



57th Annual DPI/NGO Conference, United Nations, New York, N.Y., September 8-10, 2004

Conference Theme: "Millennium Development Goals: Civil Society takes Action"

Midday Interactive Workshop Theme, September 9, 2004: "Global Reconciliation"

Sponsored by Promoting Enduring Peace, Round World Leadership
and Foundation for Subjective Experience and Research
(S.E.R.)

S.E.R. – Foundation's speech to "Global Reconciliation":

Honourable Members of the Diplomatic Corps,
Fellow NGO Delegations,
Esteemed Guests,
Ladies and Gentlemen!

At the outset let me express, on behalf of the Foundation of Subjective Experience and Research (S.E.R.) Delegation Team, coming from Germany and Switzerland, our profound thanks and gratitude for giving us the opportunity to take part in this 57th UN DPI/NGO Conference.

The speakers before me, Mrs. Carol Hwoschinsky of PePeace and Mrs. Joyce Milliken of Round World Leadership, spoke out eloquently on the need for the civil society to take action in implementing the Eight (8) Millennium Development Goals enunciated by the United Nations.

The S.E.R. Delegation Team would like, in equal vigor and commitment, to underscore the relevance and timeliness of the theme of this years Conference. "Civil Society takes Action", is a sound response to the tremendously complex problems and conflicts besetting the Community of Nations today.

Indeed, the challenge confronting the World Community is how to harness civility and high-mindedness in eradicating structures built by ignorance and greed; how to

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eliminate instruments of violence and subjugation perpetuated by myopic and evil-minds.

In short, how to marshal and mobilize the sterling and magnanimous qualities of the Human Mind in overcoming the root-causes of man-made war, hunger, disease, inequality, injustice and environmental destruction.

A careful perusal of history will show how civil courage and civil disobedience has succeeded in transforming the flame of vision into tangible reality. One has simply to look at the Republic of India today and imagine where it would be if it had not been for the peaceful civil disobedience pursued by Mahatma Gandhi? In my country, the fall of the Berlin Wall is a recent demonstration of the soundness of Civil Action in its constructiveness, in comparison to armed struggles and violent revolutions.

This Conference theme "Civil Society takes Action" is a call to all men, women and all nations to aspire for a higher level of national character and values. It is a summon to all men and women of goodwill, to lift-up their minds and go beyond racial, cultural, and ideological boundaries and stand up against the purveyors of ill-will, inhumanity and irrationality.

In the words of R.V.Tajon, one of the Founders of our Foundation:

"The Protecting of human life is a sacred duty; upholding human dignity is a sublime mission to fulfil."

It is with this ideal in mind that we propose that the guiding principle, upon which the UN Millennium Goals will be pursued should be under the "**Spirit of Global Reconciliation**" and inspired by the Motto: **One World - One Soul**.

Reconciliation touches all aspects of human life: at social, economic, political, environmental and religious levels. The profound feelings of elation and peace of mind experienced when in state of reconciliation are known to release creative and magnanimous impulses and when collectively pursued they channel conscious efforts to elevate the perception of higher values to the mind. This can be observed in such aged-old cultural and religious practices such as Ramadan, Sabbath and fasting, contemplation as well as pilgrimages.

Conflicts of interest have always been a stumbling block in human relations. For this reason various methods and forms of negotiations are conceived and are being resolutely applied in resolving human differences. However, the fact that conflicts exist is not itself catastrophic; rather, it is an opportunity, a challenge, to master conflicts through the power and insight of a sound and healthy Mind.

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Inspired by this insight, the S.E.R. Foundations D, NL & CH in local and in international levels, are pursuing projects designed to foster reconciliation under the Motto: One World - One Soul.

For example, in cultural area, we are supporting Teatro de La Luna, in Argentina, a children's project focusing on art and music to promote creative and personality development as a way of uplifting the conscious perception of the children-participants towards an ideal picture of themselves, their fellow human beings and their environment.

In Switzerland, in Pestalozzi Children's Village nearby St. Gallen, we conduct a week-long Children Camp annually, of children from ages ranging from 10 to 12 year olds, coming from various nationalities, also for the same purpose.

In Uslar, Germany, we conducted KIMUKU (Kinder Musik Kultur) Children, Music and Cultural Exchange, also for the same aim, in cooperation with the City of Uslar and the Ergosom Verein, Germany.

In the City of Wesel, Germany, we assist the S.E.R. Kinder Verein Wesel e.V., in helping about 49 children of different social, religious and cultural origin, to lead a healthy and creative life in the multiplicity of community.

In the spiritual area, on Oct. 2nd of this year, we will be conducting in Basel, Switzerland, a Reconciliation Forum, with Archbishop Simon Ntamwana of Burundi, as Guest of Honour, under the Theme: Reconciliation – the Path to Peace and Order, Justice and Democracy.

Let me take this opportunity to invite you all to this spiritual Forum. Mrs. Erika Brändle of the S.E.R. Foundation CH is the Chairperson of this Forum, who is here with us, will be glad to discuss with you the various formalities during the breaks.

In the field of health, on Nov. 27th, we will be conducting in Oldenburg, Germany Complementary Health Care Programs together with the Klinikum Oldenburg to promote holistic health education to bridge the gap between Scientific Medicine and Nature Medicine and thereby enhance the quality of health services and care.

While in Basel, Switzerland, a Trusthome for the physically handicapped was recently set up in cooperation with the Trust World AG.

In the field of education, together with the Begegnungsstätte Foundation Waldhof, one of the sister organizations of the Foundation, we are setting up an Institute for Subjective Learning in Bad Eilsen, Germany, to research into Educational Synthesis Programs for men and women of tomorrow.

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These are, to mention a few, the programs currently being pursued by S.E.R. Foundations. I would like also to mention an ongoing plan to set up Reconciliation Institute on the Island of Crete, in Greece, once the stronghold of Matriarchal ideals, in honour of the mothers of the world and the women of Crete.

In the light of these visions, we propose that this conference adopts a Resolution calling for a UN World Reconciliation Week every last week of April beginning in the year 2005, as follow:

A Resolution imploring the United Nations General Assembly thru the Secretary General, Honourable Kofi Annan, to declare every last week of April as UN World Reconciliation Week.

WHEREAS, the major task of the United Nations is to promote peace and order, security equality, human rights and dignity.

WHEREAS, to fulfil this vision demands the refocusing of world consciousness in seeking means of mitigating confrontations and conflicts in sensitive areas such as economic, political, social, cultural and religion.

WHEREAS, reconciliation is a cornerstone for peace, helps to uplift the human mind to reach out and build structures that foster mutual interaction and responsorial dialogue as shown by various religious rites and traditions practice around the world.

NOW, THEREFORE, the 57th UN DPI/NGO Conference, hereby and virtue of this resolve, adopts this resolution, this day of September 10, 2004 at the UN Conference NGO Hall, New York City.

It is because of a vision that the United Nations was founded: To pursue the collective yearnings of Mankind for a world where peace and order, freedom and justice, equality and dignity reign high.

It is a vision every UN Member-Nation is willing to fulfil. It is an ideal everyone is capable of transforming into a beautiful workable reality.

We owe this as much for ourselves and to all human generations to come that we should act now.

Let this Conference lead the way: Civil Society takes action.

Finally, I respectfully move that the Resolution for a UN World Reconciliation Week every last week of April of each year be adopted by this honourable Assembly.

Thank you.

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