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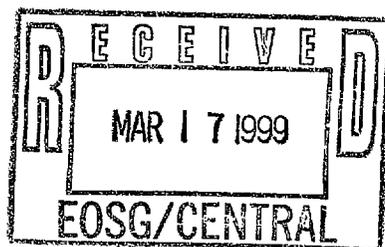
POSTAL ADDRESS—ADRESSE POSTALE: UNITED NATIONS, N.Y. 10017
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EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

CABINET DU SECRETAIRE GENERAL
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REFERENCE:

17 March 1999



Dear Robert,

Your thoughtful letter and book "Ideas and Dreams for a Better World" arrived. The Secretary-General wishes to thank you for the dedication and inspiration you continue to give to the cause of peace, justice and freedom. Your dynamic and eloquent leadership gives courage to so many who share our goals.

The Secretary-General looks forward to reading your book with care and asked that I convey your views to other officials.

Warm regards to you and Barbara.

Yours sincerely,

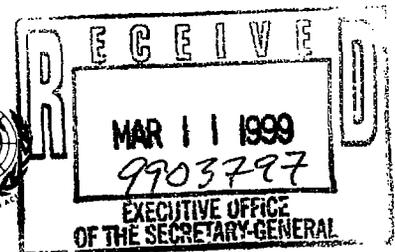
A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gillian".

Gillian Martin Sorensen
Assistant Secretary-General
for External Relations

Mr. Robert Muller
150 Draper Lane
Apt. 3H
Dobbs Ferry, NY 10522



GMS
(w. end. & book
"Fourth 500 Ideas")
UNIVERSITY FOR PEACE



CREATED BY U.N. GENERAL ASSEMBLY, RES /35/55, DEC 5, 1980

6 March 1999

Dear Mr. Secretary General,

With the year 2000 you are becoming the most important person on Earth in the entire human history. How can you face this overwhelming challenge in one of the most complex and "messy" (your words used in the latest World Diplomatic Bulletin) human, Earth and evolutionary situations this planet has ever known ?

Here are a few advices from a life-time world public servant and direct aide to three former Secretaries General :

1. you cannot count on anyone else but yourself. Every morning you must say to yourself when you wake up : I am the only one who can give the inspiration and ideas to the world regarding our future. You can be helped, but your final proposals and recommendations are yours. Pray God and the invisible forces of the universe to help you.

2. Place heads of national governments squarely before their responsibilities. Advise, inspire and elevate them in your personal Note Verbale to all heads of state as is usual before every General Assembly. This is an extremely important document. Tell them what you expect from them as actions between now and the Millennium General Assembly which they are expected to attend. Issue that Note Verbale as early as possible. Do not wait until we are closer to this year's General Assembly.

3. Mobilize the ACC, all substantive Secretariat services (headquarters and regional), and all specialized agencies and world programmes to come up with states of the world reports in each of their fields and segments of the human and Earth condition. As part of their input, ask for the following :

- an inventory of achievements since the creation of that agency (in the case of the UN it already exists for the last fifty years)
- an inventory of major world problems and issues to be solved according to urgency (immediate, medium-term, long term)
- an inventory of hopes

990471
" Si vis pacem, para pacem "

PHONES: 249-1072 - 249-1512 - 249-1511, P.O.BOX. 138 Ciudad Colón, Costa Rica, C.A. Fax: 249-1929



CREATED BY U.N. GENERAL ASSEMBLY, RES /35 /55, DEC 5, 1980

- an inventory of proposals, ideas and recommendations
 - a. regarding the need for changes in human values
 - b. regarding the need for changes in institutions and the creation of new ones
 - c. regarding necessary changes in laws and implementation

4. The preceding will provide you with the basic materials for your personal report to the heads of states at the Millennium Assembly and make it the most comprehensive, courageous, epoch-making, forward-looking message in modern human history. It must serve as a guide and be quoted during the decades to come.

I have done my personal duty in producing 2000 ideas and dreams for a better world based on my fifty years of experience. They are finished, the last volume IV having just come out. I am sending it to you as I did the preceding three volumes. Since they are finished well ahead of the year 2000, I will devote the rest of the current year to their dissemination and implementation. Being an advisory member of the newly created Foundation for the Future in Bellevue, State of Washington, which looks as far as the year 3000, I will continue to write a thousand more ideas. The Foundation will hold a conference of the world's 100 best futurologists and evolutionary scientists in Seattle in the year 2000 in time to issue their report for the Millennium General Assembly.

5. Please appoint one of your officials to read the four volumes and draw your attention to those ideas which you could use in your speeches and recommendations to the Millennium Assembly. He or she can count on my full cooperation.

6. From the 2000 ideas many ideas regarding special fields can be excerpted by computer. I am sending you herewith an excerpt dealing with the Future. In the copy I have marked the ideas which could be of interest to you. For example in idea 500 which lists all the World Commissions held over the years to help the United Nations, I suggest that you ask an official to make a list of all the specific recommendations made by them. The result would be a very remarkable document of

" Si vis pacem, para pacem "



interest to governments and to many people. With Dr. Karan Singh of India we have just created a World Commission on Global Consciousness and Spirituality to promote a much needed spiritual Renaissance. I am sending the other members an excerpt of 59 pages of ideas regarding religion and spirituality, similar to the one on the Future.

Last but not least, ask Mrs. Annan to keep the four volumes on her nighttable and to peruse them, drawing your attention to ideas she would like you to make yours. My life's work has been incredibly helped and enhanced by ^{my} alas deceased wife Margarita Gallo from Chile, the President of the UN Women's Guild. I have written a novel in her memory First Lady of the World and donated a bust of Eleanor Roosevelt with whom she worked as a delegate of Chile to the Commission on Women's Rights, which was inaugurated last 10th of December at the University for Peace on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Her remains will be transferred next month to a hill, called ^{My} Margarita, of the property I have acquired on a sacred mountain adjacent to the University for Peace in Costa Rica. God has sent me since then another wonderful life companion who inspires me and helps me enormously. It is she who asked me to write 2000 ideas for the year 2000, which I did.

She joins me in wishing you and Mrs. Annan a great Historical role in the fate of humanity and of planet Earth,

Yours in peace,

Robert and Barbara Muller

H.E. Dr. Kofi Annan
Secretary General of the UN

PS. We will be staying at our apartment in the Hudson valley until 25 March with an interruption of two days in Washington for a speech to the US World Federalists. In case you wish to contact me, our address is 150 Draper Lane, Apt. 3H Dobbs Ferry, NY 10522, tel/fax 914 693 6613.

" Si vis pacem, para pacem "

TWO THOUSAND IDEAS FOR A BETTER WORLD

A countup to the year 2000

by DR. ROBERT MULLER

Chancellor of the UN University for Peace
Former UN Assistant Secretary General

Excerpts about:

The Future

3 March 1999

*To Secretary General Kofi Annan
from Robert Muller*

*Items of interest to you are
marked SG*

yours warmly

Robert Muller

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❖ Robert Muller's *2000 Ideas* started on 11 July 1994, 2000 days before 1 January 2000 ❖

~ Idea 57 ~

5 September 1994

SG
I recommend that the two yearly meetings between the UN Secretary-General and all heads of UN specialized agencies and world programs be televised world-wide, because they are true world cabinet meetings which review the state of the world, the future, and action being taken or considered. They would reassure the viewers that the world is not left drifting in chaos, that there is hope, deep concern, foresight, planning and action.

~ Idea 72 ~

20 September 1994

Each year, on the third Tuesday of September, the UN General Assembly opens its annual session to review the fate of the world and to prepare a better future. The first act of the Assembly is for all delegates to stand up and to devote a minute of silence for prayer or meditation. My dream is that all the peoples of the world would join them in that minute of communion in prayer or meditation, to encourage their delegates and to ask for the blessings of God for their awesome work. This is why the third Tuesday of September has been proclaimed International Day of Peace for the entire world. But how many people know it and have a prayer for the UN? Please do, because prayers move the mountains.

~ Idea 74 ~

22 September 1994

I hope that a way will be found to seek the views and prophecies of the world's indigenous people concerning humanity's future on this planet. The International Decade of Indigenous People proclaimed by the UN offers a good opportunity to do that.

~ Idea 88 ~

6 October 1994

SG
Perhaps what is most needed at this juncture of our history and evolution is a World Conference on the Future of Humanity and of this Planet. Our future indeed can be in serious jeopardy if we continue on the present course.

~ Idea 93 ~

11 October 1994

The amount of garbage, waste, duplication and unnecessary activities has become so colossal on this planet, endangering our entire future and survival, that I recommend the urgent convening of a World Conference on Waste and Garbage. According to the World Commission on Population and the Quality of Life, a person dying in a poor country leaves behind a total waste of 150 times his weight, while an American leaves behind a mountain of waste 4000 times his weight!

~ Idea 103 ~

21 October 1994

While the exact sciences are all of a global, universal nature, the social sciences are not. There is urgent need for a global anthropology, global sociology, global psychology, global political science (planetics), global literature, global art, global culture, global philosophy, global futurology, etc. Margaret Mead was the first prophet recommending it.

~ Idea 105 ~

23 October 1994

For the sake of this planet and humanity's future an Office of Global Education should be created in every Ministry of Education. Global education should be required in all schools of Earth, from kindergarten to University and in all professional schools, especially for journalism and the media.

~ Idea 150~

7 December 1994

SG It is absolutely imperative that the UN establish a Committee of the Future which would look at the totality of the data, views and forecasts of the future emerging from the UN's world conferences, thirty-two specialized agencies and world programs, regional commissions, international years, global commissions, etc.

~ Idea 153 to 171 ~

10 to 28 December 1994

On this Human Rights Day I recommend that the following fundamental human rights should be worked on for adoption:

Idea 158 -the right to a proper planning of the future for all newly born children, by governments and world agencies

Idea 164 -the right of future generations

~ Idea 204 ~

30 January 1995

SG "*Until modern times young people could anticipate a future rather like that of their parents. Social change was that slow. Now young people face futures for which their parents' culture cannot prepare them. The young must create the future themselves.*"

Margaret Mead

A good idea would be for the UN to convene a World Youth Conference before the Year 2000 and ask youth what kind of a new century and millennium they see and want.

~ Idea 222 ~

17 February 1995

After the success and historic breakthrough of the US federal system of government and balance of power, and the emergence of a similar system in the European Union, the time has come to give serious consideration to federal systems or unions on other continents and of such a system for the world as a whole. This should be one of our main priorities on the eve of the 21st century and 3rd millennium. Not to do it would be a grave irresponsibility towards the Earth and future generations. The present mess and colossal duplications between nation-states cannot be endured, neither by the Earth nor by the people.

~ Idea 223 ~

18 February 1995

SG The General Assembly of the United Nations should create a new, seventh main Commission: a Commission on the Future or long term evolution of humanity and of the Earth.

~ Idea 243 ~

10 March 1995

I am glad to have received the first thesis on "The Spirit of Cooperation: Consciousness and the Development of Cooperation". The student found little in social literature on cooperation, and what she discovered was flimsy. We need urgently from social scientists a theory, a strategy and a methodology of cooperation. The United Nations and its 32 specialized agencies and world programs are a goldmine of theses on this vital subject for our future. Biologists are far ahead of social scientists. We need to study a new major biosocial phenomenon: the birth of a global brain, global nervous system, global heart and global soul to the human species.

~ Idea 248 ~

15 March 1995

SG True democracy means frequent peoples' consultations through public opinion polls and referenda. The world is now so interdependent and the people are so worried about the future that it is high time to organize world referenda. The United Nations should create an Office of World Polls and Referenda. The first world referendum should ask the people if they want to get rid or not of all atomic weapons. And all governments should abide by their decision. Another poll would be whether people want to see electric cars replace the petroleum cars which are destroying our atmosphere. Another would be on the demilitarization of the planet and the creation of a proper world security system and peace protection at all levels of society. And there are many others.

~ Idea 250 ~

17 March 1995

We now have at long last a World Trade Organization. Needed as much, if not more, is a World Engineering Agency that would conceive and implement major world engineering projects which would improve the overall productivity of the planet and the well-being of the people. For example, several major unexploited hydro-electrical sites in the world could provide enough electricity for humanity's needs, transported intercontinentally through high power transmission lines, in a world energy grid which would take advantage of the night and day rotation of the planet. As a result, atomic energy could be dispensed with and our future saved from annihilation through atomic radiation.

Buckminster Fuller was a goldmine of such ideas. They should be carefully studied. There exists in Santa Monica, California, an institute, GENI, which has studied and advocates a world energy grid. It should receive top attention and be supported.

~ Idea 322 ~

28 May 1995

Since the political world, including the positions of heads of states are overwhelmingly occupied by males, not only do I recommend that a woman be elected Secretary-General of the UN but also that the few women heads of states and the wives of male heads of states create a world association of first ladies to work together on a large variety of issues and tell the world their vision of the future.

~ Idea 327 ~

2 June 1995

I think that Idea 227 proposed by Prof. Jesus Maria Salas Araya should be considered seriously by the world community: the entire country of Costa Rica should be made a world park, a unique natural preserve, a jewel and heritage of humanity. The Earth Council established in Costa Rica by the UN Rio de Janeiro Conference on the Environment could take up the subject and create a group of thinkers and ecologists who would come up with a concrete plan and proposals. Costa Rica could become a model for other well preserved natural areas of our Earth. In an orderly, well-conceived world government, such achievements for the future of the Earth and of humanity would be easy matters.

~ Idea 349 ~

24 June 1995

SG Right here and now, huge global problems are developing on this planet which will deeply affect humanity's future, including our possible extinction. And yet, most national governments, business, local governments and the people are only interested in the immediate or the short-term. To heal this situation I recommend that the UN should create a new position of High Commissioner for the World's Future and that each government create a Ministry of the Future or for Future Generations. Margaret Mead similarly recommended that Universities should have Departments of the Future.

~ Idea 394 ~

8 August 1995

The UN should not be called an organization but a metabiological organism: it constantly adapts and transforms itself to reflect truthfully the overall evolution of the planet and of humanity, highlighting our errors and damages to our home, correcting our evolutionary course and giving us new vistas of a great new future.

~ Idea 397 ~

11 August 1995

Future generations will never forgive us if at this end of a century and millennium we do not design a new political system for the planet Earth, reflecting its interdependence and the fragility of its biosphere. We owe it to this beautiful, miraculous, Creation of God.

~ Idea 405 ~

19 August 1995

The time will come when even before having agreed on a world government for humanity, we will require an Earth Government in which the air, the waters, the oceans, the forests, the land, the animal world and plants will be represented and considered to be of top importance to the planet's future. World agencies and ministries dealing with these components of the Earth will be their representatives. The statutes of a new organization to be called United Earth should be drafted.

~ Idea 422 ~

5 September 1995

Sometimes when I read the resolutions adopted by Model United Nations of children or youth, especially their Model Security Council, I am tempted to place these texts on the desks of the members of the Security Council as if they were official UN documents. Delegates would probably get a heart attack when reading them! But they would be great lessons, because children are the voice of truth, of common sense, while adults have acquired distorted minds, due to national interests and professional diffamation. See

therefore my ideas 39, 40 and 41. Perhaps all UN draft resolutions should be shown to children and youth for their comments and advice before being adopted. Moreover when a world constitution will be drafted, provision should be made for the voice of mothers, children and youth to be heard. After all, it is their future which is at stake, and so far throughout history adult males have been doing a pretty poor political job for humanity and for the planet.

~ Idea 425 ~

8 September 1995

Henceforth in all future history the supreme reason will no longer be the reason of State but the reason of the Earth.

~ Idea 428 ~

11 September 1995

For the first time I have met a US businessman who has come to Costa Rica to buy land so that his children can have a livelihood, raising cows, chickens and having some agriculture when the western economic system will collapse. A better idea would be for governments to look into the viability of the monstrous economic system which creates more poverty than well-being and destroys the environment, endangering the entire future of humanity and of our Earth.

~ Idea 455 ~

8 October 1995

I dream that someday the Robert Muller schools will be architecturally and ecologically designed as precursors of a new cosmic, ecological architecture showing our miraculous lives as cosmic entities unfolding in our universal and planetary home, from the infinitely large to the infinitely small, from the infinite past to the infinite future.

Note:

The new International School in Amsterdam, Holland, has been designed by a famous architect, Tom Alberts, in accordance with my dream. I was given the honor to inaugurate the school in 1996.

~ Idea 460 ~

13 October 1995

SG I think that after 50 years, it is time for the United Nations General Assembly to redefine its Main Committees in the light of major world changes. Thus it should create Main Committees on Global Government, on the Environment, on Peace-building and Non-Violence, on the Future, on Women, Children and Youth, on International and Peoples' Volunteer Associations.

~ Idea 473 ~

26 October 1995

During the next years I will deliver a series of major speeches on fundamental subjects in my mind and heart, namely the absolute need for a new political system for our Earth, for a new education, for global leadership training, for new global media, for a new economics, for a global spirituality, for better ways of human settlements on the planet, for ensuring a minimum well-being for all humans, for preserving our planet, its nature, its seas, oceans and climate for future generations, for enhancing human happiness and the overall beauty of our paradise Earth, unique in the immense universe.

~ Idea 476 ~

29 October 1995

As we move towards the next century and millennium I wish that UNESCO would make a comparative study of all cosmologies formulated over the ages, extract from them what they have in common and formulate together with modern scientists the new cosmology which should guide our future evolution on this planet.

~ Idea 500 ~

22 November 1995

SG
The United Nations has done a tremendous job in paving the way to our entry into a new century and millennium. It has done it with its vast statistical global services covering practically every aspect of humanity and of the Earth, with its several world conferences on fundamental global issues, its stock-takings in yearly reports on the state of the world in many sectors, its stock-takings during the 50th anniversaries of the UN and of several of its agencies, and the holding of world celebrations on global issues, values and achievements. (see Introduction to the Third One Hundred Ideas.)

In addition, the UN has received the invaluable help and pioneering work of a number of Independent World Commissions of Eminent Personalities, on important world issues requiring attention. Here is the list of these commissions:

The World Commission on North-South Relations headed by former Chancellor Willy Brandt of Germany,

The World Commission on Disarmament headed by Mr. Olof Palme, former Prime Minister of Sweden.

The World Commission on the Environment headed by Mrs. Gro Harlan Brundtland, Prime Minister of Norway.

The World Commission on Global Governance, headed by Mr. Ingvar Carlsson, former Prime Minister of Sweden.

The World Commission on Funding of the United Nations, headed by Ms. Hazel Henderson, US economist,

The World Commission on Population and the Quality of Life, headed by Mrs. Maria de Lourdes Pintaligo, former Prime Minister of Portugal,

The World Commission on Art and Culture, headed by former UN Secretary General Javier Pérez de Cuellar,

The World Commission on Education in the 21st century, headed by Jacques Delors, former President of the European Economic Community,

The World Commission on the Oceans, headed by Mario Soares, the Prime Minister of Portugal.

I recommend that in 1999 or 2000, the UN General Assembly should hold a special session or convene a World Conference on our entry into a new century and millennium, to review the conclusions and recommendations of all the above preparatory work, unprecedented in human history and design a core vision of what our Earth and humanity should aim at and look like in the future.

A UN official should establish a list of all the concrete proposals of these World Commissions for you and the UN General Assembly

Once it is conscious of the imperative need for proper Earth government, humanity will have to respond to the following complaints by the Earth:

Idea 503

25 November 1995

"Why did I have to take all of a sudden a population increase from 2.5 billion people in 1952 to 5.6 billion today*, more than a doubling in less than fifty years?"

We could answer as an excuse: It happened out of sheer ignorance. After the war the rich countries and the United Nations wanted to prevent the early death of innumerable children in the poor countries. They died young because of epidemics, bad health conditions, malnutrition and hunger. But having no population statistics for the world and for most of these countries, we did not tell the parents that they would no longer need to give birth to an average of six children per family to have at least two of them left to till the land and to take care of their old age. Until 1952 we did not even know what the world population was! When the UN organized for the first time in human history decent world statistics and world censuses, we discovered that women did not have more children, but that children no longer died early (the mortality rate per year fell from 34 per thousand to 14 per thousand). When this was discovered it was too late, the children were born and a young population is highly reproductive. The UN warned nations and humanity by means of world population conferences and every other possible means that a population explosion was upon us. But religions and other factors opposed it. Nevertheless, these efforts saved you from 2.2 billion more humans on your surface by the year 2000. Instead of 8.3 billion human beings in that year we will be only 6.1 billion.

Idea 504

26 November 1995

The Earth:

"Yes, but I hear that at the present rate you will be 8.5 billion** in the year 2050 and stabilize only at 11 billion around the year 3000. You still increase by 86 million*** more people every year. You will end up by destroying me."

Our answer:

"We continue to do our utmost. Each year the figure of population growth decreases by a few more millions."

Idea 505

27 November 1995

The Earth:

I have another major complaint, namely while there is a population explosion in the poor countries you have also triggered off a wild overconsumption explosion in the already high-consuming rich countries. In the latter, an individual consumes 30 times more of my resources than in the poor countries. From my point of view, namely the damages you do to my body, your world population statistics are wrong: while the developing countries count 4.4 billion people, the rich countries' 1.2 billion should be multiplied by 30, i.e. they represent 36 billion people."

* 1998: 5.9 billion

** 1998: 9.3 billion and stabilizing at 10.7 billion in the year 2200.

*** 1998: 80 million

~ Idea 506 to 519 ~

The Earth would have other complaints, she could ask for example:

WHY EACH MINUTE

Idea 506
28 November 1995 do you destroy 21 hectares (52 acres) of my tropical forests (38 million acres a year) after having destroyed most of the forests in your "rich" countries?

Idea 507
29 November 1995 do you consume 35.725 barrels of oil to run around in cars and circle around me in airplanes?

Idea 508
30 November 1995 do you let 50 tons of fertile soil be wasted or blown off my cropland?

Idea 509
1 December 1995 do you add 12,000 tons of carbon dioxide to my atmosphere, to the air you breathe?

WHY EACH HOUR

Idea 510
2 December 1995 do you let 685 hectares of productive dryland become desert?

Idea 511
3 December 1995 do you spend 120 million dollars on military expenditures, a trillion a year?

Idea 512
4 December 1995 are 55 people poisoned and 5 killed by pesticides?

Idea 513
5 December 1995 are 60 new cases of cancer diagnosed in the United States alone, over 5,000,000 cases each year with 20,000 cases leading to death, because of the thinning of my ozonosphere which protected you from the ultra-violet rays of the sun?

WHY EACH DAY

Idea 514
6 December 1995 do 25,000 people die of water shortage and contamination?

Idea 515
7 December 1995 are 10 tons of nuclear waste generated in 420 nuclear plants?

Idea 516
8 December 1995 do 250,000 tons of sulfuric acid fall as acid rain in the northern hemisphere, killing lakes and devastating remaining forests?

Idea 517
9 December 1995 are 60 tons of plastic packages and 372 tons of fishing nets dumped into the seas by commercial fishermen, killing fishes, sea birds and sea mammals?

Idea 518

10 December 1995 does every five hours a species become extinct on my surface?

WHY DURING A HUMAN LIFETIME

Idea 519

11 December 1995 do you dump so much garbage and waste on me: while the average is 150 times of the weight of a person in a poor country over a lifetime, why does the average American leave behind a mountain of waste 4,000 times his own weight?

And the Earth could go on. She could say:

"I regret to have no figures on what you dump into the seas and oceans which cover 71 percent of my body and contain the largest number and longest living of my species. The tonnage of poisons, chemicals, colors, decayed materials and radioactive elements which flow into my world ocean through my arteries, the rivers, must be staggering. Soon will come the day when fishes and seafood will no longer be edible."

I heard her also murmur:

"I almost wish that you humans would put coloring materials in the exhausts of your cars and airplanes to see what you add to the air which goes into your lungs and which I made so pure for you. Thank God, it begins to show in the form of smog over your cities."

~ Idea 520 to 521 ~

12 to 13 December 1995

As a former UN official I would comment:

Dear Earth. you are not the only one to complain. Humanity has its own miseries which remain major challenges to proper human and Earth government. After all, humans are your children, the flesh of your flesh, we are living Earth, our body is 70 percent water and 30 percent earth. Thus, we cannot consider that there is proper Earth government and justice

Idea 520

12 December 1995 when no decent physical lives have been assured to all 5.6 billion inhabitants of the planet: one billion still suffer from hunger; the average income of the 560 million people of the poorest countries is 300 dollars a year; in the better-off poor countries it is 900 dollars a year; while in the rich countries it is 21,600 dollars a year.

Idea 521

13 December 1995 when no good mental lives have been provided to all the world's people: there are still 900 million adult illiterates, 130 million children without schooling and 100 million children abandon school prematurely.

~ Idea 522 to 524 ~

14 to 16 December 1995

Idea 522

14 December 1995

God or the cosmic forces would intervene at that point and exclaim: "You forget us, the past and the future, the universe and eternity: how could you consider this planet to be properly governed

Idea 523

15 December 1995

when you let die valuable ways of life and beliefs such as the simple and frugal lives of hundreds of millions of rural people, small family businesses, small village communities, the spirituality of hundreds of millions of people, local art and cultures, the ways of life in harmony with nature of 300 million indigenous people around this globe?

Idea 524

16 December 1995

when no or little attention is given to the long term future of this planet. There is not a single Ministry of the Future in any government. The Iroquois are wiser than you: they do not take any decision without considering its potential effects on the seventh generation, which means in five hundred years."

~ Idea 550 ~

11 January 1995

One of the mishaps in the history of the 19th and 20th centuries was that humanity embarked upon economics (oikos, nomos, in Greek, the organizing, management of the home) before ecology (oikos, logos, the knowledge, the science of our home, the Earth). The proper balance between the two has yet to be found. It is the whole agenda of our future. The concept of "sustainable development" is a first step in the right direction. But there is more to it: we, as humans must cooperate with the Earth, our Mother, and make it an even better, more beautiful home and success. We can plant flowers where there are not any now.

~ Idea 562 ~

23 January 1996

About ten years ago or more, I suggested to President Bush that in view of the creation of the European Union, the American countries from Alaska to Tierra del Fuego should create an all American community and future union. He listened to me but instead of creating that community in a common joint effort of all American countries, the US negotiated separate trade agreements first with Canada, then with Mexico and now the Latin American countries created their own Mercosur (the Southern Latin American market) and the future of an American community and future union is in doubt.

The continental approach to a world community and union remains an important avenue. One could conceive five continental unions: the European Union, an American, an African, an Asian, and an Australian Union. A World Union could be constructed as a super-structure and common political system of the five continents. I therefore propose

à World Conference of the planet's five continents on a Proper Earth Government through continental unions and a World Union.

Last, but not least, humanity has reached a point when we must consider our human presence, past, present and future on this particular planet in the universe. We have now a tremendous information on the universe in which we live. In addition to our total consciousness of our Earth and its global evolution we are now also acquiring and developing a cosmic consciousness of the universe. This is the greatest of all our advances in human history. But the mysteries of infinity and eternity still escape us and will remain outside human and scientific grasp. This has the result of bringing together the spirituality or basic "faiths" of all religions and science. God, the gods or the Great Spirit or Spirits and their emissaries, prophets and human incarnations like Jesus gave humanity at its early stages a cosmic, universal, all-encompassing faith or feeling for the mysteries of the cosmos, for the norms of love and for the miracle of life and norms of behavior between all humans and with other species and nature. These messages or "revelations" should not be neglected. They contain some of the profoundest answers to human behavior, fulfillment, and survival. Great was our astonishment in the environmental crisis to discover the wisdom and rules of behavior towards nature dictated by the Great Spirit to the indigenous people of this planet. The world's 5000 religions are filled with incredible wisdom regarding human morality, belief in life, environmental adaptation, survival and future evolution. *This is strongly coming to the fore at this time as manifested in the following:*

1. the dream and plan of my compatriot Robert Schuman from Alsace-Lorraine to see the European Union, which started with a coal and steel community followed by an economic community, followed by a political union, culminate in an all spiritual European Union including the Eastern European countries especially "Holy Mother Russia".

2. the creation in 85 countries, including as a third party in the United States, of the Natural Law Party based on the premise that the laws of nature should guide humans in their political behavior and organization. There is only one step to recognize that natural laws are in reality cosmic laws.

3. the San Francisco Initiative to create a United Religions Organization similar to the United Nations also born in that city, where all religions of the world would cooperate, define what they have in common, provide their wisdom on human behavior and morality, and right relations with nature, and the creation of God. In the process they will hopefully reduce and progressively give up their fundamentalism in favor of a global spirituality the same way as nations in the United Nations have reduced the national fundamentalism called sovereignty. May God help us that

a World Conference be convened on proper Earth government through what the world's religions have in common in terms of universal, global spirituality and world-wide human experience.

People should have ideas on any subject in the world. Everyone can at least have ideas on ways of living a happy, grateful life. But peace, the future of humanity and the saving of our beautiful Earth should be the top subjects.

56

INTRODUCTION

IDEAS 601 to 700

A STRATEGY FOR A NON-VIOLENT WORLD IN THE 21st CENTURY AND THIRD MILLENNIUM

Statement to the US/Gorbachev Forum on the State of the World in San Francisco,
September 1995

Current and emerging trends

Positive:

1. the end of the cold war has substantially reduced international armed conflicts and opens a new era of international cooperation for conflict and violence resolution;
2. out of 75 armed conflicts today, only a few are international and these are contained by the UN (Middle East, Kashmir, Cyprus);
3. the potentials of the UN and of its agencies and world programs have received renewed attention; from No 1 on the list of violence in the industrialized world at the beginning of the century, labour violence has fallen to the bottom, thanks to the remarkable work of the International Labour Organization, created with tripartite representation (governments, employers and employees) in 1919, earlier than the League of Nations;
4. the recent birth of more than twenty regional economic and political communities, especially the European Union, has contributed to peace among their members, to new forms of intergovernmental cooperation and to better means to prevent and deal with violence in their regions;
5. there is unprecedented direct cooperation and an ideal to be peacemakers between most heads of states;
6. many former heads of states, former generals and admirals are involved in behind the scenes conflict-mediation;
7. conflict resolution courses have mushroomed lately in Universities and schools. Conflict resolution, counseling and mediation professions are on the increase.

Negative:

1. internal ethnic and religious conflicts (more than 70) are on top of the list of world violence;
2. new forms of violence have arisen: terrorism, hijacking, hostage taking;
3. the rapid growth of the poor population of the world and of megacities have made city and street violence a phenomenon of growing importance;
4. violence on the media has also become a matter of primary concern;
5. unnecessary violence against nature, against the elements and other species must be considered as a new form of violence, a war against nature, against the Earth.

Preferred future

We must aim at the ideal of a non-violent, peaceful civilization in the 21st century and third millennium

Steps towards achieving it:

1. The UN should establish forthwith a Department for Ethnic and Religious Conflicts Resolution;
2. Accelerate the creation of a United Religions Organization like the UN proposed at the centennial Parliament of World Religions in Chicago in 1993 and actively under way;
3. The UN should convene urgently a World Conference on Violence, its causes, forms, prevention, reduction and resolution;
4. The UN should proclaim the year 2000 International Year of Peace and Non-Violence and the third millennium Millennium of Peace and Non-Violence;
5. A Yearly State of Violence in the world should be published by the UN with contributions from all its specialized agencies, nations and non-governmental organizations;
6. A prominent head or former head of state (e.g. Mikhail Gorbachev, Vaclav Havel or Jimmy Carter) should establish an Independent World Commission of Eminent Persons on Peace and Non-Violence;
7. A World Peace and Non-Violence Room should be created at the UN with fastest means of communications to prevent, control and solve conflicts and violence of various natures around the world;
8. Direct telecommunications systems between all heads of states and the UN Secretary General should be established to prevent and deal with conflicts and violence;
9. Ministries of Peace and Non-violence should be created in all countries;
10. Merge in all countries the military and police forces, reform and transform them into peace protecting agencies and servants under the authority of a Ministry of Peace and Non-Violence;
11. Transform all Military Academies and schools around the world into Peace Academies and schools teaching a science of non-violence, a strategy of non-violence and a methodology of non-violence, instead of the science, strategy and methodology of war and violence taught and perfected to the extreme since Napoleon and General Clausewitz, the apostles of unlimited violence and conquest;
12. Transform INTERPOL into a specialized agency of the UN as a world central information agency on potential violence, terrorism, hijacking, hostage-taking and other underground groups;
13. Make media violence a top subject of the World Conference on Violence;

14. Teach peace and non-violence in all schools on Earth and create Departments or Faculties of Peace and Non-Violence in all Universities;
15. Give very strong support and substantial resources to the University for Peace created by the UN in demilitarized Costa Rica and to the new University for Peace in Berlin. Create at least one such university on each continent and in every nation.
16. Envisage a tripartite representation in all UN agencies and world programs following the example of the International Labour Organization, to deal with peace and non-violence in their respective fields;
17. All peoples' associations, movements for non-violence, e.g. the Gandhi Movement, the Tolstoy Movement, the Quakers, the Jains, etc., should get together and form a World Alliance for Non-Violence, with strong representation in the UN, in all its agencies and in nations.*
18. Since law and proper government is one of the main means to avoid violence at the local and national levels, urgent consideration should be given to proper world law and government at the planetary level.

In brief, we need urgently a comprehensive science, strategy and methodology of non-violent resolution of conflicts and peace and a political will at the highest level for a peaceful and non-violent civilization in the 21st century and third millennium.

Robert Muller

We are constantly astonished these days at the amazing discoveries in the field of violence. But I maintain that far more undreamt and seemingly impossible discoveries will be made in the field of non-violence.

Mahatma Gandhi

~ Idea 637 ~

7 April 1996

Humanity must now extend its views far into the future in order to shoulder its responsibilities towards the future evolution and fate of this Earth. I have therefore recommended

- the creation of a world association of long-term evolutionary scientists and thinkers;
- the convening by UNESCO before the year 2000 of a conference of long-term evolutionary scientists, followed
- by a World Conference on Evolution by the United Nations.

One concrete step will be the convening in 1999 under the auspices of the new Club of Budapest on Planetary Consciousness, of a Summit on the Chances of Evolution for Humanity on this Planet.

* 1997: A world Movement of Non-Violence has been created in Florianopolis, Brazil. It has submitted to the University for Peace a plan of action.

~ Idea 689 ~

29 May 1996

On her death bed, Margaret Mead said to her pupil Jean Houston: "I had an important insight about the future. The world is going to change so fast that people and governments will not be prepared to be stewards of this change. What will save them is teaching-learning communities..." (p. 228 of Jean Houston's book *A Mythic Life*).

This statement has opened my eyes to what I have seen around the world and at the United Nations, namely that the greatest obstacle to our further evolution is fundamentalism, my nation right or wrong, my religion right or wrong, my ideology right or wrong, my culture or race right or wrong, at a time when the whole human species is in the midst of transformation, of teaching and learning from each other, in thousands of ways and communities, from the top of the world – the United Nations, the biggest teaching-learning society on Earth – down to the family. Competition and the survival of the fittest, as Darwin thought, can no longer be the rule of the human society. This phase of evolution had its role. The new evolutionary law is one of cooperation, of harmony achieved through learning and teaching from each other, and the birth of humanity as a meta-organism of evolution in which every human being is a cooperating unit or cell in a new global species, henceforth in charge of the further fate of our common home, the Earth and of all life forms on it.

~ Idea 757 ~

5 August 1996

What is basically wrong, and might turn out to be tragically wrong in the evolution of this planet is that everyone is working for a particular nation, religion, business or institution, not paying consideration to the world in its interdependent entirety and that of humanity too. This can only be corrected by a basic reform of education which would start with the world and humanity, and then only show the role, place and contribution of innumerable groups, entities, beliefs and institutions. I am sorry to have to say that, but the world core curriculum which I derived from the United Nations and offer at the end of the first fascicle of 100 ideas is a major way out of the chaos in which we find ourselves today, imperiling the planet and the human species itself. We owe future generations, our descendants this new, up-to-date evolutionary curriculum of education. It is of utmost urgency.

~ Idea 769 ~

17 August 1996

It is marvelous that we have on this planet such an incredible linguistic, ethnic, cultural and religious diversity, all legacies of an immemorable past, all having something important to contribute to the biological, cultural wealth and evolution of humanity.

But all this was born locally without even knowing that there were other continents and that the Earth was round and circling around the sun. This diversity can therefore not be allowed to stand in the way of a new, immense, widely opened evolution: the global age, the age of total knowledge of our home and of our world-wide human family, the interdependence between the Earth and humanity, between the past and the future, between the Earth and the heavens.

Our present beliefs, institutions and ways of life must take this into account and acquire a global dimension or at least understanding. The past cannot stand in the way of the future and cannot claim to be the infallible, unchangeable, fundamental reality. Education, politics and religions must all be globalized, as has been the case of already so many other things, to start with business. No part can be considered greater than the totality.

~ Idea 798 ~

15 September 1996

I pray for the creation of world associations of global thinkers, of world leaders, futurologists and planeticians, of a world academy of planetic science, of a world administrative agency.

~ Idea 803 ~

20 September 1996

The following fundamental statement has not yet been taken into account by the adult politicians of this planet:

"Until modern times young people could anticipate a future rather like that of their parents. Social change was that slow. Now young people face futures for which their parents' culture cannot prepare them. The young must create the future themselves."

Margaret Mead

In reality youth has barely any voice in national and world affairs. Adults should therefore not be surprised by the frustration, often despair of youth, their frequent addiction to drugs, alcohol and violence. Let us give a strong voice to youth, a participation in the building of a better world, a hope and enthusiasm for the future. In these 2000 ideas I give several of them for youth, e.g. to hold parallel youth parliaments next to national parliaments, parallel youth ministries next to national ministries, to create Youth Ministries in all countries, to hold parallel youth conferences next to United Nations and other world conferences. Philanthropists of the world, please listen to this appeal. The future of the world might depend on it. It is your children's and grandchildren's world too.

Note: I was delighted to learn at the end of 1997 that a first World Conference of Ministers of Youth will be held in Lisbon, Portugal, in August 1998. I plan to attend it or to send them a long list of proposals.

~ Idea 820 ~

7 October 1996

The frequent encounters and reciprocal visits of heads of states of this Earth are a substantial progress in human affairs, peaceful relations and world cooperation. I would suggest that such visits should include their families. Often, their spouses already accompany them and become friends. But even more important would be that their children, the future generation, could meet, become friends and give their ideas and dreams to their heads of family. Why not create networks or associations of spouses of heads of states, and networks or associations of their children? Great ideas might come from them.

~ Idea 823 ~

10 October 1996

The word politics should be abandoned. It was coined by the Greeks from the word polis, the city, because Greece was a city state. They had no idea what the rest of the world was, that the Earth was round, a globe turning around the sun, that there was a vast world ocean with other continents emerged from it.

What word should we use, if it is in reality the task of humans to "govern" this Earth or at least to stop destroying it?

Let us try the world "management":

Personal management	science of the individual	individualism
Family management	family science	familism
Community management	community science	communalism
Village management	village science	ruralism
City management	urban science	urbanism
Human regions management	regional social science	regionalism
Natural regions management	bioregional science	bioregionalism
Provincial management	provincial science	provincialism
Nation management	national science	nationalism
Continent management	continental science	continentalism
World Ocean management	ocean science or oceanology	oceanism
Biosphere management	biosphere science	biospherism
Lithosphere management	lithosphere science	lithospherism
Atmosphere management	atmospheric science	atmospherism
Ozonosphere management	ozonosphere science	ozonospherism
The globe's management	Global Earth science or Earthology	globalism
Outer Space management	outer space science	outer spacism
Solar system management	solar science	solarism
Our galaxy management	astroscience or astrology	galaxism
The cosmos or universe	cosmic science or cosmology	universalism

We must ask this question: can we, should we interfere in all these areas, modify them, rule them, tamper with the laws of the universe, of nature and of galactic, cosmic evolution?

What an incredible, mind-boggling picture this provides, not to speak of the place in time of each segment and of the totality, the holism of it: the little we know of their past, what we know today and what we will need to know about their future and the future consequences of our actions on them?

Take only the first segment: personal management which includes the meaning of life, the science of the body, the mind, the heart and the soul, individual creativity, the art of living, personal fulfillment, the achievement of happiness, reproduction, contribution to further evolution, etc.

Or take the other living species' in our earthly biosphere, their astonishing variety and numbers, their role in nature, from the biggest to bacteria and microbes. And all this is interdependent in a monumental whole moving in time with a life-span, role, responsibility and benefits for each.

We humans cannot even grasp the nature of eternity and of infinity, bogged down as we are in our limited form and limited time from which we judge everything else!

So what can we do, what should we do? There is no ready answer, but definitely the word politics, i.e. management of city does no longer apply. Planetics would be a first progress.

I recommend that we look into this and do what I propose in ideas 527 to 547, and 557 to 564, taking as the occasion our entry into a new century and millennium.

~ Idea 824 ~

11 October 1996

For all the above segments of the cosmic reality there should be

- a science (the thorough knowledge of it)
- a strategy or plan or objectives, or non-intervention
- a methodology (how to do it or to leave it alone)

E.g. for the individual person, there should be:

- a science of individual, personal human life
- a strategy or plan or objectives: the attainment of happiness, of fulfillment, of contribution to further evolution
- a methodology: the art of living, its ways, human practices and methods

Regarding our planetary home, the Earth should no longer be secondary to nations, but nations must be secondary to the Earth and evolution. National sovereignty has become an evolutionary aberration. While it was a progress in earlier times, now it is a harmful obstacle to the future of our planet, humanity and of themselves.

~ Idea 848 ~

4 November 1996

SG { The young people of the world should request that each national delegation to the UN should include a youth, because youth must absolutely be heard in world affairs and the shaping of the future. There should be a yearly report by the UN to the world outlining the views, dreams and recommendations of the world's youth.

~ Idea 852 ~

8 November 1996

As we enter a new millennium, given the colossal knowledge we now possess of our planet and of humanity, there will be need for the first time in human history and evolution, for century mid-terms and millennium mid-terms strategies: our visions and objectives for the years 2025, 2050, 2075, 2100 and each following century until the year 3000. The whole future of our planet and of our species to the year 3000 must now be the object of yearly, decade, mid-century, centennial, mid-millennium and millennium plans, visions and strategies.

~ Idea 873 ~

29 November 1996

I hope that a great publisher or UNESCO will publish the views and fears which prevailed in the year 999 on what would happen on 31 December 999. The general view was that it would be the end of the world. They should also publish a book on the state of the world in the year 1000. It would help us to better grasp our past journey, evolution and future progress and role on planet Earth.

~ Idea 881 ~

7 December 1996

United Nations world conferences have been a monumental blessing in giving the world's people renewed consciousness of old, still unresolved world problems and new problems due to our accelerating global age (e.g. the population explosion, the environment, the world's climate, etc.)

Alas, the US Congress instead of being grateful and pleased, no longer wants any world conferences, arguing that they are costly and useless.* I propose that on the contrary we need more of them on global problems and dangers confronting humanity. If other governments agree with the US and no longer want new world governmental conferences, I recommend that the people should do them. There should be continued World People's Conferences on population, children, women, the aged, human rights, indigenous people, the world's climate, the environment, demilitarization, disarmament, world security, violence in all its forms, the world commons, the seas and oceans, outer-space, etc. Perhaps a better United Nations and world democracy would ensue.

*In reality, it is because the US wants to promote its own ideas and leadership of the world's future.

~ Idea 883 ~

9 December 1996

Socrates when he saw the Athens market exclaimed: "So many things which I do not need!"

What would he say today if he saw an American shopping center!
At least in his time the Athens market was not a danger to the future of the Earth, whereas today the shopping centers spreading around the world are.

Today, Socrates would ask: "And what will they do with all the goods they will not sell?"

Do we know? It would be fascinating to learn it.

As an author I once learned that when a US "best-selling" book is launched on the market say at 300,000 copies, easily 100,000 to 200,000 copies are returned by bookshops and shredded! What a world of waste! But it is included in the gross national product!

~ Idea 893 ~

19 December 1996

We humans are too intelligent. Our intelligence will kill us, unless that intelligence and our hearts make a great jump into the future, into the universe, the entire planet and the whole of humanity. That is our main challenge for the 21st century and 3rd millennium.

~ Idea 899 ~

25 December 1996

"In our way of life...
with every decision we make,
we always keep in mind
the Seventh Generation to come...

When we walk upon Mother Earth,
we always plant our feet carefully,
because we know that the faces of our
future generations are looking at us
from beneath the ground.
We never forget them."

Oren Lyons
Faithkeeper of the Onondaga

~ Idea 900 ~

26 December 1996

There was a time when a number of great people like George Washington, James Madison, George Mason and others had the vision and courage to propose a Constitution for the United States of America against the vociferous and staunch opposition of the state powerholders of their time. Where are the great people of today who will dare to conceive and propose a Constitution for the United States of the Earth?

Dear contemporary political leaders, you will all be forgotten as little people by future generations unless you wake up to the supreme needs of this Earth and of its genial human race. Please, a few of you, have the courage to wake up and to propose against all opposition a World Union following the example of Robert Schuman, Konrad Adenauer and Alcide de Gasperi who succeeded against all odds in creating a borderless European Union of 16 former belligerent, quarreling nations.

Please, do not miss that tremendous historic opportunity on the eve of a new century and millennium to become famous and be loved and honored by future generations.

~ Idea 1066 ~

11 June 1997

When we speak of the environment, we should always keep in mind that we are really speaking of the future evolution of this planet, of humanity and of all life forms on it. It is the biggest, most sacred challenge the human species has ever faced in all history.

~ Idea 1071 ~

16 June 1997

In each government, global agency, institution, corporation, etc. there should be created two central Councils: a Council of Youth, because their future is concerned, and a Council of Elders to provide their wisdom and advice so that decisions concerning the future will not be detrimental to the seventh generation.

~ Idea 1088 ~

3 July 1997

Governments and the United Nations Environment Program should publish good information on all possibilities to donate land that would be preserved forever as natural parks, areas and even parcels of land. Multiplied all over the world they would represent a substantial surface of the land masses. How happy the Earth and future generations would be!

~ Idea 1090 ~

5 July 1997

Even I, the most passionate advocate and prophet of the United Nations will be accused by future generations for not having done enough, for having underestimated its momentous, mind-boggling capacity and role for the history and evolution of humanity and planet Earth. May I be forgiven and may the new, young generation of UN servants have more audacity and vision than I had.

~ Idea 1108 ~

23 July 1997

I was wrong to call these volumes Ideas and Dreams for a Better World. I should have called them Dreams and Ideas for a Better World, because dreams come first and then the mind and spirit construct the ideas to fulfill them. The wider and longer a person's experience and openness to everything in the heavens and on Earth, from the infinitely large to the infinitely small, from the infinite past, the present to the infinite future, the wider the dreams and the more numerous and fertile the ideas.

~ Idea 1111 ~

26 July 1997

As we near the 21st century, I recommend that the International Association of University Presidents take up these two subjects:

1. what should be the ideal University in the 21st century? How should it be structured? What would be its principal objectives and Departments, given the needs of the Earth and humanity and future evolution on this planet?
2. What should be an ideal network of world Universities around the planet which would deal with global subjects of concern to all humanity and to the fate of the Earth, e.g. the seas and oceans, the atmosphere, the world's climate, the world's waters, global education, global ethics, proper Earth government, etc.?

~ Idea 1182 ~

5 October 1997

I have often observed in these ideas that youth is not given a proper voice in world affairs, while it is the first interested party in the future. I therefore recommend that youth should be given a prominent role in the Peoples' World Assembly 2000, accompanying the UN General Assembly 2000. Youth might even envisage to hold a separate World Youth Assembly parallel to these Assemblies.

~ Idea 1191 ~

14 October 1997

The notion of a world government is decried by nationalists. They claim that it would lead to world dictatorship. Well, the same applies to national government. If the concept is rejected for humanity and for the Earth, the same should apply to national and all other levels of government. Let us see what the world would be if national governments, state and provincial and local governments would disappear. It would be an incredible disaster. How would these societies function without laws, without common services financed by taxation? Well, the same problem poses itself now pressingly to the entire humanity and Earth which find themselves in a chaotic state of non-governance which imperils our future generations and survival.

~ Idea 1213 ~

5 November 1997

The notion of ethics in business is making progress these days, but we must go one step further and speak of the accountability of business towards the Earth and future generations. I recommend that a Universal Declaration of Business Ethics and Responsibilities be drafted and adopted by the UN.

~ Idea 1218 ~

10 November 1997

A letter to the Nobel Prizes Committee,

May I humbly suggest that you consider asking all Nobel Prizes winners in all fields, to formulate their ideas for the future as we near the 21st century and third millennium. You may wish to consider holding a meeting or meetings of them prior or during the year 2000. Their views and suggestions might have a deep influence and contribute to a better world, fulfilling the expectations of Alfred Nobel when he instituted the Prizes.

I was very grateful when you implemented my idea of calling a meeting of all Nobel Peace Prize winners in San Francisco on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations. I attended their notable meeting with youth. You will be happy to learn that the meeting had the following beneficial effect: thanks to the presence at it of Nobel Peace Prize winner Bishop Edmund Tutu, he and Bishop Swing of Grace Cathedral in San Francisco decided to go on a world tour to launch the idea of a United Religions Organization similar to the United Nations. They received such a good response that the initiative was taken to create it. This is of utmost importance since most of the remaining conflicts on this planet are of an ethnic and religious nature. The United Religions Organization is expected to be launched on 26 June 2000 in the same room of the Fairmont Hotel in San Francisco where the Charter of the United Nations Organization was adopted on 26 June 1945.

I thank you for your decision and know that my proposal will receive your kind consideration.

Yours warmly,



Nobel Committee
19 Drammensveien N-0255
OSLO #2 Norway

Robert Muller
Chancellor of the University for Peace
former UN Assistant Secretary General

~ Idea 1222 ~

14 November 1997

When I look back at my long life, read my journals and these ideas, I am becoming optimistic. There is definitely a basic shift from old ideals towards international, global ones. Leaders of nations do not dream anymore of waging wars and winning territory from a neighbor. We have been able to reduce the population explosion by 2.2 billion people in fifty years, to solve colonialism, apartheid, racism, end the cold war and eradicate major epidemics. The militaries themselves are beginning to doubt their future. Old problems like poverty, illiteracy, the population increase, the environmental deterioration, are still with us, some even worsening. But these too we can solve in the next century if there is the will. Please, dear readers, work on them, do not remain impassive, take one of the causes which attracts you. You will be surprised by what you can achieve. In the process you will forget to get sick and old, and God or the universe will recompense you with untold happiness. Never fail to write down an idea when it comes to you. And then do not fail to implement it.

~ Idea 1283 ~

14 January 1998

Dear Friends and Readers,

As an update to my ideas, I am glad to inform you that on 20 November 1997, the UN General Assembly adopted a resolution proclaiming the year 2000 International Year of Thanksgiving as suggested in my Dream 2000. It decided to hold in the fall of 2000 a General Assembly 2000 which will focus on means of solving our primary global problems and to reform the means of global governance in order to meet the challenges of the 21st century. This heads of states Assembly will be accompanied by a "World Peoples Assembly 2000" serving the same purpose. Former Presidents of the UN General Assembly adopted another of my ideas and created a Council of former UN General Assembly Presidents who will assist the UN with their views, proposals and ideas.

To all of you I address this appeal: may every institution, every nation, every peoples' association and movement, every university, college and school on Earth, every religion, every province, city and rural area, every indigenous, ethnic and linguistic group, every corporation and business enterprise, every profession, and why not every family and individual on Earth formulate their dreams, proposals and ideas for a better world. It would be a unique unprecedented state of the world and humanity report, an unprecedented global, world-wide democratic public opinion survey and poll. The submissions should start with an assessment of our achievements in the twentieth century, our failures, disappointments, losses, mistakes, wrong avenues and beliefs, untruths and unwarranted destructions, thus producing a momentous, world-wide assessment of our stage of evolution on this unique life-endowed planet in the vast universe and eternal flow of time.

56 | I am recommending to the Secretary General of the UN to provide such an assessment, survey and agenda for the future together with the 32 specialized agencies and world programs of the UN, as a State of the World and Humanity Report 2000 to the General Assembly 2000 in the fall of 2000. Please send to Mr. Kofi Annan, Secretary General, Room S 3800, United Nations, New York, NY 10017 your report, assessment, proposals, plans, dreams and ideas. Let us make this a unique event in all human history, applauded and supported by God, the saints, the souls of our forefathers and mysterious forces of the universe concerned with our doings and fate on this miraculous planet. Let us make this magnificent Earth a Garden of Eden, inhabited by a miraculous humanity, a first-class success of the will of God and of the universe, a true paradise of peace, fulfillment and happiness for our children and grandchildren.

~ Idea 1289 ~

20 January 1998

I suggest that all former Ambassadors, Permanent Representatives of nations to the UN should create a world association and offer their views to the General Assembly 2000 on how the UN should be strengthened, transformed or replaced by a much better world organization. It would be good for the future of their children and grandchildren.

~ Idea 1300 ~

31 January 1998

We must be glad that the General Assembly of the UN has decided to hold in the fall of 2000 a General Assembly 2000 which is "to focus on means of solving our primary global problems and to reform the means of global governance in order to meet the challenges of the 21st century".

I am afraid, however, that this is insufficient. The UN Charter written and adopted more than fifty years ago and amended only on a few matters, is insufficient at a time when the entire future of the Earth and of all life on it, including human life, is at stake. The Charter is an outdated document in the light of recent happenings and the immense requirements of a new century, millennium and future evolution. It does not need remedies and amendments, it calls for surgery, for rejuvenation, for a rebirth, for a quantum jump ahead. Further generations would not forgive us if we let matters stand as they are.

SG Please, dear leaders of nations, convene urgently a 21st century or Trimillennium World Conference to remain in session for all the time necessary to lay down the fundamental objectives of our life and create the new proper world system, means and institutions needed. The paramount need at this point of evolution is to save this Earth and its miraculous biosphere in which the most advanced, now globally conscious human species can live peaceful, well-nourished, long, just, unprecedented, peaceful, fulfilled, happy lives.

So help us God.

INTRODUCTION

IDEAS 1301 to 1400

Today, on Earth Day 2013, I am sitting on the porch of our wooden cabin on sacred Mt. Rasur overlooking tropical forests and the University for Peace created 33 years ago by the United Nations in demilitarized Costa Rica. From this hill, according to ancient indigenous prophecy, a civilization of peace, spirituality and love for God's nature will spread to the entire world.

I hold in my hands a text I have written during the last few days as an introduction to a course at the University for Peace. I decided to read it on this magnificent dawn of a new day illuminating the divine paradise surrounding me.

THE SPIRITUAL STATE OF THE WORLD ON EARTH DAY 2013

World Situation and Inter-religious Co-operation in 2013, twenty years after the Second World Parliament of Religions in 1993.

Humanity is now a united world community of nations, not only economic and political, but also spiritual, following the path opened in the last century by Dag Hammarskjöld and U Thant in the United Nations, by Robert Schuman in Europe, and also throughout the millennia by prophets and founders of religions, and by great sages such as Plato, Aristotle, Maimonides, Huxley, Albert Schweitzer, Teilhard de Chardin, Thomas Berry, Bishop William Swing and others.

Humanity's material, scientific and technological feats of the 20th Century have been transcended first into the moral, ethical realm, then into philanthropy and gaiaphily (love for humanity and for our Earth), and finally into the highest form of all: the spiritual dimension heralded for so long by all religions, namely the right understanding of our place and relationship in the universe and in time, and of our fundamental cosmic nature and role. The phenomenal expansion of human senses and physical capacities through science and technology was followed by the birth and development of a global brain, a global nervous system, a global heart, and a global soul to humanity.

Much remains to be done to perfect and refine these gains and to integrate them fully into the total life-system of our living planet. When I was young, the majority of humans believed that the Earth was here to be exploited by men. Then they became concerned with the environment and survival of the Earth and began to turn toward beliefs that revered the Earth as a living organism, without which no life of any kind was possible. The Earth

became the first priority, and we came to understand that we are all part of a total living planet which is itself a cosmic body of the universe; and that in this living system, we are linked not only to the Earth but to each other and to the heavens in which we live.

The miraculous transformation we have experienced in the progress of humanity is a result of the co-operation of the world's religions along the lines of the vast frameworks of our knowledge and needed actions born in the United Nations and its agencies. These led to a better understanding of our planet and place in the universe, of our total human family, of our place in time, and of the miracle of individual human life. The last decades of the 20th Century provided humanity with the global information and first experiences indispensable for our better behavior, for better Earth government and for the physical, mental, moral, affective and spiritual fulfillment of all humans blessed with the miracle of life.

Our place in the Universe and our Planetary Home:

This framework deals with the various realities and elements in which we live. These are: the heavens, the known universe and outer space; our relationship with the sun; the Earth's geophysics and climate; the biosphere and its atmosphere; the seas and oceans, the polar caps, the arable lands, deserts, mountains, water, forests, plant life, animal and human life; the earth's energy, its minerals, its crust, down from the infinitely large to microbial life, genetics and the world of the atom and the infinitesimal small. This represented an unprecedented expansion of humanity's knowledge and consciousness of our planetary and cosmic home.

The 19th Century had seen the birth of the first world agencies in the wake of the industrial revolution: the Universal Postal Union, the International Telecommunications Union, the World Intellectual Property Organization. More than thirty new world-specialized agencies and global programs were created in the 20th Century, ultimately to form the United Nations family of organizations, among them the International Labor Organization, the World Meteorological Organization, UNESCO, the Food and Agricultural Organization, the World Health Organization, the International Civil Aviation Organization, the International Maritime Organization, the UN Environment Program, etc. On the eve of and since the third millennium, several others were created: the UN Outer-Space Agency, the World Climate Organization (incorporating the World Meteorological Organization), the World Energy Agency (incorporating the International Atomic Energy Agency), the World Transport Agency, the UN Law of the Sea Agency, the World Biological Organization, the Earth Resources and Conservation Agency and the World Consumers Agency.

Working with these agencies and of prime importance has been the United Religions Organization, created after the Second World Parliament of Religions. This agency has greatly contributed to human knowledge by making known the spiritual views, perceptions, and wisdom of the religions. Several indigenous religions, for example, believe that rocks, earth, and minerals are endowed with life, that humans should respect that life, use the minimum and ask for forgiveness when use is indispensable. On the polar caps Eskimo religions have valuable views, as have African Indigenous peoples toward deserts, forests, as well as the beginnings of life. The United Religions has also brought forth the deep insights of religious cosmologies of the heavens, the universe and outer space. Cosmonauts have spoken of spiritual experiences when floating in outer space or walking on the moon. Comprehension of the universe is not only through science and analysis alone, but also through mysticism, interiority, prayer, meditation, and enlightenment: many scientists, including Einstein, became spiritual believers when their science was at a loss (*Deus semper ultra* - beyond there is always God). Science, originally a spiritual search (in the West it originated as alchemy, and in India it was always a part of the vast and complex philosophies of Hinduism) is now enriched by the religions.

One of the early examples of the valuable input of the world's religions into the Earth and life segments was the meeting on Sacred Ecology and its joint statement that preceded the second United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) in Rio de Janeiro in 1993. Today this is a regular feature of world co-operation in every field on an ongoing basis. No world agency today, no world conference, no meeting of Heads of State or eminent personalities, scientists, experts, or thinkers, takes place without the input and contribution of religions.

The Human Family:

This framework was developed by the United Nations and co-operating world agencies, such as the World Health Organization, UNICEF, the International Labor Organization, the UN Development Program, the World Bank system, the UN Fund for Population Activities, UN Habitat, the UN Regional Commissions, as well as by the recently established UN Council of Youth, the World Agency for the Elderly, the High Commissioner for the Handicapped, the UN Population Agency (incorporating the UN Fund for Population Activities), the International Migration Agency, and the World Peoples and International Associations Agency. The elements include the world population, human settlements and migrations, human longevity, races, sexes, children, youth, adults, the elderly and the handicapped. It encompasses our levels of nourishment, health, education, morality and spirituality; our standards of life, skills, employment, and activities; it includes the family, professions, corporations, institutions and entities, nations, federations, regional unions and organizations, religions, multinational business, transnational networks and associations, and world organizations and governance.

In this vast human area, the United Religions contributes to each segment and to all efforts the religious insights, experiences, and wisdom of the religions, thus joining the world organizations to further human progress through a spiritual dimension and fulfillment.

Our Place in Time:

If we examine the realities included in the preceding two frameworks in the context of time, we see that all the world's global agencies are concerned with the past, the present and the future. For example, UNESCO deals with paleontology, archaeology, history, the preservation of works of art and the world heritage, linguistics, the future of education, etc. The UN receives from all the agencies yearly reports on the state of the world in their respective fields, as well as long-term forecasts, sometimes reaching far into the future, such as population trends, the future climate, the environment, the preservation of the planet. The UN can thus issue warnings and guide humanity into a better, peaceful, and safer future, thereby heeding the Iroquois tradition to always be thinking of the seventh generation when taking a decision.

On each of the above segments, the United Religions Organization is working with UNESCO and with all world organizations on the past, the present, and the future. For example the multibillion Year of Brahma (Creation, Preservation, and Destruction) is confirmed today by astrophysicists: it corresponds to the birth, stability, and destruction of a solar system. Religions also have deep insights into the meaning of "life" and "death". Two world conferences were held by the UN on these subjects, upon the recommendation of the World Parliament of Religions.

The Miracle of Individual Life:

This fourth framework, which revolves around the centrality of the human person, goes far deeper and beyond human institutions. It has become increasingly clear that in the vast, global quantum change in human consciousness, individuals are the alpha and omega, the basic living, cosmic units of evolution. Individual human life is the highest form of universal consciousness. With the recognition of universal human rights and responsibilities, it became apparent that institutions, systems, states, groupings, entities

had no consciousness and could only be instruments, servants, means for the increase of individual consciousness, fulfillment, and responsibility. The highest goal for humankind is to attain optimum physical, mental, affective, moral and spiritual lives as part of the total life-system of our planet.

Optimum physical life involves knowledge and care of the human body; the human ability to see, to hear, to observe, to create, to do, to act, to transform; and the expansion of all senses and physical abilities. Optimum mental life involves knowledge and education; the ability to question, to think, to analyze, to synthesize, to conclude, to communicate; the ability to focus from the infinitely small to the infinitely large, from the local to the global from the past to the future, to be what Hinduism calls *Trikaldarshis* and *Trikolonaths*. Optimum affective and moral life involves the ability to love, and the human virtues of truth, understanding, humility, liberty, responsibility, reverence for life, compassion, altruism, and charity. And finally, optimum spiritual life involves the ability for interiority, meditation, prayer, communion with the universe and eternity, and with God.

Here the United Nations, the United Religions, UNESCO, and other world agencies stand today in the forefront of human progress and evolution in the education, information, enlightened democracy, transcendence, and fulfillment of the miracle of human life and its contribution and responsibility in the overall cosmic evolution of our planet and of the universe.

This is where we stand at the moment, in the year 2013, twenty years after the Second World Parliament of Religions.

It represents a unique, tremendous quantum jump in consciousness and evolution of humanity. We know our planet inside out and we are now in charge of its future. We even know a good part of the heavens. We have entered the cosmic age of our evolution.

In my course I will show students how all the above was primarily learned and developed in a pragmatic fashion since the end of World War II in the last century, when the first real universal political - "polis", the city, now the planet, hence planetic - organization, the United Nations, was created. Much of this progress was due to accidents, scares, adverse consequences of the dearth of adequate global information and data, global ignorance, thoughtless mistakes, misjudgments or no judgment at all regarding long-term effects, the persistence of obsolete ideologies, values, beliefs, institutions and power-structures and also a total lack of experience in planetics, or planetary administration and management. I will also show that the above institutional world system, which continues to change and to adapt constantly to new circumstances, was not enough, in view of its pragmatic approach. Therefore several world centers of learning and scientific inquiry into global values and phenomena were established to develop sciences, strategies, and methodologies in the field of higher values which have always guided the human race. There exist today several important world universities on peace, spirituality, faith, hope, love, truth, justice, optimism, happiness, the art of living, forgiveness, altruism, philanthropy, and gaiaphily, etc. They all have affiliated regional universities to benefit from the cultural and religious capital of the various continents.

One of the earliest of these universities, the University for Peace in Costa Rica, revealed how all the numerous pragmatic peace efforts around the world needed to be complemented by a true science of peace, an all-encompassing strategy for peace and a thorough methodology of peace, i.e. conflict prevention, peace-keeping, and peace building in all sectors of society. It has affiliated regional peace and non-violence universities on each continent. Similarly, the pragmatic efforts of the religions and of the United Religions are complemented by a World Spirituality University which has developed a science of spirituality, a strategy for spirituality and a methodology of spirituality derived from all religious practices, celebrations, and rites around the world, aimed at the spiritual fulfillment and responsibility of human beings.

As a result the world is in a new period of full, flowering spiritual Renaissance, far beyond inter-religious dialogue, based on the common spirituality of all religions and on a

common denominator of all human beings; the yearning for answers to the mysteries of life and death and of our universe, to which the scientific age, despite its amazing advances, was unable to find satisfying answers. The age of scientific analysis and dissection, our checkered history of local cultures and national divisions, the millennia of religious dissections of the spiritual nature of humanity, of the Earth and of the cosmos, have now led to a new age of universality, holism, evolutionism and all-encompassing convergence, synthesis, synergy and transcendence.

Current Manifestations and Results of the World Spiritual Renaissance and World Religious Alliance in the United Religions.

- All conflicts of a religious origin or background were eliminated by the year 2003, year of the Fourth Session of the World Parliament of Religions*, in fulfillment of its recommendations at the Second Session in 1993. The work of the Department of Conflict Resolution and Mediation of the United Religions was of determining importance.
- Religions have forgiven each other their past wars and misdeeds, following the recommendations of the 1993 World Parliament of Religions.

*It held its third session in South Africa in 1999, on the eve of the 21st century.

- Agreement was reached between all religions that the concept of just war is no longer justified in the new spiritual world order and that peaceful conflict resolution is the only acceptable civilized rule.
- As a result, all religions have strongly backed the disarmament and demilitarization efforts of the United Nations. Total disarmament and demilitarization were achieved in 2010, after the putting into operation of a proper world security system following the end of the cold war. All along, the world religions have supported the shifting of resources released by disarmament and demilitarization to the needs of the poor and of the environment.
- The richness and diversity of religious beliefs and practices and the principles of the UN Declaration on Religious Freedom are recognized by all religions.
- Religions are now refraining from criticizing and diminishing each other. Instead they validate each other to create a world spiritual civilization and synergy.
- Alongside the World Parliament of Religions meeting and the United Religions, a World Monastic Council has been established to bring together the richness of monastic science, practices and experiences from around the world.
- World-wide prayers and meditation are held each year on the International Day of Peace (third Tuesday in September), when the delegates of all nations observe a period of silence for prayer or meditation at the yearly opening of the General Assembly of the United Nations.
- World prayers and meditation are also held on 24 October, United Nations Day, declared by the General Assembly a World Holiday (holy day), and on all International Days proclaimed by the United Nations.
- Since the year 2000, which was celebrated as World Thanksgiving Year, an International Day of Thanksgiving has been observed throughout the world and is celebrated in all countries. This holiday is similar in spirit to the customs of the Quechuas in Ecuador and Peru, Americans in the USA, Jewish practice, etc.
- Meditation rooms or places of worship have been created in all world organizations, national Parliaments, government offices, professional sites, and businesses.
- Spiritual education has been restored in all schools of the earth. Prayers and meditation are held at the beginning of each school day. Education of any religion is accompanied by a minimum of teaching of other religions and of the diversity of the world's faiths.

- Work in factories, offices, business, and in all professions around the world starts with a period of prayer or meditation.
 - Daily family life begins with common prayers or meditation.
 - Thanks are given before or after each meal all around the world, as was inspired by the practices of Christians with grace offered before each meal, the Indigenous people of Abya-Yala, who give thanks after a meal for the energy given by it, and the Chinese for the happiness provided to them.
 - Every United Nations World Conference receives the input of inter-religious thinking and recommendations.
 - A representative of the United Religions is accredited to each official UN meeting, organ, conference, and to every UN specialized agency and world program.
 - Each year the United Religions submits a report to the United Nations on the state of spirituality and religiosity in the world and on inter-religious co-operation for a better world.
 - Spiritual ceremonies at the high points of human life - birth, adolescence, marriage, anniversaries, academic degrees, professional entrance, retirement, "vanaprashtha" (preparation for the beyond) and demise - have been restored in all societies of Earth.
 - A World Pilgrimage Organization for the care of existing places of pilgrimage in the world and the development of new sacred places, has been created.
 - An International Day of Forgiveness has been proclaimed.
-
- As advocated by all religions and by former Secretary-General U Thant, spirituality is no longer separate from daily life or reserved for special days or moments or services. All life is now considered spiritual in nature, from birth to death, from morning to evening. It starts with prayer or meditation, and ends with prayer or meditation, and examination of one's conscience. Life has become a constant presence of God, a dialogue with God, a constant soulful communion with the Universe, our planet, with the human family, and with the infinity of time.
 - Life is considered sacred world-wide. The death penalty has been abolished in all countries. The human right not to kill and not to be killed, not even in the name of a nation or a religion, was proclaimed by the 1993 World Parliament of Religions and by the United Nations.
 - It is now accepted world-wide that spirituality means basically doing good on Earth. As former UN Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjöld said, "Today the way to holiness goes through the world of action." The practice of day-end examinations of conscience, of a daily record of the good and bad we have done, has been restored. Every human being is urged to do at least one good deed each day for the Earth, for humanity, at large or near home, in order to be able to say at the end of earthly life: I have fulfilled the will of God, I have done my best, I have tried to be a good human being. I leave the world a little better than I found it.
 - Spirituality has become a priority for world philanthropy; a World Spiritual Foundation has been created alongside the United Religions. Each year World Spiritual Prizes are awarded for outstanding spiritual achievements.
 - All media in the world have added a moral, ethical, and spiritual dimension to their work.
 - Robert Schuman, the father of the European Union and prophet of a European and world spiritual union, was canonized by his religion. Political office is now considered a saintly, sacred office, endowed with the highest responsibilities towards humanity, the Earth, and the success of the cosmic evolution and experiment unfolding on this planet.
 - Spiritual epithets are given to beloved political leaders, following ancient traditions and contemporary Oriental traditions. They are called shepherds, Mahatmas (great souls), gurus, avatars, beloved teachers, masters, luminaries, etc.

- Meetings of Eminent Spiritual Personalities are convened by the United Religions on every major world problem, under the presidency of different religious leaders, and their reports are submitted to the United Nations and all religions.
- The names of children are once more selected from those of great saints, sages, and spiritual guides, to inspire them to follow their example during their life, or from spiritual, moral virtues.
- The names of streets, public buildings, monuments, and parks are selected from those of great saints, sages, spiritual leaders, or from moral and spiritual virtues.
- National, regional and world parks around the world have been declared sanctuaries...

At that point I looked up from the text and seized a copy of a book I had written many years ago in the last century when I was a young world servant of the United Nations, entitled *New Genesis, Shaping a Global Spirituality* and read the following text of mine:

And God saw that all the nations of the earth, black and white, poor and rich, from North and South, from East and West, and of all creeds were sending their emissaries to a tall glass house on the shores of the River of the Rising Sun, on the island of Manhattan, to study together, to think together and to care together for the world and all its people. And God said, That is good. And it was the first day of the New Era of the Earth.

And God saw that soldiers of peace were separating the combatants of quarreling nations, that differences were being resolved by negotiation and reason instead of arms; and that the leaders of nations were seeing each other, talking to each other and joining their hearts, minds, souls and strength for the benefit of all humanity. And God said, That is good. And it was the second day of the Planet of Peace.

And God saw that humans were loving the entire creation, the stars and the sun, the day and the night, the air and the oceans, the earth and the waters, the fishes and the fowl, the flowers and the herbs, and all their human brethren and sisters. And God said: That is good. And it was the third day of the Planet of Happiness.

And God saw that humans were suppressing hunger, disease, ignorance and suffering all over the globe, providing each human person with a decent, conscious and happy life, and reducing the greed, the power and the wealth of the few. And He said: That is good. And it was the fourth day of the Planet of Justice.

And God saw that humans were living in harmony with their planet and in peace with one another, wisely managing their resources, avoiding waste, curbing excesses, replacing hatred with love, greed with contentment, arrogance with humility, division with cooperation and mistrust with understanding. And He said: That is Good. And it was the fifth day of the Golden Planet.

And God saw that men were destroying their arms, bombs, missiles, warships and warplanes, dismantling their bases and disbanding their armies, keeping only policemen of peace to protect the good from the bad and the normal from the mad. And God said: that is good. And it was the sixth day of the Planet of Reason.

And God saw humans restore God and the human person as the alpha and omega, reducing institutions, beliefs, politics, governments and all man-made entities to mere servants of God and the people. And he saw them adopt as their supreme law:

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind and all your strength. You shall love your neighbor as yourself. There is no greater commandment than these.

And God said: That is good. And it was the seventh day of the Planet of God.

I let the book rest on my lap and looked around me at the magnificent, divine nature of sacred Mt Rasur and addressed these words of thanks to God:

THANK YOU, DEAR LORD, FOR HAVING FULFILLED MY DREAM

And I seized my harmonica and played on it the Ode to Joy of Beethoven.

~ Idea 1321 ~

21 February 1998

The International Association of University Presidents should take up the subject of designing and creating truly universal, global Universities and less national Universities. And also create true Earth universities in which humanity would be part of the Earth processes and futures and no longer an evolutionary, dominant, hostile factor.

~ Idea 1338 ~

10 March 1998

From an evolutionary point of view, the attacks of the US against the UN and reduction of its role and means will be considered some day as one of the greatest errors and lacks of vision in world history. It seems that power went so much to the head of the US that it lost its sense of proportions and direction. Therefore the US will decline as a power as did all past powers which did not adapt to new fundamental trends of evolution. This happens regrettably on the eve of a new century and millennium when all countries, especially the best informed ones, should have the clearest possible mind, views and heart towards a future written in the stars. We must deeply mourn the fact that the US has lost its consciousness of the world's future and of its guiding role in it.

~ Idea 1343 ~

15 March 1998

Humanity has achieved so much progress, has solved so many problems, avoided so many dangers, and yet we now face the most colossal problem in the entire human history and evolution, namely that industry, technology, commerce, transport, overpopulation and overconsumption might destroy the very essence and future of the Earth, including our own, namely its nature. We need innumerable great and small ideas and efforts to countervail that.

~ Idea 1382 ~

23 April 1998

Like the capitalists and communists did at the end of the last century, we should think hard and conceive how we can make the next century a paradise. Since both communism and capitalism have failed and since we live in planetary conditions very different from those at the end of the last century, we must think afresh all our current beliefs, doings and institutions, and formulate an entirely new ideology or dreamology for an unprecedented future in all human history. Heads of governments, of corporations and of all human institutions should be excited by this new, wonderful challenge.

INTRODUCTION IDEAS 1401 to 1500

GLOBAL ASSOCIATION OF SCIENTISTS AND THINKERS CONCERNED WITH LONG-RANGE EVOLUTION

by Erika Erdmann
Interim Report, November 1997

Implicit within our cosmic evolutionary paradigm is a transcendence of the Darwinian principle of natural selection, a loftier standard that I call the principle of cosmic selection: Those technological civilizations (of any type on any planet) that recognize the need for, develop in time, and fully embrace a global ethics will survive, and those that do not will not.

Eric Chaisson
Space Scientist

His insight into global problems and his vast perspective led Dr. Robert Muller, Chancellor Emeritus of the University for Peace in Costa Rica and former Assistant Secretary General of the United Nations, to call for a UNESCO-backed Summit Meeting of the world's scientists and thinkers concerned with the long-term fate of our Earth and of humanity, which is endangered by blind pursuit of short-term goals.

He envisions an interchange of knowledge and ideas among the most conscientious persons on the planet, leading to advances in human wisdom that could not otherwise occur, and that would initiate a permanent shift toward more future-oriented, responsible attitudes worldwide. To ensure continuing sensitivity to changing conditions, he suggests that simultaneously an Association be created (to be officially founded during the Summit), which keeps such pioneer-thinkers in constant contact.

I have been privileged to help with the initiation of the project. The following is a description of its objective, a brief history, and conclusions derived so far.

OBJECTIVE

The importance and urgency of the project lies in the need for a transformation of past-inspired ethics, with their many contradictions, fundamentalist shackles, and mutual hatreds, to a future-oriented ethic in which all of humanity can unite in a striving to become more enlightened and more humane.

Many scientists believe that the universe is dominated by a "Cosmic Principle of Self-Destruction," a universal law that destroys any civilization in the universe which has achieved a level of intelligence and technical capacity similar to our own. Because intelligence is the result of the fiercest competition during the process of evolution, they argue, our brains cannot possibly conceive of an alternative that would avert our fate.

Other scientists see in the process of evolution a forward march not toward more destructive competition, but toward more foresight, insight, wisdom, and love. These persons, most of whom are inspired by the teachings of Teilhard de Chardin, believe that the trend from the material to the spiritual, from the amoeba to man, will **inevitably** be continued toward superior heights of love and wisdom, however threatening present developments on Earth may appear to us now.

Between these two views lies the perception of the large majority of scientists and thinking individuals, who see evolution itself as indifferent to human fears and hopes, but who acknowledge the potential for both projected outcomes. Our fate will be determined by how we think and what we do.

An association of scientists concerned with long-range evolution would help to sort these contradictions out and to align and attract thinkers and scientists toward a superior goal. It is urgently needed to show to the pessimists that alternatives to competition until death, **do** exist, (even in non-human nature, but especially in human nature), to show to the optimists that reliance on non-human determination of our fate might weaken our sense of personal responsibility for our descendants and our Earth, and to impress upon the majority the importance of a long-range and encompassing vision to guide our choices.

What unites us is a look at the miracle of evolution from a cosmic perspective. It is the effort to prevent our species from becoming another dead end, bypassed by ongoing development of life. It is the search for principles and values guiding humanity toward further ascent.

HISTORY

The project was conceived by Dr. Robert Muller in 1993, during his reading of Professor Jean Claude Léonide's book *L'Évolution – de l'Amibe au Cerveau Humain*, while he was being simultaneously introduced to the "Cosmic Principle of Self-Destruction." (Léonide's book "Evolution – from the Amoeba to the Human Brain," goes beyond traditional description of physical evolution to describe the evolution of spirituality as a consequence of brain function.)

The person first introduced to Dr. Muller's plans was Federico Mayor, Director-General of UNESCO, who initially showed interest in the project, but who, due to other urgent commitments, was unable to pursue it further. Dr. Muller then asked Professor Léonide and me (Erika Erdmann, who had introduced him to the "Cosmic Principle of Self-Destruction"), to find out whether an association of long-range evolutionary thinkers and scientists already existed, and, if not, to create one.

The task was fascinating. As no association of the kind envisioned by Dr. Muller was found, we created first a network of scientists and thinkers concerned with long-range evolution (Dr. Léonide working as French coordinator and I as the English one), using a passionate appeal of Dr. Muller as introduction and an interchange of "worldview-résumés" to establish cohesion. These résumés (also invented by Dr. Muller) consisted of condensed biographical information, preceded by a one-page statement of a person's worldview or excerpts from his or her most relevant publication. They were an effective basis for moving forward and resulted in instant friendships.

Soon the work became more than we could handle, and Dr. Ervin Laszlo took over. A prolific author and internationally known professor of system's science, he had founded a "General Evolution Research Group" several years ago. Dr. Laszlo succeeded in interesting persons in charge of the "Cultural Capital of Europe Weimar 1999" Summit in (probably) funding an international congress of science on "Chance of Evolution," which is to coincide with the Weimar Summit.*

* The Congress will be held in 1999 in Cagliari, Sardinia, Italy.

CONCLUSIONS

Two currents struggle for dominance in our civilization: 1) The exact sciences, which have led to tremendous progress, but which are accused of heartless materialism, the presentation of a world without purpose and meaning, and the justification of ruthless competition based on Darwin's principles. 2) A "New Science," attempting to rectify the shortcomings of the exact sciences by declaring that the assumptions of "Mainstream Science" are in error, and that less rigorous (or less prejudiced) and more openminded pursuit of science would prove that Darwin was wrong, that purpose preceded evolution, and that spirituality is an important aspect of reality and thus of science. That view is accused of, and often contains, claims of parapsychology which cannot possibly be verified.

The chasm between these two perceptions of reality, widened by unjust and distorted portrayals of the opposite point of view, endangers our civilization. -- It is the task of future-oriented thinkers and scientists to arrive at a new vision of reality that is superior to both.

History sets an example: More than 100 years ago, a fanatic battle raged in the scientific community around the world on whether diseases are caused by germs or by poverty and slums. The battle was conducted with such fury that one of the most famous medical doctors in the world, Professor Rudolf Virchow (whose slum cleaning initiatives had transformed Berlin from one of the dirtiest to one of the cleanest cities on the globe) resigned his prestigious position as head of a medical institute built in his honor, rather than permit the "heretical" teaching that germs cause disease! Today, of course, we know that poverty and slums cause disease BECAUSE that's where germs proliferate. Once the relationships were grasped, the fights subsided immediately.

Similarly, a better understanding of science and of the process of evolution will eliminate perilous controversy and lead to constructive advances. It is not necessary to deny that competition was an important factor in evolution in order to arrive at the insight that, in the presence of increasing intelligence, further single-minded concentration on this procedure would be fatal to human and other life on Earth. Neither is it necessary to assume that purpose preceded evolution, in order to accept the existence of purpose and meaning in nature. Both were, and are being, created by a contingency of events that were random only at the outset, but became increasingly constrained and directed by previous energy interactions and the various phenomena they brought forth. Energy and matter are not different entities; matter is the result of specific energy interactions. The process of evolution consists in a continuous interplay of the dynamic qualities of energy during which purpose and meaning, created in the human mind by an interaction of neuronal functioning and environmental input, have become aspects of nature essential for the further evolution of our species.

This understanding, shared by the most perceptive scientists and thinkers, is best expressed in the book *Vital Dust – Life as a Cosmic Imperative* (1995) by Christian de Duve (Nobel Laureate in biochemistry). I am quoting from one of my letters about this book to Dr. Muller:

"This book shows with infinite attention to detail how chance activity produces a specific trajectory guiding the evolutionary process, leading to ever more complex organisms. De Duve continues that, as a result, the evolution of brains and minds, thoughts and values (on any planet suitable for life) is nearly inevitable, and that further advance of evolution cannot occur unless increasing wisdom accompanies expanding intelligence. (Wisdom is not the

same as intelligence, but involves love and cooperation.) thus, the very nature of evolution embodies a quest for values. Unless we can find and adopt the right values, degradation and extinction will be our fate. Evolution, however, will go on, trying and discarding, trying and discarding, until – perhaps in millions of years – a more capable civilization will arise. Only a few exceptional persons in each generation are able to perceive this interdependence of evolution and values; the fate of all others depends upon their impact." (May 1996)

Whether or not our specific project will lead to the desired breakthrough in understanding of reality will depend on the openmindedness, knowledge, and insight of persons invited to participate. If the right persons are chosen, such a breakthrough may occur before the year 2000.

Erika Erdmann*
Lockeport, NS, Canada
November 1997

* Evolutionary Scientist, Former Librarian and research assistant of Dr. Roger Sperry, Nobel Prize winner for his work on the human brain.

From the survey of long-term evolutionary scientists and thinkers
by Erika Erdmann and Professor Jean-Claude Léonide

Synopsis

BEYOND THE LIMITS

By D.H. Meadows, D.L. Meadows, and J. Randers

Professor D.H. Meadows (USA) is a systems analyst and journalist, Professor of Systems Management D.L. Meadows (USA) is Director of the Institute for Policy and Social Science Research, and Professor J. Randers is a policy analyst and President Emeritus of the Norwegian School of Management, Chairman of the Norwegian Bank of Industry, Norwegian Institute for Market Research, and deputy Director General of the World Wildlife Fund. --All three authors collaborated on the pathbreaking book *The Limits to Growth*, published 20 years ago.

Their present book, *Beyond the Limits* (Post Mills: Chelsea Green and Toronto: McClelland & Stewart, 1992), also provides such clear, convincing, and well documented information about our present world and the dangers of rapid, uncontrolled growth, that it is difficult to imagine how it could fail to have an immense impact, ("Growth" is defined as material, resource consuming advance only, while all other growth is called "development".)

The authors show four different graphs of future prospects generated by their computers, each of them based upon a set of different assumptions. The first of these shows unlimited growth, both of population and consumption, which is clearly impossible on a planet with limited resources. The second graph is based on unchanged present expectations, clashing with the hard facts of reality. It shows "overshoot and collapse". That is, for several decades exuberant and rapid growth will be maintained, followed by devastating and

unprecedented hardships on an exploited Earth, the resources of which were to a large part destroyed beyond recovery. The third graph assumes that people learn from experience. It shows a small degree of overshoot, followed by excessive caution and recovery, followed by more overshoot, and so on in alternation. The authors, however, see no indication that people are reasonable enough to reverse their lifestyles in time, once overshoot becomes evident. Moreover, in most cases it will be too late once depletion is clearly visible.

The analogy of a car with faulty breaks is used, approaching a stop sign in thick fog. Would the driver be as fast as possible, or would he slow down? Would he heed the warning of a more knowledgeable person beside him; or would he ignore them? Clearly, the most responsible approach would be to drive slowly and to take advantage of all knowledge available.

Such an action, translated into progression at every aspect of our reality, would lead to results portrayed in the fourth graph. That graph shows our species at full maturity. Population increase and increase of wasteful and unneeded consumption slow down in time, we achieve renewed harmony with our biosphere, we leave the Earth in a condition to support innumerable future generations, and at the same time increase our own health, sense of fulfillment, meaningfulness and happiness. --There is as yet no indication, the researches maintain, that this fourth possibility, vividly felt by a responsible avant guard, will become the worldview of the majority.

The thrust of the authors' work is dedicated to their conviction that, once the danger of depletion becomes clearly visible, it is too late to change course. --The time factor is absolutely essential. "When problems arise exponentially and in multiples, even though those problems could be dealt with one by one, the ability to cope can be overwhelmed...The reason that growth, and especially exponential growth, is so insidious is that it shortens the time for effective action. It loads stress on a system faster and faster, until coping mechanisms that have been able to deal with slower rates of change finally begin to fail." (P.180) "The longer the world economy takes to reduce its throughputs and move toward sustainability, the lower the population and material standard that will be ultimately supportable. At some point, delay means collapse." (P.208)

Throughout their work, the authors stress that they do not predict the future. No-one can do that. Their computer-research only points to if-then relationships. If we act in a certain way, then these or those results are to be expected. Consequently, if we care for a decent life of our descendants, if we care for the health of our biosphere, our dreams and aspirations must be redirected, and our actions realigned.

~ Idea 1422 ~

2 June 1998

One wonders if economics has remained faithful to its meaning. Does it really lead to economies? Has it not become the most mind-boggling waste production on this planet? Should it not be rethought, re-evaluated from scratch on the eve of a new century and millennium? I challenge economists to do it seriously and honestly for the good of the people, of nature and of the future of the Earth.

~ Idea 1432 ~

12 June 1998

When future generations and historians will look back at our century, they will be appalled by the minimal resources allotted to world organizations to cope with the colossal, unprecedented problems affecting our Earth and humanity, while astronomic sums were spent on national prestige, armaments, militaries, power programs and Earth destroying business.

When national leaders and chief executive officers of businesses will appear before God's tribunal, they will be condemned not for classical sins but for global sins against nature and God's Creation.

~ Idea 1433 ~

13 June 1998

We urgently need as we enter a new century and millennium a world conference to appraise the present state of evolution on this planet and to provide world views on future evolution in the next century and millennium. After humanism, after the environment, after the Earth, now future evolution has become priority number one.

~ Idea 1499 ~

18 August 1998

After communism and capitalism, frugalism might become the new ideology and rule of our behavior on Earth, demanding from us more frugal and simple lives in order not to destroy life giving nature. A new economic system must be born which will not produce colossal waste, unnecessary products, built-in rapid obsolescence, and colossal duplications between 185 nations. Frugalism and simplicity of life might become the salvation of the Earth and future generations.

~ Idea 1510 ~

29 August 1998

We must deeply rethink our world's and humanity's future. It would be good to remember the fathers of the US Constitution who believed that the function of good government was "to effect the greatest happiness of the greatest number of citizens and to effect harmony between the public and private interests." Today they would add harmony with the Earth and a world-wide dimension to the attaining of happiness.

I recommend that the thinkers and leaders of this world return to that down-to-Earth, common sense but correct philosophy of the founders of the United States. It has always been my philosophy too and earned me the nickname of "philosopher of the United Nations" which I must continue to merit.

~ Idea 1557 ~

15 October 1998

Speaking of identities we should accept happily that we have a poli-identity

Our specific individual identity

A family identity

A local identity

A provincial identity

A national identity

A continental identity

A world identity

A cosmic identity

An eternal identity

The future Earth and human government of this planet should take all these diverse identities into account.

~ Idea 1563 ~

21 October 1998

Governments should begin to offer tax incentives to deconcentrate some of their monstrous cities, to have people leave them and live in smaller communities including rural areas which have been abandoned during this century. A return of people to nature would be a great blessing for humanity, for our future and for the Earth.

~ Idea 1574 ~

1 November 1998

The phenomenon of globalization has such diverse, challenging and controversial aspects varying from group of countries to other groups, from country to country, from profession to profession, etc. that it should be placed on the agenda of the UN General Assembly for full debate and consideration. It is of immense importance for the social and political future of humanity.

~ Idea 1576 ~

3 November 1998

The problem of overproduction and overconsumption in the western countries is at least as preoccupying if not more than the problem of overpopulation in the poor countries. Why? Because western consumption habits are being ferociously marketed and advertised also in the poor countries by giant western corporations. If the consumption levels of the poor countries should ever reach those of the rich countries their total number of 4.7 billion people today, from the point of view of the Earth would have to be multiplied by thirty meaning 141 billion people on this planet! Multiply their future numbers of 6 to 7 billion by thirty and you will have a staggering figure! Multiply also their number by the average waste produced by an American during his lifetime (4,000 times his weight) and you will see that the world would be confronted with an unimaginable disaster.

~ Idea 1580 ~

7 November 1998

I think the time has come to replace the term ecology (oikos logos, the science of our home) by Earthology (the science of the Earth) of which we are an integral living part. To distinguish ourselves, to separate ourselves from the Earth is a grave error which can cost us our future evolution and possibly lead to our extinction.

~ Idea 1584 ~

11 November 1998

If I were the Secretary General of the UN I would ask my legal affairs department and other colleagues to collect all proposals made over the years to reform and strengthen the United Nations as well as all proposals for a new, better world organization and draft constitutions for a true democratic world order and government.

I would submit that documentation to the General Assembly 2000 with my personal views and recommendations regarding a proper, urgent government and administrative system for the Earth and humanity as we enter the 21st century and the new millennium. I would place national governments squarely in front of their grave responsibilities toward the future fate, evolution and survival of the Earth and of humanity.

Earlier this year I was asked to give advice to a 35 year old new prime minister, the youngest prime minister ever in the history of his country. This was my advice:

- never accept to deliver a speech which does not contain a concrete idea.
- address yourself every morning to the entire population in a Good Morning television program.
- remain in very close touch with the people by having televised fireside chats with them on Saturday or Sunday evenings.
- create a Vice-presidency for Global Affairs and the Future following the example of the United States which has created a Vice-presidency for Global Affairs.
- consider the United Nations to be your own affairs and not belong to a Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The latter should deal only with bilateral relations with other countries but the United Nations should be your direct responsibility.
- keep an open telephone line with all other heads of states, day and night.
- write down every idea that comes to you in any field possible. Come up with 2000 ideas and try to implement them.
- keep a Journal of your philosophical thoughts, similar to Dag Hammarskjöld's Markings.
- follow the example of President Kennedy and decide to open yourself every thousandth letter sent to you in order to remain in touch with the people.
- in your public appearances, Good Morning show and fireside chats encourage the people to send you concrete ideas and complaints about injustices or things which should be corrected. Give every month a prize to the best idea or suggestion sent to you.

I learned that the young man had become the prime minister because during three years he traveled all over the country speaking directly with the people and acquainting himself with their problems, dreams and ideas.

INTRODUCTION IDEAS 1601 to 1700

A Cosmological Vision of the Future*

I will try to condense briefly my thoughts on a cosmic vision of humanity's future. First of all the most fundamental factor determining our time is that in the entire human evolution on this planet, within the last couple of centuries and especially during the last 50 years, the human race has been able to extend its knowledge of this planet and of itself in such incredible ways that a profound transformation has taken place in evolution.

This knowledge has meant incredible benefits for humanity. Longevity has increased to 73 years in the rich countries and to 60 years in the poor countries. A child born in a developing country, has today three times less risk of dying than it had in 1950. All the major epidemics on this planet have been wiped out, including smallpox. The fundamental fact that we know our planet, that we know humanity, that we know how to analyze and recompose matter has produced miracles. Of course, we believed that the progress of science and technology was for the benefit of humanity, in other words that our reason for being on this planet was to get the best for ourselves. This is the great humanistic age in which we are now living.

But we did not know that these great advances would also result in a whole series of crises, due to our global ignorance. Why did we have a population explosion from 2.5 billion in 1952 to 5 billion today? Because nobody thought in the fifties, when we went to the poor countries to bring them health and sanitation, to tell the mothers not to have 6 or 7 children anymore, because most of them would survive. Statistical ignorance and lack of global foresight caused an unprecedented population explosion on this planet. And when we developed new sciences, products and technologies and built industries around the world, who thought — except a few poets — that this would lead to the mind boggling environmental crisis we have today? No one. When the UN convened the first world environment conference in Stockholm in 1972 it was called "The Bird Watchers Conference"! On energy: at the World's Fair in New York the pavilion of General Electric had a big sign, "Towards a World of Free Energy"! That was the belief years ago. But then we had the energy crisis. Who ever thought of saving energy? Who ever thought of the ozonosphere? Who ever thought of possible climatic changes? Who ever thought of the long-term genetic dangers of nuclear radiation and radio waves? I am asking this question today: What are the things we are doing today, which we think are wonderful, and which in 20 years from now will have the same or worse adverse effects as the few examples I mentioned. Who is thinking of this? Who is heeding the Iroquois precept that we should think of the effects on the seventh generation? We do not even think of the next generation! There is not a single Ministry of the Future on this planet!***

A new danger is coming to the fore. It is the fact that radiation and the chemicalization of this planet, with thousands of new chemicals being put into circulation every year, are possibly leading to a breakdown of the immune system of the human body. Some biologists fear that the human body will be unable to adapt to the rhythm and intensity of environmental changes. Allergies are mushrooming and our built-in immunology may break down. This is the real scare about AIDS, although few people dare to say it. AIDS might quite possibly be the first manifestation of the breakdown of the immune system of the human body that can no longer respond effectively to so many new, unprecedented, rapid, profound external changes. The human body simply says: I cannot take it anymore, I give up.

*Address delivered by Robert Muller at the Conference "Seeking the True Meaning of Peace" in Costa Rica in June 1989.

**6 billion in November 1998

***The more forwardlooking European Union has created a Commission for the Future

Of late there has been another fundamental change on Earth: until now we thought that this planet was at our disposal, that it was created for us, that it was here for us to exploit and to develop endlessly. Well, we are now in the middle of another Copernican revolution. We thought at the time that the sun was turning around the Earth until we learned from Copernicus that it was not true. Now we're learning that perhaps this planet has not been created for humans, but that humans have been created for the planet. We hear now of the Gaia hypothesis, of the interdependence of all inert and living matter, that we are part and parcel of a living planetary organism. As a matter of fact all of us sitting here are 70 percent water and 30 percent earth which is entirely solar, cosmic condensed energy. When we die where do we go? We return to the Earth as our American Indians and the great religions have all told us. Thus we are temporary living manifestations or incarnations of this Earth. Again, as the American Indians tell us, we are children of the Earth and we must take good care of our mother, and respect her. We are living Earth. Each of us is a cell, a perceptive nervous, active unit of the Earth. We are Earth alive and are beginning to be concerned about the Earth. The living consciousness of the Earth is beginning to operate through us. All over the world a kind of Earth democracy (gaiacracy) is taking shape. We feel the urge to speak for the Earth because we have understood that something very fundamental is going wrong.

This is bringing about changes. The population problem is now understood. In 1970 the world population was forecast to be 7.3 billion in the year 2000. Now this forecast is down to 6.1 billion. But still in the year 2025 we are likely to be 8.5 billion. This is a problem of incredible magnitude. On the environment people are more and more concerned, the problem is in the newspapers, in the media, in the films. The proper consciousness is arising. Even the big powers are seeking peace because they realize that while they are bogged down in Afghanistan, in Iraq, in Iran, in the Middle East, in Asia the planet risks going to pieces behind their backs. Mr. Gorbachev seems to be saying let us finish all this nonsense. This is why last year we saw a whole explosion of peace. There is a great new promising consciousness which has seized this planet in the last couple of years.

You, as cosmic and Earth cells, are part of a vast biological and evolutionary phenomenon which is of first importance at this stage, namely humanity as a whole, the whole human species is becoming the brain, the heart, the soul, the expression and the action of the Earth. We have now a global brain which determines what can be dangerous or mortal for this planet: the United Nations and its agencies, and innumerable groups and networks around the world, are part of this brain. We are a world heart: altruism, the concern of people to be of help, the live aid and international programs, etc. All this is a manifestation of the fact that on this planet after having evolved from protozoas to metazoas, we are now becoming what one could call terrazoas. We are living Earth that is beginning to be conscious of its role in the evolution of this particular planet in the universe. This is our newly discovered meaning. It is happening every day and we have to draw the right conclusions from it. The world is changing very fundamentally in terms of consciousness, behavior and action. We know that we are a global family living in a global home. This is more or less where we stand. In other words, we are in the process of becoming a global civilization. And yet this is not all. There is more to come.

I spoke about the global brain which this planet is acquiring. I have noticed during my years in the United Nations that there are sudden flickers of perceptions around the planet: numerous people begin to have the same new perception, thoughts or concern. When I receive in the United Nations two or three letters a week about such new perceptions from various parts of the world I open a file. The world brain has begun to function and what these people perceive is likely to be a main trend or concern a few years later. During the last year I received on the average weekly a new cosmology. I have a growing file of cosmological proposals which come from India, the United States, from England, physicists, biologists, religious people. This is why beyond our global consciousness we are moving into a cosmic consciousness.

In other words we learn to see the Earth process not only as a global planetary process but as a cosmic manifestation and evolution on a given planet in the universe. It is not impossible that the universe has not been able to produce many live planets like ours. We are at the right distance from a sun, we have the right mass to retain an atmosphere and water, and we are very lucky that the force that keeps the atoms together on this planet is just right: a little stronger and we would be a condensed ball; a little weaker and we would be dispersed into the universe. Our planet and its life forms are the result of many miracles and unique phenomena. The religions rightly say that this is a unique planet and that God has a special design on us. Science is now discovering that too. Mathematicians tell us that the conditions required to give birth to life on any planet in the universe are one of the most staggering astronomical improbability figures they can conceive. New cosmologies are being produced by the dozens but I do not think that anyone is as yet the right one. There are many different views — the physicists, the geneticists, the chemists, the spiritualists each have a view. But it shows that there is an active search for a new

cosmology, for an understanding of what is happening on this planet where there are many life forms and where one of them, namely the human form, humans are becoming cosmozoas, the main factor of the further evolution, transformation and possibly destruction of the planet, if we do not understand what is going on and act properly.

This is something absolutely extraordinary because it means that each of us is a cosmic unit, that we have the ingredients of the total cosmos in ourselves. The cosmos is giving birth to billions of humans as seeds. Many seeds fall on stone or on infertile ground or do not understand what their duties are. But growing numbers of people understand that they have a cosmic function deep in themselves. If you look over history who are the greatest people, you will find the Mozarts, the Beethovens, the philosophers, the sages, the religious leaders. They were all people of cosmic consciousness. They were conscious of living in the cosmos, in eternity and in the universe at every moment. This is why when we listen to them, when we read them, when we see their works we are deeply moved and elevated. Why? Because they are in tune with the universe and make us feel that way. This is what the religions are trying to tell us: "Be in tune with the Universe. Be in union with God, with eternity. Remember that your temporary lives have a meaning, a duty to fulfill." And when we fulfill this duty the universe recompenses us with happiness and possibly even resurrection. It is not impossible that the Hindu philosophy might be right, that only those who had worthwhile lives contributing to the good and further evolution of this planet will be allowed to live again and that worthless seeds will be left aside to wither away. The religions can be very helpful in understanding these new cosmologies.

In other words humanity, the same way as it has become recently a global family, is also becoming now a cosmic family. We will realize that we are a cosmic species which will find its way on this planet only by following the immanent rules of the cosmos. Some call it God, others a cosmic substratum that is in each of us as the manifestation of the living universe divided and distributed over all reality. It is possible that stars are just living and dying cells of one body the same way as we are living and dying cells of that same body. This realization is of incredible, momentous importance. It will occupy humanity and give us great hope and challenges. The story was told to us in simple forms by the religions but now the scientists have come to the same conclusion that the universe is one in its endless manifestations. The recent scientific literature is replete with this finding.

My proposal is therefore that as we proceed towards the year 2000 we should pack this last decade with visions, dreams, ideas and actions aimed at preparing the next millennium as the cosmic, spiritual millennium of this planet, in order to properly respond to the expectations of the cosmos or God. In order to do this I will propose that a number of major conferences or efforts be undertaken which are not yet considered by the United Nations. Peace, disarmament, population, the environment, economic development etc. are all subjects being dealt with in the UN. But here is a list of others which should be taken up in order to prepare adequately the next millennium.

First:

A major conference should be convened on a **new cosmology**. One should listen to the physicists, to the biologists, to other scientists and to people who have come up with new cosmologies. From their views one would extract a common denominator. They all have very important perceptions. But these perceptions vary with the point of view of their professions: physical, biological, spiritual, social, political, etc. At the end of such a conference we would have a better understanding of what the cosmos is expecting from us in our next phase of evolution.

Second:

I would recommend a major conference on a **new philosophy**, a global philosophy. Philosophy is the way of life.* What should be the way of life on this planet in global terms, in the light of our fantastic knowledge? Where are the great sages of our time? Where are the positive philosophies who are giving us an explanation of the meaning of life and hope for the future?

Third:

A **new sociology** is needed which would help us to understand the meaning and role of all the innumerable groups, entities, professions and institutions we have on this planet. Most of them have a contribution to make to the progress and success of our evolution. Many of them do not know it and have not even asked the fundamental, deeper question why they exist, why they were created, what their ultimate purpose and contribution should be in the total human fabric. Their limited aims and behaviors must be geared to the needs of humanity, of the planet and to the continued success of our cosmic evolution. This is a vast, unexplored, urgent subject.

Fourth:

We need a **new anthropology**, as Margaret Mead recommended. We need world celebrations as we have them in the family, in religions, in nations. Humans and the world have to develop common paradigms, common ideals and benchmarks for the future. The science of the total human race leaves much to be desired. We do more research on tribal systems than on global humanity, its meaning, evolution and system.

Fifth:

We need an **overall human biology**, a science of human life on this planet. We study more animals and microbes than we study the functioning of the human species. To the biologist this is political. It should not be so. The biologists should tell us very frankly and honestly how the human species functions from their point of view as experts in life. If they do it for the fishes and the mammals, they can and should also do it for the human species.

Sixth:

We need a global **cosmic spirituality**.¹ We have heard religious leaders of various faiths. It was illuminating. I hope that religious leaders will get together and define before the end of this century the cosmic laws which are common to all their faiths. They have been cosmic experts and interpreters of the heavens for a long time. They should tell the politicians what the cosmic laws are, what God, or the gods, or the cosmos are expecting from humans. It is good that we had last year the Oxford Conference of parliamentarians, scientists and religious leaders and that in January 1990 a second conference will be held in Moscow. We must hope also that the Pope will come before the year 2000 to the United Nations, speak for all the religions and spiritualists on the planet and give the world the religious view of how the third millennium should be a spiritual millennium, a millennium which will see the integration and harmony of humanity with creation, with nature, with the planet, with the heavens and with eternity.²

*From the Greek phil and sophia, the love of wisdom. It is good that the 20th World Congress of Philosophy will meet in Boston in August 1998 and will take up this subject. 1998: at it the creation of a World Commission Global Consciousness and Spirituality was announced. Dr. Karan Singh of India and I are its co-chairmen.

¹ See my book *New Genesis, Shaping a Global Spirituality*.

² Thank God, a United Religions Organization similar to the United Nations is being born as I suggested at the World Parliament of Religions in Chicago in 1993. It can enlighten this question. So can the third World Parliament of Religions to be held in South Africa, in 1999. So must also the new World Commission on Global Consciousness and Spirituality.

Seventh:

We need a **new world policy and political system**.³ This planet is mismanaged to an incredible degree. If the United States were managed like the world is managed it would be a disaster. Nobody would understand how fifty states — and the world has 185 — each having a president, a flag, an army, an absolute sovereignty, could ever work together. Imagine the US government in Washington being only a kind of United Nations without any authority, any legislative power, barely any resources! It would be a disaster. Well we have this disaster for the world and it is about time that we recognize it. Ken Keyes' excellent book *Planethood* makes this point and offers a way for the political reform of this planet. The birth of the European Union which was seen by Jean Monnet and Robert Schuman as the first step towards a World Union is the biggest harbinger of hope.

Eighth:

We need a **proper planetary management**. Private firms and the multinationals must face up to their responsibilities for the management of the planet. They consider themselves responsible only to profits and stockholders. Well it is becoming increasingly manifest that this planet was not created for the purpose of making money. We urgently need a science, a strategy and a methodology of proper management of planet Earth.

Ninth:

We need a **new world philanthropy**. People are giving their wealth and moneys to a hospital, to a local university, to a national foundation or purpose. And the world gets little or nothing. The University for Peace here in demilitarized Costa Rica is one of the most beautiful and useful projects on Earth. But where are the philanthropists who are taking an interest in it with the exception of one or two? And yet it is here in this University where a new Science of Peace must be developed for this planet and thousands of peacemakers educated for a whole series of professions. The people have to take the financing of the world's care into their own hands. We do not even have an intergovernmental world budget! Well, if governments do not want to have a world budget let the philanthropists and the people do it in their own way. A new world democracy will thus be born.

Tenth:

We need a **new world education**. Global education, namely the education of the children into our global home and into the human family is making good progress. But we have to go beyond. We need the cosmic education foreseen by the religions and by people like Maria Montessori. We need a holistic education teaching the holism of the universe and of the planet. I am glad that one of the first graduates of the Robert Muller School in Arlington, Texas, which teaches my world core curriculum, will take the floor during this conference to announce the creation of a United Nations of Youth. How beautiful!⁴

Eleventh:

We need a **new world information**. Outer-space inspectors would be shocked by the wrong information that is being spread around this world. We need honest, objective, truthful information to guide our way and behavior and not manipulate information for all kinds of purposes. Proper world information, communications and media are another subject of paramount importance. The UN and its 32 specialized agencies and world programs come closest to what such an information system should be.

³ See my book, *The Birth of a Global Civilization*, (World Happiness and Cooperation, 1991)

⁴ 1998: I am also glad that there exist now 34 Robert Muller Schools in the world.

Twelfth:

We need a **new world ethics**. What is good for the United States, Russia or any other country like having atomic bombs (there are 40,000 in the world!) can be awfully bad for our planet. I'm sure that God or the cosmos has not created this planet to have all these nuclear detonators in its flesh, in its waters, in its air and in the stars. Our political leaders must be given to understand that they have not only a responsibility towards their people and towards humanity but towards the success of the extraordinary cosmic process, perhaps unique in the whole universe, unfolding on this planet. They might finish it or they might help and foster it.

Thirteenth:

We need a **new world science and technology**. The scientists and the technologists must assume a cosmic responsibility. What they are doing might be right or wrong for humanity and for our further evolution. They have to think of the seventh generation and should place Oren Lyons' prayer on their desk (see idea 899).

Fourteenth:

We need a **new world economy**. *Oikos, nomos* means the management of the home. At long last we recognize that planet Earth is our home. We need a world economy in which all people have decent cosmic lives and perform the functions for which they were born. It goes far beyond the new international economic order. It is a restructuring of the economy based on the ecology (*oikos, logos*), the knowledge of our planet. We have to put our house, which is the planet, in good evolutionary order, to become a planet of extraordinary beauty, conservation, renewal, happiness and justice for all.

Fifteenth:

We need a **new world art**. (see the table Framework for the Planetary Cosmic Role of Art and Culture). We need a renaissance of art similar to the Italian Renaissance which put things into harmony again. Modern art was the expression of our analytical period. We dissected everything. We have now to put everything into harmony again. We need a holistic, universal art expressing our faith, sense of beauty, happiness and planetary, humanistic, cosmic consciousness as all great poets, writers, painters, musicians and sculptors have done in the past. The classic book by Richard Burke on *Cosmic Consciousness* gives a whole list of such people. We also need world anthems like the one we heard this morning. Some of the sanguinary, violent national anthems need to be rewritten. I have a new text of the Marseillaise written by young people which starts with the words, "Allons enfants de la planète" (Come children of the planet). Why not? It is beautiful. I hope that the young people in Strasbourg will sing it on the occasion of the 200th anniversary of the French Revolution. Several national anthems have similarly been rewritten by young people. I have a whole file of them.

Sixteenth:

We need a **new world psychology**. We must learn to love our wonderful Earth and miraculous humanity above anything else. Now we are taught to love a nation or a group or a religion and to kill other human beings, other divine beings for them. This is contrary to nature and to cosmic, divine laws. We have to love humanity, we have to love the planet, we have to love the universe and to be their instruments during our short years on this Earth. If we do not, life on this planet will come to an end. A completely new world psychology must lay down our right sentimental priorities. This is what Freud told Einstein (see idea 1020) in their famous exchange of views.

Seventeenth:

Seventeenth but not last, we must teach the children of this planet a **new art of living**, show them how great life is, how thankful they should be to live today at this time of magnificent consciousness and incredible knowledge of the universe, that it will be their role to be the right managers of the planet, that each of them is a cosmic unit, or as Pablo Casals said, "a true miracle, a potential Leonardo or Beethoven. Therefore you cannot hurt, you cannot kill another miracle." Yes, we are miracles, microcosms, cosmozoas of the universe. This must be taught to the children so that they can flower to the responsibility for which they were born. We also have to teach frugality and simple living in order not to destroy or tax unduly the beautiful Creation of God. We should follow in the footsteps of St. Francis who preached this 800 years ago. We should read *Voluntary Simplicity* by Duane Elgin. Simple frugal lives of five billion people are the most monumental contribution to the environment of this planet. Every human being should know that he or she is an instrument of God or the universe, be it as a mother who gives life to a child as a new divine being, or a father who in the family is raising new cosmic units, or an educator who is educating new cosmogens, or doctors who heal cosmic patients, or public servants, or artists, etc.

Then we will fully validate life and make children and people proud to be alive. Then humans will respect their own miraculous, divine cosmicity as Buckminster Fuller said when he was offered cigarettes, "I will never do anything that might impair the functioning of the perfect cosmic unit I have been given by the Universe." This is the language which we should hold to children. This would be the real fight against drugs, alcohol and violent television and literature. You do not damage your incredible cosmic entity by introducing poisonous materials and images into its functioning. We can validate life to an unprecedented degree and extend it to the largest and smallest manifestations of the universe. This should be the philosophy of the next century. I would like to conclude by saying that perhaps we should replace the popular recent saying, "Think globally, act locally," by "Think cosmically, act locally wherever you live on this miraculous planet".

Thank you very much for giving me some of your precious cosmic time.

~ Idea 1616 ~

12 December 1998

Among the many detailed proposals I just cite one namely to conduct a world-wide poll of images of the future in 3000. This could be the first world poll of the psychology of the human species. Does it have confidence in the future, in the present structure of the world, in what is being done internationally, globally by the United Nations, or is it convinced that there is no hope? What a survey this will be! I had proposed it to the Gallup Organization a few years ago. The President of Gallup agreed but the idea was not implemented. A world democracy implies numerous world polls on many issues. The Millennium's Peoples Assembly will be such a world-wide public opinion survey.

~ Idea 1618 to 1619 ~

14 to 15 December 1998

In 1970 US Congressman Gallagher from New Jersey requested the creation of a group of US Parliamentarians and American citizens to evaluate the United Nations after twenty-five years of existence and the role which the United Nations should play in the future. I recommend that this idea should be repeated for the year 2000:

SG

1618 each government member of the United Nations should establish a group of parliamentarians and citizens to evaluate the United Nations after fifty-five years, the role of that government in them and their expectations for the future

SG |

1619 the Secretary General should undertake a similar reflection and submit a report to the General Assembly in the year 2000.

~ Idea 1620 ~

16 December 1998

The main commissions of the General Assembly have remained the same since 1945 and the Trusteeship Committee has accomplished its task. History and humanity would merit that these commissions be reviewed and that proposals should be made to create new ones. I have made several proposals to that effect in these 2000 ideas like replacing the Trusteeship Council by a Council of the Future, creating main commissions on the environment and on the climate etc. (see index)

~ Idea 1626 ~

22 December 1998

Of the population explosion and the products explosion, the second is worse than the first. I have said before (idea 505) that in the eyes of the Earth, the rich population of 1.2 billion today in reality represents thirty times more, since the rich consume 30 times more than the poor. Well, suppose the 10 billion people we will be in the future have the "ideal" consumption levels of the rich today, advocated, idealized, marketed and advertised world-wide by big business, in the eyes of the Earth this would represent 300 billion humans consuming her skin and flesh!

~ Idea 1633 ~

29 December 1998

The word politics should be abolished and be replaced by something much deeper: I like planetics, the management of our planet. But it is even deeper than that. What is happening on our Earth is a whole series of fundamental biological, evolutionary changes. We need to consider the biology and evolution of the Earth in its entirety. This should be the only concern of government. The collective preoccupations of humanity should be for the state of the planet, and the conditions and future of all life on it. The word politics must be abandoned. Politicians should become Earth biologists and all Faculties of Political Science Faculties of Earth Biology and Evolution.

~ Idea 1634 ~

30 December 1998

Human history proves that there are always very great barriers, obstacles to a peaceful, just and harmonious world. In the past it was feudality, then the kingdoms and the empires. Today it is nationalism and tomorrow it will be the big, multinational companies. It is a mistake to hope that these barriers will disappear by themselves. All human history proves that they have to be dismantled in order to be replaced by something else. We have reached that point of modern history when both nationalisms and big, multinational corporations must be dismantled and replaced by something else. It has to come from an outside force, a people's revolution or a revolution of the scientists, thinkers, visionaries, prophets, globalists, futurologists and synthesizers of this planet.

~ Idea 1641 ~

In a second generation United Nations or in a proper Earth government there should be an entire ministry or agency devoted to children. In the current United Nations I would recommend the transformation of the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund, (UNICEF) into a full United Nations agency for children. They have so much at stake in the future that they deserve an entire agency devoted to them. So does youth which has no voice in world affairs.

~ Idea 1647 ~

I regret that in 1970 when the Club of Rome raised the question of the limits of growth my suggestion to create a Committee of the Future in the UN Economic and Social Council was not accepted. Today, twenty-eight years later, I recommend that a Committee of the Future be created as one of the main commission of the General Assembly. It could replace the Trusteeship Council which has accomplished its mission.

~ Idea 1653 ~

My Dutch friend Jan Tinbergen, a wonderful consultant to the United Nations who received the first Nobel Prize in Economics, told me once that he would create a good number of world-wide public service institutions, not only of multinational corporations and businesses. Unfortunately this has never been done by governments. They have not paid much attention to that need. I hope that the great thinkers, visionaries, globalists and futurists of this planet will come up with a good number of world public service institutions and joint governmental projects which would deserve to be created.

~ Idea 1678 ~

The findings, forecasts and recommendations of such an association would be a major input into the Ministries of the Future which I recommend to be created in every government and the Commissions of the Future to be created in the United Nations and in each of its specialized agencies and world programs.

~ Idea 1708 ~

Regarding globalization, one could take my World Core Curriculum (see Vol. I) and envisage the globalization and futurization of every segment of it. An individual can globalize himself. Families can globalize themselves. States, provinces, departments, i.e. local levels of government could globalize themselves by creating world associations for local communities, states, provinces, etc. It would be of benefit to them to learn how other subdivisions like theirs are governed, legislated and administered elsewhere in the world. It would be an incredibly rich, reciprocal experience.

~ Idea 1720 ~

Short-sightedness, not non-intelligence is the main default of the world's leaders. Rare are those indeed who look into the future. And it is in the future that most of our main problems lie. That short-sightedness characterizes most of humanity. We rarely think of our death and afterdeath, neither individually nor collectively. For every thousand of historians there is barely one futurologist.

~ Idea 1745 ~

On the occasion of the year 2000 governments and the diplomatic community should pay attention to the proposals for a better United Nations offered by Harold Stassen, one of the last living members who signed the Charter. He sees the UN change from a place where meetings on political, economic and social issues are held into a creative center where ideas on religion and philosophy are exchanged for a better future. Among his proposals are a central cabinet of administrators, a universal environmental institute, a United Nations Legion, an inspection corps, a world panel of mediators, a world board of arbitration, a world court of equity, a world-wide conference on religions and a research institute of people and government. His book should be read by every delegate to the UN, by every head of state before coming to the year 2000 General Assembly, and in all political science faculties of universities throughout the world. *

* It is available at the United Nations Bookshop, published by Learner Publications. The title, *United Nations, a Working Paper for Restructuring* by Harold Stassen.

~ Idea 1785 ~

After the three Declarations of Human Duties and Responsibilities reproduced or mentioned in Ideas 301, 418 and 1214*, I received also a fourth one from the second United Peoples' Assembly of San Francisco in June 1998.

I am glad that the subject is spreading. I pray that there will be soon Codes of Ethics, professional oaths and Declarations of Duties and Responsibilities for all professions, human groups, entities and institutions on planet Earth. Together they would represent an important new progress in our evolution.

The fact that a second United Peoples' Assembly was held in San Francisco to take up the subject of human responsibilities could be a model for a new world democracy. United Peoples' Assemblies could be held everywhere in the world and would submit their views, wishes and recommendations to the Peoples' General Assembly 2000 at the UN and later to a World United Peoples' Organization to be created. I have proposed earlier in these 2000 ideas that the Union of International Associations in Brussels should be transformed into such an organization and be transferred to the largely empty Carnegie Peoples' Peace Palace in The Hague. The organization could be made a specialized agency of the UN.

*There is also a very valuable Declaration of Responsibilities of the present generation towards future generations by UNESCO.

~ Idea 1793 ~

The United Nations Charter is very much behind the modern times. If the present leaders of nations do not revise the Charter future generations will not forgive them. The year 2000 cannot pass without a decision to revise the Charter or to write a new one more commensurate with the current needs of the Earth and of humanity. I warn you leaders of nations: if you do not do this you will go down in history with a lot of blemish as dwarfs instead of great men and women of the year 2000. Young people especially will not forgive you. They will not understand that their elders did not have the vision and courage to prepare for them a better world, century and millennium.

~ Idea 1811 ~

SG The Secretary General of the UN wants the Summit Meetings of Heads of State in 2000 to look into the last 100 years and what good and also barbaric things we did during that century. I feel that the future should be even more important. In Idea 356 I suggested that the UN should write an Inventory of Hopes for the 21st century and 3rd millennium and that all nations and social groups and entities should do the same. What an elevation of the human journey this would be! Yes, let us publish a United Nations and many other Inventories of Hope during the year 2000.

~ Idea 1826 ~

I highly recommend the urgent creation of a World Commission on Simple and Frugal Living and the creation of a World Commission of a New Philosophy for Our Survival and Future Evolution in the 21st Century and Third Millennium.

~ Idea 1843 ~

There is a second rule of proceeding which we must follow, the one adopted by Napoleon, a general, who did not like long reports and big books and theories but who wanted a synopsis, a visual presentation of the objective. This is what we must do. We must visualize the future we want. I try to do this in these 2000 ideas, namely show almost visually how great and beautiful the results can be. Once on the basis of an analytical situation you make a synopsis you do not have to write innumerable pages. You put it into a dream, into an idea, into a vision, into a prophecy, as all religious leaders and indigenous people have done for time immemorial. This is why the year 2000 should give us the vision of a peaceful, better, well-preserved Earth and a happy, fulfilled humanity.

~ Idea 1848 ~

It is not conceivable that evolution which has created so many miracles on this planet including the human species would let us remain unable to manage in an orderly, harmonious and renewable fashion the nature and resources of this planet. We will receive the necessary signs, warnings and crises to do the right things and will be astonished by our future successes. The 21st century will be the greatest in human history.

~ Idea 1861 ~

SG The UN Secretary General should inform each year member governments which world conferences he considers important for the fate and future of the Earth and humanity. He should ask which government would like to sponsor one or more of these conferences to be held under the auspices of the United Nations and with the cooperation of the United Nations specialized agencies and world programs.

~ Idea 1863 ~

Become and Earth Trustee
The Actions That Can Do The Most For You And Your Planet
by John McConnell, founder of Earth Day

The first view of Earth from Space inspired the idea of Earth Day. "We set out to explore Space and discovered Earth." From this came the idea that we should all think and act as Trustees of Earth.

Presaging the future on March 20, 1998, outriders of Planet Earth celebrated Earth Day in Space. At the Mir Space Station there was a brief ceremony that included the special moment when the Peace Bell at the United Nations was rung as Spring began (2:55 p.m. in New York). Astronauts, Cosmonauts and people on Earth joined at that time in a brief dedication to be responsible trustees of Earth.

The Earth Trustee idea appeals to people of every creed and culture. It is very simple and powerful. All that is needed is for every individual and institution to think and act as a trustee of Earth, seeking in their own way to, "Make choices in ecology, economics and ethics that will eliminate pollution, poverty and violence, awaken the wonder of life and nurture people and planet."

We can now halt the awful record of history with its injustice, wars and violence. Napoleon once said, "Imagination rules the world." Internet opens new opportunities to capture the imagination of the world with solutions that can appeal to all. Projects and efforts that are achieving Earth Trustee goals can be posted and verified by experts on the web.

Let every person who receives this message decide to be an Earth Trustee. Follow this with Earth Trustee commitment and action — personally and in any group you belong to. Forward this to a few friends and suggest they do the same. Let's circle the world now with positive Earth Trustee visions that can save and rejuvenate our planet.

~ Ideas 1865 to 1872 ~

The Summit UN General Assembly in the year 2000 should be the most incredible, unprecedented world meeting ever held in the entire human history. All heads of states should begin to prepare it right now. I propose therefore:

- SG
- 1865** each head of state should appoint a national preparatory committee to assess the world situation, the successes achieved and the dreams, ideals and plans still to be fulfilled for a better world.
 - 1866** the UN Secretary General and all heads of the 32 specialized agencies and world programs of the UN should do the same.
 - 1867** the heads of all regional organizations of this planet should do the same.
 - 1868** the heads of all major business corporations should do the same.
 - 1869** the leaders of all major world religions should do the same.
 - 1870** the leaders of all major labor organizations should do the same.

1871 all prominent intellectuals, visionaries, scientists, philosophers, futurologists, evolutionary experts and sages should do the same.

1872 all people's movements and international associations should do the same for the World Peoples' Assembly 2000.

The tasks of this unprecedented, ominous world-wide assessment, thinking, planning and dreaming for the Earth' and humanity's future are so vast and mind-boggling that I recommend it to be an on-going instrument for quite some time perhaps even a permanent new millennium method of proper human and Earth government. Since the heads of state have to return to administer their nations, I recommend that they should all appoint a deputy head of state who would be permanently stationed in New York to continue the work of the Summit Assembly 2000 until it is accomplished.

~ Idea 1875 ~

I recommend that for the Summit Meeting of Heads of States in 2000 each member government prepare a list of ideas they have proposed in the UN since its foundation or since their membership in the organization. The ideas should be listed in four categories.

1. Ideas implemented
2. Ideas partly implemented
3. Ideas which did not obtain agreement
4. New ideas for the 21st century

The same should be done by member governments for all the UN specialized agencies, by past Presidents of the UN General Assembly, by past Secretary Generals, past heads of UN specialized agencies and present ones, by retired and active world servants of the UN and of its agencies and finally by all the non-governmental organizations accredited to the United Nations and to the specialized agencies.

What a maelstrom of ideas and dreams for a better world that would represent! It could change the fate of the Earth and assure our future evolution.

~ Idea 1884 ~

The old generations never believed that peace was possible on this planet.

Youth believes it today and therefore peace will now be possible.

I hope that the first World Conference of Youth Ministers in Portugal will produce a comprehensive list of the beliefs of youth. These could be:

- there will never be any more world and international wars on this planet
- religious and ethnic wars will also vanish in the 21st century
- violence will be substantially reduced on this planet in the years to come
- we will see the birth of a proper Earth government in the 21st century
- a decent well-being will be assured to all humans on Earth

- the world population will soon be stabilized
- people will live more frugal, simple and happy lives, and our miraculous Earth will be respected, preserved and beautified to an incredible degree
- humanity will see a spiritual Renaissance and transcend itself into a spiritual union with the universe and time
- we will live in harmony and cooperation with the Earth, with each other, with the past and the future and with the heavens
- alcohol, drugs and smoking will disappear from this planet
- our planet will be demilitarized and denuclearized; its security will be assured by a proper world central security system.
- we will make it the most fabulous century of human history, the ultimate success of evolution, of the universe and God, the attainment of paradise to Earth

~ Idea 1901 ~

It is a rare privilege for humanity to stand on the eve of a new millennium. It provides a unique opportunity to measure the road covered and to chart the road ahead.

On the eve of the year 1000 humans feared the end of the world. Pest and cholera were sweeping over Europe. The people took refuge in churches waiting for the moment of the Apocalypse. But nothing happened and the people expressed their gratitude to God by building cathedrals.

Today we have our scares too: the scare of an atomic holocaust, the threat of possible deterioration of our planet's environment and climate to the point that it might become unlivable. This is therefore a time for reflection, for stock-taking, confession, forgiveness, foresight, rededication and an evolutionary vision of the future.

It would be criminal to enter the third millennium with business-as-usual. We must absolutely use the year 2000 to undertake an unprecedented, comprehensive evaluation of our journey on this planet, of our progress, our mistakes and foolishness, of our failures and growing pains, and of our hopes, dreams and ideals of the future.

We must hold an extraordinary world-wide celebration of life in the year 2000, preceded by unprecedented thinking, action and determination to solve our remaining problems in order to enter the Third Millennium with a clean slate.

The United Nations, the world's global organization, is at the center of this celebration. It stimulates and coordinates numerous world-wide activities in preparation of the celebration and events during the celebration. The UN will hold a Millennium General Assembly at the heads of states level accompanied by a Peoples' General Assembly 2000.

Several governments have created national commissions for the year 2000, to coordinate national activities and events. Religions, professions, institutions, media, businesses, local authorities, citizens organizations, the arts, and last but not least individuals and families are active in the preparation and advent of a better, peaceful third millennium.

For the first time in history we can enter a new millennium with our eyes wide open, with all the basic information available about our planet and human condition, with a host of proposals, ideas and visions for our further successful evolution on this perhaps unique life endowed planet in the universe.

The 1st of January 2000 has already been declared One Day in Peace and the entire year 2000 International Year for a Culture of Peace and International Year of Thanksgiving. I hope that the 1st of January will also be declared World Day of Love to be celebrated every year. On that day there should be innumerable manifestations of love for peace, for all our human brothers and sisters, for our miraculous nature and for everything that is good in the heavens and on Earth.

~ Idea 1904 ~

I recommend that a totally new world organization should be considered for our Earth and humanity, a World Organization of Evolution into which the United Nations could be incorporated. This organization would listen to evolutionary scientists who look at evolution in its multiplicity of forms from the smallest bacteria to the evolution of humankind within the basic elements of the planet, its air, its water, its climate etc. and who have a long-term view of what the future evolution of this planet is likely to be. This is indispensable because henceforth everything on this planet has to be seen in terms of a long-term future evolution. Our species is now in charge of the Earth's future evolution. If we stick to obsolete values we will put an end to it. If we adopt new values, new objectives, visions, institutions, and laws, evolution will continue. This is henceforth problem number one on this planet. Everything else has to abide to it.

~ Idea 1905 ~

The New World Organization of Evolution would issue yearly reports on the state of evolution of our planet, review the prospects of the future and recommend corrective actions, including emergency measures and world laws.

~ Idea 1906 ~

SG | The most important single step that could help save the Earth and humanity would be to create in each government a Ministry of the Future and in the United Nations and in each of its agencies a Department and Commission of the Future. It would be the first step towards the creation of a World Organization of Evolution. It is good that the European Union had the vision to create a position of Commissioner for the Future. May this good example be followed by many institutions around the world, public and private.

~ Idea 1907 ~

When one considers the vital importance of the future evolution of this planet and of humanity, it would be also important to create a World University of Evolution and the Future, or at least Faculties of Evolution and the Future in all Universities.

~ Idea 1908 ~

When rethinking from scratch the 21 basic segments of human life listed in ideas 527 to 547 in Volume II and in the Introduction to this volume, one of the principal thinking processes and foresight should deal with the future of each segment.

~ Idea 1911 ~

The poor countries when accused by the rich ones of their overpopulation, one of the main adverse factors in our future evolution, should retort:

You caused it because no one asked you to come and save our children from early death. Smart as you claim to be you could have told us that it was no longer necessary to have six children to have at least two left to till the land and take care of our old age. You could also have offered us a world old age security system or opened your borders to allow the immigration of our surplus youth to your own countries.

Yes, when will we see the first world-wide old age security system on this planet? It could be done by a proper Earth government with the savings from military expenditures which would no longer be necessary if we had a central world security system as is foreseen in the Charter of the United Nations.

~ Idea 1912 ~

The creation by the Rio de Janeiro Conference of an Earth Council is a great step ahead in human history. One of its first tasks is to draft an Earth Charter. An admirable text of that Charter is now in circulation among Non-governmental organizations for their comments. It opens a completely new chapter of world charters. We also need a charter for the seas and oceans, a charter for outer space, for the air and atmosphere, for the world's waters, for the mountain areas, for arid zones, for the world's forestry covers, for the world's vegetation, for other species, for human settlements, etc. A vast new field of human philosophy, behavior and future evolution has been opened: the fundamental rights of the Earth.

~ Idea 1930 ~

SG | The UN General Assembly 2000 at the heads of states level must absolutely measure up to its historical tasks and be remembered for its audacity and long-term views of the future. It should above all decide to embark on the writing of a constitution for proper Earth government. If it does not, future historians will not forgive its members.

~ Idea 1931 ~

At this stage of our evolution the concept of competition and survival of the fittest must be abandoned in favor of the concept of cooperation. The whole future evolution of the Earth and of humanity depends on it. Only cooperation will save the Earth and humanity. From now on cooperation must be the supreme law of Earth and human survival. We must aim at a United Earth and Nature.

~ Idea 1937 ~

My main message in these 2000 ideas is this: Humans from now on must understand that the fate of the whole Earth and of our future evolution is at stake. This world-wide evolutionary challenge has never existed before. It requires from humanity new values, new ways of life, new institutions and new laws.

~ Idea 1939 ~

Dear reader,

Send me your ideas and dreams. Send them to the President of your country, to your elected parliamentarians, to the Secretary General of the UN, to the heads of UN agencies, etc. Big, urgent problems and emergencies are facing humanity. The future of our descendants depends on our actions of today. Proclaim your ideas and dreams for a better world. It is your sacred duty. God and humanity will recompense you beyond belief.

~ Idea 1970 ~

Work on an Earth Charter undertaken since the Rio de Janeiro Conference on the Environment is extremely useful but too slow, a period from 1993 to the year 2002 being much too long.

I recommend that work be immediately undertaken on a whole series of particularly important aspects of the Earth such as:

- A Charter for our Solar System and Outer-space
- A Charter for Future Evolution
- A Charter for the Atmosphere
- A Charter for the Seas and Oceans
- A Charter for World Water
- A Charter for World Species
- A Charter for the Earth Forest Covers and Vegetation
- A Charter for Top Soils
- A Charter for Mountain Areas
- A Charter for the World's Great Lakes
- A Charter for the Arid and Semi-arid Zones
- A Charter for the Arctic and Antarctic.

The same procedure was followed after the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights when Charters for Children's Rights, Women's Rights, Indigenous Rights, Racial Equality, etc. were undertaken.

~ Idea 1974 ~

SG } The Secretary General of the United Nations and the heads of all 32 specialized agencies and world programs of the UN should publish for the year 2000 a document in which they would list and elaborate on:

1. The main subjects and world issues on which they are hopeful and optimistic.
2. The world problems and issues which give them major worries and concerns.

Each regional organization should prepare the same report for the various continents and regions.

Each member government of the United Nations should do it for their country.

This could be of ominous help in planning appropriate actions, behaviors, policies and legislations in the 21st century to assure our future evolution.

~ Idea 1982 ~

SG } In Idea 502 (Volume II) I listed the three main periods through which the United Nations and humanity have gone since 1945: 1) humanism; 2) the environment; and 3) the Earth as number 1. In these last 500 Ideas I mentioned a fourth period: our future evolution.

It suddenly occurs to me that the UN is still structured according to the needs and philosophy of the first period, namely humanism with the objectives of peace, well-being, health, labor, food, education, culture, human rights, etc. The structure of the UN system does not reflect adequately the other three recent and equally fundamental preoccupations, except the environment. A basic restructuring of the UN and its specialized agencies must therefore be considered, to make it the principal, central Organization of the Earth and of Future Evolution. We should create a World Air and Atmosphere agency, a World Water Agency, a World Climate Agency, a World Ocean Agency, a World Outer Space Agency, etc. Within these fundamental aspects of the Earth we should consider the place, actions and fulfillment of the human species.

This reform should become a priority item on the agenda of world affairs at this beginning of a new century and millennium.

~ Idea 1990 ~

In 1975 I was asked by a British magazine, The New Era, to contribute an article with my views on education. I wrote it on The Need for Global Education. Given the birth of a global consciousness to humanity at that time, it had profound effects and earned me the title of Father of Global Education and led to a new education in 34 Robert Muller Schools around the world.

Twenty-two years later a new consciousness is being born to the human species: an evolutionary consciousness, a growing concern for the future of the Earth and humanity. I would therefore write today an essay on The Need for an Evolutionary Education. We teach history but no futurstory. I am sure that not a single school on Earth teaches the children what the world is likely to be when they will be adults. This is as irresponsible as was the absence of a global education in 1975. And in a few years, I will have to write a third essay on The Need for Cosmic Education, because a cosmic consciousness will be born next to humanity.

~ Idea 1995 ~

SG I hope that during the UN General Assembly 2000, one head of state will have to courage to stand up and say to his assembled peers: "The world of sovereign nations has created an unbelievable chaos; the powers given to economists and business are leading us to disaster; the Earth, its vital air, its waters, its nature, its vegetation and many species which it took millions of years to form, our climate are all in jeopardy. We live in a World War III against the Earth, our home. All this will end in a global disaster without precedent.

I appeal to you, I beg you, I implore you, let us put aside all other items on our agenda and keep only one fundamental one: to have this General Assembly of heads of states remain in permanent session day and night if necessary, until we give birth to a new political and economic system for this miraculous planet and its sacred human family. Please stand up, delegates of the world, hold each other's hand and let us swear together that we will accomplish this historical miracle before it is too late: to save this Earth, to save humanity with a new world constitution. All the rest is secondary. Let us create a United States of the World or a World Union like the European Union. Let us perform this miracle in the House of Mica, on the shores of the River of the Rising Sun, wherefrom our indigenous brethren prophecized that a civilization of peace will extend to the entire world."

~ Idea 1996 ~

If Franklin Roosevelt and Winston Churchill were alive and members of the UN Assembly they would be the first to request that the UN Charter be reviewed and updated to the new conditions and needs of the Earth and humanity. Who in that Assembly will be the new Franklin Roosevelt and Churchill and be remembered by future generations?!

~ Idea 1997 ~

SG I pray that on the occasion of the year 2000 celebration, the United Nations and its member nations will produce an ominous report on the achievements and progress of humanity during the 20th century, along with the miseries and errors we have still committed. On the basis of such reports we will be able to make a fresh start and accomplish more miracles. If I have learned one thing in my half a century at the United Nations, it is that when humans decide to achieve a great, noble objective, they always succeed. We must pray with our American indigenous brethren:

"Great Spirit, grant us the strength and dignity to walk a new trail closer to our Creator."

~ Idea 1998 ~

Twenty years ago I wrote an essay on The Need for Global Education. Today I would write an essay on the need for evolutionary education. Tomorrow I would write an essay on the need for cosmic education.

After World War II humanity acquired beyond national consciousness a global consciousness. Today humanity is acquiring an evolutionary consciousness, a consciousness of the future. Tomorrow humanity will acquire a cosmic consciousness.

After World War II, the United Nations was born as the planet's first global organization. Today the United Nations is becoming the planet's evolutionary organization. Tomorrow the United Nations will become the planet's cosmic organization.

With humanity's transcendence into cosmic consciousness in space and in time, the sciences and religions well converge into an all-encompassing, holistic, spiritual age dreamt of by our ancestors, prophets, visionaries, saints and earthly incarnations of the divine, cosmic forces over eons of time.

Our future is incredibly bright and hopeful if we hasten these processes and think in time of ways to face very likely emergencies.

It is good that the UN has been thinking ahead of time by establishing a UN Trust Fund for Preventive Action.

~ Idea 1999 ~

What is my last, most important dream, my Dream of Dreams after these 2000 ideas and dreams written at the end of fifty years of United Nations experience?

It is to see this Earth well preserved as a unique paradise in the universe, inhabited by a miraculous, deeply loving, spiritual, happy and peaceful humanity, fully enjoying the miracle of human life in that paradise.

~ Idea 2000 ~

From our current world pessimism we can be saved and uplifted by this personal conclusion I arrived at in Idea 552, namely:

Perhaps, out of my passion for life and for this miraculous Earth, a new theory of evolution can be shaped, namely that with our recently acquired tremendous human knowledge of the universe and of our planet we will henceforth be more than the mere preservers and savers of the Earth, but will be her instruments, her most advanced evolutionary agents, her children endowed with the evolutionary task to make it an even more astonishing planet and cosmic evolutionary success, perhaps the most advanced, ultimate masterpiece of the universe and God. Since each species born from nature is a miracle, we are certainly a miracle too.

What great excitement it will be when in the year 2000 humanity will accept this as its new, all-encompassing, common objective for the 21st century!

To make this Earth a paradise
To make humanity a miracle

Think of what a world we could build if the power unleashed in war were applied to constructive tasks! One-tenth of the energy that the various belligerents spent in the World War, a fraction of the money they exploded in hand grenades and poison gas, would suffice to raise the standard of living in every country and avert the economic catastrophe of worldwide unemployment. We must be prepared to make the same heroic sacrifices for the cause of peace that we make ungrudgingly for the cause of war. There is no task that is more important or closer to my heart.

Albert Einstein

AMEN

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