

# International Liaison Council for an World Environment Authority « CILAME »



## WHY THE CILAME ?

*Our planetary environment is in danger !*

*Our planetary environment is in danger. Our duty is to defend its survival through political and legal enforcement, with real power in order to stop the harmful activities of the polluters.*

### A HISTORICAL NECESSITY:

To better understand why the CILAME was created , we need to go back to the end of World War II.

A disaster swooped down on our planetary community between 1939 and 1945 which destroyed the environment during the prewar period when nature was flourishing, customs and traditions carefully maintained it and often in a bucolic atmosphere without worrying about pollution, except for some industrial zones.

About two billion people led normal lives in a balanced environment, although not always socially fair. No one could imagine that one day this environment would be in need of protection. At the time, it was considered a given permanent fact of life.

Then Nazism appeared with its procession of atrocities and ruined this existing well-being.

As from 1946-1948, reconstruction was necessary to accommodate populations and repair roads to facilitate the transportation of workers of all kinds, so as to revitalize the environment. During this period of renewal, many citizens rebelled against the atrocities they had been suffering from. They did not want to be subjected to such inhuman experiences again. So, they campaigned for a world democracy and an environment worthy of the legitimate aspirations of "**the human being.**"

They declared themselves "**World Citizens**", based on the principles of fraternity, equality and solidarity among peoples in a world of peace.

Along with their choice in favor of peace, these early world citizens decided to commit themselves to restoration and safeguard of the environment. Unfortunately, this new period of peace was marked by urban and agricultural upheavals and industrial

settlements which are far from models of environmental beautification. Urgent actions were then taken in many directions in the form of demonstrations or associations for environmental protection. During the years which followed this awareness, a fast-developing and polluting industrialization was introduced in all the countries and aggressed unscrupulously the environment.

It is as a result of observing the inadmissible worldwide degradation of peoples' living environment that CILAME was founded in 1990 by a group of world citizens and militant ecologists. This followed in the wake of the success, one year previously, of The Hague Appeal, which contained our "mundialist" requests regarding environmental matters. Since then, our association did not stop to interfere in political and economical circles in order to push them to admit the urgent necessity to set up a world organization able to solve, as fairly as possible, the major environmental problems

### ***THAT IS WHY CILAME EXISTS!***

The priority of such aggressions will be chosen by CILAME according to the harmful effects they have on the seas, forests and the ozone layer which preserves climates and biodiversity. Since the international 1990 Rio conference, many other world conferences drafted texts highlighting environmental disorders, but regrettably without proposing the creation of an "*Environment Supranational Democratic World Authority*".

In conclusion CILAME by its initiatives, writings and contacts, strives with conviction to make people admit the absolute necessity of a democratic world organization dedicated to the safeguarding of our global environment.

*Jerry Bourgeois (Chairman)*

According to a public opinion survey conducted by Publimetrie, 94 % of the people questioned were in favor of the establishment of such a body as long as it was set upon the basis of new world regulations.

## BRIEF REPORTS...

*Every person has the duty to take part in environmental protection and improvement"*

*(article 2 of the Environment Charter).*

### TSUNAMI

The tidal wave of December 26, 2004 has again highlighted the worldwide lack of means of detection in "high risk" countries. Such early detection could have limited material damage, but more important still, saved human lives.

Furthermore, the observed implications of this disaster are enlightening: the worldwide immediate response in equipment, human and financial assistance in the absence of a world body able to manage its organization in order to avoid waste, over-reactions, exploitation.

Nature confronts us with the reality principle by forcing us to become aware of our irrational behavior. It challenges us to take the necessary decisions in clear and determined consciousness to have them applied and respected.

### THE KYOTO PROTOCOL

We should be delighted by the Kyoto Protocol enforcement since February 16, 2005, which required from 38 among the most industrialized nations to reduce, by an average of 5,2 % their green house effect gases emissions into the atmosphere, by the year 2012, taking reforestation into account. This protocol is, however, insufficient in the midst of hyper productivity. Other radical protocols will have to be implemented after 2012 to reduce the scale of climatic changes.

### "INTERNATIONAL" or "GLOBAL"

The Chairman of the Summit Commission held in Johannesburg (South Africa) from August 26 to September 4, 2002 regretted that a world environment organization did not organize that summit so that it could go beyond hopeful wishes and vague proposals that could not be enforced.

Environmental international law could only be applied within the framework of an institution such as a World Environment Authority that the CILAME is advocating since April 5, 1990, and the World Citizens Registry since 1949, whose president was at that time, Jerry Bourgeois.

International environmental law has of course the merit to exist but it is only supported by **national states confrontation** and must overtake its limitations to ensure its effectiveness. What is at stake here is sustainable development and ecological irreversibility. It has to take more radical and global precautionary and preventive measures. Such legal measures which favor the environment are often superseded by productivity demands and its restricted logic.

### CONTROL, THE KEY TO THE ENVIRONMENT

Only an institution such as a World Environment Authority can steer, apply and control this international law to protect the environment. It can be divided into three sectors:

- Ø The enforcement of existing texts, conventions and protocols, making these principles operational, negotiating new conventions and protocols, and radicalizing the reduction of the green house effect gases emission.
- Ø The setting up of a world contract to clean up, share and save drinking water; the application of conventions against water pollution in order to clean up sea pollution; sign radical protocols to protect forests and biodiversity; the promotion of recycling pollutants and the establishment of a convention on renewable energies.
- Ø Make financial, legal, scientific, technological and educational means that already exist accessible and consolidate their allocations.. However, to be managed they require a fundamental base, such as a world powerful organization at the service of life, as proposed by the CILAME.

### SOME REFLECTIONS AND WISHES FROM THE 1989 HAGUE APPEAL

? The right to live is the basis of all legitimate human aspirations. Its guarantee is an absolute duty for all who are in positions of authority in every state. At present, the very conditions of life on our planet are threatened by the serious pollution of the atmosphere.

? This appeal exhorts all states and international organizations competent in this matter, to sign and ratify the conventions for the protection of nature and the environment.

? In this appeal, the 43 signatory states have committed themselves to "promote, within the UN framework, the development of a new institutional authority which, in order to preserve the atmosphere, will be entrusted to act against global warming, **using all procedures resulting from effective decisions, even though in some cases a consensus agreement has not been reached**".

In other words, the signatory states have admitted the necessity "in some cases" to go beyond the sovereign states in order to impose measures to safeguard the environment.

J.B

C.L.

# THE ENVIRONMENT AT GLOBALIZATION TIME

The great themes and powerful ideas which tend to reinforce the preparation of a World Environment Authority, justify the existence of such an international organization. It is a possible consensus in the evolution of democratic "mundialization."

This is not any more a privilege of the economy through a few gigantic multinationals. On the contrary, it touches all fields of activity, especially those relating to the environment. It is now obvious that humanity must respond to environmental problems with global solutions. These should not only be technically valid but also politically and socially acceptable by all.

## **Power and citizens**

This point should be stressed: the corollary of this "globalization" and the internationalization of decision-making centers, accompanied by "concentration", will lead to new forms of power and counter-power which suggest the emergence of a transnational civil society.

Public opinion can no more be satisfied by being represented by intermediary political parties. The mass media do not reflect anymore the many different opinions. Traditional forms of shaping public opinion are on the decline everywhere. We can see today the stage being set for a multitude of actors of various orientations, especially through cosmopolitan associations, that represent new relationships between citizens and states.

These organizations, usually NGO's, stand at the intersection between society and the state, particularly as it relates to the environment. Jumping beyond frontiers, they impose to the nations a "right to UN intervention" which has not been sufficiently used. NGOs active in the environmental field have never questioned the legitimacy of existing governments. They have maintained a permanent dialogue with state agencies since the Rio summit of June 1992, and they took part systematically in the major international negotiations regarding these issues. Many of these have earned apart from recognition on the governmental level, a real legitimacy in the political arena.

The reality of a world environment authority requires a leader, in spite of the paradox that CILAME is an NGO initiative. But nation states have to be dealt with.

## **An innovative organization**

A World Environment Authority (WEA) could be organized as a standard UN international organization. And called UNEP or (United Nations Environment Program) .It could, for instance, collaborate with the new international civil society through an official process of dialogue, negotiation and decision making.

It is through the success of the establishment of such an organization that the WEA (UNEP) will be innovative. Environmental management requires advanced technologies. Decisions relating to such a management have to be based on a new type of democratic procedures. This has to be conscious participatory democracy, aware of the necessity of the creation of a balance among the new forces in operation. The latter should interfere in the very early stages of the decision-making process. The states, in collaboration with the WEA(UNEP), should commit themselves to take the necessary measures, implement them, and control their application.

It is a fact that some maritime zones; territorial and extraterritorial waters, have been transformed into dumping areas for all sorts of wastes, mainly by tankers using the maritime roads. Pollutions are social phenomena with regard to our vital needs of water, air and land. The life of our planet and its peoples is in danger. Every citizen should be concerned

## **A culture of the environment**

This awareness will help make clear choices based on innovative technologies. Tele detection via satellite provides realistic maps which show the vulnerability of planet Earth in interaction with the environment. Geostationary satellites highlight natural and industrial catastrophes and their impact on life. These precious and indispensable tools for the decision-makers, can help set up emergency plans to manage such situations and prevent them.

These current observations can lead us to ethics: they go from scientific knowledge to our daily behaviors.

Fundamental ethics obviously includes the respect of certain moral rules. It is essential, to speak about environment world law, that includes a certain human well-being in harmony with nature, in order to leave for the coming generations a living, green

and blue planet.

It is the role and duty of politicians and parliamentarians in association with democratic institutions, to take the necessary decisions.

An environment international convention would provide a basis to formulate ethical principles. At the end, it could be called a "culture of the environment", as we now do when we refer to a "culture of society" in the area of civilian use of nuclear energy. Such a culture would be planetary civic consciousness. It would teach responsible behavior that is to encourage young children elementary actions to safeguard the planet (integrity, respect, security).

States have ignored the environment too much, in spite of texts, agreements and written conventions. Perhaps it is difficult for them to delegate some of their sovereign powers. It is true thisdays that we are faced with a crisis of multi-laterality. If regulations are necessary, it implies a moral obligation at all the levels :state and individual.

### **World strategy**

What could be, in this context, the basis of a World Environment Authority?

We should, first define the legal foundations of the world institution for the environment, starting from a world strategy which then goes on to regional tactics.

The WEA could be based on:

- 1.World environment observatories using Tele detection and networking interactions with planetary laboratories
- 2.An international environment Court. In Italy, there are specialized legal mechanisms which could

serve as models.

This requires:

- Ø To find common values to environmental issues at a world level in view of the North/south division
- Ø To remain watchful because of some national sensitivities, particularly the military ones ;
- Ø To truly inform the public of the urgency and consequences caused by individual and collective degradations of the environment, and to incite people to follow rules which will promote daily civic environmental habits.

Our survival depends on the environment. If the WEA is supported by an Environment World Law, it is at the same time a planetary humanism in which every citizen and every state should be an active participant. Although the environment is at the core of our existence, we do not feel sufficiently concerned. The international conferences and resolutions of Rio (1992) Kyoto (1997) and Johannesburg (2002) have not yet been able to convinced all states, including the U.S.. However, the protocol ratification of Kyoto by Russia in November 2004, enabled its application since February 16, 2005, expiring in 2012.

*The above text is a synthesis of an International Conference on the theme "Legal and Political aspects of a World Environment Authority" held in Paris on 21<sup>st</sup> October 1995 in the Halls of Justice, under the patronage of Maitre Corinne Lepage, Minister of the environment.*

These 4 pages of information of CILAME were edited by : Jerry Bourgeois, Christiane Libouban, Gaetane Gilès de Pelichy, Florence de Galzain and Michel Forestier. The layout, sub titles and various arrangements are by Daniel Durand.



[www.recim.org/cilame](http://www.recim.org/cilame)

## **International Liaison Council for an World Environment Authority**

**« CILAME »**

(registered international association under Swiss law)  
Secretariat :  
142 avenue de Versailles  
75 016 PARIS  
France

**Let us save our planet while it is still time !**