Making sense of action

Because of its ever-growing activity, the Registry of World Citizens is increasingly becoming a convergence center for information coming from a great many people and places. We thank all those who send us mail, activity reports, and information bulletins. Yet today we feel that simply adding all of this to our files is no longer enough—on the contrary, we wish to be able to issue information to all those who may need it as we progress together as one toward World Citizenship. We find it important that all citizens and groups involved in democratic globalization should get to know each other, get in touch with each other, recognize each other’s commitment and subsequent actions, and, in so doing, create new networks for exchange and mutual assistance.

This information used to confine itself to occasional reports of past and current activities during Registry Board Meetings and General Assembly sessions. That was before *RECIM World* came to life—*RECIM World*, this new half-yearly bulletin of ours. Inasmuch of the Registry of World Citizens and the drive for the mundialization of towns and cities are spawns of one same historical process and have thus always walked hand in hand, *RECIM World* will also be issued to those more « active » mundialized towns and cities.

The world has been engaged for several years in a fast-paced drive for unity—but what kind of unity ? Many voices are already being heard questioning a commercial, mercantile globalization of our planet, one that most inhabitants of Planet Earth cannot accept in conscience. Yet only rarely do we hear about credible alternatives to the dictatorship of financial profit. The only credible alternative is to work for world democracy, and for the creation of a world that is peaceful and civilized. A world that is ours to build.

Daniel Durand
President of the Registry of World Citizens

Looking back on history

Hope and disillusionment

1945. On May 8, World War II ended, at least in Europe. Everywhere in Europe and its then dependencies, people were relieved to see the most savage war in human history come to an end. Everything had been destroyed and had to be rebuilt—houses, cities, roads, bridges and collective equipment, as well as institutions, first and foremost those tasked to preserve world peace. The League of Nations had failed to halt the rise of war powers. A new organization had to be created in its stead, one that shall foster unity among nations and in so doing create a united world. So it was thought, until the Charter of the United Nations was signed in June 1945 in San Francisco, USA. Representatives for the aspiring United Nations (UN) member states actually failed to provide the newly-created organization with the power to give birth to that long-awaited united world. Rather the reverse—whereas a committee of mundialist jurists and thinkers had produced a document that was mundialist in spirit and parlance, all mundialist references were quickly shunned to the benefit of absolute national sovereignty. “Murderous sovereignty », said René Cassin—that sovereignty which had caused the death of sixty million people in the world already. The political world had definitely missed the point. The only
words that were left of the initial version of the Charter were the opening seven : « We, the Peoples of the United Nations », the remainder of the Charter having been sacrificed to national selfishness.

February 1946. Robert Soulage, a former French Resistance fighter under the name Sarrazac, founded with two friends the « Center for Mundialist Research and Expression » in Paris. Then he founded with twenty other friends, most of them intellectuals, the « Human Front of World Citizens ».

Then Came Garry Davis

1948. A former U. S. Air Force bomber pilot, previously based in England and freshly released from duty, came to Paris to help rebuild Europe. His name was S. Gareth Davis, better known as Garry Davis. The French authorities allowed him to stay in the country for a limited period of time, after which he was ordered to leave. On May 25, in a long-prepared act of revolt, Garry Davis relinquished his United States citizenship and decided to become « stateless », declaring himself a « citizen of the world » and symbolically placing himself under the authority of the United Nations, which then had the Palais de Chaillot as its provisional headquarters.

On September 12 Garry Davis set up camp on the steps of the Palais de Chaillot and said he intended from this day on to live in this « international zone ». On September 17 the UN had him removed and imprisoned by the French authorities. A support committee was formed, whose leading figures included Albert Camus, Jean Breton, L'Abbé Pierre, Jean-Paul Sartre and Robert Sarrazac. As the ‘Davis case’ grew in public and political importance, so did the ranks of Garry Davis’s supporters.

On November 19, Garry Davis, Robert Sarrazac, and a delegation of World Citizens interrupted the UN General Assembly. They read aloud these words : « I interrupt you in the name of the people of the world not represented here. (...) I call upon you to convene forthwith a World Constituent Assembly to raise the standard around which all men can gather, the standard of true peace, of One Government for One World. (...) And if you fail us in this work, stand aside, for a People's World Assembly will arise from our own ranks to create such a government. (...) ». 

On December 9 Garry Davis convened, for lack of a World Constituent Assembly, a meeting of his own supporters at the Vélodrome d'Hiver, ten minutes from the Palais de Chaillot. Some 17,000 to 20,000 people came to listen to him and other speakers. Davis read aloud a letter from Dr. Herbert Evatt, the then President of the U. N. General Assembly. When they heard Dr. Evatt’s statement that « the UN [had not] been created to make peace but to maintain it when the Member States have organized it », the crowd turned to Davis and Sarrazac and shouted furiously : « To the U. N. ! To the U. N. ! », demanding that the two lead their army of World Citizens to take out the Palais de Chaillot forcefully. But Sarrazac declined. « We, the people of Paris, have no right to do that, for we have no mandate from the people of the world. Those who live in countries distant from France would never forgive us if we were to act without their consent. » The crowd began to calm down, the meeting resumed a normal course and a violent outcome was avoided.

On December 10 the U. N. General Assembly adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, proposed by René Cassin and whose Article 28 states : « Everyone is entitled to a social and international order in which the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration can be fully realized. »

In short, mundialism has been a recognized human right from the very start.

On December 24 French President Vincent Auriol met with Garry Davis at the Elysée Palace and granted him permission to stay in France indefinitely.

Even President Auriol declared himself a World Citizen in February 1950, and in May 1979 the Registry bought a shop for its new headquarters which happened to be on the Boulevard Vincent Auriol in Paris ... Nothing ever happens by accident !

The Registry and Mundializations

As December 1948 came to a close, letters were still pouring in further to the events of November 19 and December 9. The Center for Mundialist Research and Expression decided to set up a Secretariat of World Citizens, and, most importantly, a technical body called the International Registry of World Citizens, which was announced by Garry Davis on January 1, 1949.

1949, First Semester : As the Secretariat of World Citizens worked tirelessly—having to reply to over 30,000 letters received from 55 countries and territories since February, the Center for Mundialist Research and Expression carried on with its own work, especially through new contacts in Cahors, the first city of the southwestern French Department of Lot.

July 20, 1949 : The Cahors Town Council adopted a Charter of Mundialization, making Cahors a « World Town ». The vote was confirmed in a popular referendum by a 59% majority. That was the starting point of a worldwide drive which has led, to date, 960 towns, cities, and institutions in thirteen countries and four continents to become « mundialized » too. Yet only 20 of those mundialized towns and cities have contributed voters to Peoples’ Congress elections so far.

This brief historical overview enables us to realize to what extent 1948 and 1949 have seen destinies and forces unite for the making of our mundialist history :

• a new line of thought was created and carried forward by only a handful of intellectuals and activists,

• two men committed to rendering war impossible on earth made themselves known to the world, Garry Davis who remained famous afterward and Robert Sarrazac who returned to anonymity shortly after,

• humanity was shown how it could break free from nationalism, even though world institutions still have not achieved that goal.

Clearly, by registering as a World Citizen and by becoming « world territory », an individual and a town take one same path drawn for us by history.

Daniel Durand

www.recim.org
Registration Centers

A Registration Center is a national-law associative structure tasked to register all people who formally declare themselves World Citizens. Yet that is not all there is to a Registration Center. Indeed, in order to function properly, a Registration Center has to put itself on the map of national civil society.

An association
To be recognized as a Registration Center, the prospective structure needs to have at least three members—a President (or Director), a Secretary, and a Treasurer. These three people must work together and keep themselves well informed of the Center’s works, so that the Center can continue to function even when one member becomes incapable of carrying on.

Universal competence
Since the Registry’s Statute was amended on October 28, 2000, a Registration Center’s area of competence is not limited only to its own geographical area. One Registration Center can cover several nations, and several Centers can exist within the borders of one state with several language zones. We also have Registration Centers that are transnational or cover one extended structure, as is the case with the International Esperanto Center or the World Federalist Center—even though that one has remained dormant since its creation in 1992. Therefore, when there is always one office for one Center, there is One World and a Center thus can register any people from any country at all.

Ways and means
A Registration Center’s financial resources depend on how active it is. Half of these resources comes from the—paying—issuance of World Citizen Cards, and one-third from voluntary contributions from World Citizens. Those Centers who print and issue a Bulletin of their own are allowed to retain two-thirds of these contributions. The remainder is given to the Registry of World Citizens each year. Registration Centers issue World Citizen Cards by themselves when solicited.

A bulletin
A Registration Center has a duty to inform registered World Citizens and the layman all the same. To do so, a Bulletin is printed and issued. Those longer-established Centers—France, Canada, Japan and Belgium e. g.—produce a Bulletin of their own. They are in constant need of information to publish—meeting and debate accounts, board meeting minutes, and others. Even this is not enough, however, and that is why we decided to create RECIM World whose mission is to diffuse information to all actors of world democracy.

Registry representatives
The President (or Director), Secretary and Treasurer of a Registration Center automatically become Members of the Registry of World Citizens. They receive all available information from the Registry and are eligible to stand for Board Members.

Registry Correspondents

A Registry Correspondent is an individual who strikes a deal with his local Registry representation in order to represent the Registry on his or her own.

Most Correspondents represent the Registry in an informal manner, except in some African countries where a license for activity is required.

Like a Registration Center, a Correspondent has one home and address but can register any person from any place in the world.

A Correspondent’s resources are limited to half of the proceeds of World Citizen Card sales. He or she forwards all requests for registration to the Registry’s International Center, which in turn issues the requested cards. A Correspondent sends the entirety of the voluntary contributions he or she receives to the Registry.

NEUTRALITY

All Registration Centers and Correspondents must remain strictly neutral politically, philosophically and religiously. The only possible public statements a Registry Member can make must stress the need for world democracy and/or global supranational institutions.

RECIM World No. 2 will be available in March 2005.
Please send all the information you can spare-activity reports, projects and viewpoints-by late February 2005 to:
Daniel Durand, Les Nids, 49190 Saint-Aubin-de-Luigné, France, info@recim.org.
In the news

Canada

Newsletter

World Citizens in Canada, the Registry’s Canadian Center, publishes a Bulletin on a regular basis. Secretary-General Liliane Metz has analyzed the latest issues for us and gives her account in the « News from our Centers » section.

France

Citoyens du Monde

« World Citizens » in French—that is how the French Center has called its own Bulletin. In the latest issue (No. 136) is featured an « Appeal from the Artists » (see RECIM Info No. 1).

This Appeal says (unofficial translation):

An Appeal from the Artists

« We must create real democratic counter-powers to face authoritarian globalization.

We cannot allow the future of humanity to be decided by the military and economic power of nation-states.

The destiny of humanity depends on the diversity of its cultures and its knowledge. It also depends on solidarity between all peoples of the world, which is an absolute necessity.

We, actors of cultural life, realize that men and women share the same emotions and hopes everywhere in the world. We all want peace, and our fair share of the gifts of the earth. A happy few get to enjoy the riches of the world when a great many remain desperately poor, which can only sow the seeds of violence. Energetic resources and raw materials get confiscated and subsequently wasted. Soaring demography, pollution, and monetary disorder only make for as many problems threatening the entire world, which cannot thus be dealt with by nation-states on their own.

It has become all too clear already that the mainstream media and the all-powerful multinational firms are trying to manipulate our minds.

More than ever, each and every one of us has to feel responsible for the whole of humanity.

The more numerous and determined we are, the louder we will have our voice heard by governments throughout the world. Our responsibility is to bring on ideas for innovation, ideas that will make it possible to replace neo-liberal globalization with a civilized and equitable social organization.

We, citizens of all nations, have a duty to make our aspirations known by declaring ourselves « World Citizens ».

A simple yet efficient first step, which we invite all of you to take as we all have, is to register as a World Citizen. JUST DO IT!

www.recim.org

This Appeal was signed by 66 artists and also appeared in the French magazine Chorus.

No. 137 : A special section, which turned out to be very popular with readers, was entitled What is Mundialism ? and contained the definitions and diagram one needs to understand who is who in the family of World Citizens and World Federalists. One such diagram is available on the Web site www.recim.org and on Page 10 of this publication.

No. 138 takes a clear stand against the current structure of the World Trade Organization, which claims to be a supranational authority and yet works in outright secrecy. On Pages 4 and 5 readers are invited to write out their resistance to it. A good example is the mundialized French town of Saint-Nolff, which has symbolically declared itself a « WTO-free zone ».

We also hear about the current situation of some 11,000 inhabitants of the archipelago nation of Tuvalu. If nothing is done to prevent their home islands from being overrun by the sea, by fifty years or so these people will become the first « climatic refugees » on this planet. For more information, please contact filmmaker and Peoples’ Congress Delegate Gilliane Le Gallic at etcfrance@aol.com.

No. 139 features a speech, somewhat old but all so topical still, given by the late Guy Marchand at the Mundialist Symposium at Grasse, France in 1992. An information package supplied by the French group « Agir ici » (Acting Here) also gives us food for thought on the so-called « World » Bank, which we cannot possibly regard as a mundialist organization in spite of its name.

DD

Japan

The Japanese Center publishes twice a year a bulletin in Japanese and English, written by Center President Masaji Ie.

Here we would like to outline the main concerns and activities of Japanese World Citizens as expressed in this bulletin. The latest issue received is No. 45 of May 2004—a number as high as 45 proving how well-established the Japanese Center and its bulletin are.

In the November 2003 issue :

UNESCO and World Citizens,

by Masaji Ie.

The UNESCO Constitution was adopted in London in 1945, in the early months after the end of World War II. This document clearly states that the purposes of UNESCO are to « contribute to peace and security by promoting cooperation between nations through education, science and culture ».

In 1946 this specialized organization became a part of the great big family of the United Nations. As of September 2003 its membership consisted of 188 countries and six regions who hold associate membership status.

Since 1960 UNESCO has been there to help developing countries. It has also enabled people to discover Japanese
culture by disseminating the writings of Kawabata Yasunari.

The UNESCO Constitution, whose words call for intellectual and spiritual solidarity between humans, clearly bears a relation with World Citizenship.

**Toward the International Punishment of Crimes, by Kana Nakamura.**

The creation of the International Criminal Court was a giant step in the long walk toward international justice. The Rome Statute, adopted in 1998, was ratified by 60 nations and came to force on July 1, 2002. Judges and prosecutors were elected to the Court afterward. To date, up to 400 cases have been brought up. Despite all of this, the drive toward international justice still goes on and a lot of issues remain unresolved. For instance, China, Russia and the other Permanent Members of the Security Council still have not ratified the Rome Statute. Even the Japanese Government has not signed the treaty, even though progress is indeed being made at a slow pace.

**International cooperation between NGOs : Providing services and solving problems, by Yoshiko Yukinaga.**

What is an NGO ? Where does an NGO work, and what does it do that cannot be done by governments ? The assistance NGOs provide people with is merely a service, which means NGOs do not intervene on the structure that causes the initial problem, which is more often than not the state itself and sometimes multinational firms.

**Belgium**

Jean Verstraeten, who heads our Flemish-speaking Belgian Center, publishes a *Nieuwsbrief* on a regular basis and sends us a copy of each issue with an explanatory note in English. *Sorry, Jean, but we were unable to publish your paper due to technical constraints. We promise to mend in RECIM World No. 2.*

Daniel Durand

**Australia**

There have been convinced World Citizens in Australia for a long time already. One of them has even become a Peoples’ Congress Deputy Delegate.

Also, there used to be an active Center in Sydney.

As I was on a several-month stay in New South Wales in 2001 I met with Keith Suter, the Australian Deputy Delegate to the Peoples’ Congress. I also met with Sydney-based university professor Christopher John Hamer, who agreed to become the Registry’s Correspondent in Australia.

In 2002 we managed to print 5,000 pamphlets and distribute a significant number of these. On December 12 that year a public conference was held at the Australian Institute of International Affairs to introduce a very interesting book written by Chris Hamer, *A Global Parliament : Principles of World Federation*. This very successful public event prompted ten audience members to register as World Citizens.

In early 2003 these new recruits, led by our Correspondent, represented the Registry at the Orientation Week of the University of New South Wales with a view to creating a World Citizens Branch Group on the campus. The newly-formed group held its inaugural meeting on May 5.

For now, we have only 20 registered members—but several of them are very active and lend us some very valuable support. Our Correspondent there is considering introducing the payment of a membership fee, and the new group would also like to seek affiliation to other organizations.

LMK

**Canada**

The objectives of World Citizens in Canada are to :

ŷ Raise awareness of our responsibilities as World Citizens,
ŷ Raise awareness of global problems and offer opportunities for dialogue and education,
ŷ Give a World Citizen Identity Card to every person who clearly demonstrates a desire to fulfill his or her duties to the planet and the local community,
ŷ Promote and foster respect for the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

The « active nucleus » of the Canadian Center is organized in accordance with the Center’s statutes. It consists of a President—German-born Dorothea Sheasby—a Vice President, a Treasurer, a Membership Secretary, a Press Secretary, an Education Officer, an Internet Editor and a Public Relations Officer.

Every World Citizen is entitled to vote on a one-person-one-vote basis, provided that he or she has paid a C$20 membership fee prior to the vote.

The Canadian Center publishes accounts of all its NGO activities, however, do not confine themselves to assistance. Two other aspects of their work have to be taken into account, one of them having to do with people in rich countries and the other with governments, intergovernmental organizations and multinational firms, for all three levels do interact.

That said, in Japan, NGOs do not enjoy a strong standing. Reinforcing activity at the levels of the Japanese people, the government, the business world and international organizations is essential for the effort NGOs have to make if they are to resolve any of the problems they choose to address.

Liliane Metz-Krencker

**World Citizen Registry**

**News from our Centers and Correspondents**

www.recim.org
meetings, plus two information bulletins every year. In general, some ten new World Citizens register with the Center each year.

Every spring the Center celebrates the Day of Equinox, and each fall the Day of Peace. The Board meets every year in May, and the President attends the Registry’s General Assembly or Board Meeting every year in Paris.

Each month the Cabinet organizes discussion groups on a wide range of topics, bringing in guest speakers.

For instance:

- World Citizen Julia Morton Marr, who chairs the group International Holistic Tourism, introduced the « Peace Garden Program »;
- World Citizen Janis Alton, an executive member of the group Canadian Voice of Women for Peace, spoke about the involvement of women in the reconstruction process in Afghanistan. She wrote a letter to U. N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan, U. S. President George W. Bush, British Prime Minister Tony Blair and many others;
- World Citizen Marilyn Ashby, who represents the Campaign for Earth at the United Nations, presented a reflection on global governance.

**LMK**

### Democratic Republic of Congo (region of South Kivu)

In **RECIM Info** No. 1 we were able to give you some very good news from our fellow mundialists in Kalonge. Yet in this eastern Congo region, with neighbors such as the Great Lakes and Rwanda, nothing is ever easy. How can one hope to talk about mundialism or declare himself a World Citizen, in an area that has been through two wars in a row, both of which were based on national and identity-related claims and have involved all people from the southern Mulenge mountains to the Masisi territory in the north? Of course, the Registry does not deal with national-identity issues. Nevertheless, on July 31, 2004 nine World Citizens from Kalonge and Kavumu were arrested within this very context during a meeting in Kalonge. They were subsequently detained until August 5, first in Kavumu and then in Bukavu—just because they had declared themselves World Citizens and mundialized the chefferie of Kalonge. The United Nations Mission in Congo finally obtained their release, and explanations were duly given by our colleagues and ourselves to the regional authorities. Since then, things on the ground appear to have improved—so much so that in a broadcast of September 25-26, 2004 the Congolese National Radio & Television even cited the mundialization of Kalonge as an example to seek inspiration from.

Of course, the brief detention of our colleagues is nothing to be happy with. Its main teaching is probably that mundializing a town or city as war still rages means having to work harder and longer on it than would be necessary in normal, peacetime conditions. It appears we still have a lot of explaining to do. Maybe our colleagues there need to learn more, and those elder World Citizens may wish to be of assistance. I guess that is why they have requested that a training session on World Citizenship be organized sometime in South Kivu. Received loud and clear—we’re working on it.

**DD**

### Germany

This is a message from the World Citizens of Magdeburg, the capital city of the Land of Saxony-Anhalt in the former East Germany.

In the early 1990s a lady from this town, Inge Grzyb, was invited to become a World Citizen. Soon after, she founded and took the helm of a World Citizen Registration Center, not only for Magdeburg but for the whole of Germany. Her tireless and determined campaigning for World Citizenship became a beacon for action in Germany, in Europe and in the entire world. In 2004 some World Citizens of Magdeburg decided to go beyond that mere status and to get involved in promoting our ideals.

Our general principles and main themes for action are to:

- help to educate people’s consciences to World Citizenship;
- seek out new World Citizens;
- work with groups and people acting on the same principles;
- create a program of interest for action and publishing;
- participate in conferences, forums, public events and so on;
- set up our own events with our sympathizers;
- and many more...

We have formed a group, drawn a plan of action and a specific plan for the year in progress. Our Home Page is : [http://www.geocities.com/weltbuergermagdeburg](http://www.geocities.com/weltbuergermagdeburg). We will keep it hospitable and updated. We also have E-mail addresses for our manager, Gerhard Hirschmann (mondcivitano@planet.ms), and for Registration Officer Inge Grzyb (ingegrzyb@planet.ms).

Please pay a visit to our Home Page for more information.

**Received from Gerhard Hirschmann on October 29, 2004.**

### Senegal

The real starting point for the action of the Registration Center of World Citizens in Dakar was when Roger Winterhalter, President of the House of World Citizenship at Mulhouse and President of the Peoples’ Congress, paid a visit there to fellow Delegate Landing Niassy. Several meetings followed and the Center appointed its three leaders as required by the Registry Statute.

« I have been carrying on with my work to democratize and provide information about World Citizenship », says Landing.

*(continued on page 12)*
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www.recim.org
Democratic Republic of Congo

Mbanza Ngungu—« world territory »

Mbanza Ngungu is the capital city of the province of Lower Congo, some 200 km west from Kinshasa.

There have been a number of World Citizens in this town for a number of years, who were affiliated to the Kinshasa Center that had existed from the early 1980s and had been very active under the leadership of Director Sheta Mikayele. In 1992 things became a lot harder, when the country became plagued with riots, looting became rampant, and the Mobutu era entered a slow agony. In the end, Kinshasa got caught in warfare coming from the east and west.

Since the early 1990s it had become difficult to reach our colleagues in Kinshasa and Lower Congo, due to frequent strikes in postal services there. Fortunately, the Internet era began, and along with it came freedom to communicate with anyone, anywhere.

Now the activity of World Citizens has returned to a normal level. Better still, when the World Citizens of Mbanza Ngungu learned about the mundialization of Kalonge, some 1,500 km from there, they decided to take the same path in their own vicinity. And by signing on the Mundialization Charter on August 2, 2004, Mbanza Ngungu became « world territory », too.

Chelles: «Hello, Citizen!»

In French, these two words can mean either «Hello Citizen» or «Farewell Citizen». And the latter we say to World Citizen Maurice Schoirfer today.

Whether on the street, on the marketplace, or when entering a conference room or talking on the phone, anyone to whom Maurice would say that with his unique, renowned activist tone could never disregard it.

Maurice attended several General Assemblies of the French Registration Center, and that is how the two of us got acquainted. When he said «Hello, Citizen!» to me, I would reply jokingly: «Hello President!». That was a reference to his mock candidacy for President of the Republic in 1981. Always amicable but blunt and ever-clinging to a no-nonsense style, Maurice did know how to generously defend his heartfelt convictions. He was the leading spirit behind the mundialization of Chelles on December 22, 2001, and possibly behind the local Human Rights Monument too.

In April 2004 he had organized a meeting at the Chelles Town House with three World Citizens of German-speaking Switzerland—Claudius Schauffler, Michael Ehinger and Eva Irmann. One good way to create links between people beyond national or community borders, as well as to promote brotherhood between men and between peoples. Besides, Chelles is one of the very few mundialized places to have created a «World Town Committee» - guess who was on it? Maurice is gone. He passed away at 78 on October 5, 2004.

Daniel Durand
Belgium

Dison

Yvan Ylief, Mayor of Dison, a town that has been mundialized since 1983, received on June 4 a visit from The Planetary Man, an Antwerp-based group of World Citizens led by Jacques Lefrançois. This reception allowed our colleagues to present the town leader with a number of documents, among which a message from the Peoples’ Congress advocating a federal world government. Jacques Lefrançois himself had a chance to draw attention onto some of the biggest threats on human life today. « Heavy timber-cutting in the tropical rainforest, rampant deforestation in Amazonia, the killing of whales and fish in the oceans, and the poisoning of pollen-carrying bees by powerful, dangerous products ... I am here to tell you that we must act now, » he said.

A sequel is already planned for next year. One of the participants has good relations with the Town Council of Stabroek, a hefty borough in the outskirts of Antwerp, and an invitation has already been issued by Mayor Alex Bastiaenssens and his Secretary, Luc Joppen, for a reception much like this one on June 4, 2005. We will ensure that the Commission of Mundializations or at least one of our other institutions is represented there.

Jean-Claude Loewinski, Knight of the Legion of Honor

All those who have attended if only one General Assembly or Board Meeting of the Registry or its French Center have had a taste of Jean-Claude Loewinski. Not only is he the unchallenged boss when it comes to sandwiches and catering, he is a man who knows how to set his mark in a debate and make a strong point about what he feels necessary to our drive toward World Citizenship. He was at the famous Vel d’Hiv giant meeting of December 9, 1948, when Robert Sarrazac and Garry Davis addressed the army of their supporters. Ever since those days, his commitment to World Citizenship has never wavered. Sometimes he had to renounce joining us at our Victor Duruy or Vincent Auriol premises in Paris—that was because he was working on other issues. This former French Resistance member is a passionate defender of nature and the environment, having chaired a fishing society called La Darse de Bonneuil for 26 years and served for 33 on the Hygiene Board of the Department of Val-de-Marne near Paris.

Jean-Claude was made a Knight of the Legion of Honor by presidential decree. Even though this is not a tribute to his mundialist beliefs, we certainly are proud to have a colleague like him, who knows what kind of world he wants to live in and who knows also what are his duties to the world as it is.

Congratulations, Jean-Claude !

Daniel Durand

UNESCO and us

In 1988 the Registry of World Citizens joined the NGO Liaison Committee of UNESCO under Category C status. Guy Marchand became our Representative there. After his death in 1993 and the changes brought to the Liaison Committee Statute in 1995, we had to put together a new dossier so as to prove that the Registry was eligible for participation even under the new rules. In October 2004 we were finally able to complete the dossier and we subsequently filed our long-delayed application for readmission. Our new Representative there will be Mrs. Hermine Togbé-Olory, to whom you can write at the Registry Headquarters in Paris.

We will be placed under observation for one year. When this period ends we will be required to supply UNESCO with reports coming from our Centers and Correspondents, which shall include details of actions undertaken for the promotion of one - or, ideally, several - of UNESCO’s own goals.

UNESCO and the Registry do have a common goal, which is to educate people to civic responsibility and activity with a view to preserving the planet, and to promote respect for the cultural diversity of populations.

That is why I hereby ask all our Centers and Correspondents to undertake such activities and to report on these to the Registry on a regular basis.

Many people have asked that we resume our relations with UNESCO, and I know this can only be good for us.

Daniel Durand
WORLD DEMOCRACY

Our organization Chart

1. The Registry of World Citizens, and along with it the mundialised towns, cities and institutions.
2. The Peoples’ Congress and its creations;
3. The Consultative Assembly to the Peoples’ Congress (ASCOP).

1a. The Registry of World Citizens. Created in 1949, the Registry is responsible for the issuance of World Citizen Cards in all countries. The Registry has Correspondents and Registration Centers throughout the world - currently 43 in operation.

1b. Mundializations: Initiated in 1949 too, the drive for mundialization was initially open only to towns and cities. As years went by, it became open to civil society organizations. There are currently 960 mundialised towns and cities and 56 organizations throughout the world. These two compose the global electoral body.

1c. The Humanist Club: Founded in 1971 by the Registry of World Citizens, although initially imagined by Jean Rostand, the Club publishes reference texts on mundialism. Out of the 20 books published by the Club to this day, many are out of print. We are, however, working on revised and updated versions of these texts with a view to reprinting them in the near future.

2 The Peoples’ Congress: Imagined in 1963, during an international meeting of mundialist organizations in Brussels, Belgium, the Peoples’ Congress really came to life with the Appeal of Thirteen of March 3, 1966, a milestone in recent mundialist history. Elections to the Congress were held from 1969 to 1998, which involved over 100,000 people in 120 nations. A new election is scheduled for 2007 in order to renew one-third of the posts.

The Peoples’ Congress has created throughout its existence: a) the Institute of Mundialist Studies (1977); b) a press agency named AMIP (1980); c) World Solidarity Against Hunger (1982); d) the Consultative Assembly to the Peoples’ Congress (2003-2004). e) Still to come: an arbitration body called the Council of Wise People, hopefully by 2007.

3. The Consultative Assembly to the Peoples’ Congress (ASCOP): This is our newest tool for participatory democracy. ASCOP is open to:

- all organizations with a clear link to World Citizenship: the Registry and its Centers, mundialized places and institutions and their « World Town » or twinning committees, all of the Peoples’ Congress’s creations, and all organizations that have approved the Mulhouse Charter;
- all individuals wishing to participate in an Electronic Forum, which has been open since October 2004, at http://ascop.editme.com.
A SUCCESSFUL MEETING IN MULHOUSE

After an evening of friendly welcome at the World citizens House, participants spent two days at the Mulhouse Youth Hostel. Accommodation, meals and meeting halls were all at the same address and enabled better contacts to develop. The 55 participants come from 17 nations, some from quite far: Dorin Hehn from Rumania, Gupta from Lucknow, India, Landing from Dakar, Rob Wheeler and Fernando from New York. Participants also represented 12 member-associations of ASCOP.

The planned program was fully respected and carried out. We will not provide a detailed report of it here. It is currently being edited and assembled at the World Citizens House and should be available very soon. In January-February RECIM-info will devote some pages to report on the event. Here are the main points in brief:

- A workshop was held to deal with the project of a World Summer University. The first session will take place at La Chaux de Fonds (Switzerland) from 23rd to 29th July 2006.
- Another workshop dealt with a sports project! The first suggestion was to organize a Peace Tour. The second proposal was to organize World Games for Peace.
- A third workshop explored the general theme of peace and disarmament.
- In its plenary session, the assembly worked on the theme of the environment. A motion was carried and during 2005 ASCOP should contribute to the strengthening of the campaign for a world environment authority. This will be the theme of RECIM-info n° 3, July-August 2005 issue.
- Sunday morning was most productive with the ratification of the internal Rules, the adoption of the charter (as per text printed opposite), the election of the Governing Board and the Transnational Steering Committee as per the internal Rules.
- Sunday late morning and early afternoon were devoted to a Coalition for a World Parliament (see RECIM-info, page 7). A collaboration procedure of the Coalition with the totality of the member organizations of ASCOP was laboriously yet successfully worked out.

GO IT ASCOP!

With this bulletin, you will receive an orange-colored leaflet inviting all and each one of you to participate in the meetings and debates of the Peoples’ Congress Consultative Assembly.

Will the next ASCOP meeting be held in Paris? In Chaux de Fonds? In Nice? In Dakar, Ouagadougou, Mbanza Ngungu, New York? It is up to member organizations to take the initiative.

The ASCOP Forum is now online as follows:

http://www.ascop.editme.com

CHARTER

We, the members of the Peoples’ Congress Consultative Assembly consider that the human family dignity and its equal and inalienable rights should be recognized and should be the basis for freedom, justice and peace in the world.

We know:

- That there is frequent opposition between national and the people of the world interests as well as the absence of a trans-national authority democratically elected to protect them;
- That hunger and poverty and wars are not inevitable but the consequence of the political organization of the planet;
- That there is a necessity to build societies which are democratic, just, durable and peaceful;
- That the world problems need global solutions respectful of the diversity of the human family;
- That man put in jeopardy the wealth of our planet because of the abusive exploitation of the soil, the underground and the sea;
- That individuals or groups of individuals act in a very egocentric way and do not care for others especially if they are far away.

We Want:

- To participate to the creation of a world democratic parliament which is already represented by the Peoples’ Congress;
- To promote peace, refusal of discriminations, equality in front of the law and a spirit of solidarity;
- To create a space for exchange and reflection, open to every one and to contribute to the construction of a better world linking initiatives taken here and there;
- To enrich each others from our diversity in order to find our similarities, link our reflections to experimentation and to concrete actions in the field;
- To protect the wealth and biodiversity of our planet for future and present generations;
- To make each individual and groups of individuals responsible for the welfare of others and the harmonious development of the planet.

We Ask:

Each organization and each individual whose ideals are “mundialist” and democratic to join the Consultative Assembly at the Peoples’ Congress in order to built a better world united, multi-cultural and peaceful.

Mulhouse, October 3, 2004
In addition to the Center that is already operational and the commissions created to support the work of World Solidarity Against Hunger and the Institute of Mundialist Studies, a « University Branch Office » has been set up with in mind the students of Cheikh Anta Diop University and of the higher institutions of Dakar. This branch office has already organized two meetings and even has a place of its own. I have all their reports and attendance lists. I also have other things to forward onto you, such as reports of our Center’s constituent assembly meeting, cabinet meetings, attendance lists and so on ».

August 8, 2004
Landing Niassy

We are glad that Landing was able to attend the Advisory Assembly meeting in Mulhouse last October.

Burkina Faso

In October 20-22, 2004 a first Forum of Civil Society dedicated to « Spaces for Solidarity in Sustainable Development » was held in Burkina Faso. This event was designed to predate the Tenth Summit of the Francophonie that took place on November 26-27, 2004 in the country’s capital city, Ouagadougou. Over 500 participants from all over the French-speaking world took part in this important meeting. Along with the SPONG, we managed to rent a stand there in order to present the Ouagadougou Registration Center. That is also how we managed to meet a few World Citizens who were passing by.

Souleymane Drabo

Poland

A new Polish Correspondent, Ireneo Wilczynski, has been « recruited » by Geneviève Charpentier. In January 2004 Ireneo had a Polish translation of the Statement of Thirteen published in Gdanska Esperantisto.

PARIS, FRANCE, 12 Rue des Fossés Saint-Jacques (5th District), MARCH 12-13, 2005 :

THREE MEETINGS !

ý Saturday, March 12, 9.00-15.30 : Meeting of the Board of the Registry of World Citizens. Board Members may wish to retain this date, and possibly send their suggestions for the meeting agenda to President Daniel Durand at info@recim.org. The official invitations and agenda will be mailed in January 2005. The meeting is open to all World Citizens wishing to attend.

ý 16.00-19.00 : Meeting of the Mundialization Commission. Commission members, representatives of « World Town » committees and people interested in mundializations may wish to contact Commission Chairman Roger Winterhalter at this address : MCM-ARSO, 20 Rue Paul Schutzenberger, 68200 Mulhouse, France, or by E-mail : mcm.arso@wanadoo.fr.

ý Sunday, March 13, 9.00-16.00 : Meeting of the Member Organizations of the Advisory Assembly to the Peoples’ Congress. The official invitation and agenda will be mailed to the participants by Secretary-General Marie Martin-Pécheux (Mouvement Citérrien, B. P. 2058, 06101 Nice Cedex 2, France : citerre@wanadoo.fr).

Belgium

The Flemish Registration Center is to hold a meeting in Hove on Saturday, November 27, 2004.

Andorra

Josep Ortega wanted to create a « registration procedure » for a « Community of World Citizens » in his country of residence. Then he heard about the Registry, its history, and its current revival. After a meeting in Cahors, Josep offered his friends to join the Registry. Then he agreed to become our Correspondent in Andorra and pledged to bring the ASCOP Electronic Forum to existence. Finally, during the Mulhouse Meeting ASCOP asked Josep to become Head Coordinator of the Transnational Steering Committee. Way to go, Josep - you are so hard-working and devoted to our own « community » (excuse the pun) of World Citizens !

Daniel Durand

A World Citizen Identity Card or A Provisional Registration Certificate ?

The official cost of a World Citizen Identity Card is €15. A reduced cost, however, is available to those with limited resources - €7.50 or $ 8. We cannot issue a World Citizen Card for free.

Still many prospective World Citizens tell us that even that reduced cost remains too high for their budget. That is why we have created an experimental Provisional Registration Certificate. Issued for three years, this document enables its holder to save enough money to pay in full, or to make payments on his or her World Citizen Card.

Daniel Durand