, friends and comrades.  
This is so sad news. Martin was a true friend, and mentor.  
I wrote this to day, and mean it by heart  
-Martin Khor  
- you have taught generations of activists, politicians, negotiators. You have seriously contributed to change balance of power in favour of people in the

third World in the WTO, the UN-system and much more, through knowledge, wisdom, alliances and hard work. And you were a friend, colleague and comrade and teacher for me for decades

Rest in Peace - We needed you now, but you will be with us in the struggles to come.

Love to Meena and all of you  
Martin Khor

- you have taught generations of activists, politicians, negotiators. You have seriously contributed to change balance of power in favour of people in the third World in the WTO, the UN-system and much more, through knowledge, wisdom, alliances and hard work. And you were a friend, colleague and comrade and teacher for me for decades

Rest in Peace - We needed you now, but you will be with us in the struggles to come.

Burghard Ilge, BothEnds

This is so sad. I will never forget when I met Martin more than 20 years ago for the first time at a meeting Geneva of the "Stop MAI campaign" that for a big part was laying the ground for the work on the WTO we do since then. He was not only a great teacher and inspiration but also knew how to make a difference, and he did, ..a big one.

He will be dearly missed

Please send my deeply felt condolences to those close to him

Dr Burcu Kilic, Public Citizen

It's an unmeasurable loss.

Demba Dembele, LDC Watch Chair:

Dear Prerna

What a sad news indeed! Our dear colleague and indefatigable fighter against neoliberalism and injustice in the global trading system, Martin has passed away! The Global South has lost a genuine, passionate and charismatic advocate.

I'll always remember his support for the struggles of African social movements and organizations against the Economic Partnership Agreements, the WTO rules and the IMF and World Bank policies  
My sincere condolences to his family and TWN colleagues  
May his legacy live on and inspire new generations of thinkers and social activists  
May his soul rest in peace!  
Demba

Deborah James, OWINFS  
Thank you for the beautiful short tribute, Yoke Ling.  
My most deepest sympathy for the entire TWN family who must be feeling this transformation into another era even more painfully than the rest of us who are so affected by this terrible loss.  
My heart breaks for Meena, our dearest Meena, whom Martin cherished so deeply and who made Martin's last many years so full of kindness and love.  
I cannot begin to explain what an inspiration, teacher, mentor, and north star Martin has been to me in my life. He was of course one of the key founders of Our World Is Not for Sale, who we remember from Seattle '99 (before the network's founding). He has been the most consistent political guide and inspiration throughout the entire time I have worked with, or coordinated, the OWINFS network. An encouraging message from Martin often keep me going through difficult times in our struggle. I just cannot find adequate words how sad I feel now, nor to describe how much of a loss this is for the whole world.  
Martin was able to draw the sweeping connections from the large geopolitical structure to the details of negotiations; his strategic skills and communicational abilities were unsurpassed, such that he could work with a wide variety of civil society and also governments on a huge range of topics. He knew everything about ALL of the issues that affect developing countries, how they were connected, and in which priority they should be tackled to really bring about social justice worldwide. But he was always cheerful, smiling, encouraging. Did you know that he loved show tunes? And walks in nature, and his family, and his wide network, and Meena.  
May we continue to draw inspiration from his commitment, to take bold, loving, strategic action always.  
Thanks always to the TWN team for keeping his legacy alive. It is a honor to work with all of you, and with the whole OWINFS community, as we continue the struggle.  
In sadness and solidarity,  
Deborah

Parminder Jeet Singh, IT for Change  
Dear Ranja  
This is a big loss to the world. But also time to fondly remember and celebrate what he meant to progressive movements!  
The world is so much better for him.  
My heartfelt condolences to family, friends and close professional colleagues.  
Best regards

parminder

Jenny Franco, TNI  
Dear Ching,  
Thank you for sharing this very sad news. I did not know him personally, but of course knew of him and his pioneering work. What a terrible loss especially at this time. My heartfelt condolences to you and all the TWN community and of course to his family.  
In sorrow,  
Jenny

C. Rammanohar Reddy, India  
Dear Meena,  
I just heard about Martin passing away after bravely fighting cancer for so many years.  
It is a terrible loss not just for the many who have been fighting for a better world but for me personally. Over the past decade we have not been in touch -- I think I last met both of you in Penang in 2009.  
Still I can never forgot his battles in Geneva against the WTO and then in Porto Alegre in he late 1990s and early 2000s. He was so generous with his time and knowledge too, sharing all that he had and pointing us in the right direction. Whenever I visited Geneva he would always be welcoming and telling us what the agenda should be. Martin was a pillar of the NGO movement against global institutions; he demonstrated so much energy and he was so effective that many a time those institutions had to change their policies because of his campaigns and interventions.  
I personally had the privilege of publishing his pieces first when I was in The Hindu in the 1990s and then in EPW during the 2000s, until the early 2010s.  
We will miss him sorely. You will miss him more than us. May you have the strength to cope with this loss.  
With regards  
Ram

Sarojeni Rengam, PAN Asia Pacific Director  
Dear Meena and all friends in TWN, My deepest condolences in the passing away of Martin Khor. He was an important voice on WTO and climate change that we will miss sorely.

Lasse Gustavsson  
Sad news! You don't have to be Asian to bond with Martin even if I'm sure it helps 😊. I worked with him on trade issues 20 years ago. The knowledge, the passion! He will be missed, never forgotten

Africa Kiiza/SEATINI  
Martin is gone to be with the lord. But in this world of socio-economic injustices, his loss is really unbearable. However we take comfort in the fact that he has left a solid generation of progressive intellectuals who will carry on the work. Rest in Peace O gentle Intellect.

Kenneth Haar, Corporate Europe Observatory  
Martin will be sadly missed. In my organisation we have very very fond memories of his role when we fought the MAI and when we prepared for Seattle. He was an inspiring, warm person, sharp and mostly a step ahead

of the rest of us. And he played a big role in keeping a unwieldy and diverse bunch together through what became epic political battles.

Warm regards  
Kenneth Haar  
Corporate Europe Observatory

Belen, Corporate Europe Observatory

Dear Meena and all,

My deep condolences. As Kenneth has said Martin has been an inspiration since the very beginning of CEO, and even earlier at ASEED times. He inspired all of us as a great thinker and activist and very warm person through all these years.

In solidarity,  
Belén

Lidy Nacpil, Coordinator, Asian Peoples' Movement on Debt and Development

Dearest Meena My most heartfelt condolences. We have been missing Martin for a while now and we were glad for the privilege of seeing him in a while in Penang. Its very heartbreaking to know we wont be seeing or hearing from him any longer. We will continue to learn from his writings!

The world truly gained a lot from his work and life. For that we are most grateful. We join you not only in mourning but also in great thanksgiving for having been blessed with his wisdom, humor, guidance and great faith in humanity and the power of people acting together.

Rachel Rose Jackson, Corporate Accountability  
Beautiful Meena- Holding you in our hearts, and surrounding you in love during this difficult time. Celebrating the remarkable human being of Martin. The inspiration, hope, light, and determination that he demonstrated throughout his life will continue on for many, many years to come.

After hearing the news, I spent much of last night reading Martin's words in his book *The Secret to Happiness*. These words, his words, ring especially true right now:

"Live simply, and live more richly. What's more, you'll be doing everyone else a favour, and contributing to the survival of our world.

This may sound like a simple message; some may even say 'simplistic'. but as you may know, the most profound things may also be the most simple.

To lead a simple life may also be to live a profound and happy one.

People today spend so much energy and time trying to get more money. They accumulate 'wealth' or 'richness'....

Throughout history, the wise men and women know that the real meaning of wealth is not the outer material things we own. Wealth is the capacity we have within us, to be able to enjoy deep friendships and love with other people, to be able to appreciate the good things in life, like a good walk through beautiful natural scenery, or a good book which enriches our knowledge of life and people.

To enjoy the pleasant gurgling of small streams as well as the thunderous roars of great waterfalls; the bubbly chatter of children and the stirring orations of great speakers.

To discover through books and learning, the secrets of the earth and the origins and mechanisms of life; to uncover through relations the joys (and sometimes sorrow) of human emotions.

Most of all, to be capable of deep feelings for one's fellow human beings, and in return to be able to inspire genuine respect and love in others for us. And together with friends, to be involved in satisfying work, to serve others and help build a good, healthy society.

If we devote our efforts and our time to such pursuits, we can truly say we are 'wealthy'. We may not look as rich as the next person who drives a BMW or follows the latest fashion. But we have something more valuable: inner wealth. "

Thank you, Martin. Be at peace.

Lori Wallach, Public Citizen

An unmeasurable loss – his impact via his direct work and founding and running incredibly impactful organizations and partnership and mentorship of so many people including you and me makes his contribution to economic and social justice, environmental and consumer protection, better lives for millions of people – truly too broad to measure.

And

Rest in Power, Martin... Khor Kok Peng Martin is a truly extraordinary man who will be greatly missed. Through the whole COVID roller coaster, I have not cried but now I cannot stop tearing up.

Martin's brilliant intellect and unparalleled knowledge made him a trusted adviser to PMs and activists alike and a kind teacher and north star to all of us he informed and activated through his tireless and effective economic, environmental and social justice advocacy.

I remember first meeting Martin in 1992 at the G-7 summit in Munich. He became a guide and mentor to my work from that point on - awakening me to the policy, politics and power dynamics of the developing world and international institutions in the way Ralph Nader shaped my understanding domestically. (Only with show tunes, a witty sarcasm on top of focused seriousness and a list of favorite restaurants in cities worldwide.)

Martin's vision inspired the International Forum on Globalization and the Our World Is Not for Sale network - and shaped the understanding of innumerable leaders of national campaigns and coalitions and organizations worldwide.

A master of the inside-outside methodology and master translator of vast stacks of technical information into accessible, motivating language, he modeled how to make real change.

But for him, the world would have been blighted with the damage of a massive expansion of the WTO's power and scope and the Multilateral Agreement on Investment's wreckage - just to note a few of his greatest hits.

His influence lives on in the legions he mentored at Third World Network, South Centre and Consumer



Association of Penang, in his many powerful books and essays and with the millions who benefited from hearing from him directly as he maintained his relentless travel schedule.

May his memory be as a blessing to his dear wife, the wonderful Meena, and his daughter and granddaughter. Deepest condolences to them and the TWN family. Thank you, Martin. You will never be forgotten.

Monica Di Sisto, FairWatch

Oh my God, so sad, so so so sad dear all.

With articles and example he has been a spiritual and cultural guide almost for me since so many years that I really cannot believe it.

Dear Ranja please consider that so many activists in Italy have been deeply inspired and educated by its amazing analyses and TWN proposals so he will never be forgotten.

Let's go ahead fighting in those hard times with the power of his sharp mind and friendly smile and compassion in our souls

Kind regards

Monica

Victor Menotti, IFG

Dear All,

I can still remember the day in the fall of 1990 when a man named Martin (then from the World Rainforest Movement) walked into the San Francisco office of Rainforest Action Network and told the whole staff about the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, a topic I had heard only mentioned once before in an Econ 101 class at university.

He hooked me at that moment and has forever changed the course of my life, even today...No one has had more impact informing and inspiring not only my activism but also my worldview, seeing for the first time the South-North power relations and what must be done in developed countries, especially the U.S., to tilt the world more toward justice.

He leaves a large legacy for us to follow, whether he was addressing trade ministers or a Johannesburg township, and always delivered with an ability to laugh, and even share song and poetry.

With much love for Meena, let us fight on in his memory.

Onward, with Martin,

Victor

Aftab Alam Khan, formerly ActionAid

So sorry to hear about the sad demise of Martin Khor. I am among so many of his admirers, who learnt from him the details of WTO agreements and challenges and interests of poor countries. While I was with ActionAid International it was such a pleasure to work with him in partnership to fight for the interests of poor people of developing countries in the complex WTO negotiations. With his knowledge, deep understanding of politics of negotiations, and smart communication skills, Martin became a bulwark against the arm twisting and malpractices in the global trade negotiations. He was the most influential person who built capacities of many government officials, academicians, NGOs and

social movements to understand and fight rights of poor in the global trade negotiations.

Martin will be missed dearly for times to come. I pray the departed soul rest in peace.

In solidarity,

Aftab

Tetet Nera-Lauron, RLS

Dear Ranja and everyone whose lives were touched by Martin,

He will be missed, terribly. Rest in power, Martin.

And to Meena, your global family grieves with you.

tetet

Rick Rowden, formerly ActionAid and UNCTAD

Dear Sanya, Ranja and Ka-Min:

My deepest condolences!! Martin was a true pioneer and inspiration to so many of us around the world, his passing is a huge loss to the whole world. I know that nothing would make him happier than for all of you to keep moving forward and keep the spirit of TWN alive in the fight for global economic justice. TWN is one of the greatest NGOs out there, your contribution is unparalleled, and its not just because Martin and his vision, but because of all of you, too - I know you will be keeping up the fight. All the best,

--Rick

Jacques Berthelot, formerly ATTAC France

I have had the chance also of sharing Martin's fight against neo-liberalism since Seattle in 1999 through many social forums, WTO ministerials and public forums and I have always been impressed by his ability to communicate in simple terms the most complex WTO rules. My warm condolences to Meena and their family. He has left so many books and papers that we can use to follow his struggles.

Incidentally he was also an expert on ecology and medicines as attested by an article of 2018 against the spread of antibiotic resistance linked to industrial farming (<https://www.ipsnews.net/2017/12/action-needed-avoid-end-modern-medicine/>) and we are going to miss him in the fight over COVID-19 and likely new viruses that could spread out of climate change.

Jacques B.

Alexandra Strickner, IATP

This is so sad news. When I came to Geneva to start working for IATP in 2003, he was one of the first persons I met in the Geneva crowd of that time. He was a brilliant teacher and a brilliant strategic thinker. There is so much I learnt from Martin on the WTO and its agreements, on perspectives from the Global South and strategic thinking. I remember the many times we organised strategy meetings in Geneva with people from all over the world and Martin was always a key person to give the big overview, to set the tone, to give orientation - among many other things.

Thank you Martin. Rest in power. You will always be remembered.

My deep condolences to Meena and his family and to the TWN family.

Alexandra

Jane Kelsey, University of Aukland

When someone who has left an indelible footprint on the world has left us it is like a giant totara tree falling in the forest.

Martin has been a leader as long as I have known him. He provided wisdom, strategic insights, intellectual rigour, and political instincts that we all trusted. I first met him at Brussels in 1990 at an activist meeting in the middle of the Uruguay round, when he initiated us into the arcane world of what was being planned in the name of 'trade', especially this bizarre notion of 'trade in services'. Along with stalwarts like Raghavan and a handful of others, Martin helped to build the foundations for campaigns against the WTO, MAI, GATS2000, and so many others that have followed. He has done his work. It is time for him to rest. We will miss him terribly. He is irreplaceable. But we need celebrate his life and honour it by building on the platform he created in the decades ahead. All my love to Meena and the TWN family.  
Jane

Elizabeth Peredo, Food and Water Watch

Dear friends of the Third World Network, dear Meena  
Receive my condolences for this loss. Martin had always fed and inspired our struggles and the hope for a more just and fair world.  
With deep solidarity  
Elizabeth Peredo

Latha Jishnu, DownToEarth

Dear ranja and comrades,  
Deeply upset about the passing away of Martin Khor. His was a sane, clear mind on issues of globalisation and capitalism and invaluable to us struggling against a lopsided world order.  
As a journalist writing on trade, IP and access to medicines, Dr Khor provided sharp insights and strengthened my arguments. he will be missed.  
With regards,  
Latha Jishnu  
Delhi

KV Biju, Anti FTA Committee

It is a sad news for all of us fighting against capitalism and globalization. He is just like a guide for all of us. I read the first book on globalization is Martin Khors - The Uruguay round and third world sovereignty. I read that book in 1991. After that I followed all his literature related to trade issue. We must arrange a program in Delhi after Corona issue  
K V Biju  
Anti FTA Committee

Netra Timsina, South Asia Alliance for Poverty Eradication (SAAPE)

Extremely sad news. It is a big loss as we lost a critical intellectual who fought for global ecological and global economic justices in his entire life time. We must salute him for his contribution to the attempts to change the world order. Personally I met Martin in 1996 in Schumacher College in Devon (small is beautiful) where I

attended his one week lecture on global ecology and global economy where I learnt critical perspective on current development paradigm. Prernaji, pls pass my deepest condolence to the bereaved family members.

Sonny Africa, IBON Foundation, Philippines

Dear TWN colleagues,  
Our very deepest condolences. Martin's clear mind, generosity of spirit, and relentless energy will be sorely missed.  
Please count us among the countless many who are extremely grateful for everything he has given us to carry on struggling for a vision of a more just and equitable future.  
Changes in the world are accelerating upon the globalization-driven pandemic. The wisdom Martin has shared will continue to guide us in navigating this new world.  
Warmly,  
Sonny Africa  
Executive Director  
IBON Foundation

Ben Tapang, Philippines

I attended two run-up seminars before two WTO summits organized and sponsored by TWN in Geneva. I learned more in several days than semesters spent in graduate school.  
On those occasions, naturally, I met Martin. He was warm, welcoming and helpful especially to me (and some of us) who were meeting the real world grappling with actual situations rather than the cases that we read, studied, discussed (even teach our students) inside the classrooms.  
Martin will always be missed as one of the third world's major advocates and warriors.

Alejandro Villamar, Mexican Action Network on Free Trade (RMALC)

THE DEATH OF MARTIN KHOR IS A GREAT LOSS, BUT AT THE SAME TIME IT IS AN OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS THE HUGE VALUE OF HIS WORK AND HIS EXAMPLE FOR MANY PEOPLE WHO, LIKE HIM, STRUGGLE TO BUILD A BETTER SOCIETY.  
A GREETING FROM MEXICO TO ALL OUR PARTNERS OF THE TWN AND TO THE FAMILY MEMBERS OF MARTIN.

Rangarirai Machededze, Zimbabwe

Dear colleagues,  
I learnt with a deep sense of sorrow and sadness on the passing on of Martin Khor. Personally, I have had an opportunity to share so many platforms with him in Geneva and in Africa at the height of trade negotiations. He was a true cde who had the interests of developing countries at heart. Civil society across the entire globe is poorer without him. May his dear soul rest in eternal peace!!

Patricia Ranald, Convener, Australian Fair Trade and Investment Network  
Dear TWN colleagues

Please accept our deepest condolences. I first met Martin at international meetings almost 20 years ago. His leadership, strategic analysis and advocacy will be sorely missed in the international movement. We have frequently quoted and linked his articles on our website and they are an important legacy for us and for future activists. In solidarity  
Pat

Ercan Uygur, Professor of Economics and Former President of the Turkish Economic Association  
I have just learned with sorrow that Martin Khor has passed away.  
I want to send my deep condolences to his family and friends and to the Third World Network which he valued much.  
Martin Khor was a very nice and likeable person, loved by all of us. He was hard working and very productive as well.  
We shall miss his contributions and evaluations at the TWN and elsewhere.

Aziz Choudry, McGill University  
Dear friends at TWN,  
Please accept my deepest condolences at the sad loss of Martin.  
Through the struggles against the GATT/WTO, APEC, MAI and involvement in APRN, OWINFS and other networks, I'd met and worked alongside Martin over a number of years from the early/mid-90s when I was organizing in Aotearoa/New Zealand. Before that, TWN's and CAP's work had already been so important for us in local and international activist work as we confronted free trade and investment regimes.  
Martin was a powerhouse with a great mind and deep commitment to social and economic justice; a man with a great generosity of spirit and a wry sense of humour. This is such a great loss that will be felt by so many of us around the world as we continue to struggle for social, economic and environmental justice.  
Thinking of you and Martin's family at this time.  
with my deepest sympathy  
Aziz

Robin Broad, American University  
So very sad. Hard to imagine our world and our work without Martin.  
What an amazingly gentle and brilliant man. Always, always, always ahead of the curve on issues. I cannot recall exactly when my husband John Cavanagh and I first met him -- it must have been in the 1970s or early 1980s. But he was always the town-crier -- warning that something (MAI, WTO, investment treaties, you name it) was in the works. And he was always right about the upcoming big issues. Plus he was always so kind to those of us who had to catch up to him -- even though by then he would be ahead...  
Grieving with all of you around the globe as I savor the memories.  
Robin

Penny Fowler, Oxfam GB  
Dear TWN friends,  
I was so sad and sorry to hear of Martin's passing. I worked with him and colleagues at TWN and the South Centre for a number of years in the late 90s/2000s on WTO and international trade policy and advocacy. He was truly an inspiration, as well as being one of the most intelligent, strategic, humble and respectful people I have met. He was always generous with his advice and encouragement from which I benefited on several occasions.  
He will be sadly missed but we will continue his lifelong fight for justice and equality.  
Deepest condolences to Martin's family, friends and colleagues.  
Warm wishes,  
Penny

Shefali, Sophia Murphy and all the colleagues at IATP  
Dear TWN Family, Dearest Meena,  
I am writing on behalf of all of my IATP colleagues when I say, we are so sorry for Martin's passing. So many of us at IATP, since its inception 30 plus years ago, have been touched, influenced, inspired by Martin's wisdom, analysis and leadership in the global trade, economic and environmental justice movement.  
He was such a visionary who inspired, mentored and taught so many, including me. My very first encounter with him was at the International Forum on Globalization event in Seattle in 1999, where I heard Martin speak. Like many, I was in awe of him and didn't know at that time that I would have the privilege of one day working with him.  
If there is one thing Martin taught me, it is that we can dare to dream big—to imagine a world where Southern leaders can come together, unite and lead to create a better international governance order for their citizens in spite of the odds and the power structures stacked against them. He didn't just imagine it. He painstakingly worked to achieve that vision, to demand the best of our leaders, to guide our governments and civil society organizations, as have you all at TWN. He challenged us to push our own Northern governments. He was critical in creating a vibrant and thoughtful global movement against the injustices of globalization and neoliberalism. For that, we will forever be grateful.  
Not only was Martin a global leader, he was deeply rooted in his home, in the Consumer Association of Penang, a leader in the environmental movement. Malaysia was lucky to have him.  
Martin's wonderful smile, sense of humor and giggle, his bursting into song, his penchant for amazing food, there is so much of Martin that we will always remember. Our global movement feels profoundly his loss.  
Thankfully, he lit a thousand candles that continue to burn in the hearts of those he touched and who continue his fight, our fight for social, economic and environmental justice in the best ways that each of us can. In that way, his legacy will go on, especially as we enter this decisive and tumultuous decade.  
Thank you TWN colleagues for so beautifully carrying on his legacy.

The grief you currently carry we share in. And we send you our heartfelt condolences, love and wishes for strength and solace as you mourn him.  
With love, grief and in solidarity,

Marc Maes, 11.11.11

Dear TWN-colleagues,  
Thank you for informing us about the passing of Martin Khor. I am deeply saddened by the news. I started working as Trade Policy Officer at 11.11.11- Belgium in April 1999. For me too Martin was an inspiring teacher and leader. I am grateful to have met him and to have learned so much from him. My sincere condolences to you and his family.  
Best wishes,  
Marc Maes

Maude Barlow, Canada

I wish to extend my deepest sadness for the loss of this great man. We were together in the International Forum on Globalization founded by Jerry Mander. We were tear gassed together in Seattle and Hong Kong, stood on stages in Johannesburg and New York. His leadership, his deep understanding of how the WTO works, his great heart, all, all is a terrible loss. I remember Martin with love in my heart.  
Maude Barlow

Raj Patel

Really sorry to hear this Ching. He was a real hero, and I learned a great deal from him. An email with his byline in it was always a clarion call, an education, and a journey into an element of international trade lore under the watchful eye of a seasoned sherpa. I'll miss his guidance, his kindness, and his sense of humour a great deal.  
onward, with gratitude for a life well lived

Michael Frein, Germany

Dear all,  
it is with deep sadness that I read today's news of Martin.  
I was working with Church Development Service (EED) for many years. At that time we worked together and, for the time being, had closed contact.  
It was Martin who made me really understand the WTO and the World Trade System. He could explain complex issues in an easy way by bringing them down to earth, simply explaining what was the impact for real people. I remember when he made presentations and hundreds of young people were hanging at his lips, and one could see that in these two hours with Martin they had understood more of the world economy than in a whole semester at university.  
And he was not only an intellectual but also a human capacity. Reliable, always friendly and ready to help.  
We all will miss him.  
Michael

Jorge Marchini, FILA, Argentina

To TWN Family.  
I have received with surprise the moving news that Martin passed away. I do not wish to abound in the

enormous and far-reaching contributions that he has provided throughout his extraordinary life.  
I would like to refer in particular in this painful moment to the example of human quality and solidarity that he gave to Latin America. Martin was always willing to offer his talent and ability to intervene bravely and decisively in the great challenges and debates of the region. Personally, what struck me the most as soon as I met him was his attitude, sincere, open, frank, not speculative towards all people.  
Above all, Martin was for me an exceptional example, to be sincere by no means habitual, of a human being committed to deep ideas and dreams. Not only did he advocate for them, but he anticipated their essential meaning for life through small and great actions and daily gestures: those that are essential to provide meaning and hopeful perspective to humanity.  
Heartfelt condolences to the family of dear Martin.  
From geographically very distant Buenos Aires but wishing to be very close to you today to share feelings and pain

Martin Robra, WCC

Dear colleagues and friends of the Third World Network, It is with great sorrow, but an even greater sense of gratitude for his great contribution, that I saw the sad news of Martin's passing. Others are better placed so speak about the many creative initiatives and decisive actions he initiated and inspired. I would like to highlight, however, his support and accompaniment of the World Council of Churches over more than two decades. He was a speaker at WCC assemblies and a great advisor not only on trade or other economic matters over the years. His determination to go forward, to name the systemic root causes and to work on alternatives was always encouraging and motivating. I will never forget the early years of struggle during the Uruguay round and the first years of the WTO. He had a key - role to play during the ministerial round 1999 in Seattle, forming new coalitions of social movements and organising resistance of member states of the G77. He was with us on the streets of Geneva in the year 2000 (Copenhagen +5), calling for justice and was part of the discussions in the University at the same time, which marked a decisive step towards the World Social Forum. He will remain present in our memories and struggles.  
Best wishes,  
Martin Robra

Shalmali Guttal, Focus on the Global South

Dear Meena,  
There are really no words to express the pain of losing a loved one. And when that loved one is such a giant of a person, with wisdom and friendship that has touched people all over the world, then the pain, like the person becomes public as well.  
I wish you and others in your family strength and peace of mind in this very difficult time. Martin's words and work will continue to guide activists and thinkers for generations to come.  
warm regards, Shalmali  
-----  
Dear friends at TWN,

Once again, we express our deepest condolences at Martin's passing. We have prepared the following elegy, which we request you share with Martin's family. Martin Khor dedicated his life to the promotion of global economic justice. From the time he helped found the Consumer Association of Penang and the Third World Network to his tenure as head of the South Center in Geneva, he was in the frontlines of the struggle against the push by transnational capital and its multilateral agents such as the World Trade Organization to subvert and subjugate the economies of developing countries. He was central to the push-back by international civil society against neoliberal restructuring at the same time that he served as a valuable source of ideas to developing country governments. Martin fused the role of activist and analyst, and his writings on globalization, neoliberalism, transnational corporations, trade justice, and climate change are still among the most incisive and insightful pieces on these subjects. Martin's determination and tactical acuity were central to stopping the Multilateral Agreement on Investment and severely weakening the WTO as an agent of corporate power. Martin may not have seen eye to eye with some of his allies on some tactical issues, but there was never any doubt in the minds of the latter that their strategic objectives were the same and they appreciated his role as a pivotal leader in this common struggle. We at Focus on the Global South mourn the passing of Martin and extend our deepest condolences to his wife, Meena, other members of his family, including his extended family at Third World Network. But even as we are sad, we are also confident that Martin's legacy will endure and his example will continue to inspire. With sadness and warm wishes,  
Shalmali

Rachmi, Indonesia for Global Justice  
We, IGJ, convey our deepest condolences to his family. He was an activist who dedicated his life to defending the third world countries with his excellent thoughts from the grip of global economic injustice. We will continue to defend the values that he had been strived throughout his life

Patrick Bond  
Meena and Rajamoorthy,  
The same feeling you are getting everywhere, of such deep appreciation for Martin's legacy, is just as heartfelt here in my small study in Joburg - a city where in mid-1990 as I recall, that I first met Martin at the country's first seminar on the perils of corporate globalisation. He then invited me to visit you in 1993. His 1998 interpretations of the Malaysian capital controls were seminal to our advocacy, still to this day! And his role in our 2002 mobilisations to counter neoliberalism at the World Summit on Sustainable Development were so terribly important to us here. I could go on and on reliving these memories of his influence, right through the mid-2010s. What an exceptional three decades of learning so much about international injustices from him, and you all! I know he would be guiding us on so many things of vital importance this month, sigh.

I was in the process of collecting some of the most powerful tributes to him to circulate (I've done so recently for two other friends from similar internationalist families who left us last month, attached).

Without worrying you in your time of grief, is there anything that you think should be added?

I think this is the last \_Star\_ column he wrote, it's as clear as ever:

<https://www.thestar.com.my/opinion/columnists/global-trends/2019/01/14/never-a-dull-moment-as-2019-begins-there-have-been-many-developments-even-before-january-hits-the-ha>

These seem to be good recent reports to circulate:

\* Trisha, N (April 1, 2020). "Former Third World Network director Martin Khor dies of cancer". The Star.

\* Dermawan, Audrey (April 1, 2020).

"Condolences pour in for late Martin Khor". New Strait Times.

But there is another area of tribute that maybe others in Malaysian and international academia will be able to support you in documenting, if you haven't already: \_his noted SCHOLARSHIP that is cited across the world. \_The first look at this is very impressive, because international academics like myself would invariably cite Martin's notable quotations and his short articles - but also his longer essays, to identify the cutting edge of analysis in South advocacy.

This work is recorded here:

[https://scholar.google.com/scholar?hl=en&as\\_sdt=0%2C5&q=%22martin+khor%22&btnG=](https://scholar.google.com/scholar?hl=en&as_sdt=0%2C5&q=%22martin+khor%22&btnG=)

The most recent of these citations, through 2017, are recorded here:

[https://scholar.google.com/scholar?as\\_ylo=2016&q=%22martin+khor%22&hl=en&as\\_sdt=0,5](https://scholar.google.com/scholar?as_ylo=2016&q=%22martin+khor%22&hl=en&as_sdt=0,5)

My sense is that many of us who combine activism, advocacy and academia will appreciate finding links to these articles online, so within the next week I'll try to do so, in order that not only in the most vital areas of activism and giving the Third World a voice on the world stage, where he was unparalleled, and not only in institution-building which he and you have taught the world as well - but in the battle of ideas, Martin is given due credit as one of the most vital forces, in the past - and in the future.

Keep strong,

Patrick

(I will proceed but if I'm on the wrong track forgive me, and if you have no additional time or space to reply, no worries, I'll send you my collection of his work before circulating it more widely, by Monday)

Tony Clarke, Polaris institute

Dear Meena,

By the time you read this note, you will have gathered with family and friends and co-workers to say "goodbye" to your beloved Martin on the occasion of his funeral. Last evening (Wednesday, April 1st), I sat down at my desk in Ottawa, Canada to review my emails and discovered a massive outpouring of emails marking Martin's unfortunate passing. Not unlike others, I was shocked, stunned and dumbfounded by this terrible

news. Admittedly, I was no longer actively engaged in some of the circles in which we worked in the past (e.g. the IFG or OWINFS) but I had no idea he was suffering from cancer. Besides, I said to myself, he was still too young to be taken from us all ...!

As you may recall, I had the privilege of working with Martin on several campaigns and projects over the best part of the last 25 years or so since when we first met at the founding of the IFG in San Francisco. These included the "Battle of Seattle" in 1999 which effectively shut down the city's streets and eventually the new WTO's conference over industry proposals to expand the powers of the new WTO ; and the subsequent lobbying campaigns through OWINFS, targeting various transnational service corporations calling for various social and cultural programs to be governed by global trade rules under the new WTO. But, for me, the most memorable experience was the MAI campaign in 1997-8, wherein we worked strategically together with civil society groups to successfully stop a global corporate rule treaty from being secretly negotiated and implemented under the auspices of the OECD in Paris. Throughout these and many more similar experiences that others have had working with him, Martin emerged as a champion and left his mark. As many of the tributes highlighted over the past 24 to 36 hours, he was a 'brilliant analyst' and a 'brilliant strategist.' He was also a 'great teacher and activist' himself who knew how to communicate about complex issues, forces, and structures to diverse audiences. But, one of his distinguishing features I remember most was his sense of our common humanity and collective humility in sharing the praise and critique for what happens as a result of one's actions. Because he had pondered the big picture pertaining to the issues and actions he took seriously as ones to develop campaigns on, I believe he began to lay the groundwork in civil society for a much needed, 'wholistic approach' to fundamental social change.

Finally, Martin also seemed to have a good overview of the kind of leadership required to bring about this wholistic approach to deep social change within countries (locally and nationally) as well as internationally. Indeed, in my recollection, he had this uncanny ability to observe peoples' innate gifts and talents (analytical, strategic, writing, teaching, organizing etc. etc.) and then, at an appropriate moment make his approach and pitch to them --- reaffirming the persons' particular talents and abilities as gifts; pointing out how and why the organization or campaign or movement at large needs this kind of leadership now; and calling on the persons' to measure up to the challenges posed. In other words, he knew that in order to bring about economic justice in global trade, you needed to have the capacity to deliver the structural changes required as well.

And so, Meena, I wanted to share these reflections with you to convey a message, namely, that there are many people out there in all corners of this planet today who feel a deep loss with Martin's passing. I realize, of course, that you already know this to be true from your own experience with Martin, your personal grieving process now underway, plus other email testimonies

and the funeral service itself earlier today. Behind this sense of deep loss, and interwoven with it, is a wonderful human being --- your Martin --- who was and is greatly admired, sincerely respected, and truly loved for who he was and hopefully is still with us as we do battle with the forces now threatening our interconnectedness (COVID--19, Climate Change, Global Economy Collapse). On that note, we salute Martin and join our Latin American comrades in chanting --- VIVA, Martin Khor, VIVA!!!  
With Love and Solidarity,  
Tony Clarke,  
President, Polaris Institute  
Ottawa, Canada.

Valu Karo, PNG

Dear Beverly, So sad to hear of late Martin Khor's passing. I met late Khor in Sri Lanka in April 17-19 2003, at a WTO/Trips workshop organised by TWN. Hearing him speak, he was very well articulated. I last met him last year in June, in Penang. In the manner he spoke, he would always acknowledge the pioneers as Doyens, paying great respect to them. It is fitting to remember Martin as a Doyen of TWN. Such a man of great knowledge and humility. He has left a great legacy not only for the immediate family but for the TWN family at large. Sincere condolences and sympathies to family and friends. May soul repose in eternal peace. Vali Karo. PNG

Niamh Garvey, Trocaire

Dear friends and colleagues at the Third World Network, At Trócaire we were all deeply saddened to hear of the untimely passing of your esteemed colleague Martin Khor. Martin was a gifted communicator and strategist, a tireless advocate for global justice, who could make the most complex policies comprehensible to experts and non-experts alike. Trócaire's advocacy work benefited from Martin's analysis on trade and agriculture, climate change and the multilateral system over the last decades. He was generous in giving of both of his time and expertise. We were delighted to welcome him to Ireland a number of years ago when he accepted an invitation by the Irish Trade Matters group, supported by Trócaire, to speak in Trinity College Dublin on trade justice. Martin inspired countless advocates across the world and has left a huge legacy of which TWN can be extremely proud. We extend our sincerest condolences to Martin's family and all at Third World Network.  
Yours sincerely,  
Niamh Garvey

Ellen R. Shaffer PhD MPH

Joe Brenner MA

Co-Directors

Center for Policy Analysis on Trade and Health (CPATH)

We are shocked and saddened to learn of Martin Khor's death. We will certainly miss his ground-breaking analysis and his leadership.

Condolences to his family, and to colleagues at Third World Network.

Eric Meunier, InfoGM

Hi Ching !

I read the TWN's email sent a few days ago announcing your lost of Martin Khor. I did not know him but it led me to have many thoughts for you and your colleagues. I send you and your colleagues my condolences and warm thoughts. You must be quite moved. It happened to me a few years ago with the loss of a former member of Inf'OGM's board. It did send me back to memories and brought me sadness.

Just to tell you I'm thinking about you. I send you as many thoughts that can travel as possible.

Take care of yourself.

Eric

Shefali Sharma, IATP

My very first encounter with Martin Khor was at the International Forum on Globalization event in Seattle in 1999, where I heard Martin speak. Like many, I was in awe of him and didn't know at that time that I would have the privilege of one day working with him.

If there is one thing Martin taught me, it is that we can dare to dream big—to imagine a world where Southern leaders can come together, unite and lead to create a better international governance order for their citizens in spite of the odds and the power structures stacked against them. He didn't just imagine it. He painstakingly worked to achieve that vision, to demand the best of our leaders, to guide our governments and civil society organizations, as have you all at TWN. He challenged us to push our own Northern governments. He was critical in creating a vibrant and thoughtful global movement against the injustices of globalization and neoliberalism. For that, we will forever be grateful.

Not only was Martin a global leader, he was deeply rooted in his home, in the Consumer Association of Penang, a leader in the environmental movement. Malaysia was lucky to have him.

Martin's wonderful smile, sense of humor and giggle, his bursting into song, his penchant for amazing food, there is so much of Martin that we will always remember.

Our global movement feels profoundly his loss.

Thankfully, he lit a thousand candles that continue to burn in the hearts of those he touched and who continue his fight, our fight for social, economic and environmental justice in the best ways that each of us can. In that way, his legacy will go on, especially as we enter this decisive and tumultuous decade.

Thank you TWN colleagues Meena Raman Chee Yoke Ling Lim Li Ching for so beautifully carrying on his legacy.

The grief you currently carry we share in. And we send you our heartfelt condolences, love and wishes for strength and solace as you mourn him.

Rest in Peace and Power, Martin.

Heather Day, Community Alliance for Global Justice

Very sad to hear that Martin Khor has passed on; he was a giant in our global justice movement. I shared [Deborah James's](#) photos with so much appreciation for the hard work she, Martin and many others have done all these years fighting for justice at WTO and other bodies.

My own story: I remember hearing him speak at the International Forum on Globalization Teach-In at Benaroya Hall in Seattle On Nov 28, 1999; it was a life-changing week, and hearing my s/heroes speak that day was a highlight. Martin and I happened to depart at the same time, and I had a tongue-tied moment, of wanting to ask him a question, but feeling in awe and shy before one of the people who had already taught me so much about globalization, through his articles and books. I still remember the question i wanted to ask: How will we defeat the WTO? How will we win? Little did I know, we were doing it, together, in that very moment, and a true victory was to come that week. His speech that day is here: <https://ratical.org/co-globalize/ifg112699MK.html>

Heather

Ian Panton, GM Free Cymru

Thanks for flagging this up.

I well remember meeting Msrtin Khor in London so many years ago and he was a truly inspirational and knowledgeable individual.

I see the excellent TWN Biotechnology & Biosafety Series no. 14,

**Potential Health Effects of Foods Derived from Genetically Modified Plants: What Are the Issues?** by

Arpad Pusztai and Susan Bardocz

(<https://www.twn.my/title2/biosafety/bio14.htm>) is still available for download, and reminds me of how it was, and still is, so necessary to stand up for Science. TWN certainly did/does and reminds me of what happened at The Rowatt, to Arpad, Susan and Stanley, <https://books.google.co.uk/books?id=Qob8owzCp-QC&pg=PA143&lpg=PA143&dq=third+world+network+arpad+pusztai&source=bl&ots=b1sW3tW2f5&sig=ACfU3U2pecY9vXZTzatbUFmxh8pBOQ2rdg&hl=en&sa=X&ved=2ahUKewjln5jfiNPoAhVQY8AKHYRgAnkQ6AEwAuoECAsQKA#v=onepage&q=third%20world%20network%20arpad%20pusztai&f=false>

Best Wishes

Ian

IATP

Hi All,

All of us at IATP also mourn the loss of Martin. I still find myself in moments during the day, incredulous, that he is gone.

Here is IATP's tribute to Martin Khor.

Hope everyone and their loved ones are staying healthy and safe in these trying times.

Regards,

Shefali

<https://www.iatp.org/blog/202004/remembering-martin-khor>

**Remembering Martin Khor**

Apr 3, 2020

by

[IATP](#)

IATP pays tribute to Martin Khor (1951-2020) who passed away peacefully on April 1, 2020 in his home in Penang, Malaysia. So many of us at IATP, since its inception more than 30 years ago, have been touched, influenced and moved by Martin's wisdom, analysis and

leadership in the global trade, economic and environmental justice movement. He was a visionary who inspired, mentored and taught so many. *Our global movement feels profoundly his loss. Thankfully, he lit a thousand candles that continue to burn in the hearts of those he touched and who continue his fight, our fight for social, economic and environmental justice in the best ways that each of us can.*

Martin was the research director of the Consumers' Association of Penang, Malaysia (1978-2009) and director of the Malaysia-based international NGO, Third World Network (TWN) (1990 to February 2009). He functioned as editor, South-North Development Monitor – SUNS (2005-2008), managing editor, Third World Resurgence (monthly magazine of the Third World Network) and editor, Third World Economics (fortnightly economics magazine of the Third World Network). He was executive director of the South Centre (March 2009 to June 2018) and advisor to Third World Network (July 2018 to 2020).

IATP sends our heartfelt condolences, love and wishes for strength and solace to the TWN family and his wife and fellow activist Meena Raman, as we mourn the loss of Martin Khor.

*“My very first encounter with Martin was at the International Forum on Globalization event in Seattle in 1999, where I heard Martin speak. Like many, I was in awe of him and didn’t know at that time that I would have the privilege of one day working with him. If there is one thing Martin taught me, it is that we can dare to dream big — to imagine a world where Southern leaders can come together, unite and lead to create a better international governance order for their citizens in spite of the odds and the power structures stacked against them. He didn’t just imagine it. He painstakingly worked to achieve that vision, to demand the best of our leaders, to guide our governments and civil society organizations, as have you all at TWN. He challenged us to push our own Northern governments. He was critical in creating a vibrant and thoughtful global movement against the injustices of globalization and neoliberalism. For that, we will forever be grateful.*

*Not only was Martin a global leader, he was deeply rooted in his home, Malaysia, in the Consumer Association of Penang, a leader in the environmental movement. Malaysia was lucky to have him.*

*Martin’s wonderful smile, sense of humor and giggle, his bursting into song, his penchant for amazing food, there is so much of Martin that we will always remember.”*

*— Shefali Sharma, Director, IATP Europe*

Pat Ranald

Dear TWN colleagues

Please accept our deepest condolences. I first met Martin at international meetings almost 20 years ago. His leadership, strategic analysis and advocacy will be sorely missed in the international movement. We have frequently quoted and linked his articles on our website and they are an important legacy for us and for future activists.

In solidarity

Pat

Jazminda Lumang, APRN

Dear Ranja,

So very sad to hear about Martin's passing. I remember his contribution in the formation of APRN following a series of meetings which started in Penang wherein the first ministerial in Singapore was discussed, then MAI. If you could send us Meena and Rajamoorthy's email addresses, we would appreciate it.

Hope you are keeping safe amidst these precarious times.

Brid Brennan, TNI

My dear Meena,

I am sure you are still in deep grief at Martn's passing - but at the same time taking some strength from the outpouring of tributes to the outstanding activist-intellectual he was.

Despite those many tributes, which echo much of what I like to share with you, I want to just mark Martin's passing from my own perspective.

It was especially touching for me to learn of Martin's passing in the midst of this COVID-19 epoch and the overlapping crises which are deepening under its grim weight. Of course we had known that Martin had struggled for good health over the past few years...but it seemed the timing of his death brought an additional poignancy. This was a moment of great vulnerability of humanity in the face of this new destructive storm of neoliberal globalisation. And yet the message of Martin's life which reached us above the storm was that we must continue in struggle against this systemic oppression as he had done to the last.

His passing is also doubly poignant for me...as it comes so shortly after Dot Keet's passing - a great friend and comrade - and Martin had written a beautiful tribute to her on Feb 10, just a few weeks ago!

*"Yes indeed, I echo what all have said, about Dot. One of the few original thinkers and scholars who understood indepth the great adverse consequences of WTO and FTAs of the imbalanced kind that developed through the EPAs etc, and helped pioneer the CSO and social movements in Africa, the South and the world. Her work was so invaluable and continues to have a major impact. May she rest in peace. She will be much missed....."*

Indeed, Martin and Dot were pioneers in the anti-globalisation struggle and exposed better than most the inbuilt and entrenched capitalist and corporate interests in the architecture of the WTO, FTAs and IFIs and why we needed to build movements of counter power.

And finally another poignancy for me...I hadn't gotten around to writing Martin to thank him for his very strategic support for the Binding Treaty process at the UN. In early 2014 - his initiative was pivotal in organising together with Ecuador and South Africa a Side Meeting at the UNHRC where he also participated - which was the first as far as I know to promote the necessity of the Binding International Instrument to hold corporations accountable. This Panel and an informal meeting hosted by Martin at the South Center with some governments were crucial in the political groundwork that led to Resolution 26/9 in June 2014 establishing the OEIGWG on the Binding Treaty.



So dear Meena - take the time to grieve...  
We will, as you yourself have said continue the struggle  
in Martin's honour and memory.  
With warm greetings for you and your family and the  
colleagues of TWN,  
Brid

John Cavanagh, IPS

Dear Meena and all of you who contributed to  
Alternatives to Economic Globalization,  
I think I have everyone on here who contributed to the  
great book except Helena, who I've fallen out of touch  
with. and Teddy, who I still talk to in my dreams. Jerry  
and I wrote you all hundreds of times when we were  
writing the book and meeting in those beautiful long  
weekends to sort out our understanding of how to best  
describe and fight corporate globalization. And, many of  
us have been writing to many of each other in the days  
since Martin's death last week. And, several of us have  
been in touch with Meena, and we are all with you,  
Meena, and sending our love.  
As with all of us, Martin's death has brought on a flood  
of memories and emotions. Since you all got to  
experience many of the joys of Martin and Meena, I  
wanted to send you two things:  
- Walden was able to interview some of you about  
Martin over the weekend, and here is his piece in IPS's  
Foreign Policy in Focus: <https://fpif.org/martin-khor-the-making-of-a-global-activist/>  
- I tried to sum up Martin's accomplishments in this  
piece that just came out in IPS's [www.inequality.org:  
https://inequality.org/research/martin-khor-global-equity/](https://inequality.org/research/martin-khor-global-equity/) Deborah James supplied the lovely picture of  
Martin and Meena as we toasted them at the Tabard  
Inn. As you'll see, I keep coming back to Paradigm 1 and  
Paradigm 2.  
Keep the stories coming.

Jerry Mander IFG

Dear wonderful friends and colleagues,  
It is so unbelievably fabulous to hear from so many of  
you, even though it's on the occasion of Martin's  
departure. It fills me with terrible sadness, but also  
joy at the same time, as I think of his life and work. As  
we are all well aware, Martin was not just another great  
activist; he was a powerful, beautiful, *brilliant*, positive,  
inclusive, kind, and entertaining, revolutionary spirit. I  
remember literally thinking that of him the very first  
time we met!! And most times thereafter. We have all  
been so touched and educated and benefited and  
expanded by our friendship with him....and I wish I had  
expressed that to him while he was still with us. But,  
Meena, thank god, is still here, and we can partly visit  
with Martin through Meena, and I am very thankful for  
that.  
And all of you! What a fabulous gang. I have missed  
each of you over the 2-3 years, and I've also missed the  
IFG and our wonderful years of collaboration. I am not  
really sure why we/I let it go quiet for these last couple  
of years....maybe we just needed a break....but as I am  
sure you ALL know, and worry about, the world is in a  
horrible tailspin.....from climate change, to ocean &  
wildlife death, to oligarchic corporate expansionism and

control, to Donald Trump!! to Corona!!...et. al., et al., et  
al., things are looking grimmer than they ever have, and  
I agree we'd best get rolling again.  
(My own favorite subject at the moment---a book I am  
writing---is the coming long-awaited death of the  
anthropocene (the idea of human superiority and rule)  
in which Corona offers the latest expression of reality---  
But I could make a list of twenty things that need doing,  
and there is no better gang to do it than all of you..)  
I am dying to hear what each of you is doing....and I love  
Vandana's suggestion that we re-convene in Europe in a  
few months. It sounds great though it is possible I will  
not be able to travel,,,due to some pushy medical issues.  
(Can't believe it; I am about to turn 84!!) But I can find a  
way to listen in; we can figure it out. And then we can  
do a followup here in California which I could gladly help  
host....and put all of our issues on that table and get  
things rolling again.  
I do wish that we/I had started things going again while  
Martin was here with us...but anyway, he IS here with  
us. After all our years together he is embedded in our  
brains, hearts and souls. And our love and appreciation  
for you, Meena.  
Okay....forward. Love to you all. And thanks again to  
Martin.  
xxxxx Jerry

Andrew Kimbrell, Center for Food Safety

Thank you John for this message. I think like everyone  
included here I was hit hard by the news of Martin's  
death and am still processing it. Another dark moment  
in these very traumatic times. And my heart goes out to  
you Meena and all those close to Martin.

I also appreciate your and Walden's insightful tributes to  
Martin and found myself nodding as I read the  
comments of our colleagues. As for the photograph, I  
have fond memories of the Tabard party celebrating  
Martin and Meena's nuptials which included a lovely  
song recital by Debbie which I had the joy of  
accompanying on the piano. (And yes Martin had a  
great ear and heart for music and I loved to play for him  
when he would visit my home near Washington DC.)  
As with Walden, I first really got to know Martin when,  
at his invitation, I attended some TWN forums in Penang  
in the late 80s and early 90s. My role was to present on  
trends in intellectual property, biopiracy and legal  
responses to the coming GMO onslaught. Those trips  
were very memorable not only because of my many  
interactions with Martin but also my getting to know the  
extraordinary Dr. Idris and all the other courageous and  
remarkable activists, lawyers and strategists working  
with the Consumer Association of Penang and TWN. My  
relationship with Martin was of course further  
deepened through our being fellow Board members of  
the IFG, and what an amazing Board that was.  
Martin has been lauded as an intellectual "giant" and  
one of the most remarkable minds of our times. That is  
certainly true. However, for me, the most uncanny of  
his many gifts was his unique capacity to arrive at an  
effective strategy only moments after a difficulty or  
challenge was discussed. I would watch him during  
meetings as others argued about or despaired over

some dastardly new corporate scheme. He would quietly jot down notes and as soon as there would be a break I knew he already had the necessary tasks lined up, in order, and a good idea of who would be best suited for them. Most of the times I would just go over to him and say "OK Martin what's my job here." I would often dub him the "Lenin" of the anti-globalization movement. He would smile at that, but I don't recall him ever disputing the characterization.

As hard-nosed as he was in the work, Martin had that great "soft" side. I remember once in Penang during a somewhat contentious group strategy session I saw his uncompromising demeanor suddenly transform into one of deep, almost glowing, affection. Surprised, I turned around and realized his daughter had just come in the room. As many of you know, as a friend Martin was a joy to be with; full of empathy, care, charm, humor and even mischief. Whatever our occasional differences over the years on policy they never got in the way of our happiness to be in each other's company. We will miss him greatly in the transformative work ahead for all of us. I will deeply miss his friendship and spirit.

Again condolences to Meena, and blessings to all,  
Andy

Bhagirath Lal Das, former India GATT/WTO Ambassador  
Martin Khor ----Formidable Campaigner and Fighter

Using sharp intellect, objective facts and persuasive capacity, Martin Khor was a formidable campaigner and fighter for the causes he had determined through reasoned thinking. His patience and humility facilitated his work and enhanced the effects of his efforts. I had the privilege of seeing all such qualities in him in full play for nearly twenty-five years, from 1995 onward.

Once, while sitting in a small office in the UNCTAD in Geneva in 1996, I was writing papers explaining the provisions of various WTO agreements that had recently emerged. Suddenly I found Martin entering the room and taking a seat. He noticed a small slip of paper by my side where I had scribbled some short notes. On his enquiry I explained to him that I was recording the deficiencies and imbalances I had noticed in the agreements. He had a quick glance at it and his eyes brightened. Barely concealing the agitation in his mind, he said these provisions were extremely unfair and harmful for the developing countries and must be brought to their notice. I said it would not be any use as the developing countries must be fully aware of it already. He disagreed and persuaded me to turn these scribbled notes into a short paper. Martin sent this paper to all the Missions of the developing countries in Geneva and invited them to a conference.

It was an eye-opener for me. The developing countries' Ambassadors and other senior diplomats took the matter seriously and many of them became convinced that it was necessary to make concerted efforts to bring about changes in the agreements. This was the beginning of the massive campaign to improve the agreements in order to eliminate/reduce inequities, deficiencies and imbalances.

Martin thought it was necessary to mobilise the civil society groups of the developing countries for this cause.

He organised a week long workshop in Penang, Malaysia, where members from about 50 civil society organisations of Asia, Africa and Latin America participated. They got deeply absorbed in this mission and decided to pursue this subject vigorously in their own countries and regions. This campaign initiated by Martin Khor got strengthened year after year, from one WTO Ministerial Meeting to the next, starting from the first meeting in Singapore in December 1996.

The initiative mentioned above in the area of international trade is just an example to illustrate Martin's way of working towards his objectives.

He covered a wide range of areas for his action. While the main subject in the example given above covered the areas of international trade in goods and services and also intellectual property rights (patents, copyright, etc), Martin's interest and sphere of activities spread to several other areas of deep concern to the developing countries: international financial institutions and their working, environment including climate change, condition of indigenous people, etc.

I was always fascinated to observe him working in these diverse fields with common approach and strategy. His first step would be to identify the inequities and imbalances through arduous studies and discussions keeping the focus on the interests of the developing countries. And there were many. Enumerating some glaring ones will be relevant here.

For example, in the area of agriculture, the developed countries had been permitted by the newly emerged WTO Agriculture Agreement to continue with massive subsidies whereas the developing countries were prohibited from subsidising their farmers beyond a very small level. The option of the developing countries to impose quantitative restrictions on import while facing balance of payment problems was almost fully stopped. In the area of intellectual property rights (IPR), the position of the patent holders had been strengthened, enabling them to charge exorbitant monopoly prices and royalties, resulting in high payments by the developing countries to the multinational firms of the developed countries. In the area of finance, the international institutions (IMF, World Bank) had made it a practice to put tough conditions on the developing countries while granting them loans which would have damaging effect on their economies. In the area of environment and climate change, while the developed countries had been primarily responsible for the deterioration of world climate over centuries since the first industrial revolution, they were now insisting on high responsibility of action by the developing countries which would result in severely restraining their options for industrial development.

These are only some illustrative examples of inequity and unfairness which agitated Martin's mind and made him identify the subjects for his attention.

Having selected the subjects, he would identify experts and knowledgeable people and seek their support in preparing positions and arguments for correcting the situation. His next step would be to approach important policy persons in key developing countries: high officials, ministers and sometime even heads of governments. In these discussions he would be forthright and practical

and not ideological or theoretical. For example, he would specially dilate upon how these issues were affecting that particular country and why it was necessary for them to get involved in efforts to bring about changes and amendments.

His next exercise would be with the international trade diplomats of the developing countries in Geneva on matters of trade, with the finance negotiators of these countries in international financial institutions and with the environment negotiators handling environment and climate change, and so on.

In all this process, his transparent sincerity and complete selflessness helped in generating confidence in the minds of the people he was interacting with.

He encouraged the developing countries' negotiators to establish core groups among themselves for intensive negotiations and to form coalitions. He would back them up with the support of research papers, arguments and counter-arguments. He made strenuous efforts to organise repeated interface of the negotiators and policy officials with experts in these respective fields. With such back up support they felt encouraged and strengthened. Whenever there were signs of differences among the developing countries on some issues he would inspire and assist them to patch up these differences.

In all the stages of such intense exercise he would enlist the support of the civil society groups of the developing countries and often even of the developed countries. He would organise workshops, seminars and even informal discussions involving the civil society organisations and the developing countries' negotiators and policy officials. In this process an effective and cohesive machine would get established in support of the developing countries in their fight. Martin was also ready with suggestions and advice in real time while negotiations were going on. He would wait outside the negotiating room at a convenient place and have brief exchange with some negotiators when they would come out, giving them useful tips on how to press their own proposals and counter opposing proposals given by the other side.

And while Martin was engaged in all this intense work he had absolutely no concern for his personal comfort or even his health. He never cared for recognition or reward; he was always ready to give credit to others. Positive results in favour of the developing countries, whenever they emerged, were his rewards.

It is difficult for anybody to replace Martin and thus there will be a big void. Perhaps a group of persons with deep common commitment and complementary attributes could come together and take Martin's mission forward. That will be a befitting tribute to Martin and his legacy.

Prakash Puchooa, India

Dear TWN,

Having read the news about Martin, I would like to send my sincere condolences to his friends and family.

I met him in 2004 when I worked with the ACP, as part of an internship with the WTO. He was a kind, caring, insightful and well-informed person. I owe him a great deal as that was my first internship in a post-Masters period.

Wishing his family all the best!

Kind regards

Dr Prakash Puchooa

PhD in International Law (University College London)

Leah Margulies, Corporate Accountability

Dearest Meena,

It is with a very heavy heart that I send you my deepest sympathy and condolences for your—our—great loss of Martin. Over the many years since I first met Martin, he has been a shining light of inspiration, of steadfastness in working for a just world for me.

As you saw in my note to Anwar, I met Martin a long time ago. In 1975, less than a year after I started working at the Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility in NYC, I was able to attend the NGO meeting alongside the first, 1975, UN Women's Conference in Mexico City. I had already begun advocacy to change the deadly marketing practices of the infant formula TNCs. I put a sign up at the Tribunal (as the NGO meeting was called) that said: "Anyone who wants to fight the TNCs that put profit over people, come to Room \_\_\_\_." Anwar Fazal was the only person to come.

Less than a year later, we at ICCR, upped our campaign to change the marketing practices of the US-based infant formula TNCs, and began a lawsuit against Bristol-Myers, the makers of Enfamil. Our lawyer told us we had to get actual facts about the marketing practices from developing countries! We didn't have a clue how to do that, but we put together a detailed set of investigatory instructions and sent them to Anwar (among others), who passed it along to the groups in the Consumer International network. Martin was the very first to answer the call and led an investigation in Penang. He sent us an affidavit that we could use in Court from CAP! As you may or may not know, these investigations led directly to the Nestle Boycott, the founding of Infact (which is now Corporate Accountability), the Senate Hearings in the US, the agreement by WHO to start the process of Code development, and the passage in 1981 of the International Code of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes.

Martin understood right from the beginning, that my underlying concerns from the start of this campaign was to alert the world citizens to the dangers of TNC control of the global economy, of the anti-democratic forces that operated beyond national boundaries and outside of any law. His work, exposing the WTO and the trade regimes, and the coalescing of interests between the major industrialized countries and their TNCs, took this work to a whole new level of struggle and understanding.

In the many years that followed, from when I was working at the UN Centre on Transnational Corporations, to my work at UNICEF starting the legal office attempting to get the Code of Marketing adopted as law and enforced (which remains a big struggle to this day), I always kept in touch with Martin, even if it was only every few years. His work and the work of TWN remained an inspiration for me over many years—always hoping that some day I would get to work alongside of him in some capacity. But this was not meant to be. I became a single mother in 1991, adopting a newborn when I was 47! In my new capacity at UNICEF, I went to

Penang around 1992/3 (my son was about a year) and I visited Martin. I don't remember whether it was in your home or the CAP office, or TWN. But I have some lovely photos of Martin with my son in his arms. I will have to search to find them, but as soon as I do, I'll send you copies.

My life took a different path after I was fired from UNICEF in 1996—which happened in large part as a result of the US State Department pressuring UNICEF to stop its “anti-corporate” work. By then, my son was three or four and I was his sole support. I had to find work to pay the bills and still leave me time to care for my child. So it was not advocacy or anti-corporate campaigning. I did non-political work for ten years, to put food on the table, although during that time I returned to the Board of Corporate Accountability (then still Infact).

Ultimately, I returned to work as a legal aid attorney. In the US, this means you work for a non-profit providing free legal services to low-income and poor people. I had gone to law school to better fight TNCs but Reagan was President by the time I graduated, funding was cut, etc., so I became a legal aid attorney.

About three years ago, I was part of the team that Corporate Accountability sent to the negotiations for the treaty to prevent human rights abuses of TNCs. I was hoping to see Martin in Geneva, but I think he was

already home, and already not well. I think I emailed him, but I'm not sure. Someone else from South Center spoke the same day as my testimony.

Well, we have lost a giant. He will always remain an inspiration to me to fight for a just world, to fight for international solidarity against the unjust and unequal international economy under corporate control. Now, at 76 years, old, I find myself fighting injustice at the very personal level. Since September 2017, I have been working full-time as a front-line lawyer again, representing low income people in court, fighting against their eviction from their homes. It is very challenging, and I'm working harder than any time since the early Boycott years! It certainly helps to keep my mind from deteriorating!

I hope you don't mind my rambling here—I just wanted to share with you how much Martin and his life work meant to me over these many years. His legacy will be with us throughout our lives and beyond.

Please let me know if there is anything I can do to support your work as Chairperson of Friends of the Earth, Malaysia, and the work of TWN as we get beyond this brutal pandemic.

With warmest regards, Leah  
Leah Margulies, Esq.

#### D. Health CSOs and Individuals

Mira Shiva

Dear Ranja ,

What a shocking news , . Really terribly sad to hear this . I hope he did not suffer much .Yes his knowledge , his initiative and tremendous support were invaluable . It is a terrible loss for Meena , his family Friends , TWN as a whole . His understanding and support to me personally meant a lot . Will miss him . May his soul rest in Peace .

Mira

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Dear Meena ,

Just heard about the terrible loss of our dear Martin . If I am feeling so bad I can well imagine what you must be going through . You could be numb .

Hope Martin did not suffer .

His kindness , understanding and support meant so much to me I cannot even tell .

My last memory of him is in your home having your home cooked lunch .

Martin leaves such a big vacuum in our hearts and lives . I feel guilty at not having written and communicated more often . I would hesitate because he needed rest and peace of mind as so many things were happening . His soul now would be at peace .

I hope God gives you the courage to cope with life and work in absence of physical presence of Martin . He will definitely be there with you in spirit ,

With lots and lots of love and a warm hug .

Mira

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It is with sadness and a sense of loss I read the tragic news about Martin passing away.

Deeply feel the loss and share it with family , friends and colleagues of TWN .

From the time Martin was in CAP with Uncle Idris, then with TWN , South Centre and his return to Penang have known Martin, valued his engagement with complex issues of unjust International Trade , TRIPS , Rational Use of Drugs, and in the last few years his deep involvement with issues related to Anti Microbial Resistance (AMR) .

Martin could analyse always from the perspective of the people of the South, write about them and articulate them in a way that even those not familiar issue could comprehend the key message and thrust and find themselves engaging with the issues. Not everyone is blessed with the capacity to analyse, write and speak consistently convincingly to engage so many over time . .

I think carrying forward the work, the concerns and engagements of Martin would be a great tribute to his memory. Especially at this time of COVID Pandemic several issues eg Access to essential Medicines, Diagnostics, their rational use of Medicines and Vaccines, the need for use of TRIPS Flexibilities, Comprehensive Primary Health Care concepts of strengthened Public Health and Universal Health Care come to mind and mostly the concerns related to Anti Microbial Resistance (AMR) .

It was AMR issue close to his heart that brought many of us in the last few years to collectively engage with Martin and TWN . We will miss Martin personally as well as Initiative for Health & Equity in Society, All India Drug Action Network and those of us  
Associated with International Peoples Health Council (IPHC) and Founding of Peoples Health Movement .  
Dr Mira Shiva

Michelle Childs of DNDi in Geneva:

Dear Yoke Ling

I wanted to send my heartfelt condolences at Martin's passing and to wish you strength and the blessing of good memories at this time. Much can and should be said about Martin's huge impact on international , regional and national policy making, combined with that rare gift of carrying great knowledge but sharing it clearly and freely . But at this moment , as well as what I learned from him professionally I remember so clearly his great kindness , personal warmth, his laugh and memorable dinners in Geneva and elsewhere. It was a great privilege to have known him.

With love

Michelle

Pascale Boulet, DnDi

Dear Sangeeta I'm sorry to hear that... Thank you for letting me know. He was a really great person and I'm grateful to have know him and worked with him. He was a key figure of the A2M movement. i hope you and your family are doing well in this very tense period.

Albertina Almeida

Sorry to hear of this. In these COVID times, we must imagine what his insights would have been to address Govt's that use crisis including medical disasters to 'bail out' corporates. And also what a non corporate indigenous health response might be like. That would be the greatest tribute to him.

DNDi Executive Director Dr Bernard Pécoul and GARDP Executive Director Dr Manica Balasegaram  
(<https://www.dndi.org/2020/media-centre/news-views-stories/news/message-on-passing-of-martin-khor-from-dndi-and-gardp/>)

We and our colleagues and at DNDi and GARDP are deeply saddened by the passing of Martin Khor, a friend and trusted advisor to colleagues and partners around the world working to advance medical innovation and access to treatment for vulnerable and neglected people.

Martin provided decades of vital leadership and steady guidance to the global access to medicines movement, championing health innovation and equitable access to new health tools as essential prerequisites for improving lives and livelihoods and meeting the UN Sustainable Development Goals. He was also a central proponent of the multisectoral 'One Health' approach to addressing the rising threat of antimicrobial resistance. No matter the challenge, he always placed the needs of people in developing countries and the know-how of developing country experts at the centre of policy debate and discussion around medical R&D and access.

In recent years, as simpler, safer treatments emerged for hepatitis C virus (HCV), Martin rallied for the half million people in Malaysia living with the disease who were at risk of going untreated due to the high price of newer drugs. Through his leadership at South Centre, Martin was instrumental in supporting the Malaysian government's use of TRIPS flexibilities to open up access to HCV treatment. This is just one example of how Martin's work has touched people's lives and how his positive impact will surely continue to multiply. We at DNDi and GARDP will remember Martin with fondness and gratitude for his legacy of fierce advocacy and determined commitment to the most vulnerable. We extend our deepest condolences to his friends and family.

Desmond McNeill, Chair of the Independent Panel on Global Governance for Health

Dear Ching,

Thank you for letting us know. I met him only once or twice, but I knew of his work and always held him in high regard. He will be missed.

Best regards

Desmond

Judit Rius Sanjuan, United States

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

I am writing to express my deepest condolences to Martin's family, friends and the rest of the TWN Family. I mourn with you the loss of a wonderful human being that did so much for this world.

Today I was remembering last time I saw him in person. It was in New York at the UN High Level Meeting on Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) where he was one of the speakers. I was working for Doctors Without Borders and we were all running around busy and stressed. He took the time to come to talk to me and asked how I was doing. He gave me a hug that now I remember close to my heart as a precious present. A few moments later, he stood up to the podium, calm and humble, and gave an outstanding speech. His words were full of truth and intelligence, and he shared the fundamental message that (I think) everybody needed to hear: The structural, systemic and political determinants of the AMR challenge and its global, one-health and development dimensions. In doing this, I believe he changed the direction of that meeting and the opinions of many in that room.

I have had other opportunities of seeing "Martin in action" and I tried to read everything that had his name :). I could share many other ways how he made a positive impact for humans and the planet. Many are grateful and will always remember (including myself) all the work he has

done for a better world, but what I will try to remember the most is his smile and his personality and how he treated everybody with respect and kindness.

Rest in Power Martin. You will not be forgotten, and we will try to live by your example.

Ashok K Madan, Executive Director, Indian Drug Manufacturers' Association

Heartfelt Condolences. May his soul rest in peace. Void can't be filled.  
Warm regards

Celine Paramunda, Medical Mission Sisters, USA  
Hi

I met Martin Khor several times at the UN in NY. We were together at many meetings outside NY too. Was very impressed with his insight and courage to speak the truth to power. He was an ardent champion of the poor and the global south. May he rest in Peace. We the Medical Mission Sisters are grateful for his life and sending you condolences and prayers.  
Celine

Alison Katz, Switzerland

Dear friends,

This is such sad news. I remember Martin from the People's Health Assembly in Cuenca, Ecuador in 2005. But I knew him better from his writing. He was always a valuable source to turn to, whatever I was trying to explore in the politics of health or some other area of international "development" for want of a better term. I can only say how much I admire his work and how useful it must have been to thousands of people. I am sure TWN will continue to provide us with reliable, independent and thorough analyses, such as Martin consistently provided.

Kind regards to his family and friends, in solidarity,  
Alison (Katz), in Geneva

Martin Drewry, Health Poverty Action

Dear friends,

It says so much that in this time of so many global tragedies, I have seen nothing so far that makes me feel more sad than this.

A truly wonderful man, and such a life.

May his soul journey on in peace, and his legacy live on in the work of all of us.

Much love to his family, to you, and to all close to him.  
Martin Drewry

Hu Yuan Qiong, MSF

Dear TWN colleagues,

It has been a great shock to learn that Martin has passed away suddenly, left us in a critical moment when his wisdom and leadership is most needed. For many years, I have had the privilege to be inspired and supported by him in many of the works on access to medicines and development affecting the most vulnerable population in the world. His spirit and compassion will remain inspiring us in the long journey ahead.

My deepest condolence goes to his families, friends and colleagues. May Martin rests in peace.

Yuanqiong

Anthony So, Antimicrobial Resistance Coalition

Martin Khor was the heart of a movement. And with his passing on April 1<sup>st</sup>, we lost not only a remarkable friend and inspiring leader, but also a part of ourselves. Journalist, economist and intellectual—Martin devoted

his life to championing social justice and challenging a system of globalization that too often failed to address the needs of those in the global South.

I remember first hearing Martin's voice leading the protests in 1999 in Seattle at the World Trade Organization's meeting there. Writing back then, [Martin had shared his concerns](#) over how "high and growing inequities of wealth and income influence the pattern of consumption," "how the dominant consumption patterns in industrial countries are transferred to developing countries, and the role of globalization in intensifying this process," and how these patterns affected the local economies in developing countries as well as environment and sustainable development. Importantly though, he also had an [extraordinary way of telling stories](#)—our stories—and of giving them poignant truth. Whether rallying hundreds at a WTO protest or just speaking to a group of our students working as Global Health Fellows in Geneva, he had a talent for communicating on these issues. He could delve deep into the details of international agreements and surface insights of how these would affect lives and livelihoods in the global South. As Director of the [Third World Network](#), he also created a vibrant community of leading voices who continue his work on these issues.

The breadth of Martin Khor's work though spans beyond any single movement. He understood the connections between issues of trade, sustainable development and globalization as few could. A prolific writer, he not only foretold its potential impact on innovation, access and affordability of health technologies for those in need, but also questioned whether an international trade regime was the place to improve labor and environmental standards around the world.

Later in life, Martin would call antimicrobial resistance "[possibly the greatest global crisis in public health today, akin to climate change as the top environmental problem.](#)" But he had presciently recognized this problem in the 1980s. In the 1990s, he had argued for the [strict regulation or banning the use of antibiotics in animal feed](#). In 2014, then as Executive Director of the South Centre—an intergovernmental think tank for the global South—Martin supported the founding of the Antibiotic Resistance Coalition.

Martin would go on to serve as a member of the UN Interagency Coordination Group (IACG) on Antimicrobial Resistance that presented its recommendations to the UN Secretary-General this past year. When he could no longer travel, he would still insist on connecting over the IACG deliberations by phone. Only later would I learn that he had just finished another round of chemotherapy. I would see Martin one final time, this past year at a regional meeting he had orchestrated on antimicrobial resistance. It was an opportunity to say thanks for the years of his mentorship by example. We shared a plenary panel discussion together, but what more could be said after Martin spoke? The trek to Penang may be long, but nothing compared to the distance he has travelled to support us all these years.

Ever kind and caring, Martin Khor was among those rare public intellectuals, who could speak truth to power, yet who could walk in the shoes of those less fortunate. We

will miss his inspiring presence, but his legacy continues in each of us working towards the vision he shared.

Anthony So



Nithima Sumpradit, Medicines Regulation Division, Food and Drug Administration, Ministry of Public Health, Thailand

Dear TWN colleagues,

It is very sad news. I feel honoured to have met Dr. Martin Khor. He was very kind and full of wisdom. My deepest condolence to you and his family for the loss. May his gentle soul rest in peace.

Nithima

Judith Cook

To Third World Network

This brings my deep condolences on hearing of Martin Khor's passing, to his family, friends and the Third World Network. I first heard of the Third World Network and its invaluable work at the Second People's Health Assembly in Cuenca Ecuador and signed up for TWN information service. Continually my eyes are opened to urgent issues which receive little attention elsewhere. I will remember Martin Khor with gratitude,

Dr Judith Cook

World Alliance for Breastfeeding Action

WABA remembers the life of Martin Khor Kok Peng who departed on 1 April 2020. A dedicated economist, journalist and civil society activist, Martin spent his lifetime serving public interest on issues of economics, ecology and equity.

He was a member of the UN Secretary-General's Task Force on Environment and Human Settlements since 1997. Martin was the honorary secretary of the Consumers Association of Penang, advisor to the Third World Network, council member of Sahabat Alam Malaysia and former executive director of South Centre (a group representing the interests of the 53 developing countries based in Geneva). He is best remembered for his many contributions to the poor communities in Malaysia and global social justice. His passing comes as a great loss to young activists and advocates worldwide. He will be dearly missed.

Akko Eleveid, Unitaid

Dear Yoke Ling, Sangeeta and dear Team TWN, We send our heartfelt condolences to you and the TWN team and family for the loss of Martin Khor last week. We appreciate having had the chance in 2018 to meet Martin in person in the TWN office and share a lovely dinner with you, Martin and his wife. He made a lasting impression.

Wishing you all the best dealing with this enormous loss. All the best from the Unitaid project team.

Akko

Arlene Chua and Jessica Burry, MSF

Hey, I just learned that TWN Martin Khor has passed away a few days ago. Please send my condolences to TWN. (I don't have their contact)

Best wishes

Arlene

Karin Timmermans, Unitaid

Dear Friends at TWN,

Sorry for sending my small tribute late...

Like many people all over the world, I was very sad to learn about Martin's passing.

But I also feel very privileged to have known him; he was truly one of the great thinkers of our time.

And yet he remained humble and kind.

It is perhaps that combination that made him so special.

We will all miss him - and I am sure many of us will honor him by carrying on along the path he showed.

My sincere condolences for his wife, daughter and all who were dear to him.

Karin

Sundararaman T, People's Health Movement

Dear Yoke Ling,

I write on behalf of PHM to communicate our condolences on the passing of Martin Khor and forward our tribute to Martin Khor.

His loss is an immense loss to the movement for health and human rights and would be felt by all of us. He has been a long standing friend of the PHM and many of us have had occasion to work him.

We in PHM have circulated this tribute to Martin Khor widely within our organization and our friends, so that the next generation of activists may learn of him and be inspired by his life and work.

This tribute is put up on our website- and the link is given below. Have attached a copy also.

<https://phmovement.org/phm-pays-heartfelt-tribute-to-martin-khor/>

PHM looks forward to continuing working in close partnership with TWN. In times of such great uncertainty and crisis the solidarity that the likes of Martin Khor built with people like David and Amit, must be sustained and taken forward by us. PHM looks forward to continuing working in close partnership with TWN.

With greetings

Sundar





## IV. Messages from Facebook Posts

-  **Author**  
**Khoo Salma** Tribute by Shah  
"Friends today I received the sad news that Martin Khor has just passed away. He was another one of those towering Malaysians who chose to harness his high intellect for the purpose of social activism in the pursuit of a more just an... See More  
Like · Reply · 12h · Edited   7
-  **Ismail Gareth Richards** This is very, very sad news, Salma. Martin was a very principled man and very kind, as you say. Rest in power.  
Like · Reply · 10h
-  **Dato Maimunah Mohd Sharif** Rest in Peace and condolences to Meena and family  
Like · Reply · 9h
-  **Amelia Neoh** RIP and Deepest condolences.  
Like · Reply · 10h
-  **Naziaty Yaacob** My condolences to you  
Like · Reply · 11h
-  **Ravinder Singh** Condolences to Meena. I had known and worked with him since the early days of CAP. He was such an inspiring person and worked tirelessly to make living conditions better for the ordinary person. RIP dear friend and colleague. .  
Like · Reply · 11h  1
-  **Shah Redza** We lost a great man. Rest in Peace Martin.  
Like · Reply · 10h  1
-  **Seeni A. Kadir** Condolences to Mr.Khor family.RIP Martin Sir.  
Like · Reply · 11h  1
-  **Rosna Cockrell** My condolences to his family - met him and Meena once with Andrew Cheng. Very nice man - may he Rest In Peace.  
Like · Reply · 5h
-  **Lim KokTeong** RIP, Sympathy and condolences to the family.  
Like · Reply · 9h
-  **Haji Mira** Deepest condolences to the deceased family and may God bless his soul.  
Like · Reply · 5h
-  **Lim Laurent** Rest In Peace  
TRUE PENANG SON  
Like · Reply · 11h
-  **Christine Choo** RIP. Condolences to the Khor family.  
Like · Reply · 11h
-  **Adelheid Munan** May he rest in peace!  
Like · Reply · 10h
-  **David Tih Seong Pin** Yes, Malaysia has lost a true son.  
Like · Reply · 12h
-  **Richard Ng** May his soul RIP  
Like · Reply · 13m
-  **Shahira Bazari** So very sad indeed 😞😞  
Like · Reply · 5h
-  **Esther Khew** RIP SIR  
Like · Reply · 11h
-  **Roy Thiyagu Rajan** May his soul RIP  
Like · Reply · 12h
-  **Mohamad Hydzir Noor** RIP  
Like · Reply · 12h
-  **Salina Zainol** RIP  
Like · Reply · 8h
-  **Baiti Badarudin** RIP  
Like · Reply · 2h
-  **Arthur Chin** RIP  
Like · Reply · 11h
-  **David Chua** Rip  
Like · Reply · 10h
-  **Ipoh Heritage Walk Sundra** RIP  
Like · Reply · 9h

-  **YC Chee** Condolences 🙏  
Like · Reply · 9h
-  **Kok Yip Weng** RIP  
Like · Reply · 12h
-  **محمد نور سائگين** R.I.P  
Like · Reply · 12h
-  **East Jong** RIP. Deepest Condolences to the Khor Family  
Like · Reply · 11h
-  **Somsook Boonyabancha** My condolences and tribute to Martin Khor  
May he rest in peace  
Like · Reply · 44m

### Ismail Gareth Richards

MARTIN KHOR (1951–2020)

We got news that our friend Martin Khor died today after a prolonged battle with cancer. He was 68. There have been many tributes, and I'd like to add my own. Martin perfectly embodied a principled and progressive activism that made him such a vital figure over the past four decades. His vision was grounded in local activism in the first instance, a key figure in civil society organisations such as Third World Network and the Consumers' Association Of Penang, which have been and remain in the forefront in the struggle for equity and people's rights. At the same time, Martin was a true internationalist – through his prolific writings, as the director of the South Centre in Geneva and in his roles with various UN bodies. It was in that context that I first met with and collaborated with Martin – at the Asia Europe People's Forum AEPF in London in 1998. In that forum and beyond, he brought rigour and clear-sightedness on issues such as South-South cooperation, biodiversity and sustainability, and above all advocating a people-centred globalisation that best meets the needs of the vast majority of humankind. More recently, Martin came into the bookshop from time to time, looking for new titles and stopping for a chat – always with his usual warmth and regard for others. He will be deeply missed. And we should all learn from his wisdom and carry forward the struggle, of which he was such an exemplary and inspiring figure. Rest in power, Martin. You can read some of his articles here:

<https://www.theguardian.com/profile/martin-khor>

### Khoo Salma

Penang has a lost a precious son, and the global south has lost a great champion. Martin Khor, his late father and his sister, were strongly supportive of the heritage movement. I met them around 1990, during my days with Pulau Pinang Penang magazine, and I remember Martin from the Save Penang Hill Campaign. In the last year, Martin gave his full support to Penang Tolak Tambak, and always had kind and encouraging words for us. Martin was battling with cancer for the last few years. My condolences to Meena Raman and Martin's family.

My sympathies to the larger family at TWN, SAM and CAP.

-  **Val Mashman** Thank you for this tribute...  
Like · Reply · 8h
-  **Lee Say Lor** I remember reading his columns in The Star. A great loss for Malaysia.  
Like · Reply · 7h
-  **Malachi Edwin Vethamani** Condolences  
Like · Reply · 6h
-  **Mohd Khalid Al Hanisham** RIP Sir, my condolences to his family's members.  
Like · Reply · 6h
-  **Rebecca Wilkinson** RIP  
Like · Reply · 6h
-  **Shamsul Bahari** RIP to a loving a caring person.  
Like · Reply · 5h
-  **Hoori Noorani** So sorry for your loss!  
Like · Reply · 5h
-  **Maya Khemlani David** Condolences to his family  
Like · Reply · 5h
-  **Peter Sh Cheah** Deepest Condolences to his family. RIP Martin Khor.  
Like · Reply · 5h
-  **Wan Zawawi Ibrahim** a fitting tribute Gareth...  
Like · Reply · 4h
-  **Marco Ferrarese** RIP...so many deaths...  
Like · Reply · 2h
-  **Anba Razen Thevar** Deepest condolences to the family  
Like · Reply · 2h

### Aziz Ur Rehman

Receiving the news Martin Khor' death with a heavy heart! He was an inspiration for a whole generation of academicians, civil society activists and policy makers. I remember meeting him first time in Geneva many years ago for a WTO related event organized by TWN and found him very friendly, honest and dedicated with his work. He made sure that every bit of additional time which we had during intervals should be used for new learning and capacity building. Later I met him several times and he was simply awesome and inspiring. His ability to make things simple and understandable by putting them in a broader context of development of poor nations was rare and exceptional. He introduced an altogether new and refreshing dimension in mainstream discourse of globalization, international trade and sustainable development. He was among the most pioneering practitioners of sustainable development discourse. We will miss you Martin!

### Rexy Prakash Chacko

Martin's immense contributions in championing a more just and equitable society will always be remembered. I first met Martin when Penang Forum had a meeting with YAB (at that time YB) Chow Kon Yeow in January 2017. He and his wife Meena were in attendance and that's when I found who he was. I was lucky to have known him and spoken to him. Having been part of the Save Penang Hill Campaign in the 90s, Martin was very supportive of our work in Penang Hills Watch. Through the many conversations we had, if there was one thing that Martin told me that I

will always treasure it would be this "if we destroy the environment, we destroy the economy. There is no economy without the environment."  
Rest in Peace Martin. And my prayers with Meena and the CAP, TWN, SAM family.



















-  **Keith Hockton** Nicely said Rexy  
Like · Reply · 7h
-  **Rexy Prakash Chacko** Keith Hockton thanks  
Like · Reply · 3h
-  **Philip Thomas** My heartfelt condolences. Always read his articles in TWN . Rest In Peace  
Like · Reply · 7h
-  **Rexy Prakash Chacko** <https://youtu.be/Dkao841J-C8>  
  
Like · Reply · 3h · Edited

### Meena Raman

Dear friends...it is with a heavy heart that I inform you that Martin Khor...the great love of my life, my mentor and teacher passed away peacefully after battling cancer since 2015. Will miss him dearly but will live on to carry on his great passion and vision for a better and more just world. Goodbye my love....I know you are in the comforting embrace of the Almighty.

-  **Aarathi Krishnan** My condolences. Hope you're doing okay  
Like · Reply · 19h
-  **Jagoda Munic** Oh my dear Meena, my deepest condolences. Take care and stay strong my sister  
Like · Reply · 19h
-  **Margrete Strand Rangnes** Meena - I am so sorry and sad! Sending you lots of love and hugs. He had such an amazing impact on so many of us around the world.  
Like · Reply · 19h
-  **Saradha Iyer** Dear Meena Shocked to hear this. Our sincere condolences. Stay strong. Martin was such a unique personality. His had quite charm and such firm determination. His ideological pinnings remain unmatched. None of us can do as much writing and analysis... See More  
Like · Reply · 19h
-  **Tom Kruse** we mourn together, sending waves of love  
Like · Reply · 19h
-  **Brandon Wu** So sorry Meena. For you and for all of us. He will be sorely missed  
Like · Reply · 19h
-  **Bård Lahn** Very sorry to hear this Meena - my deepest condolences. Take care!  
Like · Reply · 19h
-  **Ruth Nyambura** Meena I'm so so terribly sorry. Sending you all my love and hugs. May Martin rest in peace and power. ❤️  
Like · Reply · 19h

-  **Graham Reeder** Sending you all my love Meena. Martin will be deeply missed ❤️  
Like · Reply · 19h
-  **Marijke Torfs** Dearest Meena, what an incredible loss. I am so sorry to hear this amazing man, your wonderful husband has passed away. I will be thinking of you.  
Like · Reply · 18h
-  **Dave Hirsch** Oh Meena, I'm so sorry to hear this.  
Like · Reply · 18h
-  **Meena Raman** Thanks so much dear friends for the comforting words....he touched so many people and dared to dream the impossible  
Like · Reply · 18h
-  **Roberto Bissio** Martín has been a friend, an inspiration, a compañero without interruption since we first met in 1984 in Penang, when TWN was created. His unique combination of incisive analysis and deep political perspective made of him a very special kind of leader,... See More  
Like · Reply · 18h
-  **Shefali Sharma** Oh god, dear dear Meena. Sending you so much love! I know you have the strength and vision to carry on, but sending prayers and wishes for strength, courage and peace to you and your families. He inspired me and helped shape and form my thinking as well. As he did for so many. **Martin Khor**, may you rest peace.  
Like · Reply · 17h
-  **Claudia Salerno Caldera** He will be dearly missed beautiful Meena. May God give you the strength to endure. I hug you from the distance!!  
Like · Reply · 17h
-  **Geetha Shute** Our deepest condolences. RIP  
Like · Reply · 16h
-  **Parvathi Ramaswamy** Sorry to hear Shashi. May his soul RIP. You take care of yourself.  
Like · Reply · 16h
-  **Ahmed Ihab Gamaleldin** My deepest condolences dear Meena. I share your pain. Indeed a great loss. He will always be remembered. His legacy will remain. May he RIP  
Like · Reply · 16h
-  **Saroja Shepherdson** Hugs and kisses Meena Raman  
Like · Reply · 15h
-  **Annaka Peterson** So sorry to hear this Meena. My deepest condolences.  
Like · Reply · 15h
-  **Rajeswarie Sundram** May he rest in peace. Take care Sashi 😊  
Like · Reply · 15h
-  **Hira Jhamtani** Dear Meena as we mourn we are also praying that he will be happy where he is  
Like · Reply · 15h
-  **Hira Jhamtani** Meena be strong  
Like · Reply · 15h
-  **Ar Ramachandran** Our deepest condolences Sashi. May his soul RIP in eternal peace. Stay strong.  
Like · Reply · 15h
-  **Sunita Subbaraman** Condolences to you Sasi. 🙏🙏❤️  
Like · Reply · 14h
-  **Sudeshram Subbaraman** So sorry for your loss. 🙏  
Like · Reply · 14h
-  **Vicky Tauli-corpuz** My deepest condolences and sympathies to you Meena, Rebecca and Isabel and the whole family. Martin has done a lot for many people, including me. He has been one of the best comrades I had in my life. He has done a lot for the world. He is lucky to have you up to his last hours. It is for him to rest now and be with God.  
Like · Reply · 14h
-  **Jo Villanueva** Oh no! My deepest condolences, Meena. Prayers and hugs.  
Like · Reply · 13h

-  **Parvathy Sundram** Our Deepest condolences my dear Meena. May his soul rest in peace. Take care my dear.  
Like · Reply · 13h
-  **Sita Narayanan** Our deepest condolences. Take care. Prayers, hugs and love to you.  
Like · Reply · 13h
-  **Nobin K Chaudhury** My Deepest Condolences Sister... May His Soul Rest In Peace...  
Like · Reply · 13h
-  **Khoo Salma** You were the power couple for global consumer activism... we are all indebted to the both of you... now you have to carry on for both....my deepest condolences for your loss, **Meena Raman**  
Like · Reply · 11h
-  **Lisa Hoyos Meena**. You two together were a force of nature. My heart is with you. And of course, Martin was a brilliant warrior for justice, with a sense of playfulness that made hard work fun. Sending you love. I feel so thankful for all Martin gave the world.  
Like · Reply · 9h
-  **Sumitra Nair** We will deeply cherish Martin's witty and warm presence in our lives.  
Like · Reply · 9h
-  **Saraswathy Narayanan** So sorry to hear of your loss. My deepest condolences.  
Like · Reply · 9h
-  **Padmavathy Ponnaran** Our deepest condolences to you Meena  
Like · Reply · 8h
-  **Hartmut Meyer** Meena, my thoughts are with you, wishing you strength and confidence for continuing your way! Martin was a great inspiration for us, we keep him in our hearts.  
Like · Reply · 8h
-  **Rema Nambiar** My deepest condolences to you. Take care  
Like · Reply · 7h
-  **Lin Lee Loh-Lim** God always takes the best to be with him. And Martin stood high up there  
Like · Reply · 5h
-  **Cesar Aponte** Mi abrazo solidario. El sur ha perdido un valioso combatiente.  
Like · Reply · See Translation · 2h
-  **Xiaohua Zhang** Dear Meena, so sorry to hear that. My deepest condolences. Wish him Rest In Peace. Stay safe and strong 🙏🙏  
Like · Reply · 2h
-  **Shiraz Yasmine Ali** RIP  
Like · Reply · 9h
-  **Bilal Adel** Sorry for that  
Like · Reply · 9h
-  **YR Landung Laksono** Simatupang RIP  
Like · Reply · 9h
-  **Boon Hooi** Deepest condolences to his families  
Like · Reply · 9h
-  **Ravi Raman** RIP  
Like · Reply · 9h
-  **Dennis Chua Eow Seong** RIP dr Martin Khor. A great Malaysian human rights activist and humanitarian together with anwar fazal  
Like · Reply · 9h
-  **Yin Shao Loong** Thank you for this, Pauline. Let us honour him as he would have hoped, through action.  
Like · Reply · 8h

## Ng Seksan

farewell martin khor

## Shah Faiez

Friends today I received the sad news that Martin Khor has just passed away. He was a towering Malaysian who chose to harness his high intellect for the purpose of social activism in the pursuit of a more just and equitable society. Many of us will remember him for his eloquence of speech and writing when exposing the hypocrisy of the West in their trade negotiations and environmental policies. He had the ability of taking apart the abstract language of international policy, made necessarily opaque to eschew transparency, and articulate them in a way the public could understand. A way that helped empower the public with knowledge so that citizens could organize themselves to fight against the nefarious powers of the global elite. I have seen him do this brilliantly since the negotiations for the Earth Summit in 1992 until the recent negotiations of the TPPA and its variants. But, for many of us here, he was also a mentor - a man who always made time to explain to us the latest mutative tricks of the virus of capitalism and who was always willing to contribute. Martin, just like his mentor S.M. Idris before this, are from a generation of Malaysian activists who dedicated their lives towards critiquing and therefore influencing the way globalization reshaped Malaysia and many parts of the developing world. A reshaping that often gave the weaker countries agency in determining their own destiny. You will be missed, Martin.

## Wong Chen

My deepest condolences to the family and friends of Martin Khor. I met Martin, together with Sanya Reid on several occasions during the Trans Pacific Partnership years of 2014 and 2015. He was an intellectual, lived a simple lifestyle, dedicated to fight global inequality. May his soul rest in peace.



## Deborah James

Despondent. Crestfallen. Bereft. I cannot find strong enough words to express how overwhelmingly sad I feel today, having learned that the most inspiring, brilliant, strategic, kind, and committed social and economic justice and anti-colonialist warrior I have ever known, who is politically my north star, and who has inspired and energized and guided my political work (and that of thousands of others), has passed early this morning. Martin Khor, former director of TWN and the South Centre, co-founder of Our World Is Not for Sale (OWINFS) global network, presente! I was supposed to finally visit you, Martin and Meena, in Malaysia just a few weeks back; but alas. My deepest condolences to Meena and the entire TWN family. We will continue your legacy on the WTO, on health justice, on climate change, on so many other issues. A way-too-short description of his life here:

<https://www.thestar.com.my/.../former-third-world-network-dir...>



90

30 Comments 7 Shares

**Hassan Sherry** He will surely live in our hearts and in the fond memories of the many people he inspired. 1  
Like · Reply · 4h

**Sonja de Vries** Oh. So sad. Did not know him personally, just from his work. Much love to you. 1  
Like · Reply · 4h

**Khamati Mugalla** My condolences. I really looked forward to reading his work in the TWN publications 1  
Like · Reply · 4h

**Ranja Sengupta** Simply unimaginable! 2  
Like · Reply · 4h

**Rita Olga Martinez** I am so sorry. Extending my condolence to the family and close friend! 1  
Like · Reply · 3h

**Kobsak Chutikul**



1  
Like · Reply · 3h

**JoEllen Chernow** What a loss! Sending you love. 1  
Like · Reply · 3h

**Africa Kiiza Bingweera** Deborah James the loss is really unbearable. However we take comfort in the fact that he has left a solid generation of progressive intellectuals who will carry on the work. 3  
Like · Reply · 3h

**Rasigan Maharajh** condolences, ... 1  
Like · Reply · 3h

**Michael F. Dolan** RIP Martin Khor, you taught us how to monkey-wrench supranational institutions and multilateral deals. We'll always have Seattle 99. 6  
Like · Reply · 3h

**Ron Carver** What a tremendous loss. Sorry for you and all of us. 1  
Like · Reply · 3h

**Eric LeCompte** He is missed. 2  
Like · Reply · 3h

**Timi Gerson** I'm so sad about this. 2  
Like · Reply · 2h

**Mariam Mayet** wonderful memories Deborah James 1  
Like · Reply · 2h

**Patricia Abdelnour** So sorry to read this news Deborah James mia. Mucha fortaleza. 1  
Like · Reply · 2h

**Rick Rowden** Martin was an amazing bright shining light for all of us! 1  
Like · Reply · 2h

**Mike Waghorne** So sorry to hear this. In 1996 we started out on opposite sides of the fence on union issues but moved towards working together eventually. Martin will be missed by many people and groups. 2  
Like · Reply · 2h

**Yeshica Weerasekera** Yes, truly sad to hear this news. He was on the board of IFG when I was there. An inspiration to many of us from the Global South and elsewhere. My heart goes out to Meera. A devastating loss for the world and all of us who had the honor to work with him. 1  
Like · Reply · 1h

**Tom Pratt** What a tremendous loss so sorry 1  
Like · Reply · 1h

**Rezaul Karim Chowdhury** We missed our comrade and our teacher too... 1  
Like · Reply · 1h

**Isolda Agazzi** RIP Martin 1  
Like · Reply · 1h

**Jo Anna Malcolm** Cardinale Sorry cuz for your loss. Prayers to you. I love you. 1  
Like · Reply · 1h

**Butch Montes** Thanks, Deborah. Here's a picture in one of the CAPORDE (Cambridge Advanced Program on Rethinking Development Economics) session that Ha-Joon Chang organized every summer when I was at the Ford Foundation. Picture is by Bonn Juego who is in the photo. Christopher Harris



**Suzanne York** Taken too soon. RIP Martin. I have many nice memories of IFG board meetings and events with him. 1  
Like · Reply · 41m

**Iara Pietricovsky** Yes, we are all sad. 1  
Like · Reply · 19m

**Heidi Lundeberg** Oh no. Martin was such an inspiration for all of us. I feel like an important part of our tree disappeared. Big hug to you Deborah 1  
Like · Reply · 14m

**Gauri Pradhan** Extremely sad news! Rest in peace Martin. We will never forget you and your contribution to the fight for a just world. 1

**Jose Julian Elizondo Guerra** Deborah James, a big hug in solidarity 1  
Like · Reply · 9m

**Bahman Zenhari** Stay safe Deborah. 1  
Like · Reply · 7m

**Nadine Bloch** rest in power Martin. big hugs Deborah xoxoxo 1  
Like · Reply · 5m

**Sucitta Savaka** 1  
Like · Reply · 3h

**Albert Khoo** May you rest in peace Sir! Is a great lost to all of us! Thank you to all your contribution! 1  
Like · Reply · 3h

## Arul

Dr, Martin Khor (1951-2020) passed away today 12.30am, founder of Third World Network and South Centre, Writer in Star paper, played a key role to fight the TPPA, was advising the Bantah TPPA movement and before that No to USFTA coalition that PSM was a part of since 2006. He was also called in to present his views on TPPA by Najib. A good friend and a mentor to the movement. Executive Director of the South Centre (an intergovernmental organisation of developing countries based in Geneva, Switzerland) since 1 March 2009. Mr. Khor is also a journalist, economist and the former

Director of the Third World Network which is based in Penang, Malaysia.














He is active in the civil society movement. He has attended the World Social Forum (WSF 2003, 2002), European social forum (2004)[1] and in 1999 and 2000, the World Economic Forum (WEF) in Davos.

He is also a member of the UN Secretary-General's Task Force on Environment and Human Settlements since 1997, and a member of the Ministry of International Trade and Industry's National Committee on Multilateral Trade Issues in Malaysia.[2] He has been Vice-Chair of the Working Group of Experts on the Right to Development under the UN Commission on Human Rights.[3]

He took part in the Helsinki Process on Globalisation and Democracy.[4]

Khor currently sits on the board of directors of the International Forum on Globalization.[5]

Khor has been a columnist for The Star since 1978

-  **Farooq Tariq** Our condolences ...  
Like · Reply · 11h
-  **Bah Tony W Hunt** RIP.. Condolences to his loved ones..  
Like · Reply · 8h
-  **Syed Shahir Syed Mohamud** Our condolences  
Like · Reply · 11h
-  **Dennis Chua Eow Seong** RIP Dr Khor. A great Malaysian.  
Like · Reply · 11h
-  **Paul Sinnappan** May his soul rest in peace  
Like · Reply · 9h
-  **SJ Zapa** May he rest in peace  
Like · Reply · 10h
-  **Oviyah Viji** Rest in peace  
Like · Reply · 10h
-  **Ronnie Liu Tian Khiew** Rest in peace  
Like · Reply · 11h
-  **John Fernandez** Rip god bless !  
Like · Reply · 11h
-  **Julie Pang** May he rest in peace  
Like · Reply · 10h
-  **Luke Chong Voon** May he rest in peace. I got to know this friendly Penangite back in the 70s when he was involved in environmental issues. Humble warm and friendly gentleman.  
Like · Reply · 2h
-  **Sugu Psm** Condolences  
Like · Reply · 52m
-  **Syed Harun Syed** R.I.P.  
Like · Reply · 10h
-  **Sheila Devaraj** Rip  
Like · Reply · 10h
-  **Jeya Raj** rip  
Like · Reply · 11h
-  **Ragunath Kesavan** 🙏 RIP  
Like · Reply · 11h
-  **Shakthi Siva** Condolences.  
Like · Reply · 7h
-  **Mike DS Lim** RIP  
Like · Reply · 11h
-  **Joachim Thayalan**



Like · Reply · 8h

-  **Andrew Gopal** RIP sir.  
Like · Reply · 10h

**Lingam Supramaniam** deepest condolences  
Like · Reply · 10h

**Tony Tan** A life well lived  
Like · Reply · 5h

**Pushpa Raman** RIP  
Like · Reply · 11h

**Tan Ah Huat** RIP  
Like · Reply · 10h

**Emmanuel Chang Lin Coln** #Rip  
Like · Reply · 11h

**Slinkes Rao** RIP sir.  
Like · Reply · 10h

**祝家华** Rip  
Like · Reply · 7h

**Gina Voorar**



Like · Reply · 11h

### Brandon Wu

Rest in power Martin and hugs to Meena and the countless others affected by his passing. (Rest autocorrected to "Resist" and that would be equally appropriate.)

Martin was a mentor for so many global justice activists in both the Global North and South. Of course he isn't a household name here in the US, but perhaps he should be. His leadership with Third World Network and Consumers Association of Penang was pioneering in demanding a global economic order that was more just for developing countries and the world's poor. He spoke with a quiet moral authority that was impossible to ignore (even or especially if you happened to disagree with him on something). We'll miss him terribly in the climate justice movement.

I'm sure more tributes will be written that do justice to his legacy, but here's the basic news story for now.

**Mary Bottari** A complete shock to me. What a loss at a time we need him most. We will walk in his foot steps as we are challenged to build a world economy from the ashes. Another world is possible.  
Like · Reply · 11h · Edited

**Morten Walloe Tvedt** Peacefull passing great warrior  
Like · Reply · 7h

**Kristen Hite** ❤️ Resist in power ❤️  
Like · Reply · 5h

### Ginie Lim

Last year we lost SM Mohamed Idris, someone you called the "true champion of the rakyat's interests and of the environment". And today, sadly we lost you. Thank you for all the works you have done to highlight the plight of those living in poverty and on the margins of the global economy. This shall continue to inspire many more in the country and around the world. Rest in peace.

### Kannikar Kijtiwatchakul

Martin Khor

ถือเป็นครูโลกาภิวัตน์คนแรกๆที่ทำให้เข้าใจธรรมชาติและอิทธิพลของบริษัทข้ามชาติที่กำลังเคลื่อนโลก

เวลานั่งฟังการประชุมระดับโลกด้วยกัน Martin

จะอธิบายเส้นสนกลในเพื่อให้เข้าใจเหตุการณ์ตรงหน้าให้ลุ่มลึกมากยิ่งขึ้นเสมอ ด้วยพื้นฐานที่เป็นสื่อมวลชน

คำอธิบายของเขาจะเรียบง่ายและตรงประเด็นด้วยสำเนียงอังกฤษปีนังแบบลุงใจดี

จำได้แม่นยำในความทรงจำ

ครั้งที่ประเทศไทยประกาศบังคับใช้สิทธิ (CL) มกราคม 2550 Margaret Chan

ผู้อำนวยการองค์การอนามัยโลกในขณะนั้นมาร่วมประชุมรางวัลทุนเจ้าฟ้ามหิดลที่กรุงเทพฯ

ให้สัมภาษณ์ด้วยน้ำเสียงตำหนิระหว่างบรรทัดว่า ก่อนประกาศ

CL ประเทศไทยควรหารือกับบริษัทยา ก่อน

และควรใช้กลไกนี้เป็นกลไกสุดท้าย

ทำให้ภาคประชาสังคมไทยต้องจัดแถลงข่าวให้การศึกษาและข้อมูลที่ต้องแก่ผู้อำนวยการ WHO

ศิษย์แมนคนสำคัญด้านทรัพย์สินทางปัญญาและการเข้าถึงยาทุกคนมาร่วมแถลงข่าวกันพร้อมหน้า หนึ่งในนั้นคือ Martin Khor

ที่บอกว่า ผู้อำนวยการ WHO

น่าจะรู้กลไกทางกฎหมายนี้เป็นอย่างดี

และควรไปศึกษาให้ดีแล้วจะรู้ว่า

ประเทศไทยทำถูกต้องทุกประการ

RIP Thanks for everything

#MartinKhorKokPeng

Martin Khor is the first world teacher to understand the nature and influence of the cuddle international corporations that is moving the world. While listening to the global conference together. Martin will always explain the pine line to understand the events in front of you. The Basics of the press, His description will be simple and on point with a British accent climbing cuddle like a kind uncle.

Remember accurately in the memory of Thailand announced the rights (CL) January 2550 Margaret Chan, director of the world health organization. at that time, attended the mahidol capital award meeting in Bangkok to interview with a blaming between the line before announcing cl Thailand. Should discuss with pharmaceutical companies first and should use this mechanism as the final mechanism. The Thai society has to provide a press conference for education and accurate information to director who keyman, an important person in intellectual property and access to all medicines. Let's Press Conference. One of them is Martin Khor who says director who should know the least this legal mechanism and should study well to know that Thailand is doing everything right.

RIP Thanks for everything  
#MartinKhorKokPeng

### Mageswari Sangaralingam

Martin Khor was the honorary secretary and research director of the Consumers Association of Penang (CAP), council member of Friends of the Earth Malaysia and advisor to the Third World Network (TWN). Rest in Peace, Martin.

### Michael Khor

My brother Martin passed away peacefully early this morning. He was much loved and will live on in my heart and in my happy memories always. During his life he brought his considerable intellect onto the world stage selflessly to resolve the inequities between countries and within countries, between the haves and have nots. He had great passion and idealism and dedicated his life to champion the needs of the developing world. He embodied the best of us!

**OBITUARY**

*"Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me." Psalm 23*



**MARTIN KHOR KOK PENG**  
1951-2020

Economist, Environmentalist, Consumer Advocate, Writer,  
Educator, Global Citizen, Third World Network Chair  
Passed away peacefully in Penang, Malaysia on April 1st, 2020  
*Much loved and dearly missed by*

**Spouse:** Meenakshi Raman  
**Daughter:** Dr Rebecca Khor Keng Li (from previous marriage to Evelyn Hong)  
**Son-in-law:** Dr Robin Wesley Ho  
**Grandchildren:** Isabel Zhu En Ho & Nathaniel Tian Ci Ho  
**Siblings:** Dato' Dr. Michael Khor Kok Seng,  
Lawrence Khor Kok Cheng,  
Christine Khor Seek Kee,  
David Khor Kok Kheng,  
Jeffrey Khor Kok Wah  
**Caregiver:** Rosemalyn Espanola  
And other relatives and friends

**Funeral from the Mt. Erskine Funeral Parlour on Thursday April 2nd, 2020.**  
**Funeral Service at 10.30am.** Thereafter cortege will leave for  
**Mount Erskine Crematorium at 11.00am.**

**In remembrance of Martin's life and work, a Memorial event will be held at a date and venue to be announced later.** The family requests no wreaths. Donations in honour of Martin can be made to two organisations very close to him: Consumers Association of Penang, CIMB Bank Account No. 7020582991 and to Sahabat Alam Malaysia, CIMB Bank Account No. 7020585730.

For inquiries, please contact  
**Lawrence at 012-9688378 or Rebecca at 012-4051134 or Meena 012-4300042**

-  **Zaleha Samsudin** My deepest condolence to you and family dato Michael Khor  
Like · Reply · 2h · Edited
-  **Sergio Villenguez** My heartfelt condolences Dato Dr Michael Khor  
Like · Reply · 2h
-  **Michelle Goh** With Deepest Sympathy....May His Soul Rest in Peace.....  
Like · Reply · 1h
-  **J-ason Y-ong** Sincere condolences to you and your grieving family Dr Michael. From the Yong household  
Like · Reply · 1h
-  **Elycia Ong** May his soul rest in peace... Deepest Condolences  
Like · Reply · 1h
-  **Neeltje Chin** Our heartfelt condolences and deepest sympathy for such a great loss. Stay strong Khor family. From Sam and Neel Chin  
Like · Reply · 1h
-  **Seng-Lee Teoh** Condolences Michael 🙏  
Like · Reply · 1h
-  **Thomas Khor** Rest In Power 3chek 🙏  
Like · Reply · 1h
-  **Terri Smith** Sending thoughts to you all x  
Like · Reply · 1h
-  **Small Wind** My deepest condolences to you and your family. Take care.  
Like · Reply · 1h
-  **Annie Chin** Our Deepest Condolences to the Family. 🙏🙏  
Like · Reply · 1h
-  **Marwan Bitti** My condolences to you Rebecca Khor and to Robin May his soul rest in peace  
Like · Reply · 1h
-  **Angel Koh** My deepest condolences to you and the family, Uncle Michael.  
Like · Reply · 1h
-  **Christina Leong** So very sorry for your loss Becky, you're in my thoughts and prayers. Rebecca Khor  
Like · Reply · 1h
-  **Denise Lamb** Sincere condolences to you and all the family Michael.  
Like · Reply · 1h
-  **Richard Gunn** Condolences to the Khors! RIP Uncle Kok Peng.  
Like · Reply · 1h
-  **Holly Harrison** So sorry to hear this Rebecca, lots of love xx  
Like · Reply · 1h
-  **Frederique Walker-Buschman** Our deepest condolences 🙏🙏  
Like · Reply · 1h
-  **Rebecca Goldsmith** Sincere condolences Rebecca Khor and Robin xx  
Like · Reply · 1h
-  **Carol Choy** Oh Becky big hugs .. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. Wishing you and your dad peace and strength. Please let me know what I can do, even if from UK  
Like · Reply · 1h
-  **Ling Siah Teh** My deepest condolences...  
Like · Reply · 1h
-  **Gee Teo** My deepest condolences to you and family... please take care 🙏  
Like · Reply · 1h



-  **Linda Waty** Deep condolences to you and your family, dr. Michael Khor.  
Like · Reply · 1h
-  **Carl Tan** My deepest condolences to the family.  
Like · Reply · 1h
-  **Mohamad Samy** Sincere condolences Rebecca. Feeling for you  
Like · Reply · 1h
-  **Natalie Marcel** Deepest condolences to you and your family Becky  
Like · Reply · 1h
-  **Soo Lim Tay** Our deepest condolences you and everyone in the Family  
Like · Reply · 1h
-  **Jeff Yeong** Deepest condolences to you and your family  
Like · Reply · 1h
-  **Nicky Ooi** My deepest condolences...  
Like · Reply · 1h
-  **Beatrix Teo** All my condolences to you and your family  
Like · Reply · 1h
-  **Anne Loh** Deepest Condolence to the family  
Like · Reply · 58m
-  **Kean Jin** My deepest condolences...  
Like · Reply · 56m
-  **Jaime Lim** Sorry for your loss of your beloved brother. May his soul rest in peace  
Like · Reply · 48m
-  **Rosie Khoo** Our Deepest condolences to you n family.  
Like · Reply · 45m
-  **Amit Zaveri** Sincerest condolences to you and family 🙏🙏  
Like · Reply · 44m
-  **Michelle Anne Sjoekoer** My deepest condolences...  
Like · Reply · 44m
-  **Sere Pala** My deepest condolences Datuk on the demiss of your brother  
Like · Reply · 43m
-  **Ng Kok Leng** Our deepest condolences to you and family. Pls take care 🙏  
Like · Reply · 41m
-  **Sg Lim** Deepest condolences to you and your family  
Like · Reply · 39m
-  **Saadia Shah** Dear Rebecca Khor, so sorry for your loss. Hugs xx  
Like · Reply · 30m
-  **Jackie Walker** Sorry to hear this sad news thinking of you and your family xx  
Like · Reply · 27m
-  **Ching Bee** My deepest condolences to you and family, Dato. May his soul Rest In Peace 🙏....take care  
Like · Reply · 20m
-  **Lee Chee Ping** Rebecca Khor my heartfelt condolences to you and your family. Please stay strong  
Like · Reply · 12m
-  **Tyng Tan-Teo** My sincere condolences, Rebecca Khor.  
Like · Reply · 3m

-  **Philip Vincent Lazaroo** RIP in the LORD's abode ...  
Like · Reply · 9h
-  **Rose Ooi** May his soul Rest InPeace  
Like · Reply · 9h
-  **Stan Sparks** rip  
Like · Reply · 9h
-  **Jacinta Madrigal** Rip  
Like · Reply · 9h
-  **Jean Lim** RIP  
Like · Reply · 9h
-  **Alphonsa Maclean** May his soul Rest in Peace  
Like · Reply · 9h
-  **Helen Soo** RIP  
Like · Reply · 8h
-  **John Heah** Very sad to hear this. A great loss to the deprived and oppressed. RIP.  
Like · Reply · 8h
-  **Helen Lim** Rest in peace  
Like · Reply · 8h
-  **Gim Suan Yeoh** RIP  
Like · Reply · 7h
-  **Marc Mitchell Yeo** RIP  
Like · Reply · 7h
-  **Pauline Dominic Nair** A great man! May his soul rest in God his creator!  
Like · Reply · 7h
-  **Christine Khoo** May his soul rest in peace..  
Like · Reply · 7h
-  **Bernardine Wong** May his soul rest in peace.  
Like · Reply · 7h
-  **Susan Toh** May his soul Rest In Peace. Martin Khor came from a well known intellectual Penang family.  
Like · Reply · 7h
-  **Linda Raj Chacko** RIP  
Like · Reply · 7h
-  **Theresa Lewis** Rip  
Like · Reply · 7h
-  **DorisHo GeokSwee** May his soul rest in peace.  
Like · Reply · 7h
-  **Yvonne Rasen** May his soul Rest in Peace. Condolences to the family.  
Like · Reply · 7h
-  **Georgia Helen Dsiken** Mqy his soul rest in peace  
Like · Reply · 6h
-  **Margaret Boey** May his soul rest in peace!  
Like · Reply · 6h
-  **Lucy Claire JB** RIP  
Like · Reply · 6h
-  **Elizabeth Yam** Rest in peace...  
Like · Reply · 6h
-  **Lucy Wong** Rest in peace  
Like · Reply · 5h
-  **Khoo Hooi Bin** RIP.  
Like · Reply · 5h
-  **Teresa Chan** May his soul rest in peace. His mum was my Form 4 and 5 History teacher at Convent Light Street.  
Like · Reply · 4h
-  **Lucy Moon** Rip  
Like · Reply · 4h

-  **Constance Westwood** May he rest in peace, condolences to his grieving family 🙏🙏🙏  
Like · Reply · 4h
-  **Sheila Victor Sinniah** May His Soul Rest in Peace 🙏🙏🙏  
Like · Reply · 3h
-  **Pathinathan K** May his soul R. I. P.  
Like · Reply · 2h
-  **Cecilia Chin** Rip  
Like · Reply · 1h
-  **John Patrick Antonysamy** May his soul rest in peace 🙏  
Like · Reply · 1h
-  **Martina Khoo** May his soul rest in peace 🙏  
Like · Reply · 1h
-  **Geraldine Goh** RIP  
Like · Reply · 1h
-  **Anne Martin** May his soul rest in peace!  
Like · Reply · 12m

### Tian Chua

Tribute to Dr Martin Khor Kok Peng who had dedicated his career as the voice for powerless consumers, environment victims & third world countries. Dr Martin Khor was among the pioneer NGO advocate in Malaysia when civil society activism was not considered mainstream. He and other activists started a movement which later inspired many NGOs to follow suit. Dr Martin was active in many international platforms to advance the cause for a fairer global economic order. He left behind voluminous works covering a wide range of topics. Activists & friends around world will miss you, however your shining intellectuality will always be remembered. RIP

### Tushar Chakraborty

Martin Khor, famous political economist and journalist, Exe Director of the South Centre, and former Exe Director of Third World Network passed away today. He was suffering from cancer for sometime. He was a stalwart in building resistance against MNC corporate plundering of developing countries in south, in the name of globalization. It is a great loss for all of us, who are trying to boost people's struggle and capacity building against monopoly capitalism and exploitative technology in particular. He was a strong supporter of anti GMO movement in south. That is how I came to know him. Final salute to this hero, and condolence!

### George Town Literary Festival

We are deeply struck by the passing of Martin Khor. Martin contributed so much to society over the years with his bright mind and fiery spirit. Today, he's one of the world's most respected thinkers in the field of human rights and development; Martin's impressive track record included leading renowned global organisations such as the South Centre in Geneva, as well as the Third World Network. A close friend of the late activist SM Idris who passed away last year, Martin was a key figure in Penang's civil

rights movement. Our heartfelt condolences to his family.

-  **Regina Ibrahim** May he rest in peace. Amin  
Like · Reply · 8h
-  **Chan Jin Kooi** Oh no! RIP Martin.  
Like · Reply · 12h
-  **Fauziah Ali** RIP Martin  
Like · Reply · 11h
-  **David Tih Seong Pin** Amitufo  
Like · Reply · 5h
-  **YS Chee** RIP 🙏🙏🙏  
Like · Reply · 12h
-  **Maryam Wong Elder** Penang have lost a precious son and champion. RIP.  
Like · Reply · 11h

### The Galen Centre for Health & Social Policy

The Galen Centre for Health & Social Policy would like to extend our sincere condolences to the family of Dr. Martin Khor who passed away today in Penang. Dr. Martin Khor Kok Peng was the Executive Director of the South Centre, based in Switzerland. He was an economist trained at Cambridge University and University Sains Malaysia. He was Director of the Third World Network and the Research Director of the Consumers' Association of Penang, and a lecturer at University Sains Malaysia. He is the author of several books and articles on economics, sustainable development, globalisation, trade and intellectual property. He was formerly a member of the UN Committee on Development Policy, the UN Secretary General's Task Force on Environment and Development and a Vice Chair of the Expert Group on the Right to Development of the UN Human Rights Commission.

He was a fierce advocate in helping developing countries address issues of health and access to medicines, climate change, food security, trade and investment policies. His contributions to society and intellect will be missed.

### Sim Tze Tzin

Received sad news that Martin Khor passed away this morning. Martin was an economist, a thinker and an advocate for the poor and a fairer world. He is also a friend. We will miss a conscientious voice in Malaysia's public sphere. May he rest in peace.

### George Yeo

Martin Khor (1951-2020), friend and teacher, RIP. He was a light which would not be extinguished even in wind and rain; a light that will continue to instruct and inspire us; to be fearless in thought and to persist in what is right and good.



**Toh Han Shih** Wasn't Martin Khor a Malaysian activist ?

Like · Reply · 11h



**Bobby Yee** R I P ...

Like · Reply · 11h



**Yeo K KH** We have lost one of the great Malaysians during this difficult period of time....

Like · Reply · 11h



**Jennifer Yeo** RIP dear Martin

Like · Reply · 10h



**Joannes Lee** RIP 🙏

Like · Reply · 10h



**Eliz Tan**



Like · Reply · 7h



**Wolfgang Sachsenroeder** RIP old friend

Like · Reply · 6h



**Vicky Tauli-corpuz**

3 hrs · 🌐

A picture with **Martin Khor** and anti-globalization friends.



**Deborah James** is with **Martin Khor** and 2 others.

4 hrs · 🌐

After an event in Washington, DC on climate change, February 2010.

### Peter Dwyer

Oh that is such a huge loss. I had known of and admired his work since the early 1990s when I read an article by him, I think, in the Straights Times. He was speaking out at a time when it was much more difficult to do so in Malaysia. He remained a consistent critic of capitalism in that and other parts of the global south. My condolences to his personal and extended political family around the world.

### Mohiuddin Ahmad

My deepest condolence. I used to know him since 1984 and since then has been associated with TWN. We were very good friends and through him, I came to know many distinguished environmental activists all around the world. I was fond of his articulation. Last time I met him in 2011 in Istanbul at LDC-IV conference in 2011. With his demise a legacy ends.

### 350.org South Asia

We are deeply saddened by the news of Martin Khor's demise. Our condolences to the Third World Network community and the family of Martin Khor. An ardent advocate for the downtrodden and a voice for the global south community in international circles, Martin Khor's work will continue to inspire us in our work for global climate justice.

### Sawo Centre

Rip martin. We will miss you. Tq for all that u've done for society.

### Khamati Mugalla

I enjoy reading his work. My condolences to the TWN family.

### Tan Kim Hong

My deepest condolences to the Khor family and TWN. RIP.

Dear Meenah and all friends in TWN, My deepest condolences in the passing away of Martin Khor. He was an important voice on WTO and climate change that we will miss sorely. **Sarojeni Rengam**, PANAP

### Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung - East Africa

Fare thee well Martin Khor

### Glenn Farred

A great and inspiring mind...

### Anjali Appadurai

The world lost Martin Khor this week. He was a role model to me and many others, and a beacon of light for the global justice movement. As a student and young person, I heard tale after tale of justice battles and important victories that Martin had a hand in shaping. He was a key player in the original anti-globalization movement, seeing through the smoke and mirrors of neoliberal capitalism and working relentlessly for justice for the developing world. He was also a lifelong champion for Global South solidarity and climate justice.

Martin's legacy is unbelievably rich, and I don't even know most of the story. I do know that he was kind, generous, fair, and dryly hilarious. That he would apply the same principles of justice at the global systemic level as he would to each meeting or gathering. Though he was the most senior in the room, he would intentionally make space for us young people to have a say. For this and many other reasons, I had the highest respect for Martin. Though I didn't have a chance to spend much time with him, I always felt that Martin was a guiding star that I could make my way towards, even when I felt that my work was confusing or hopeless. A wise elder who understood where we came from and where we are headed. He is now all the more that guiding star for myself and countless others. Rest in peace and power, Martin. We hold you in the highest light. 🌟❤️🇮🇩 I remember this day with love, Martin always with his beloved Meena Raman, who continues to be a champion for justice and role model for myself and many others.



Parvathy Sundram

The family will miss you Martin.. Thank you for your generous contribution towards the society. God bless you always

Jens Wieting

Sending you positive energy in this time of loss. Thank you for the moving tribute. I learned a lot about the risks of globalization reading one of his first books.

Anonymous

Third Worldist is a befitting title to remember him. Some 30 odd years ago Martin Khor blazed a trail that not many others would have ventured on.

Anonymous

He wore so many hats, activist in consumer affairs and rights, journalist writing on the environment and development issues and rights, so so very Third World in his approach, thinking and vision that he influenced so many thinkers in the First World with his ideas.

Bhargavi Nagaraja

Today as world orders churn and change with more speed than vision the Third Worldist debates desperately need his vision and ideas to take new form..Your ideas will surely rise and converge now....Martin Khor RIP!

Anonymous

The entire body of Malaysian economist Martin Khor's work argued in favour of structural solutions to inequality. "the poor do not need charity, they need us to tackle the structural causes that give rise to this sinful situation we have today"

Nash Tysmans

Painful to lose him to cancer in this period of Covid19 but good to review his work and be inspired by it in this moment that requires us to have a radical imagination in the face of current crises. Please watch him utter these words in his own voice. Rest in power.

Tahir Mehdi

Sad news, indeed. He was a great person. May he rest in peace.

Tahir Hasnain

Very sad news indeed. Martin will be missed for times to come. I pray the departed soul rest in peace

Sadiq Qureshi

Qualities of great personalities

Pei Chin Wong 佩君

Read some of his writing before. Found his thought quite profound. His dead leave some emptiness to our society. Rest in peace ...

James English

He will be remembered

Adrian Yeo

He was one of the reason I invested so much effort to build the capacity of youth Malaysian Youth Delegation #MYD, in order to access and understand the UNFCCC system. A towering Malaysian that influenced the world, guided the developing parties and feared among the developed negotiators. My condolences to family and colleagues. #RestInPower dear Sir Martin Khor

Caméron Kang

Another senior comrade had left us. His legacy and vision carry on with the new generation of activists.

Anonymous

Martin Khor 1951-2020: A Start

Soon I will sit and start writing my tributes to Martin. I know it will go on for the rest of my life – he was one of my greatest teachers.

I'll begin with Martin's recent honoring of one of his great teachers. On May 17, 2019, SM Mohamed Idris died at age 93. Martin wrote a beautiful tribute, in his inimitable style: relentlessly clear, comprehensive yet attentive to detail, and inflected with his humor and joy. Behind each sentence there are entire volumes of story, struggle, and history that could be told.

In Martin's tribute to Mr Idris there is so much that will be in my tribute to Martin. Makes sense. These throughlines reveal the great rivers of wisdom, connection, and shared work that we too can be a part

of, however modestly. Martin sent me this image of the Great Tree, which accompanied his tribute in The Star.



Liyana Marzuki

A tribute to Martin Khor (1951-2020)

This is an untold story of an unsung Malaysian hero. I met Mr. Martin Khor in November 2018, on the instruction of my Minister YB Datuk Darell Leiking. It is common for Minister Darell to instruct his officers to engage with various stakeholders and individuals to gather inputs on national policy. Back then, we were heavily involved in the negotiation of Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) on behalf of Malaysia. Hence, the Minister told us that it is crucial to gather inputs from the relevant stakeholders, be it from the neoliberalist or “far-left” economist, as Martin was being assumed to be the latter by some. I knew for a fact he was a Cambridge trained economist. That he was the key person who was referred to by many top civil servants in negotiating trade and climate change agreements. He championed the relationship between civil societies and government bodies to negotiate the terms of WTO. He had the ears of our then Prime Minister, Tun Mahathir Mohamad. The first time I met him, I was prepared to meet a highly intellectual scholar who I assumed would articulate economic language beyond my comprehension. Instead, I met a super humble “Uncle from Penang” who gave real life examples and simple explanations on super complicated economic principles. No complicated jargons, no sophisticated theories, to make me understand the economic issues in Malaysia. Since that first meeting, we actually became friends. He would send various economic and trade related books and articles for me to read. He told me the only way for us to improve ourselves is by becoming a ferocious reader. Truth be told, because of him I read more economic and trade related books, as compared to the number of law books I read when I was in law school. Then came to the point when Martin helped us in giving inputs for RCEP. Being the former executive director of the South Center based in Geneva (he replaced a colleague named Manmohan Singh who went on to

become the Prime Minister of India!) Martin had always championed the interest of developing countries. In the context of RCEP, the provision of Investor-State Dispute Settlement (ISDS) was viewed as a disadvantage to developing countries. Martin had tried to push the notion to the previous administration but unfortunately the provision was already agreed upon by the Parties and was embedded in the text.

Upon listening to Martin’s argument and further engagements with various stakeholders, YB Darell decided that Malaysia should vote against the provision of ISDS. He escalated the proposal to the Cabinet and it was eventually approved. Then came the difficulty to challenge the decision made earlier by various members countries as ISDS was made part of the agreed text. Tribute to the wisdom and the good diplomacy of YB Darell, he engaged with each and every State leader in the negotiation and convinced them to change their positions. With that, Malaysia became the leader in suspending the provision of ISDS from RCEP. Even developed countries such as Australia, New Zealand and Japan concurred with Malaysia’s position. It was a remarkable achievement for our negotiating team. This couldn’t be done without the able hands and help from Martin and his team.

The most impactful conversation I had with Martin was on Bumiputera rights. He asked me to champion the need-based policy without abandoning the rights of Bumiputera in claiming equality in economy. I asked him why was that his position, being a non-Bumiputera himself. He said it goes beyond politics, it goes beyond economic interest of any race. The strive for economic equality for the majority population of the country would assure the survival of our nation. So that our children and grandchildren will not have to face another 13th May episode in the future. He believes that championing a Bumiputera policy (of course with proper sense of accountability) will have positive impact on the security of our nation.

This lesson from him, I shall carry for the rest of my life. Thank you, Martin, for your wisdom and friendship. Even though it was for a short 20 months, the effect that you had on me will be for a lifetime. Thank you for your service to our nation, as you will always be the unsung hero who gave us the glimpse of hope that Malaysia could achieve more as a country.

Instead of wishing you rest in peace, I would like to wish you “Rest in Power”, for the power that you gave to all of us, to honor your great legacy.

Bonn Juego

Remembering and paying respects to Martin Khor - a leading public intellectual, development economist, and civil society leader from Malaysia and our region of Southeast Asia - who passed on the other day due to a lingering illness.

My deepest condolences to Martin's loved ones and to friends and colleagues who had the enviable chance to meet and work with him through the years in the communities of Penang, the Third World Network, and the South Centre.

Here are some old photos from our CAPORDE cohort in Cambridge University, UK, during the last days of our

school in July 2008 with Martin together with the other lecturers of the programme like: Ha-Joon Chang (Cambridge), Barbara Harriss-White (Oxford), Giovanni Andrea Cornia (UNU-WIDER), Jose Gabriel Palma (Cambridge), and Duncan Green (Oxfam).

I remember that after Martin's lecture, I joined him and a few others for a walk round Cambridge. He was nostalgic, telling us bits of memories of the Cambridge campus during his time as student of economics there. After the CAPORDE programme, I went to work on my doctoral dissertation which included an extensive case study of the political economy of Malaysia's development - an inquiry where I took inspiration from some of Martin's seminal works since the early 1980s on the global structure of North-South dependent relations and how this has impacted on the domestic relationship between state, class, and the process of economic development.

Thank you and farewell, Martin.

(P.S. Thinking of you, Kuya Butch Montes and other colleagues. Thanks, too, for making this encounter with Martin possible during your stint at the Ford Foundation. Take good care.)

James Packard Love

Very sad news about Martin Khor. He will be missed, a lot.

He was a friend, and someone that I admired very much. His commitment to the interests of people living in poverty and on the margins of the global economy was deep, and his actions were of great consequence.

Anil Netto

Martin's passing is a great loss for Penang and indeed the world. A St Xavier's Institution Penang alumnus, he studied at Cambridge University, played a huge role in Third World Network and rose to become a profound thinker, intellectual and champion of the global South.

YB Yeo Bee Yin

Rest in peace Mr Martin Khor. It's been a privilege to have known and worked with you. Your contribution to the society and environment will always be remembered.

The screenshot shows a WhatsApp chat window titled "Chat" with a "Close" button on the left and a notification bell on the right. The status bar at the top shows "VodaCom", signal strength, Wi-Fi, time "17:25", and battery at "60%". The chat history includes:

- From Nick Buxton (TNI) to All Panelists and Attendees: "Kajal, thank you for mentioning and remembering Martin Khor"
- From Liza Koomen to All Panelists and Attendees: "Who else is in this webinar is living in the netherlands?"
- From Jess Graham (TNI) to All Panelists and Attendees: "me"
- From Anil Naidoo to All Panelists and Attendees: "Great Love for Martin - let us fight for his ideals and a better future"
- To All Panelists: "agree thanks kajal for reminding us of martin's words"
- From Amaka Vanni to All Panelists and Attendees: "Thanks for remembering Martin Khor, Kajal. He was such an inspiration"

At the bottom, there is a "Send to: All Panelists" dropdown menu, a text input field with the placeholder "Tap here to chat", and a "Send" button.

## V. From Malaysian WhatsApp Groups

Fitri Amir

Semoga jasa baik dan usaha-usaha beliau terus berkembang dan memberi manfaat kepada dunia.  
My deepest condolences and may his soul rest in peace

Clare

Deepest condolences to Meena, family members, loved ones n close colleagues. We have lost a great man. There will never be another like him. May all the good work he started n inspired continue to grow as he would want it to. May he rest in peace.

Sivarajan Arumugam

Our deepest condolences to the family of Dr Martin Khor from all in PSM. A great thinker, fighter . Thanks for all the guidance in fighting the TPPA comrade , RIP.

Aini

RIP. Salute & Respect for all his valuable work. Priceless. Deepest Condolences to his family.

Nizam Mahshar

A life well lived...  
A friend, a brother, a mentor,  
A comrade, of many, well-fought battle,  
A teacher that makes sense of life, a complicated world full of mess, he simplified and gave us hope,  
The other brightened, peaceful soul,  
Another proud and to be proud of Malaysian,  
A life well-lived,  
Wish I could live, such a fulfilled life,  
You will be missed my brother,  
Martin Khor Kok Peng

Denison Jayasooria

Dr Martin Khor (1951-2020) You will be missed. I first Martin in 1983 when he was with CAP and he invited faith based leaders for a discussion on faith & society action for the poor. It was a key moment for my social awakening. My last encounter with Martin was at Putrajaya last year at the Foreign Policy advisory group under Dato Saifuddin Abdullah. Martin - truly a Malaysian who has played a major role in international matters via Third World Network and South Centre.

Molly Cheah

My deepest condolences to Martin's family. He will be missed greatly.

Ben Tampol

Indeed we belong to Allah,

And indeed to Him we will return.  
He's a good man.

Edward Low

A great lost to our Sifu. Deepest condolences to his family members & friends.

Azlan Awang

Indeed we belong to Allah, and indeed to Him we will return.  
He's a good man.

Annusyiah Karuna MAC

Deepest condolences and we pray for him.

Jeremy, MTAAG+

Our deepest condolences to his family and love one. RIP, from me, and my family.

Hisham Hussien , PT Foundation

Deepest condolence to his family and may his soul rest in peace.

Parime, Malaysian AIDS Council

Deepest condolence to his family and may his soul rest in peace.

Noor Farida Ariffin

What a loss to the country. May his soul rest in peace.

Preethi Bhardwaj Ramanand

God bless him for his sharing heart

Han YC

RIP Martin.

Thomas

Yes. A great loss indeed. I hv known and work closely with him for around 20 years and hv high respect for his work and knowledge.  
May his soul RIP.

Santha

May his soul rest in peace. Got to know him well when liaising with him about his column.

Lavanya


So very sad to hear of this great loss. Martin was a true champion of the global South, and did Malaysia proud on so many occasions with his sharp intellect and brilliant analysis. May he rest in peace and may his vision for a just world become reality. God Bless

## VI. Twitter Messages

Tribute/Messages on Twitter @ Twitter - <a href="https://twitter.com/search?q=martin%20khor&amp;src=typed_query">https://twitter.com/search?q=martin%20khor&amp;src=typed_query</a> and <a href="https://mobile.twitter.com/search?q=martin+khor&amp;f=live">https://mobile.twitter.com/search?q=martin+khor&amp;f=live</a>	By
RIP Martin Khor	Carolina Alves
Pemergian Martin Khor akan lebar jurang kemiskinan global, kata Tok Mat (Martin Khor's departure will widen the global poverty gap, Tok Mat said)	Zulkifli Jaafar
Mycket trist. Han gjorde stora insatser för kunskapsbildning och debatt om globala rättvisefrågor -- Former Third World Network director Martin Khor dies of cancer (updated) (Very sad. He made great efforts for knowledge formation and debate on global justice issues - Former Third World Network director Martin Khor dies of cancer (updated))	Ali Esbati
Le CETRI se joint aux hommages rendus à l'intellectuel malaysien Martin Khor, décédé hier. Directeur du @3rdworldnetwork il était aussi directeur du @South_Centre à Genève. Figure de l'altermondialisme, il avait contribué à plusieurs de nos publications	CETRI joins tributes to Malaysian intellectual Martin Khor, who died yesterday. Director of @3rdworldnetwork he was also director of @South_Centre in Geneva. Figure of alter-globalization, he had contributed to several of our publications
What a sad loss of another giant! 2020 has been a year of deprivation & mourning. Alejandro Nadal, Thandika Mkandawire, now Martin Khor ~all literally one after the other. I knew them all & learnt from all.	Deprose Muchena
Martin Khor Rest in Power your words reverberate that Poor do not need charity, they need structural change	Varsha Dodhia
Sad news for those who subscribe[d] to the SUN and Third World Network. Global consumer activist Martin Khor dies	Stephen Fevrier
RIP Martin Khor, teacher and fighter. A great friend of India and, on a minor note, a warm friend of the erstwhile TISS Climate Group.	T Jayaraman
Condolences to the family. Sadly missed #MartinKhor	Maria Chin Abdullah
#MartinKhor you live in our struggles--with deepest sorrow--world lost a true hero who led the fight on many fronts.@3rdworldnetwork #Malaysia, Chairman& former Director. The loss is unimaginable.... Rest in Power!	Anuradha Mittal
Sad moment indeed. Martin Khor was a true global icon. His desire to see the developing world become equal partners and his work at South Centre cannot be forgotten. Sleep well Martin and may your soul find rest.	Martha Gyansa-Lutter
RIP Martin Khor. Your life and work for the public interest will not be forgotten.	Judit Rius Sanjuan
Remembering my friend and colleague, the brilliant and inspirational Martin Khor, who died today	Simon Retallack



Tribute/Messages on Twitter @ Twitter - <a href="https://twitter.com/search?q=martin%20khor&amp;src=typed_query">https://twitter.com/search?q=martin%20khor&amp;src=typed_query</a> and <a href="https://mobile.twitter.com/search?q=martin+khor&amp;f=live">https://mobile.twitter.com/search?q=martin+khor&amp;f=live</a>	By
Martin Khor was my teacher and my friend. I will miss him. May his soul rest in peace and his words keep us inspired	Sabina Voogd
Amidst the pain and fear of a global pandemic our movements have lost an incredible leader for global justice. His work touched so many. R.I.P.	Patrick Reinsborough
We at @GARDP & @DNDi are deeply saddened by the passing of Martin Khor, a friend & trusted advisor working to advance medical innovation & access to treatment for vulnerable people. A message on the passing of Martin Khor: <a href="https://bit.ly/2X33uXE">https://bit.ly/2X33uXE</a>	Global Antibiotic R&D Partnership
RIP Martin Khor. You lived a life advocating for a globalization that would benefit all—especially developing countries. You leave when we need you most, but we will use your example to work even harder for a just global economy.	Kevin P Gallagher
Deeply saddened to hear of a friend's death, Martin Khor, founder of Third World Network & a powerful, brilliant & effective fighter for poorest nations' rights in global fora. Played pivotal role @ Seattle WTO negs to amplify the voice of the poor.	Ann Pettifor
Extremely sad to hear that Martin Khor is no more. He will be badly missed in research on Third World.	Sunanda Sen
We will miss you dear Martin	Jose Antonio Ocampo
A great loss. RIP Martin	Dr Imran Ahmed
Terrible news indeed!	Norman Chipakupaku
Very sad news. RIP	Kate Maddock
Sad news. RIP Martin	Suneeta Kar Dhar
Martin Khor, the intellectual giant, a towering advocate for the developing world, a force to reckon with. You're an inspiration & an institution in your own right. Yet you believed in me, a nobody, when I doubted myself. I wished we had more time. Martin, you're sorely missed.	Evelyn Teh
Martin Khor worked tirelessly for the 'neglected' and his efforts were not in vain. His legacy will continue to live on and he paved the way for many new pathways for equality and justice. A great loss. A remarkable man. RIP	JeanMichel Piedagnel
In this terrible month of March 2020, we have lost another indefatigable fighter for economic justice: Martin Khor, founder of Third World Network. Terrible loss to global progressive movement and to economics.	Jayati Ghosh
In the past days we have lost two intellectual giants, politically visionary human rights defenders and thought leaders of the Global South: Martin Khor and Thandika Mkandawire. I learned so much from these two wonderfully kind friends. RIP.	Timo Voipio
Rest in power Martin Khor. Your legacy lives on in each and everyone of us you taught, mentored, cajoled & badgered into making this world a better place. We owe you one, but better still, we keep on fighting Flexed biceps Quote Tweet	Celine Tan
Martin Khor! A warm and caring person. His intellect, committed anti-imperialism, dynamism (the man did not sleep!) ability to build alliances across broad spectra for specific outcomes. So many memories. A great loss.	Yao Graham
RIP Martin Khor. Thank you for all you did.	Tara Vah Ho

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The @iel_collective community extend our condolences to Martin Khor's family, friends & all at @3rdworldnetwork . He was & always will be a pioneering figure intellectually & politically for the third world. A man who never stopped campaigning for a better world for us all. RIP.	The IEL Collective
First Thandika Mkandawire. Now tonight news that Martin Khor has passed. We have lost two absolute giants of political economy and social justice. Rest in power.	Jeff Powell
Malaysia lost one of her own, Martin Khor, a prominent activist, an intellectual of international standing who had worked tirelessly for the downtrodden and the disadvantaged South. Our heartfelt condolences to his family & friends. We will miss him dearly.	Sahabat Alam Malaysia
RIP Martin Khor, former Director of the South Centre and of the Third World Network <- I learnt a lot from Martin, as did so many internationalists, and it was always an honour to have him speak at @TradeJusticeMov , Make Poverty History and global justice events	Glen Tarman
RIP Martin Khor, chair and former director of Third World Network. Martin was a hugely dedicated advocate for international justice, equity and the environment. He was an inspiring leader, a warm hearted person and a family man. He will be mourned and his life celebrated.	Barry Coates
It is very sad to learn of the passing of Martin Khor, someone who did so much for developing countries. His fight for justice in the int'l order will be taken up by the many he inspired. Here's back in the 2006-7 days of the WIPO development agenda. 	Henrique Moraes
RIP Martin Khor. What a legacy of moral and intellectual leadership!	Nancy Alexander
Figures from the around the world (esp advocates of the Developing World) are fondly remembering the work & life of Penangite Martin Khor who died today. A reminder of the precious solidarity Msia has & must have with the rest of the South. Let's continue to build. Rest in power.	Karl
Martin Khor, a renowned critical thinker, activist, economist, scholar of alternative & sustainable development is no more!	Anand Pradhan

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<p>He launched Third World Network (TWN) &amp; actively argued against the neo-liberal globalisation!</p> <p>I learnt a lot from his writings!</p> <p>Rest in power, comrade!</p>	
<p>PHM is deeply saddened by the loss of Martin Khor, former Director of @3rdworldnetwork and also former Executive Director of @South_Centre</p> <p>We will remember him for his constant support to PHM and social movements. Deepest condolences to family and staff at TWN.</p>	PHM
<p>A real shock to hear of the death of Martin Khor. A towering Malaysian and global citizen.</p>	Fifa Rahman
<p>We are deeply saddened by the news of Martin Khor passing. He was a thinker of extreme breadth and depth whose voice was cardinal in amplifying the causes of the Global South. We pay homage to the enduring legacy he left us! Our thoughts and prayers to the family and colleagues!</p>	AFSA
<p>Martin Khor was an ardent advocate of equality and justice in the post WTO, globalised world. His work has influenced policies in many countries. The world is a better place because of you and many who carry on the unfinished agenda. RIP Martin Khor</p>	Dr Zakir Thomas
<p>This is such sad news. Martin was a wonderful man, a teacher and passionate advocate for justice. RIP my friend. We will miss you and never forget you</p>	Ellen 't Hoen
<p>Such a loss to the civil society movement with the passing of Martin Khor. While he was the father of @South_Centre &amp; @3rdworldnetwork, I knew him best from the #ABRCoalition as he brought together so many under #OneHealth to fight #AMR by advocating for all, not just a few. RIP.</p>	Reshma Ramachandran
<p>Very sad to hear Dr Martin Khor has died. Condolences to family, friends and comrades in Malaysia and all over the world</p>	Fiona Dove
<p>This is very sad indeed. Martin Khor's writings, books and regular column in Resurgence, were so instrumental in opening our eyes to the inequities of world trade system and to the hierarchy in WTO where the West sat at the table and the rest waited for the crumbs.</p>	Issa Shivji
<p>Another legendary scholar passes after #Thandika, Martin Khor. As a student in #Malaysia, my first internship application was to @3rdworldnetwork because of Martin. When everyone celebrated a linear version of E.Asian Tigers, his vision went beyond platitudes. RIP #GlobalDev</p>	Farwa Sial
<p>Martin Khor has passed away. He was a friend, and someone that I admired very much. His commitment to the interests of people living in poverty and on the margins of the global economy was deep, and his actions were of great consequence.</p>	James Love
<p>Tribute to Dr Martin Khor Kok Peng who had dedicated his career as the voice for powerless consumers, environment victims &amp; third world countries. Activists &amp; friends around world will miss you, however your shining intellectuality will always be remembered. RIP</p>	Tian Chua

Tribute/Messages on Twitter @ Twitter - <a href="https://twitter.com/search?q=martin%20khor&amp;src=typed_query">https://twitter.com/search?q=martin%20khor&amp;src=typed_query</a> and <a href="https://mobile.twitter.com/search?q=martin+khor&amp;f=live">https://mobile.twitter.com/search?q=martin+khor&amp;f=live</a>	By
I have met Martin Khor only a handful of times but in each time, he stood like a giant in his passion for healthcare, globalisation and justice.  Now, that torch passes on.  Rest well, sir	Jay Jay Denis
Very sad to know that Martin Khor is no more. We have lost a stalwart of developing countries causes. RIP.	Reji K Joseph
My deepest condolences to the family and friends of Martin Khor. I met Martin, together with Sanya Reid on several occasions during the Trans Pacific Partnership years of 2014 and 2015. He was an intellectual, lived a simple lifestyle, dedicated to fight global inequality. May his soul rest in peace.	Wong Chen
A great loss to the Global South. RIP Martin Khor.	Guillaume Long
CEPR mourns the loss of Martin Khor, chair and former director of @3rdworldnetwork, former executive director of the @South_Centre, and a lifelong campaigner for a more just world and a more equitable global economy.	CEPR
RIP Martin Khor. What a legacy of moral and intellectual leadership!	Nancy Alexander
Saddened by the passing of Martin Khor, who inspired many generations of health and socio-economic justice advocates globally. His thoughtful political analysis of power dynamics and inequalities combined with strategic action remains an example for us all	Els Torreele
RIP Martin Khor, chair and former director of Third World Network. Martin was a hugely dedicated advocate for international justice, equity and the environment. He was an inspiring leader, a warm hearted person and a family man. He will be mourned and his life celebrated.	Barry Coates
Our hearts & best wishes are with Martin Khor's family & close friends, colleagues. We lost a crucial figure in the battle for justice at a crucial time.	Shalmali Guttal
Martin Khor, an indefatigable fighter for developing countries and former director at @3rdworldnetwork & @South_Centre, has died. Huge loss for the trade justice movement.	Benny Kuruvilla
RIP Martin Khor, a brilliant and inspiring advocate who was a tireless but invariably polite colossus in the efforts to make trade fair for poor countries and communities.	Duncan Green
V sad to hear that Martin Khor, of the Third World Network has died. I always learnt so much hearing him speak, or reading his writings. He embodied Southern resistance to the WTO & neoliberalism in my mind. Got a real sense that he was wise to the rich world's tricks.	Owen Espley
Very sad news. Martin Khor was a friend, philosopher and guide. A very strong voice against unfettered globalisation. RIP	Devinder Sharma
We are deeply saddened to hear of the passing of Martin Khor. As Executive Director @South_Centre & as Director @3rdworldnetwork, he worked tirelessly to create great solidarity among developing countries in his efforts to bring about a fairer world order. Martin was a true icon of the Global South, and his unique contributions in trying to make the trade rules less tilted against developing countries will be long cherished. His work continues to be a true inspiration for all of us at the Centre.	CWS

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It is with great sadness that we've learned of the passing of Martin Khor. Martin provided a passionate voice in the access to medicines movement, our thoughts are with his friends and family at this time.	Health Action International
I'm extremely sad to hear the passing of Martin Khor. A rare gem – scholar, activist and journalist – all combined into one. I admire his lifetime dedication to fearlessly champion the voice of the voiceless. My condolences to his family and friends.	Liew Chin Tong
Rest in Peace Martin Khor, Thank you for your moral and intellectual leadership, you inspired many.	Raju Pandit Chhetri
A great visionary and friend has died. I am bereft.	Maude Barlow
Martin Khor, journalist, economist and the former director of Third World Network was a highly respected activist and his passing is a great loss. His work and writings had influenced a generation of activists. Condolences to his family and friends.	EMPOWER
Saddened by the news of the death of Martin Khor. He was and will continue to be an inspiration to so many people. Rest in power.	Fabien Lefrancois
So sad to hear of the death of Martin Khor. I was lucky enough to have him as a teacher almost 20 years ago, and his lessons about building a fairer global economic system have stuck with me, alongside a lifelong commitment to social justice. Rest in Power Martin!	Ella Saltmarshe
Martin Khor made a massive contribution to the world. His incisive analyses helped me - and countless people, I am sure - to understand global inequalities and development intricacies	Penny Urquhart
Sad to hear this. RIP Martin Khor. A dogged voice for the South and for the marginalised.	Nirmal Ghosh
Such an important civil society voice of our times. Thank you for all your great work, Martin Khor.	Bharath Jairaj
Martin Khor is no more. A colossal who inspired with both, his knowledge and his humility, across continents.	Nitin Sethi
I am so sad. Today the world has lost a great hero who fought for developing countries rights, a prominent leader in the civil society movement. Someone I've been looking up to for a very long time. RIP Martin Khor. You will be remembered, always.	Jasmin
Rest in peace Martin Khor	Hamed El-Kady
Martin Khor always stood up for the interests of the poor and the marginalized. His advise & his critique made international organizations do a better job. Will always remember him.	Alexander Mueller
Rest in Peace Martin Khor, The father of Political Economy	Dr Kalokola
A huge source of inspiration. RIP Martin Khor. A huge loss to the health and social justice movements	Sarojini N
One of my educators no more. so much of global politics and negotiations came through reading his articles and analytical pieces #TWN Martin Khor RIP.	A Gandhian
We mourn the death of Mr. Martin Khor, who provided leadership to the South Centre and the Global South. A tireless advocate of the concerns and interests of poor and developing countries, his work has inspired many across the world. Martin Khor RIP!	Srinivas Tata

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RIP Martin Khor. A peerless advocate for the marginalized.	Anjani Datla
Oh shit. #Thandika *and* Martin Khor. Rest in power.	Alex Cobham
Our sorrow deepens further on learning that Martin Khor, another great advocate for social justice, equity and inclusion, passed away today.	UNRISD
What a loss to the world. Thank you Martin Khor - you were a brilliant thinker and communicator, so generous in re-educating many of us in the Global North about the realities of power, and exploitation of the Global South.	Kate Raworth
I can say from direct experience that Martin Khor has been a source of inspiration for campaigns against the WTO Millennium Round and other initiatives for neoliberal trade liberalisation. He will not be forgotten. May he rest in peace.	Erik Wesselius
RIP Martin Khor, former head of @South_Centre & TWN. A titan in the struggle for economic justice, a brilliant leader, and a warm, witty and generous human being. An inspiration to us all	Jesse Griffiths
Thank you for all that you've done to foster south- south global solidarity and cohesion #MartinKhor. Rest in power!	Aimee Gonzales
Rest in Power, Martin Khor – brilliant/knowledgeable intellectual, tireless & effective economic/social justice advocate, trusted adviser to PMs & activists alike, kind teacher to many of us. A truly extraordinary man.	Lori Wallach
Rest in power Martin Khor 🙏 Strength to his family and loved ones.	Samantha Smith
#RIP Martin Khor. He was a real legend, and a role model for so many of us in the global justice movement. He was doing the global Green New Deal thing before it was called that, along with championing developing countries' interests in many trade talks.	Todd N Tucker
Very sorry to hear this news. RIP #MartinKhor Quote Tweet	Chandrika Bahadur
RIP Martin Khor! It is a big loss to the global South! A veteran of many battles for fair and just global trading system, you will be missed deeply!	Nagesh Kumar
Deeply saddened to hear of the passing of an old friend, Martin Khor. He was a distinguished journalist, economist, former Director of the Third World Network & South Centre, and once served on my consultative council at @MalaysiaMFA. He will be dearly missed.	Saifuddin Abdullah
Oh no! Martin Khor Kok Peng. A respectable activist. Condolences.	Sepuluh Tahun Lagi
Such a loss! Martin Khor of Third World Network no more :(	G Pramod Kumar
It is with great sadness that we share the news that Martin Khor passed away. The head of @3rdworldnetwork, he was a frequent IPS contributor, a brilliant thinker and an indefatigable advocate for social justice	Inter Press Service
Rest in Peace #MartinKhor. Soon after the loss of @tmkandawire, the world has lost another giant of political economy.	Sandeep Chachra
Rest in peace	Mark Cheong
Berita Duka 1 April 2020:	Berita Bumi

Tribute/Messages on Twitter @ Twitter - <a href="https://twitter.com/search?q=martin%20khor&amp;src=typed_query">https://twitter.com/search?q=martin%20khor&amp;src=typed_query</a> and <a href="https://mobile.twitter.com/search?q=martin+khor&amp;f=live">https://mobile.twitter.com/search?q=martin+khor&amp;f=live</a>	By
Kami turut berduka atas kepergian Martin Khor, pendiri Third World Network (TWN), terakhir menjabat sebagai Executive Director of the South Centre, which is an inter-governmental think tank of and for developing countries. (Mourning News 1 April 2020: We are sorry for the departure of Martin Khor, founder of the Third World Network (TWN), most recently serving as Executive Director of the South Center, which is an inter-governmental think tank of and for developing countries.)	
Martin Khor was an amazing human. I can't believe he's gone.	Asia Russel
Sad to know about Martin Khor's death. Deep condolences to his loved ones & the TWN group. The global south lost a pillar of third world solidarity. May his ideas continue to inspire trade & climate justice movts & those fighting for a fair world.	Dorothy Guerrero
Sad to learn about the passing of Martin Khor, former Exec.Dir. of @South_Centre. He was always a good friend of and supported Flag of Venezuela, most recently during its Chairmanship of #NAM. The South has lost a key partner. May his legacy be endured. Condolences to his family, friends.	Joaquin A. Perez Ayestaran
It is with great shock, I receive news of the demise of a friend Mr. Martin Khor, former ED of South Centre. I had the priviledge of working with Martin for more than 6 yrs in the Helsinki Process on Globalization and Democracy, which gave birth to Uongozi Institute. RIP Martin.	Omar Kashera
Grieving in this period is compounded. Today, we have lost a great civil society figure Martin Khor. Rest in peace Martin	Eira Khanum
Martin Khor was exceptional in his critique of Globalisation, the immiserisation of the poor of the South and a friend who offered me a job when I had none. He will be missed. Martin Khor and his senior, Shri S.M. Mohamed Idris established one of the finest South networks globally, working intensely in policy for equality for the South in globalisation. Third World Network and CAP were born in Penang. We lost Shri Idris last year and now Martin Khor is no more. It is a huge loss to the international and the local communities who have struggled for their rights. Our sincere condolences to his family and colleagues.	Shobha Raghuram
"Good men must die, but death cannot kill their names." #CENTHRA extends our sincere condolences to Martin Khor's family, colleagues & all at @3rdworldnetwork . We have lost a truly great man, an intellectual giant who never stopped campaigning for a better world for us all.	Centhra Malaysia
My most sincere condolences to the family, friends, and colleagues on the passing today of Martin Khor, an eminent leader in global development and a champion of equity and equality in a world lacking both. May he rest in paradise.	Curtis Doebbler
Terribly sad news. Martin Khor was one of a kind.	Karthik Nachiappan
We and our colleagues at @gardp_amr are deeply saddened by the passing of Martin Khor, a friend and trusted advisor to colleagues and partners around the world working to advance medical innovation and #access2meds for vulnerable and neglected people	Drugs for neglected diseases initiative
Very sad to hear Dr. Martin Khor has died. Condolences to family, friends and comrades in Malaysia and all over the world. One of the most important people who fought for #climatejustice #MartinKhor	Hala S Murad

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Martin Khor, one of the most resourceful persons and a great communicator is no more. Through policy advocacy, he defended people interests tirelessly until recently. His life and work will continue to inspire.	G Manicandan
V. sad, great champion of justice. Rest in peace, Martin	Ashish Kothari
RIP to one of the greatest global equity advocate (Martin Khor). TWN and other advocates will continually thread you legacy path.	Akinbobola Tolulope Paul
Martin Khor was of unparalleled importance in driving Global South alter-globalization, climate and economic justice movements	Sam Geall
May I also register my Condolences to Martin Khor's passing on. How can we lose two intellectually gifted Global Sout Economists who were committed to great scholarship attentive to progressive Democratic insights.	LenkaBula
Martin Kohr one of the most prominent figures in global Civil Society; RiP. The departure of the fighter for justice, Martin Khor, is a great loss not only to his community and developing countries, but also to the international community and humanity as a whole.	Arab NGO Network
Such a loss!	Sona Mitra
Martin gave me my first internship at Third World Network when I was at university and was also a close family friend. May he rest in peace.	Aun Qi Koh
This is really sad. Two giant thinkers in the same month! RIP Martin Khor! Tributes pour in after death of 'intellectual giant' Martin Khor	Muthoni Muriu
#MartinKhor (including through his Third World Network #TWM) was such an important resource for developing country #Trade negotiations at the #WTO back in the day. He will be missed. Condolences to his family	Matthew Wilson
RIP Martin Khor. He inspired so many of us	Oscar Reyes
2 dear friends of the @LevyEconGrad and @LevyEcon have departed. Thandika Mkandawire & Martin Khor. Thandika challenged mainstream views on African political economy, structural adjustment & economic reform. Martin had an invaluable role in South Center & 3rd World Network.	Levy EconGrad
Terrible news! Rest In Peace	Patralekha Chatterjee
Martin Khor was a gentle soul and an astute thinker who had a profound effect on my own journey in life. Just learned the title of his final book, The Secret of Happiness. So apt. (Consumer rights, third world rights, south-south strategies.)	Helen Tilley
Martin Khor was an incredible man. Ar dheis de ar a anam and deepest condolences to all @3rdworldnetwork and The South Centre	Sel
Tribute to Martin Khor, former Executive Director of the @South_Centre . Rest in power.	Abdul M Choudhury
Death of Martin Khor is such a sad news. I cannot believe it. May the departed soul rest in eternal peace!	Zubair Faisal Abbasi
Martin Rest In Peace..we will all strive to continue your legacy of building a just world.	Rashmi Banga



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Totally missed! Martin Khor was a very rigorous thinker & a passionate advocate for fair treatment of Developing countries at the @wto, @WIPO, @UNGeneva & other multilateral fora. #SouthCenter that he was leading 10 years ago was a real “think-and-do” tank! Exit of a bright mind!	Amb. Alain A Nyamitwe
Deeply saddened to hear of Martin Khor’s passing. He was a relentlessly inspiring champion of the most vulnerable in our world. I had the privilege to be taught by Martin while on a course at Schumacher College & am forever grateful for his wisdom and compassion.	Jill Clements
RIP Martin Khor. Thank you for the contributions	Amjad Saleem
Martin Khor, your deep thoughts shaped many minds for social-economic justice. Gone now but u shall be remeberd as an iconic think tank.	Simon Mwamba
What an absolute titan this man was. I had the real privilege of working with him briefly more than a decade ago and he was indefatigable. RIP and solidarity, #MartinKhor	Andrew Pendleton
The life and legacy of - #MartinKhor - the indefatigable champion for the rights & justice #ForPeopleForPlanet is being celebrated upon his passing. He was an impactful mentor, strategist, leader, activist & adviser.	Nelson Muffuh
Rest in Power Martin Khor. You were taken too early. It was an honor to share a course with you at @SchumacherColl	Juliet Schor
Tribute pours in after death of 'intellectual giant' Martin Khor - So hard to lose another giant. May we remember his example, as a leader, an activist, an intellectual, a writer.	Timothy A Wise
Thandika Mkandawire and Martin Khor around the same time. RIP! Institution and movement builders of the highest level. Very sad loss for autonomous intellectual struggles in the Globa South!RIP.	Tade Akin Aina
My deep condolence to all the Third Word Network family for the sad passing of our dear friend Martin Khor	Elizabeth Bravo
It's a huge loss particularly for the global South.His contribution is unfathomable. Hope his legacy is taken forward.His unfinished agenda is not forgotten.That would be the rightful tribute to the great warrior that Martin was. Long live Martin Khor & the causes he stood for.	Kasturi Das
Rest in power, Martin Khor.	Gayathry V
GPF shares with deep sadness the news of the passing of Martin Khor TWN's former Director. His death is a very sad loss but his messages & ideas for a world in solidarity will live on forever.	Global Policy Forum
RIP the incredible Martin Khor, a tireless, knowledgeable & effective advocate for developing countries, and the trade and macroeconomic policies to support them. Thank you for your leadership. #SocialJustice #EconomicJustice #FairTrade #Hero	Celeste Drake
VIVA Martin Khor VIVA!!!  LONG LIVE Martin Khor!! LONG LIVE!!!!  He was a GIANT. I will miss him dearly.	Green Doctor (@GreenHejira)


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LONG LIVE Martin Khor!!! LONG LIVE!!!! #MartinKhor #ThirdWorldNetwork	
In this time of so many tragedies, nothing so far makes me feel more sad than this. A truly wonderful man, & such a life. May his soul journey on in peace & his legacy live on. Much love to his family & all close to him.	Martin Drewry
Rest in Power, Martin Khor.  You were a true legend I was honoured to meet & work w/ briefly.  Your legacy as a champion for the Global South's people & your work for justice for all will not be forgotten.  Sending deep condolences to @3rdworldnetwork @South_Centre & many more.	Colin Rees
We pay tribute to #MartinKhor and send deepest condolences to all of our sisters and brothers at @3rdworldnetwork. #RestInPower	ETC group.
Used to interview him during my reporting these days. RIP sir..	Rubin Khoo
Rest in power, Martin Khor. Mentor, leader, friend. You were Promethean in your labours to empower minds to right global economic injustices, to fight for the Third World, the climate, and for the Malaysia you loved. May the flames you lit light many more	Yin Shao Loong
With #MARTinKhor #South has lost a great warrior. He led #MultilateralTrade debates Great friend of @RIS_NewDelhi RIP	Sachin Chaturvedi
Sad news. Martin was an independent thinker, an elegant writer, and an important social activist.	Susan Brown
Saya & warga KAS ucap takziah kpd keluarga mendiang En Martin Khor. Sumbangan beliau sangat besar dlm bdg kelestarian alam & perubahan iklim. KAS sgt hormat sbgn beliau. Pemergian beliau satu khlgn bsr kpd negara (I & KAS residents express their condolences to the family of the late Mr. Martin Khor. His contributions are immense in environmental sustainability & climate change. CASH is very much appreciated. His passing was one of a kind to the country.)	Dato Tuan Ibrahim Tuan Man
Profondément attristée aussi du décès de Martin Khor, fondateur de Third World Network, combattant puissant, brillant & efficace pour les droits des nations les plus pauvres ds les forums mondiaux. Ses paroles lui survivront même si l'OMC a refusé d'amplifier la voix des pauvres. (Deeply saddened also by the passing of Martin Khor, founder of Third World Network, a powerful, brilliant & effective fighter for the rights of the poorest nations in world forums. His words will survive him even if the WTO refused to amplify the voice of the poor.)	N Gouzee

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Martin Khor always stood up for the interests of the poor and the marginalized. His advise & his critique made international organizations do a better job. Will always remember him. (Twitter - <a href="https://twitter.com/alexander_tmg/status/1245232314239590400">https://twitter.com/alexander_tmg/status/1245232314239590400</a> )	Alexander Mueller, Former FAO assistant DG and former German Minister for consumer protection, food and ag
Berdukacita di atas pemergian Dr. Martin Khor Kok Peng. Beliau adalah seorang aktivis yang memperjuangkan hak pengguna. Takziah buat ahli keluarga Dr. Martin Khor. (Twitter - <a href="https://twitter.com/AzminAli/status/1245499881613152259">https://twitter.com/AzminAli/status/1245499881613152259</a> )	Mohamed Azmin Ali
Malaysia Mission to the UN (@MYNewYorkUN1) Tweeted: The Non-Aligned Movement Coordinating Bureau (NAM-COB) of 120 nations issued a Communique today on the passing away of Dr. Martin Khor, former Executive Director of the @South_Centre. @MalaysiaMFA @AzmissionUN <a href="https://t.co/x8FPFcZjI6">https://t.co/x8FPFcZjI6</a> <a href="https://twitter.com/MYNewYorkUN1/status/1245904567952453633?s=20">https://twitter.com/MYNewYorkUN1/status/1245904567952453633?s=20</a>	Permanent Mission of Malaysia to UN in New York
The world lost one of the greats. #MartoinKhor blew open my brain at early teachn-ins about corporate free trade and globalization while I was researching No Logo more than 20 years ago. "In memoriam – Martin Khor" <a href="https://twitter.com/NaomiAKlein/status/1246065122151485440?s=20">https://twitter.com/NaomiAKlein/status/1246065122151485440?s=20</a>	Naomi Klein
Great Loss. RIP. My deepest condolences. The best way to remember Martin would be keep @3rdworldnetwork relevant and strong. Continue his good work.	Chandra Bhushan
A sad loss for the Climate Community. May his Soul Rest in Peace	JM Mauskar
So sorry to hear that he passed away	Sujatha Byravan
It is so sad to hear this. What a great source of inspiration and support he was. I hope he rests in peace knowing that all those he inspired will carry forward his fight. Goodbye Martin.	Tejal Kanitkar
Very sad news. My condolences to his family and colleagues.	Anju Sharma
Very sad. RIP	Sahba Chauhan
Really sad to hear this. What a huge loss. Love to Meena, his loved ones and everyone at the South Centre and TWN.	Meera Ghani
My condolences to the family. He was such an important voice in the civil society world for so many decades.	Bharath Jairaj
Martin Khor was an important development professional of the South, who made lasting contributions. RIP	Dr Suman Sahai
Martin Khor was a champion of the global south, of the poor and most vulnerable people. He spoke truth to power and encouraged many of us. Rest in peace and power, comrade. We will do our best to carry on your critical work, to never stop the fight for #systemchange and #justice	Dipti Bhatnagar
What a sad long week. On top of #covid19 victims & madness, we lost both Thandika Mkandawire & Martin Khor, two giants in (radical) development econ	Ingrid H. Kvangraven
1/10: It's been a rough week, and we are deeply saddened to hear of the passing of #MartinKhor, one of the most important voices in economics from #Malaysia. Martin was a Cambridge educated economist who choose to work in activism & advocacy on behalf of developing countries.	Diversifying and Decolonising Economics (@DivDecEcon)

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<p>2/10: He founded the Third World Network @3rdworldnetwork &amp; also served as the Executive Director of the South Centre @South_Centre fostering international solidarity and South-South cooperation against neo-imperialist forces.</p> <p>3/10: He was a prolific academic: @3rdworldnetwork have been publishing the complete list of his writings on a wide variety of subjects including cancer drug prices, tyranny of unequal trade for developing countries &amp; even the siege of Gaza 3/10 <a href="https://twm.my/gtrends2003.htm">https://twm.my/gtrends2003.htm</a></p> <p>4/10: #MartinKhor identified the North-South power imbalance in Bretton Woods Institutions. Read his 1999 Letter where he objects to Paul Collier's claim that 'Africa itself was to blame for its marginalisation' <a href="https://twm.my/title/paul-cn.htm">https://twm.my/title/paul-cn.htm</a></p> <p>5/10: Here is a timely paper in which he argues that antimicrobial drug resistance to infections is one of the most serious public health threats of our time: 'The Global Threat of Antimicrobial Resistance &amp; the Challenges &amp; Needs of Developing Countries' 5/10 <a href="https://twm.my/title2/series/amr/amr001.htm">https://twm.my/title2/series/amr/amr001.htm</a></p> <p>6/10: The entire body of his work argued in favour of structural solutions to inequality. "the poor do not need charity, they need us to tackle the structural causes that give rise to this sinful situation we have today" #globaldev <a href="https://youtu.be/Dkao841j-C8">https://youtu.be/Dkao841j-C8</a></p> <p>7/10: His seminal work which set precedent for many debates on globalisation is called 'Rethinking Globalisation' and argued against 'one size fit all policies' of the IFIs. #inequality</p> <p>8/10: Here's the transcript of his speech in #Seattle in 1999 at the WTO Ministerial where he plainly lays out the conflict within the #WTO WTO. 8/10 <a href="https://ratical.org/co-globalize/ifg112699MK.html">https://ratical.org/co-globalize/ifg112699MK.html</a></p> <p>9/10: His work on policy at the @UNCTAD is equally forceful and compelling. Here he highlights key issues for globalisation in the global south: ranging from finance, investment, trade, and institutional structure of the WTO: 9/10 <a href="https://unctad.org/en/docs/dp_147.en.pdf">https://unctad.org/en/docs/dp_147.en.pdf</a></p> <p>10/10: Martin chose to work from the grassroots &amp; his activism, academic expertise &amp; plethora of work was solely from the perspective of solidarity with ordinary people underlying a vision of economic policy beyond the ivory towers. 10/10 <a href="https://southcentre.int/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Martin-Khor-Tribute-1.pdf">https://southcentre.int/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Martin-Khor-Tribute-1.pdf</a></p>	
My heartfelt condolences to Meenakshi and family of Martin Khor on his passing. I was moved by his writings and share in his concerns.	Chris Jesudason
<p>マーティン・コー（Martin Khor）さん、4月1日に亡くなる。マレーシアを中心に民衆のオルタナティブを提唱し、世界をリードしてきた。特に自由貿易によるアジアの再植民地化に警鐘を鳴らしてきた。</p> <p>マーティンさん、R.I.P.（Rest in PeaceじゃなくてRest in Power....）（Martin Khor dies on April 1st. He has led the world by advocating alternatives for people, mainly in Malaysia. In particular, it has warned of the re-colonization of Asia by free trade. Martin, R.I.P. (Rest in Power .... not Rest in Peace))</p>	InYaku Tomoya
Hoy sin duda el mundo ha perdido un paladín en la lucha contra el Cambio Climático y los atropellos del imperialismo hegemónico global. (Today without a doubt the world has lost a champion in the fight against Climate Change and the outrages of global hegemonic imperialism.)	TN8 Nicaragua (@canaltn8)
The moral voice of third-world solidarity, encyclopedia of knowledge on trade, IPRs and climate change and a passionate champion of global equity, it was a privilege knowing & working with Martin. He leaves a void that can't be filled. RIP	Amit Narang
A committed selfless advocate. A huge support to so many through his expertise and long experience. He will be missed.	Tanmaya Lal
We will all miss him very much. He was phenomenal. Condolences	Nnimmo Bassey

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Deeply saddened by this loss. Martin will forever remain an inspiration. Condolences.	Margaretha Wewerinke
Who can forget his contribution to the critique of WTO as it was being established, and later, and the other contributions that passionately defended the interests of the poor and the weaker against powerful MNC lobbies?	Sridhar V
Knew Martin well. He was the single most important advocate of third world solidarity on trade, investment and IPR issues. Irreplaceable loss. RIS and NIFPP should do a joint memorial talk when time is appropriate!	Dr Mohan Kumar
So sad news. I'll keep Martin's inspiring radicality, his support at times where no one believed in aligning workers' demands with climate justice ones. I'll also remember Martin's kindness with younger activists, who, like me, knew no one, and always found a welcoming ear in him	Anabella Rosemberg
Such a loss indeed! He was so inspiring & dedicated to the cause of a just global system which can work for poor nations as well! I always found him utmost devoted and sincere with the cause. He made sure that every bit of time he gets should be used for a greater good!	Aziz
What a great loss this is! The way we can best celebrate him is to continue his work towards achieving global equity, climate justice and third world solidarity. #RIPMartinKhor	Dekila Chungyalpa
Anyone who has ever worked (critically) on trade feels this loss deeply and personally. It was a privilege to work with Martin in Cancun, Hong Kong and at so many other WTO moments. RIP and - as @TasneemEssop said: let's pick up the fallen spear	Daniel Mittler
A great loss to the world development community. Martin left a huge footprint of intellectual contributions and a large network of close friends. May he rest in peace and my condolences to his close family and friends.	JM Salazar-Xirinachs
RIP Martin!	Mmhonlumo Kikon
Martin's passing is a tremendous loss to our global movement. He helped shaped my world view when I was a young activist, helped me critically assess dominant narratives, and modeled a life committed to equity. Thank you Martin.	Annie Leonard
The labor movement lost Esther Busser last year, now Martin Khor. For me those names are entwined, I think of that time when Geneva was leading the way to say that another world is possible. We are loner now, but still in profound need to follow his vision and lead	Anna Biondi
Terrible loss	Vijaya Vadivelu
An icon and a steadfast ally of global civil society movements. RIP.	Ingrid Srinath
In Martin Khor humility met dedication and passion. You did well my friend. You did well! #RIPMartinKhor	Ahmed Ogwel
Very sad indeed...Martin's inspiration will keep guiding our struggles! Rest in peace and strenght to his family.	Lucia Ortiz
Many thanks, Martin, for your life-long uphill battle for the well-being of the world; we will miss you	Inge Kaul

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Sad news. He was a beacon for eco-social movements around the world who at once defended nature, equality and open knowledge. A big loss.	David Hammerstein
Truly one of the most important civil society voices, a pioneer environmentalist, and a friend that will be greatly missed!	Goran Eklof
So sad to hear it.	Triq Riaz
My condolences to the TWN family. Martin was a giant and an inspiration to many civil society colleagues	Vijay Krishnarayan
RIP Martin and condolences to family	MA Jamil
Learned so much from Martin, what a great loss, we will miss him	Sascha Gabizon
It is a terrible loss. Had the opportunity to interact with Martin in a couple of occasions. He vast expansive understanding of changing geopolitical conditions and role of SSC should not be forgotten. I dedicate the global dialogue North South for the 21st Century to Martin	Sandhya S Iyer
So sad to hear this news. I'll always be grateful to Martin for taking the time to sit and strategise with youth at the climate talks, he was a real inspiration to many of us. Love to the TWN family. Xx	Lucy Cadena
My deepest condolences. Martin was a champion of the lost cause of global justice. Truly inspirational. RIP	Manish Shrivastava
I'm so very sad to hear of Martin's passing. He was such a inspiration to me as I started out in this field nearly 30 years ago. Always remained proud that he was a fellow Malaysian fighting for global justice. My condolences to Martin's family and the TWN family.	Sumi Dhanarjan
That's such a sad news. A big loss to a lot of movements. Rest in power, comrade.	Joe Athialy
May his memory be a blessing.	@AmpifyEco
Remembering a giant who helped shape my view of the world from a young age in the social change arena, with a focus on the Global South: Martin Khor	Daphne Wysham
When I was new as env minister, #MartinKhor traveled all d way 4m PG even though he was ill to speak to me on how to position Msia in climate change int'l negotiation. He never fail to voice out for other env issues too when he was in his sick bed. Such commitment is exemplary.	Yeo Bee Yin
@EPW_in pays tribute to Martin Khor, teacher, journalist, economist who made a lasting contribution to understanding Intl trade relations, climate change and mush more from e 3rd world perspective <a href="https://www.epw.in/engage/article/remembering-martin-khor-journalist-lawyer-and">https://www.epw.in/engage/article/remembering-martin-khor-journalist-lawyer-and</a>	Sridhar V
Rest in power, Martin Khor!	Jeff Conant
#MartinKhor and his @3rdworldnetwork were among the pioneers in flagging up concerns over GMOs, biosafety, biopiracy and IPR. One of the greats indeed!	GM Watch
Desde América Latina y el Caribe expresamos nuestras condolencias a @SahabatAlamMsia, a la familia y amigos/as de Martin Khor. Su partida representa una gran pérdida, y su legado acompañará por siempre las luchas de los pueblos. (From Latin	ATALC

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America and the Caribbean we express our condolences to @SahabatAlamMsia, to the family and friends of Martin Khor. His departure represents a great loss, and his legacy will forever accompany the struggles of the peoples.)	
I remember being a wee MA student in JNU when I got to know Martin Khor's work through @Jayati1609's intl trade class, and i found his analysis of global political economy insightful and inspirational. Rest in Power!	Devika Dutt
My older colleagues think very highly of #MartinKhor. Maybe I should familiarize myself with his work. Rest in power, Sir.	James Miraflor
Rest in peace, brother #MartinKhor SparklesMedium starDizzy symbol I have no doubt. "Well done, my good and faithful servant" awaited you from the lips of our Father in heaven	Pangilian-Arenas (@makilingmiracle)
«Les gens formidables comme Martin Khor ne quittent jamais ce monde : leurs graines germent dans nos luttes pour la justice, elles pollinisent toute tentative de briser les chaînes de l'oppression» Nos condoléances à sa famille, ses amis, @SahabatAlamMsia @3rdworldnetwork et CAP (Great people like Martin Khor never leave this world: their seeds germinate in our struggles for justice, they pollinate any attempt to break the chains of oppression" Our condolences to his family, his friends, @SahabatAlamMsia @ 3rdworldnetwork and CAP)	Amis de la Terre (@FoEInt_Fr, @FoEInr_Es, @FoEINT)
So saddened to hear of the death of the great Martin Khor. You taught and inspired a whole generation, Martin, and your calm determination provided an example for all of us to follow. With deepest condolences to Meenakshi and the @3rdworldnetwork family.	John Hilary
This is very sad news. Thank you for alerting us all. RIP Martin Khor, a fearless advocate for sustainability, equity, and justice:  <a href="https://twitter.com/HelenClarkNZ/status/1247315555255631872">https://twitter.com/HelenClarkNZ/status/1247315555255631872</a>	Helen Clark, former NZ Prime Minister and UNDP Administrator
This is indeed sad news. I first met Martin at the Earth Summit in Rio in 1992. He was a passionate advocate for South-South Cooperation and led both the South Centre and the Third World Network. He definitely contributed to massive positive change in this world. RIP Martin.	Adam Rogers, former UNDP Geneva
Obituary for Martin Khor – an undaunted fighter for the poor and underprivileged, a passionate believer in a more balanced and inclusive multilateralism	Felix Dodds
Deeply saddened to know that Martin Khor has passed away. Both Lakshmi & I knew him in his various avatars in Geneva & New York. He will be remembered as a renowned development economist & champion of South-South cooperation.  Martin threw his heart & soul into supporting the cause of developing countries of South in international trade & finance negotiations. We offer our condolences to his family. He will be missed. RIP.	Hardeep Singh Puri

<p><b>Tribute/Messages on Twitter @ Twitter -</b>  <a href="https://twitter.com/search?q=martin%20khor&amp;src=typed_query">https://twitter.com/search?q=martin%20khor&amp;src=typed_query</a> and  <a href="https://mobile.twitter.com/search?q=martin+khor&amp;f=live">https://mobile.twitter.com/search?q=martin+khor&amp;f=live</a></p>	<p><b>By</b></p>
	
<p>Joining in conveying sincere condolences to his family! He will indeed be sorely missed. RIP</p>	<p>Ajai Malhotra</p>



## VII. Obituaries and Tributes Online

- New Straits Times - <https://www.nst.com.my/news/nation/2020/04/580237/condolences-pour-late-martin-khor>
- Sinar Harian - <https://www.sinarharian.com.my/article/76740/BERITA/Nasional/Saifuddin-ucap-takziah-atas-kematian-Martin-Khor>
- The Star Online: <https://www.thestar.com.my/news/nation/2020/04/01/former-third-world-network-director-martin-khor-dies-of-cancer>
- Free Malaysia Today: <https://www.freemalaysiatoday.com/category/nation/2020/04/01/tribute-pours-in-after-death-of-intellectual-giant-martin-khor/>
- Malaysiakini.com - <https://m.malaysiakini.com/news/518093> and <https://www.malaysiakini.com/news/518059>
- Malay Mail - <https://www.malaymail.com/news/what-you-think/2020/04/01/obituary-martin-khor-1951-2020-gurdial-singh-nijar/1852410>
- Free Malaysia Today - <https://www.freemalaysiatoday.com/category/bahasa/2020/04/02/pemergian-martin-khor-akan-lebar-jurang-kemiskinan-global-kata-tok-mat/>
- The Star - <https://www.thestar.com.my/news/nation/2020/04/02/tok-mat-pays-tribute-to-civil-society-advocate-martin-khor>
- The Star - <https://www.thestar.com.my/news/nation/2020/04/02/pioneering-activist-loses-battle-against-cancer>
- Aliran - <https://aliran.com/towering-msians/martin-khor-1951-2020-local-and-global-activist-extraordinaire/>
- El19digital.com - <https://www.el19digital.com/articulos/ver/titulo:101954-nota-de-duelo-del-gobierno-de-nicaragua-por-el-fallecimiento-del-companero-martin-khor>
- Barricada.com.ni - <https://barricada.com.ni/nicaragua-lamenta-fallecimiento-de-exdirector-ejecutivo-de-south-centre/>
- Inter Press Service - <http://www.ipsnews.net/2020/04/memori-am-%E2%80%92-martin-khor/>
- Inter Press Service - <https://www.ipsnews.net/2020/04/martin-khor-third-worldist/>
- Inter Press Service - <http://www.ipsnews.net/2020/04/memory-martin-khor/>
- Anilnetto.com – <https://anilnetto.com/global-issues/global-justice-movement/martin-khor-penang-boy-global-champion-of-sustainability/>
- EPW Online - <https://www.epw.in/engage/article/remembering-martin-khor-journalist-lawyer-and>
- World Council of Churches - [https://www.oikoumene.org/en/press-centre/news/martin-khor-kok-peng-friend-of-the-poor-passes-away?utm\\_source=dlvr.it&utm\\_medium=twitter](https://www.oikoumene.org/en/press-centre/news/martin-khor-kok-peng-friend-of-the-poor-passes-away?utm_source=dlvr.it&utm_medium=twitter)
- New Straits Times - <https://www.nst.com.my/opinion/columnists/2020/04/581448/khors-ideas-and-legacies-live>
- The Wire - <https://thewire.in/trade/remembering-martin-khor-champion-of-economic-equality-and-just-globalisation>
- Foreign Policy in Focus - <https://fpif.org/martin-khor-the-making-of-a-global-activist/>
- Riforma - <https://riforma.it/it/articolo/2020/04/06/muore-lamico-dei-poveri-martin-khor-kok-peng>

- Democracy Now! - [https://www.democracynow.org/2020/4/6/headlines/journalist\\_economist\\_martin\\_khor\\_who\\_fought\\_for\\_ecological\\_rights\\_in\\_the\\_global\\_south\\_dies\\_at\\_68](https://www.democracynow.org/2020/4/6/headlines/journalist_economist_martin_khor_who_fought_for_ecological_rights_in_the_global_south_dies_at_68)
- Inequality.org - <https://inequality.org/research/martin-khor-global-equity/>
- FERN - <https://www.fern.org/news-resources/remembering-martin-khor-a-strong-voice-for-the-third-world-2120/>

New Straits Times - <https://www.nst.com.my/news/nation/2020/04/580237/condolences-pour-late-martin-khor>

By **Audrey Dermawan**

April 1, 2020 @ 2:31pm

GEORGE TOWN: Chief Minister Chow Kon Yeow has extended his condolences to the family of global consumer activist Martin Khor, who died earlier today.

The 69-year-old Penang-born, who was battling cancer for the past few years, was the secretary of the Consumers Association of Penang (CAP), the advisor to the Third World Network (TWN), council Member of Sahabat Alam Malaysia and former executive director of South Centre (a group representing the interests of the 53 developing countries based in Geneva).

"He was a journalist, an economist and the advisor of TWN based here. I want to take this opportunity to extend my heartfelt condolences to his family," he said today.

Meanwhile, CAP president Mohideen Abdul Kader said Malaysia had lost one of its best activists, who was also an intellectual of international standing and had worked tirelessly for the downtrodden and the disadvantaged South. Khor, Mohideen said, was best remembered for his many contributions to the poor communities in Malaysia, including Kuala Juru, Thean Teik Estate, and the fight against Asian Rare Earth and the stopping of the Penang Hill project.

"He was an intellectual who communicated in a simple manner to reach out to the people. He worked tirelessly for a just and equitable world economic order. He also gave up his job as a civil servant in the Ministry of Finance, Singapore.

"He was instrumental to the development of CAP together with the late S. M. Mohamed Idris, creating one of the most vibrant consumer groups which had become a model for consumer associations in developing countries.

"He had mentored countless activists around the world who had the opportunity to work with him.

"The global community in the South remembers him for his work on representing and articulating the views of the South in relation to unfair trade in the World Trade Organisation.

"He was also in the forefront globally in the climate change negotiations, representing the views of the South. Antibiotic resistance, access to medicine and the rational use of drugs were the latest issues he was working on," he said today.

Khor, an economist trained at Cambridge University and the Universiti Sains Malaysia, was the author of many books and articles on economics, sustainable development, globalisation, trade and intellectual property.

He was formerly a member of the UN Committee on Development Policy, the UN Secretary General's Task Force on Environment and Development and a Vice Chair of the Expert Group on the Right to Development of the UN Human Rights Commission.

"It is with tremendous heartfelt sadness and loss that we at CAP, consumers in Malaysia and in the global South will miss his leadership and activism in fighting for their rights," he added.

Sinar Harian - <https://www.sinarharian.com.my/article/76740/BERITA/Nasional/Saifuddin-ucap-takziah-atas-kematian-Martin-Khor>

**Saifuddin ucap takziah atas kematian Martin Khor**

**BERNAMA | 1 April 2020**

KUALA LUMPUR - Menteri Komunikasi dan Multimedia, Datuk Saifuddin Abdullah mengucapkan takziah di atas kematian bekas Pengarah Third World Network & South Centre, Martin Khor Kok Peng hari ini.

Saifuddin dalam akaun rasmi Twitter, menyifatkan Khor sebagai seorang wartawan berkaliber dan pakar ekonomi yang pernah bertugas bersama dalam majlis perunding di Kementerian Luar.

"Sungguh sedih mendengar kematian seorang sahabat lama, Martin Khor. Beliau seorang wartawan berkaliber, ahli ekonomi, bekas pengarah Third World Network & South Centre, dan bekerja dengan saya dalam majlis perunding itu @MalaysiaMFA. Beliau akan tetap dikenang," katanya.

Khor, 68, meninggal dunia pagi ini selepas bertarung dengan penyakit kanser untuk beberapa tahun.

Dilahirkan pada 1951 di Pulau Pinang, beliau seorang aktivis sosial yang tidak asing terutama dalam isu hak pengguna dan alam sekitar.

Khor pernah bertugas di Universiti Sains Malaysia dan memainkan peranan penting dalam Third World Network sebelum berpindah ke South Centre di Geneva.

Mendiang juga seorang kolumnis akhbar The Star dari 1978 hingga 2019 meninggalkan seorang isteri dan seorang anak perempuan.

Upacara pengebumian akan diadakan esok, di Mount Erskine. - Bernama

The Star Online: <https://www.thestar.com.my/news/nation/2020/04/01/former-third-world-network-director-martin-khor-dies-of-cancer>

### Former Third World Network director Martin Khor dies of cancer (updated)

Wednesday, 01 Apr 2020

10:06 AM MYT

By **N. TRISHA**

GEORGE TOWN: Former director of the Third World Network and *The Star* columnist Martin Khor Kok Peng has died. He had been ill for several years and had returned to Penang to receive treatment and fight cancer, where he passed away Wednesday (April 1).

Born in 1951 in Penang, Khor was active in civil society movements.

A journalist, economist and the former director of advocacy group for Third World societies, Third World Network based in Penang, he taught at Universiti Sains Malaysia and played a leading role in the Third World Network before heading the South Centre in Geneva.

Khor was a columnist for *The Star* from 1978 to 2019.

Khor leaves behind a wife and daughter.

His wake will be held at the funeral parlour in Mount Erskine today and the funeral will be tomorrow (April 2).

His family requests that any contribution or tribute be in the form of a donation to either the Consumers Association of Penang or Sahabat Alam Malaysia, as per Khor's wish.



Free Malaysia Today:

<https://www.freemalaysiatoday.com/category/nation/2020/04/01/tribute-pours-in-after-death-of-intellectual-giant-martin-khor/>

### Tributes pour in after death of 'intellectual giant' Martin Khor

**Predeep Nambiar**

April 1, 2020 11:13 AM



Social activist Martin Khor.

GEORGE TOWN: Tributes have been pouring in for prominent civil society activist Martin Khor, who died this morning at the age of 68.

A family friend told FMT that Khor, who chaired research and advocacy organisation Third World Network, succumbed to cancer at his home in Tanjung Bungah. Khor was also honorary secretary of the Consumers Association of Penang and the former executive director of South Centre, an NGO for developing countries based in Switzerland.

James Love, director of US-based NGO Knowledge Ecology International, said Khor had been deeply committed to the

interests of those living in poverty and on the margins of the global economy.

"He was a friend and someone that I admired very much," he said in a tweet.

Timo Voipio, an official at Finland's foreign affairs ministry, said Khor's death was a blow to the world, while Global Development Policy Center director Kevin P Gallagher said Khor had advocated globalisation for the betterment of the world.

"You lived a life advocating globalisation that would benefit all – especially developing countries. You leave when we need you most, but we will use your example to work even harder for a just global economy," he said on Twitter.

Author Ann Pettifor said Khor had been instrumental in "amplifying" the voice of the poor during the Seattle World Trade Organisation (WTO) negotiations.

India's Zakir Thomas meanwhile said Khor had been an "ardent advocate of equality and justice in the post-WTO, globalised world".

"His work has influenced policies in many countries. The world is a better place because of you and many who carry on the unfinished agenda."

Communications and Multimedia Minister Saifuddin Abdullah also conveyed his condolences on Twitter, saying Khor had been an old friend.

"Deeply saddened to hear of the passing of an old friend, Martin Khor. He was a distinguished journalist, economist... and once served on my consultative council at the foreign ministry," he said.

Malaysiakini.com - <https://m.malaysiakini.com/news/518093> and  
Malay Mail - <https://www.malaymail.com/news/what-you-think/2020/04/01/obituary-martin-khor-1951-2020-gurdial-singh-nijar/1852410>

**Martin Khor: 1951 - 2020**

Gurdial Singh Nijar

1 Apr 2020, 8:10 am

**OBITUARY** | Martin Khor passed away in the early hours of April 1, 2020, in Penang after a five-year formidable struggle with cancer.

Martin, you will be remembered for your commitment to things that matter most in life. From the preservation of the local environment to the global attenuation of the hazards of climate change.

Hence your crucial leadership of the Consumers Association of Penang (CAP) - which waged struggles to preserve the treasures and bounty of Penang – fighting against plans to "develop" Penang Hill, against hill slope construction, the reclamation of lands from the sea and mega- projects.

From ensuring not only the national sovereign interest but more significantly the collective integrity of developing countries. Marked by what must easily be your greatest admirable feat - inspiring the creation of developing country blocs to face developed countries in international negotiations starting from the 1992 Rio de Janeiro Earth Summit until the more recent 2010 Climate Change Agreement.

With loads of other treaty negotiations in-between. Primarily through the internationally renowned Third World Network (TWN) which you founded in 1984 together with your mentor the late SM Mohamed Idris and other international luminaries.

Martin cut a familiar figure with diplomats at the World Trade Organisation (WTO). I recall in the early 1990s he would drag me to the WTO building, overlooking the picturesque Lake Geneva, where we would sit patiently outside the negotiation room and rush to diplomats as they emerged.

To hand them sheaves of Martin's well-prepared policy arguments on each issue of fundamental concern to developing countries such as the need to limit the deleterious effects of intellectual property for medicines and the like.

Thus did his reputation grow as an indefatigable aide to developing countries, earning him welcome access to the inner caucuses of Third World governments. Aptly culminating in his appointment in 2009 as the chief of the South Centre - an intergovernmental policy research and analysis institution of developing countries head-quartered in Geneva. His term ended in 2015.

He was a constant at our ministries and agencies, reaching to the very top to push for national policy positions. I recall being invited together with Martin by the previous Pakatan Harapan government to address members of the cabinet and the attorney-general on issues relating to the ratification of the CPTPP, a trans-Pacific trade agreement.

Where he lucidly recounted the downside of the dispute settlement mechanism which could impoverish developing countries in suits brought against the government if they carried out reforms in the national interest but which corporations claimed affected their economic interests.

There are many facets and shades of Martin's life to fully grasp. Self-effacing, he pushed others to the forefront while providing intellectual research and boost. Industrious, working overnight wherever he was to ensure key materials were in the hands of decision-makers timeously.

Intellectual giant, with so many books, articles and a *Star* column to his name. Caring, always lending a helping hand or ear to those around him. Truly, a legend in his lifetime and well after.

On a personal note, just last week when his passing became imminent, I made a final request to his good wife Meena. The WhatsApp message read: "I feel you must let Martin know how inspirational he was to me and others in pursuing indefatigably his commitment to causes. He pushed buttons that no one even thought of. He brought change in ways that people in the know truly admire him for. I would tell him this myself personally but for this lockdown."

All this re-echoed in the overwhelming outpouring of grief from friends and collaborators the world over. From renowned British author Ann Pettifor, "(Martin) a powerful, brilliant and effective fighter for poorest nations' rights in global fora [...] amplifying the voice of the poor" to Finland's foreign ministry, "You leave when we need you most, but we will use your example to work even harder for a just global economy."

Martin, rest in peace.



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GURDIAL SINGH NIJAR is president of the National Human Rights Society (Hakam) and a former law professor.

Malaysiakini.com - <https://www.malaysiakini.com/news/518059>

Ex-director of Third World Network Martin Khor dies

**Hidir Reduan Abdul Rashid**

Published 1 Apr 2020, 6:07 am

Modified 1 Apr 2020, 6:48 am

Former director of the Third World Network Martin Khor has passed away in Penang this morning, following a years-long battle with cancer. He was 68.

Born in Penang in 1951, the executive director of the Switzerland-based South Centre, received his training as an economist at Cambridge University and Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM), and later played a pivotal role in several civil society organisations.

Having taught at USM and served as a columnist with English daily *The Star* from 1978 to last year, he later played an active role in the Third World Network, an independent Penang-based non-profit international research and advocacy organisation that is involved in issues relating to development, developing countries and North-South affairs.

Tributes began pouring in today for the outspoken activist who played a role in advocating and raising public awareness for a just and equitable society.

In a posting on his Facebook page this morning, Bayan Baru MP Sim Tze Zin expressed sadness at the passing of Khor, whom the lawmaker described as an economist, thinker and advocate for the poor and a fairer world.

“We will miss a conscientious voice in Malaysia’s public sphere. May he rest in peace,” Sim said.

The Galen Centre for Health and Social Policy on its Facebook page extended its condolences to the family of Khor, who not only authored several books and articles on sustainable development, globalisation and economics, but was also a former member of the United Nations (UN) Committee on Development Policy, the UN Secretary-General’s Task Force on Environment and Development, and a vice-chairperson of the Expert Group on the Right to Development of the UN Human Rights Commission.

“He was a fierce advocate in helping developing countries address issues of health and access to medicines, climate change, food security, trade and investment policies. His contributions to society and intellect will be missed,” the centre said.

Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia principal research fellow Denison Jayasooria, in a posting on his Facebook, credited his social awakening to Khor, who in 1983 was with the Consumer Association of Penang (CAP) and had invited faith-based leaders for a discussion on faith and society action for the poor.

Denison, who last encountered Khor in Putrajaya last year at the Foreign Policy advisory group under then foreign minister Saifuddin Abdullah, described Khor as “truly a Malaysian who has played a role in international matters via Third World Network and South Centre”.



In a statement, former president of Consumers International Anwar Fazal expressed condolences over Khor’s passing as the latter was a rare public intellectual who spent his time in serving the public interest on issues of economics, ecology and equity.

Anwar, who is currently Right Livelihood College director, said that Khor had contributed much to not only CAP, but also to Sahabat Alam Malaysia (SAM) and Third World Network, and that Malaysia and civil society has lost an outstanding writer and activist.

“Most significant too, he (Khor) served as head of the international South Centre based in Geneva, which

promoted and protected the interests of the Third World against global hegemony by imperial economic and geopolitical powers,” Anwar said.

“Even (former prime minister) Dr Mahathir (Mohamad) invited Martin to brief the cabinet, a rare thing for civil society activists.

“Although always appearing with a serious deep thinking demeanor, he had a warm heart as reflected in his most recent and last book which was titled *Happiness* and dedicated to his granddaughter,” Anwar said, adding that Khor’s father, Khor Cheang Kee, was one of the greatest journalists in Penang having headed both the *New Straits Times* and *The Star*.

Penang Forum spokesperson Khoo Salma Nasution extended condolences to Khor’s family, lamenting his passing as “Penang has lost a precious son and the global south has lost a great champion”.

“In the last year, Martin gave his full support to Penang Tolak Tambak, and always had kind and encouraging words for us,” Khoo said. Penang Tolak Tambak refers to a group of Penang NGOs involved in advocacy against the rampant land reclamation in the state and the whole country.

Meanwhile, Third World Network researcher Evelyn Teh told *Malaysiakini* that Khor’s passing is a great loss in the world of social activism as well as a personal loss to many whom he inspired throughout his tenacious journey in the fight for a more just future, be it through economics, trade, the environment, and consumer and global affairs.

“I knew Martin as a kind and soft-spoken person, and a rare intellectual who is remarkably adept in articulating complex issues into concise analysis which anyone could understand.

“His visions for a just world are often ahead of our time, and he understood the urgency of these matters in which he practically dedicated his whole life to. His influence reaches far and wide over many decades of relentless research, writing and advocacy – that which helped shaped not only the national, but international policies at the UN, WTO (World Trade Organisation) and beyond,” Teh said.

Describing Khor as like a father figure to her, she said that while she is deeply saddened by his passing, she felt grateful that he left behind many of his writings on issues that continue to be relevant and pertinent especially now as people

worldwide experience the inevitable shift of the world's social and economic foundations due to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic.

Free Malaysia Today - <https://www.freemalaysiatoday.com/category/bahasa/2020/04/02/pemergian-martin-khor-akan-lebar-jurang-kemiskinan-global-kata-tok-mat/>

### **Pemergian Martin Khor akan lebar jurang kemiskinan global, kata Tok Mat**

**FMT Reporters**

April 2, 2020 12:27 PM



Mohamad Hasan menyifatkan Martin Khor sebagai ahli ekonomi dan intelektual dalam kelas tersendiri. PETALING JAYA: Timbalan Presiden Umno, Mohamad Hasan berkata, pemergian aktivis terkenal, Martin Khor Kok Peng ketika seluruh dunia giat memerangi pandemik Covid-19 akan melebarkan lagi jurang kemiskinan dan ketidakseimbangan global.

Katanya, sumbangan Khor menunjukkan kepentingan peranan pertubuhan sivil yang memberi perspektif adil, di luar jangkaun dan komprehensif dalam membangunkan negara.

Katanya, Khor ialah intelektual awam, aktivis, pejuang alam sekitar dan pemikir pembangunan terkemuka yang

mempunyai reputasi dan wibawa global.

"Beliau pernah memimpin The South Centre di Geneva dan Third World Network, pergerakan madani yang memperjuangkan kepentingan negara membangun dan kurang membangun.

"Mendiang adalah sosok yang dirujuk pelbagai pertubuhan dunia dan kerajaan pelbagai negara dalam perkara berkaitan pembangunan lestari, menangani kesenjangan dan perdagangan bertanggungjawab.

"Namanya senantiasanya menitir di bibir birokrat Pertubuhan Bangsa-bangsa Bersatu, WTO (Pertubuhan Perdagangan Sedunia), Bank Dunia, IMF (Tabung Kewangan Antarabangsa) dan pelbagai pertubuhan antarabangsa lain," katanya dalam kenyataan hari ini.

Khor, 68, meninggal dunia akibat kanser di rumahnya di Tanjung Bungah pagi semalam.

Aktivis sosial itu dilahirkan di Pulau Pinang pada 1951.

Mohamad yang lebih dikenali sebagai Tok Mat menyifatkan Khor ialah ahli ekonomi dan intelektual dalam kelasnya tersendiri.

Katanya, Khor mendedikasikan sepanjang hayatnya untuk memperjuangkan nasib golongan dhuafa, terpinggir dan dilupakan.

"Misi beliau ialah pembangunan yang berkeadilan dan mengurangkan kesenjangan global demi kemanusiaan.

"Mendiang telah meletakkan asas sangat kukuh untuk kita memahami kesenjangan, kemiskinan, pembangunan mapan dan kelestarian di seluruh dunia. Kita mesti mengambil teladan daripada idea, pemikiran dan kerja kerasnya dalam perkara-perkara tersebut.

"Terima kasih atas segalanya, Martin. Kami akan sentiasa mengingati perjuangan saudara."

The Star - <https://www.thestar.com.my/news/nation/2020/04/02/tok-mat-pays-tribute-to-civil-society-advocate-martin-khor>

### **Tok Mat pays tribute to civil society advocate Martin Khor**

Thursday, 02 Apr 2020

11:12 AM MYT

By **SARBAN SINGH**

SEREMBAN: Malaysian civil society advocate Martin Khor was a prominent thinker and one of Malaysia's famous sons whose expertise was often sought by governments and organisations like the United Nations and the World Bank, says Datuk Seri Mohamad Hasan.

Saying that Khor was one of the few Malaysians who had a good reputation in the global arena, the Umno deputy president described his death as a massive loss.

"Khor studied at Cambridge University and was an economist and an intellectual in a class of his own.

"He dedicated his life to fighting for the man on the street, the marginalised, those left behind and those who had been forgotten," he said in a statement Thursday (April 2).

Khor, a former director of the Third World Network advocacy group and a Star columnist, died of cancer on Wednesday (April 1).



Born in 1951 in Penang, he was active in civil society movements.

Khor taught at Universiti Sains Malaysia and played a leading role in the Third World Network before heading the South Centre in Geneva.

Mohamad said Khor, who was an activist and environmentalist, often reminded people of the important roles civil society played in developing a nation.

"His views were always sought by bureaucrats including from the World Trade Organisation and the International Monetary Fund as well as other international bodies.

"Since his mission was to promote fair and equitable development and humanity, Khor's passing during this Covid-19 pandemic will surely widen the poverty gap between rich and poor nations," he said.

Mohamad added that Khor had left behind a legacy that Malaysians need to build on.

"All of us should learn and continue to be inspired by his ideas, thoughts and the hard work that he had put in all these years.

"Thank you for everything, Martin Khor, and we shall always remember your struggles," he added.

The Star - <https://www.thestar.com.my/news/nation/2020/04/02/pioneering-activist-loses-battle-against-cancer>

### Pioneering activist loses battle against cancer

Thursday, 02 Apr 2020

By **N. TRISHA**



Mount Erskine funeral parlour in George Town

GEORGE TOWN: He fought gallantly for the weak and needy for about 50 years and was a true hero in the eyes of the poor. Yesterday, Malaysian civil society icon Martin Khor lost his battle against cancer and passed away peacefully at the age of 69.

Known for his kindness and compassion towards those in need, Khor is remembered by his wife Meenakshi Raman, who said his passing was a great loss to the community, country and world. "He was a contributor to the world. He made the biggest issues simple to understand.

"Many people have said that he inspired them in the causes they are dedicating their lives to now," she said, adding that they first met in the course of work at the Consumers' Association of Penang (CAP).

Meenakshi, who is president of Sahabat Alam Malaysia (SAM), said Khor was battling colorectal cancer since 2015.

Born in 1951 in Penang, Khor studied in St Xavier's Institution and did his Masters in Economics at Cambridge University and taught political economy at Universiti Sains Malaysia.

Khor, a Penangite, was also a journalist, economist and former director of the Third World Network, which is based in Penang.

He was also a columnist with The Star from 1978 to 2019.

Star Media Group adviser Datuk Seri Wong Chun Wai said he had known Khor for decades.

"He was a columnist with The Star. With his ability to explain complex economic issues in simple journalistic style, he was a man of immense intellect.

"His father, the late Datuk Khor Cheang Kee, was a pioneer staff member of The Star before retiring as an adviser. Both had a long time link with The Star," he said, adding that Khor devoted his life to NGOs.

"He was always on the side of the weak and poor, whether developing countries or underprivileged people."

CAP co-founder Datuk Dr Anwar Fazal said Khor was a towering Malaysian who chose to harness his high intellect for the purpose of social activism in the pursuit of a more just and equitable society.

"Many of us will remember him for his eloquence and writing when exposing the hypocrisy of the West in their trade negotiations or environmental policies," he said.

CAP president Mohideen Abdul Kader said that Malaysia had lost one of its best activists, who was also an intellectual of global standing. "He is best remembered for his contributions to poor communities in Malaysia, including Kuala Juru, Thean Teik Estate, and the fight against Asian Rare Earth and the stopping of the Penang Hill project.

"Khor was instrumental in the development of CAP together with the late CAP president, SM Mohamed Idris.

The funeral will be held today at 11am at the Mount Erskine crematorium. A memorial will be held at a later date in remembrance of Khor's life and work. The family requests no wreaths.

Donations in honour of Khor can be made to CAP (CIMB bank account number 7020582991) and SAM (CIMB bank account number 7020585730) – the two organisations close to Khor.

Aliran - <https://aliran.com/towering-msians/martin-khor-1951-2020-local-and-global-activist-extraordinaire/>

### Martin Khor (1951-2020) – Local and global activist extraordinaire

By

**Aliran admin**

1 Apr 2020

Aliran expresses its profound sorrow at the passing of the brilliant activist Martin Khor Kok Peng, who championed the cause of the South in global trade negotiations apart from his outstanding advocacy of consumer rights and environmental issues in Malaysia.

We express our deepest condolences to our friends in the Consumers Association of Penang, Sahabat Alam Malaysia and Third World Network and to the family of our dear Martin Khor.

*A message from Third World Network:*

It is with the deepest sorrow that we share the news that Martin Khor (1951-2020), Third World Network's chairman and former director, passed away peacefully in the early hours of 1 April 2020 in his home in Penang, Malaysia.

He had lived with cancer since 2015 but worked even harder as inspiring mentor, strategic and action-oriented thinker, indefatigable advocate and wonderful husband, father and grandfather.

We cannot even begin to reach out to all of Martin's friends and supporters who over decades, young and old, have marched with him to reject injustice and inequity among peoples especially of the South and to defend nature again and again.

Let us all continue on the journey that Martin helped to chart. If you wish to remember Martin you are most welcome to send a message to Third World Network [twm@twnetwork.org](mailto:twm@twnetwork.org)

*And this tribute from the Consumers Association of Penang:*

Malaysia has lost one of its best activists – an intellectual of international standing who had worked tirelessly for the downtrodden and the disadvantaged South.

Martin Khor was the honorary secretary of the Consumers Association of Penang, advisor to the Third World Network, council member of Sahabat Alam Malaysia and former executive director of South Centre (a group representing the interests of the 53 developing countries based in Geneva).

He passed away this morning in Penang of cancer and leaves behind a wife and daughter.

He was best remembered for his many contributions to the poor communities in Malaysia including Kuala Juru and Thean Teik Estate, for the fight against Asian Rare Earth and for the stopping of the Penang Hill project.

Martin was an intellectual who communicated in a simple manner to reach out to people. He worked tirelessly for a just and equitable world economic order. He also gave up his job as a civil servant in the Ministry of Finance in Singapore.

Martin was instrumental to the development of CAP together with the late SM Mohamed Idris, creating one of the most vibrant consumer groups which became a model for consumer associations in developing countries.

He mentored countless activists around the world who had the opportunity to work with him.

The global community in the South remembers him for his work in representing and articulating the views of the South in relation to unfair trade in the World Trade Organization.

He was also in the forefront globally in climate change negotiations, representing the views of the South.

Antibiotic resistance, access to medicine and the rational use of drugs were the latest issues he was working on.

Martin Khor was an economist trained at Cambridge University and University Sains Malaysia. He authored many books and articles on economics, sustainable development, globalisation, trade and intellectual property.

He was formerly a member of the UN Committee on Development Policy and of the UN secretary-general's taskforce on environment and development and vice-chair of the Expert Group on the Right to Development of the UN Human Rights Commission.

It is with tremendous heartfelt sadness and loss that we at CAP, consumers in Malaysia and in the global South will miss his leadership and activism in fighting for their rights.

*Former Aliran president Dr Francis Loh, chair of the board of governors of St Xavier's Institution and Martin's old classmate shares his thoughts:*

Meenakshi informed early this morning, 1 April, of the passing of Martin Khor Kok Peng, our dear classmate.

Martin had been ill for several years and had returned to Penang to receive treatment and to fight his cancer.

He was an outstanding member of the Class of 1968 who attended Cambridge University, taught in USM, played a leading role in Third World Network before heading to the South Centre in Geneva.

He attended a few of our class reunions including one on Chae Jee (the second day of Chinese New Year). He was guest of honour on speech day at SXI in 2018 when he and his siblings also launched the Khor Cheang Kee Memorial Prize for the best piece of writing in English for SXI students for the year.

*Be not afraid*

*I go before you always*

*Come follow me*

*And I will give you rest*

Goodbye, dearest Martin. Rest in Peace.

Condolences to Meena, his daughter and members of the Khor family.

[El19digital.com - https://www.el19digital.com/articulos/ver/titulo:101954-nota-de-duelo-del-gobierno-de-nicaragua-por-el-fallecimiento-del-companero-martin-khor](https://www.el19digital.com/articulos/ver/titulo:101954-nota-de-duelo-del-gobierno-de-nicaragua-por-el-fallecimiento-del-companero-martin-khor)

Nota de duelo del Gobierno de Nicaragua por el fallecimiento del compañero Martin Khor

Jueves 2 de Abril 2020 | Consejo de Comunicación y Ciudadanía

**Managua, 02 de Abril de 2020**



El **Gobierno de Reconciliación y Unidad Nacional de la República de Nicaragua** transmite sus más sinceras condolencias a la familia del Compañero Martin Khor, originario de Penang, Malasia, Fundador, **Presidente y ex Director de Third World Network y ex Director Ejecutivo de South Centre**.

El Compañero Martin Khor trabajó estrechamente con Nicaragua en Copenhague, **Paris** y en todas las **Conferencias de la Partes (COP)** de la **Convención de las Naciones Unidas Contra el Cambio Climático**, preparando análisis de políticas y organizado reuniones previas a todas las COP y todas las reuniones del Fondo Verde del Clima a través del South Centre y el Third World Network (TWN) que ha fungido como el secretariado del grupo de países "Like Minded".

El Compañero Martin Khor promovió y protegió los intereses de los países en desarrollo y de los pobres del mundo frente a la hegemonía global de las potencias económicas y geopolíticas imperiales.

Hoy sin duda el mundo ha perdido un paladín en la lucha contra el **Cambio Climático** y los atropellos del imperialismo hegemónico global, pero su ejemplo e inspiración viven en todos aquellos a quienes inspiró y se comprometen en llevar esta lucha todos los días en pro de la Madre Tierra y un mundo más justo.

**Que descanse en Paz.**

Gobierno de Reconciliación y Unidad Nacional  
Unida Nicaragua Triunfa



Managua, 02 de Abril de 2020

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Que descanse en Paz.

[Barricada.com.ni - https://barricada.com.ni/nicaragua-lamenta-fallecimiento-de-exdirector-ejecutivo-de-south-centre/](https://barricada.com.ni/nicaragua-lamenta-fallecimiento-de-exdirector-ejecutivo-de-south-centre/)

Nicaragua lamenta fallecimiento de exdirector ejecutivo de South Centre

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Que descanse en Paz.

[Inter Press Service - http://www.ipsnews.net/2020/04/memori-am-%E2%80%92-martin-khor/](http://www.ipsnews.net/2020/04/memori-am-%E2%80%92-martin-khor/)

**In memoriam – Martin Khor**

By [Yilmaz Akyüz](#) and [Richard Kozul-Wright](#) [Reprint](#) |

**GENEVA, Apr 3 2020 (IPS)** - We are greatly saddened by the passing of Martin Khor, a long-time friend and colleague, an undaunted fighter for the poor and underprivileged, a passionate believer in a more balanced and inclusive multilateralism, a rare intellectual and eloquent orator, an icon of the Global South worthy of veneration, greatly respected for his struggle for justice and fairness against the dominance and double-standards of big economic powers.

Martin was born in 1951 in colonial Malaysia, still under British rule, to a family of journalists. After his primary and secondary education in Malaysia, he left for the UK in 1971 to study at the University of Cambridge, where he obtained his B.A Hons and M.A. in economics, before completing his second Masters in Social Sciences at the University of Science, Malaysia in 1978.



#### **Martin Khor**

In his Master's thesis, he grappled with the changing nature of external dependence and surplus extraction in Malaysia as it moved from colonial to post-colonial status, with a view to its implications for the scope and limits of industrialization and development; a study which left an indelible mark on his subsequent engagement and activities in a world characterised by increasingly asymmetric power relations.

He started his professional career as an Administrative Officer at the Ministry of Finance, Singapore before joining the University of Science, Malaysia as lecturer in Economics in 1975.

He became the Research Director of The Consumers' Association of Penang in 1978, an independent non-profit international research and advocacy organization on issues related to development.

The Third World Network (TWN) was created in 1984 at an international Conference on "The Third World: Development and Crisis" organized by the Consumers' Association of Penang. In 1990, Martin became the Director of the TWN, perhaps the most important NGO from the developing world with operations globally, both in the North and the South, through offices, secretariats and researchers, including in Penang, Kuala Lumpur, Geneva, Beijing, Delhi, Jakarta, Manila, New York, Montevideo and Accra.

Martin held both positions at the Consumers' Association of Penang and the TWN until 2009 when he became the Executive Director of the South Centre in Geneva, an intergovernmental organization of developing countries established in 1995 to undertake research in various national and international development policy areas and provide advice and support to developing countries in a variety of international negotiating fora.

Under his leadership, the South Centre became an important voice in discussions on international trade and investment, intellectual property, health, global macroeconomics, finance, sustainable development, and climate change.

During his tenure, the Centre extended significantly the scope and quality of its policy research and advice, building an enhanced reputation and level of trust among developing countries in the struggles to protect and promote their interests. After leaving the South Centre in 2018, Martin returned to Penang, already suffering from cancer, and acted as Chairman of the Board of TWN until his death on April 1, 2020.

Martin was a staunch multilateralist but not an advocate of globalization, at least in the neo-liberal guise it acquired from the early 1980s. On the one hand, he was well aware that individually developing countries could not obtain fair deals with major (and minor) developed countries in the international economic system.

On the other hand, he knew that multilateral rules and practices were unbalanced, designed to subject developing countries to the discipline of unfettered international markets shaped by transnational corporations and self-seeking policies of dominant powers in the North, denying them the kind of policy space they themselves had enjoyed in the course of their industrialization. His efforts focussed on reshaping multilateral rules and practices as a way to bring about systemic changes in the service of development.

**Martin did this on three fronts.** From the mid-1980s he focussed mainly on international trade issues, particularly those raised by negotiations during the Uruguay Round, and subsequently in the WTO and the proliferating free trade agreements and bilateral investment treaties that accompanied the shift to a neo-liberal international economic order. Martin was instrumental in bringing the attention of policy makers and activists to the implications of new trade rules for the industrialization and development of the Global South arising from more demanding obligations on tariff and non-tariff measures, industrial subsidies, investment and intellectual property rights.

He made several proposals for reform in these areas to remove imbalances and constraints over industrialization, and economic diversification more generally, in the Global South. He opposed free trade agreements with developed countries on the grounds that, by simultaneously curtailing the policy space available to governments while expanding the space for abusive practices by the large international firms that dominate international trade, they posed an even greater threat to development than the earlier generation of trade rules under the GATT.

In the aftermath of the Marrakech agreement, Martin was a prominent figure blocking efforts by OECD countries to push for a multilateral investment agreement, to extend the neo-liberal agenda at the first WTO ministerial in Singapore and subsequently at the third meeting in Seattle and to water down the Doha Development Agenda at the Cancun Ministerial in 2003.

**The second front** concerned the issues around the operations of the Bretton Woods Institutions, notably debt and development finance. Martin had been a long-time critic of the Washington Consensus, and in particular, the use of policy conditionalities attached to lending by the IFIs which sought to push a series of damaging measures on developing countries in the name of efficiency, competitiveness and attracting foreign investors.

But he started to pay greater attention to these after the 1997 Asian financial crisis, arguing against austerity, advocating capital controls, orderly debt work-out mechanisms, multilateral discipline over exchange rates and financial policies of major advanced economies and global regulation and supervision of systemically important international financial firms. He was a particularly strong advocate of these positions in his role as a member of the Helsinki Group on Globalisation and Democracy. Martin took the helm of the South Centre just before the 2009 Global Financial Crisis hit and was quick to provide substantive assistance to developing countries during the 2009 UN Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and its Impact on Development, identifying the key issues for them and working to ensure their insertion in the Outcome Document.

He continued to push hard on these issues through the research output from the Centre while adding the related areas of illicit financial flows and international tax issues to its workload as developing countries sought support on these matters.

**The third, and increasingly prominent, front was climate change** and sustainable development which gained added importance in international discussions in the new millennium. Environmental issues had always been part of Martin's work as head of TWN and as a member of the Commission on Developing Countries and Global Change.

But this widened significantly after the UN Conference on the Environment and Development in 1992 in Rio de Janeiro. Subsequently, Martin became a member of the Consultative Group on Sustainable Development and a regular attendee at the UN Climate Change Conferences that began in 1995 playing a particularly important role in the Copenhagen COP in 2009 where the neglect of the development dimension by advanced economies, their reluctance to acknowledge common but differentiated responsibilities and their naïve belief in market-friendly solutions to the climate challenge led to acrimonious discussions and the eventual collapse of the conference.

While he clearly recognized the need to reduce the pace of emissions and protect the environment, Martin was wary that the measures promoted by industrial countries could become instruments to stem development in the Global South. Under his leadership an important part of the work in the South Centre focussed on this issue.

#### **Related IPS Articles**

- [Articles by Martin Khor](#)

During this time Martin was a strong critic of tighter intellectual property rights, particularly through trade agreements, that restricted the transfer of the technologies developing countries needed to help in the fight against rising global temperatures and to mitigate the climate damage they were already experiencing.

This work had a parallel in Martin's fight to ease the burden of TRIPs on developing countries in dealing with public health emergencies which, thanks to a successful civil society coalition where Martin was a pivotal figure, eventually succeeded in a permanent amendment to the TRIPs agreement in 2017.

Martin's support to developing countries in the climate change negotiations, carried out through the South Centre and TWN, fostered greater coordination among developing countries in protecting and promoting their development policy space in the climate negotiations, highlighting equity, and stressing the international obligation of advanced economies to provide support to developing countries.

Martin's approach to advancing progressive solutions on all these fronts was always one of quiet determination driven by a passionate commitment to strengthening the voice of developing countries.

He had an enviable ability to synthesise and explain complex negotiating issues to a broad audience and in a way that could bring on board activists and policy makers alike. He became a trusted advisor to policy makers and diplomats across the developing world.

But Martin was equally comfortable engaging in a productive debate with policy makers from advanced countries and in mainstream institutions. His was a uniquely calming but authoritative voice for increasingly anxious times, one that has been silenced too soon and at a moment when his commitment to building a fairer and more resilient world was needed more than ever.

*Yilmaz Akyüz, Former Director, Globalization and Development Strategies Division, UNCTAD; and Former Chief Economist, South Centre, Geneva.*

*Richard Kozul-Wright, Director, Globalization and Development Strategies Division, UNCTAD, Geneva.*

Inter Press Service - <https://www.ipsnews.net/2020/04/martin-khor-third-worldist/>

Martin Khor, Third Worldist

By [Jomo Kwame Sundaram](#) Reprint |



**PENANG, Apr 3 2020 (IPS)** - Martin Khor Kok Peng passed away just after the end of the first quarter of 2020. He leaves behind an unusually rich legacy. Atypically for people mainly working in the world ideas, he was also a very practical and pragmatic activist who successfully built and sustained several important initiatives which will live on after him.

#### **Martin Khor**

Martin was widely well known, both in Malaysia and internationally, and will be remembered for his commitment to a variety of causes perhaps best summed up by the concept of sustainable development, adopted by world leaders at Rio in 1992, and reaffirmed in Johannesburg in 2002, Rio again in 2012 and, most recently, through the Sustainable Development Goals declared in 2015.

Born in 1951, Martin's passing, less than a year after the demise of his mentor and close collaborator, the nonagenarian Mahathir contemporary, S M Mohammed Idris, suggests the end of an era, not only in Malaysia, but also beyond. Already there are many pronouncements about the end of the Third World, of the solidarity of the global South, and most recently, about the related demise of multilateralism, especially as it was transformed in the 1970s when the United Nations committed to a New International Economic Order, thanks to the G77 caucus of developing countries at the UN.

#### **Paths not taken**

Reflecting on Martin's career path, one cannot but be struck by the choices he made, and by paths not taken. Leaving his hometown of Penang, Martin was a pre-university classmate of current Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong in Singapore, before going to Cambridge together.

Later, after a few months in Singapore's civil service during 1974-1975, which almost surely would have led him to a cabinet position in Lee's cabinet, Martin 'broke his bond' to return to Malaysia to start teaching for a pittance at the Science University of Malaysia (USM).

From there, he began his lifelong engagement with the Consumers Association of Penang (CAP) and Friends of the Earth, Malaysia (SAM), collaborating closely with Haji Idris, to wage efforts to protect Penang, and later the country against ecological and other disasters in the name of development.

#### **From local to global**

Following an international civil society solidarity conference in 1984, Third World Network (TWN) was born and rapidly developed by Martin to promote collective solidarity to protect developing countries' national interests as the global South came under siege with the neoliberal ascendance of the 1980s.

The South Summit in Kuala Lumpur in 1986 established the South Commission worked under former Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh which recommended establishing the South Centre as an intergovernmental policy research and analysis institution for developing countries headquartered in Geneva and chaired by Tanzanian President Julius Nyerere. Years later, Martin took over the South Centre in 2009, strengthening its finances, capacities and impact, by creatively mobilizing resources.

#### **The personal is political**

Martin's widow, Meenakshi Raman was a victim of Malaysian political repression in 1987. But without personal rancour, Martin worked closely with the Mahathir and subsequent Malaysian administrations, especially on international causes, including trade, intellectual property, biopiracy and climate change.

Martin touched many, inspiring all by his tireless commitment. He was often more than happy for others to get credit for his discreet efforts behind the scenes with relevant research and skilled drafting. His persistence was legendary, but everyone knew his efforts were not for personal gain.

Martin was well known for his indefatigable energy and meticulousness in preparing policy and advocacy briefs on many key matters of concern to developing countries, often working late into the night as necessary. This reputation gained him access to many government and other leaders.

Inter Press Service - <http://www.ipsnews.net/2020/04/memory-martin-khor/>

In memory of Martin Khor

By [IPS UN Bureau](#)

**NEW YORK, Apr 1 2020 (IPS)** - Martin Khor, a former Director of Third World Network who was a regular contributor of opinion editorials to IPS over several years passed away in Penang on 1 April.

Born in 1951, Khor was active in civil society movements. A journalist, economist and former director of the advocacy group for Third World societies, Third World Network based in Penang, he taught at Universiti Sains Malaysia. Earlier, he headed the South Centre in Geneva.

In honor of Martin Khor's memory, IPS is republishing one of his opinion editorials: Action Needed to Avoid the End of Modern Medicine

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Action Needed to Avoid the End of Modern Medicine

By Martin Khor

Martin Khor is Executive Director of the South Centre, a think tank for developing countries, based in Geneva.



**Unregulated sales of antibiotics are contributing to growing resistance.**  
Credit: Adil Siddiqi/IPS

PENANG, Malaysia, Dec 5 2017 (IPS) – The next time you have a bad cold and reach for the antibiotics left over from your last visit to the doctor, think again. Firstly, the antibiotics won't work as they only act against bacteria while the cold is caused by a virus. Secondly, you will be contributing to the arguably the world's gravest health threat – antibiotic resistance.

The wrong use and over-use of antibiotics

is one of the main causes why they are becoming increasingly ineffective against many diseases, including pneumonia, tuberculosis, blood disorders, gonorrhoea and foodborne diseases.

While an effective antibiotic kills most of the targeted germs, a few may survive and develop resistance which can spread to other bacteria that cause the same infection or different infections. The rate of resistance and its spread can increase if antibiotics are wrongly or over used, and they then become increasingly ineffective to treat bacterial infections.



**Martin Khor, Executive Director of the South Centre**

Global health leaders are now ringing the alarm bell. "Antimicrobial resistance is a global health emergency," warned the World Health Organisation's Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus. "The world is facing an antibiotic apocalypse," said the United Kingdom's Chief Medical Officer Dame Sally Davies. "It may spell the end of modern medicine." Warns the WHO: "Antibiotic resistance is rising to dangerously high levels in all parts of the world. New resistance mechanisms are emerging and spreading globally, threatening our ability to treat common infectious diseases...Without urgent action, we are heading for a post-antibiotic era, in which common infections and minor injuries can once again kill." (WHO Fact Sheet on antibiotic resistance, Nov. 2017).

These warnings were highlighted on World Antibiotics Awareness Week on 13-19 November when activities were held in many countries.

Antibiotic resistance is part of the wider phenomenon of anti-microbial resistance (AMR), which includes resistance of bacteria, fungi, viruses and parasites to medicines.

About 700,000 people die annually due to antimicrobial resistant infections, and this is estimated to rise to 10 million deaths a year by 2050 if action is not taken, with a cumulative economic cost of US \$100 trillion, according to a 2016 review on AMR sponsored by the UK government.

A key tipping point was reached recently when it was found that some bacteria had evolved to be resistant to colistin, the antibiotic of last resort which is used on a patient when all other antibiotics are found ineffective.

In 2016, researchers in China found colistin-resistant E. coli bacteria in 20 per cent of animals, 15 per cent of raw meat and 1 per cent of hospital patients that were sampled. The colistin resistance gene (*mcr-1*) could easily be transferred among different bacteria.

Malaysia was also one of the first countries where scientists found colistin-resistant bacteria. "Since the publication of our findings, *mcr-1* gene has been found in many other countries," said Associate Professor Dr Chan Kok Gan of University Malaya. "This is a frightening scenario and the whole world should sit up and take action to prevent further abuse of antibiotics."

If this resistance continues to spread, colistin will become less and less effective and we will eventually lose the "antibiotic of last resort."

The colistin story also carries another lesson. It is widely thought that resistance is due to over-use of antibiotics by consumers or the spread of infections caused by resistant bacteria to patients in hospitals.

However resistance is also spread through the agriculture sector and the food chain, as shown in the study on colistin in China.

In many countries, much of the antibiotics used (80 per cent in the case of the United States) are fed in farms to animals as growth promoters, to make them grow fatter and faster, as well as to prevent or treat diseases.

Resistant bacteria build up in the animals and are present in raw meat. Some of these bacteria are passed on to humans when they eat the meat.

In Malaysia, the Department of Veterinary Services in 2012 found that half of the domestic chickens tested had bacteria that were resistant to three types of antibiotics (ampicillin, sulphonamide, tetracycline), as cited in a memorandum by the Consumers' Association of Penang.

The environment is another source of the spread of resistance. Residues and wastes containing resistant bacteria flow from farms and hospitals and contaminate soils, drainage systems, rivers and seas. Some of these bacteria find their way to humans.

The European Union banned the use of antibiotics as growth promoters in animal feed in January 2006 while the US started action to phase them out in December 2013.



In most developing countries, little action has so far been taken. Hopefully that will start to change. In November 2017, the World Health Organisation issued its first ever guidelines on the use of antibiotics in food-producing animals.

"Scientific evidence demonstrates that overuse of antibiotics in animals can contribute to the emergence of antibiotic resistance," said WHO's Food Safety Director, Dr Kazuaki Miyagishima.

#### Misuse of antibiotics and risks. Credit: WHO

A WHO-sponsored study published in *The Lancet Planetary Health* in

November 2017 found that interventions that restrict antibiotic use in food-producing animals reduced antibiotic-resistant bacteria in these animals by up to 39%, according to a WHO press release.

The research paper (authored by William Ghali and 10 other scientists), reviewed thousands of studies, and selected 179 relevant ones, to find if there is an association between interventions that restrict antibiotic use and reduction in the prevalence of antibiotic-resistant bacteria in animals and in humans.

The key findings are that:

- "Overall, reducing antibiotic use decreased prevalence of antibiotic-resistant bacteria in animals by about 15% and multidrug-resistant bacteria by 24-32%."
- The evidence of effect on human beings was more limited but showed similar results, "with a 24% absolute reduction in the prevalence of antibiotic-resistant bacteria in humans with interventions that reduce antibiotic use in animals."

This study influenced the development of the WHO's new guidelines, which are aimed at influencing policy makers in the agriculture and health sectors. According to a WHO press release, the guidelines include:

- An overall reduction in the use of all classes of medically important antibiotics in food-producing animals.
- Complete restriction of these antibiotics for growth promotion and for disease prevention without diagnosis.
- Healthy animals should only receive antibiotics to prevent disease if it has been diagnosed in other animals in the same flock or herd or fish population.
- Antibiotics used in animals should be from the WHO list as "least important" to human health and not from "highest priority critically important."

In 2015, Health Ministers attending the World Health Assembly adopted a Global Plan of Action on anti-microbial resistance, and they agreed that each country should prepare national action plans by 2017.

Since there are many sources of antibiotic resistance, the national effort must include not only the health authorities but also those responsible for agriculture and the environment.

The health authorities should take action to control the spread of infections (including in hospitals), carry out surveillance of antibiotic resistance, introduce and implement regulations and guidelines on proper prescriptions, ethical marketing of drugs and rational drug use.

The agriculture authorities should phase out inappropriate use of antibiotics for animals, especially for growth promotion, while the environment authorities should prevent resistant bacteria and genes from contaminating soils, drainage systems, rivers and seas.

There should be campaigns to make the public aware of the dangers of wrongly using antibiotics and that they should not demand that doctors give them antibiotics unnecessarily.

The medical profession should adhere to guidelines on the proper use of antibiotics, while drug companies should not push for maximum sales but instead advocate prudent use of their antibiotics in both the health or animal sectors.

These are the more obvious actions that need to be taken and urgently if we are to succeed in slowing down the alarming rate of antibiotic resistance. If we fail, it may well be "the end of modern medicine", as the health leaders and the scientists have warned us.

[Anilnetto.com – https://anilnetto.com/global-issues/global-justice-movement/martin-khor-penang-boy-global-champion-of-sustainability/](https://anilnetto.com/global-issues/global-justice-movement/martin-khor-penang-boy-global-champion-of-sustainability/)

Martin Khor – Penang boy, global champion of sustainability

3 Apr 2020

Martin's passing is a huge loss for Penang and indeed the world. A St Xavier's Institution alumnus, he studied at Cambridge University, played a leading role in Third World Network and rose to become a profound thinker, intellectual and champion of the global South.

I met him several times while attending forums and talks after his return to Penang in 2015, following a long stint at the South Centre in Geneva. I was struck by his simplicity and humility despite being such a prominent figure globally. And he never failed to give an encouraging word.

You wouldn't guess he was a member of the UN secretary-general's taskforce on environment and human settlements and vice-chair of the Intergovernmental Working Group on the Right to Development under the auspices of the UN High Commissioner of Human Rights. The man had no airs.

If you had read any of his columns in the Star, you could not have failed to be impressed by his ability to dissect complex global agreements and expose how the big powers were trying to tilt them to their advantage in behind-the-scenes the negotiations. The art, which he mastered, was to present it in a way that ordinary people could understand.

Once back in Penang, he gave his full support to Penang Forum.

Check out the video tribute to Martin by Andrew Ng Yew Han (at the top) and Penang Forum's tribute to him below.

**Penang Forum** is deeply saddened and distressed by the loss of Martin Khor.

We grieve with his family especially his partner and Penang Forum committee member Meenakshi Raman.

Martin's passing has been marked by an outpouring of tributes to the man, nationally and internationally from Geneva to India – for his intellect, his dedication, his principles and his strength.

Many have expounded on Martin's unshakeable beliefs and his ability to work through the intricacies of international policies and smart-talking politicians, to separate the wheat from the chaff and to offer clear-sight lines for our understanding. He championed many deserving causes especially on climate change and spoke out for those who did not have the ability to do so themselves.

In the last few years while he fought his illness, Martin still chose to give his full support and share his skills with Penang Forum. He shared planning meetings, analysed proposals and wrote strongly worded press articles about Penang's mega projects and the environmental and economic pitfalls they present. He also used his highly placed contacts at federal level to review these projects.

Martin and Meena have been at the core of Penang Forum's attempts to bring about a more sustainable future for Penang. We are truly grateful, and we will miss him terribly.

Penang Forum steering committee

3 April 2020

[EPW Online - https://www.epw.in/engage/article/remembering-martin-khor-journalist-lawyer-and](https://www.epw.in/engage/article/remembering-martin-khor-journalist-lawyer-and)

**Remembering Martin Khor: Journalist, Lawyer, and Climate Activist**

*Khor contributed greatly to the development discourse of the global South. He also wrote extensively for the Economic & Political Weekly, particularly on climate change.*

Early on 1 April 2020, renowned journalist and economist, Martin Khor, passed away in Penang. During the course of his illustrious career, he was the Executive Director of the South Centre since 1 March 2009. He was also an advisor to the Third World Network, of which he was also formerly, director for. Khor had also been a member of various committees associated with the United Nations (UN), that worked for global development projects.

The Chief Minister of Penang, Chow Kon Yeow, extended his condolences to Khor's family, while the president of the Consumers' Association of Penang, of which Khor was the secretary, [said](#), "He was an intellectual who communicated in a simple manner to reach out to the people. He worked tirelessly for a just and equitable world economic order. He also gave up his job as a civil servant in the Ministry of Finance, Singapore."

Khor contributed greatly to the development discourse of the global South. Publications like the Inter Press Service, where he wrote editorials, have commemorated him by republishing his [work](#).

Khor also wrote extensively for the Economic & Political Weekly, particularly on climate change, and reported the proceedings from various climate summits for EPW. Not only was his reportage detailed to the minute, but it stood apart for the depth of his analysis that cut sharply through his narrative.

In this reading list, we remember Khor by reiterating the importance of his work on climate change.

### **The Real Tragedy of Copenhagen**

Khor was extremely critical of the Copenhagen Accord, which was drawn up after the UN climate conference in December 2010. He noted that it was only three pages long, and left out everything that should have been more important. He discussed the unfairness with which the developing countries were treated during this conference and pointed out that the larger failure was that it should have been designed as a stepping stone, and not as a final conclusion to the climate discourse.

It was the intention of the conference chairman, Danish Prime Minister Lars Rasmussen, to first get a small group of leaders to reach an agreement and then to ram it through the COP (Conference of Parties made up of all 193 members of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change), giving the full membership little time to consider the document. However, decisions at the COP are made by consensus, and objections from several developing countries, first to the undemocratic process and second to the content of the Accord, meant that the COP only "took note" of the document, and did not "adopt" it. In UN terms, taking note of a document gives it a low status. It means that the meeting did not approve or pass it, and did not view it either positively or negatively.

The non-adoption of a three-page document from a secretive small meeting of some 26 leaders that should not even have taken place should not have spelt a disaster. Unfortunately in the immediate aftermath of the conference, it was projected blaming countries like Venezuela, Bolivia and Sudan, that spoke up against the process in the COP.

### **Doha 2012: A Climate Conference of Low Ambitions**

In 2012, the annual UN Climate Change Conference was in Doha and concluded on 8 December. Following the conference, Khor wrote that the commitments made by developed countries were low, particularly with regard to emission cuts and climate financing for developing countries. He, therefore, called it a climate summit of “low ambition,” where though the conference adopted many decisions, the main ones were on the Kyoto Protocol’s second period in which some developed countries committed to cut their emissions of greenhouse gases for the period 2013-20.

It was already 4 am on Saturday 13 December. The conference should have ended on Friday 6 pm. The conference had thus moved into “extra time,” and with a new referee. Could the president salvage an agreement which could not be reached after two weeks of fierce contest under the co-chairs?

The minister quickly got into the act on 13 December morning, meeting with all the groups with their different views, and with the ministers of key countries like the United States (US), European Union (EU), China and India. A breakthrough came when a critical demand of the developing countries seemed to be accepted by the president, and more importantly, by the US.

It was the issue of “common but differentiated responsibilities” (CBDR), a term that is prominent in the UNFCCC denoting that all countries have to act but the developed countries have to undertake greater emission-reduction commitments because of their role in creating the climate crisis (they are responsible for most of the cumulative emissions in the atmosphere) and of their higher economic status. Developing countries also have to act, but their actions are to be supported by finance and technology transfer. In fact, a key provision of the convention (Article 4.7) states that the extent to which developing countries take climate actions depends on the extent to which developed countries meet their commitments on providing financial resources and on technology transfer to developing countries.

#### **Understanding the Lima: Climate Conference A Proxy Battle for the 2015 Paris Agreement**

In 2015, Khor wrote that the Conference of Parties of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change in Lima that had taken place in December 2014 was a prelude to the bigger battles in the international climate change discourse, which would conclude with an entirely new climate agreement in Paris in December 2015. Given that it took two whole weeks to decide a simple agenda in Lima, Khor was sceptical about the time it would take for countries to arrive at resolutions in Paris, which had far more contentious and difficult negotiations on the table.

At the time the conference was scheduled to close, on the night of 12 December, the majority of developing countries told the plenary session that they could not accept a draft decision that had been prepared by the co-chairs of the Durban Platform Working Group. They found the draft did not contain the issues that were important to them, and that it was skewed in favour of the developed countries.

Accepting such a draft would put the developing countries at a serious disadvantage when the negotiations start this year. There will be three or four intensive meetings in 2015 that will climax with the signing of the Paris agreement in December. One by one, the developing countries and their groupings spoke up in criticism of the co-chairs’ draft.

#### **An Assessment of the Rio Summit on Sustainable Development**

For Rio+20, however, Khor wrote that the summit was not the failure that many thought it was. Particularly, he analysed the main outcomes of the new “sustainable development goals,” which he thought brought out the complex nature of the environmental challenges that were before the world.

The United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, more popularly known as Rio+20 commemorating the 20th anniversary of the 1992 Earth Summit, ended with expressions of deep disappointment from broad sections of members of the media and the environmental non-governmental organisations who saw little new commitments to action in the final text that was adopted by the heads of state and government and their senior official.

This was understandable as much had been expected from the Rio+20 summit, the biggest international gathering of world leaders this year. There was unhappiness and frustration that the hundred heads of state and government who came to Rio de Janeiro were unable or not asked to take decisive actions. There was a sense that the speeches, round tables and panel discussions at the huge Rio Centro conference venue were part of a ceremonial function for the political leaders, while the tough decisions required by the crises were avoided or postponed.

[World Council of Churches - https://www.oikoumene.org/en/press-centre/news/martin-khor-kok-peng-friend-of-the-poor-passes-away?utm\\_source=dvtr.it&utm\\_medium=twitter](https://www.oikoumene.org/en/press-centre/news/martin-khor-kok-peng-friend-of-the-poor-passes-away?utm_source=dvtr.it&utm_medium=twitter)



#### **Martin Khor Kok Peng, “friend of the poor,” passes away**

**03 April 2020**

**It is with deep sadness that the global ecumenical movement marks the passing away of Martin Khor Kok Peng on 1 April. An economist trained at Cambridge University and the University Sains Malaysia, Martin Khor had led the civil society movement in Malaysia and internationally for decades, on issues of economic, ecological and health justice, founding and leading several key organisations and mentoring various leaders around the world.**

He took up the fight for consumer rights as secretary of the Consumers Association of Penang. He was also an active environmentalist which serving as an advisor in Sahabat Alam

Malaysia - Friends of the Earth Malaysia. In 1984, along with S.M. Mohamed Idris, Martin Khor cofounded the



internationally renowned Third World Network, which he headed till 2009. From 2009 to 2015, he led the South Centre - an intergovernmental policy research and analysis institution of developing countries headquartered in Geneva, as its executive director.

An activist, a journalist, an academician, economist, thinker, prophet and a leader par excellence, his demeanour was marked by humility, total dedication to the poor, selflessness and the ability to put across complex issues from the perspective of the person in the margins of society. He worked closely with the ecumenical movement in matters of economic, ecological and health justice.

Over the years, Martin Khor contributed greatly to revealing and solving injustice at local, regional and global levels, said World Council of Churches (WCC) acting general secretary Rev. Prof. Dr Ioan Sauca.

"He lived his life in solidarity with people who suffered economic or ecological injustice, or inequalities in healthcare," said Sauca. "His pilgrimage traversed a wide area of contexts, and the ecumenical movement learned from his insights and his spiritual - yet scientific - approach."

Athena Peralta, WCC programme executive responsible for Economic and Ecological Justice said: "Martin supported and accompanied the World Council of Churches over more than two decades. He was a speaker at WCC assemblies and a great advisor on trade and other economic matters over the years. His determination to go forward, to name the systemic root causes and to work on alternatives was always encouraging and motivating."

Rev. Dr Martin Robra, who has been a key contributor to the ecumenical movement for the last 25 years, working for the WCC, said: "I will never forget the early years of struggle during the Uruguay Round and the first years of the World Trade Organisation. Martin Khor had a key role to play during the ministerial round 1999 in Seattle, forming new coalitions of social movements and organising resistance of member states of the G77. He was with us on the streets of Geneva in the year 2000 (Copenhagen +5), calling for justice and was part of the discussions in the university at the same time, which marked a decisive step towards the World Social Forum."

Dr Manoj Kurian, coordinator of the WCC Ecumenical Advocacy Alliance, reflected, "Martin deeply valued the ecumenical movement and told me once that the WCC clearly follows the 'Jesus principle' of standing with and accompanying those in need, and in being inclusive to represent those in the margins of society. I see Martin as a true friend of the poor and marginalised of the world. Martin worked on access to medication, antibiotic resistance and rational use of drugs for many decades. Martin's well-prepared policy arguments on each issue of fundamental concern to developing countries such as the need to limit the harmful effects of intellectual property for medicines is genuinely remarkable."

Dr Isabel Apawo Phiri, WCC deputy general secretary, said: "We also remember and thank his dear wife Meenakshi Raman and his daughter, during this difficult time of grief, for accompanying Martin through his remarkable life. Martin was humble, analytical and was able to assist developing nations in interpreting difficult issues from the peoples perspective. He was a great gift to humankind, and we have the responsibility, as those who have been inspired by him, to continue in his legacy."

[New Straits Times - https://www.nst.com.my/opinion/columnists/2020/04/581448/khors-ideas-and-legacies-live](https://www.nst.com.my/opinion/columnists/2020/04/581448/khors-ideas-and-legacies-live)

Khor's ideas and legacies live on



By [Datuk Dr Fauziah Mohd Taib](#), [Dr Shazalina Zainul Abidin](#)

April 5, 2020 @ 11:21am

LIKE most diplomatic services in the world, the Malaysian Foreign Service produces generalists rather than specialists. The nature of the job is such that officers need to know everything rather than one particular subject in-depth.

We rely so much on experts in their given field, particularly ground-breaking thinkers in the field of international relations.

Martin Khor was one such expert. Wisma Putra first came into contact with him in the 1980s, seeing him as an expert on issues of concern to Malaysia's national interests. Khor fitted our foreign policy pulse and objectives.

Here was an advocate of democracy, good governance, a champion of the

developing states, an environmentalist and yet a soft-spoken activist who did not have to yell his opinions from the rooftops. His was a path of persuasion and negotiations, of scenario-building rather than blind criticism, of cajoling, lobbying and networking rather than adversarial confrontations and unilateral action.

Throughout the years, Malaysia's diplomats worked closely with Khor. His Third World Network alerted not only Malaysia, but many developing countries to the rich countries' agenda — the unfair trade practices, the imbalanced human rights perspective that adversely affected newly independent countries, the North's agenda on climate change and sustainability, poverty, health issues and finances.

There was nothing that Khor could not do. He was the reason why Malaysia was so successful at the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, or the Earth Summit as it was famously known. Khor was instrumental in helping the international community secure the Commission on Sustainable Development and adopt the Convention on Biological Diversity.

An economist by training, Khor was everything to the developing world. In short, Khor was our Stiglitz, our Chomsky. As a person, Khor was known for his simplicity in dressing. He hated wearing a suit and tie for meetings with Wisma and with the other players. As soon as it became acceptable to do so, he kept the jacket, but lost the tie, and that was how we would go for the meetings. He used to carry his documents in a plastic bag, and upped it later with a worn and possibly pre-loved seminar bag.

The last time we met him was at the Institute of Strategic and International Studies a few months ago. It was the discussion on Malaysia's Foreign Policy Framework, chaired by the minister. He looked frail even then, but his mind was as sharp as ever.

Little did we know that in less than a year, we would lose this intellectual activist. The loss is that of Wisma's, but his ideas, and his legacies live on, in this international community that has benefited much from his sage advice and visionary outlook.

Datuk Ting Wen Lian, who worked closely with him at the 1992 Earth Summit, summed it best: "Martin is irreplaceable as a leading light for the economic plight of developing countries. His departure is a loss for the third world."

May he rest in peace.

**Dr Fauziah Mohd Taib is Malaysia's former ambassador to Fiji and the Netherlands, and permanent representative to the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons; Dr Shazalina Zainul Abidin is a foreign service officer, who writes on international affairs with an emphasis on Africa**

[The Wire - https://thewire.in/trade/remembering-martin-khor-champion-of-economic-equality-and-just-globalisation](https://thewire.in/trade/remembering-martin-khor-champion-of-economic-equality-and-just-globalisation)

Remembering Martin Khor, Champion of Economic Equality and Just Globalisation

He stood tall. His contributions in protecting the development interests of the Global South are unparalleled.



Martin Khor. Photo: Author provided

[Devinder Sharma](#)

## TRADE

06/APR/2020

The stakes were very high.

The World Trade Organisation (WTO) was deliberating, and if I am not mistaken this was sometime in July 2008, on the extent to which agricultural products could be covered under Special Safeguard Measures (SSM). While big players wanted to limit the number of products on which tariffs could be imposed at a time of surge in farm imports, India wanted more policy space to apply SSM, which means wanted more products to be covered.

In other words, India's effort ostensibly was to protect the loss in farm livelihoods that was expected at a time when a flood in cheaper imports could bring about a crash in domestic prices for farmers and thereby result in a loss of livelihood.

The talks in Geneva hinged on a clearly visible imbalance, with big players expected to get through. Knowing the disastrous implications in store, it was at that crucial juncture that I organised a one day conference of farmer leaders in New Delhi.

What made this conference significant was that it was for the first time that almost 50 farmer leaders from all over the country, cutting across political as well as ideological affiliations, had assembled on one platform.

And secondly, after a day of intense brainstorming, interspersed with angry reactions from some of the farmer leaders present, the resolution that was issued, signed by each of the farmer leaders, representing the 600-million strong farming community, is believed to have tilted the balance at the Geneva negotiations.

A day later, I received an email from Martin Khor, who was then leading the Third World Network (TWN) team at Geneva, keeping a close eye on every happening.

Complimenting me for organising the farmers meeting, he said, in as many words, that the resolution from Indian farmer leaders had thrown the big boys of international trade at the SSM negotiations on the back foot. He then spoke to me and, in his own inimitable style, explained how the New Delhi statement from farmer leaders would turn out to be a saviour for farming communities throughout the developing world.

What Martin had hinted turned out to be true. The SSM talks collapsed eventually.

Martin (1951-2020) passed away peacefully at Penang in Malaysia on April 1.

In his death, the world has lost one of the biggest champions of economic equality, social justice and just globalisation. He was on the forefront of a continuous battle against the hegemony of transnational corporations, and

how the international laws and treaties were being suitably designed to circumvent their unfettered dominance across the developing economies. With his immaculate penchant for minute details, and his deep understanding of the geo-political dimensions, the insights he provided to activists and negotiators alike was certainly instrumental in influencing the negotiations.

Like hundreds of researchers and trade analysts from across the globe, I too learnt a lot from his analytical grip over trade negotiations. I would look eagerly every week in the SUNS Monitor for his reports and unique analysis of events as they took place.

The quarterly *Third World Resurgence* magazine too came in handy to follow the developments in international trade, multilateral investment, climate change as well as in various related aspects of the globalisation process. He stood, and stood tall, for protecting the development interests of the Global South and in a lot many ways I think his contribution, although the developing world may fail to acknowledge, remains unparalleled.

Later in 2009 he was appointed the Executive Director of the South Centre in Geneva, a position that was earlier held by Manmohan Singh. There again, his sharp analysis came in handy for developing countries that were framing their trade arguments.

I met Martin for the first time at Penang in 1984 when the Consumer Association of Penang (CAP), a formidable research and advocacy platform for development issues, invited me along with Claude Alvares and Sharad Joshi from India to attend a conference which led to the formation of Third World Network. Not much was known about him at that time. He was a simple affable guy always greeting everyone with a smile.

The Uruguay Round of negotiations which led to the formation of the WTO catapulted him to prominence. It was during those days that I was tracking the global trade negotiations especially in the context of food, agriculture, biodiversity and intellectual property rights and that gave us ample opportunities to meet and interact.

In many of my trips to Geneva, and sometimes at the WTO Ministerial Summits, it was always an added bonus to sit and chat with Martin. One thing that emerged every time we spoke was that he always stood for protecting the rights of the poor, and was a friend to farmers.

I particularly remember when a prominent NGO invited me to be part of a group of WTO Ambassadors and negotiators who were being taken to visit the farming communities in and around the Black forest region of Germany. Before I embarked on the travel, and, knowing that I was among only a couple of civil society representatives from the developing world, I spoke to Martin to know a little bit more about the background of the accompanying WTO negotiators, where they came from and who I should be spending more time during numerous opportunities for informal interactions that the visit would certainly throw up. I must acknowledge that was very helpful in sharpening my understanding.

Since the visit was planned for the rural areas, I also got a peep into how the EU's massive agricultural subsidies were being disbursed.

The passing away of Martin Khor into history is a great personal loss. He was in true sense a philosopher, friend and guide. The challenge now is to continue his legacy.

Goodbye, my friend.

[Foreign Policy in Focus - https://fpif.org/martin-khor-the-making-of-a-global-activist/](https://fpif.org/martin-khor-the-making-of-a-global-activist/)

Martin Khor: The Making of a Global Activist

**The late Martin Khor united activists, officials, and thought leaders against trade and climate policies that plundered the Global South. Here's how his comrades remember him.**

By [Walden Bello](#), April 6, 2020.



demonstrators at the 1999 Seattle World Trade Organization protests. (Photo: Steve Kaiser / Flickr)

When future students of North-South relations look back to the history of the last 35 years or so, among the key figures they will most likely mark as one of the most decisive in shaping the course of events is one who did not owe his power to a position in government or business.

Martin Khor, who passed away recently in Penang, Malaysia, at the age of 68, was present in almost every area of North-South confrontation, from intellectual property rights to the role of multilateral institutions, trade, biodiversity, finance, and climate change. He represented the reemergence in the late 1980s of an actor that had last been seen during the glory days of the Communist International in the 1920s: the borderless activist.

Reacting to his passing, Lori Wallach, director of Public Citizen's Global Trade Watch, said, "Almost every peak memory I have of each battlefield of fighting corporate-rigged globalization during the last 30

years includes Martin, because he was central to each fight."

### **Globalization's Antithesis**

Martin the phenomenon was, in a very real sense, produced by globalization, and he emerged as the antithesis to it.

His rise to prominence began in the mid-1980s and early 1990s, when transnational capital moved its focus from restructuring domestic economies along neoliberal lines through the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund to

reshaping the rules of international trade via the World Trade Organization. Martin caught the drift of events early on and realized that opposing corporate-driven globalization would necessitate a resistance that also needed to be global. Martin began his work from his twin organizational bases in Penang, the Consumer Association of Penang and the Third World Network (TWN). I first met him, in fact, when he invited me to attend several of the gatherings the TWN hosted in the late 1980s, meetings that tackled issues ranging from the monopolistic practices of the pharmaceutical monopoly to “structural adjustment” of developing country economies by the World Bank to the ravaging of tropical forests. These meetings, which saw intellectual exchange result in concrete agreements to work together, became the means by which an informal global network was created that brought together intellectuals, activists, and sympathetic government officials from both the global North and the global South. Even before thinkers like Michael Hardt and Antonio Negri theorized the decentralized, non-hierarchical network as the response to global capital, Martin was putting its elements in place. Of course, it was not only him that was building international networks during this period, but he was a vital nodal point of this activity.



Martin Khor (Cancillería Ecuador / Flickr)

### **Striking at the Enemy's Weak Points**

Martin was clear about the enemy, and this was corporate-driven globalization. He was also clear about his fundamental goal: to ensure that the developing world, or global South, was protected from the corporate assault.

“Martin consistently brought the Third World perspective to all global issues, from trade to climate,” observes Vandana Shiva, the Indian ecofeminist and recipient of the Right Livelihood Award. The aim of his strategy of networking was to create a defense in depth linking developing country governments to international civil society while striking at the weak points of the enemy. These points of vulnerability were the multilateral institutions — the World Bank, IMF, and WTO — that served as the political canopy of global capital. These institutions were tasked with rewriting international economic rules in favor of capital and obtaining the global “consensus,” to use Gramsci’s term, to make them legitimate and effective. The niche that he forged for himself was to bring the pressure of international civil society and developing country governments to bear on multilateral institutions and feed information on what these agencies were concocting to the former.

This pivotal position showed its value in the struggle against the Multilateral Agreement on Investment (MAI) in the late nineties. The MAI was a corporate attempt via the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), also known as the “club of rich countries,” to knock down restrictions to investment not only among its members but also in developing countries they had relations with.

Shortly before news of the secret agreement leaked out, Martin, along with a number of other prominent activists — among them the anti-capitalist author Jerry Mander, Right Livelihood Award recipient Maude Barlow of the Council of Canadians, indigenous leader Victoria Tauli Corpuz, and Chilean environmentalist Sara Larrain — had formed the International Forum on Globalization (IFG). It was in this transnational formation that Martin revealed the drastic implications of the secret accord for the global South and, acting on his urgent warning, the IFG led what became a global campaign to sink the MAI.

The global mobilization stunned technocrats in the North and killed the agreement. The surprising victory, which generated wind in the sails of the rising anti-globalization movement, “would not have happened but for Martin’s early warning, constant guidance, and relentless direct advocacy,” says Public Citizen’s Wallach.

### **Seattle**

The fight over the MAI turned out, in fact, to be a dress rehearsal for a bigger battle, one provoked by the push of the powerful countries behind the World Trade Organization, which was formed in 1995, to expand its powers to control areas beyond trade like investment and competition policy and override environmental and labor laws in the name of free trade. Developing country governments gasped at the ambition of the TNC-controlled trade body since they had barely begun implementing the changes in their trade laws mandated by the “Uruguay Round” of Trade Negotiations that had set up the WTO. The Third Ministerial Meeting of the WTO in Seattle in late November 1999 turned out to be the perfect storm bringing together the disparate sectors negatively impacted on by the corporate push for a new trade round, and at the center of that storm was Martin.

It was in Seattle that Martin perfected the so-called “inside-outside” strategy, which involved him and others participating in the official discussions to help block pro-corporate initiatives while also assisting in the mobilization of activists outside the convention center by holding teach-ins to inform people about what was at stake.

In a 20-minute speech at an IFG teach-in attended by hundreds that was laced with humor and interrupted by frequent applause, he stripped neutrally worded issues such as “trade-related intellectual property rights,” “trade related investment measures,” and “special and differential treatment” to their essence. He damned the lack of transparency and democratic decision-making in the official negotiations, saying, “The kind of transparency and participation which is being offered are, more information and more symposiums, but *no* real participation not *only* for us. Not *only* that the parliamentarians are not really invited, but even the ministers and the senior officials *themselves* — the majority of them — are *not* invited to the real negotiations.”

Then, with an uncanny sense of what was emerging as a possibility, he told his audience:

*“So we have before us, in the next few days, a historic event. Either they will cook up a consensus in four days...Or, there really will be no new round and turnaround. We the citizens may have some influence on that. It depends on the messages we are going to put forward when we go on the streets and when we talk to the media. A lot of it will depend on what happens inside there irrespective of us... But let us spend the next four or five days exchanging information and analysis among ourselves, trying to influence as much as possible, showing the world that we care and because we care we are protesting. And then spend the next few years really fighting. Either fighting the WTO or for a better WTO if that is possible.”*

The Seattle Ministerial collapsed owing to the synergy between the mass mobilization of some 50,000 people in the streets and the resistance to further liberalization of their economies by the delegates from developing countries in the negotiations, and Martin was central to making that synergy happen.

The debacle was one from which the WTO never really recovered.

#### **Leadership Style**

Martin’s leadership style would merit a study by itself.

Leadership via influence and informal authority, not formally acquired and exercised power, was his currency, and it was informal authority that was accumulated through his unique combination of analytical acuity and detailed mastery of the issues, an ability to translate superficially complex texts into understandable terms, a style of gently encouraging people to deliver their best — and, at all times, not taking one’s eyes away from the ball.

As his speech at the IFG Seattle teach-in demonstrated, Martin had a unique ability to fire up a crowd. His IFG colleague Victor Menotti recalled how at the organization’s teach-in before the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg, “he had folks from the townships in a call-and-response cadence within twelve seconds of starting his short speech... I actually clocked it.”

Developing country officials and negotiators meeting him, according to Aileen Kwa, a colleague at the South Center, were “not always the easiest audiences to sway, yet without fail, he was able to win them over” with his technical command of the issues, his ability to break them down into simple terms, and his congenial personality.

Anuradha Mittal, executive director of the Oakland Institute observed, “He had this ability to make you feel special — so you were ready to take on the world, like him.”

One of Martin’s strengths, according to Pablo Solon, former ambassador of Bolivia to the United Nations, was not only his ability to “ferret out the devil that was in the detail of climate, trade, and finance texts that were being discussed in the UN,” but his grasp of what Michel Foucault called the power of discourse — that is, that discourse is structured by power relations *and* structures power relations.

The more technical and technocratic the language, the more it veiled power relations. Martin saw as his task deconstructing the text of multilateral agreements and unveiling the real relations they concealed. This made people like Pascal Lamy of France and Mike Moore of New Zealand, two former directors general of the WTO, extremely uneasy in face to face combat with him. While they droned on loftily about the need for rules to create “an even playing field” for developed and developing countries, Martin would bring them back to earth with his witty repartee, “Yes, you want an even playing field where you have a basketball team of six footers playing against one of four footers.”

#### **Climate Politics**

The climate became Martin’s principal battlefield after the WTO became an increasingly unworkable instrument for global trade liberalization in the mid-2000s owing to civil society and developing country resistance. In this area, his influence was just as great as in trade.

One of Martin’s contributions to the climate debate was to popularize what came to be called “negative emissions.”

“He personally turned climate politics on its head at the 2007 Bali COP (Conference of Parties),” IFG’s Menotti recounts. Developing countries...

*“were almost ready to accept developed nations’ commitment to cut emissions by only 80 percent. It still sounds like a lot but he explained to everyone from campaigners to ministers that this was not nearly enough when historical emissions and other often-ignored factors were included. The world now thinks in terms of the North having to do ‘negative emissions,’ and that’s only part of how he helped to align everyone’s thinking on environment and development agendas, which was also a pretty painful process for some people especially in the North.”*

Martin moved his base of operations from Penang to Geneva in 2009, when he accepted an offer to head up the South Centre, an intergovernmental organization of developing countries focusing on North-South trade and development issues, especially as they related to multilateral negotiations. While he led in expanding the Centre’s engagements in multiple fronts, his primary concern was making sure the global South was not short-changed in the climate negotiations that increasingly dominated North-South relations.

According to his Geneva-based colleagues Yilmaz Akyuz and Richard Kozul-Wright, “Martin was a strong critic of tighter intellectual property rights, particularly through trade agreements, that restricted the transfer of the technologies developing countries needed to help in the fight against rising global temperatures and to mitigate the climate damage they were already experiencing.”

His voice was also an important one in discrediting “a naïve belief in market-friendly solutions to the climate challenge.” Another former colleague at the Centre, Vice Yu, added that Martin stood for “a development and environmental equity-oriented approach to the climate change *problematique*,” and that he fought to have as much of this as possible reflected in the historic 2015 Paris Climate Declaration.

#### **Tensions among Friends**

As with all activists with strong convictions, Martin was not without disagreements with some of his allies. Climate strategy was one area of tension. His perspective on how to approach the climate crisis was summed up by Institute for Policy Studies director John Cavanagh: "The Global South, Martin argued, should have space to 'develop' using more emissions as the world overall cut back on emissions, while the North should adopt more rapid measures to end emissions."

While his intent was most likely different, to many climate activists in the North as well as to some in the South, this came across as a plea for leniency for some notorious developing country climate polluters, namely India and China. Also, there were those who thought he invested great importance on supporting developing country governments while paying insufficient attention to conflicts between these governments and their citizens.

These were, however, differences among comrades. As Shalmali Guttal, executive director of Focus on the Global South, put it in her eulogy to Martin, "Martin may not have seen eye to eye with some of his allies on some tactical issues, but there was never any doubt in the minds of the latter that their strategic objectives were the same and they appreciated his role as a pivotal leader in this common struggle."

#### **Broader Vision**

While defense of developing country interests on various fronts was Martin's abiding objective, what was his vision for a better world and how was one to get there?

IPS's Cavanagh discerned Martin operating with two paradigms:

*"The first paradigm involves the choice to work in the system of globalization in which we feel we are trapped. If we do work within that system, we begin by asking: 'Are the rules of the game fair?' In this paradigm, we 'fight for the reform of the rules of the game.' But, Martin argued, we need to simultaneously fight for a second paradigm 'because in 20 to 30 years the whole system will blow up anyway. So, in the second paradigm, we work for Gandhian-style, community-based, self-reliant family units of production, trading mainly with the community and the region and only making occasional exchanges with the rest of the world.'"*

At the peak of his influence from his vantage point at the South Centre, Martin was diagnosed with colon cancer in 2015. The next few years, according to his partner and comrade in arms Meena Raman of Friends of the Earth International, were marked by ups and downs as he went from one seemingly successful surgery to another.

He did not cease working until 2018, when he was too ill to continue to direct the South Centre and moved from Geneva to his original activist base in Penang. There the global activist par excellence passed away peacefully on April 1.

With the current global havoc wreaked by COVID-19, Martin's prediction of the global system blowing up was remarkably prescient. But the pandemic also underlines what the people lost with the passing of Martin.

As Rob Davies, former Trade Minister of South Africa put it, "As the world grapples to find a better future after COVID-19, we need more of the likes of Martin Khor."

Riforma - <https://riforma.it/articolo/2020/04/06/muore-lamico-dei-poveri-martin-khor-kok-peng>



#### **Muore l'amico dei poveri: Martin Khor Kok Peng**

di [Redazione](#)

06 aprile 2020

*Con profonda tristezza il movimento ecumenico mondiale segnala scomparsa diell'economista e ambientalista malesiano*

Lo scorso primo aprile è scomparso l'economista **Martin Khor Kok Peng**.

A darne notizia è il Consiglio ecumenico delle chiese (Cec).

«Kok Peng, come professore e attivista per i diritti

(Università di Cambridge e University Sains Malaysia) – scrive l'Organismo ecumenico – ha guidato il movimento della società civile malesiano a livello internazionale per decenni indirizzando l'attenzione su temi cari al Cec: la giustizia economica, ecologica e sanitaria, e ha fondato e guidato diverse organizzazioni».

Peng iniziò la sua battaglia per la giustizia sociale sostenendo i diritti dei consumatori e divenendo dapprima il segretario dell'Associazione dei consumatori di Penang.

Poi, come ambientalista, occupando il ruolo di consigliere in Malesia Sahabat Alam - Friends of the Earth Malesia.

Nel 1984, insieme a **S.M. Mohamed Idris**, Khor co-fondò la Rete internazionale del terzo mondo, che diresse sino al 2009.

Dal 2009 al 2015 guidò il South Center. l'Istituto intergovernativo di ricerca e di analisi delle politiche dei paesi in via di sviluppo con sede a Ginevra.

«Attivista, giornalista, accademico, economista, pensatore, leader, il suo comportamento – ricorda il Cec – è stato caratterizzato dall'umiltà, dalla totale dedizione rivolta ai poveri, all'altruismo e alla capacità di affrontare questioni complesse e a sostegno delle persone che vivono ai margini della società. Ha lavorato a stretto contatto con il movimento ecumenico in materia di giustizia economica, ecologica e sanitaria».

Democracy Now! -

[https://www.democracynow.org/2020/4/6/headlines/journalist\\_economist\\_martin\\_khor\\_who\\_fought\\_for\\_ecological\\_rights\\_in\\_the\\_global\\_south\\_dies\\_at\\_68](https://www.democracynow.org/2020/4/6/headlines/journalist_economist_martin_khor_who_fought_for_ecological_rights_in_the_global_south_dies_at_68)

Journalist & Economist Martin Khor, Who Fought for Ecological Rights in the Global South, Dies at 68

HEADLINE APR 06, 2020



Malaysian economist and journalist Martin Khor has died at the age of 68 after a battle with cancer. Khor served until 2018 as the executive director of the South Centre, an intergovernmental organization of developing countries, and was previously head of the Third World Network. Khor advocated for collective solidarity among nations in the Global South to fight against ecological damage wrought by the world's wealthiest nations. This is Martin Khor speaking to Democracy Now! in 2012 at the U.N. climate change summit in Doha.

**Martin Khor:** "So, the catastrophe of climate change is already on us. We are not waiting for, you know, the next century or for our children. We are the children we are talking about who are suffering from climate change. And unfortunately, the talks that we are seeing in Doha are not reflecting the urgency that is required by what is happening out in the world." That was Martin Khor, who passed away last week after a battle with cancer.

Inequality.org - <https://inequality.org/research/martin-khor-global-equity/>

A Thank You to Martin Khor, Champion of Global Equity  
**The Malaysian economist was one of the world's leading advocates of policies to reduce economic disparities within and between nations.**  
 RESEARCH & COMMENTARY  
 APRIL 07, 2020

by **John Cavanagh**

Last week the world lost Martin Khor, an intellectual and strategic giant of the movements to reduce the inequities between rich and poor countries. He was also my friend for the past four decades.

Martin and I met when I was an extremely young and green economist at the United Nations in Geneva, exposing the machinations of global corporations in developing countries. He had traveled to the UN representing the Consumers Association of Penang in Malaysia, which was helping ordinary people in his home country protect themselves against corporate abuse.

I kept up with him while I worked at the UN and when I came to the Institute for Policy Studies to head its global economy work in the 1980s. Martin surged onto the global scene in the early 1990s as a central figure in the fight against the creation of the World Trade Organization (WTO). He became the leading voice arguing that the WTO was being constructed as a global body with an inherent bias in favor of rich countries and against poor countries, then often referred to as the Global South.

I began working more closely with Martin in 1994 through our involvement with the International Forum on Globalization. Under the founding leadership of Jerry Mander, this organization gathered some of the most committed researchers and activists from around the world who were taking on the environmental, social, and economic consequences of corporate-driven globalization. The original group came from three streams: those who had been leaders in the fight against the North American Free Trade Agreement, those who had been leaders in the fight against the WTO, and leaders of radical ecology movements from around the world. Martin was a leader of the fight against the WTO from his perch as director of the Third World Network.



Institute for Policy Studies Director John Cavanagh toasting newlyweds Martin Khor and Meena Raman at the Tabard Inn in Washington, D.C., September 2007. Also pictured: Pablo Solon and Victor Menotti. Credit: Deborah James.

The IFG would go on to hold teach-ins across the United States and around the world that helped tens of thousands of people gain a deeper understanding of the dangers to people and the planet and the common paths to countering them. Martin played a central role in the IFG's successful effort to halt the Multilateral Agreement on Investments (MAI), an agreement that would have vastly expanded corporate power against governments, people, and the planet. He led the assault from the Global South, strategizing on a regular basis with key movement leaders in the Global North to "monkey-wrench" governments until the agreement fell apart. IFG meetings and relationships were central to the win.

I particularly cherish five long weekends between 1997 and 2002 where roughly 20 of us in the IFG spent time fleshing out our book, "Alternatives to Economic Globalization: A Better World is Possible." Martin brought to every conversation

his skills as a trained economist, a consumer and worker advocate, and a person who knew the inside of the Malaysian government. He later developed close relationships across governments and civil society in both the North and the South.

He was never intimidated by those in power. As he entered the big fights over the rules and institutions of the global economy, his starting point was always: what would be good for the Global South.

One other special thing about this man. In his heart, he was a Gandhian, and believed in a different world of less trade and investment, where economies were built around community needs and ecological balance. However, he brilliantly navigated the world of global trade and investment rules, attempting to change them in ways that helped people and the planet. But his North Star was a Gandhian vision, and it helped steer his work in the here and now.

As I reflect on Martin's incredible contributions to the fight for a more just world, two stand out.

First, a more comprehensive way to think about equity globally: In Martin's work, progress could be measured by whether policies and institutions reduced global inequities, by which he meant reducing inequities within nations and between nations. His training as an economist came in the 1970s, the decade of the huge fight of the Global South nations for a "New International Economic Order" that would attack structural inequities in the global economy that locked in the advantages of the Global North (the rich nations) over the Global South (the poorer nations). That NIEO was largely defeated by the end of the 1970s, and the 1980s brought Reagan, Thatcher, Kohl, and a strengthened World Bank and International Monetary Fund that imposed draconian measures on the Global South. Martin's greatest contribution was lifting up those global inequities in every fora he entered.

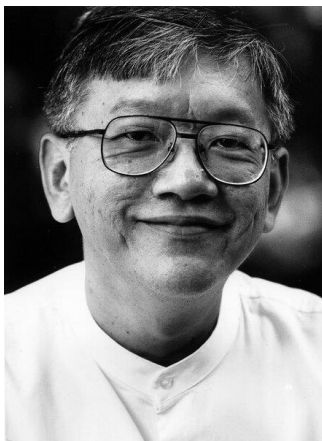
He will particularly be remembered for bringing this perspective into three fights: the fights against the creation of the WTO and attempts to increase its powers, the fights against the MAI, and the fight for more equitable global solutions to the climate crisis. Martin and his wife Meena Raman (a long-time leader of Friends of the Earth-International) brought this notion of global inequities into the center of the climate debate. They argued persuasively that the Global North, having created the vast majority of global greenhouse gas emissions, owed a kind of reparations to the Global South in international climate negotiations. The Global South, Martin argued, should have space to "develop" using more emissions as the world overall cut back on emissions, while the North should adopt more rapid measures to end emissions.

Martin's second huge contribution was his work to create more bridges between reformers and visionaries in our movements for more just and healthy economies. Most on the left feel more comfortable either laying out comprehensive visions of better societies or working on the nitty gritty of reforms that will help people now. Progressives have spent a huge amount of time arguing across this divide, some even throwing more into these fights than into the corporations or other enemies of justice and equity and peace. Martin often found ways through this divide.

In the IFG and elsewhere, Martin posited that progressives needed to operate in two paradigms at the same time. In *Alternatives to Economic Globalization*, he wrote: "The first paradigm involves the choice to work in the system of globalization in which we feel we are trapped. If we do work within that system, we begin by asking: 'Are the rules of the game fair?'" In this paradigm, we "fight for the reform of the rules of the game." But, Martin argued, we need to simultaneously fight for a second paradigm "because in twenty to thirty years the whole system will blow up anyway. So, in the second paradigm, we work for Gandhian-style, community-based, self-reliant family units of production, trading mainly with the community and the region and only making occasional exchanges with the rest of the world." Martin taught many of us how to work in both paradigms simultaneously and to minimize conflicts amongst progressives in the process.

Beyond our work together through the IFG, I also had the opportunity to spend more time with Martin and Meena when we served on the civil society advisory committee to the UN Development Program for a decade. Like so many other global justice advocates, I will always remember the seriousness and integrity he brought to his work. As his friend, I will also miss his whimsical side. Driving in a car with him could turn silly fast. With the right prompting, he could break into a Britney Spears or Madonna tune with gusto.

FERN - <https://www.fern.org/news-resources/remembering-martin-khor-a-strong-voice-for-the-third-world-2120/>  
 REMEMBERING MARTIN KHOR - A STRONG VOICE FOR THE THIRD WORLD  
 8 April 2020



**Written by: Saskia Ozinga**

Martin Khor Kok Peng left us for a better world on the first of April. He will be sadly missed not just by his wife Meena Raman and his close family and friends but by many activists around the globe; and by many more than he would probably think. His massive contribution to getting the voice of 'The Third World' heard at international level cannot be overstated and has been widely praised in obituaries by many individuals and organisations already.

In gratitude I would like to add my own to those voices, specifically highlighting the role he played, together with Chee Yoke Ling, in the founding of the World Rainforest Movement, also nicely highlighted by [Larry Lohman](#).

In the late 1980s as a young forest activist on my first trip outside of Europe, I met Martin and Yoke Ling at a gathering of what later became the World Rainforest Movement. This annual gathering of activists from all around the globe was instrumental for all of us in understanding that the world's forest crisis could not be solved without respecting local peoples' tenure rights and without fundamental changes to the current economic systems.

Almost without exception, those of us present at these gatherings spent the rest of our lives fighting for the rights of local communities and Indigenous Peoples or for changes in the economic system or both, creating a real movement for change.



By facilitating this first and subsequent meetings, building the movement, inspiring us to educate and challenge ourselves, Martin had a massive impact on all of us working on forest issues.

In Europe, the creation of the World Rainforest Movement led to the birth of the European Rainforest Movement in the early 1990s, inspiring and educating a host of European forest activists. When this group realised that forest problems were not limited to rainforests and that Indigenous Peoples in the boreal forests, including the EU, also lacked recognition of their rights, it changed its name to the [Forest Movement Europe](#). This movement is still going strong with up to a hundred activists meeting yearly to educate, inform and challenge each other.

Most activists attending Forest Movement Europe meetings today were born long after that first World Rainforest Movement meeting in the 1980s. It is worth remembering that it all started with Martin and Yoke Ling calling that first meeting.

Thank you, Martin!

Financial Express - <https://www.financialexpress.com/opinion/remembering-martin-khor-an-icon-of-the-global-south/1935774/>

Remembering Martin Khor: An icon of the Global South

By: [Abhijit Das](#) |

Published: April 22, 2020 6:00:09 AM

**People across continents, whom Martin motivated, will resolutely take forward the mission of his life**



Photo caption: At a time when developing countries with seemingly divergent interests were pursuing their narrow domestic agenda in WTO negotiations, Martin had the unique ability to identify common ground.

Martin Khor, an icon of the Global South, passed away in Malaysia on April 1. Talk to trade negotiators at the WTO, or those engaged in climate change negotiations, and the reverence in which he was held becomes evident. Although he was a true friend of India, his name might not be familiar. Martin, as he was popularly called, combined multiple roles as an economist, journalist, strategic thinker and activist. He was also an evangelist, but for

the cause of promoting the interests of developing countries at many multilateral forums. "Reform the system, so that it responds positively to the aspirations of developing countries", was his simple mantra.

For almost two decades, he worked as a director at the Third World Network, an international research and advocacy organisation. His sphere of activity expanded substantially as the executive director of the South Centre, a Geneva-based intergovernmental organisation, during 2009-2018.

His writings took many of the contemporary issues head-on and sought to explore different options for making developing countries and their citizens less disadvantaged in a power-dominated global order.

Martin's deep insights, and the ability to explain the economic and legal implications of complex negotiating texts in concise and simple language to sleep-deprived negotiators, with extremely short attention span, was incredible.

Empowering developing countries' negotiators with facts, analysis, arguments and strategies became a habit with Martin.

At a time when developing countries with seemingly divergent interests were pursuing their narrow domestic agenda in WTO negotiations, Martin had the unique ability to identify common ground. It is no wonder that Martin became pivotal in shaping the approach of many developing countries during the Doha Round.

Martin would always be ready with new ideas on how developing countries could be more effective in protecting their interests in future negotiations.

While pursuing his life's mission, Martin would not hesitate in knocking at the doors of ministers and even heads of governments. Not only would he have their ear, but many times he even got them to loosen their purse strings for his projects. This highlights the trust that many reposed in his analysis and judgment.

Martin perceived India to be one of the very few countries that could take up cudgels on behalf of other developing countries and negotiate hard for their common good. He believed that, if India succeeded in negotiations, it would also benefit others. As a result, he supported India in WTO negotiations.

At the Bali Ministerial Conference of the WTO in 2013, India was waging a determined battle to insulate its scheme of procuring food grains for food security reasons from legal challenges. Despite many countries facing similar problems, they chose to remain silent. An impression went around that India's position had little support from other developing countries. Sensing that this situation would be damaging for India and also for other developing countries, Martin quickly swung into action. He organised a luncheon meeting in which the main item on the menu was public stockholding for food security purposes. He encouraged the invited countries to frankly articulate the problems they faced in implementing food security schemes. At least a dozen countries came out strongly in support of India's position. Martin had helped bust the myth that India was fighting only for its own cause. This added considerable political heft to India's negotiating approach.

India's achievement was also beneficial for many other developing countries including Indonesia, Turkey, Pakistan, Jordan, Tunisia, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Any reflection on Martin's life would be incomplete without a mention of how he inspired scores of negotiators, researchers and activists to strive for solidarity among developing countries for establishing a just and fair global order. His passion for various causes was incredibly infectious.

Martin motivated a large number of people across continents, in both developed and developing countries.  
May your soul rest in peace, Martin.

**The author is Head, Centre for WTO Studies, IIFT**

People's Health Movement (PHM) - <https://phmovement.org/phm-pays-heartfelt-tribute-to-martin-khor/> and <https://phmovement.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/PHMs-Tribute-to-Martin-Khor.pdf>

**PHM pays Heartfelt Tribute to Martin Khor**

April 24, 2020 by gargeya

"Globalisation in its current form cannot deliver the benefits expected of it. Civil society, particularly in developing countries, must ensure that it does." wrote Martin Khor, and he remained steadfastly committed towards fighting for a more just world.

In Martin, PHM has lost a comrade – a mentor and a constant support/guide. But beyond our personal loss, the world has lost a crusader, fighting against the unjust and inequitable order.

Please Read the Tribute [HERE](#)

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**Martin Khor – A Crusader against the Unequal World Order**

"Globalisation in its current form cannot deliver the benefits expected of it. Civil society, particularly in developing countries, must ensure that it does."1 wrote Martin Khor, and he remained steadfastly committed towards fighting for a more just world.

The 1970s was a time of global economic transition from the optimism of the long boom (expressed in the New International Economic Order of 1974) to recurring stagnation associated with global overproduction and under-consumption. The 1980s saw the rise of the neoliberal paradigm including small government, privatisation and marketisation, trade and investment liberalisation and globalisation (and designed to protect corporate elites from the risks of global economic imbalance).

Martin was 30 and working at the Consumers' Association of Penang in 1981 when the 'debt trap' was sprung; when US interest rates peaked at 20% (precipitating the debt crisis and a decade of dedevelopment under IMF/WB 'structural adjustment'). The debt crisis (and the 'lost decade') were accompanied by a global recession precipitated by Thatcher and Reagan in order to discipline organised labour in the global north and advocates for infant industry protection in the global south.

In 1984 Martin was instrumental in organising an international conference in Penang on 'The Third World: Development and Crisis' at which the Third World Network was created. Under Martin's leadership TWN emerged as a powerful influence on macroeconomic thinking in low and middle income countries. This influence was mediated through TWN reporting and commentary (including for example Third World Economics and Third World Resurgence) and through policy networking in government, academia and civil society. 'Rethinking Globalisation' written for UNCTAD in 2000 and published as book in 2001 sets out clearly Martin's analysis of the development challenge in the era of neoliberal globalisation.

Martin's engagement in global health policy was heightened following the publication by the World Bank of 'Investing in health' in 1993. In this glossy and polished report the Bank sought to rebut criticisms of structural adjustment from public health advocates (such as David Sanders in his 1985 book, 'The struggle for health'). In effect the Bank was arguing that structural adjustment was actually good for health. The report deployed a new (and deeply deceptive) approach to studying the cost effectiveness of various public health interventions. The method served to focus on magic bullets but discourage consideration of clean water, sanitation, housing and other environmental determinants of health. The report argued for a stratified approach to health care financing with a health insurance market place and a safety net for the poor. Health care provision was to be carried largely by the private sector.2 In December 1994 Martin co-convoked a meeting of TWN and the International People's Health Council (IPHC) in Penang to explore global health under globalisation and in particular the significance of the increasing attention being paid to global health by the World Bank. December 1994 coincided with the Marrakesh Treaty formalising the treaties of the World Trade Organization (WTO) and Martin set forth a far sighted analysis of the ways in which trade liberalisation and intellectual property reform were to impact on population health.

Martin was among the foremost opponents of the creation of the WTO regarding it as a global body with a bias in favour of rich countries and against the poor countries and was actively involved in stalling the Multilateral Agreement on Investments.

Calling the annual UN Climate Change Conference in 2012 a climate summit of "low ambition", Martin criticised the low commitments made by developed countries with regard to emission cuts and climate financing for developing countries. He was at the forefront in the fight for more equitable global solutions to the climate crisis and raised the inherently unequal treatment meted out to Global South in climate change negotiations. In one of his recent most works he clearly argues that - The equity imperative is rooted in the development needs of the developing countries and in the fact that emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases over the years mostly originated in the developed countries.3 IPHC, which was later to become one of the founding networks of the People's Health Movement, was created at a meeting in Managua in 1991 attended by participants from El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, the Dominican Republic, the USA, India, Bangladesh, the West Bank and South Africa. All were leaders in community health work among disadvantaged groups, many in the struggle for liberation or for far reaching social and political (structural) change. Many of those at the Managua meeting went on to become activists within PHM (including David Sanders, Maria

Hamlyn Zuniga, Mira Shiva and others), united by their practical experience in 'the struggle for health' in many different settings around the world and their critique of the impact on global health of transnational globalisation and capitalist imperialism.

In reaching out to IPHC Martin was deepening the links between TWN and critics of structural adjustment and its impact on health and of World Bank policies in health and leading analysts of the macroeconomic context of global health. Both IPHC and TWN were deeply involved in the planning for the first People's Health Assembly (PHA). Martin was actively involved in the first PHA, helping prepare the analytical background papers for different themes and, in fact, conducted an intense discussion on trade, patents and health at the Assembly.

With Martin at the helm, TWN was among the founding members of PHM and till date is an affiliate organisation of PHM, closely working together. Martin was actively engaged in the functioning of PHM as he was on the PHM Steering Council until 2008. It was during this period that the second PHA was organised. Martin was also very supportive of the one of the key programmes of PHM – the Global Health Governance. His support for civil society organisations was always an important element of Martin's commitment to global health process and continued during his time as the South Centre's Executive Director from 2008-2018, an intergovernmental organisation of developing countries based in Geneva, Switzerland. He encouraged PHM's annual WHO Watch and gave PHM the opportunity to engage with Member States ahead of the governing body meetings of WHO, i.e, Executive Board and World Health Assembly. He also helped position antimicrobial resistance as one of the most pressing global health priorities and involved PHM both at the global level and at the regional and national levels in positioning the issue.

In Martin, PHM has lost a comrade - a mentor and a constant support/guide. But beyond our personal loss, the world has lost a crusader, fighting against the unjust and inequitable order. (To read more about Martin Khor and his writings, please visit Third World Network)

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1 [https://oecdoobserver.org/news/archivestory.php/aid/331/We\\_the\\_People!\\_\\_An\\_NGO\\_view.html](https://oecdoobserver.org/news/archivestory.php/aid/331/We_the_People!__An_NGO_view.html) 2 For a more detailed critique of 'Investing in Health' see – Sanders, David and David Werner (1997), Questioning the Solution: The Politics of Primary Health Care and Child Survival.

3 Khor, Martin (2020), The Equitable Sharing of Atmospheric and Development Space: Some Critical Aspects, TWN Climate Change Series no.4

The Lancet, Vol. 395, Issue 10236, P1540, May 16, 2020: DOI – [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(20\)31092-8](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(20)31092-8); [https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736\(20\)31092-8/fulltext](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(20)31092-8/fulltext)

Geoff Watts

Martin Khor Kok Peng

Economist and champion of social justice and the Global South. He was born in Penang, Malaysia, on Nov 9, 1951, and died of cancer in Penang on April 1, 2020, aged 68 years.

A man who spoke and wrote on topics ranging from globalisation to climate change, and from trade policy to antimicrobial resistance, might be thought to have risked spreading his authority too thinly. But few listening to or reading Martin Khor drew any such conclusion. This was partly because he could identify the neglected links that often exist between seemingly unrelated issues, but even more so because what he offered was a consistent viewpoint. Khor's perspective was that of developing countries which, because of their poverty, lie outside the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, the G7, and other international bodies accustomed to viewing the world's problems through the eyes of the world's rich. "He was a warrior for the rights of developing countries", says Sangeeta Shashikant, a legal and policy adviser to the Third World Network (TWN), a non-profit research and advocacy organisation focused on development and North-South affairs. "He brought [developing countries] together to advocate for their rights."

Among Khor's many admirers is Professor Anthony So of the Department of International Health at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health in Baltimore, MD, USA. As he puts it, "Martin devoted his life to championing social justice and challenging a system of globalisation that too often failed to address the needs of those in the Global South. Unfailingly, he would make his points with commanding intellect, fervent commitment, and the compass of his vision. And he was as much at home speaking to ministers as he was to the students whom he saw as our future leaders."

Khor left Malaysia in 1971 to study economics at the University of Cambridge in the UK. He then joined the Singapore Government's Ministry of Finance before returning to Malaysia in 1975 for a lectureship in economics at its University of Science. 3 years later, on completing a master's in social science, he became Research Director of the Consumers Association of Penang (CAP), a body that supports people's right to food, housing, health care, sanitation, public transport, education, and a clean environment. It was an international conference organised by CAP in 1984 that led to the creation of TWN, of which Khor became Director in 1990. He maintained his role in both organisations until 2009, when he took up the Directorship of the South Centre in Geneva, Switzerland. This intergovernmental organisation of developing countries helps them to pool their efforts in promoting their common interests. Khor left the South Centre in 2018, returning to Malaysia but acting as Chair of the TWN Board until his death.

Khor worked with policy makers, implementers, and diplomats at many different levels in non-governmental organisations, governments, and other bodies, both regional and global. In addition to his three main posts at CAP, TWN, and the South Centre, he also took on a host of short-term or part-time tasks. He was a member of the UN Task Force on Environment and Human Settlements, he took part in the Helsinki Process on Globalisation and Democracy, he inspired developing countries to form their own bloc at the 1992 Rio de Janeiro Earth Summit, and he wrote a regular column for *The*

*Star* newspaper in Malaysia. Health care was also on his agenda. “On antibiotic resistance he was a huge advocate for the actions that needed to be taken, working with WHO and developing countries”, says Shashikant.

“Martin was always very sharp in his analyses of situations, of political processes, of things that weren't going right in the world, and what needed to be done”, says Ellen 't Hoen, a lawyer and public health advocate with the Medicines Law & Policy group. “And he had a talent for communicating these issues clearly, and with kindness...He always had the interests of the most vulnerable people at the core of what he did. That was his guiding light, and with it he guided a lot of people in the right direction.”

So describes Khor as “a rare public intellectual, who could speak truth to power, but walk in the shoes of those less fortunate...Martin was a visionary, with a gift for connecting and communicating, and for diving deep into the details of international agreements [and revealing] how these would affect lives and livelihoods in the Global South”. Khor leaves a wife, Meena, and a daughter, Rebecca, from a previous marriage.