

Bios Prize Award Ceremony

in honour of UN High Commissioner for Refugees



Ruud Lubbers

Athens, 11 March 2003

National Bank of Greece, New Administration Building

As a tribute to peace and the environment, the **Biopolitics International Organisation** (B.I.O.) awards **Bios Prizes** to visionary leaders whose contributions make this world a better place for the future. Following awards to Jacques Cousteau in Paris in 1996, and to Mstislav Rostropovich at the Hermitage in St. Petersburg in 1999, B.I.O. honoured UN High Commissioner for Refugees and f. Premier of The Netherlands, **Ruud Lubbers**, with the Bios Prize during a special ceremony in **Athens, Greece**, on **Tuesday, March 11, 2003**.

The event was held under the auspices of the **Greek Deputy Minister of the Environment, Rodoula Zissi**, and the **Dutch Ambassador, Paul Brouwer**, with the participation of diplomats, business leaders, scholars, artists and other eminent personalities from around the world. Speakers included the B.I.O. President, **Dr. Agni Vlavianos-Arvanitis**, the Ambassador of the Netherlands, **Paul Brouwer**, the UNHCR Representative in Athens, **Robert White**, the Honorary Chairman of Silver and Baryte Ores Mining Co, **Kitty Kyriacopoulos**, the Deputy Secretary General of the Permanent Court of Arbitration, **Bette Shifman**, and the Chairman of Sofam Beheer BV, **Fred Matser**. The ceremony concluded with a musical programme featuring pianist **Dimitris Papatheodorou** and world famous mezzo-soprano **Christa Pfeiler**.

High Commissioner Lubbers served as Prime Minister of The Netherlands continuously from 1982 to 1994, the longest-serving post-war premier. After leaving politics he taught university courses on globalisation and sustainable development at Tilburg University in the Netherlands and as a visiting professor at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University in the United States. He was also vice-chairman of the Independent World Commission on the Oceans and chair of Globus, the Institute for Globalisation and Development based in Tilburg. His last post, before becoming High Commissioner in January 2001, was Head of the World Wide Fund for Nature. A steward of the environment, Ruud Lubbers has given special consideration to environmental protection in the work of the UNHCR.

Honorary Committee

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

Rodoula Zissi, Deputy Minister of Environment, Greece
Paul Brouwer, Ambassador of The Netherlands
Nikiforos Diamantouros, 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
Kitty P. Kyriacopoulos, Honorary Chairman, Silver and Baryte Ores Mining Co., Greece
Iason Stratos, Chairman of the Board of Directors, Aluminium de Grece
Eleni Kokkalis
Fotini Livanos
Irene Vassilopoulou
Athanassios Arvanitis, Secretary General, Archons of the Ecumenical Patriarchate
Florinda Rojas Rodriguez, f. UN High Commission for Refugees Representative in Greece
Stefanos Costopoulos, Chairman, Hellenic-American Chamber of Commerce
Constantine Kanonis, Chairman, Hellenic-Russian Chamber of Commerce
Dimitris Randopoulos, f. Chairman, Hellenic-British Chamber of Commerce
Anastasios Balafoutas, Chairman, Hellenic-German Chamber of Industry and Commerce
Bashkim Zeneli, Ambassador of Albania
Raul Alberto Ricardes, Ambassador of Argentina
Stuart Hume, Ambassador of Australia
Srdjan Ljubojevic, Ambassador of Bosnia-Herzegovina
Stefan Stoyanov, Ambassador of Bulgaria
Philip Somerville, Ambassador of Canada
Daniel Bucan, Ambassador of Croatia
Jana Boulenova, Ambassador of Czechia
Magda Shahin, Ambassador of Egypt
Paul Fouad Tabet, Apostolic Nuncio, Ambassador of the Holy See
Csaba Korosi, Ambassador of Hungary
David Sasson, Ambassador of Israel
Tae Kyu Han, Ambassador of Korea
Fernand Kartheiser, Ambassador of Luxembourg
Evarist Saliba, Ambassador of Malta
Luis Alberto Barrero Stahl, Charge d'Affaires, Embassy of Mexico
Finn Fostervoll, Ambassador of Norway
Bertha Vega Perez, Ambassador of Peru
Lourdes Morales, Ambassador of The Philippines
Dusan Batakovic, Ambassador of Serbia and Montenegro
Jozica Puhar, Ambassador of Slovenia
Jannie Momberg, Ambassador of South Africa
Maria Luisa Caroni, Ambassador of Switzerland
Precha Pitisant, Ambassador of Thailand
Yigit Alpogan, Ambassador of Turkey
Thomas Miller, Ambassador of the United States of America
Bakhtiyar Tursunov, Consul General of Uzbekistan
Lisan Stredel Balliache, Ambassador of Venezuela