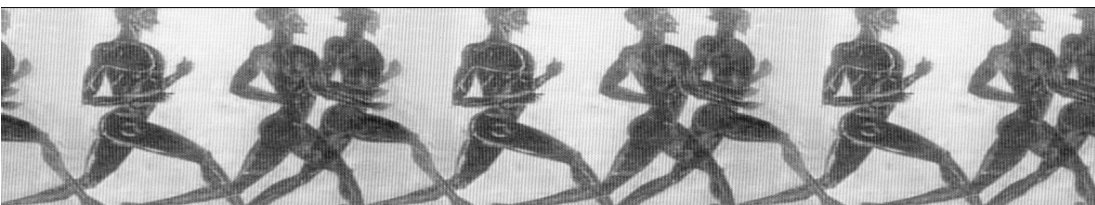




International Prize  
for Outstanding Achievements  
in the Race to Save the Environment



## Millennium of Peace

*Can you hear the gong  
resonate the dawning of the new era*

*Can you see the bright stars  
send messages of light and hope*

*Can you feel the breathing  
of every creature on our planet*

*the waves of love  
the whispers of life*

*Can you listen to the beat of your heart  
embrace us all with warmth*

*Share the new vision  
of joy, peace and harmony*

*(A. Vlavianos-Arvanitis, 1998)*

# *Honorary Committee*

*Agni Vlavianos-Arvanitis*, President and  
Founder, Biopolitics International  
Organisation

*Rodoula Zissi*, Deputy Minister of Environment,  
Physical Planning and Public Works, Greece

*Paul Brouwer*, Ambassador of the Netherlands

*Nikiforos Diamandouros*, Professor, European  
Ombudsman

*Tjaco van den Hout*, Secretary General,  
Permanent Court of Arbitration, The Hague

*Fred Matser*, Director, Sofam Beheer BV, The  
Netherlands

*Robert White*, UN High Commission for  
Refugees Representative in Greece

*Eleftherios Antonacopoulos*, Chairman and  
CEO, Greek Telecommunications  
Organisation

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*Jana Boulenova*, Ambassador of Czechia

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*Bakhtiyar Tursunov*, Consul General of  
Uzbekistan

*Lisan Stredel Balliache*, Ambassador of  
Venezuela

## *Letter from the President*

*To strengthen our response to the challenges of the new millennium, a unifying vision is essential. This vision is provided by the joy of possessing bios - life - the most precious gift on our planet, currently threatened by environmental destruction and abuse. To save bios and to restore environmental harmony in the world, governments, the private sector and civic society need to unite their efforts in a global appreciation of the environment. The goal is not only to change attitudes, but also to motivate and empower people everywhere to act in defence of the environment.*

*The current crisis in values is a great threat, not only to the environment but also to peace. This is why there is a pressing need to use the diachronic ideals of the past to motivate every member of society to actively engage in the race to save the environment. The Olympic Spirit can play a leading role in uniting the forces of culture and technology to instil the appreciation of the aesthetic value of life on our planet. At present, international competitions take place in various fields, but represent a fragmented view of human achievement. An overall recognition and award of achievement in environmental protection can help to re-establish the harmony and unity behind every initiative and action. Bios Prizes for each speciality, celebrating positive contributions to the preservation of life on our planet, can serve as incentives for environmental protection and as a guiding light for the future.*

*It is the goal of the Bios Prizes to inspire society with a vision of hope and harmony. Through a truly international mobilisation to promote environmental appreciation, everyone can contribute to the spiritual renaissance of humanity. This constitutes the hope and the vision of the Biopolitics International Organisation for the generations to come.*

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

# *Ruud Lubbers*

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

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*“..an extraordinary record of high-level achievement, not only as a prime minister for 12 years, the longest holder of that office in his country’s recent history, but also as a scholar, as a professor, and as an active participant in the work of various private sector and non-governmental organisations.”*

*UN Secretary General, Kofi Annan*

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## *An Enlightened Politician and Steward of the Environment*

Ruud Lubbers, a former Dutch Prime Minister, began his appointment as UNHCR’s High Commissioner in 2001. High Commissioner Lubbers was appointed to a three-year term to head one of the world’s principal humanitarian agencies with a staff of more than 5,000 personnel worldwide who help an estimated 21 million people in more than 120 countries.

Dr. Lubbers was born on May 7, 1939, in Rotterdam and educated at the Canisius College in Nijmegen and the Netherlands School of Economics. After managing a family company, he began a long political career in 1973 when he joined the government as Minister for Economic Affairs.

In November 1982, Ruud Lubbers was elected Prime Minister for the first time. He led three successive governments through to August 1994, becoming the longest-serving post-war premier. During this time, he was instrumental in enhancing and securing closer European co-operation and integration, and hosted the high level meeting which became one of the cornerstones of the European Union, notably the Maastrich Treaty (1992), giving way to the creation of a single European currency. He was also responsible for introducing the “Dutch Model” that led to the successful turn-around of the Dutch economy.

Once his national political career was completed, Ruud Lubbers held many positions in both the public and private sector. As a statesman with extensive knowledge in European and world affairs and as an economist by trade, he took the opportunity to return to academia. In 1995, he accepted a professorship on the faculty of economics at Tilburg University, in the Netherlands. He was also a visiting professor at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University in the United States.

Throughout his professional career, Ruud Lubbers has demonstrated a firm commitment towards the maintenance and management of the environment in a sustainable and participatory manner. His involvement as a member of the Earth Council and of the Earth Charter Commission, also as the vice-chairman of the Independent World Commission on the Oceans, not to mention his former presidency of the World Wide Fund for Nature, are just some examples of his dedication to environmental issues. He further acknowledges that the welfare of refugees is closely related to how the UNHCR and other agencies manage the environment within and around refugee camps and settlements, and that in order to promote sound environmental management an essential contribution would be to stop and prevent wars and refugees.



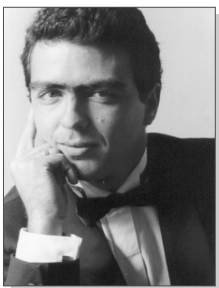
## *The Bios Prize*

*for millennium vision and global leadership*

*In these times of global challenges, humanity needs leadership with a vision. Environmental hardship, social exclusion, war and human rights abuses are ravaging major parts of our planet, condemning millions of people to live in conditions of devastating poverty or forcing them to leave their homelands. Humanity cannot be safe unless world leaders recognise the urgent need to turn despair into hope and to open new pathways for responsible leadership.*

*Throughout his career, Ruud Lubbers has demonstrated a proactive and constant commitment towards the environment, viewing it not just as an isolated topic area, but as an issue that concerns everyone and is intertwined to other universal concerns, such as the eradication of poverty. As UN High Commissioner for Refugees, Ruud Lubbers has highlighted that environmental concerns also exist within refugee operations, proving the direct link between the movement of thousands of people and the state of the environment. He considers that being aware of this relationship is not only important when it comes to safeguarding the environment, but that the environment is absolutely vital to the security, safety, and well-being of refugees.*

*He is awarded the Bios Prize for his environmental stewardship and millennium vision.*



*Dimitris Papatheodorou*

**D**imitris Papatheodorou was born in Athens. He studied at the Athens Conservatory under Aris Garoufalis.

Recognised as a prodigy by the music community, Dimitris was granted a two-year scholarship by the Onassis Foundation to study in Amsterdam at the Sweelink Conservatory with Hans Derksen. This was followed by a second scholarship from the same foundation along with a private grant from composer Manos Hadjidakis to study at the Manhattan School of Music with Byron Janis. After winning second prize in the Ibla International Piano Competition in 1992, he received an award from EMI Records.

As the winner of a Special Presentation Award, Dimitris played his Carnegie Hall debut on January 22, 1995, under the sponsorship of Artists International Presentations, Inc.

In 1998, he was awarded the Spyros Motsenigos Prize by the Athens Academy.

Dimitris Papatheodorou has performed, extensively, solo recitals, chamber music and concertos with orchestras in Italy, the Netherlands, Belgium, Romania, the United States, Bolivia, Argentina, Cyprus, Turkey and Egypt as well as in his native Greece.



*Christa Pfeiler*

**G**erman-born mezzo-soprano Christa Pfeiler studied singing and piano at the Berlin Conservatory with Elisabeth Freitag, completing her musical education at the Sweelink Conservatory in Amsterdam where she received her soloist's diploma in 1982. She also studied Lieder-interpretation with Elizabeth Schwarzkopf in Bern, Switzerland. From 1983 to 1986, at the Studio of the Netherlands Opera, she interpreted lead roles in operas by Mozart, Rossini, Handel and others.

Christa Pfeiler has appeared in concerts and oratorio's throughout Europe and South-America with conductors as Kenneth Montgomery, Edo de Waart, Lev Markiz, Kees Bakels, Klaus-Peter Flohr, Hans Vonk, Ton Koopman, Reinbert de Leeuw and Jean-Paul Penin.

With her husband, pianist Rudolf Jansen, recital performer in the Netherlands, Germany, Austria and France, she toured in Indonesia and Singapore, in December 1996, as part of the "European Duo-Festival."

Christa Pfeiler can be heard in several recordings, including Grieg's Complete Songs (Victoria Records, Oslo), Complete Songs by Alphons Diepenbrock (CNM, Netherlands), and "Il piccolo Marat" by P. Mascagni (Bougiovanni, Italy). She was prize-winner at the International Vocal Competition in 's-Hertogenbosch (Netherlands) and at the International Opera and Bel Canto Competition of the Belgian Broadcasting Company.

# *Bios Prize Award Ceremony*

*Biopolitics International Organisation  
Bios Prize Award Ceremony in honour of*

*Ruud Lubbers*

*under the auspices of*

*Rodoula Zissi, Deputy Minister of Environment*

*Paul Brouwer, Ambassador of the Netherlands*

National Bank of Greece, New Administration Building, Athens

11 March 2003

## ***Programme***

### ***Greetings***

*Agni Vlavianos-Arvanitis, President, Biopolitics International Organisation*

*Rodoula Zissi, Deputy Minister of Environment*

*Paul Brouwer, Ambassador of the Netherlands*

*Robert White, UN High Commission for Refugees Representative in Greece*

*Kitty P. Kyriacopoulos, Honorary Chairman, Silver and Baryte Ores Mining Co.*

*Bette Shifman, Deputy Secretary General, Permanent Court of Arbitration*

*Fred Matser, Director, Sofam Beheer BV, The Netherlands*

## ***Musical Programme***

*Christa Pfeiler: Mezzo-soprano*

*Dimitris Papatheodorou: Piano*

<i>S. Rachmaninoff</i>	Prelude	Op.3 No.2
<i>F. Chopin</i>	Nocturne	cis-moll
<i>S. Rachmaninoff</i>	Prelude	Op.23 No.5
<i>H. Berlioz</i>	(from "Les nuits d'ete") Villanelle	F major
<i>F. Schubert</i>	Fruhlingsglaube	F major
<i>E. Chausson</i>	Les Papillons	F major
<i>G. F. Handel</i>	(from opera "Atalanta") Care selve	E flat major
<i>F. Schubert</i>	Heidenroslein	D major
<i>R. A. Millikin</i>	The Last Rose of Summer	D major
<i>E. Chausson</i>	Le Colibri	B major



# *The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees*

## *UNHCR*

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) was established on December 14, 1950, by the United Nations General Assembly with the mandate of leading and co-ordinating international actions to protect refugees and resolve refugee problems primarily in war torn Europe. However, in its evolving history and to the present day, UNHCR's primary purpose has been to safeguard the rights and well-being of refugees wherever they may be in the world.

The work of UNHCR has been continuous and responsive to changing circumstances in history. In the 1960s and 1970s, UNHCR worked to help refugees from areas of struggles for independence in colonised states; today their work has been invaluable to the protection of refugees resulting from conflicts in the Balkan region, Rwanda and Afghanistan, among other countries. UNHCR's efforts are mandated by the organisation's Statute, and guided by the 1951 United Nations Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol.

In more than five decades and in different regions of the world, the agency has helped an estimated 50 million people find protection where governments have been unable to provide it. In its efforts to protect refugees and to promote solutions to their problems, UNHCR works in partnership with governments, regional organisations, international and non-governmental institutions.

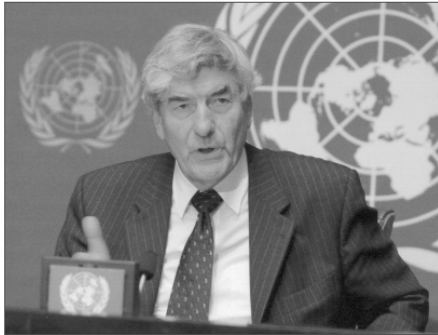
UNHCR's continuous effort and commitment to identify solutions have not gone without recognition, as, twice, this refugee agency has been honoured with the Nobel Peace Prize; in 1954, for its work in finding solutions for refugees who were still homeless in the after-

math of the Second World War; and in 1981, for its role in managing the Vietnamese refugee crisis. Today, under the guidance of High Commissioner Ruud Lubbers, a staff of around 5,000 people in more than 120 countries continue to help an estimated 22 million refugees, asylum seekers and internally displaced persons.

*Environment - vital to the security, safety, and well-being of refugees*

UNHCR's mandate is to ensure that international protection is provided to refugees and seek durable solutions to their plight. Environmental protection is of central concern to the Office, both in precluding further refugee outflows and in restoring environmental damage caused by mass displacements. UNHCR focuses on proactive refugee camp-site selection in areas far from sensitive ecological sites and draws up strict management practices for any sites within such zones. Appropriate strategies for camp closure are defined with an emphasis on environmental restoration, drawing in the resources and experiences of other qualified partners.

During the 1992 Earth Summit, UNHCR pledged to make environmental issues an integral part of its operation, a commitment that High Commissioner Lubbers has aimed to maintain and further, working closely with other UN agencies and partners. Although UNHCR is not an environmental agency, it is indeed gratifying to know that an agency with such an important mandate, to identify solutions for the world's refugees, has also a vision to care for the environment.



# *Biopolitics International Organisation*

## *A vision of hope*

### **INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION FOR THE BETTER UNDERSTANDING AND APPRECIATION OF BIOS (LIFE) AND THE ENVIRONMENT**

The 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," an international effort in defence of the environment

### **BIO-CULTURE - BIO-ENVIRONMENT**

Two essential dimensions for building new societal values for the millennium.

### **BIO-EDUCATION**

The International University for the Bio-Environment (I.U.B.E.) was launched to reform education world-wide by promoting environmental curricula and satellite education.

### **BIO-ASSESSMENT OF TECHNOLOGY**

A diachronic search for new societal values will channel technological progress in a direction that leads to a better quality of life through environmental appreciation.

### **INTERNATIONAL LEGISLATION ON BIOS RIGHTS**

Protecting all forms of life by enacting rules that prevent the deterioration of the environment, and ensuring the fundamental right to a clean environment and to a better quality of life.

### **A WORLD REFERENDUM**

People throughout the world can cast a vote electronically and express their willingness to preserve the environment and bios on our planet.

### **RAISING AWARENESS OF THE RAMIFICATIONS OF THE BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES**

More people would realise that progress in the biological sciences relates to their own field of interest. New fields of human endeavour, such as bio-legislation, bio-arts, bio-linguistics, bio-economics, bio-athletics, bio-communications, bio-history, or bio-architecture, may thus develop.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL OLYMPICS AND BIOS PRIZES**

To promote environmental appreciation in every human endeavour and involve all citizens in the race to save the environment, Bios Prizes are given to reward excellence in environmental protection.

### **CEASE-FIRE DURING THE OLYMPIC GAMES**

Since 1985, B.I.O. has promoted the introduction of cease-fire during the Olympic Games, a proposal which has been adopted as a Resolution by the UN General Assembly.

### **PROPOSED ACTION**

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

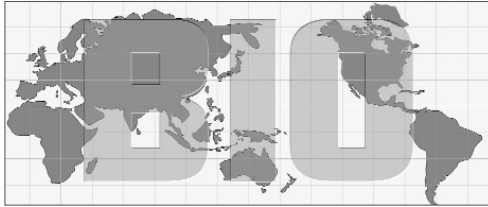
a *Green Salary* in place of benefits for the unemployed, with the commitment to contribute to the protection of the environment

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

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

an electronic *Bank of Ideas* to create a rich repository of information and reflections on bios

# *B.I.O. in 124 countries*



## **Africa**

Algeria, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Chad, Congo, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Nigeria, Senegal, Seychelles, South Africa, Sudan, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, Zimbabwe

## **The Americas**

Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Bermuda, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guyana, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, Peru, USA, Uruguay, Venezuela

## **Asia**

Armenia, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Cambodia, China and Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Iran, Israel, Japan, Jordan, Korea, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Nepal, Pakistan, The Philippines, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Syria, Thailand, United Arab Emirates

## **Europe**

Albania, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, FYROM, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Moldova, Monaco, The Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, UK, Vatican, Yugoslavia

## **Oceania**

Australia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands

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Kitty P. Kyriacopoulos

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