

PREVENTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS

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Environmental problems faced today are the result of our misuse of the planet's sources as selfish inheritors. In many regions of the world the natural equilibrium is so disturbed that it is impossible to return it to its former condition. In such cases, new ecosystems always appear through different processes.

Previous to the industrial revolution, the ecosystem damages in the known history of man were due only to natural or accidental events. During this period, people violated their ecosystems only by weak and regional impacts. During the last two centuries, the industrialization and population boom, inadequate administrations, wrongful management, irresponsibilities of people and governments, and the deficiencies in control mechanisms extended the regions of disturbed ecosystems of our planet. This means that human beings are destroying not only other living species of the world, but also their own ecosystems. The rate of damage to the ecosystems is equal to the developing rate of the new ecosystems.

However, the question today is what position and which functions should be assumed by human beings in the newly developed ecosystems.

Technological improvements bring not only new products, but also new solutions to the pollution problems. We believe that the strong cooperation of nations in solving environmental problems is necessary without further delay. Regional solutions and theoretical approaches are all valuable in handling the problems, but in practice, we need a well-defined, international organization with respect to regarding our planet.

The transfer of pollution should be prevented and is one of the most important problems today. Transfers occur by different means. First, there is the transfer of pollution by natural means, such as air and water circulations. Second is the transfer of industrial wastes to other parts of the world. If the waste is a highly polluting kind, transportation would not help changing its properties. It is known that several attempts have been made to use parts of the world as garbage dumps. Seas, rivers, and the unobservable regions of some countries are being subjected to such transfers. We also believe that space is being seen as a place for garbage.

The third pollution transfer is the transfer of polluting technology to other countries. In order to deal with this reality, clean technology research should be global worldwide and enjoy the support of special funds from the United Nations. Such research is necessary, not only for the development of non-polluting technologies, but also for the productive use of natural sources.

Shortages in energy, in natural sources such as petroleum, minerals, and natural gas, will appear in the future. Clean and cheaper energy, use of natural sources, development of clean technologies, new trends in industry, new approaches in administration and education and the production and protection of food at sufficient levels for the future are the main subjects of concern in the present.

Unless the soil is protected from all kinds of pollution, new agricultural techniques are applied and new technologies are developed, the boom in world population will result in natural elimination. We hope national efforts to prevent pollution are raised to an appreciable level, and that international cooperation at all interacting fields for the protection of the future will be enacted and realized fully.

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