

## INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION ON THE BIO-ENVIRONMENT

### H.E. Ambassador Ioannis Beveratos

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On behalf of His Excellency the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Carolos Papoulias, it gives me great pleasure to welcome the distinguished guests of this international meeting organised, jointly, by the Athens Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Biopolitics International Organisation. This meeting provides a forum for the fruitful exchange of opinions on an issue of primary concern for modern society, namely, how to combine successful and profitable economic activity with appreciation and protection of the bio-environment.

In July 1994, a very important event on "Bio-Culture," the International Sakharov Festival, was organised by the Biopolitics International Organisation. In his address during the opening ceremony, Mr. Papoulias stressed the importance of opening new pathways for international co-operation and understanding, once nations recognise their common responsibility towards protecting the bio-environment. Thus, international co-operation on the bio-environment is an inherent part of "bio-culture."

Our support for the present meeting is based on the firm belief that close co-operation between economic and environmental agents, in all countries of the world, further contributes to this goal. It is agreed that, in modern society, ensuring quality of life and the preservation of the bio-environmental, must become the necessary counterpart to the quantitative aspect of economic growth. Both targets should be met in harmony, in order to establish a balanced future society leading to world peace and prosperity. The distinguished personalities participating in the present meeting will provide expertise on necessary guidelines for economics, politics and ethics, in order to advance steadily in this direction. We would, therefore, like to express our best wishes to the organisers for the successful completion of this meeting.

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H.E. Ambassador **Ioannis Beveratos** is the Director of Cultural Affairs for the Greek Ministry of Foreign Affairs, as well as Class A Minister by proxy.