

*(Check against delivery)*

**Speech by Dr. Andreas Missbach, Head Commodities, Trade and Finance Department  
Joint Managing Director Berne Declaration and member of the Public Eye Awards Jury**

### **And the winner is**

We are now coming to the more glamorous part of this press conference, with a touch of the Academy Awards Ceremony. I have the pleasure to officially announce the winner of the 2013 Public Eye People's Award: And the winner is ... Shell.

Shell is the first company to win our Award twice. Back in 2005, at the first Public Eye Awards Shell was shamed for its corporate misbehavior in the tropics. More precisely, for their unwillingness to stop gas flaring in Nigeria, despite the impacts on the health of affected communities and the environment. In addition, the company was dishonored for not cleaning the numerous oil spills it caused in the Niger delta since 1956.

Eight years later it is Shell in the Arctic. Shell is the only western oil major that moves into the fragile frozen territories to drill the last barrels of oil. As there is no safe drilling under sea ice conditions, Shell gambles with the wildlife and beauty of one of the last unspoiled regions on our small planet.

However, the Public Eye Jury even found 3 additional reasons to again shortlist Shell: The corporation is also one of the biggest investors in the extremely damaging tar-sand extraction in Canada. Furthermore Shell was shortlisted for completely dropping renewable energy from its long-term strategy and, thirdly, for its reluctance to accept any responsibility for the devastation its operations have caused in Nigeria. This last point raised again by the Jury proofs that the second award for Shell is more than justified.

Drilling in the arctic is possible because of the effects of climate change that we are already witnessing. This cynical business opportunity was first discussed and possibly even planned right here at the World Economic Forum. Back in 2006 a panel entitled "The Race for the North Pole" set the tone and announced euphorically: "The melting arctic ice cap could unlock the potentially vast petroleum resources that lie beneath." Ordinary WEF participants were not allowed to that discussion, not to mention the media. It was reserved for the "Strategic Partners", the inner power circle of the World Economic Forum.