



INSTITUTE FOR PLANETARY SYNTHESIS

UNIVERSITY FOR PLANETARY SYNTHESIS

P.O. BOX 128 - CH 1211 GENEVA 20

Email: ipsbox@ipsgeneva.com, site: <http://www.ipsgeneva.com>

Tel. +41-022-733.88.76 Fax +41-022-733.66.49

NEWSLETTER NO. 92 SEPTEMBER-DECEMBER 2001

Dear friends and co-workers!

"It is bridging work which has now to be done-bridging between what is today and what can be in the future. If during the next 150 years, we develop this technique of bridging the many cleavages found in the human family and in offsetting the racial hatreds and the separative attitudes of nations and people, we shall have succeeded in implementing a world in which war will be impossible and humanity will be realising itself as one human family and not as a fighting aggregate of many nations and people, competitively engaged in getting the best of each other and successfully fostering prejudices and hatred. This has, as we have seen, been the history of the past." (published in 1954)

(Education in the New Age, pages 89-90)

Well, after reading these words, it seems that some people in the present US government continue to live in the past. Instead of working for peace and justice on the planet, they prefer to perpetuate war. They are proud to be the only remaining superpower on Earth. So may the last dinosaur have been proud of being the last remaining dinosaur on Earth.

They showed on 7 October 2001 that they prefer to live according to the law of the jungle, which is considered by many to be the law of nature. They have not yet learned that the law of nature is the law of harmony and co-operation and that "an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth" is an archaic formulation of the law of karma. The Universe always restores the balance of debits and credits, and exacts payment for all debts. What we now sow, we will reap.

We said some people in the US government because it is always people who make decisions. Behind every decision which disregards the common good and international law, there are people who represent particular interests and seek to increase

their personal power and profits. The "War on Terror" appears to be "part of a long-range strategy to turn the clock back on the hard earned gains of the human rights, women, social justice and environmental movements, to consolidate U.S. global domination, and to serve the interests of transnational corporations, especially the oil industry (interested in oil deposits in Central Asia) and the armament industry (cited from the excellent article by Ms. Carol Brouillet, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, "Report of the January 8th event demanding a congressional inquiry of 9-11", www.communitycurrency.org/9-11.html). Max Habicht, a Swiss international lawyer, one of the founders of the World Federalist movement and author of "The Abolition of War", used to say that as long as we do not make people individually responsible for their deeds, we will continue to have world anarchy. A universal legal system must be established that can seize individuals for crimes against humanity and the planet, whatever their political or economical power. Whoever sent his followers bomb a building in New York committed mass murder, but whoever sends armies to bomb cities (and what is more, with radioactive materials) also commits mass murder. Humanity is a planetary family and every war is a civil war and a crime against humanity.

However, September 11 events have also awakened the hearts of many, especially in America, refreshing our sense of solidarity with our fellow citizens, both in our countries and throughout the world. It made us realise our responsibility for the hate and violence that dominate many peoples' lives in many countries. "My government is the greatest purveyor of violence in the world", said Martin Luther King decades ago. This is truer than ever today – the US spends twice as much in armaments as the rest of the world. A sense of responsibility is the first sign of

the awakening of the soul. We are amazed to see the lucidity and courage expressed after September 11, in spite of the crushing war propaganda and political censorship to which the world is being subjected today. The main avenue for expressing these views is the internet, one of the last media in the world today that is not controlled by the powers that be. In chat rooms, discussion forums, e-mail lists, people are expressing all that they are not allowed to say on television, the radio, the newspapers or even in their own community. In this respect, we recommend the mailing list of the Earth Rainbow Network moderated by Jean Hudon in Canada (www.cybernaute.com/earthconcert2000).

The Tibetan wrote the above lines in 1954, and stated that we had 150 years to make the transition

to a world in which war would be impossible. Today, 50 years later, many people know that a world of peace and justice is possible, and that peace is not possible without truth, justice and goodwill, without a balance of the head and the heart. The first step to work for peace is to demonstrate and use active goodwill to establish right human relations in all circumstances. This is the work to which we invite you all to dedicate yourselves in the New Year. As Eleanor Roosevelt once said:

"For it isn't enough to talk about peace. One must believe in it. And it isn't enough to believe in it. One must work at it."... and live it!

The IPS Geneva group

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Ponder upon the question of danger. So-called danger is nothing less than fear over our present condition. But if we know that every condition is created by the consciousness, which is invulnerable, then there can be no physical fear. The danger, of which it is so customary to warn, will dissolve in consciousness. Therefore, the growth of consciousness is the most essential basis for onward progress. Instead of dangers, there will remain only obstacles; but these will serve only as a means to develop the energy. If the mountain be perfectly smooth, we cannot ascend to the summit. Blessed are the stones that tear our sandals when we ascend! Thus assure yourself of the absence of dangers.

Each change of conditions will be an explosion of the consciousness. But out of explosions is molded the pulsation of the Cosmos.

Poor is the consciousness which has no control over passing conditions. Our shield is invulnerable. Each speck of fear is the target for the enemy's arrow. But after washing away those shameful spots we shall become impregnable as the bodies of the far-off worlds. The development of Agni Yoga will become the shield of thought. The all-penetrating fire, when realised, gives supremely pure strength and fills the spring of renewal. (Agni Yoga, paragraph 406)

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GROUP MEDITATIONS

FULL MOON MEDITATIONS

Libra, Sagittarius and Capricorn Full Moon meditation with the Arcane School group in Geneva

UNITED NATIONS STAFF PEACE MEDITATION GROUP (Tuesdays at 12:30 at the U.N. Office in Geneva)

04.09.01 Union through identification with the Whole – sense of universality	13.11.01 The three jewels and the new group of world servers
11.09.01 Humour – a tie that binds	20.11.01 Union through identification with the Whole
18.09.01 Light and love to help the US make a humane decision	27.11.01 Global spiritualisation: light, peace and thankfulness
25.09.01 Love, the divine quality that heals all	04.12.01 Smiling – a life force in world service
02.10.01 Light and respect for all life	11.12.01 Group love embracing all people
09.10.01 The crystal of life for all positive workers on Earth	18.12.01 Living together in full consciousness
16.10.01 Messages from the Angels	

Group meditation on the Reappearance of the Christ in St. Petersburg, Russia, led by Rudolf Schneider from the IPS Geneva.

On 21 December, solstice meditation at the IPS headquarters.

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GROUP MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES

3 September 2001 – Exhibition of “blue earth” ceramics: “Tradition of Sands”, Geneva

This exhibition of ceramic objects created by Liliane Stucki, a Swiss artist inspired by the desert, is part of a programme of special cultural events to promote understanding and peace organised by the United Nations Office in Geneva. Liliane Stucki's address is 1 Fief de Chapitre, CH-1213 Geneva, tel. +41-022-870.08.33, e-mail: liliane.stucki@swissonline.ch.

4-6 September 2001 - International Conference on Sustainable Food Security for All by 2020, organised by the International Food Policy Research Institute, IFPRI, Bonn, Germany

Almost 1.500 international participants from all kinds of stakeholder groups attended this conference: government officials, science and research institutions, business corporations, development institutions, NGOs, UN officials, farmers, etc.

Participants concluded that good governance is a fundamental key for solving the problem of sustainable food security for all. Good governance is grounded in fairness, equity and human dignity, and involves ethical public behaviour in the management of the state and the business sector. To act responsibly requires will, commitment and power. The private sector, civil society, governments and NGOs need to join forces in a constructive dialogue which will be turned into action.

Using a digital instant voting system, participants agreed on the following priorities:

- investing in human resources (education, health, gender, capacity building, enabling the poor to participate in solving the problems) - small-scale agriculture offers the best route to food security
- good governance
- infrastructure (roads, water-management, markets, microfinance, environmentally friendly and sustainable technologies, institution-building).

Contact: International Food Policy Research Institute, 2033 K Street, N.M. Washington, D.C. 20006-1002, USA, tel. 1-202-862-5600, fax 1-202-467-4439, e-mail: ifpri@cgiar.org, www.ifpri.org.

During the IFPRI conference, a German NGO, the Environment and Development Forum, invited to a series of panel discussions on "Dealing with Hunger, World Food Policy between the "World Food Summit - Five Years Later" and the WTO Council of Ministers' Meeting in Qatar". Contact: German NGO Environment and Development Forum, Am Michaelshof 8-10, 53177 Bonn, Germany, tel. +49-228-359 704, fax +49-228-359 096; e-mail gura@forumue.de, www.forumue.de

5-8 September 2001 – 46th International Conference on Education, UNESCO, Geneva

We quote here from the document "Conclusions of the 46th session of the ICE and proposals for action":

The International Bureau of Education (BIE, P.O.Box 199, CH-1211 Geneva 20, , www.ibe.unesco.org, tel. +41 022 917.78.00, fax +41 022 917.78.01), in

its capacity as a UNESCO specialised centre for the contents and methods of education, organised the 46th ICE in Geneva. More than 600 participants took part in the discussions, of whom eighty were ministers and ten vice-ministers of education, coming from 127 Member States of UNESCO, together with nine representatives of intergovernmental organisations, thirteen non-governmental organisations and three foundations. The objective of intensifying and strengthening dialogue at the level of educational policies on the problems and prospects of solutions with a view to improving the quality of education for *learning to live together* has been largely achieved. These conclusions and the resulting proposals for action only give a limited account of the fund of deliberations and the preparatory work (Netforum, ministerial messages, national reports, good practices, etc.). The entire collection will be made known through the Final Report, the reports of the workshops, and the other documents to be published after the conference. These conclusions, adopted on 8 September 2001, have been drawn from the major debates, the plenary sessions and the six workshops that took place during the conference. They are intended for governments, international intergovernmental and non-governmental organisations, teachers and organisations of the teaching profession, the media and all partners in civil society whose efforts improve the quality of education, encourage dialogue and develop the capacity to live together.

11-13 September 2001- Yoga Living Retreat with Dr. Anantakrishna, Randa, Switzerland, on the theme: The Music of the Soul

Dr. E. Anantakrishna, eldest son of Dr. E. Krishnamacharya and founder of the "Master E.K. Spiritual and Service Mission", comes every year to Europe to continue his father's mission of fusion of East and West. He gives lectures and workshops on homeopathy, ayurveda, occult anatomy and the ancient wisdom. This 3-day retreat at Randa, in the Swiss Alps, was organised by the Foundation Unity of All Life (Mettenwylstrasse 5, CH-6006 Lucerne, Switzerland, tel/fax +41-041-420.05.88, e-mail: foundeal@bluewin.com) We were a dozen participants from various parts of Switzerland. We studied "The Music of the Soul", a book which describes the last year of Krishna's incarnation and the beginning of the Kali Yuga, went for walks in the mountains and meditated together.

24-25 September 2001 – Regional Ministerial Meeting for the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Geneva

Rudolf Schneider participated as an observer in this preparatory meeting for the WSSD, which was attended by more than 30 ministers and high-level officials from different ministries of the European region, a large number of other representatives of national governments, U.N. and other international organisations and institutions as well as representatives of major groups (NGOs, business, local

authorities, the academic world). The following central issues were debated: poverty eradication, sustainable management and conservation of the natural resource base; making globalisation work for sustainable development; improving governance and democratic processes at all levels; financing sustainable development; education, science and technology for decision-making. There was a general concern over poverty as a major social ill in many parts of Europe and worldwide. Important links were highlighted between unemployment, social exclusion and ill health, on the one hand, and the overuse of natural resources, environmental degradation, social and political conflicts, on the other. Many speakers highlighted unsustainable production and consumption patterns.

More than 80 NGOs from the entire UN Economic Commission for Europe met on September 22 and 23 to discuss the negotiations and the Draft Ministerial Declaration for the UN ECE Regional Meeting. They issued a document from which we quote a few passages: "The NGOs believe that the underlying causes of the implementation failure [of Agenda 21] are more fundamental than is currently recognised by governments. The overwhelming dominance and acceptance of an unsustainable development paradigm, lack of education and public awareness, and excessive corporate influence over government policy, have led to a situation where economic growth and trade liberalisation override social and environmental concerns. Eco-efficiency has been given insufficient priority and what progress has been made, has been more than offset by overall trends in production and consumption. It is evident that business-as-usual economic growth will not lead to sustainability. The NGOs are deeply disappointed that the obstructive approach taken by certain states has prevented agreements being reached on concrete and far-reaching commitments in the negotiations so far... The NGOs therefore welcome the proposal for a Global Deal and look forward to working with states to further define this initiative. The objectives and responsibilities in this Global Deal should be developed in partnership with states and civil society in all regions. We believe that in order to be effective, the Global Deal must include the following elements:

Equity – Eradicating poverty through equitable and sustainable access to resources

Rights – Securing environmental and social rights

Limits – Reduction of resource use to within sustainable limits

Justice – Recognition of ecological debts and cancellation of financial debts

Democracy – Ensuring access to information and public participation

Ethics – Rethinking the values and principles that guide human behaviour."

8 October 2001 – Seminar Series: Exchange on Development, World Bank Group, Geneva

The theme of this seminar was "International Development Goals: making development work for the

poor – the roadmap to collective action". A number of initiatives were endorsed by 150 heads of State at the U.N. Millennium Summit in 2000. What is necessary to reach the objectives of these initiatives (peace, security, social justice)?

10 October 2001 – Lecture on "Is peace possible in Israel?" with Ms Yaël Dayan, Geneva

The Switzerland-Israel Association (P.O.Box 9310, CH-8036 Zurich) organised this lecture with Ms. Dayan. To the question "Is peace possible in Israel?" the lecturer answered definitely yes; peace is not only possible, it must be. The respect of the Oslo agreements, the creation of a Palestinian State, and a political solution not based on religion are in her view the main steps to attain peace in Israel.

10 October 2001 – 2001 European Marathon for Human Rights, Geneva

Friends of the United Nations (3 rue Pictet-de-Bock, C-1205 Geneva, tel./fax +41-022-781.24.41, e-mail: friendsofun@hotmail.com, <http://www.fofun.org>) has produced and decided to widely distribute an educational brochure to the children of the world regarding the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Ms. Mary Robinson, the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, endorsed this initiative.

On the occasion of the arrival in Geneva of teams of runners representing 8 countries of Europe as part of the 2001 European Marathon for Human Rights, an annual event that honours the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, a reception was given to launch this educational booklet and campaign.

22 October 2001 - Invitation of the German Committee of the United Nations Development Fund for Women, UNIFEM, and the Centre for Development Research to the Third German UNIFEM-Award Ceremony for sustainable women's self help projects, Bonn, Germany

The prize-winning projects were: "Organización Femenina Popular (OFP)" from Colombia, "Foundation for the Solidarity and Development of Women", Nepal, "El Nadim Centre for the Management and Rehabilitation of Victims of Violence", Cairo, Egypt, and "Loucas de Pedra Lilás", Recife, Brazil.

23 October 2001 - Panel discussion on "Perspectives of Development Policy - Structural Adjustment Policy for a Co-operative World", Bonn

In celebration of 40 years of work of the German Ministry for Economic Co-operation and Development, the Ministry and the German Foundation for International Development held a panel discussion about the role of Development Policy to build a just and peaceful society, avoid violence and find solutions in a co-operative way.

24 October 2001 - UN Talks on the International Year of Volunteers, Bonn, Germany

Since 1996 Bonn is an official UN city, hosting the UNFCCC, UNCCD, UNV, UNIC, and UNEP/CMS. The Executive Co-ordinator of the UN Volunteers Program, Ms. Sharon Capeling-Alakija, welcomed participants to the celebrations of the UN anniversary. Two volunteers shared their experiences: Mr.

Justin Davis Smith, Institute for Volunteering Research, London, and Prof. Willi Hoss, initiator and co-ordinator of POEMA Germany, an organisation dedicated to the protection of the Amazon Rainforest and the eradication of poverty.

1-4 November 2001 – 9th International Conference on “Education to World Citizenship”, Ramenskoye, Moscow Region, Russia

More than 100 participants from 32 regions of Russia and from 7 countries (Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Denmark, Switzerland and Hungary) took part in the conference. The following topics were discussed:

1. Education in the 3rd millennium: models, projects, putting into life.
2. Education as a means of managing the quality of life.
3. Education and the planet's genetic fund.
4. Education as a way to social health.
5. Education as a way to culture and humane life.
6. Principles of democracy and freedom in co-operative movement.
7. The role of enlightenment in educational process.
8. The role of youth in social society.
9. Popular education through sports and cultural activity.
10. Values in education.
11. New paradigm of education.

The participants highlighted the importance of dialogue and mutual understanding, the fundamental importance of education and enlightenment in human life as a means for creating a new quality of life, for providing health to the body, soul and mind, as a way of self-organisation, of moral and spiritual health, and as a base for developing society.

The final decisions:

1. To hold the next conference "Education to World Citizenship" in Chernogolovka, Moscow region, from 1 to 4 November, 2002.
2. To approve international projects: - "Education to World Citizenship"; "All-World Decade of Dialogue of Civilisations" (AWDDC); "Folk University of Civic Culture". The organisers of the projects are: International Movement "Education for Life" (president T. Akbashev, RF); Institute for Planetary Synthesis (secretary general R. Schneider, Switzerland); Association of World Education (president O. Korsgaard, Denmark).
3. To adopt the following documents: a declaration; a letter to the presidents of 7 countries; an application to the organising committee of the Civic Forum to take part in the Forum.
4. a) To create an open international board of the project AWDDC: O. Korsgaard (AWE); R. Schneider (IPS); T. Akbashev (IAE); N. Goncharova ("Education for Life"); S. Posokhov (deputy-president of Belarus); T. Rogach (Society as an educational system); V. Balabanova (advisor of deputy president of Ukraine); G. Panchenya (co-ordinator of the pro-

grammes of the project); V. Rasdionova (co-ordinator of the programmes "Education for Life").

b) to invite Mrs S Nazarbaeva from Kazakhstan to join the international board (she is the leader of the movement "Spiritual and Moral Education as a System").

c) to invite Mr. V. Putin, president of Russian Federation, to appoint a representative to the international board;

d) to create regional headquarters for developing the project (Jan. 2002).

e) to send representatives of the project AWDDC to the conference in Johannesburg (Sept. 2002).

5. To send the final papers of the conference "Education to World Citizenship" to the UN and UNESCO, to the presidents of the 7 countries, and to the Civic Forum.

6. To create a working group to polish up the final papers.

6-7 November 2001 – IPS group work in St. Petersburg, Russia

After many years working with spiritually oriented groups in Moscow, for the first time we visited St. Petersburg for similar work there. Our hosts were Ms. Irina Kuris, who teaches dance and body therapy techniques. After a night trip by train from Moscow to St. Petersburg, Rudolf Schneider of the IPS Geneva gave a talk on "New Forms of Co-operation" at the Academy of Sciences of St. Petersburg, and led a group meeting with about 20 participants on esoteric and spiritual practice. On 7 November, he led a meditation on the reappearance of the Christ, before a workshop with Irina Kuris on physical health.

10 November 2001 – Lecture on “Physics and the Human Psyche”, by Dr. Hermann Wild, Lucerne, Switzerland

This lecture was organised by the Swiss Association for Free Energy (P.O.Box 2337, CH-8645 Jona, tel. +41 055 282 53 21, fax +41 055 282 53 23, e-mail rusterholz@safeswiss.org, www.safeswiss.org). According to ancient traditions, energies which are no longer known were used in the past. Sun radiation was directed by reflectors onto crystals in order to cut blocks of stone or produce electricity. The ancient Indian scriptures indicate that these energies were related to the human psyche. Energies with a psychic component are also found in present times. Peschka carried out experiments about 20 years ago with electrically charged water containers on highly sensitive scales. He observed that in certain conditions people could exert measurable forces upon the scales. There exist energy fields with a psychic component, besides an electromagnetic component. The wavelengths of that psychic component lie in the cm and dm range. In this range, the so-called radio window, the earth's atmosphere is transparent.

Human beings can perceive this field. They can discover water veins, analyse and detect highly diluted chemical substances. Human beings also possess the latent capacity of triggering physically detectable

effects, from the generation of stresses in metal rods to the penetration of matter by matter. This capacity involves spiritual forces, which humanity has unlearned during the past centuries of technological development and should be activated again.

Mr. Wild has published a book on the subject, "Technologien von gestern: Chancen für morgen" (only in German, Jupiter Verlag, Bern, ISBN 3-906571-13-0). Also of interest is the book by Blanche Merz, "Points of Cosmic Energy", published by the C.W. Daniel Company Ltd in 1987.

15 November 2001 – FIIG Annual Conference

Besides statutory matters, this general assembly of the Federation of international institutions based in Geneva included a presentation by Enrico Zuffi, manager of the Geneva Convention Bureau, which helps in the organisation of conferences and congresses in Geneva.

18-21 November 2001 – International Symposium on Volunteering, Geneva, Switzerland

The ISV brought the International Year of Volunteers 2001 to a close. It aimed at evaluating the lessons learned and the experience generated to help us all keep on working for a better world for many generations to come. It was organised under the patronage of the Swiss government, the UN Volunteers and the Swiss Committee for the IYV. Almost 200 speakers addressed the plenaries, debates, workshops, the Youth Forum, the Older Persons Forum and the webmasters workshop given as a pre-symposium session. The opening session was honoured by the presence of Moritz Leuenberger, president of Switzerland; Prince Felipe of Spain, Goodwill Ambassador for the IYV 2001; Sharon Capeling-Alakija, executive co-ordinator of the UN Volunteers and representative of Kofi Annan; His Excellency Koichi Haraguchi, Ambassador of Japan, the country that launched the initiative of the YIV 2001; Judith Stamm, President of the Swiss Committee for the IYV 2001; Carlo Lamprecht, president of the Geneva Council of State; Manuel Tornare, Mayor of Geneva. Other speakers included Alfredo Sfeir-Younis, special representative of the World Bank at the UN and WTO; James Mollison, photographer of the Benetton campaign for volunteers, and other local and international experts from governments, NGOs and international organisations. For more details on the different events, contact the secretariat, P.O.Box 755, CH-1211 Geneva 4, Switzerland, tel. +41 022 800 14 36, fax +41 022 800 14 37, e-mail info@icvolunteers.org, www.icvolunteers.org.

19 November, 5 and 18 December 2001 – Spiritual Values Caucus, Geneva

The Spiritual Caucus is an initiative of NGOs with a threefold objective:

- 1) to share information about the various religions and spiritual traditions;
- 2) to participate in the work of the United Nations and in international conferences by encouraging a spiritual perspective within the international community and making written contributions for inclusion in UN declarations and programmes of action; by pro-

moting the right to lead a spiritual and religious way of life in full respect of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; by developing and implementing programmes relating to spirituality; and by creating a global network of participants;

3) to organise public events in order to initiate dialogue between religious and spiritual dignitaries, speakers from UN agencies, UN missions, NGOs, civil society, private sector, the media.

Participation is open to NGOs, government officials, UN civil servants, UN missions, organisations and individuals. Contact person for further information is Werner Peter Luedemann, tel. +41 022 738 28 88, fax +41 022 738 28 89.

The IPS has joined the Spiritual Caucus and participated in three of its meetings in Geneva. During these meetings, we discussed, among other projects, the ideas of holding regular meditations at the UN and of organising a conference at the World Social Forum in Porto Alegre, Brazil (31 January – 5 February 2002) on "Living Human Values – Basis for a common social progress". Another project was to invite UN Ambassadors and other dignitaries for "Coffees" during which they could freely discuss how they use their own personal values and spirituality in their work with the UN.

20 November 2001 – United Nations day of solidarity with the Palestinian People, Geneva

As every year, the UN held a special meeting to express its solidarity with the Palestinian people, who need more than ever the support of the international community, in the present situation of military aggression, occupation and siege by Israel.

1 December 2001 – Lecture on "World Entrepreneur Wanted" by Robert Baur, Bern

Within the framework of an exhibition and political forum on "Switzerland and UN" at the Käfigturm in Bern, Robert Baur was invited to give a lecture on his book "World Entrepreneur wanted, a vision for leading a 'global world'". In short, his idea is that the planet should be managed by "wise entrepreneurs" with a sense of responsibility and who understand themselves as servers of humanity, the society and the environment. Their profits would be only the rightful remuneration of their work, not a speculative income which would be a burden for the community.

5 December 2001 – Meeting of the CONGO Committee on Freedom of Religion and Belief, Geneva

This Committee of the Conference of Non-Governmental organisations in Consultative Relationship with the UN (CONGO) had been more or less dormant for a long time, and has now been reactivated. New members were elected and a working programme will be set up in the near future. A follow-up meeting will take place in January 2002.

14 December - CONGO consultation "Reflections on Durban and the way forward", Geneva

CONGO organised this consultation on the Durban World Conference against racism. Over 2500 representatives from 170 countries, including 16 heads of

State, 58 foreign ministers and 44 ministers participated in the Durban conference. Nearly 4000 NGO representatives were accredited to attend. On 3 September, the United States and Israel withdrew their delegations during difficult debates on the issue of the Middle East. The Durban Declaration and Programme of Action condemns racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, and calls for action by the international community to eradicate them wherever they may be found. The plenary debates featured a number of dominant substantive issues, including slavery and reparations, contemporary forms of intolerance, human rights education, globalisation and poverty, indigenous peoples, and the Middle East.

The conference emphasised core human rights, values and standards, including the principles of equality and non-discrimination as set out in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. It recognised the importance of existing international instruments to combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, in particular the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination. It also recognised the gender dimen-

sion of racial discrimination, and that countless human beings continue to the present day to be victims of racism and multiple discrimination based on other grounds such as sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, social origin, property, birth or other status. These include Africans and people of African descent, people of Asian descent, mestizos, indigenous peoples, migrants, refugees, the Roma people, national minorities, etc.

The NGOs who came from all corners of the Earth and from all walks of life spoke with the voices of the victims, the excluded, marginalised, discriminated and minority parts of society. The deep wounds left by slavery, colonialism, ethnic oppression, cast and class discrimination and treatment of indigenous peoples were opened again. NGOs spoke with hurt and anger and demanded apologies and reparations and did not use much diplomatic or UN parlance. The IPS could not send any representatives to this conference, but we are enclosing two statements, one by the NGO Education Caucus, the other by the Religious and Spiritual Caucus, made at the conference.

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NEWS FROM IPS WEBSITE

Several modifications have recently been made to the IPS website in order to enrich it and make it more useful. We have created a directory of individuals and organisations structured according to the 10 seed-groups and a mailing list for distribution of the IPS newsletter. It is now also possible to make donations through the website. Here is a more detailed description of these different improvements.

DIRECTORY OF 10 SEED-GROUPS

Love of truth; commitment to justice; sense of personal responsibility for the effects of all our thoughts, words and deeds; spirit of co-operation; and selfless service for the common good - these five values are proposed as stepping stones for all our activities on this planet, in order to create a culture of right human relations and mutual respect between human beings.

In the Manifesto 2000 for a culture of peace and non-violence, the following commitments are proposed: to respect all life, to reject violence, to share with others, to listen to understand, to preserve the planet, and to rediscover solidarity. This Manifesto has already been signed by 75 million people worldwide. If you wish to add your signature, contact your national focal point for UNESCO or visit UNESCO website for the culture of peace (www.unesco.org/cp).

These two sets of values have inspired us to create a list of groups, organisations and individuals who, in their own spheres, endeavour to put these values into practice. Although we may not always share their points of view and approaches, their activities set an example of how we can serve humanity and the other kingdoms of nature. This directory is thus our contribution to the international decade for a culture of peace and non-violence for the children of the world.

Our hope in creating this directory is twofold. Firstly, that by making known these alternatives to the present profit-oriented, materialistic world order, we might strengthen them and increase the number of their supporters. Secondly, we hope to help those who seek to serve humanity in one way or another, and who often ask themselves, or us "What can I do?" May this directory inspire them and help them find their field of service!

The directory is structured on the basis of the 10 seed-groups, a structure proposed by the Spiritual Hierarchy of our planet as a possible basis for the future world civilisation. This structure includes 10 possible fields of service. In each field, the focus of activity may be more or less esoteric, that is, the level at which a person or group is active may vary from the dense material plane up to the so-called buddhic plane, the plane in which ideals are created before taking shape in the mental plane. It is also called the plane of intuition. This explains the wide variety of groups found under each of the 10 headings:

1. Trained observation, information, the media
2. Telepathy, communications, networks

3. Health and healing
4. Education, in particular the development of a global awareness leading to world citizenship, and character-building education
5. Politics and public affairs: world federalism, peace movements, human rights, nature preservation, international relations
6. Religion, in both traditional and new forms, insofar as it acknowledges the freedom of the human spirit from all dogma and seeks to link instead of separating people, all-inclusiveness
7. Science, in particular alternative technologies, solar energy, and the development of new hypotheses that go beyond the narrow limits of materialistic science
8. Psychology, wholistic psychology, including soul awareness leading from an analytic approach to a sense of universality, to synthesis, to the Yoga of Fire, the Yoga of the Heart, touching all seven levels of Life of a Human being
9. Economics, including finance, business, world trade, development issues, inflation-free money
10. Creativity, synthesis, the arts, new community experiences based on Active Goodwill, which leads to Right Human Relations and trustful togetherness.

The directory has now almost 200 links. It has complete text search functions and a "suggest a website" function. You are all invited to propose new websites. Because it is hosted by an American provider, we have not been able to offer it in languages other than English. However, you may use the search function to find links to websites in 24 different languages.

MAILING LIST

The IPS newsletters in PDF format can now be downloaded from the website in English, French, German and Spanish. In addition, you may also subscribe to the electronic version of the newsletter in the languages of your choice. This could help us reduce our printing and mailing costs, since it is much cheaper to send the newsletter electronically than by post. However, even after you have subscribed to the electronic newsletter, we will continue to mail it to you by post if you do not explicitly ask otherwise. So give it a try!

CALENDARS

The calendars of world celebrations are now available on the website in English, French, German and Spanish. The calendars of forthcoming group activities are available in English, French and German only and are updated every 3 months.

DONATIONS VIA THE WEB SITE

We have joined PayPal, an online payment service. This means that you can now send us donations by e-mail, using a credit card or a bank account in the US, Australia, Canada, France, Germany, New Zealand, the Netherlands or the United Kingdom. However, first you need to register with PayPal. There is no fee involved, either to register or to send money through Paypal. A relatively small fee is charged for receiving money. To send your donations, go to the IPS website, to the section "IPS Accounts". There you will find a button called "Make a donation". Click on this button and follow the instructions to register and make your donation. We thank you for any contributions to this world service, which is entirely financed by donations and carried out by volunteers only.

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IPS TRIENNIAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The next IPS triennial General Assembly will be held in Geneva on 27 April 2002. Besides statutory matters and the election of the Executive and Consultative Committees, we will present a report on the IPS activities in the past 3 years and discuss future group activities. The General Assembly will be held during Wesak, and we will start our work with a full moon meditation. If you plan to participate, please send us the enclosed reply slip before 31 March 2002, to allow us to organise the gathering in the best conditions. Please note that the Institute will not help with travelling and accommodation costs. We can at best supply an invitation for those who need a visa to travel to Switzerland.

We propose to re-elect the following members of the Executive Board:

Sally Curry (Canada), President;
 Jean-Marie Mauler (Switzerland), Vice-President;
 Rudolf Schneider (Germany), Secretary-General;
 Alice Boainain-Schneider (Brazil), First Secretary and Treasurer;
 Claudette Falatakis-Müller (Switzerland), Second Secretary and Treasurer;
 Jeannine Haefeli-Scherz (Switzerland), First Assessor;
 Elisabeth Rölli-Waller, Second Assessor.

Marcia K. Wochner has asked to withdraw from the Board.

The Advisory Board is composed of people who support the work of the IPS in various ways. We also seek to include at least one member of each IPS group. At present, the Advisory Board includes:

Mary-Ann Casalino, Aggie Linn and Michael Robbins from the University of the Seven Rays (USA);
 Gitanjali Dash, New Age Institute for Synthetic Studies (India);
 Ekkirala Anantakrishna, Master E.K. Spiritual and Service Mission (India);
 Jonathan Eveleigh, Island Community Cooperative (UK);
 Sergei Fedorov, IPS-Moscow (Russia);
 Yuri Kurnossow, IPS-Moscow (Russia);
 Albert Mananga Masunda, IPS-Congo;
 M.A. Matin, Brain-Work of Budlet Community/IPS-Bangladesh;
 Fortune S. Ntuk, IPS Nigeria Chapter;
 Leonardo Olazabal Amaral, Asociación Darjeeling Agni (Spain);
 Patrick Petit, Goi Peace Foundation (Germany);
 Zoé Razakaharivontsoa-Randriamiary and Augustin Ralaimazava, Groupe Lumière (Madagascar);
 Marion Remus, Centro de Luz Sol, Bolivia and Germany;
 Sandra Ribas, Costa Rica;
 Richard Schneider, University of Global Education (USA);
 Lida Shkorkina, Interregional Association of Education (Russia);
 Nico Thelman, Thelman Institute/IPS der Lage Landen (Belgium);
 Lisinka Ulatowska, Foundation for Environmental Consciousness (Holland);
 Francesco Varetto, Pax Cultura (Italy);
 Vitaly Yegorov, Interregional Association of Education (Russia).

Two of our Advisors have died since the last General Assembly. Ellen Krühsman, from Germany, one of the founding members of the IPS, and José Maria Casas Simorra, from the Instituto Pedagógico de Síntesis in Barcelona, Spain. Since the last General Assembly, a few new IPS branches have been added, and therefore the Advisory Board will probably be enlarged.

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ENCLOSURES

Programme of IPS General Assembly

Durban Conference: Statements by the NGO Education Caucus and Religious and Spiritual Caucus
 Comment on Terrorist Attacks and Card "To Change Society...", Pax Cultura Italy
 Flyer on the Conference "Seeds of Wholeness"; Flyer "Intuition in Service"
 Madrid Declaration on Freedom of Religion and Belief
 The Hague Appeal for Peace – Peace Education

CALENDAR OF FORTHCOMING GROUP ACTIVITIES

Except when indicated otherwise, these events are not organised by the IPS.

For further details, please contact the organiser of each activity at the address given.

Further Civil Society events can be found on website http://www.haguepeace.org .	
For meditations and other resources in support of UN Days and UN Year, see website of Intuition in Service, http://www.intuition-in-service.org , P.O.Box 58, Paekakariki, New Zealand, e-mail: info@intuition-in-service.org .	
The Spiritual Work of the United Nations and the Liberation of Humanity - Creative Meditation - A Planetary Service in Support of the Work of the UN. Information: http://www.aquaac.org/un/medmtgs.html	
9-10 Feb. & 9-10 March	Hemi-Synch Workshop with Marie Ligier, certified by Monroe Institute, at Divonne, France. Contact: Email: marieligier@compuserve.com , tel.: +33- 450 20 77 64, cel.: +41-79 288 76 64.
23- 24.02- 2002	Workshop "Perspective de Vie – intégrer le passé pour mieux construire l'avenir" with Léon Weber and Marie Ligier, Divonne France. Contact: marieligier@compuserve.com , tel. 450 20 77 64.
4-5 March 2002	Global Summit of Online Knowledge (Education and Training) Networks, Adelaide, Australia. Information : www.educationau.edu.au/globalsummit .
4-15 March	10 jours dans le désert entre le ciel des étoiles et le ciel des dieux; seminar with Luc Bige (tel. +33 01 49 10 00 41) in Morocco. Organisation: Eric Bourhis (tel. +33 06 60 40 46 00).
7-10 March 2002	14. Messe für Esoterik, Bewusstsein und Gesundheit/Esoterik- und Naturheiltage, with special exhibition "Wasser und Energie", Kongresshaus Zürich, Switzerland. Organisation: Angelika Meier, Postfach 47, CH-8624 Grüt, Switzerland, tel. +41-1-932.53.83, fax +41-1-932.34.76, e-mail: kryon@bluewin.ch .

14-17 March 2002	International Forum for the Culture of Peace – Conflict Resolution through Culture, London. Organisation: IFLAC c/o Prof. Ada Aharoni, P.O.Box 9934, 34341 Israel. Tel: +972-4-8243230. Fax: 8261288. E-mail: adah@matav.net.il , http://techunix.technion.ac.il/~ada/home.html
18-22 March 2002	International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico. Information: Financing for Developing Coordinating Secretariat, 2 U.N. Plaza (Room DC2-2386), New York. Tel. +1-212-963.2587, fax +1-212-963.0443, http://www.un.org/esa/ffd .
18-24 March 2002	Internet Fiesta 2002 : The Virtual Planetary Exhibition – Environment, Science and Education, www.internet-fiesta.org/2002/english/L/expo.html (also in French and Spanish).
24 March 2002	Start of another ten week Peace Studies session at Radio For Peace International and International Center for Human Rights in Media, Costa Rica. Contact Gilbert Carmichael, tel. +506-249-1821, fax +506-249-1095, e-mail info@rfpi.org , www.rfpi.org/ipc.html , RFPI, P.O.Box 88-6150, Santa Ana, Costa Rica.
30 March – 5 April 2002	Restore the Earth! Easter Conference at the Findhorn Foundation, Scotland. Information conference@findhorn.org or www.findhorn.org/restore or www.restore-earth.org/conference.html . Tel, +44 01309 691933. 1
4-9 April 2002	NGO Forum on the occasion of the second World Conference on Ageing, Madrid, Spain. Information: e-mail: info@agequakeforum.org , http://www.agequakeforum.org .
8-12 April 2002	Second World Conference on Ageing, Madrid, Spain. Information: United Nations, DESA, UN Programme on Ageing, Division for Social Policy and Development, Room DC2-1358, 2 U.N. Plaza, N.Y. 10017, USA, http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/ageing .
11-13 April 2002	Eighth Esoteric Linkup Conference: Awakening to the Golden Way of Light, Avia Hotel, Yehud, Israel. Organisation: Sheila Samson Centre of Enlightenment – M.P. H, 1 Hamitnahalim Street, P.O.Box 6555 Ganei Yehuda, Israel, tel. +972-3-5346835, fax +972-3-5346785, e-mail: junelevy@barak-online.net .
27 April 2002	IPS TRIENNIAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY – Statutory matters, review of past 3 years, projects for the coming 3 years, election of the new Executive and Advisory Boards.
27-28 April 2002	Annual Conference of the Arcane School in New York. 120 Wall Street 24th floor, New York, N.Y. 10005, U.S.A., tel.:+1-212-292 07 07, fax:+1-212-292 08 08, www.lucistrust.org .
27-28 April 2002	“L’art du Chi - techniques vocales de manipulation du Chi”, conference and workshop with Vlady Stevanovitch, Nantes (dates to be confirmed), France. Information: tel. +33-492.75.93.98, http://www.tantien.com .
13 May – 7 June 2002	Managing NGO Resource Centres – an adult education program offered by the Coady International Institute in Antigonish, Nova Scotia, Canada. Contact : M. Toogood, Registrar, Coady International Institute, Tel: (+1) (902) 867-3953, Fax: (+1) (902) 867-3907, E-mail: mtoogood@stfx.ca .
18-19 May 2002	Annual Conference of the Arcane School in Geneva. 1 rue de Varembe, CH-1211 Geneva, 20, el. +41-022-734.12.52, fax +41-022-740.09.11, www.lucistrust.org .
19-22 May 2002	World Summit on Eco-Tourism, Québec, Canada. Information: http://www.world-tourism.org/omt/wtich.htm .
25-26 May 2002	Annual Conference of the Arcane School in London. Suite 54, 3 Whitehall Court, London SW1A 2EF, U.K., tel.: +4471-839 45 12, fax: +4471-839 55 75.
31 May – 1 June 2002	Second International Conference “On the Threshold of the New Time: New Models of Education and Health in the Modern World”, Kiev. Information: Natalia Andrievska, Okipnaya Street 5-98, Kiev 002, Ukraine. Tel.:+38-044-516.61.96, Fax:+38-044-490.6574, E-mail na@clc.com.ua .
5-9 June 2002	International Conference “Seeds of Wholeness: Inspiring Science for a Globally interdependent World”, Noordwijkerhout, Netherlands, preceded by an e-mail discussion. Organisation: Dr. Lisinka Ulatowska, Stichting Milieubewustzijn, Seeds of Wholeness, Noorderinde 56, 's Graveland, Netherlands, e-mail ulatowska@hetnet.nl , tel. +31-035.655.9359, fax +31-035.655.9360.
15-19 July 2002	World Civil Society Forum, Geneva. Information: WCSF c/o Mandat international, 31 chemin William Rappard, CH-1293 Bellevue, Switzerland, fax +41-022-959.88.51, e-mail: admin@mandint.org , http://www.mandint.org/forum .

Education Caucus

UN World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance

Oral Statement at the UN World Conference against Racism Durban, September 2001

Mr. President, Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen:

Education is the key to ensuring respect for diversity and restoring human dignity and can provide a remedy to cure the ills of prejudice and discrimination within society.

A comprehensive education must be grounded in universal human values that transcend culture, tradition and religion. Human values are inherent in everybody, and to re-awaken them we need an education capable of transforming values into attitudes and behavior.

Education must begin in the family and extend to all areas of the community. It must help individuals identify and adopt personal and social values, which can guide their decisions, relationships and work, and assure their social, emotional and spiritual well-being.

Young people need to develop a depth of character and self-esteem that gives them a clear sense of their own worth and value as well as that of others, thus enabling peaceful coexistence among all races, ethnic and religious groups.

Learning methods and environments should respect the dignity, individuality and freedom of the learner from early childhood through to maturity in a process of life-long learning. World citizens of the 21st century deserve education that is relevant to their life situations and that provides the skills for them to become reflective, innovative and critical thinkers. In order to enable individuals to achieve their full potential, education must address both mind and heart. The arts and cultural programs can play a major role in breaking down barriers and bringing back joy, love and the celebration of life's rich diversity.

An education system that is based on universal human rights is essential to prevent us from repeating the atrocities of the past, and to provide us with a vision of a future world, where human rights will be the unwritten laws, followed naturally as a way of life.

Only then can we be truly free and equal, acting towards one another in a true spirit of unity and respect as embodied in the African concept of '*Ubuntu*'.

We call upon all Governments, to commit themselves to developing and strengthening education programs, that provide solutions to the issues of this conference.

We call upon all sectors of society and individuals, to take up the responsibility to integrate human values into education in its broadest sense.

Thank you Madam / Mr. Chairperson

Chairperson: Werner Peter Luedemann, International Association for Human Values
Contact: IntAOLEurope.Luedemann@t-online.de

**Message to the WCAR from
The Religious and Spiritual Caucus
Durban, South Africa, August/September 2001**

Honored Chairperson, Brothers and Sisters, one of the deeper concerns emerging from a broad cross section of participants to this conference is the persistence and even the growth of racism and multiple forms of discrimination in spite of decades of UN declarations and resolutions aimed at their eradication. We believe that recognizing the spiritual dimension of these problems may lead us towards more effective action.

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, in its recognition of the inherent dignity and of the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family as being the foundation of freedom, justice and peace, affirms the spiritual dimension of human beings.

There is but one human race! We acknowledge that beneath our ethnic, religious or cultural differences, we have a common biological and spiritual identity. Each one of us would expect to be treated with dignity and in turn would accept the responsibility to respect and value others.

We deeply regret the part played by religions in the perpetration or condoning of racism and its consequences. We pledge to rectify the mistakes of our past history and to look into our hearts, to acknowledge the prejudices we may still carry.

We are aware of the reconciling power of the act of forgiveness: both in the asking and the granting, the intention to eliminate sources of injury is important. Religious and Spiritual communities can play a leading role in conciliation: to support, provide guidance, and restore the dignity of those suffering from discrimination. Drawing from the essence of religious and spiritual traditions, we can facilitate the process of forgiveness and healing.

We seek to move forward and foster harmonious relations between all ethnic, cultural and religious groups, thus educating ourselves to know and appreciate each other without fear. In order to achieve this, there must be freedom of religious and spiritual beliefs and practices everywhere in the world. It is our duty, working in cooperation with the United Nations, governments, NGOs and other actors in civil society, to support community revitalization initiatives while promoting educational programs based on human rights and universal values.

Essential values for this century must include living with a sense of social responsibility and respect for diversity. Thus the destructive cycle of intolerance, violence and revenge can be broken, enabling us to realize the vision of a world where interdependence on equitable terms is a way of life for all. Here we seek to reawaken our highest ideals, to honor the rich diversity of humankind and to recognize that in acceptance, compassion, love and generosity lies our true potential to unite and uplift the human race.

We understand that all of us have been brought here by the Eternal Spirit, and we hope that the Eternal Spirit will sustain and guide us in our common task.

Contact for information: Amalia Dickie, Susila Dharma International, a.dicke@kabsi.at