

# Bio News



No. 8 - October 1996

A newspaper for the appreciation and protection of the bio-environment, a shift from an anthropocentric to a biocentric vision

## First Bios Prize Award Ceremony



**The First Bios Prize Award Ceremony was held in Paris, October 21, 1996, at the Musée de la Marine in the Palais de Chaillot, Place du Trocadéro. The ceremony was attended by eminent personalities (university rectors, ministers of environment, academicians, professors, ambassadors, UNESCO and other leading organisation representatives etc.), from all over the world.**

### Commander Jacques-Yves Cousteau

*My dear friends. We are all here for the same effort. I had prepared a speech for tonight, naturally about water and about marine resources. But with the emotion I have felt tonight, after this wonderful ceremony, I cannot give you a prepared speech. I have only two things I want to say to you. First of all, all these years while I travelled around the world, I studied the cultures of different people and the impact water has on people and also on animals. During all these years, a revelation suddenly came to me. All animals and all plants react on the basis of motivation that comes from motion. So during my studies and observations the beating of the heart became an obsession to me. The heartbeat of humans, dolphins and whales, even cold blooded animals. Where does this heartbeat come from? It stops when bios does not exist anymore. The pulsation from the medusa was probably the beginning of its movement. This pulsation penetrates, in the same manner, all kinds of life. I say to myself "How can we attach so much to this pulsation if it is only for motion?" This pulsation is a propulsion that will move us further from where we are today.*

### A Millennium Achievement

The Biopolitics International Organisation (B.I.O.) has launched the Bios Prize Awards to be given every four years, on the occasion of the Olympic Games, to those who have contributed to the re-evaluation of priorities in society and the development of new models and thinking for the future. The first and only Bios Prize recipient for this century is Commander Jacques-Yves Cousteau, in recognition of his invaluable contribution to the comprehension and appreciation of the bio-environment. Commander Cousteau was the first to explore the limitless biodiversity of the planet's oceans and raise awareness of the most important task of preserving this biodiversity. He has worked tirelessly to further the idea of protecting life on our planet and has continuously offered unique information on the intricacies and beauty of bios.

In the quest for new societal values for the next millennium, a revival of the ancient Olympic spirit can contribute unity and harmony to the development of every aspect of human endeavour. The term athlos means achievement.

Therefore, athletics encompasses all possible achievements, whether physical or intellectual, and it is imperative that the concept regain its original significance.

The goal is for the Bios Prize Awards - given in all fields of human endeavour - to

become a global institution in the next millennium.

The Olympic Games should be periods of world peace and occasions for all citizens to celebrate in unity and reconciliation. The B.I.O. has been promoting the revival of the ancient ideal of cease-fire during the Olympics, with the hope that the bio-environment will act as a unifying force for peace, leading to international understanding and to a new biocentric societal structure, where respect for bios will be at the core of every action and thought.

***"Enlightened leaders such as Commander Cousteau can lend us eyes and ears, so we may learn how to appreciate the precious gift of bios and preserve our planet for the generations to come."***

The First Bios Prize is a tribute to peace and the bio-environment. The silver amphora, designed by Maramenos & Pateras, features an olive wreath, symbolising the diachronic Olympic spirit, and dolphins, the everlasting messengers of hope, the friendly creatures of the ocean, that time and time again have come to humanity's rescue.

Enlightened leaders such as Commander Cousteau can lend us eyes and ears, so we may learn how to appreciate the precious gift of bios and preserve our planet for the generations to come. As the century is drawing to a close, his achievements represent one of the most positive contributions to humanity.

Dr. Agni Vlavianos-Arvanitis  
B.I.O. President and Founder

### Inside...

**First Bios Prize Award Ceremony**  
Page 3, 13-15

**Europa Dialog**  
Page 4-5, 12

**Bank of Ideas**  
Page 6-7

**Internet**  
Page 8

**Current Events**  
Page 9

**Bio-Ethics**  
Page 10-11

**B.I.O. Progress**  
Page 16

B.I.O. Founding President, Dr. Agni Vlavianos-Arvanitis, delivered the opening address and introduced Commander Jacques-Yves Cousteau to all the guests. The introduction was immediately followed by a superb rendition of Ernest Chausson's Trio op. 3, by the famous French musicians Michèle Margand (violin), Claudine Lasserre (cello) and Thérèse Dus-saut (piano).

Boris Ivancevic of the Belgrade Natural History Museum had prepared an outstanding multimedia presentation in celebration of marine life and the bio-environment, accompanied by powerful and touching music. Members of the First Bios Prize Honorary Committee and other friends of Commander Cousteau offered congratulations and expressed their gratitude for the lifetime efforts of a great man.

Another highlight of the ceremony, included the World Premiere of Celebration V for Jacques - Yves Cousteau, for piano (Kioko Motono) and violin (Fabien Valenchon), written by Greek composer Theodore Antoniou, especially for the occasion.

The ceremony concluded with an address by Commander Jacques-Yves Cousteau, and was followed by a reception on the Musée de la Marine premises. As of October 22, 1996, Commander Cousteau is the B.I.O. Honorary President.

## Goals of the B.I.O.

**International co-operation for the better understanding and appreciation of bios (life) and the bio-environment.** The bio-environment recognises no ideological or geographical boundaries, no East-West, North-South or developed-developing countries. Bios provides the unifying force for the harmonious co-existence of all forms of life, leading to a new era of bio-diplomacy.

**International legislation on Bios Rights.** It is important to protect all forms of life by enacting rules that prevent the deterioration of the bio-environment, and ensure the fundamental right to a clean environment and to a better quality of life.

**Bio-culture - Bio-environment.** Two essential dimensions for building new societal values for the next millennium.

**Promotion of bio-education** through the International University for the Bio-Environment. The International University for the Bio-Environment was launched in order to reform education world-wide, and promote a bio-centric curriculum on every educational level.

**Bio-assessment of technology.** A diachronic search for new societal values that will channel technological progress in a direction that leads to a better quality of life through the appreciation of the bio-environment.

**Raising public awareness of the ramifications of the biological sciences,** in order for more people to realise that progress in the biological sciences relates to their own field of interest. This acknowledgement may lead to new fields of human endeavour, such as bio-legislation, bio-medicine, bio-ethics, bio-arts, bio-linguistics, bio-economics, bio-athletics, bio-communication, bio-history, bio-education and bio-diplomacy.

**International Campaign for Environmental Olympics and Bios Prizes.** The Biopolitics International Organisation has been proposing the introduction of cease-fire during the Olympic Games, a proposal which has recently been incorporated as a United Nations Resolution. In order to promote the bio-assessment of technology and a global bio-culture for the new millennium, B.I.O. proposes the establishment of international committees in every field of human endeavour, assigned with the responsibility to assess progress in their respective fields. Bios Prizes in every discipline will be awarded every four years, at the time the Olympic Flame is lit, to individuals or institutions that have contributed to the preservation and appreciation of the bio-environment.

*Action is crucial in order to apply technological progress towards preserving the bio-environment. It is therefore essential to:*

develop a **bio-syllabus** and new curricula for every level of education, as well as audio-visual materials on issues related to bios and the bio-environment

introduce a positive feeling of self-respect in the unemployed by paying a **Green Salary** instead of benefits, with the commitment to work for the protection of the bio-environment

encourage a **clearing-house** for individuals and organisations to provide, through the use of computer link-ups, a network of people wishing to co-operate on the promotion and appreciation of bios

generate **environmental action groups** drawing both from the enthusiasm of the young and the experience of senior citizens, to tackle local issues

encourage a **bios-supporting economic strategy** to replace destructive policies, and promote a world-wide interdisciplinary exchange of information on the appreciation of the bio-environment

promote the establishment of a computerised **Bank of Ideas** in which scientists, scholars and philosophers, as well as any interested party, may bequeath their thoughts and create a rich depository of information and reflections on bios

organise a **World Referendum** to allow for people throughout the world to express their willingness to preserve bios on our planet

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## B.I.O. Countries

### Africa

Algeria, Botswana, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Republic of Guinea, Kenya, Malawi, Mali, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Nigeria, Senegal, Seychelles, Sudan, Tanzania, Chad

### America

Argentina, Bahamas, Bermuda, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Ecuador, Guyana, Mexico, Peru, United States, Uruguay, Venezuela

### Asia

Armenia, Cambodia, China, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Israel, Japan, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Pakistan, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand

### Europe

Albania, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Slovak Republic, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom, Yugoslavia

### Oceania

Australia, Papua New Guinea, Western Samoa, Solomon Islands

## EDITORIAL

Society resembles an inverted pyramid and is in danger of collapsing. Anthropocentric attitudes and oversight are seriously jeopardising the rights of future generations. "Re-inverting" the pyramid on the basis of new biocentric values, has been one of the most important goals of the Biopolitics International Organisation, since its inception in 1985. This action entails numerous dimensions, some of which are presented in this issue of BioNews.



**Dr. Agni Vlavianos-Arvanitis,  
B.I.O. President  
and Founder**

- The First Bios Prize, awarded as a recognition of a millennium achievement to Commander Jacques-Yves Cousteau, is an attempt to initiate a grassroots mobilisation for the appreciation of bios on our planet. The hope is for the Bios Prize Awards - given in every field of human endeavour - to become a global institution in the 21st Century.

- It is essential for "profit" to evolve into a three-dimensional concept, where bio-environmental concerns, public health and quality of life will constitute key elements and assumptions. To promote this endeavour, the B.I.O. arranged for a round table discussion, with the participation of leading B.I.O. members, to take place during the Europa Dialog '96 conference, recently held in Frankfurt (p. 4-5, 12). This conference was organised by Mischka Kinderhilfe, an international organisation to aid ailing children in Russia. The B.I.O. round table discussion focused on the importance of re-evaluating the concept of profit and re-enforced the idea of international co-operation for the protection of children's rights, an unquestionable profit for society.

- The Bank of Ideas project is also an attempt to improve our quality of life (p. 6-7). The wisdom of humanity constitutes its true wealth. Mapping the evolution of environmental awareness, tracking the transition from ignorance to genuine concern, is of remarkable value. The benefits that society can reap from such experiences are, once again, an indisputable source of profit.

- We are living in an interdependent world, where communication is vital to development. The B.I.O. has recently made all its publications available on the Internet. Papers, books and current topics can be easily accessed from the B.I.O. Web Page (p. 8). The aim was for this material to become readily available, all over the world, and serve as a treasury of information and reflections on bios and the bio-environment. In this way, the concept of profit can once again shift from its conventional monetary character and be enriched with a new system of values.

- The International University for the Bio-Environment (I.U.B.E.) promotes a vision for an integrated bio-education, with the goal to achieve environmentally-literate global citizens. The ongoing proposals for a Green Salary for the unemployed and a World Referendum, for all citizens in the world to simultaneously express their willingness to save bios on our planet, remain vital B.I.O. initiatives. A Declaration of Human Obligations presented by the Honorary President of the UNA of Sri Lanka and valued B.I.O. friend, A.H. Karunaratne (p. 11), comes as a global sensitisation to the fact that bios rights have to be respected, in order for all human rights to be guaranteed in the next millennium.

- Heartfelt support from all over the world has been a constant source of inspiration and encouragement. The B.I.O. would like to express its appreciation to all the wonderful friends that have lent their support, and assure them of its unwavering commitment to safeguard the unity and harmony of the bio-environment.



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**Editor-in-chief** - Agni Vlavianos-Arvanitis

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**Editorial consultants** - Kurt Johnsen,  
Christos Efthymiopoulos

**Editorial assistant** - Thanasis Kontoyannis

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BIOPOLITICS INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATION  
10 TIM. VASSOU, 115 21 ATHENS, GREECE  
TEL: (301) 64.32.419, FAX: (301) 64.34.093  
E-MAIL: bio@leon.nrcps.ariadne-t.gr  
WEB PAGE: <http://www.hol.gr/bio>

# First Bios Prize Award Ceremony

## Programme

### Opening Address

Dr. Agni Vlavianos-Arvanitis,  
B.I.O. President and Founder

### Ernest Chausson

*Trio op. 3 in G minor*  
(1er mouvement, pas trop lent - animé)

Michèle Margand (violin)  
Claudine Lasserre (cello)  
Thérèse Dussaut (piano)

### Bios

A Multimedia Presentation Celebrating  
Life on our Planet  
Boris Ivancevic,  
Natural History Museum, Belgrade

### Award Presentation

Honorary Committee for the First  
Bios Prize Award

### World Premiere - Special Composition for J.Y. Cousteau

**Theodore Antoniou**  
*Celebration V for Jacques-Yves Cousteau*  
Fabien Valenchon (violin)  
Kioko Motono (piano)

### Address

**Commander Jacques-Yves Cousteau**

### Reception

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**First Bios Prize Courtesy of**  
MARAMENOS & PATERAS JEWELLERS

#### Honorary Committee

Agni Vlavianos-Arvanitis, Greece  
A. Tidiane Ba, Senegal  
Fode Lunceny Camara, Republic of  
Guinea Panayotis Economou, Greece  
Kai Falkman, Sweden  
Kitty Kyriakopoulos, Greece  
Fred Matser, The Netherlands  
Jan Morovic, Slovak Republic  
Pavel Sarkisov, Russia

**B.I.O. President and Founder, Dr. Agni Vlavianos-Arvanitis, called upon the members of the Bios Prize Award Honorary Committee to join her in presenting Commander Jacques-Yves Cousteau with the Prize. Extracts from their speeches are shown below:**

*Kitty P. Kyriakopoulos, Chairman of the Board, Bauxites Parnasse Mining Co., Greece*

It is with very strong emotion that I express a big thank you for your great work, not only on behalf of myself or of our generation, but on behalf of future generations. May God bless you, Commander Cousteau.

*Dr. Jan Morovic, City University of Bratislava, Slovak Republic*

I have difficulty speaking after such a wonderful expression of harmony that we just received from these beautiful pictures. I am impressed that somebody has the ability to express such harmony. Commander Cousteau, you have helped us overlook problems. As a member of the group that congratulates you here tonight, I would like to ask you to continue giving us such an inspiration.

*Professor Pavel Sarkisov, Rector of the Mendeleev University, Russia*

Dear Commandant Cousteau, I offer you all the congratulations this evening on



## Celebration V for Jacques-Yves Cousteau

The composer of *Celebration V for Jacques-Yves Cousteau*, Theodore Antoniou, has this to say about his work: The work was composed for the Prize Awarding event of October 21, 1996, in Paris. A special prize, the First Bios Prize, acknowledges his immense contribution to humanity. The attempt to write a celebration piece for Jacques-Yves Cousteau becomes a simultaneous dramatic involvement with nature, the environment, and, above all, the sea. The work of the great oceanographer is involved with all these matters and renders him inseparable from the emotional impact and the sadness one feels when watching our beautiful world being brutally destroyed. Yes, we celebrate this unique personality and his humanitarian and scientific contribution to the whole world. In sorrow, when writing this celebration piece, the composer could not escape the sad eye of the seagull staring at the sea crying, and hears the disparate song of the whale sensing the dead silence of the sea's heart. Jacques-Yves Cousteau unifies the voices of those who care and worry. His presence becomes a diachronic paean of hope.



**The First Bios Prize Honorary Committee (from left to right): Fred Matser, Ambassador F.T. Afamasaga, Ambassador Kai Falkman, Professor Pavel Sarkisov, Dr. Agni Vlavianos-Arvanitis, Kitty P. Kyriakopoulos and Dr. Jan Morovic.**

behalf of the Council of the Mendeleev University, and I am honoured to announce that the Mendeleev University has made a decision to make you a Honorary Doctor of the Mendeleev University.

*Ambassador Kai Falkman, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Sweden*

Some weeks ago I was among the Europeans present at a meeting in Samoa. It is crucial to understand that water circulating in the oceans is as important to us as the air we breathe. I am very grateful for the research you have carried out. The problems of the oceans are also relevant for Scandinavia. For the Swedes you, Commander

Cousteau, are a hero; a man of action. On behalf of all Scandinavians, I thank you.

*Fred Matser, Founder of 13 Children's Organisations, The Netherlands*

It is a great honour and pleasure to be able to say some words to Commander Cousteau. We just heard some wonderful music and saw beautiful pictures. We can hear sounds, we can smell, and we can feel vibrations. I think Commandant Cousteau is among the few people in this world who know so well how vibrations connect within us, connect ourselves through time and space with our spirit. The world is about connections and not separation. Having understood this, I

## Commander Jacques-Yves Cousteau

Commander Cousteau's name is inextricably linked to the exploration of the seas. He has designed and implemented equipment that has significantly contributed to the revelation of the underwater world in the twentieth century and, thanks to cinematography, television and the press, his findings have managed to sensitise the general public to the beauty and fragility of our planet's ecosystem. To assist with this task, he put together a team of professionals, better known as "Equipe Cousteau," an international association currently acclaimed by thousands of people all over the world.

In 1988, Commander Cousteau was elected member of the French Academy. He presides over the Council of Rights of Future Generations, an initiative promoted by the President of the French Republic in order to address major global issues, and is also Member of the United Nations Supreme Council for Sustainable Development and an Environmental Adviser to the World Bank. Commander Cousteau has been working closely with UNESCO for the promotion of educational reforms, at the university level, and has also launched an international campaign for the adoption of the Declaration of Rights of Future Generations by the United Nations General Assembly. Furthermore, Commander Cousteau is frequently called upon to deliver speeches at the United Nations.

think Commandant Cousteau is a great example for the world. I am honoured to be among the first to congratulate you on behalf of whoever wants to join me.

*F.T. Afamasaga, Ambassador of Western Samoa to Brussels*

It is a great honour and pleasure not only to be here tonight, but also to speak to a man we all admire. I come from a part of the world sometimes known as Oceania, and we have followed with great interest the work of Commander Cousteau. I want to offer you a great thank you for your efforts in preserving our planet.

*Mstislav Rostropovich*

Ladies and gentlemen, my dear friend and great master Commander Cousteau. Music has a term for rhythm, and it resembles the beat of the heart. The movement we feel inside us is the rhythm of the earth. Through your work, Commander Cousteau, I have found a different understanding of the word rhythm. And I greatly thank you for the opportunity to improve on my music. Today is an extremely happy day. We celebrate a magician; Commander Cousteau is a magician. Before meeting this great man, whenever I found myself on a boat I would get seasick. But after our friendship, no more seasickness!

**More greetings on page 13**

## Progress through co-operation

**Petra Roth, Mayor of Frankfurt**

The institution of the "triangle of big cities," Moscow, Paris and Berlin, furthers the constructive work of policy-making through the exchange of ideas. The city of Frankfurt is a centre for future politics, science and culture. Through co-operation we must find the way to progress. New opportunities are to be found in order to establish a new political order in Europe. In search of a new balance, essential questions arise on issues such as culture and history, north-south differences etc. The Maastricht agreement maintains our specific cultures. Europe proceeds towards unification, but we need a different movement that unites Europe through the development of a

global vision. This will lead to a different United Europe. In order to achieve this different Europe, we need to adopt new thinking. Already established institutions like NATO might be a model or an implement for achieving freedom through the restructuring of today's Europe.

The new co-operation we see in the former states of the USSR needs deeper integration. People are suddenly foreigners in their own homes. As an example millions of Russians live in the Ukraine, which now adopts a different attitude towards its culture and history as a sovereign state.

There is now a sense of mistrust in Europe, but as the Eastern European states show interest in the European Union we have a chance to create new integrated structures where the whole of Europe takes part.

**We have a chance to create new integrated structures where the whole of Europe takes part.**

## Linking economy and ecology

**Ernst Welteke**

President

Landeszentralbank Hessen  
Germany

On behalf of Landeszentralbank Hessen I would like to welcome you all to this event. Landeszentralbank Hessen is proud to provide the framework for Europa Dialog '96, here in Hessen, organised by Mischka Kinderhilfe on the occasion of Mr. Gorbachev's visit. Mischka Kinderhilfe has, for many years, helped children in the former Soviet Union, and Mr. Gorbachev has always been its supporter.

Mr. Gorbachev has, on many occasions, taken part in the improvement of relations in Europe. In 1987, the process that Mr. Gorbachev started in the Soviet Union was published in his book "Perestroika." By initiating this process, new developments in the former Soviet Union were set in motion and could not be reversed in any way. In

July 1990, Mr. Gorbachev met with Mr. Kohl in the city of Stavropol and started the process of unification of East and West Germany. In Paris, in November 1990, he took part in a friendship meeting with President Bush of the USA.

Today we are witnessing some sad developments in Russia, such as the war in Chechnya and other conflicts for minority rights. The West is regarding Russia with concern; concern about the different conflicts that arise, and also concern about the health of President Yeltsin.

We also know that environmental problems in Russia are of enormous dimensions, and every day we hear about new catastrophes.

Mischka Kinderhilfe has planned two workshops for this event, one with the theme Economy and the other on Ecology.

This afternoon we have one workshop under the theme Economy and Ecology, and I believe we will see during this workshop, that these themes are linked together.

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## Is Russia an artificial economic world power?

**Mikhail S. Gorbachev**

As Russia changes its political strategy, the country faces 25 difficult years ahead. If we consider the Perestroika period, initiated in 1985, this also included disturbing processes, as well as processes of rebuilding, though the rebuilding process was a plan initiated by revolutionary changes in Russian life. For the past five years, the disturbing parts have been more prevalent, and here is where the real problem lies. When we have to live under such a policy for five years, the result is dissatisfaction of the people.

At this table with us today, we have a gentleman who took part in the process of the reformation of the DDR. He has very interesting experiences. He talks about how radical the changes in the former East European countries have been, and how the high level of social security of these countries is undergoing dramatic changes. Mass bankruptcy and great economic problems have arisen, and these problems must be addressed. Germany has invested US \$100 million yearly for the development of the former East Ger-

many. The former DDR has about 40 or 50 million people; what kind of amounts will be required to rebuild Russia, a nation of 150 million people? Unless the whole world takes part in these investments, we cannot expect such dramatic changes in Russia. And if we are to face such a mass bankruptcy in Russia we will also see more than 30 million people unemployed. Where is the social guarantee? We need to find other ways for the development of Russia. Shock-therapy as a reform strategy does not work for Russia.

The base for any policy is the people and, therefore, the people are the hope for the development and reconstruction of Russia.

Russia is currently experimenting with its transition from socialism to democracy and a market economy. The country needs to change an economy where, we for many years, private enterprise had been abandoned. The infrastructure is entirely based on an economy of centralised military power. It is a very complicated problem, and it is difficult to keep an overall track of the process.

Russia may be in danger of losing the

battle for a market economy, as it has not taken advantage of the constructive criticism that the last ten years have brought.

The West watched on the side-lines, not knowing whether to support Mr. Gorbachev or not. Today, it is apparent that there is only one solution; we have to change our politics. Dramatically changing its policy, is the only way out for Russia. Democratisation and the attainment of a market economy must be the primary elements of the new strategy. But without sound and moral State rule one cannot use these elements to give this strategy the right impulse.

We cannot turn back the process of democratisation. The modernisation of pipelines, railways, airports and other public services also needs to be implemented for the new economy to function. This would create new employment opportunities and open doors for the structural building of this policy. Agriculture can, under certain conditions, be a source of employment and financing. The West could also make a positive contri-

but ion here. There are co-operative forces within the business world and there are great possibilities for co-operation within the great regions of Russia. In a meeting a year ago, in Bonn, 400 representatives from middle sized companies also pointed out the possibilities of these regions.

I am pleased to attend this meeting, as I realise that business people not only think about business and money but also about people. I have also been involved with humanitarian work. Oftentimes, we think of the millions that suffer in other countries and forget about the needs of people in our own countries. By holding this meeting, you have contributed to help children in Russia, and this action is an act of morality.

Russia is a complex and diverse country, and for each thesis there are always arguments both for and against it. But Russia today is, for certain, in a difficult position. The way out of this position must be Russia's own way. What Russia needs is both understanding and solidarity.

# Europa

Frankfurt, September 15-17

**The Europa Dialog '96 summit meeting in Frankfurt was organised in Mikhail Gorbachev's honour, under the auspices of the Governor of Hessen, Mr. Hans Eichel, The Mayor of Frankfurt, Ms. Petra Roth, and Mischka Kinderhilfe, a non-profit, non-governmental organisation in the field of children's aid. The theme of the meeting revolved around the issue of what the East can contribute to the West, as Europe prepares itself for the third millennium.**

**Mischka Kinderhilfe is a private initiative for the relief and long-term support of sick children as well as children without parents in East Europe. It is of Mischka's aim to help children in their own countries, and therefore the organisation initiates seminars for doctors and medical staff to ensure the improvement of know-how in an east-west perspective. In addition to the cooperation with its partner organisations, such as the Gorbachev Foundation, Mischka-Kinderhilfe also furthers cultural bonds, and seeks to improve east-west relations in Europe. Since May 1995, Mischka Kinderhilfe is a member of the International Trust for Children's Health Care.**

**The Biopolitics International Organisation has a long-standing and fruitful relationship with Mischka Kinderhilfe, for the furtherance of new ideals and priorities in society. During the Europa Dialog '96 meeting the B.I.O. held a special workshop with the theme "The Bio-Environment - Bio-Culture - Biocentric Values for the Future," which was hosted by the President of Landeszentralbank Hessen, Mr. Ernst Welteke. The workshop focused on the importance of implementing sound environmental policy in every domain of human endeavour, in order to set the pace for a world-wide acknowledgement of the urgency of safeguarding our planet for the future.**

**Speakers included Ernst Welteke, President, Landeszentralbank Hessen, Mikhail S. Gorbachev, Former President of the Soviet Union, Professor Valentyn Tolstych, as well as B.I.O. President Dr. Agni Vlavianos-Arvanitis and B.I.O. members, trustees and friends Kitty P. Kyriacopoulos, Professor Ernst-Ulrich von Weizsacker, Professor Udo Simonis, Ambassador Kai Falkman and Dr. Jürgen Zech, President of the Board of Management, Gerling-Konzern.**

## Future globalisation of politics

**Hans-Dietrich Genscher**

Former Minister of Foreign Affairs

It is essential to include Russia in Europe, as a Europe without Russia cannot be understood. In 1945 Europe won unity for the future, and in 1946 America assisted in binding Europe together. After hundreds of years of war, people in Europe now stand together.

We now need to build the future globalisation of politics by applying technology and means of communication to achieve stability. All Europeans are united in a joint destiny. The inclusion of new countries in the European Union and a close co-operation on energy, communications etc. will be required. Perspectives on global issues also grow beyond the European perspective.

**Perspectives on global issues grow beyond the European perspective.**

**Democratisation and the attainment of a market economy must be the primary elements of the new strategy. But without sound and moral State rule one cannot use these elements to give this strategy the right impulse**

# Dialog '96

*Dr. Agni Vlavianos-Arvanitis*  
President and Founder  
Biopolitics International Organisation

As the 21st century is drawing closer, we need to challenge the way we think and search for new pathways for the next millennium. There are no borders in the bio-environment and present communication technology makes it impossible for any region in the world to remain isolated. As inhabitants of this planet we all possess enormous wealth - life. Defence protocols should therefore strive to protect life and not to destroy it. This meeting has managed to bring together and "connect" many different disciplines. It is this "connection" that is essential in finding universal solutions, as differences constitute a source of enrichment and potential.

Profit is not only money in the bank. Profit is every aspect of societal well-being. Adopting biocentric economic strategies to save the bio-environment and life on our planet will also result in new ways of making money. Defence of our planet from destruction is the only way of sailing smoothly into the future.

Since its inception in 1985, the B.I.O. has been stressing the importance of bio-culture for the financial world. In the age of multinational corporations, international

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trade and global economic policy, economic and financial affairs have become the single most important factor shaping modern society. Fortunately, the world economy has currently reached the point of fundamentally revising its attitude towards the bio-environment. Policy-makers have started to realise that respecting bios is crucial to the survival of humanity, and that, if environmental destruction is to be curbed, policies ought to be developed and implemented with the intention of promoting harmony and coexistence among all forms of life. Applying available financial and human capital, to invest in soil and water resources, in pollution prevention and in the development of recycling technology, will

not only lead to a successful promotion of cleaner production and environmental management, but will also result in a re-evaluation of current issues and a new economic strategy to meet the demands of an increasingly environmentally-conscious society.

In view of this pending task, economic science must seriously contemplate the inclusion of concepts that are presently considered abstract and qualitative. It is necessary to develop sound indicators for the formation of financial policies, taking into account the need to preserve natural resources and retracing environmental im-

pact. The issue of quality of life needs to assume top priority, as well as health, happiness, internal wealth, culture and education. These elements, which are often excluded from conventional theory of finance, need to become the framework for the new economics of the 21st century.

In the pursuit of environmentally compatible economic strategies, long-range policies, where the issue of quality of life will become a measurable item and not merely an abstract concept, are essential. Safeguarding the environment needs to become a concrete asset of every nation's prosperity. Within this framework, financial success needs to be evaluated on the basis of improving living conditions, on the entire planet, and contributing to the most challenging task of reversing destructive trends.

Moreover, the concept of profit has to be redefined, in order to include dimensions of internal wealth, preservation of natural resources as a measurable part of a nation's prosperity, better health and the protection of biodiversity, which constitute a "genuine" profit for society.

Regulation is a priority, whether it comes in the form of taxation, legislation or education. Furthermore, global mobilisation is crucial and public participation, on both a local and international level, can provide the necessary incentives for the establishment of world-wide, bios-supporting policies. Modern technology and scientific breakthroughs constitute powerful tools, resulting in many opportunities for global economic growth and leading the way to a new societal structure. It is therefore essen-

tial to guide this progress towards a positive direction and apply a millennium vision to decision-making and policy-planning, in order to preserve the earth for the generations to come.

Traditional economics approaches are generally limited to cartesian representations of inflation and depression tendencies, histograms of monetary units, or regression analyses of stock-market trends. Although these two-dimensional approaches were usually sufficient in the past, they are in dire need of revision and updating. We cannot carry 19th century methods into the third millennium.

The current fragmented and limited picture of economic theory needs to be replaced by a three-dimensional approach, where the value of culture, human capital, education, natural resources, and biodiversity will factor in every equation and diagram.

Financially poorer nations may be richer in cultural values, art, tradition or biodiversity. These elements represent an enrichment for the entire planet and cannot keep being ignored by economists.

Evaluations of GNP and trade potential should evolve to include all the above mentioned parameters and place special emphasis on the urgent task of safeguarding bios and the bio-environment. Policies for economic growth and employment opportunities, on a global level, have to be structured according to these new principles, in order to be more effective in countering poverty, national debts, environmental deterioration and unfair trade developments.

## Business ethics and the environment

*Kitty Kyriacopoulos*  
Chairman of the board Bauxites  
Parnasse Mining CO. Silver and  
Baryte Ores Mining CO. Greece

By Business Ethics, I mean the application of morality to business, the moral justification of an economic system and that system's structure and practice. Moral obligations and responsibilities are not only restricted to individuals. Business corporations are also responsible for ethical behaviour.

Modern society is characterised by the absence of many traditional restraints. Technology has greatly contributed to the economic development and progress of human civilisation. But economic growth and development have generated difficulties and problems. Anthropocentric attitudes, human arrogance and over-consumption have resulted in the misuse of technology and have led to the destruction of the natural environment. As business corporations become more and more conscious of the harmful consequences their activities have on the environment, they will, hopefully, introduce and adopt codes of ethical conduct. The environment need not and should not be sacrificed for the sake of development. In fact, caring for technology, growth and development can create the means and provide the capacity necessary to solve environmental problems. The time is ripe for re-defining the concept of "Profit", "Productivity" and "Development", and applying higher ethical values to business policies and practices. It is not only our duty, but it is in our self interest to do so. Corporate and societal welfare are one and the same, so there can also be a selfish motive for being considerate of the common good.

## Can catastrophes like the Chernobyl accident be prevented?

*Professor Ernst-Ulrich von Weizsäcker*  
President  
Wuppertal Institute  
Germany

Mischka Kinderhilfe has shown that children in Russia and Ukraine, victims of the catastrophe in Chernobyl, need help. And Mischka helps them. It is important that this event is taking place in the presence of Mr. Gorbachev. An important question is, can catastrophes like the Chernobyl accident be prevented? Can we make sure that children can grow up in a good and safe environment in the future?

The catastrophe in Chernobyl was felt in many countries, and many asked if we are not able to solve the energy problem without needing nuclear power plants, by using natural gases, oil and coal instead. But these sources of energy create other problems such as the greenhouse effect.

The concentration of CO<sub>2</sub> and the temperature have risen dramatically, and The International Panel on Climate Change states that we will get an increase in temperatures of at least 2 degrees during the next century. Some say the increase might be as much as 7 degrees.

This increase also creates two other important changes. One is the change in air pressure, which also affects the intensity of winds. Among other effects, this might cause greater threats from hurricanes in the tropical areas. Statistics from 1995 show a dramatic rise in insurance payments after storms. In 1994, hurricane "Andrew" alone drove 6 insurance companies into bankruptcy. The second phenomenon is the rise in sea level. If global warming continues at the present rate, sea level will rise by more than one meter. This will eliminate The Netherlands, Calcutta, Bangkok, Hamburg...; a catastrophic future. The International

Panel on Climate Change quotes a reduction of 50% in the emission of greenhouse gases as the minimum of what is required for the next 50 years if we are going to avoid dramatical changes in the atmosphere. Next November or December, a protocol will be hopefully signed in Kyoto, stating specific measures and actions to be taken by each country.

But, we are facing the dilemma of the demand on energy. We might be able to reduce this demand, but this should not be the only way of tackling this problem. We can use water and biomass as energy sources, making energy "cleaner," and we can also use the wind.

But this will not be able to supply more than a quarter of the energy the world needs today. During a meeting in Tokyo, in October, the Energy Council stated that, in the near future, we will face twice the demand for energy that we do today.

The problem is becoming more severe and a solution is required in view of the need to decrease the emission of greenhouse gases. With better technology, better transportation, etc. we can reduce the use of energy to a quarter of today's levels. By an annual reduction of 3%, we will have reduced the use of energy to a quarter of today's levels in 46 years.

This is a free and very evolutionary model. In China, with a great supply of cheap labour, one still invests enormous amounts of money in programs and plans for an industry that requires great investments also in energy supply. A few critical questions about the free market system have to be posed.

The market economy is better qualified to deal with a rational and optional use of resources than other forms of economy. But the market economy does not take into consideration the environment as an equal asset, and builds entirely on the cost of the goods. The business world has set up its own sets of rules, as if some kind of Mafia, without taking into consideration other values than profit. Our democracy states that the weak will be helped, but the market

economy states that it is only the strongest to survive.

The OECD states that energy demanding industries receive subsidies of US \$400-500 million annually. This is absurd. The result is that the energy saving potential, and the technology for this has been available for a long time, is not being used. Today we also have 800 million people without work.

Demand has built an economy of machines, energy exigent machines, in order to make everything more efficient. And yet, most investments still go to projects that increase productivity. This is outrageous. We are exploiting limited resources, energy and nature, and we are using state money to subsidise this, while, at the same time, available labour is heavily taxed and not used. There are also political incentives for seeing investments in a longer perspective than profit in the next 15 years; the stability of the capital institution. This is of immense importance for countries like Russia, where industry now invests in the build up of a market economy. These countries have to make sure that development takes place in a way that secures this kind of stability.

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### Romania

*Dr. Doina Popescu*  
National Institute for Hydrology  
and Meteorology

Variation in meteorological parameters can cause serious health problems. This variation is caused by chemical pollution of the lower layers of the atmosphere and by pollution caused by satellites and satellite remainders. This contributes to the destruction of environmental equilibria and affects all forms of

bios. In the field of meteorology, climatic changes cause pollution and generate severe meteorological perturbations. Draught periods are often accompanied by very high or very low temperatures, in alternation with periods of great floods. These events are included in the category of catastrophic phenomena, which are also associated with high variation in meteorological parameters, such as temperature, atmospheric pressure, concentration of atmospheric ions etc.

The human body can be severely affected by this variation and develop a reduced resistance to disease, a condition which worsens with age. Air and land pollution, and a low standard of living impose great stress on the elderly. The sedentary lifestyles of modern people and the absence of heavy physical activity lead to a decrease of the human body's resistance to disease. People are living much further away from nature than they did fifty years ago, this fact

owing, without doubt, to urbanisation and technological progress. Living away from nature does not shorten our life-span, but it reduces the period of creative activity. In order to overcome this problem, it is necessary to develop healthier lifestyles through sports, exercise, natural foods grown without excess fertilisers and a sound bio-environmental education. Medical, science and biology courses should focus on the interconnection of humans with the natural environment and the results our actions have on the environment. Because the spreading of the human race on the whole planet shows that humans can survive in almost any kind of climate, the question of survival need not be raised, but the question of standard of living should be.

**Biopolitics and bio-legislation, concerning environmental principles, must be put into effect at the governmental level. It is therefore essential to have an international environmental legislation which will be respected in every country.**

Regarding bio-education, we consider that people should understand that humans are an integral part of the environment, and any intervention or action which destroys the harmony of nature is felt by humans in many ways. Air-pollution directly affects the respiratory-system and the central nervous system and, indirectly, through the ingestion of polluted vegetation, the digestive system. Environmental Studies can be introduced as an obligatory subject in grade school and high school. Teachers should consult with international organisations, such as the B.I.O., for a better understanding of the role that biocentric principles can play in modern society. Biopolitics and bio-legislation, concerning environmental principles, must be put into effect at the governmental level. It is therefore essential to have an international environmental legislation which will be respected in every country. This will, in the long run, lead to the acceptance of respect for the environment as the number one priority in society.



### Republic of Guinea

*Fode Lunceny Camara*  
Head, Ecosystems Preservation,  
Ministry of Environment

I think it is well known to everybody that the earth is home to a rich and diverse array for living organisms, who share relationships with each other and with the earth's physical environment. These organisms constitute our planet's biodiversity. This biodiversity is the natural biological capital of the earth, and presents important opportunities for all nations. It provides goods essential to support human life and enable societies to adopt to changing needs and circumstances.

The protection of these assets, through science and technology, offers the only hope for nations to move towards Sustainability. The protection of the natural environment is a resolution everyone can agree with. No one would wish future generations to inherit a degraded quality of life and a minimal hope of development. However, the question of how to achieve these goals arises. National and international policies are at an impasse because they are based on regulatory measures controlled by bureaucracy.

The convention on biodiversity adopted by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in Rio, in 1992, defined biodiversity as the variability among living organisms from all sources. It is this variability that allows different species to exist by depending on one another within this chain of a closed but also dynamic interdependence and it is this variability that enabled humans to domesticate certain land animals by changing their eating and environmental habits.

It is a big relief to note that people today are becoming aware of their responsibilities towards the conservation of biodiversity, even though a complete agreement on how this is to be achieved has not yet been reached. Unlike other phenomena, human impact is often directed at selected species and habitats. The role of biodiversity and of the mechanism that originates and maintains biodiversity can therefore no longer offer purely academic interest. People affect biodiversity primarily through the exploitation of natural resources, especially in industries such as a forestry or fishery, where "wanted" species are over-harvested and "unwanted" species

**The protection of the natural environment is a resolution everyone can agree with.**

are destroyed. It is estimated that, since 1950, woodland forests have been reduced by 15% in Africa, Asia and Latin America. Humans also affect biodiversity



### Israel

*Professor Baruch Kimor*  
Technion Israel Institute  
of Technology

#### *Marine Biology and the Bio-Environment*

My lifetime work has been in the field of plankton ecology. Monitoring of the coastal and open sea plankton in specific geographical regions makes it possible to detect subtle or more pro-

nounced changes in stress signs which can be related to various forms of human induced perturbations, particularly pollution. These changes may take the form of a gradual elimination of sensitive species and the proliferation of resistant ones. In more extreme cases, total displacement of species and appearance of exotic ones often had deleterious effects for marine life and, indirectly, for humans.

It was within the framework of the Biopolitics International Organisation, which offers an interdisciplinary character, that I was able, on two occasions, in 1991 when the International University for the Bio-Environment was founded, and in 1994 during the Sakharov Festival, to bring to the attention of my colleagues the dangers affecting the bio-

# Bank

***In 1985, at the European Philosophy Conference in Athens, a paper outlining new dimensions in thinking, known today as biocentric thinking, was presented. This paper became the very first Biopolitics publication. 11 years ago the B.I.O. received requests for more information about "bios". Looking at the extensive lists of B.I.O. publications today, we can certainly say that this request has been met. A plethora of books are currently available, covering a broad range of topics and featuring contributions from leading experts in 87 countries around the world. Subjects include Bio-Diplomacy, Bio-Legislation, Bio-Energy, Bio-Technology, Bio-Ethics, Bio-Education, Bio-Economics, Bio-Philosophy and many others.***

***Through the B.I.O., leading representatives from all over the world share and exchange ideas, and within this framework, new ideologies are emerging. Ways of implementing these new ideologies are presented in the many B.I.O. publications, which are also available on the Internet. New business strategies are being developed, based on the concepts promoted by the B.I.O. conferences and symposia,***

by using fossil and biomass fuels.

The international community has been immersed in a debate on how to tackle this situation. This debate has already transcended boundaries and has strengthened the position that the fate of the earth and the fate of humanity are linked. Yet the careless mindset of today's world is dictating that money should come first and that money should govern our relationships with each other and with nature. How will the policy and plans for sustainable development solve this dilemma? It is necessary to establish equity between nations, balance economic development and the need to conserve non-renewable resources, and reduce the economic and social cost of commission. Ethics, as the typical spiritual, educational, cultural and religious aspects of human society, are an integral part of these conflicts.

Bio-education is very important to me. But today we have to make a wish. Without immediate action, future options will be restricted. Unless action to protect biodiversity is taken now, opportunities may be lost forever. The apparent risk and potential benefit, to human kind, of applying knowledge and policy and ensuring the conservation and frugal use of the planet's resources are an integral part of socio-economical development. In many developing countries, governments are aware of this situation

and they are acting to provide measures to reverse destructive trends.

With reference to my country, the Republic of Guinea, a National Development Directorate was announced in 1986 and, in 1988, the Ministry of National Resources was added to the government. We now also have a Ministry of Energy and Environment. Each department collaborates with and is controlled by the Guinea National Environmental Policy Committee. A national education campaign, on how to protect the environ-

***It is a big relief to note that people today are becoming aware of their responsibilities towards the conservation of biodiversity, even though a complete agreement on how this is to be achieved has not yet been reached.***

ment, has begun. There are also many national and local organisations that are acting to educate people

to take action in order to protect all biological species. And today, in our country, we have a national program to provide environmental education for children and students, as our government knows that in order to protect life and to ensure the survival of future generations we have to educate the present generation. That is why the Republic of Guinea has many schools that are now called "green schools," as, in these schools, children get information about the relationships between humans and all biological species, as well as about environmental protection in general. But apart from these specific programs, I believe the government should reinforce environmental education programs in schools, because this is very important.

diversity of coastal zones in maritime States, particularly those bordering enclosed coastal seas.

This was done using a number of case studies showing how uncontrolled urban and industrial development and over exploitation of natural resources can often cause irreversible damage to the biotic environment. In order for such observations of progressive changes in species composition at all trophic levels to be of use, a comprehensive program of monitoring standard procedures should be instituted on a local, regional and international basis.

**Uncontrolled urban and industrial development can cause irreversible damage to the biotic environment. It is due to the unique role of the B.I.O., that the correct balance between development and preservation of the biotic environment can be maintained.**

This is the kind of activity I am currently involved in, using the microbiota of the Gulf of Accaba on the Red Sea as a diagnostic tool for monitoring the quantity of this fragile marine environment.

It is due to the unique role of the B.I.O., headed by its active and tireless President, Dr. Agni Vlavianos-Arvanitis, that the correct balance between development and preservation of the biotic environment can be maintained, in the spirit and recommendations of the United Nations conference for Environment and Development in Rio.

# of Ideas

and six volumes (three in English and three in Greek) of business conference proceedings have so far been published.

One of the early B.I.O. goals was to establish a "Bank of Ideas" to map the evolution of environmental awareness and create a repository for thoughts and ideas on the bio-environment.

In this issue of Bio News we present some of the first contributions coming from Biopolitics representatives from many different parts of the world. This diversity is what makes the Bank of Ideas unique and interesting. The Bank of Ideas will shortly become available on the Internet as well.

## Metamorphosis

*Happy sweet song  
seems to echo  
colorful exquisite flower  
adorns mother earth again*

*Closely knit in its dry web  
the pupa seems to have been lost  
suddenly, it flies  
with its finely woven wings  
becoming a butterfly  
to taste the joy of life*

Roots, 1982  
Agni Vlavianos-Arvanitis



With the co-operation of international organisations, we can all tune into the fine work of protecting the bio-environment. In my professional capacity, I am in charge of ecosystem revelation. This means that I help develop national policy for environmental protection and, hence, evaluate many educational programs, in the light of bio-education. A bio-educational program has to communicate the importance of biological species protection and how to collaborate with other organisations that are working in this field. Environmental education is a good instrument for sustainable development. For people in developing countries, environmental education has to be taught in schools, and people in developed coun-

**In developing countries, women play a very important role, as they are responsible for resource management.**

tries can very much benefit from international co-operation on environmental education.

I would like to congratulate the Biopolitics International Organisation for implementing this special project and wish you every success. I wish to closely cooperate with the B.I.O. because we are a developing country, and we do not yet have specialists to help us solve our important environmental problems.

Without environmental education, without bio-education, human behaviour can be environmentally-hostile. So if people gain environmental knowledge, they will be able to conserve the environment for future generations and will never abuse natural resources without



## India

Professor E. Swaminathan  
Agrarian Scientist

India is now in a position where it grows enough food to sustain itself. A series of measures taken in the 1960's made this possible. After we gained our independence, our government started making the necessary investments in fertiliser factories etc. The government realised that there must be input in order to get output. As modern technology became available to us in the early 1960's, the government also introduced a package of services to secure knowledge and input. The government also instituted minimum prices, so the farmers were assured that whatever quantity they produced the government would buy it. This guaranteed farmers a certain income and made it possible to create infrastructure.

### Major challenges

A country with many small farmers needs to take into consideration the fact that these small farmers cannot take large risks, but need a certain guarantee in order to invest in new technology and new agricultural methods. Since, we could not experiment with the farmers, we launched national "demonstration" projects that produced far more than traditional farming could. These projects involved the poorest farmers, in order to assure that all farmers could benefit. Large farmers can easily take advantage of what smaller farmers do, but for the smaller farmer it might be difficult to adopt a large farmer's production habits. The farmers will be the ultimate judges of this research. This project started in 1964, barely involving 4 hectares, and, by 1971, it had spread to 4 million hectares. The government program became a mass farmers' program.

### Problems

The program created problems as well, primarily environmental problems; soil fertilisation, water management, and the sustainable use of ground water. The diversion of prime farm land for non-farm purposes, such as roads, also created problems. But we have never had a policy on the diversion of prime farm land, which should be used not only to feed today's population but also the pop-

ulation of the next century. This land must be reserved for food production. Because of the rapid population growth and the reduction in farm size, we need to ensure intensive farming in order to increase the income from farming.

The new economic model, with the capitalist model as an ideal, is diminishing the prestige of farming, especially among the young generation. They do not find farming as glamorous as other high-tech jobs available in the corporate sector. We try to challenge young people to the new way of farming, by applying knowledge and technology to shift from the high use of chemicals in farming to environmentally-conscious farming. This requires highly qualified youth, but there must also be opportunities of a reasonable livelihood in the villages in order to attract them to this new kind of farming.

In spite of producing enough food to supply the whole population, India still suffers from poverty and starvation. This is a problem that needs to be addressed. Gandhi gave us lessons that we should listen to: "Nature provides for everybody's needs but not for everybody's greed." Rural areas should also have local administration, independent from that of large urban centres, in order for local problems to become more addressable and easier to solve.

**The quest must be for a more equitable world. My conviction is that we must have global equity when it comes to the sharing of the world's goods.**

How large a population can the earth supply food for? This question needs to be

looked at in more than one way. If we continue with the plant-animal-human food-chain, the answer is very different from what it would be if we adopt more vegetarian lifestyles. Plants are the most efficient energy users, and by producing food for animals in order to produce food for humans, a lot of energy goes to waste. New technology that enables us to produce more food must be used within limits. We need to obtain a balance between quantity and quality. Life is always about balance. So we need a "green revolution" and not a "greed revolution." If we only care for quantity, the quality of food will deteriorate.

India is no longer as vulnerable to monsoon rains as it has been in the past. Food production still drops, but not as much as before and we have developed a new water supply strategy. The rain never falls in every part of the country at once, so, with proper planning, we can avoid crises. It is not the total rainfall that matters, it is how the rainfall is distributed. We also have a very good meteorological department that spreads information in a fast and reliable manner, but we also need computer simulation models to deal with the climate changes we are facing.

concern. That is why I work on the environmental education program for the Guinea people. This program is my daily work. I am to sensitise people to protect the environment. I am to communicate to people how to protect biological resources. I am to show them the importance of biological resources every day. And some people are beginning to change their behaviour, and the government is becoming more conscious of environmental programs. That is why our country is currently present at so many international meetings and conferences. Our government is always ready to contribute to international co-operation.

Humans have a chance at change. Environmental education is not just for one person but more for a group of per-

sons. Environmental education is as an instrument for all societies, for women and for men. I would like to stress that in developing countries, women play a very important role, as they are responsible for resource management. That is why we cannot discuss environmental protection and cannot talk about environmental education programs without the participation of women. Women must be at the forefront of environmental education programs.

**Republic of Guinea has many schools that are now called "green schools"**

So I would, once again, like to thank the B.I.O. for inviting me to participate in the collection of ideas for this project. I am always ready to participate and contribute to this organisation. I feel very happy to participate in this project and I am waiting for your feedback.

# Biopolitics on the Internet

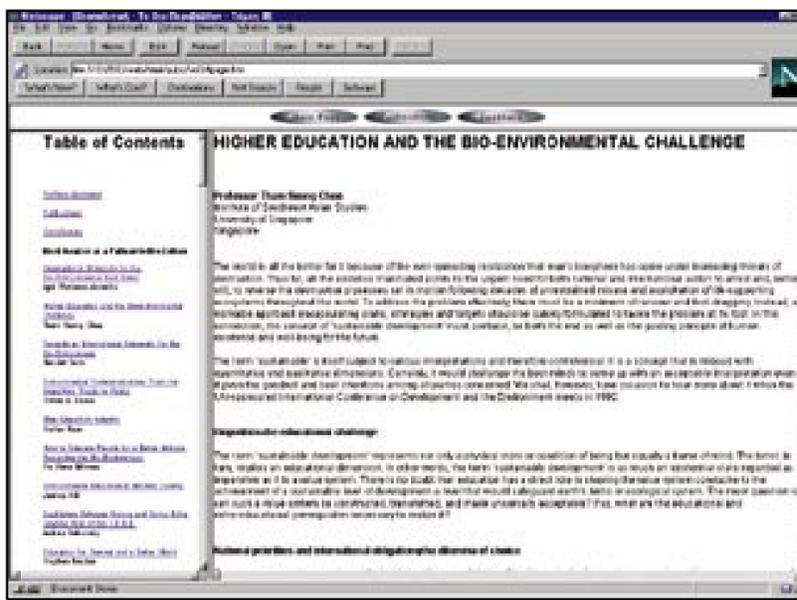
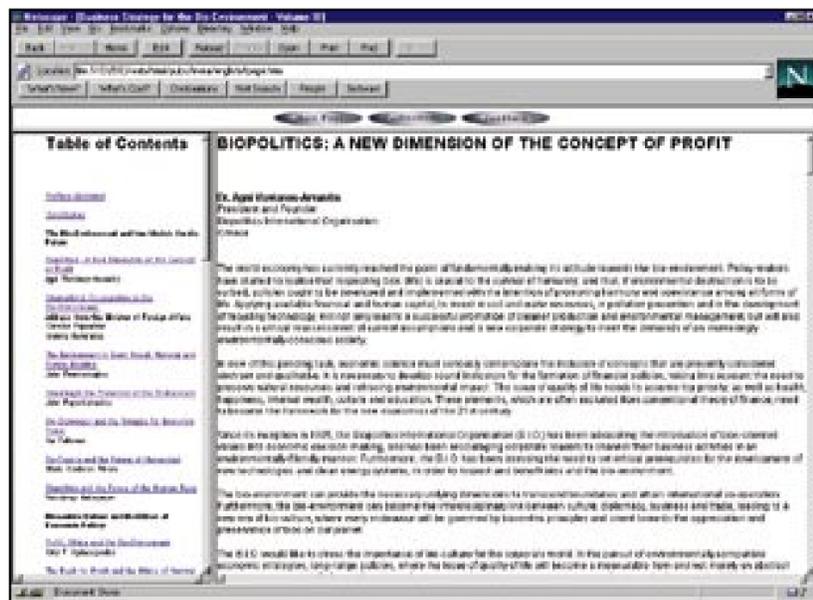
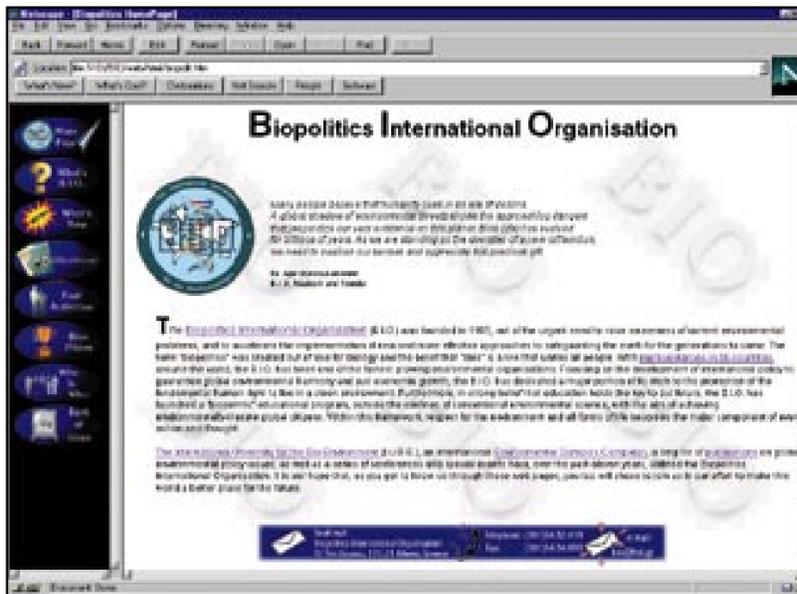
<http://www.hol.gr/bio>

All of the Biopolitics International Organisation publications are now available on the Internet, as the B.I.O. just put the finishing touches on its extensive web-page. Visit the B.I.O. web page and you will find unique material from 87 countries, available free-of-charge for use by schools, universities, libraries etc. Many schools and libraries have already visited our web-page, taking advantage of the wealth of information provided.

All the publications featured on this page are now only seconds away. By browsing through the List of Publications you can pick any title you want. You can read a whole book with ease, or pick specific chapters that interests you.

Our web-page is not limited to the wide range of B.I.O. publications, but also includes information on the Biopolitics International Organisation and its many projects, a list of past activities, a preview of upcoming events, information on the Bios Prize Awards, as well as a comprehensive Who's Who. The electronic Bank of Ideas will also be available soon.

Welcome to <http://www.hol.gr/bio>. *Happy Browsing!*



## Biopolitics Publications

### Proceedings

- BIOPOLITICS - THE BIO-ENVIRONMENT - VOLUME I  
A. Vlavianos-Arvanitis (Ed.), Proceedings from the First B.I.O. International Conference, May 1987, (400 pp.) 1988
- BIOPOLITICS - THE BIO-ENVIRONMENT - VOLUME II  
A. Vlavianos-Arvanitis (Ed.), Proceedings from the Second B.I.O. International Conference, October 1988, (543 pp.) 1989
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- BIOPOLITICS - THE BIO-ENVIRONMENT - VOLUME IV  
A. Vlavianos-Arvanitis, Rusen Keles (Eds.), Proceedings from the Fifth B.I.O. International Conference, May 1992, (303 pp.) 1993
- BIOPOLITICS - THE BIO-ENVIRONMENT - VOLUME V  
A. Vlavianos-Arvanitis (Ed.), Proceedings from the International Sakharov Festival (Sixth B.I.O. International Conference), July 1994, (671 pp.) 1996

### Business

- BUSINESS STRATEGY FOR THE BIO-ENVIRONMENT - VOLUME I (Greek)  
A. Vlavianos-Arvanitis (Ed.), Proceedings from the First B.I.O. Business Conference November 1992, (132 pp.) 1994
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A. Vlavianos-Arvanitis (Ed.), Proceedings from a Corporate Symposium at the Harvard Club of New York City, February 1995, (105 pp.) 1996
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A. Vlavianos-Arvanitis (Ed.), Proceedings from a Hellenic-French Symposium, 1987
- BIOS IN THE NEXT MILLENNIUM  
Lecture by the *Honourable Lord Ennals*, Hellenic-British Symposium, 1988
- BIOPOLITICS - PROTECTING THE BIO-ENVIRONMENT  
Lecture by *Israeli Ambassador Moshe Gilboa*, Third B.I.O. International Conference, 1989
- BIOPOLITICS - THE BIO-ENVIRONMENT  
Lecture by *Professor C. Bonnis*, Academy of Athens Plenary Session, 1990
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A. Vlavianos-Arvanitis (Ed.), Proceedings from a Hellenic-Turkish Symposium, 1990
- BIOPOLITICS - BIO-DIPLOMACY AND INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION  
A. Vlavianos-Arvanitis (Ed.), Proceedings from a Hellenic-Russian Symposium, 1993
- BIOPOLITICS - POPULATION GROWTH, FOOD SECURITY AND EQUITY  
A. Vlavianos-Arvanitis (Ed.), Proceedings from a Hellenic-Indian Symposium, 1993
- BIOPOLITICS - BIO-CULTURE IN THE NEXT MILLENNIUM  
A. Vlavianos-Arvanitis (Ed.), Proceedings from a Hellenic-Czech Symposium, 1995

### Textbooks

- BIOPOLITICS - DIMENSIONS OF BIOLOGY  
A. Vlavianos-Arvanitis (Greek, English, French) 1985
- BIOPOLITICS - METHODS OF IMPLEMENTATION  
A. Vlavianos-Arvanitis (Greek, English) 1985
- BIOPOLITICS - BIO-SYLLABUS OUTLINE  
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- BIOPOLITICS - THE BIOS THEORY  
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- THE INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY FOR THE BIO-ENVIRONMENT  
A. Vlavianos-Arvanitis (English 1991-1993, Greek 1991-1992)
- BIOPOLITICS - THE BIO-ENVIRONMENT - BIO-SYLLABUS  
A. Vlavianos-Arvanitis (English 1992, Russian 1993, Greek 1994)

### Periodicals

- BIONEWS Periodical, Volume 1, No. 1, 1987
- BIONEWS Newspaper, English and Greek (1994, 1995, 1996)

## Bio-Environment and International Co-operation

### Programme

#### "Greece and Ukraine - Horizons for Co-operation"

Dr. Agni Vlavianos-Arvanitis  
President and Founder  
Biopolitics International Organisation

Boris Korneyenko  
Ambassador Extraordinary  
and Plenipotentiary of Ukraine

#### "Profit and the Bio-Environment"

Dr. Stanislav Sokolenko  
Chairman of the Board  
UKRIMPEX Joint Stock Company

#### Bio-Environment - Bio-Culture Musical Programme

Irina Riabchun (piano)  
S. Rachmaninov, *Picture Etude*  
D. Kapsomenos, *Sunset at Sea*

Vladislav Halapsis (violin)  
Alla Halapsis (piano)  
Th. Antoniou, *Celebration V  
for Jacques-Yves Cousteau*  
P. Sarasate, *Zigeunerweisen*

Medea Iasonidou (soprano)  
Irina Riabchun (piano)  
G. Rossini, *L'Assedio di Corinto -  
Preghiera di Pamira*  
J. Massenet, *Manon - Gavotte de Manon*  
M. Kropivnizkij, *Soloveiko*

#### Dinner

Sponsored by:  
G. & T. Apostolopoulos - Athens Medical

### A Hellenic-Ukrainian Symposium under the auspices of the Ambassador of Ukraine



Mr. Boris Korneyenko



Yacht Club of Vouliagmeni, Friday, November 8, 1996



Vladislav and Alla Halapsis enchanted the audience with their rendition of Th. Antoniou's *Celebration V for Jacques-Yves Cousteau*. Seated at the head table from left to right: B.I.O. President Dr. Agni Vlavianos-Arvanitis; Dr. Stanislav Sokolenko, Chairman of the Board, UKRIMPEX Joint Stock Company; Mrs. T. Apostolopoulos, the dinner event's sponsor; and, the Ambassador of Ukraine Mr. Boris Korneyenko.

In an attempt to strengthen Hellenic-Ukrainian friendship and promote collaboration on economic and environmental issues between the two countries, the Biopolitics International Organisation is organising a Hellenic-Ukrainian Symposium, under the auspices of the Ambassador of Ukraine, Mr. Boris Korneyenko. The symposium will stress the importance bio-environmental protection as a genuine profit for society, and promote international co-operation on safeguarding our planet for the generations to come.

Eastern European countries have long suffered the consequences of environmental abuse. They are, therefore, very aware of the urgency of adopting new policy, where preventative measures will lower the risk of environmental deterioration and secure a long-term management of natural resources. Furthermore, this preventative policy will have the potential of evolving into a viable and profitable business strategy.

In the spirit of "bio-diplomacy," the hope is for this symposium to contribute new dimensions to the issue of international relations. Moreover, within the framework of the development of a global "bio-culture" for the next millennium, this event will stress the fact that bios and the bio-environment should constitute core components of every action and thought. The development of every endeavour with the aim of promoting the interdependence between the bio-environment and human culture, can broaden our horizons and lead humanity towards a brighter future.

## Business Strategy to Balance Economic Development and Environmental Protection in Ukraine

Dr. Stanislav I. Sokolenko  
Chairman of the Board  
UKRIMPEX Joint Stock Company

Dr. Stanislav I. Sokolenko, Chairman of the Board of UKRIMPEX Joint Stock Company, holds a Ph.D. in Economics from the All-Union Marketing Institute, Moscow. From 1975-1981, he was Senior Advisor at the Council of Ministers of Ukraine responsible for strategic planning, economic development and foreign trade development. From 1981-1986, Dr. Sokolenko was Senior Officer at UNIDO, Austria, and supervised programmes for developing countries. Following a one-year appointment with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine, he became Director General of UKRIMPEX, the first foreign trade association ever in operation in Ukraine. In 1993, Dr. Sokolenko was appointed the First Deputy Minister of Foreign Economic Relations of Ukraine, focusing his efforts on the improvement of foreign trade structure, capital market development and the attraction of foreign investments to Ukraine. In order to more effectively follow through on his ideas, Dr. Sokolenko returned to UKRIMPEX, which was subsequently privatised, under his guidance, in 1994. Dr. Sokolenko is a member of a number of inter-governmental bodies, has more than 60 articles on macro and microeconomics published in Ukrainian and foreign journals, and has recently written a book on "Modern World Markets and Ukraine."

Five years have passed since Ukraine, as an independent State, undertook reforms for the transformation of its economy. Organisational changes are being rapidly introduced in the country. In the early 1990's, when the process of reforming the economy had just started in the New Independent States (NIS), Ukraine had the best starting conditions, according to the assessments of the majority of the leading economists. However, by the end of 1996, due to a number of factors, Ukraine ended up lagging in the area of economic reform, as

compared to the rest of the NIS countries. One of the most important reasons for this delay has been the existence of serious environmental problems in the country.

It is well known that disregard for the environment in the name of economic development can possibly lead to the destruction of civilisation, as a result of disturbing the ecological balance. The unrestrained race for material wealth has brought humanity close to a global catastrophe. Unfortunately, this danger increases from year to year. It is quite possible that humanity first realised the gravity of the situation only after the Chernobyl disaster, a disaster that occurred in a small town, only 100 km away from the city of Kiev - the capital of Ukraine. This is the sole positive result of the Chernobyl disaster. Europe, safe as a whole in the 1980's, was shocked by the possible consequences of such a catastrophe, equal to more than a thousand times the effect that the dropping of the atom bomb on Hiroshima had on the environment. The existence of a great number of nuclear power stations in many densely inhabited parts of the world and, especially in Europe, demanded immediate measures for increasing, in every possible way, the safety of nuclear power stations globally. This was boosted by Ukraine, which experienced maximum negative after-effects from the Chernobyl disaster.

The 20th century, quickly becoming a thing of the past, has often burdened humanity with environmental catastrophes caused not only by wars, but nuclear and chemical tests, industrial accidents, tankers and pipelines. The negative impact that technology had on the environment grew to critical proportions. According to a number of researchers, Ukraine, among European countries, has the highest integral level of human induced negative environmental impact, with two thirds of its regions having suffered severe environmental damage.

The "Society-Nature" system should function without conflicts, since human beings are an integral part of nature. When destroying nature or irreversibly transforming

nature, human beings destroy themselves. Unfortunately, 20th century ideology glossed over the issue of a material responsibility for environmental damages. As a result, on the eve of a new millennium, humanity is trying to work out a code of corporate practices and financial responsibilities for activities with respect to nature management. With reference to this concept, the world community should search for production processes and natural resource usage that would meet current needs and would not disturb the environment or jeopardise the survival of future generations, in other words, create a system of environmental safety on the planet.

Thus, maintenance of environmental safety in Ukraine is to be considered as a guaranteed provision of environmental quality, that would favour a healthy way of life for the population, secure preservation of the abundance and diversity of all forms of life and its ability for self-reproduction (renewal), as well as secure the harmonisation of the "society-nature" system. Ukraine, which has recently entered the world community as an independent State, strives to secure its environmental safety within the framework of the global environmental safety regime, and to build its biopolitics on the basis of values common to all humankind. Otherwise, as the President of Ukraine, Leonid D. Kuchma, had to recently admit: "We will become the first country in the world not able to handle its own industrial and military potential, but able to create serious environmental threats for neighbouring countries. This will be a moral disgrace to the nation." In order to avoid this, a lot is being done in Ukraine to conform the laws enforced to the current Constitution, which was adopted in the summer of 1996. This process is also pertinent, to a considerable degree, to environmental legislation and is determined by Constitution norms referring to the issue of "securing environmental safety and the maintenance of the ecological balance on the territory of Ukraine."

Ten years ago, nobody in my country could have predicted that such a bulky and cumbersome institution as the former USSR, as well as one of its constituent parts, Ukraine, would pursue democratic developments in the 1990's. This shift included: freedom of information; freedom of entrepreneurship; establishment of a democratic electoral system; privatisation of state property; new pricing policy; development of market infrastructure; slowing down of inflation; changes in State economic functions; government decentralisation; and, transfer of a number of functions of public services to the private sector.

These changes in the Ukrainian economy had a significant effect on the way environmental problems were handled. The economic crisis in Ukraine is very closely related to the ecological crisis. The deformed structure of production and obsolete technologies have severe environmental consequences:

- in the course of mining, 70% of oil reserves and 40% of coal are lost
- water consumption (demand) for production process is 2-5 and sometimes 10 times higher than the norm for water demand by modern technologies
- due to extensive agricultural development, 80% of available soil is cultivated
- 33% of cultivated soils are eroded
- more than 4.6 mill. ha of land in 11 regions is contaminated by radionuclides from the Chernobyl disaster
- due to hazardous industrial atmospheric emissions from 1981-1994, more than 3000 ha of wood plantations perished.

However, these problems are not limited to Ukraine. Thoughtless economic human activity on the planet has resulted in severe environmental deterioration. The load on nature is approaching the threshold of its environmental self restoration ability.

I may say it with confidence that on the eve of the 21st century the environmental factor became not only decisive in economic development but also determinative for the survival of humankind.

In the current crucial period of transition, world decision-makers have the responsibility to lead the process of change. To do so effectively, priorities need to be clearly defined and, to avoid mistakes of the past, a new vision and new models are seriously needed. The promotion of international peace and security and the fundamental human right of living in a clean environment have to be actively pursued. It is necessary to tie these issues together, since the environment is the most potent unifying agent in modern society. Concerns for the deterioration of our planet do not recognise national boundaries, ethnicities or religions and, therefore, active global participation in the effort to preserve the environment can lead to the desired goal of international co-operation and understanding.

There is divergence in will expressed by national governments and these governments, have to be guided, through consensus, to the direction of a genuine commitment and not merely an unenthusiastic compromise. Global priorities have to be collectively set and technological drives properly channelled. Balancing the seemingly incompatible aspirations of global environmental harmony and economic growth needs to become the focal point for future development policies. It is essential to realise that not only are these issues not conflicting, but it is impossible for any economy to flourish without just and long-range environmental management.

Fortunately, the world is currently aware of the fact that bios - life and the bio-environment are in dire need of attention, and global conservation efforts are gradually starting to show results. However, this should not be cause for laxing effective measures, but should be viewed as positive re-enforcement in the struggle to make bio-environmental protection the core component of every action and thought. In order to be effective, global peacekeeping and humanitarian efforts should be co-ordinated on the basis of environmental conservation. A millennium vision in decision-making and policy-planning can provide the necessary long-term objectives, in order to address these problems with a view to the future.

Immediate action is of the essence. By the time reforms and revisions are approved, they tend to be already outdated.



Loss of biodiversity, destruction, war, exploitation of the poor, unequal distribution of resources and trade methods that increase the dept of developing nations require a prompt and radical solution. This solution has to be encouraged by expanding the potential of human resources and channelling them towards a productive and constructive renaissance. Long-term objectives for the implementation of global policies, such as fostering peace, developing human resources, curbing financial inequality and promoting strategies for eliminating world disparities have to become the number one priority in the 21st century.

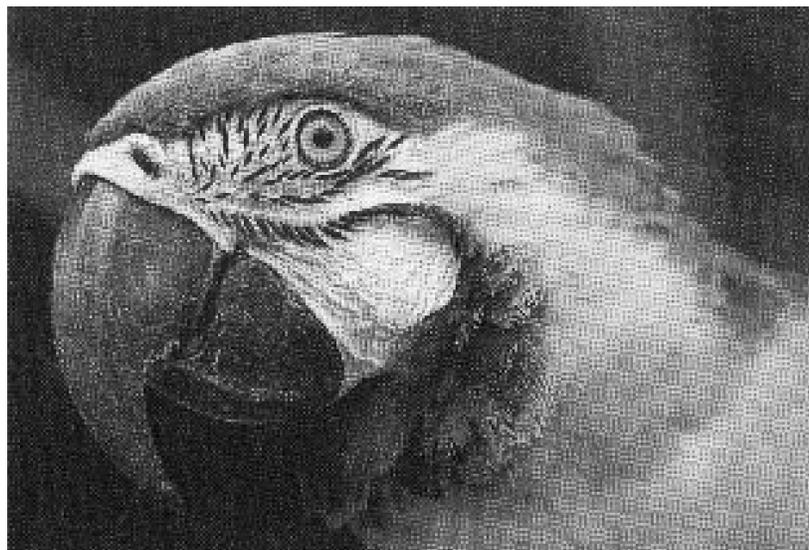
# Bio-Ethics

*Dr. Agni Vlavianos-Arvanitis, B.I.O. President & Founder*

For the past eleven years, the Biopolitics International Organisation (B.I.O.) has been labouring to raise awareness of the urgent need to instate a new system of economic norms and principles, compatible with sound environmental management and with the most important task of ensuring unbiased international trade and long term international investment. The goal is to eliminate current inadequacies in financial trends and guarantee economic prosperity for every country in the world. Moreover, the goal is to ultimately render

and economic growth reconciled. Once the world acknowledges the importance of safeguarding bios, the most precious possession our planet, embracing bio-cultural values will become the only viable alternative.

Working to sustain what already exists is not enough. With new challenges constantly arising and with an increased awareness of the urgent need to take action against destructive trends, the time is ripe to find more comprehensive, long-term solutions to protect our planet and



the concept of a "third world" obsolete and, through enhanced communication, trade and co-operation reach a desired state of world equilibrium in both economic and sociological terms. Guaranteeing a better quality of life for every citizen in the world holds the key to a harmonious and peaceful global society in the next millennium.

## **Bio-Culture - Moving Beyond Sustainable Development**

The relationship between human culture and the bio-environment is becoming increasingly important in our times. The bio-environment is affected by our culture, which is, in turn, shaped by the bio-environment. Bio-culture represents the conscious effort of humanity to attain this interdependence. Aesthetic values, music, science, the arts, diplomacy, politics, business and trade can all come together in the struggle for a better quality of life.

In all its facets, bio-culture reflects the spirit of bios as a powerful unifying factor for the future co-evolution of humanity with the bio-environment and the harmonious co-existence of all forms of life. Furthermore, bio-culture can provide the necessary incentives for every endeavour to be governed by biocentric principles and orient toward the better understanding and preservation of bios on our planet.

But more than just a simple orientation toward biocentric principles, bio-culture is a manifestation of life. Bios, with all its intricacies and wonders, can be a source of joy and inspiration. New cultural values, for a global appreciation of bios, can help the world acknowledge the importance of environmental preservation and the urgency of taking action against negative trends. Bio-culture can also provide the ethical guidelines for a reassessment of current assumptions and a critical evaluation of the future. The hope is that present regional conflicts will be alleviated and incompatibilities between environmental harmony

guarantee a balanced society for the future. A new vision, beyond sustainable development, can help place the situation in perspective, and provide the necessary incentives to move ahead and explore possibilities leading to more just and safe global management.

## **Bio-Ethics**

Bio-ethics is an essential part of modern Biopolitics. It can be considered both a conceptual science with a philosophical dimension, and, at the same time, a direction of practical activities.

Since 1985, the B.I.O. has been promoting a shift from anthropocentric to biocentric values in society. This shift requires the participation not only of governments and large business corporations, but of all individuals. This basic thinking, that all life has equal value, must be present in every human endeavour. As each person takes a small step and applies biocentric thinking to his or her actions, a huge step is taken by society.

The bios theory promotes bio-ethics as one of its major components. Bio-ethics provides the ethical and philosophical foundations for peaceful and harmonious co-evolution of humanity and the bio-environment. Bio-ethics is an essential part of modern biopolitics. Biopolitics in general is aimed at maintaining and promoting life, bios. Bio-ethics is primarily concerned with the ethical issues pertaining to all forms of life. In this way, bio-ethics supplements bio-legislation, the field of biopolitics dealing with the legal problems associated with bios. In many instances, bio-ethics and bio-legislation should be used in concert. For example, genetic engineering has raised issues with both legal and ethical dimensions.

Bio-ethics can be considered both a conceptual science with a philosophical dimension and, at the same time, a direction of practical activities. From a philosophical perspective, bio-ethics is closely related to the principle of reverence for life. Of paramount importance for bio-ethics is the

philosophical idea that any individual, any form of bios is of unique, absolute value. The underlying philosophical idea of intrinsic unity of human and non-human life entails increased responsibilities.

The pressing problem of our time concerns the fate of the bio-environment, currently endangered by human activities. This problem includes an ethical dimension. A human being is closely related to, and dependent on, all the life on Earth. How, then, can we reconcile our existence with the rapid deterioration of bios?

In order to achieve the attitudinal changes desired, a number of practical steps including pollution taxes waste reduction policy and using representative polluting substances as indicators of pollution, have been designed. Important initiatives pertaining to environmental ethics have been recently launched.

## **Bio-Legislation - Defending Bios-Rights and the Bio-Environment**

The central idea of bio-ethics and bio-legislation, regarded as a component part of biopolitics, is the concept of bios rights. The International University for the Bio-Environment (I.U.B.E.) envisages the promotion of "the development of international legislation on bios rights" as one of its important missions. In accordance with the idea of bios rights, the following additions and amendments to legislation are promoted:

- explicit reference to the protection of bios in the laws, Constitutions and legislative acts of countries, States and international political organisations;
- expansion of the current legislation concerning environmental protection and its re-evaluation in terms of bios;
- official authorisation of the basic rights of bios as a priority in the development of the judicial code on issues involving the above rights.

The distinction between prudential control and regulatory intervention is vital in this context. It must be realised that environmental considerations should become one of the determining, if not decisive, factors of corporate decision making. It must also be realised that protecting and preserving the environment is not only com-



patible with economic development, but environmental protection is a most viable and profitable business strategy.

Biopolitics attempts to integrate the concerns for protecting the bio-environment in the principles of individual disciplines, so that any definitions, rules, or conclusions of the legal or any other sciences will take environmental considerations into account. It is therefore essential to stress that considerations for the protection of the bio-environment do not limit the development of other disciplines, but rather offer opportunities for the implementation of a new value system and increase their potential for growth.

# A Declaration of Human Obligations

*A. H. Karunaratne, Honorary President, United Nations Association, Sri Lanka*

The oneness and interdependence of humans, all life forms other than human, as well as non-living matter, is the central principle of Eastern thought. In this context the preservation of life becomes a spiritual obligation. An obligation honoured is, ipso facto, a right guaranteed. All rights enumerated in international declarations and conventions have their origin in obligations honoured and duties performed. It follows, that the need to preserve life makes it imperative that we learn to give precedence to obligations over rights. Subject to universally recognised and morally justifiable claims for protection and survival as human beings, we have a moral obligation to respect the right of all other species for survival on the planet. Such an attitude of mind flows from the fact of interdependent causation. I believe that sustainable development can become a practical proposition if we subscribe to the principle of interdependence. My appeal to the B.I.O. and the International University of the Bio-Environment is to undertake the formulation of a Universal Declaration of Human Obligations as a companion to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other human rights conventions ratified by the international community. I present you with my perception of the content of such a declaration.

- Subject to universally recognised and morally justifiable claims for protection and survival as human beings I shall respect the right of all other species to protection and survival on the planet

- Since the resources of the planet are limited and the more widely used resources are non-renewable I have a moral obligation to utilise scarce resources without impairing the capacity of future generations to honour the same obligation.

- Since, in nature, all living organisms, fauna, flora, insects and bacteria have the same elemental constituents, I have a moral obligation to utilise natural resources for human need without placing at risk, through undue technological interference, the delicate balance of nature that has existed since the origin of life on the planet.

- All human beings are born into a particular socio-economic-cultural milieu and, as such, assimilate, from birth, all the positive and negative beliefs and practices of that milieu. As a human being endowed with reason and a conscience, I have a moral obligation to look upon the milieu into which I am born in the context of and subject to other morally binding obligations of this Declaration.

- The Declaration is for all human beings, irrespective of irrational man made rules and conventions relating to race, colour, sex, religion, ideology, language, beliefs or status. The obligations enumerated apply to all, regardless of territorial, national or international status.

- Arising from the monogenetic oneness of all races that constitute the human species and the interdependence of individuals and groups that make up the species, I am under a moral obligation to safeguard the life, liberty and security of all individuals and legally constituted groups.

- Whether it is by authority of the law or through arbitrary or illegal means I have a moral obligation to refrain from subjecting any individual to cruel, inhuman or degrading forms of punishment or treatment. As a public officer or a private individual I have a moral obligation to recognise every other individual as a person entitled by law and nature to the same treatment.

- As I value my personal freedom, I have a moral obligation to resist from placing any individual under bondage, subjection to slavery or denial of security.

- As the producer or seller of a product or service I shall ensure that the buyer or user shall receive, quality-wise, a genuine product or service. As such, I am under obligation to refrain from resorting to unethical practices to the detriment of the prospective buyer or user.

- Since market forces are interdependent and subject to sudden and unpredictable fluctuations, I, as a buyer or seller of

***Environmental ethics can be seen as a multidimensional value system. The diverse forms of bios on Earth are important not only in themselves, but also constitute the bio-environment which is essential for the existence and development of humanity. Thus, the task of maintaining and promoting the bio-environment acquires a bio-ethical dimension. As a guideline for adopting biocentric thinking, and implementing bios-oriented values, this proposal has been presented by Mr. A. H. Karunaratne, Honorary President, United Nations Association of Sri Lanka.***

stocks and shares have a moral obligation to refrain from unethical practices to the detriment of prospective buyers and sellers and of the community in general. As a manufacturer or producer of capital goods and services, or, of durable or perishable consumables, I have a moral obligation to refrain from resorting to restrictive trade practices, adulteration and the wasteful short-sighted utilisation of resources resulting directly, or, indirectly, in the violation of rights or the pollution of the environment.

- As a consumer of goods and services I am under a moral obligation to refrain from wasteful consumption, regardless of the need to satisfy the basic needs of people everywhere and the rights of future generations.

- Since all rights are derived from obligations honoured and duties performed, I have a moral obligation, as a public officer, entrepreneur, corporate citizen, executive, white or blue collar worker, to discharge my responsibilities in such a way as to ensure that employment related and morally motivated activity and behaviour guarantee, as a matter of course, all the rights enumerated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The reciprocity between rights enjoyed and duties performed has to be understood in the context of the principle of interdependent causation that is fundamental to the entire life process, natural, social, political, economic and the social nature of the modern process of production and distribution.

- I have a moral obligation as a public officer, an elected representative, a corporate citizen, entrepreneur, executive, white or blue collar worker, or private citizen to refrain from offering or accepting a gratification of any description as an inducement to perform a duty or to secure an advantage to which I am legally entitled to, or an advantage not due to me by right.

- As a person endowed with the faculty of reason and a conscience and entitled to privacy of family, home and correspon-

dence, I shall refrain from interfering with the privacy of others or subjecting them to undue harassment through deliberate action or negligent conduct.

- As I value my cultural identity and desire to protect and preserve it, I have a moral obligation to respect and protect cultural identities other than my own.

- Since the fundamental purpose of marriage and cohabitation is to serve a biological purpose, I have a moral obligation to safeguard this institution and refrain from putting at risk the continuity of the species by unethical and immoral conduct.

- I have a moral obligation to protect persons of either sex, especially children, from avoidable, health and life threatening hazards resulting from unethical, immoral and permissive behaviour and practices which inevitably result in personal trauma, moral and social degradation. I am under obligation to prevent such practices by precept, example and social action.

- I am morally obliged to refrain from the production, sale, distribution and use of addictive drugs and to extend the maximum co-operation to action taken to eradicate the production, sale and use of narcotics and other harmful addictive substances, particularly among children and youth.

- The obligation to honour the sanctity of life renders me responsible for preserving the diversity of life and discouraging, except under exceptional circumstances, the manufacture, sale and use of weapons of destruction. By precept, example and action, it is essential to work towards the ideal of total disarmament and the minimisation of the indiscriminate use of firearms by civilians. I have a moral obligation to refrain from desiring and acquiring anything to which I have no claim, either by force or deceit or by resort to corrupt practices, such as deceptive advertising.

- Acknowledging the harmful consequences of the use of chemicals in agriculture, industry and for domestic purposes, except under strictly controlled conditions, I have a moral obligation to minimise the use of such chemicals by precept, example and social action.

- I have a moral obligation to preserve biodiversity, through the protection of fauna and flora, and to preserve the physical environment on which they survive.

- Every view, sooner or later, generates its opposite with a diversity of views in between. Therefore I have a moral obligation to respect perceptions, other than my own, as a guiding principle of social well-being. While being critical of other perceptions, I must train myself to be critical of my own beliefs.

- I accept tolerance towards all organisations, religious, social, political and ideological, as a guiding principle of social life, as far as it does not contradict the basic principles of this Declaration.

- Since human beings have to organise themselves and develop structures, institutions and strategies for purposes of government and administration, I accept

**I am under moral obligation to safeguard the life, liberty and security of all human beings.**

the position that the guiding principle in politics and government is to ensure the "good" of the majority; "good" being defined as the bodily, mental and spiritual well-

being of all individuals and the rights explicit and implicit in this Declaration - rights enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other human rights conventions. As a corollary, I accept the position that no single model can be advocated as the only desirable model for government and administration.

- I accept the position that the governing body should accommodate all shades of political opinion and the process of government and administration so devised as to minimise conflict and facilitate agreement at the highest common level.

- Since humans, the environment, and both natural and man made phenomena are interdependent and constitute parts of one reality, I accept global integration as a fundamental principle of human existence. I accept the position that viable social, political and economic structures need to be developed and strategies formulated to protect ethnic and cultural identity now that the concept of state sovereignty is rapidly becoming obsolete.

- I accept the position that conflicts arise from differing perceptions of the nature of things and of exclusive claims to truth.

- I shall learn to look upon all creeds as the historical formulation of truth differing only by the fact that each creed takes the shape and form of its time and of its environment.

- Since all phenomena, natural and man made, are interdependently caused, I accept the position that present society is the end result of the individual and collective actions (karma) of all beings who lived in the past.

- I accept the position, arising from interdependent causation, that present society - individual, national, regional and global - is individually and collectively responsible for the shape of things to come.

**The obligations enumerated apply to all, regardless of territorial, national or international status.**

**As I value my personal freedom, I shall refrain from interfering with the freedom of others or subjecting them to undue harassment through deliberate action or negligent conduct.**

**I am under obligation to utilise natural resources without placing the delicate balance of nature at risk.**

**I shall respect the right of all other species**

## Bio-diplomacy for the protection of marine ecosystems

*Ambassador Kai Falkman  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Sweden*

The island States of Polynesia and Melanesia are concerned about the threats to marine ecosystems and biodiversity. These threats come from radioactive waste dumping, illegal fishing and over-fishing, and tourism. Even though the South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone Treaty, also known as the Rarotonga Treaty, has finally been signed by France, the United Kingdom and the United States, there are concerns about the destiny of France's nuclear material in French Polynesia, as well as about the access the United States have

to islands for nuclear waste disposal. The Pacific is the largest unified area in the world, and what happens in one part of the ocean also affects all the other parts. This was shown by the 50% reduction in tourism that the Fiji Islands faced after the French nuclear tests at Mururoa.

The South-Pacific population relies primarily on fish for their dietary needs and protein intake. As China has declared its intention to increase its fishing activity in the Pacific Ocean, the South Pacific government worries that this

move, in addition to the already existing illegal fishing, especially from South Korea and Taiwan, will diminish the availability and raise the price of fish. There exists an agreement to protect the fish resources of the region, but the surveillance area is too

**The Pacific is the largest unified area in the world, and what happens in one part of the ocean also affects all the other parts.**

vast and the capacity to defend the waters is very small. It is evident that governments have to co-operate to prevent over-fishing and develop joint policies for sustainable fishing. As tourism

is an expanding source of income for the island States in the South Pacific, a new concept, receiving positive attention, is

tourism adapted to local housing conditions, or "ecotourism". Resorts are built in the traditional style of the village architecture in remote areas, and offer solution to the worries of the effects mass tourism has on local customs and ways of life. The South Pacific region is rich in natural beauty, and "ecotourism" can provide access to this beauty without danger of destroying it. Bio-diplomacy can promote international agreements to protect nature and life on our planet and, where necessary, recommend legislation to prevent the deterioration of the bio-environment. This can be implemented in economic development to ensure the preservation of unique, representative and cultural landscapes.

## Business, politics and culture

*Professor Valenty Tolstych  
Russia*

In this theme, a very important word must not be forgotten, culture. I am certain the organisers of this dialogue and the participants understand and value the meaning of the word culture. In Russia many politicians speak of politics, culture and business without implementing the meaning of the word culture. I was very pleased by the speech of Mrs. Kiriakopoulos, and the way she spoke about business and ethics.

There is a long tradition of looking at business, politics and culture as a trinity. There have been times, as in the case of industrial development, when business has played a major role. There are times when politics dominate. But it has not been that often that culture has dominated. Culture has been regarded more as a supplement of the political and of the business processes. But is it really so? Socio-cultural changes influence our lives but not in a very detectable way. Many politicians and business experts have tried to use the expression "culture trade" as an art of economy and business. However, this is an over-simplification. Culture forms the basis for business and politics. We see this

**Culture has been regarded more as a supplement of the political and of the business processes.**

in today's Russia, where reforms meet many difficulties. Mr. Gorbachev has rightfully said that the reform policy that is now put to action

has not been accepted because certain cultural elements are absent. When trying to develop business opportunities, it is important to take into account the traditional mentality and ethics that Russia has had for many centuries, concerning the role of culture in society. When the era of industrialisation comes to an end, intellectual and moral resources will be the only thing to remain. Therefore, "technocentrism" must be replaced by "culturecentrism."

Prognostics on business trends indicate that socio-cultural effects are influencing development. New technology and also the new cultural requirements give us an opportunity to talk about a different quality of life. Humankind destroys by over-consumption and by aggressive disturbances to the natural processes of the environment. If our assumption is correct, the trinity of business, politics and culture will be changed dramatically. Culture is not only a servant for politics and business, but business is also a cultural institution that contributes to cultural development.



## Corporate environmental policy an insurer's point of view

*Dr. Jürgen Zech  
President of the Board of Management  
Gerling-Konzern, Köln  
Germany*

Insurers have influence when it comes to environmental protection. Many opportunities are provided for us to take distinct and important action. The first task is to keep our own office environmentally-friendly by using office equipment, furniture and supplies that are environmentally-compatible. The use of the railway instead of the car or the aeroplane is also a possible action.

"Prevent damage - protect the environment" should be adopted as the credo of any insurer. By preventing unnecessary damage, the burden on the environment will be limited. Fire accidents cause damage to the environment through the emission of noxious fumes, poisonous fire extinguishing chemicals and "green-house" gases.

The experience tells us that causes of

damage and incidents of damage follow certain patterns. By analysing these patterns, and by estimating the environmental risks as a prerequisite for the offering of an appropriate insurance solution, the insurer can help their clients to avoid damage and thereby make a substantial contribution to the protection of the environment.

Insurance can provide the quantitative profile of a company by the estimation of the property damage, revenue and liquidation the company seeks to avoid losing. The insurer sets insurance premiums according to the level of risk, and as companies incorporate insurance in their cost analysis, there is definitely room for progress by adopting environmental rights as an asset in line with property.

**Insurers will not become "environmental police," but within the framework set by the government they can contribute to professional corporate management of environmental safety. This promotes environmental protection and long-term environmental development.**

When damage has occurred, it needs to be controlled promptly and professionally. It is not enough for an industrial company to limit its own damage. Quick, objective and direct information to the public not only helps the company's image but also prevents inferences. Inferences are far too often the reason for irrational and hasty

actions that cause greater damage to the environment instead of limiting the damage.

Insurers will not become "environmental police," but within the framework set by the government they can contribute to professional corporate management of environmental safety. This promotes environmental protection and long-term environmental development.

## Is an unequal world sustainable?

*Professor Udo E. Simonis  
Science Centre Berlin  
Germany*

The world is getting increasingly populated, and we also face an increasing demand for natural resources. Human beings are utilising more and more resources and, in this way, they are partially overburdening the absorption capacity of the earth's ecosystem. A global environmental policy is required in order to secure a sustainable development and to avoid over-exploitation on the world's limited resources.

The international treaties on environmental policy have so far not been tough enough. The tricky wording of these treaties makes it difficult to implement the operational actions and often results in a treaty only in words without action.

As we realise that the world's resources are limited, and figures showing that with today's expanding population we will use 80% of the world's capacity within the next century, the question that arises is how these resources are going to be shared. The obvious fair solution is to set an equal emission right per capita. If we start with the current emissions and then move slowly towards this goal, industrial countries will have to lower their emissions while developing countries must be able to increase theirs in order to achieve a higher standard of living.

His Highness **Prince Albert of Monaco**

The Principality of Monaco has always been sensitised to the work of those who strive to raise the level of thinking of decision-makers, in order to make them more appreciative of the value of human potential. The B.I.O. Environmental Olympics Campaign, an initiative which I would like to congratulate, is an excellent example of such an appreciation.

It is in this spirit that my great ancestor, Prince Albert I, tried to identify "the necessary elements in thinking that would allow one to get closer to the moral forces of humanity."

Biocentric values can help humans become "natural" beings. This is the only way that humans can then become the focal point of sustainable development, as proclaimed by the first principle of the Rio Declaration. As is already known, the great challenge for the end of the century is to question current consumption patterns. This questioning cannot be successful unless it is based on a re-evaluation of what is countable and what really "counts." These issues and their application to all aspects of society will allow the emergence of an international eco-civilisation.

Seeing Commander Cousteau receive the First Bios Prize is a source of encouragement. He is one of the people who can lead us in the right direction. He has made us understand that humans can remove some bolts from Noah's Arc, without apparent damage, but one day, maybe tomorrow, or maybe in ten years, the entire structure of the Arc will collapse.

Commander Cousteau has indicated the route to follow and there are many choices. It is now in the hands of organisations such as the Biopolitics International Organisation to find the right roads wisdom.

Maestro **Mstislav Rostropovich**

I consider that the choice of Commander Jacques-Yves Cousteau as a laureate of the First Bios Prize Award is perfect. I not only admire his activity, but also might call myself, with pride, his friend.

Dennis Meadows, Director, Institute for Policy and Social Science Research, **USA**

I thank you for your invitation to participate in the awards ceremony for giving the First Bios Prize to Commander Cousteau. He has always been one of my heroes.

[He has been] a genius at identifying relevant global problems, studying them with scientific competence, and then, focusing enormous media attention on his results. Certainly he deserves your award, as he deserves the many hundreds of others he has received. I send my very warmest regards and best wishes for a wonderful celebration.

Dr. **Ruud Lubbers**, Former Prime Minister, The **Netherlands**

I would like to compliment [the Biopolitics International Organisation] for this initiative as well as Commander Cousteau for receiving this award. I do so with great conviction. As Prime Minister of the Netherlands from 1982-1994, I was able to con-

tribute to the bio-environment, both in my own country, with the First Comprehensive Greenplan (1988), as well as internationally.

I recall with valuation the cooperation with Gro Harlem Brundtland and Michel Rocard that lead to the Hague Declaration in 1987, the important report on "Our Common Future," chaired by Mrs. Brundtland, and the famous UNCED Conference in Rio

# First Bios Prize

## a Millennium Achievement

Members and friends of the Biopolitics International Organisation have expressed their unanimous support of the First Bios Prize Award to Commander Jacques-Yves Cousteau. Enthusiastic messages have been coming in from all over the world:

de Janeiro, the first convention on biodiversity, a domain to which Commander Cousteau has contributed for so many years.

I appreciate Commander Cousteau's efforts even more, because I had the privilege to bring together Maurice Strong's Earth Charter Initiative and Michael Gorbachev's Green Cross. Today, I salute Commander Cousteau in my capacity as Vice-Chairman of the Independent World Commission on Ocean Governance.

Dr. **Agni Vliavianos-Arvanitis**, President of the Biopolitics International Organisation, has developed an important and inspiring initiative. It is gratifying to know that today, in Paris, a sign of hope, awareness and understanding is given.

Professor **Jiro Kondo**, Director General, RITE, **Japan**

I would like to congratulate the Biopolitics International Organisation for awarding the First Bios Prize to the right person. Commander Jacques-Yves Cousteau is also well known in Japan and the Japanese Cousteau Society is currently being organised in Tokyo. I hope that this prize is worthwhile for the continuous achievements of Commander Cousteau, particularly in the study of the marine environment.

Finally, I hope that the Biopolitics International Organisation will achieve great success in the future.

Academician **Blagovest Sendov**, President, National Assembly of the Federal **Republic of Bulgaria**  
Honourable Commander Cousteau,

Please accept my highest, wholehearted, congratulations on the occasion of the First Bios Prize, awarded to you by the Biopolitics International Organisation, in recognition of your invaluable contribution to the comprehension and appreciation of the bio-environment.

We highly appreciate your contribution to the exploration of the limitless biodiversity of the planet's oceans and your tireless efforts to protect and preserve this biodiversity. Through you, humankind has been able to get a unique insight of the intricacies and beauty of bios.

I wish you, Commander

Cousteau, good health and successful activities in the new millennium.

**Dimitris Avramopoulos**, Mayor of Athens, **Greece**

I would like to congratulate the Biopolitics International Organisation on its initiative to establish Bios Prizes to be awarded to personalities of international acclaim, who have contributed to

the promotion of new priorities and new thinking with reference to the bio-environment.

I wish you wholehearted success in your efforts to further our understanding and appreciation of the bio-environment and I would like to express my warmest congratulations to Commander Jacques-Yves Cousteau for his invaluable contribution to humanity.

Professor **Manfred Max-Neef**, Rector, Universidad Austral de **Chile**

I sincerely wish this Ceremony to be a contribution to the bringing about of necessary and urgent behavioural changes, in order to assure a better quality of life for the generations to come.

Professor **Ioannis Pasmazoglou**, President, Academy of Athens, **Greece**

Warm congratulations for the award of the First Bios Prize to Commander Cousteau, a great explorer and consistent worker for the understanding and protection of life.

Dr. **Michael Haupl**, Mayor of Vienna, **Austria**

Commander Jacques-Yves Cousteau is, without any doubt, a deserving and meritorious recipient of the [First Bios Prize] award, due to his invaluable contribution to our knowledge of the environment.

A. H. **Karunaratne**, Honorary President, United Nations Association, **Sri Lanka**

It is in the fitness of things that the first Bios Prize is to be awarded to a person who has made a very significant contribution to the preservation of life on the planet, an ideal that lies at the core of the Biopolitics International Organisation.

Commander Jacques-Yves Cousteau's mission in life is to protect and preserve bio-diversity on planet earth. As a fellow traveller on an endless journey in time and space it is with a deep sense of personal commitment that I send this message to mark the occasion..

May Commander Cousteau be spared many more years of self denying service in the cause of life centred sustainable development.  
Dr. **Karan Singh**, New Delhi, **India**

I can think of no one more suited to receive this Award than Commander Jacques-Yves Cousteau. His work in the area of underwater exploration has been truly historic and will be long remembered.

Dr. **Anthony Knap**, Director, **Bermuda** Biological Station for Research

I would like to take this oppor-

proved thoroughly insufficient. Information is, therefore, a necessity as is the promotion of "good examples." Within this framework, the acknowledgement of someone as important as Jacques-Yves Cousteau, is essential. Jacques-Yves Cousteau's work was truly unique, in all its facets. Except for his purely scientific endeavours, we all remember his amazing documentaries and book series on marine life. By exploring and studying oceans and seas, by informing and sensitising people of all ages to the incredible symmetry, balance and beauty of biodiversity, he brought attention to the importance of the need to protect the marine environment and, with it, all forms of life. For this, I would like to congratulate the Biopolitics International Organisation and applaud its initiative to actively promote a global awareness of environmental issues and its ongoing effort for a bio-assessment, not only of technological progress, but also of the value system that characterises modern society.

Congratulations to Commander Jacques-Yves Cousteau on his immense contribution to the study and protection of the environment, a contribution affecting all of humanity.

**Fode Lunceny Camara**, Head, Ecosystems Preservation, Conakry, Republic of **Guinea**

Excellency President and Founder of the Biopolitics International Organisation, honourable members and collaborators of the B.I.O., distinguished invited delegates from national and international institutions, ladies and gentlemen.

Above all, on behalf of the Minister of Public Works and Environment of Guinea, I would like to address my best greetings to Commander Jacques-Yves Cousteau, I also warmly address my greetings to all the members of Equipe Cousteau.

Today is a big opportunity to say hello to everyone who works for the protection and the preservation of the World environment. I am pleased to have the opportunity to appreciate the initiative of the B.I.O. leaders to acknowledge the efforts of any personality who has shown interest in environmental protection.

For many years, we have witnessed Commander Jacques-Yves Cousteau working tirelessly not only to explore the limitless biodiversity of the planet's oceans, but, also, to raise awareness of the most important task of protecting and preserving this biodiversity. There is no doubt that Commander Cousteau's work constitutes an invaluable contribution to the comprehension and appreciation of the bio-environment.

I welcome the choice of awarding the First Bios Prize to Commander Jacques-Yves Cousteau. On this occasion, I would like to draw everyone's attention, and especially that of the B.I.O. President and Founder, that concerned specialists from the Republic of Guinea, as well as many other countries in the world, are ready to actively and positively participate in constructive programs.

Commander Cousteau's efforts must be encouraged, supported and continued everywhere I would like to congratulate the B.I.O. staff members and all institutions and governments that are

currently supporting the B.I.O.  
Long live the B.I.O.!

Dr. Kamla Chowdhry, Chair,  
Society for the Promotion of  
Wastelands Development, **India**

I am delighted to know that  
the [First Bios Prize] award if  
being given to Commander  
Jacques-Yves Cousteau, who has  
done absolutely outstanding and  
brilliant work in the environmen-  
tal field. There are in the world  
some visionaries who are also  
activists - Cousteau is one of them.  
The great problem in the environ-  
mental movement is bridging the  
gap between a vision and action.  
And Commander Cousteau has  
done this brilliantly, as Gandhi  
did when he brought politics and  
ethics together.

Professor M. Kassas, Faculty of  
Science, Cairo University, **Egypt**

As the First Bios Prize is pre-  
sented to Jacques-Yves Cousteau,  
we say welcome to a very well  
deserved recognition. The ventures  
of Commander Cousteau demon-  
strate remarkable physical and  
moral courage and cover three  
broad areas of contemporary con-  
cern.

First, is his scientific explo-  
ration of life and associated envi-  
ronmental phenomena. Here he  
has expanded the horizons of our  
knowledge of plant and animal  
life in sea and on land.

Second is his unique contribu-  
tion to the development and test-  
ing of technologies for bringing  
humans to the deep fathoms of the  
world's oceans.

Third is his amassing the very  
rich information on world envi-  
ronment and using it to stimulate  
curiosity and awareness remains  
the principle key for resolving  
environmental problems.

Commander Cousteau's con-  
tributions were sources of inspira-  
tion to all of us. World-wide, we  
are indebted to this great man; as  
an Egyptian living on the down-  
stream part of the river Nile, I am  
particularly grateful to  
Commander Cousteau films and  
books on the Nile, which provide  
rich sources of beautifully set  
information.

Stef Wertheimer, President, ISCAR  
Ltd., **Israel**

[On the occasion of the First  
Bios Prize Award Ceremony] I take  
this opportunity to express my  
respect for your energy, dedication  
and persistence in spreading your  
ideas around the world.

Dr. Terrence Duffy, Director,  
Peace Studies, University of Ulster,  
**Northern Ireland**

I congratulate you on such an  
excellent choice for the First Bios  
Prize. I am delighted that B.I.O.  
have chosen Commander Jacques-  
Yves Cousteau as the recipient of  
the First Bios Prize. This event will  
do much to encourage the vital  
goals which the B.I.O. have so ably  
fostered under excellent presiden-  
cy.

Professor Slobodan Unkovic,  
Ambassador of the Federal  
Republic of **Yugoslavia** to China.

Dear Commander Cousteau,  
I am to thank the kindness of  
Dr. Agni Vlavianos-Arvanitis,  
President and Founder of the  
Biopolitics International  
Organisation, and convey to you  
my most sincere congratulations  
on such a valuable award as the  
First Bios Prize Award. This event

is very important to all of us who  
respect Dr. Agni Vlavianos-  
Arvanitis, Bios and yourself as the  
first winner of this great award.  
Please allow me to extend to you  
my congratulations and best wish-  
es for further success in your work  
and for happiness for you and  
your family. I believe that this  
award will be a major impulse, not  
only for you, but also for everybody  
on this planet engaged in environ-  
mental protection, as it is of great  
importance for the health and suc-  
cessful social and economic devel-  
opment of all the people in the  
world.

Dr. Eugeniusz Andrulewicz  
Vice-Chairman, Helsinki  
Commission, Gdynia, **Poland**

Dear Commander Jacques-  
Yves Cousteau,

I have the honour and great  
privilege to congratulate you on  
the occasion of receiving the First  
Bios Prize Award. I consider this  
award to be the best possible choice  
the Biopolitics International  
Organisation could have made.

Your inventions made it possi-  
ble for human beings to experience  
freedom in the underwater world.  
Your activities gave humankind  
an awareness of the beauty and  
fragility of the marine environ-  
ment. You were the first to under-  
stand the importance of protecting  
and preserving marine biodiversi-  
ty.

Your achievements have  
always been a source of constant  
stimulation and inspiration in my  
work as a scuba-diver and scientist  
involved with the protection of the  
Baltic Sea environment. Wishing  
you further achievements.

Tina Uwechue, United Nations  
Association of **Nigeria**

Goodwill message on the occa-  
sion of the first B.I.O. Prize Award  
to Commander Jacques-Yves  
Cousteau - An African dimension

I wish to express my profound  
happiness on the occasion of the  
First Bio-Prize Ceremony.  
Commander Jacques-Yves  
Cousteau as described by our ener-  
getic and most amiable President  
and Founder of the Biopolitics  
International Organisation, Dr.  
Agni Vlavianos-Arvanitis has  
made invaluable contributions to  
the comprehension and apprecia-  
tion of the Bio-environment. From  
the inception of the B.I.O. which I  
happen to be an African founda-  
tion member, emphasis has been  
on preservation and protection of  
bios (life), but Commander  
Jacques-Yves Cousteau has added  
"comprehension" to the qualifying  
phrases of protection and preserva-  
tion of bios. I salute him.

On behalf of my African  
Colleague and members of the  
B.I.O., I thank Commander  
Jacques-Yves Cousteau for his  
enormous contributions towards  
the protection, preservation and  
comprehension of the bio-enviro-  
nment.

Professor Tatiana Matveeva,  
Russian Civil Service Academy,  
**Russia**

On the occasion of the First  
Bios Prize Award Ceremony I  
would like to express my support of  
bio-environmental policy and  
specifically bio-diplomacy and  
international co-operation in this  
field. The horrible war in  
Chechnya gave a new confirma-  
tion of the necessity of incorporat-  
ing biocentric values in domestic  
and foreign policy on a world-  
wide basis.

Professor Nur Sozen, **Turkey**

Appreciating and admiring all  
the efforts and the work of  
Commander Jacques-Yves  
Cousteau towards getting to know,  
understand and protect all forms  
of life - in other words BIOS - it is a  
great honour for me to witness  
such an outstanding event.

Dr. Stefan Rokem, Hadassah  
Medical School  
Hebrew University, **Israel**

I want to congratulate  
Commander Jacques-Yves  
Cousteau, a pioneer in the study of  
complex interactions occurring in  
the most abundant environment  
on our planet; the oceans. His  
studies form the basis of how we,  
today, comprehend the importance  
of biodiversity in all environments.  
Commander Cousteau is a very  
worthy recipient of the First Bios  
Prize.

I also want to congratulate Dr.  
Vlavianos-Arvanitis for instituting  
and implementing the Bios Prize  
Awards and for the exquisite  
choice of recipient for the First Bios  
Prize.

Gianluca Silvestrini, Congress of  
Local and Regional Authorities,  
**Council of Europe**

We would like to congratulate  
you on the B.I.O.'s initiatives and  
for having launched the Bios Prize  
Awards in order to promote incen-  
tives for environmental protection.  
We really wish you all the best for  
a successful ceremony and would  
like to express our highest consid-  
eration and appreciation to  
Commander Jacques-Yves  
Cousteau for his world-wide valu-  
able activities toward environmen-  
tal protection and sustainable  
development.

Theodore Karatzas, Governor,  
National Bank of **Greece**

Please convey Commander  
Cousteau my warmest congratula-  
tions for his achievements, which,  
the Biopolitics International  
Organisation has rightly chosen to  
honour.

Mahawa Mboj, Director, FAO  
**Senegal**

It is with great pleasure that I  
learned about the award of the  
First Bios Prize to Commander  
Jacques-Yves Cousteau. It is a most  
expedient choice for a ceremony of  
historical significance, in a  
domain as important as the bio-  
environment, by an organisation  
as eminent as the Biopolitics  
International Organisation. I  
would like to pledge complete sup-  
port of this event and express my  
sincerest congratulations to  
Commander Cousteau and his  
crew.

Razaul Karim, UN Economic and  
Social Commission for Asia and  
the Pacific, **Thailand**

The concept of the First Bios  
Prize Award is commendable and  
Commander Cousteau a very wor-  
thy recipient. His admirable work  
on the world's oceans and their  
biodiversity is of a long-standing  
and pioneer nature.

Dr. Yaman Ors, Ankara University  
Medical School, **Turkey**

Commander Jacques-Yves  
Cousteau is definitely one of those  
rather rare personalities who have  
been able to bring together in their  
work different essential aspects of  
human life and the biosphere - sci-  
entific, aesthetic and ethical. These  
have all been combined in the cre-  
ative adventure of his work, which

is shared, undoubtedly, with his  
devoted colleagues.

I wonder whether I might  
remind you of the famous French  
saying with its two contrasting  
parts reversed - "Plus la même  
chose, plus ça change." The deter-  
mined road of Commander  
Cousteau must be followed by all  
those sincerely devoted to the cause  
of the "harmonious co-existence of  
all forms of life," if they want to  
further contribute to a radical  
change in our world-view and the  
embrace of biocentric ethics.

Professor L. Kairiukstis,  
**Lithuanian** Forest Research  
Institute

I am glad for having the possi-  
bility to congratulate Commander  
Jacques-Yves Cousteau on the  
occasion of the First Bios Prize  
Award.

M.S. Swaminathan, Chairman,  
M.S. Swaminathan Research  
Foundation, **India**

I am extremely happy that the  
Biopolitics International  
Organisation is awarding this very  
important prize to Commander  
Jacques-Yves Cousteau.

No better choice could have  
been made. Please convey my very  
warm regards to Commander  
Jacques-Yves Cousteau. We have a  
strong collaboration with Equipe  
Cousteau in the field of ecotechnol-  
ogy.

Professor Giulio Pontecorvo,  
Director, Center for Environment,  
Business and Renewable  
Resources, Columbia University,  
**USA**

The establishment of the Bios  
Prizes is commendable and the  
awarding of the First Bios Prize to  
Commander Jacques-Yves  
Cousteau is a truly impressive  
statement of the B.I.O.'s commit-  
ment to fostering understanding  
and appreciation of the complexity  
of our global bio-environment.

Dr. Ung Phyrun, Deputy Director  
General  
Ministry of Environment, Kingdom  
of **Cambodia**

I am a great admirer of  
Commander Cousteau and am  
certain that there is no more  
deserving recipient. Commander  
Cousteau's contributions and dedi-  
cation to the bio-environment are  
unparalleled and will be valued  
for many generations to come.

Professor Baruch Kimor, TECH-  
NION, **Israel** Institute of  
Technology

I consider the selection of  
Commander Jacques-Yves  
Cousteau as the recipient of the  
prestigious B.I.O. prize most appro-  
priate.

As a marine biologist, I have  
known Commander Cousteau for  
decades, in his capacity as CIESM  
Secretary General (Commission  
Internationale pour l'Exploration  
Scientifique de la Mer  
Mediterranee), based in Monaco. I  
have also attended many of the  
Plenary Sessions of this organisa-  
tion, held each time in a different  
Mediterranean country, and had  
the opportunity to interact with  
and appreciate the contribution of  
this extraordinary man to the pro-  
tection of the marine environment  
through continuous research and  
the promotion of international co-  
operation to this end.

Dr. Jan Cerovsky, Senior Adviser,  
Czech IUCN, **Czech Republic**

I think that Commander  
Jacques-Yves Cousteau is a highly

appropriate recipient and the  
Prize is more than well deserved.

Dr. Gunter Pauli, Institute of  
Advanced Studies, The United  
Nations University, **Japan**

I am delighted to know that  
[the Biopolitics International  
Organisation] has arranged for  
the First Bios Prize to be given to  
Commander Jacques-Yves  
Cousteau. I cannot think of a bet-  
ter person to receive this award.  
You will have a tremendous chal-  
lenge to find a second recipient  
who matches his energy and expe-  
rience.

Dimitris Kondominas, President,  
Interamerican, **Greece**

Having closely followed the  
Biopolitics International  
Organisation throughout its  
eleven-year history, I believe it is  
steadily on course to implement  
the goals and aspirations it set for  
itself since the very beginning. In  
this crucial period of transition,  
however, the road ahead is long  
and there is still a lot to be accom-  
plished in the future.

The Biopolitics International  
Organisation is an essential agent  
in the area of environmental deci-  
sion making and policy, and, as  
such, it merits everyone's contribu-  
tion and support.

I wish you, wholeheartedly,  
every success in the realisation of  
your goals and aspirations.

Professor Philip Lobel, Boston  
University Marine Program, **USA**

Commander Cousteau has  
been an inspiration for today's  
marine biologists and oceanogra-  
phers. So many of the applicant  
graduate students have written in  
their essays that they were first  
inspired about studying the oceans  
after watching Cousteau's films on  
television.

His films have made a tremen-  
dously positive impact in increas-  
ing the awareness of the fragile sea  
as well as showing young students  
that there is an interesting world of  
scientific discovery awaiting their  
academic inquiry.

It is hard to imagine where the  
science of marine biology would be  
today if not for the educational  
films of Commander Cousteau.

Panayotis P. Poulis, Former  
President, Commercial Bank of  
**Greece**

I would like to greet the First  
Bios Prizes and to emphasise the  
importance of the bio-environment  
and the idea of protecting life on  
our planet.

I strongly support your initia-  
tive for organising such an award  
ceremony, dedicated to people who  
have contributed to a society of  
quality, ethics and respect for the  
environment.

Commander Jacques-Yves  
Cousteau was a great explorer  
whose various books and docu-  
mentaries did not only offer signif-  
icant information but who mainly  
improved the idea of a peaceful co-  
existence between humankind and  
the oceans.

Let us applaud Commander  
Cousteau and honour him by giv-  
ing a promise to ourselves to con-  
tinue his work, because our life  
and the future life of our children  
remains always a responsibility  
which involves all of us.

Nicholas Hadjipateras, President  
Archons of the Ecumenical  
Patriarchate, London, **UK**

It is a great pleasure and privi-  
lege for me to send a message for

this very important historical gathering. As the President of the society of Archons of the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople (European Section), I wish to congratulate today's honoured champion of the environment,

Commander Jacques-Yves Cousteau, the worthy recipient of this award, and extend him best wishes and thanks from all of us.

Since the dawn of civilisation, the world's oceans have been a source of mystery, sustenance and inspiration.

They are the largest, yet least explored, of the earth's ecosystems and a basic driving force for our planet's biological and physical processes. However, as the ultimate receptacle for humanity's waste products oceans are increasingly at risk. Warmest congratulations to Commander Cousteau and the B.I.O. for their life-saving endeavours.

Professor Constantine Psyllas, President, University of Ioannina Medical School, **Greece**

It was a great pleasure to be informed that the Biopolitics International Organisation is awarding Commander Jacques-Yves Cousteau the First Bios Prize.

In my opinion, this award constitutes a fundamental responsibility to acknowledge his world-famous pioneer work in the area of marine research and the collection of invaluable information on the bio-environment, for use by the global scientific community. His contribution to humanity is one of the most significant achievements of this century.

Professor Rusen Keles, Director of Environmental Studies, Ankara University, **Turkey**

"I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Biopolitics International Organisation for its decision to award its First Bios Prize to the most eminent environmentalist in the world. For many years, Commander Jacques-Yves Cousteau has greatly contributed to the identification and conservation of the precious treasures of our planet. I believe he is one of the persons who have dedicated their lives to this cause and he deserves the First Bios Prize more than anyone else."

Professor G. Papaevangelou, Faculty of Nursing, University of Athens, **Greece**

I have been following the B.I.O.'s commendable endeavours with great interest. The establishment of this prize is yet another example of your sensitisation bio-environmental issues and I am convinced that it will significantly contribute to the evolution and promotion of your ideals. Please convey Commander Cousteau my most heartfelt congratulations for his spectacular work.

T.K. Komninos, Managing Director, Hellenic Bottling Company - Coca Cola, **Greece**

It is with great pleasure and satisfaction that I greet the initiative of the Biopolitics International Organisation in awarding the first ever Bios Prize and the only one in the millennium, to Jacques-Yves Cousteau, the pioneer and foremost advocate for the need to protect the Bio-Environment. By his constant efforts he managed, through social, political and cultural leverage, to convey to the entire world, an awareness of the

dangers that could lead to the complete destruction of the Bio-Environment.

We all know that Jacques-Yves Cousteau's contribution is so great that no award can reflect or match his efforts.

His work must be considered without hesitation, as the most important source of inspiration and guidance for the vision and objectives of the Biopolitics International Organisation.

Professor Guyla Bora, Budapest University of Economic Sciences, **Hungary**

The decision to award Commander Jacques-Yves Cousteau the First Bios Prize is excellent, for he has dedicated his life to learning about and protecting nature, i.e. Bios.

Mohamed Hasan, Chairman, Indonesian Business Council for Sustainable, Development, **Indonesia**

I wish the First Bios Prize Award Ceremony every success.

Einars Cilinskis, Chairman, Steering Committee, Riga Water and Environment Project, **Latvia**

I am really happy that the First Bios Prize recipient is Commander Jacques-Yves Cousteau, whose contribution to the appreciation of the bio-environment is invaluable.

Manuel Lopez-Fuchet, Head, Department of International Relations, Ayuntamiento de Madrid, **Spain**

A great admirer of Commander Jacques-Yves Cousteau, I applaud his selection as First Bios Prize recipient. His work in the field of marine research merits every distinction and acknowledgement from an organisation such as the Biopolitics International Organisation.

Mr. Long, Director, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, **France**

Congratulations on this very worthwhile initiative and best wishes for the success of the Bios Prize Awards and their influence on the protection of the environment.

Professor Ivo Savic, University of Belgrade, **Yugoslavia**

This award undoubtedly represents a true recognition of Commander Cousteau's research on the biodiversity of the planet's oceans. His work has made the general public aware of the fact that this biodiversity is endangered and, at the same time, offered suggestions for its protection and conservation.

Jacqueline Aloisi de Lardere, Director, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), **France**

I convey all my wishes for a successful event and warmest congratulations to Commander Cousteau.

Dr. Hazel Henderson, The Global Commission to Fund the United Nations, **USA**

Commander Jacques-Yves Cousteau,

My warmest greetings on this occasion. My deep regrets that I cannot be present to share in honoring your lifetime of achievement. No living human has done more or cared more for our beloved Earth than you. You have

alerted two generations of the human family to their ecological interdependence. Because of your work, millions of 5-year olds, like my grandson, are ecologically literate and wise beyond their years. Let me join in with the millions who know you, love you, and salute you.

Dr. Laszlo Kapolyi, President System International Foundation, **Hungary**

Please convey Commander Cousteau my warmest congratulations on the occasion of being the first Bios Prize recipient for his life efforts and activities in the environmental protection field.

I sincerely regret not being able to participate in the ceremony but I really hope to have the opportunity to meet with Commander Cousteau some time when I can express my congratulations to him personally.

George Strongylis, Principal Administrator European Commission, Directorate General XI, Environment, Nuclear Safety and Civil Protection, Brussels, **Belgium**

For us environment professionals Commander Jacques-Yves Cousteau has been a great source of inspiration. He represents everything that is noble in the world environmental movement.

I will not forget his indefatigable efforts to move to action the governments of the world in order to counter the world wide menaces that are climate change, loss of biodiversity, tropical forest destruction or ozone layer depletion around the time of the Rio Conference and more recently.

One can really say with certainty that Commander Jacques-Yves Cousteau has devoted his life to make this world a better one for us and our children. For this we will be forever grateful to him.

Jaroslav Stoklasa, Environmental Adviser Czech Academy of Sciences, **Czech Republic**

I find the valuation of Commander Jacques-Yves Cousteau's life achievements a very successful idea. I can hardly imagine a more suitable candidate for the First Bios Prize Award.

Since childhood, I have always followed his movies and TV series with a great pleasure.

His work has influenced many generations of people, throughout the world and has prompted them to think of endangered species and the threats to the biosphere.

It was one of my greatest experiences to have the opportunity to be present at a lecture he gave three years ago in Prague, and

was thrilled to directly listen to his ideas on the future of the world.

Professor Ivica Radovic, Dean, Faculty of Biology, University of Belgrade, **Yugoslavi-**

Honourable Commander Cousteau,

On behalf of the University of Belgrade Faculty of Biology, I have the honour to sincerely congratulate you on the occasion of the recognition you have received from the Biopolitics International Organisation.

Your continuous efforts, in the area of marine biodiversity conservation, that have been crowned with such success, as well as your dedication and enthusiasm which have been a powerful driving force for your colleagues and disciples all over the world, render you an unparalleled defender of the rights of future generations.

Your work and your personality are revered by numerous young people in Yugoslavia - a country with very rich endemic biodiversity - that, everyday, want to follow your example.

Your efforts have not only been highly professional, but also profoundly humane, and we will always be indebted to you for your contribution as a pivot for society.

Alecos Makrides, Attorney General, **Republic of Cyprus**

By awarding the First Bios Prize to Commander Jacques-Yves Cousteau in recognition of his famous and invaluable contribution to the comprehension and appreciation of the bio-environment, the Biopolitics International Organisation sets the pace for a long period of hope understanding and the harmonious co-existence of all forms of life, so important for our human society and its future on our planet.

Initiatives like those of the B.I.O. are very useful. The contribute to the re-evaluation of priorities and the development of new ways of thinking that can expand the boundaries of human thought.

Carlos Alberto Leite Barbosa, Ambassador of **Brazil** to Paris

I would like to congratulate the Biopolitics International Organisation for awarding the First Bios Prize, which perfectly reflects the concern your exemplary organisation has about the environmental problems our planet is facing. This Prize is a recognition of the best effort being developed to explore biodiversity on earth.

Ambassador Abdullah Al Malhooq, **Saudi Arabia**

I would like to congratulate the B.I.O. for the award ceremony organised to honour Commander Jacques-Yves Cousteau and award him the First Bios Prize.

Professor Hunay Evliya, Director, Cukurova University Centre for Environmental Research, **Turkey**

Commander Jacques-Yves Cousteau is a pioneer who, with the help of his associates, explored life in the oceans. The recognition of his invaluable contribution and his endless efforts to promote a better understanding and the preservation of nature are acknowledged by this award. As a member of the B.I.O., I congratulate him from my heart and appreciate all the efforts for the organisation of this event.

Professor Sergei Ushakov, Director, Earth Sciences Museum, Lomonosov Moscow State University, **Russia**

We wish to express our sincere congratulations to Commander Jacques-Yves Cousteau for receiving the First Bios Prize and best wishes for further success in his work and for personal happiness.

Professor Ahmet Samsunlu, Istanbul Technical University, **Turkey**

The Biopolitics International Organisation has made great progress in finding solutions to environmental problems and creating valuable approaches with a wide range of national and international activities. Commander Jacques-Yves Cousteau is not only one of the greatest explorers of this century, but is also a hero who has shown great courage and has endangered his life during his research missions all over the world. He has spent his entire life discovering the diverse aspects of nature and of all living organisms, and finding solutions to environmental problems in order to protect our planet. I am very pleased that the First Bios Prize is awarded to a person with so many qualifications.

Albert ten Houten, ATHMO BV Environment and Management, **The Netherlands**

I wish to congratulate the B.I.O., its founder and the recipient of the First Bios Prize, Commander Jacques-Yves Cousteau. For his pursuit of the understanding of the interrelations of all ocean life forms, Commander Jacques-Yves Cousteau is a most worthy recipient.

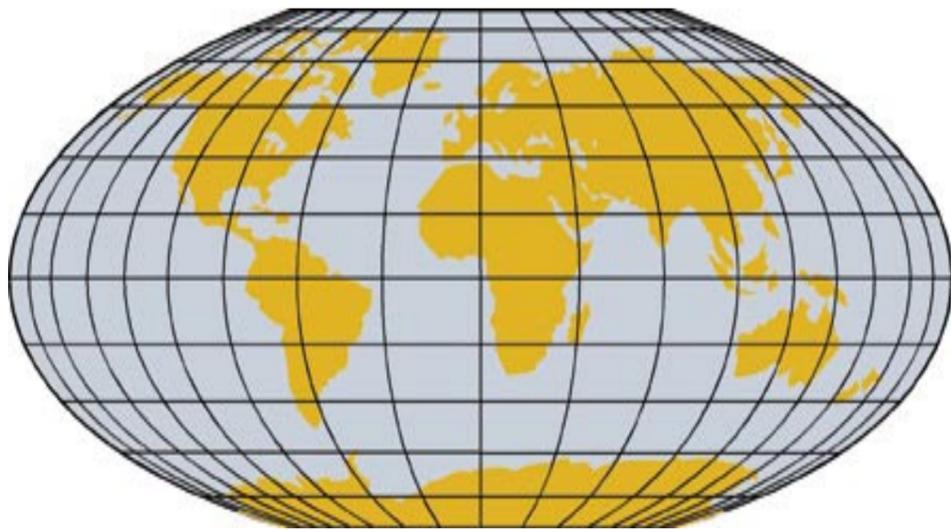
Michael Becher, President, TITAS, **Turkey**

I wish to congratulate Commander Jacques-Yves Cousteau for being awarded the First Bios Prize, and the President and Founder of the Biopolitics International Organisation for her work which I truly admire.

"I have not yet been able to regain all my senses as last night's wonderful event was so filled with emotion. Looking in the eyes of all the distinguished personalities around me, I couldn't help but ask myself whether I was worthy of this honour. At a time when the accident in Singapore and the damage to my beloved ship, the Calypso, had brought great grief to The Cousteau Society, this sincere expression of warmth, coming from people from all over the world, was a source of encouragement. It seems to me that it is our duty to work together. We want peace in a world where all forms of life will be protected. We want to strive to prepare a better future for the generations that will come after us. We want to improve university education. Therefore, we should unite forces and our powers to influence others."

**Jacques-Yves Cousteau**

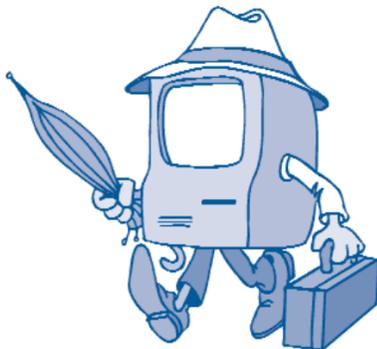
# Business can put the world back together again



A large part of the current environmental crisis is due to the pursuit of short-term economic prosperity. Today the support of the business community is a prerequisite for the successful "turnaround" of our environment. The Biopolitics International Organisation, a non-profit group of representatives from 87 countries, is actively promoting the sensitisation of the business world to the fact that economic and environmental profit can be achieved simultaneously. If you, or your organisation, are interested in more information on our conferences or publications, please contact us.

## Bank of Ideas

The B.I.O Bank of Ideas project is still in progress and contributions are coming in from all over the world. Please send your ideas, on any issue pertaining to the bio-environment, on an audio or video tape, and we will include them in the project. All contributions will be made available on the Internet and reach every corner of the world.



Bio-Environment	
Quality of Life	Health - Safety - Justice - Happiness - Co-existence with all forms of life - External/Internal Wealth - Micro-Environment - Micro-Marketing
Ethical Values	Distributive Values for Society - New Criteria for Business Compatible with Quality of Life
Legislation	National - Global - New Rights - Biodiversity - Global Warming - Ozone Depletion - Overpopulation - Poverty - Degradation
Macro- and Micro-Economics	Time and Space Scale - Historical Perspective - Millennium Approach - Cleaner Production
Bio-Diplomacy	Interdependence - International Co-operation - Third World Viewed as Partner
International Commerce	Durable Development - Internalising External Costs - Consumer Protection
Governance	New Models of Participatory Democracy - World Reformation - Defiance for Bios
Education	Electronic Curriculum - Bio-By-Bylaws - Satellites in Education
Media and Communications	Internet Communication Feedback - Satellite Diffusion of Information - Marketing
Energy	Protection of Resources - Study of Bios Models
Employment	New Opportunities for Employment in Bio-Environmental Protection - Green Salary for the Unemployed
Culture	Arts, Cultural Values, Tradition

The B.I.O. promotes a three-dimensional approach to the concept of profit in business. The challenge is to calibrate growth with reference to biocentric parameters and expand our vision for the coming millennium. The search for practical implementation methods of bios principles in economic decision-making is an ongoing task for the B.I.O.

Dr. Agni Vlavianos-Arvanitis  
Business Strategy for the Bio-Environment vol III., 1996

## 1996 Progress

- Keynote address, International Inner Wheel Day, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Athens
- Weekly feature articles in the Athenian daily "Adesmeutos"
- Radio and Television coverage of the B.I.O. activities
- Publication, Business Strategy for the Bio-Environment, Volume II. Proceedings from a Corporate Symposium at the Harvard Club of New York City, 1995 (English, 105 pp.)
- Keynote address at the First Biopolitics "White Land" Chapter Conference on Scientific and Technological Bases for a Global Energy System, St. Petersburg, Russia
- Lecture, St. Petersburg State Technological University for Plant Polymers, Russia
- Lecture, D.I. Mendeleev University of Chemical Technology
- Lecture, Lomonosov Moscow State University
- The B.I.O. President is appointed Commissioner on The Global Commission to Fund the United Nations
- Publication, Profit and the Bio-Environment - Business Strategy for the Bio-Environment, Volume III in English and Greek. Proceedings from the International Conference on Environmentally-Compatible Business Strategy, Athens Chamber of Commerce and Industry, October 1995 (English 239 pp., Greek 271 pp.)
- Lecture, Rotary Club of Parnitha
- Lecture, Italian School of Athens
- Biopolitics articles published on a monthly basis in the Greek Business Journal
- Biopolitics discussion panel, Piraeus University of Economics
- Keynote address, European Commission Centre, Athens
- Lecture, "Dialectikos" Club of Athens
- Lecture, Istanbul Technical University, Turkey
- Lecture, Marmara University, Turkey
- Keynote address, Habitat Conference, Moscow
- Lecture, Athens Club
- Lecture, Kalavryta Cultural Society, Greece
- Lecture, Andros Municipal Theatre, Greece
- Keynote address at the congress organised by the Polish Senate
- Keynote address at the European Society (ESIEA) Congress
- Series of Biopolitics Round Table Discussions, "Gazi" Cultural Centre of the City of Athens
- Chair, session on Biopolitics and Bio-Diplomacy, World Congress of the Society for Arts and Sciences, Brno, Czech Republic
- Round Table discussion on Biopolitics with the participation of Rectors from eight Czech and Slovak universities
- Opening address, Youth Bio-Olympiad '96, St. Petersburg, Russia
- B.I.O. discussion panel, Europa Dialog '96 organised by Mischka Kinderhilfe on the occasion of M. Gorbachev's visit to Frankfurt, Landeszentralbank, Frankfurt, Germany
- Keynote address, Fifth Yugoslav Ecological Congress, Belgrade, Yugoslavia
- Lecture, Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts
- Lecture, The Convocation of Acropolis Conference, National Technical University of Athens
- First Bios Prize Awarded to Commander Jacques-Yves Cousteau, Paris
- Bio-Environment and International Co-operation. A Hellenic-Ukrainian Symposium, under the auspices of Ambassador Boris Korneyenko
- All B.I.O. publications are made available on the World Wide Web
- Lecture, The Black Sea, Caspian and Mediterranean Seas: A Turntable Between Three Continents Workshop, Istanbul, Turkey.

## Letters to the Editor should be addressed to:

Biopolitics International Organisation, 10 Tim Vassou, 115 21 Athens, Greece, Tel: (301) 64.32.419 Fax: (301) 64.34.093,  
E-Mail: bio@leon.nrcps.ariadne-t.gr, Home Page: <http://www.hol.gr/bio>