

WORLD  
FUTURES  
STUDIES  
FEDERATION



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# NEWSLETTER

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*This issue includes a letter to all the members  
from Jim Dator on the procedure of nominating  
the candidates for the next WFSF President*

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 EDITORIAL
 

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## FORWARD

¡Saludos de Barcelona! After such a major event as world conferences always are, where so many people are meeting each other, becoming acquainted for first time, or hugged and talked to as good, old friends already, it takes time to release the mind from the pleasure of memories and turn it forward to new tasks and future visions. The gathering of the intellectual contributions of the participants will reach you in due time in the form of the Barcelona proceedings. In this issue, a glimpse of the conference is offered by some speeches given and some post-conference appraisals sent to the Newsletter. I hope that these will encourage us for further positive measures within WFSF, and in cooperation.

As you can learn from the minutes published in this issue, we made some very important decisions in the Council and the Assembly meetings in Barcelona. And I am happy to tell you that many measures are already being made after Barcelona by the members towards the aims agreed upon.

TONY STEVENSON from Australia was elected unanimously by the Council as the Secretary General of WFSF for 1994-1997. Congratulations from all of us to Tony, and I also want to express my personal contentment with the decision. I am sure, Tony, that you will like this international service and that you will find that it benefits your "domestic affairs" and your local supporters' interest, too. We'd like to be in close contact from now on.

The process of suggesting and appointing the next President for WFSF is going on according to the rules adopted in Barcelona. Jim is giving these rules and time tables in this issue, and he is calling every member to participate in that process. If I were being asked, I see that participating in the electoral process by making suggestions and accepting even to become a candidate, if possible, and then giving one's vote, is on a minimum level of membership responsibilities which we all

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WFSF Secretariat  
 Turku School of Economics  
 Rehtorinpellonkatu 3 sf-20500 Turku Finland  
 phone 358 21-638 3310 330 835  
 telex 62710 tkkk sf  
 telefax 358-21-330 755  
 E-mail PMALASKA@FINABO ABO FI or ARUBIN@FINABO ABO FI

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Editor Pentti Malaska  
 Managing Editor Anita Rubin

should accept with pleasure and honour. Without wide and active participation by its members, WFSF will not exist in its true sense. The President is not the WFSF nor are the Council members, and the last of all, the Secretary General is not the WFSF. But all we ordinary members with our study interests in, devotion toward, and joint work and cooperation for better futures, we are the WFSF. Let's show that we are very much alive and creative contrary to some complaints heard.

The latest information about the Islamabad conference next October, and the next world conference in Finland in two years will be important for you to observe in this issue.

With deep concern and regret we had to face the fact that it will not be possible to keep the yearly futures study course in Dubrovnik next year in cooperation with the IUC, as it has been held for more than ten years. Dubrovnik has been under violent military attacks (and still is) and the IUC has decided to cancel all its activities therein for a couple of years perhaps and then see the situation again. WFSF has expressed its commitment for the IUC future activities and its mission of academic freedom. For these reasons, and as it was decided in Barcelona, the next year Dubrovnik course will be held in some alternative place being offered to WFSF. The decision will be made soon by the team of the course directors after the terms of support and facilities are known. Please make this coming event known anyhow, to your students and colleagues. The time of the course will be May, as agreed earlier. More information will be made available by a special announcement.

The next issue of the Newsletter will be the Directory. Please check now if your information is OK in the prevailing Directory, and send to the office any alterations or additions needed. Especially if you have access to e-mail, please inform us of your e-mail address too. If you paid or cleared in some other way with us your membership fee for this year, thank you. If not then please pay it now, or inform us now. Calling for payments for 1992 will reach you with the new Directory in January-February, and according to the advice by the Council, the members can pay for more than one year if they feel so. It would also be more economical for the Federation, because of the heavy charges by the banks everywhere.

That's all this time

Enjoy your life and work!

**Pentti Malaska**

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## The NEXT PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY GENERAL OF WFSF

### A LETTER FROM JIM DATOR

As you all know from reading the Statutes and By-Laws of the WFSF, which were recently reprinted in the previous Newsletter, the WFSF membership elects the WFSF President (either at a General Assembly meeting or by mailed ballots) for a four year term, while the Executive Council chooses the Secretary General

The terms of the present President, Executive Council, and Secretary General all come to an end at the next World Conference (which will be held in Finland in August 1993) ELEONORA MASINI, currently Chair of the Executive Council many members of the Executive Council, PENTTI MALASKA, currently Secretary General, and myself as President have all previously announced, and re-affirmed, that we will not seek to continue on in our present positions after the Finland meeting

Following the WFSF Regional Conference in Sofia, Bulgaria, in June 1991, I asked MAGDA MCHALE to chair a committee to search for a possible new Secretary General, and to report any candidates to the Executive

Council meeting in Barcelona. Other members of the Search Committee were TUK-CHU CHUN, Mohammad SALEM FAYYAD, WENDY SCHULTZ, and BART VAN STEENBERGEN

Thanks to Magda's diligence, an extraordinary number of long-distance phone calls back and forth between Magda and the members of the Committee, and the diligence and helpfulness of the Committee itself in Barcelona the Search Committee recommended, the Executive Council approved, and I am happy to announce that TONY STEVENSON has agreed to become Secretary General of the WFSF when Pentti Malaska steps down following the Finland meeting in August 1993

My very great thanks to Magda, Tuk-Chu, Mohammad, Wendy, and Bart - and especially to Tony Stevenson!"

Most of you know that Tony is a relatively new member of the WFSF, but a long-time futurist with a special interest in communication futures, from Brisbane, Australia, where he is

Professor in the Faculty of Business Studies, and Head of the Communication Centre of Queensland University of Technology in Brisbane. Tony is also a member of the WFSF Executive Council

I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO INITIATE A PROCESS FOR CHOOSING THE NEXT PRESIDENT OF THE FEDERATION BEFORE THE FINLAND MEETING

Therefore, I REQUEST THAT ALL MEMBERS OF THE FEDERATION SEND TO ME IN HAWAII, OR TO PENTTI MALASKA IN FINLAND, THE NAME OR NAMES OF PERSONS THEY WISH TO NOMINATE TO BE THE NEXT PRESIDENT OF THE WFSF

I would prefer it if you ask the person(s) you nominate if they are willing to become President

BEFORE you nominate them to us. It is my experience that many people we think would be excellent presidents firmly refuse to accept, even if elected. So please ascertain their willingness to serve before you send their names to us.

PLEASE SEND THE NAMES TO US BEFORE 1st of February, 1992

ALSO, PLEASE INCLUDE A VERY BRIEF PARAGRAPH ABOUT EACH CANDIDATE YOU NAME which indicates something about them, and why you recommend them for the office

We will then put all names received, along with a paragraph about each, on a ballot and mail it out so that all of the members may vote for our next President

Jim Dator

◇



## WORK IN PROGRESS

### Minutes

#### of the WFSF Executive Council

Tuesday 19 September, 1991  
Barcelona, Spain, from 3 pm. to  
3 15 pm., from 5 pm. to 8 30 pm.

**Chair** Eleonora Masini

#### Council members present

Ibrahim Abdel-Rahman, Uvais  
Ahamed, Antonio Alonso-  
Concheiro, Igor Bestuzhev-Lada,  
Harlan Cleveland, Sam Cole, Jim  
Dator, Katrin Gillwald, Rolf  
Homann, Sohail Inayatullah, Rob-  
ert Jungk, Maria Kalas Koszegi,  
Pentti Malaska, Mihailo Markovic,  
Magda Cordell McHale, Radmila  
Nakarada, Ashis Nandy H Odera  
Oruka, Qin Linzheng, Ana Maria  
Sandi, Bart van Steenberg, Tony  
Stevenson, Allen Tough

#### WFSF European Center

Erzsebet Gida

#### WFSF members present

Leena-Majja Salminen, Wendy  
Schultz

**Secretary** Anita Rubin

#### At 3 pm

##### 1 § Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda was approved with  
the notion that because the site  
was not suitable for discussion,  
the meeting will continue at 5 pm

#### At 5 pm

##### 2 § The Reports by the President, The Secretary General and the Chair of the Council to the General Assembly

PENTTI MALASKA went through  
his report as the Secretary General  
and on the activities of the office of  
the Secretariat (appendix 2) from  
1st January, 1990 until present  
JIM DATOR gave the report  
(appendix 3) as the President on  
the same period. The Council  
discussed briefly on the reports  
questioning the strong emphasis  
on the importance of the new  
communication technology  
(especially electronic mail) in both  
reports. Pentti Malaska and Jim  
Dator said that the possibility for

daily and real time discussion  
makes decision-making and other  
administrative activities of WFSF  
much easier and faster. ELEONORA  
MASINI read her report (appendix  
4) as the Chair of the Council and  
mini-Council meetings

The reports were approved to  
be introduced to the General  
Assembly

Eleonora Masini reminded the  
Council members to fill in the  
information card for the French  
authorities, given by the  
Futuribles and mailed to the  
Council members by the  
Secretariat, and were told that  
because the Federation was  
founded under the French  
legislation, the present Council's  
position as the decision-making  
body of WFSF is legal only after  
this formality has been fulfilled

##### 3 § The Financial Report of 1990-1991 and the budget and prospects for the future

Pentti Malaska read the  
Financial report (appendix 5,  
mailed to the Council members  
prior to the Barcelona conference)  
of the Office of the Secretariat,  
focusing on the balance sheets and  
the figures indicating how incomes  
and expenses are divided in the  
budget. He also told the Council  
that the economic problem  
mentioned in the report has now  
been solved and the economic situ-  
ation and prospects for 1992-1993  
are good. The report was approved  
to be presented to the General  
Assembly

The Council and the Secretary  
General wish to give their thanks  
to STEPHANE BINAND for the

excellent work in auditing and  
preparing the report

##### 4 § Proposal for the Assembly for the Membership dues for 1992- 1993

The annual fees of the  
Federation have been on the same  
level for more than 15 years and  
because of the changes in the  
international economy and  
exchange courses, as well as in the  
costs and expenses of the  
administration, it is necessary to  
raise them. The proposed yearly  
fees for the coming years were as  
follows (the proposition named  
here as A)

- Individual member's fee  
According to annual income  
category above USD25,000 fee  
USD100, between USD10,000-  
25,000, fee USD50, below  
USD10,000, fee USD30
- Institutional member's fee  
suggestion USD300
- Subscription fee for the  
Newsletter to non-members  
suggestion USD50

In the discussion, two other  
suggestions came up

B) - to raise the yearly fee up to  
50 US dollars, the other fees as in  
suggestion A

C) - to divide the fee geographically  
so that there are two different  
categories of individual fees: one  
for the developing countries and  
another (higher) for the developed  
countries, the other fees being the  
same as in suggestion A

It was also noted that at the  
moment, the lowest possible fee is  
USD10 because that is

approximately the lowest amount the Finnish banks charge for their services

The Council decided to propose the General Assembly raise the individual annual fee to 50 US dollars, institutional fee US 200 dollars and Newsletter subscription 50 US dollars

#### 5 § Dubrovnik courses

WENDY SCHULTZ gave a brief description of the WFSF Dubrovnik workshop which was held in May, focusing especially on the special circumstances caused by the very sensitive political situation in Yugoslavia. Several students and resource people cancelled their participation but, on the other hand, students in other cancelled courses joined the WFSF workshop. The group proved to be very creative and it turned out that this was the first touch of futures studies for many of those young people who became very enthusiastic about the subject.

Wendy pointed out also the need to raise more funds from different sources for the participants from the developing countries and Eastern Europe, and for printing and office costs.

The final course report will come out in October, 1991. The financial accounts, along with other documents have been delivered to UNESCO.

LEENA-MALJA SALMINEN reported on the preparations for the course for 1992 (development plan appendix 6). The topic will be Education and the course will be

held in May for one week. The course leaders had a meeting in Barcelona prior to the Council meeting and decided that the brochure (brochure proposal appendix 7) will be prepared and mailed as soon as possible and the network will be used for searching and informing possible participants on the course.

There was a discussion on the possibility to arrange the workshop elsewhere if the political situation in Yugoslavia will not improve and/or it will not be safe to travel to Dubrovnik. Eleonora Masini said that the IUC will have its Executive Council meeting in the middle of October, and the decisions on the next year activities will be made then. As one of the outstanding members of the Inter-University Center in Dubrovnik, and as the arranger of one of its "traditional" annual courses, WFSF wants to show loyalty and support to the IUC in this period of hardship. If possible, giving the IUC priority as the site of the course is thus the main plan. That is why it was decided to wait and see what the decisions of the IUC Executive Council will be. It was also decided that the President, Chair of the Council, and Secretary General will have the authority to make the final decision within one month whether it is necessary to move the course site elsewhere for one year, and if that is the case, where it will be held, or if the terms are not ok, postpone the course or cancel it for 1992 completely.

The Council thanked Wendy Schultz for her long and important

work as a course leader. The Council also warmly welcomed the new course leaders, UVAIS AHAMED and TONY STEVENSON.

Tony Stevenson told the Council about his plans to arrange a similar course/workshop for post-graduate students in the Asia-Pacific region in September / October 1992 (appendix 8). The topic of the course is still open for discussion. The possible sites of the course are Australia, North Korea, Thailand, Guam, or Singapore. The Council welcomed the plan as a very important new project and supports it full-heartedly. It was decided to inform the members about this new course in the Newsletter and the members are asked to spread the word to their colleagues and students.

Jim Dator informed the Council about a futures workshop which was held in Africa last year after the Budapest conference. The Council thanked the organizer, WFSF member Dr. GODWIN SOGOLO, for his initiative as a wonderful example of the basic purpose of WFSF's existence and warmly welcomes similar projects elsewhere. It was also noted that UNESCO is interested in enlarging its support to futures studies courses and seminars.

#### 6 § Next Officers of WFSF after 1993

Both Jim Dator and Pentti Malaska will give up their posts as President and Secretary General of WFSF in the end of this term. Also

Eleonora Masini has declared her intention to give up the post as the Chair of the Council. It was noted that the term of the President and the Secretary General will end in 1993. It was also noted that the President will be elected by the General Assembly but the Council will decide on the Secretary General.

The search committee, nominated by Jim Dator and chaired by MAGDA MCHALE, gave its report to the Council (appendix 9). Discussion on the qualifications and technological resources needed for the posts and the possible lack of democracy in the searching process was brought up. It was decided to continue the discussion among the members.

#### 7 § Conferences ahead

Due to the lack of time, the subject was postponed to the meeting on Saturday, 21 September.

#### 8 § Closing of the Meeting

The meeting was closed at 8 30 pm.

Approved 17 September 1991

Eleonora Masini Chair  
Pentti Malaska Secretary General

## MINUTES

## OF THE WFSF GENERAL ASSEMBLY

held in Barcelona, Spain on  
Wednesday, 20 September, 1991  
from 9 30 -1130 am.

**Chair** Jim Dator  
**Members present**

Antonio Alonso-Concheiro Ikram  
Azam, Raimondo Cagiano  
deAzevedo, Chun Tuk Chu, Sam  
Cole, Jiri Farek Mohammad  
Salem Fayyad, John W Forje,  
Erzsebet Gidai, Katrin Gillwald,  
Linda Groff, Bernd Hamm, Rolf  
Homann, Sohail Inayatullah,  
Ibrahim Jammal, Christopher B  
Jones, Nandini Joshi, Anthony  
Judge, Robert Jungk, Maria Kalas-  
Koszegi, Felix B Karman, Kim  
Soo-Keun, Valtr Komarek, Robert  
Lamson, Ian Lowe, Mika  
Mannermaa, Rosa Menasanch  
Brian Murphy (with proxy),  
Erzsebet Novaky, H Odera-Oruka,  
Albert Oliva, Vladimir Poremsky,  
Qin Linzheng, Viorica Ramba-  
Varga, Mason Rumney, Mesbah-  
us-Saleheen, Leena-Maya  
Salminen, Rick Slaughter, Godwin  
Sogolo, Tony Stevenson, Terushi  
Tomita, Tatu Vanhanen Kaoru  
Yamaguchi, Milos Zeman

**Non-members present** (appen-  
dix 1)

**Secretary** Anita Rubin

**1 § Approval of the Agenda,  
Calling the Minutes Secretary**

The Agenda (appendix 2) was  
approved General Assembly  
called ANITA RUBIN as Secretary to  
the meeting

**2 § The Report of the Chair of  
the Council to the General Assem-  
bly**

ELEONORA MASINI gave her  
report on the Council activities as  
the Chair of the Council (appendix  
3) There has been four Council  
meetings and three consultative  
business meetings (so-called mini-  
Council-meetings) since the  
Budapest General Assembly in  
May 1990 In addition to the  
reported matters Eleonora Masini  
also stressed the importance of  
close cooperation with UNESCO  
who shows growing interest in  
futures studies It was also  
notified that the Federation has  
Consulting Status B with  
UNESCO

The report was approved by the  
General Assembly

**3 § The Report of the President**

JIM DATOR gave his report on  
his activities as the President of  
WFSF since the Budapest meeting  
(appendix 4), emphasizing the  
importance of the daily flow of  
information between himself as  
President and the Secretary

General There was discussion on  
the problems of availability to the  
new communication technology  
(faxes, electric mail, easy  
availability to make long distance  
calls) and it was pointed out that  
giving too much importance to this  
technology might also put the  
members in different parts of the  
globe in an unequal position The  
President, however, asked all the  
members who have a possibility to  
join in these information networks  
to do so

Jim Dator also spoke about the  
problems in the Statutes of the  
Federation, which were originally  
created and formulated assuming  
that most of the members would  
be institutional members Since  
then, however, the membership  
has grown and there has been a  
shift towards emphasizing the  
individual members without the  
legal structure changing This has  
caused a need to consider  
changing the Statutes and By-  
Laws accordingly

The report was approved by the  
General Assembly

**4 § The Report of the Secretary  
General**

PENTI MALASKA gave his report  
on the activities of the Secretary  
General and the office of the  
Secretary General since the  
Budapest meeting (appendix 5)  
While going through the report, he  
stressed the three-parted role of  
the office as supporting and help-  
ing the President and the Chair of  
the Council in their duties and  
administration, as functioning as a  
channel for the members to  
advance and spread their ideas  
and research results among other  
members, and as functioning as a  
tool for cooperation with other

institutions and organizations in  
arranging and carrying out various  
conferences, projects etc

The report was approved by the  
General Assembly

**5 § The Financial Report of  
1990-1991 and the budget and  
prospects for the future**

PENTI MALASKA read the  
Financial report (appendix 6) of the  
Office of the Secretariat, focusing  
on the balance sheets and the  
figures indicating how incomes  
and expenses are divided in the  
budget

The report was approved by the  
General Assembly

**6 § Report on the 1991  
Dubrovnik course**

WENDY SCHULTZ gave her report  
(appendix 7) on the 1991  
Dubrovnik post-graduate course  
emphasizing the need of growing  
financial support from UNESCO  
and other sources in order to  
develop the courses in the future  
She also pointed out that it would  
be very important if the course  
leaders could meet prior to the  
courses and that the information  
about the courses should be more  
widely advertized and distributed  
In addition, Wendy Schultz told of  
a plan to form a futures  
newsgroup network

LEENA-MAIJA SALMINEN in-  
formed the Assembly of the plans  
for the 1992 course The problem  
is that since Yugoslavia is in the  
middle of a civil war it might turn  
out to be impossible to arrange the  
course, the topic of which will be  
*Education*, in Dubrovnik  
Alternative plans will be  
formulated by the course leaders  
together with the WFSF officers  
later

TONY STEVENSON also told the Assembly about the plans to arrange a so-called Pacific Dubrovnik course already in 1992 (appendix 8), possible venues being Japan, Guam, Pakistan, Australia, Singapore, Philippines. The topic of the course has not been decided yet. The main reason for having a second post-graduate futures course is geographical - to make it easier and cheaper for the participants from the developing countries to travel.

Jim Dator told the Assembly about a futures workshop, held in Africa last year, as a perfect example of the kind of activity among members which the Federation has for so long been trying to promote, and thanked warmly Dr GODWIN SOGOLO for his efforts in organizing the course.

#### 7 § Local Conferences

Plans for a regional WFSF conference in Islamabad, Pakistan in October 1992 (appendix 9) were discussed. The local organizer will be The Pakistan Futuristic Foundation and Institute, led by Dr IKRAM AZAM, and the suggested topic of the four-day conference is *The Future of Democracy in Developing Countries*. 100 participants will be expected, 50 of them women. There was discussion on the possibility to link the Pacific Dubrovnik course to the theme of this conference. No decisions were made on the subject yet.

The plan was approved by the General Assembly and the Council was authorized to make the further decisions needed on the matter.

Jim Dator announced the possibility to arrange a local conference in Japan, and about the continuing negotiations between the representatives of the North and South Korean organizations to arrange a joint conference in South Korea possibly in September-October 1993.

#### 9 § The Membership dues for 1992-1993

Jim Dator said that since the annual fees of the Federation have been on the same level for more than 15 years and because of the changes in the international economy and exchange rates, as well as in the costs and expenses of the administration, it is necessary to consider raising them. According to the discussions in the Council meeting, the following suggestions were made:

-To raise the individual fees according to annual income category: above USD25,000 fee USD100, between USD10,000-25,000, fee USD50, below USD10,000, fee USD30.

- Institutional members fee suggestion USD200.

- Subscription fee for the Newsletter to non-members suggestion USD50,

or to raise the yearly fee up to 50 US dollars, the other fees as above,

or to divide the fee geographically so that there are different categories of individual fees for the developing and the developed countries, the other fees being the same as above.

It was also noted that at the moment, the lowest possible fee is USD10 because that is approximately the lowest amount the Finnish banks charge for their services.

The General Assembly voted on the matter. There was a clear majority on the second suggestion. The General Assembly decided to raise the individual annual fee to 50 US dollars, institutional fee US 200 dollars and Newsletter subscription 50 US dollars. It was also decided that the invoice to members asking them for membership renewals should specifically invite people to pay more than USD50, if possible.

It was suggested that there could be a lifelong fee, or that the members could pay several fees at one time. It was noted that this is possible now - any member can pay as many fees at one time as he/she wishes. It was also suggested to have a separate fee structure for students. No decisions were made on these matters at this point.

#### 10 § The next WFSF World Conference

Auvo Sarmanto, Secretary of the Organizing Committee and member of the Finnish Society for Futures Studies reported on the plans of the XIII WFSF World Conference which will be arranged in Finland (appendix 10) in August.

1993. The theme of the conference will be *Coherence and Chaos in our Uncommon Futures - Ideologies, Means, Actions*. There was discussion on the topics of the workshops and special emphasis was put on the third world problematique to be attached to the main topic.

The plans were approved by the General Assembly and it was decided to leave it up to the President to nominate the members to the International Committee.

#### 11 § Next Officers of WFSF after 1993

Due to the lack of time, the subject was not discussed in the meeting.

#### 12 § The WFSF Statutes and By-Laws

Due to the lack of time, also the subject was not discussed in the meeting.

#### 13 § Closing of the Meeting

The meeting was closed at 11 30 am.

Approved 18 September 1991

Jim Dator  
President

Pentti Malaska  
Secretary General





## MINUTES

## OF THE WFSF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING

Saturday 21 September, 1991  
Barcelona, Spain, from 1 15 pm. to  
4 05 pm.

**Chair** Eleonora Masini (1 15-  
3 05), Mihailo Markovic (3 05-4 05)

**Council members present**

Ibrahim Abdel-Rahman Uvais  
Ahamed, Antonio Alonso-  
Concheiro, Igor Bestuzhev-Lada,  
Sam Cole Jim Dator, Katrin  
Gillwald, Rolf Homann, Sohail  
Inayatullah, Robert Jungk, Maria  
Kalas Koszegi, Pentti Malaska, Mi-  
hailo Markovic, Radmila Nakarada,  
Ashis Nandy, H Odera Oruka, Qin  
Linzheng, Ana Maria Sandi, Bart  
van Steenberg, Tony Stevenson,  
Allen Tough

**WFSF European Center**

Erzsebet Gidai

**WFSF members present**

Felix Marti

**Experts present**

Auvo Sarmanto

**Secretary** Anita Rubin

**1 § Approval of the Agenda**

The items were discussed and following items were approved as the Agenda of this meeting 1 The XIII World Conference in Finland in 1993 and other conferences ahead 2 Next Officers of WFSF after 1993 3 Report of the Barcelona conference 4 Other matters

**2 § The XIII World Conference in Finland and Conferences ahead**  
*The XIII World Conference in Finland*

Auvo Sarmanto introduced the plans for the Finnish World Conference (appendix 1) and spoke of the possible topics for its workshops He said also that a number of invited speakers will appear during the conference

The general structure of the conference was discussed and it was pointed out that futures-oriented ideas should come out clearly in the program It was suggested that the papers to be represented at the conference should be prepared and carefully chosen beforehand It was also

suggested to publish an invitation in the Newsletter for proposals to improve the continuity in some of the topics Also some of the problems faced in Barcelona (and in Budapest) could be avoided by careful planning, studying the proposed items, and discussing with the previous organizers It was also decided that because of the complexity and newness of the planned topic of the conference, "Coherence and Chaos in our Uncommon Futures", the chaos theories and their applications in different sciences will be introduced briefly in the coming issues of the Newsletter

The positions of the international committee should be strengthened and the committee members should have at least one meeting prior to the conference, as well as a chance to visit the planned site of the conference right before the occasion

The following people were appointed to the international scientific committee of the XIII WFSF World Conference  
ANTONIO ALONSO-CONCHEIRO,  
SOHAIL INAYATULLAH, MIKA  
MANNERMAA, RADMILA NAKARADA,  
TONY STEVENSON

(It should be noted that in their role as WFSF officers, JIM DATOR and PENTTI MALASKA are automatically members of all the international committees)

The regional conference in Pakistan

Dr IKRAM AZAM introduced the plans for a regional WFSF conference in Islamabad, Pakistan in October 1992 (appendix 2) The local organizer will be The Pakistan Futuristic Foundation

and Institute, led by Dr Ikram Azam, and the suggested topic of the four-day conference is *The Future of Democracy in Developing Countries*

It was decided that the role of the Federation should be more outstanding than in the proposal

The following people were appointed to the international scientific committee

IKRAM AZAM UVAIS AHAMED  
MESBAH-US-SALEHEEN, ASHIS  
NANDY

The regional conference in North/South Korea

Jim Dator announced that the Korean representatives had discussed in Barcelona the possibility to arrange the long planned joint conference in Seoul South Korea in 1992 According to the plan, the North Koreans should be invited to South Korea to participate The organizers did not come out with a proposal yet

The following people were appointed to the international scientific committee

GLENN PAIGE, TUK CHU CHUN QIN  
LINZHENG, TERUSHI TOMITA

The regional conference in Thailand

BART VAN STEENBERGEN said that no progress had been made in the plans for Chiang Mai He suggested that perhaps one of the Pacific "Dubrovnik" courses could be arranged in Thailand later

The XIV World Conference in 1995

ODERA ORUKA read the Council a proposal signed by five representatives of different African organizations to arrange the 1995 WFSF World Conference in one of

**Note** The place and the exact time of the World Conference have changed  
The Conference will be held in Turku, Finland, from 23-27 August, 1993

the African countries (appendix 3). He also said that the group will come within a year with a more concrete joint proposal. In the discussion following the proposal, Nairobi was mentioned as a fine site for the conference. It was also noticed that although there is no female African member in the Council, there definitively should be at least one woman in the organizing committee. The proposal was approved by the Council.

### 3 § Next Officers of WFSF after 1993

Since there was no time in the General Assembly to discuss nor decide who will be the next President of WFSF, Jim Dator suggested that the members should be sent a letter by the current President, asking them to propose one or more candidates for President. The suggestions should be returned by certain date to the Secretary General or President, after which a ballot by mail will be held.

It was noted that according to the Statutes, the President is chosen by the General Assembly, but the Secretary General is chosen by the Executive Council.

There was a lengthy discussion about possible candidates for both officers.

(At this point, ELEONORA MASINI had to leave, the chair was yielded to MIHAILO MARKOVIC.)

It was decided to vote on the propositions mentioned above. The first vote was carried out on the matter of whether the letter by the President should be sent to

the members, asking them to propose name(s) for the ballot to choose the next President.

There were 13 yes-votes, no no-votes and 4 abstained. The plan was thus approved to be performed as suggested by majority.

The second vote was carried out on the suggestion to choose TONY STEVENSON as the new Secretary General.

There were 16 yes-votes, no no-votes and 1 abstained. Thus, by majority, Tony Stevenson was chosen by the Council to become the new Secretary General from the beginning of 1994.

Tony Stevenson thanked the Council for electing him and said that he will be delighted to work with whoever the members will choose as the new President.

### 4 § Report of the Barcelona conference

FELIX MARTI announced that the local organizer has prepared to complete the proceedings of the Barcelona conference by the end of the year. The organizer has received nearly 200 papers and is ready to publish a book in 300 copies in which there is a selection of the best papers (20-30 articles).

In addition to Jim Dator, Felix Marti, RADMILA NAKARADA and Bart van Steenberg were nominated as members of the Editorial Committee.

It was decided that the Editorial Committee will make a selection of all the received papers (1/10 of the papers) and publish it quickly.

The Editorial Committee was also authorized to make further decisions on the matter.

### 5 § Other Matters

ERZSEBET GIDAI spoke of the plans and the economic situation of the European Center in Budapest. There will be a seminar on East-West problems.

With IGOR BESTUZHEV-LADA, she also proposed the Council decide on organizing a research group on futures studies in the European countries. After inquiries on the program and funding the following subjects were introduced: Futures of the Baltic Sea, Futures of the Mediterranean, Democracy and Participation in Eastern Europe. It was proposed that there would be a network on the subjects, seminars, and a research center with a specific program with

Budapest as the coordination point.

The Council appreciated the activity of the European Center. However, there should be more concrete plans on human resources needed, cost estimates, funding proposals, etc. for the Council to be able to make any decisions on the matter.

### 6 § Closing of the Meeting

The meeting was closed at 4 05 pm.

Approved 21 September, 1991

Eleonora Masini Chair  
Mihailo Markovic Chair

Pentti Malaska  
Secretary General

## Introduce your Organization to the WFSF members!

In order to increase our knowledge of each other's work in the futures field and to get to know each other better, the Secretariat is calling all WFSF members, individual as well as institutional, to write a brief introduction on your organization for the Newsletter. These introductions will then be published in the coming issues.

This introduction should not be more than 350 words long, but there are no other restrictions in what it should contain.

Send the material to the Secretariat by mail, fax, or e-mail, or you can also send a mac disc (which will help the Editor very much!). You can find our address printed on the inside cover page of this issue.

## REPORT BY THE CHAIR OF THE WFSF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Eleonora Masini

*Period May 1990 - September 1991*

The President and Secretary General of WFSF will report on the general activities of the Federation. I shall report on the activities of the Executive Council which was able to meet four times, thanks mainly to the efforts of the Secretary General, PENTTI MALASKA, and the organizers of the Barcelona world conference.

The Council, newly elected in Budapest in May 1990, met twice in Turku Finland. On those occasions mini-Councils were held with the specific task of counselling the President and the Secretary General, taking advantage of the presence of a group of members of the Council in Finland (Reports of the meeting are in the Newsletter of January 1991).

The first meeting was held in Turku in August 1990, in the course of the annual meeting of the Finnish Association which has been most supportive to the Secretariat and to WFSF. Among the many topics discussed, was the publication of the Beijing proceedings, which will be available in Barcelona, thanks to

the efforts of UNESCO, and especially of Pierre Weiss and the President. Other topics discussed during the meeting, were the Budapest proceedings, cooperation with UNESCO, the conferences in Sofia, Barcelona, and Finland.

The second meeting of the Council took place in November, 1990. On this occasion, discussions focused mainly on the activities that WFSF is conducting in conjunction with UNESCO. Pierre Weiss was present. Other participants were MICHAEL MARIEN for the World Future Society, ROBERT JUNGK for the Salzburg Library, and representatives of Futuribles. It would seem that finally all the efforts to foster cooperation in making available information and documentation in the area of Futures Studies are bearing fruit. This will be to the benefit of all those who are interested in Futures Studies, offering a truly global coverage. WFSF has contributed significantly to cooperation in information and documentation, through its commitment worldwide, and especially through its long-standing involvement in developing countries and former East European countries.

The President and the Secretary General have reported on the status and development of such activities.

The third Council meeting was hosted by our Catalan friends in Barcelona and was chaired by the President, since I was not able to attend. The main purpose of the meeting was to discuss preparations for the Barcelona world conference and future meetings of WFSF.

The fourth Council meeting took place in Bulgaria. It was the first time that WFSF held a meeting in Bulgaria. Again the meeting was chaired by the President. Discussions focused on the Barcelona conference and on the world conference to be held in Finland in 1993. Reference was also made to responsibilities vis-à-vis UNESCO. I wish to underline the importance of such cooperation with UNESCO, which is currently showing great interest in Futures Studies. It is particularly significant because the emphasis on Futures Studies by UNESCO coincides with a period of restructuring in future-oriented

terms, and because an increasing emphasis is being placed on Futures Studies at the intergovernmental level. Clearly, the more cooperation there is, the greater the influence that Futures Studies will be able to have in member states more importantly, for those who believe in it, the closer the cooperation, the greater the influence of forward-looking thinking in general in many countries.

A verbal report will be made in the meeting of the Council in Barcelona.

The most important tasks of the present Council are the following:

- 1 The next world conference in Finland,
- 2 Other regional conferences
- 3 Futures Studies course in Dubrovnik or other courses,
- 4 Election of the President by the General Assembly, of the Secretary General by the Council election of the Chair of Council.

Eleonora Masini

## OF MY ACTIVITIES AS PRESIDENT OF THE WFSF

Jim Dator

*From the XIth World Conference held in Budapest in May 1990, until the XIIth World Conference, in Barcelona, September 1991*

### Introduction

The interval between these two World Conferences was unusually short. Moreover, having been Secretary General since 1983 and President since January 1990 a certain pattern has by now been established, for better or worse, in my activities, a pattern which has been reinforced by the absolutely magnificent support and communication between myself and PENTTI MALASKA, the Secretary General since January 1990. (For a description of that pattern, please refer to my report to the Budapest General Assembly, published in Vol 16, No 2, July 1990, of the WFSF Newsletter, pp 30-34.)

**Between May 1990 and September 1991, my main activities as President have been the following**

- 1 Preparation for the XIIth World Conference in Barcelona
- 2 Preparation for and attendance in the WFSF Regional Conference

in Sofia, Bulgaria, June 1991 on "Alternative Futures for Eastern Europe"

3 Preparation for and co-administration of the "Futuresco Futures Clearinghouse funded by Unesco

4 Discussion of possible WFSF regional meetings in Korea, Japan, Thailand, Pakistan, Australia

5 Discussion of a possible workshop on Futures Studies in Higher Education, in Vancouver, Canada, June 1992

6 Selection and final editing for publication by Unesco, papers given at the XIth World Conference in Beijing, September 1988

7 Lectures and workshop presentations as WFSF President

- Vision 2020 Planning Committee, Golden, Colorado, USA, June 1990

- Unesco Experts Meetings on Future-Oriented Studies, Bosen Germany, August 1990

- 10th Annual Conference of the Finnish Society for Futures Studies Turku, Finland August 1990

- International Symposium for Asia-Pacific Culture & Development, Kashima, Japan, November 1990

- Meeting on establishing Futuresco, Turku, Finland, November 1990

- Meeting of International Advisory Committee for XIIth World Conference, Barcelona, December 1990

- Visiting Professor, OISE, University of Toronto, February 1991

- 21st Century Project, Arizona State University, West, April 1991

### Governance Structures and Processes within the WFSF

As I hope you all know, a copy of the WFSF Statutes and By-Laws, as amended, was published in the most recent WFSF Newsletter. Also appended was a note about the Statutes and By-Laws. In the note I said that all the officers of the WFSF try to abide and operate the WFSF according to the amended Statutes and By-Laws. I also said that the Statutes and By-Laws are vague and contradictory in several places, and that customary ways of doing things have emerged over time to fill in the gaps.

I would like to take this opportunity to make some lengthy comments about what I referred to in that note as the "common law" of the WFSF, especially in relation to the themes of this Conference, advancing democracy and participation.

Clearly, the General Assembly, composed of all WFSF members attending each meeting of the Assembly, is technically the supreme organ of WFSF governance. But it is my experience that typically the average member of the WFSF (and participant in the General

Assembly) lacks detailed information beforehand, and sufficient time for discussion and deliberation during a meeting, for the General Assemblies to be little more than rubber stamps of the decisions made elsewhere by others.

Of course, in this the General Assemblies of the WFSF are not unique. In all legislatures I am aware of, most serious debates and real decisions are made not on the floor of the legislature, but in cabinet, committee, or subcommittee meetings – or on golf greens and bars. It is rare indeed for any legislature anywhere to consider and resolve any issue of substance *de novo*. It is not even typical for a legislature to overturn a decision recommended by the prime minister ranking officers of the house, or its major committees – though of course it should be possible and sometimes does happen in all democratic legislatures.

The same is true of almost all private or public-interest organizations I am familiar with. Those that strive to be different, such as participatory labor groups, the Greens, certain New Age organizations, and the like, seem to show that procedures which strive truly to equalize information and influence among all members in all decisions work best for small, long-standing, face-to-face groups having goals which all members understand and agree upon and, often, where it is not too important that decisions ever actually be reached or that actions actually ever be taken on behalf of the whole.

Now, of course I believe that the WFSF should strive towards the highest standards and practices of democracy and participation commensurate with its needs, means, and abilities. But before I consider how that might be possible let me state what I think the actual practice in the WFSF presently is

While there have been no formal changes or clarifications in the structure of the WFSF since 1978 (as far as I can tell) recent brochures and minutes of meetings of the Federation indicate that the organs and officers are these

There is an Executive Council (sometimes called Executive Committee) This is elected every four years by the General Assembly. Recent practice has been for the President (on advice from some other members) to appoint a Nominating Committee, composed of some present Council members and some non-members. A call is issued to all members for them to nominate Council candidates to the Committee. From these, and from their own resources, the Committee then recommends a list of candidates to the Council for submission at the next appropriate General Assembly. The Council typically discusses the Committee's recommendations and typically accepts it basically as is, with only one or two modifications.

This list is then presented to the General Assembly (sometimes in advance, sometimes only immediately before discussion and a vote is called for), and the

General Assembly normally votes its approval of the list without modification. There have been occasions however where the Assembly has added a person or two to the list. As far as I know, never has a candidate recommended by the Council been rejected.

Recent Nominating Committees have sought to achieve a "balance" between the following factors: the knowledge, experience, loyalty, actual participation, and desires of incumbent Council members, the need for geographical, ideological, gender, ethnic and age diversity, and the need for new blood, especially to co-opt members who have demonstrated an interest in and capacity for working on behalf of the Federation.

On the basis of those criteria we presently have 27 members on the Executive Council all of whom are active, and some very active, in the Federation. However, even though attempts were made during the most recent nomination and elections (May 1990 Next elections are June 1993) to achieve a better balance between the factors listed above, the Council still needs a greater proportion of members who are younger women, and from Africa, the Middle East, South America, Oceania, and Asia (but then, we need many more such members generally).

The position of Chair of the Executive Council was either filled for the first time or created (depending on how you look at it) by the Council at the Beijing meeting in 1988.

In addition, there are presently four Vice Presidents chosen from and by the Council on the basis of their experience, activity, and regional diversity.

The Secretary General is chosen by the Council (not by the General Assembly) from the WFSF membership on the basis of her/his willingness to work like a slave day and night for the Federation, and at the financial and psychic expense of his/herself, family and friends, and employing institution(s).

The President is chosen by the General Assembly after a search and recommendation procedure similar to that described for Council members.

In addition there are currently three Honorary Members and the Head of the WFSF European Center who, though not formally members of the Council, nonetheless participate in it as equals.

There is no definition of a quorum for either the General Assembly or the Council. There has been no pressure to have one, in my judgement, because it is almost impossible for a set number of members of either body to get together.

Proxy ballots are prepared and mailed out, along with a very sketchy agenda, usually three months before the General Assemblies, as required by the Statutes. However, most members absent from General Assemblies do not designate a proxy, and those who usually designate the President or

Secretary General. But Paragraph 6 (4) of the Statutes and Paragraph 4 of the By-Laws state that no person can hold more than three proxy votes, and this limitation has always been observed during my experience.

While I am on voting, several other items mentioned in the Statutes and By-Laws should be brought out.

Paragraph 6 (5) of the Statutes concerning the General Assembly, inexplicably states: "*Decisions should strive for unanimity. No decision can be taken without at least a two-thirds majority.*"

I am not sure what the last sentence intends. It has never been invoked to my knowledge. But in fact most of the decisions are made by near or actual unanimity.

Paragraph 4 of the By-Laws says, "*As far as possible, voting sheets must be prepared by the Secretary General to enable absent members to participate in decisions of General Assemblies and all decision-making bodies of WFSF. Voting sheets, questionnaires and other polling techniques should be used as much as possible to ensure the widest participation of all members in all proceedings and activities of WFSF.*"

While such ballots have been used on occasion, their use is certainly not the rule.

Members of the Executive Council do not meet physically together on a regular basis. Typically, one half to three-quarters of the Council

attends the World Conferences, and there is usually one Council meeting just before, and another towards the end, of such Conferences. Probably somewhat less than one-half of the Council attend the Regional meetings

As a consequence, it has long been the practice of the President or Secretary General when traveling to places where there will also be other WFSF members to hold informal meetings and discuss WFSF matters. Recently, these meetings have been termed 'Mini-Councils'.

But this brings up one of the most perplexing problems facing the Federation historically, and, I imagine, in the future the unequal flow of information about Federation business.

The reasons for the unequal flow, as I see it, are these:

1 Some members travel more than others, and have a greater opportunity to meet other members. To help balance this, travel assistance, usually from Unesco grants, has been given to different members to help them attend certain WFSF meetings. **MUCH MORE NEEDS TO BE DONE IN THIS RESPECT.** Any concrete suggestions on how to do so would be appreciated.

2 Some members are linked together through free (to them) electronic mail (e-mail) services. These and some others, also have ready access to facsimile (fax) facilities. Some have telex addresses. Most members, including about a third of the

Council, have only postal service and telephone capabilities.

To this it must also be added that some members work in offices where there is a staff which can help them with these services. Others must use them entirely on their own, and perhaps at their own expense.

During the time ELEONORA MASINI was President and I was Secretary General, we stayed in regular communication through telex, phone, and the regular (?) mail. I was able to send telexes to her from my home or office via my computers. But Eleonora had to retrieve and send (or have some one retrieve or send) telex messages from a travel agency elsewhere in Rome.

Because of the 12 hour time difference between us, we usually pre-arranged our phone conversations. We also usually had a regular Monday morning/her evening phone call which usually lasted one hour or more. This was absolutely essential to carrying out our business. The mail between us was notoriously unreliable.

The flow of information between Pentti Malaska and myself has been something else. Both of us have computers at home and at work through which we access e-mail. We also have easy fax and phone services, and staff to help with all of these. (Several other WFSF members in Finland also use e-mail). So the communication flow between the Office of the President and the Secretariat is fast and frequent.

daily - indeed, often many times a day, or night - in various modes.

Given the fact that Pentti and I have been able to meet physically together at various spots around the globe over the past year, and the fact that I more frequently communicate with my own office staff (and WFSF members) in Hawaii via phone and e-mail than in person, there is not much difference between the flow of information between Hawaii and Finland and between the 6th and 7th floors of Porteus Hall in the University of Hawaii!

More and more educational institutions everywhere in the world are linked together via electronic mail. These services normally permit their employers to use them without charge. That is how Pentti and I communicate.

During the preparations for the 1989 WFSF Regional Conference in Nagoya, Japan, KAORU YAMAGUCHI and I communicated regularly via e-mail as well, and we continue to do so. Similarly, I am linked by the same e-mail network to ALLEN TOUGH in Toronto, ANTON LJUTIC in Ottawa, MARIA GUIDO in Texas, REED RINER in Arizona, and TOM MANDEL in California. I am linked to MAGDA MCHALE in New York, HARLAN CLEVELAND in Minnesota, and DON MICHAEL and WALTER ANDERSON in California on another e-mail system.

I find that e-mail communication is superior to any other form, including phone and fax. Indeed, it combines the features of both: it is interactive, like phone (it can be in "real time" though it normally is

not), and it is in print like fax, so that discussions can be reviewed more carefully and kept as a record, unlike a phone conversation.

But, like a conference phone call, it is possible and easy to have computer and/or e-mail conferences in which many people can communicate back and forth at the same, or (more typically) at their own convenient, time.

Unlike fax, it is easy to modify an e-mail printed text, and return the modified document to the sender for consideration. Thus documents can be easily drafted and edited between two or many people.

I know that YRJO SEPPALA of Finland is trying to establish a WFSF e-mail network. I wholeheartedly support his intentions. I URGE ALL MEMBERS OF THE WFSF TO DO THEIR UTMOST TO GAIN ACCESS TO E-MAIL SERVICES AND TO USE THEM TO CREATE A STEADY FLOW OF COMMUNICATION AMONG ALL OF US. In my experience, this will do more to increase democracy and participation in the WFSF than anything else.

However, in thinking about preferred forms of democracy and participation in the WFSF, it might be useful for members to know in more detail what my usual WFSF communication flow is.

Without a doubt the heaviest daily flow is between Pentti Malaska, the Secretary General, (and his staff) and myself. This flow is mainly e-

mail and fax, though I usually also send him copies of essential mail correspondence I have with other members (as Eleonora did for me when she was President and I Secretary General). Often involved directly or indirectly in this flow is Eleonora Masini (Chair of the Executive Council) with whom I am in close touch as well (though increasingly indirectly via the Secretariat since it seems easier for both of us that way).

Without a doubt the person running a close third – if not “tied” with Pentti and Eleonora – is Magda McHale, one of the four WFSF Vice Presidents. We have frequent lengthy phone conversations, augmented by fax, e-mail, and regular mail. Her counsel has been absolutely invaluable to me.

I assume that all three of these people discuss Federation matters with their own circle of friends and advisors and use the ideas thus gained to help shape their communication with me.

The fourth most frequent and voluminous flow of ideas is between Allen Tough and myself. This is because Allen is willing and eager to share his very helpful ideas with me, he is a member of the Executive Council, and he is a regular user of e-mail.

The flow of information between myself and the rest of the members of the Executive Council is much less steady and uneven. Pentti and I try to keep them informed of ‘official’ business and seek their guidance by sending them circular letters by fax or mail, but I cannot say I am in even

moderately close touch with more than five members of the Council, have moderate communication with a dozen, and virtually no communication about WFSF matters with the remaining five Council members except when meeting face-to-face with them.

In part, this is because it is technologically and physically easier for me to communicate with the people with whom I do communicate, and equally difficult to do so with those with whom I do not.

In addition, I tend to respond to people who contact or respond to me. If you write me a letter, I try to write back promptly (as many of you know, I am not always as prompt as I should be). If you then respond, and we get a flow going, I will tend to keep it up as long as you do. For people using electronic means of communication, this is easier and quicker than with the regular mail, so I clearly tend to favor those with such means. For example, though not a member of the Council, my communication flow with Kaoru Yamaguchi is comparatively rich. On the other hand, though also not in the Council, and not on either e-mail or fax, my flow with Michael Marien is also comparatively rich because Michael is a persistent and insistent letter writer. He gets my attention, and often my goat. So I respond. And he responds, and so on.

In addition to this I must also add that the flow of communication is extremely heavy between myself and/or the Secretariat and the

local organizers of the WFSF world and regional conferences. I am surprised that MCI International didn't install a private telex line directly between QIN LINZHENG and myself before the Beijing conference! The number and length of our telexes was unbelievable. The flow between Malaska in Finland and (to a lesser degree) the MARTIS in Barcelona (mainly via fax) is certainly heavy as well. However, the flow of communication with members of the WFSF World Conference International Organizing Committees follows the same pattern. I mentioned for the Executive Council it is uneven, and for many of the same reasons.

Some other WFSF members are excellent communicators too. Without trying to be complete, I must mention IKRAM AZAM, WENDELL BELL, CLEM BEZOLD, RAIMONDO CAGIANO, TUK-CHU CHUN, NANDINI JOSHI, MAXIMO KALAW, MIKA MANNERMAA (though I count him among the Finnish e-mail group), MESBAH-US-SALEHEEN, PETER METTLER, ANTHONY MLIKOTIN, JOHN MORSE, BRIAN MURPHY, FUMIO NAKAJIMA, SATISH SETH, RICH SLAUGHTER, GODWIN SOGOLO, TAKAHIRO SUZUKI, LORNE TEPPERMAN, ALEXANDER TOMOV, ANDRE VAN DAM, HELMUT VON LOEBELL, and GENE WILLIAMS. While he was alive, no one communicated more vividly than did Simon Nicholson!

From some – indeed, most – members, I hear nothing.

Given the fact that I have many obligations other than those to the WFSF, I tend to ‘go with the flow’,

which is to say, I communicate (1) with those who initiate or respond to communication and (2) via the most convenient medium, with e-mail being preferred. And that contributes to the uneven distribution of democracy and participation within the WFSF, I am sure.

Mention has been made several times to preparation for World and Regional WFSF Conferences. These meetings are clearly one of the most important activities of the Federation, both in terms of their place in the Statutes, and in the reality of the Federation. Some people say they feel we make too much of them, and that we should do other things, either instead or in addition to our Conferences. Others (such as myself) feel that we should continue to make them our centerpiece activity for reasons I tried to make clear in my report to the General Assembly in Budapest in 1990 (Published in the Newsletter, Vol 16, No 2, Issue 56, July 1990, pp 28-34).

The Federation has always been heavily dependent on the local organizers of our Conferences for their financing and actual organization. The WFSF has tried to be responsible for the substantive activities of the conferences. Because of this necessary (but overlapping) division of labor and responsibility, there has always been some measure of friction, mis-communication, and perhaps dissatisfaction between the local organizers and some members of the Federation, and/or between members of the Federation itself.



In order to minimize this in the future, I prepared a rather lengthy Memorandum of Agreement for use between the WFSF and any local organizing group, beginning with the Barcelona Conference. Several members of the Federation contributed to the draft, and its revision. That document was accepted without further comment by the local and international organizing committees of the Barcelona conference. **I hope it will be used as the basis of agreements for any future conferences.** Any member who wishes to review and comment on it should ask for a copy from the Secretariat.

Of equal importance as a WFSF activity are the Futures Courses offered annually since 1975 at the Inter-University Centre for Postgraduate Studies at Dubrovnik, Yugoslavia. Following the Budapest Conference, I appointed an internal committee to review that activity. Their report was published in the Newsletter. The Course Directors for 1990, 1991, and 1992 Course also have recommendations for the future of the course which need to be considered so that the future direction of this very important activity can be determined. There also have been discussions about holding courses elsewhere, and in addition to Dubrovnik, especially given the changed situation in Yugoslavia. **I consider deliberation and action on the recommendations concerning these Futures Courses to be a high priority for the WFSF.**

I have already made some comments about membership in

the WFSF. A few more are in order.

First of all, the issue about the relationship between 'institutional' and 'individual' members needs to be resolved.

I have consistently described the WFSF as **"a network of institutions and individuals from all parts of the world professionally involved in futures studies"**. The action is not in the Federation itself, but in the constituent institutions and individuals. The Federation exists mainly to facilitate communication between the member institutions and individuals, and to enlarge the number of institutions and individuals engaged in futures studies worldwide. I believe this is in keeping with the statements in the Preamble and Paragraph 1(3) of the Statutes which spell out the purpose of the Federation. I must add that these paragraphs contain the statement of mission for the WFSF which I find completely satisfactory, however unsatisfactory our governing structures and practices might or might not be.

Some of our institutional members are very sturdy, and are affiliated to the WFSF primarily as institutions: CHINESE SOCIETY FOR FUTURE STUDIES, JAPAN SOCIETY FOR FUTURE RESEARCH, HUNGARIAN FUTURES RESEARCH COMMITTEE, THE INTERNATIONAL CENTER OF METHODOLOGY FOR FUTURE AND DEVELOPMENT STUDIES (ROMANIA), KOREAN ASSOCIATION FOR FUTURES STUDIES, KOREAN ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL SCIENTISTS, PAKISTAN

FUTURISTICS FOUNDATION and Institute, and perhaps some others.

However, I believe that most WFSF members - such as myself - are members strictly on our own. At this point I have no clear suggestion about how to resolve this tension, or if it simply needs to be understood, and not resolved. But I believe it is a source of confusion about democracy and participation in the Federation at present. Some people assume we are only a federation of individuals with one person having one vote. That is not the case. According to the Statutes, institutions have certain privileges which individuals do not. Should this be changed?

But how do either institutions or people become members of the WFSF presently?

First of all, as far as I know the Credentials Committee has not been in existence since 1978. Communication problems made it slow, unwieldy, and finally inoperable. So, when I became Secretary General in 1983, I proposed to Eleonora and the Council that we adopt the procedures which are stated in the WFSF Brochure.

"Persons wishing to become members should write the Secretary General or the President requesting membership. This letter should clearly demonstrate that the person is and has been engaged in serious futures work of an academic, professional, or related manner. A current vita substantiating that claim should

also be included with the letter of application. In addition, the applicant must ask at least two current members of the WFSF or other persons well-known in the futures field, to send separate letters of recommendation on the applicant's behalf. If there is any uncertainty about the applicant's admission, the President or the Secretary General shall contact the members of the Executive Council and/or Federation in the applicant's geographical region for advice." (The present brochure mentions, instead of writing a letter, "fill an application form")

Among other things, note that this clearly assumes that the member is an individual, not an institution, and yet several institutions have joined the Federation as members since these procedures were adopted.

As far as I know, these procedures have been followed, and have been found satisfactory. I favor keeping them, and only modifying them to make clear that future-oriented institutions can join as well. But are they sufficiently democratic and participatory?

A number of problems related to membership do remain.

Should we more openly recruit members than we do? Michael Marien, for example, frequently admonishes us for being so small - in fact, apparently declining in numbers.

I certainly favor having more members, but also insist that they be qualified, and that affirmative action principles apply. By that I



mean that our members should truly be futurists, or at least future-oriented (by some so-far poorly-specified criteria) But it is also very important to me, as I frequently have stated, that we **more actively recruit women, and men of diverse ethnic background, particularly younger people, within Europe and North America, and men and women (especially younger) from the rest of the world generally**

Another membership issue is what to do with inactive members people who neither pay their dues nor are active in the Federation in any way (ie, they do not communicate with the Federation, contribute to the Newsletter, attend WFSF meetings, or otherwise demonstrate interest in the WFSF) The Statutes say *'Membership expires with failure to pay membership fees for two subsequent budget terms'* However, *'The Executive Board can grant exemptions from payment of membership dues'* [8(4)]

In practice, the Federation has welcomed as members people who can not pay their dues (for a variety of income or currency-transfer related reasons), as long as the people are active (as negatively defined above) But wholly inactive persons have also been kept in the membership lists There are various reasons for this (1) They may have been active in the past, and we hope/expect them to be active again (2) They may be from underrepresented parts of the world (3) They may be big names in the field and look good on the list (4) No one has had time and/or felt competent

enough on their own to go through the list and remove names

The membership tends to swell immediately following World Conferences when people attending the Conferences decide to join Some of these people are never heard from again Thus some of the people from Italy, Egypt, Sweden, Costa Rica, Hawaii, China, and Hungary who were once, or are now, members fall in this category However, Eleonora Masini, GORAN BACKSTRAND, Pentti Malaska and I while we were Secretary general have at various times tried to purge the names of people we knew were no longer active That is why Michael Marien noted an apparent drop in membership recently But we have kept some names out of uncertainty, and if we slimmed the list down to only the genuinely active, the Federation would be much smaller indeed Should we do that? I think not, though there probably are some names - a dozen or so - which should be removed if we could ever get around to it

A final membership issue to raise is the dues For some members or prospective members our dues are impossibly high For others (and to many outside observers) our dues are ridiculously low A basic rule of capitalism, which I despise is that the more expensive a thing is, the more valuable it is Correlatively, inexpensive things are worthless

The dues of the WFSF are extremely low We therefore seem to be not very important to many people, especially if you compare

our dues to those of other future-oriented, academic, or professional organizations

Also, in reviewing the minutes of the meetings from 1970 onward which led to the creation of the WFSF in 1973, I discovered that we were discussing dues of between \$30-\$50 for individuals then! If we had let our dues keep up with inflation they certainly would be several hundred dollars for individuals, and several thousand for institutions, by now

What should we do about this?

For years, I have resisted raising the dues But I have changed my mind Now I am in favor of having dues of some kind of a sliding scale, or percent of income basis Given the cost of everything else in my life, \$30 per year is laughable \$200 would be more like it Many members may also feel the same

But for others, \$30 is too much and for others still, while \$30 is OK, \$50 would also be OK, and maybe better"

If we could devise a system of dues paying which would enable / require those who can pay more to do so, without handicapping or embarrassing those who cannot pay much of anything, then I am in favor of it

This is also a good time to remind everyone of the financial reality of the WFSF While the Statutes refer to a two year budget, the plain truth is that the operations of the Federation are not financed out of dues of its members (nor by any external grant or source of

money) Ninety percent of WFSF costs are subsidized primarily by the institution supporting the Secretariat, and by the personal or institutional funds of some of its principle officers Certainly no officer makes a penny from the WFSF, though many of them spend many dollars, often thousands of dollars, on its behalf

I refer readers especially to my reports to the General Assembly in Hawaii, Beijing, and Budapest, published subsequently in appropriate issues of the Newsletter, for statements about the true financing of the Federation

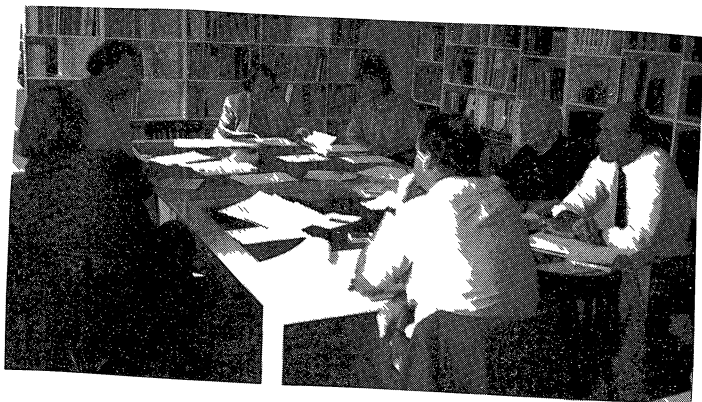
### A Proposal

In my opinion, any proposal for advancing democracy and participation in the WFSF must take all of the factors mentioned above into account, and/or change them accordingly

I would like to make the following proposal I propose that, by the end of the Plenary Session in Barcelona on September 18 concerning Democracy and Participation in the WFSF we decide on a process which will result in our envisioning a new 'Constitution' for the World Futures Studies Federation which will reflect how we actually operate, and how we want and realistically can function Then we should either try to change the present Statutes and By-Laws to reflect the Constitution or find a new formal and legal basis for the Federation

# BUSY BUSINESS – THE MEETING OF THE FUTURESOCO EDITORIAL GROUP IN BARCELONA

*Jim, Michael, Eleonora, Mika, Bob Jungk, Hugues de Jouvenel and Pierre Weiss (chair) Leena-Maya Salminen took the picture*



As I hinted in my memo to all members in August, our dilemma is this we are presently legally incorporated under French Law. Our legal address is in Paris Paragraph 10 (3) of the Statutes says 'The representative of WFSF must be in possession of his powers according to civil law. He must be of French nationality.'

Even though it is clear that the formal basis of the WFSF is confusing and contradictory, and the actual practice of governance often something else altogether, we cannot legally change our structure unless we do so according to French Law. And this requires competencies that neither I, nor most of WFSF members, have we are not of French nationality.

So in order to make any legal change we must secure the services of someone who is competent to represent us in France and who is willing to do so.

We also might try to discover if there are laws of other nations we might prefer instead of those of France (and by saying, I am not expressing the slightest dissatisfaction with the laws of France, or preference for something else! I just believe we need this information).

However it may be best just to ignore our present Statutes and By-Laws – don't change them, just let them be – and regroup ourselves as suits our fancy for the 21st Century.

Any suggestions?

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## ACTIVITY REPORT OF WFSF FROM 1ST 1990 TO 31 JUNE 1991

Pentti Malaska

*Prepared by the Secretary General for the General Assembly meeting in Barcelona 18th September, 1991*

The period from the beginning of 1990 till the middle of 1991 has been very active, filled with events with our partners and members. Plans have been initiated and discussed, new cooperative projects emerged and earlier works accomplished. The situation has also been threatening because of the civil war situation in Yugoslavia, in the case of one of our most important activities, the Dubrovnik course. Many crucial issues for the future of WFSF are on the agenda for the Assembly meeting as result of initiatives and experience emerged or ripened during the period.

On-going activities have been already announced on the pages of the Newsletters. The reports by President JIM DATOR and Chair of the Council, ELEONORA MASINI tell of many activities and events of theirs which are not necessary to be repeated here. This report outlines briefly the activities which have been especially within the responsibilities of the office of the Secretary General.

### Statutes and By-Laws, UN status

WFSF is authorized under the French law, as can be recalled

from the reprint of the official documents of the statutes and by-laws in the Newsletter 2-3/91. The host organization of the Federation in France is Futuribles to which we are obliged to report. The office has been asked by Futuribles to supply information about the members of the Council and persons nominated as officials. Most of the Council members have supplied information needed but unfortunately not everyone.

From the beginning of 1991, the Secretary General has been invited to the Board of the Futuribles, which further ensures exchange of information.

WFSF has the UNESCO status B as a NGO which effectuates good cooperation between WFSF and the UNESCO programs. The key contact person in UNESCO has been Dr Pierre Weiss in Paris to whom we address thanks for his cooperation.

UNESCO supported the XI World Conference in Budapest by giving grants which were used especially to make participation from developing countries possible. Also the WFSF Dubrovnik course

in May substantially benefited from a grant from UNESCO

WFSF has a privilege to appoint its representatives to the UN. This gives an opportunity to become informed and heard in the UN activities. The President and Secretary General have invited Dr. ORIO GIARINI (Geneva) and Prof. SAUL MENDLOVITZ (New York) to serve as WFSF representatives to the UN for three years.

WFSF was called to attend the UN Eleventh Session of the Inter-governmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development 16 C (United Nations, N.Y. 22 April - 3 May, 1990), but we were not able to attend this time.

### Business Meetings of WFSF

General Assembly held a meeting in Budapest on May 28th, 1990. The Minutes of the meeting were published in the Newsletter Vol 16 No 2 Issue 56/1990, pp 24-35. The Executive Council held two meetings in 1990-91, both in Budapest (May 27th and May 31st). The Minutes were also published in the Newsletter mentioned above, pp 36-39.

Whenever the President or the Chair of the Council and the Secretary General with any other Council member have found a time and place to meet, a business meeting with a preparatory and consultative status on various WFSF matters has been arranged. There were four of these business gatherings called Mini-Council Meetings in Turku, Finland, 12th August, 1990, Turku, 19th

November, in Barcelona, Spain, 10th December, and in Sofia, Bulgaria, 4th June, 1991. The agenda proposals have been made known to all Council members and after the Barcelona and Sofia meetings, the discussions have been reported in the Newsletters (issues 58/91, 59/91).

The office also arranged a meeting for the initiating of the UNESCO FUTURESOCO program in Turku on 18th November, 1991.

### Members and Collaborators

According to the latest calculations (August 31st, 1991) the number of individual members has grown to 520 and institutional members into 52. Since May 1990, 49 individual members and 3 institutional members have been accepted.

In 1990 about one third of the individual members and only six institutional members paid their annual fees. Until the end of July this year, the amount of individual members who have paid is again one third of all the members, the amount of institutional members who have paid is again six.

The procedure of paying one's membership fee directly to the WFSF bank account as requested by the Finnish bank *Postipankki* proved to have been expensive. The number of members who paid their fee was low because of these difficulties. For 1991, the office made an agreement with the Finnish credit card organization *Luottokunta* and now members can pay their fee by using the most

common international credit cards. The number of fees paid has risen because of this more convenient service.

There is more about the membership issue in the President's report.

WFSF has been happy to enjoy cooperation with several other organizations for accomplishing tasks in the futures field. Among these are the national organizations and their committees in charge of the World Conferences, *The Hungarian Academy of Sciences* in Budapest and *Centre Catala de Prospektiva* in Barcelona, as well as *the Bulgarian Future Society*, *Centre for Strategic Business and Political Studies*, the organizer of the East European Regional Conference in Sofia. Also to belong to this group soon is *The Finnish Society for Futures Studies*, which has started to organize the XIII World Conference. On behalf of the office, I want to express our great appreciation to them.

Other futures-oriented organizations have also contacted WFSF for cooperation, and the Federation has participated through its representatives. Seminars supported by WFSF and attended by the Secretary General were held in Prague (*The Designing of the Future in Europe - The Conceptions in the Year 1991*) on May 6-7, 1991, and in Romania (*Fears and Hopes in Doing Business with Eastern European Countries*) on May 30-June 1, 1991 (for more information, see the Editorial of the Newsletter 2-3, 1991). This kind of cooperation is

highly appreciated by WFSF within the limits of available resources.

Worth mentioning also is the interest of our affiliated institutional members and information network in exchanging material and information. After a while I think that we have achieved a good system of exchange. I would like our friends to know that we appreciate their visible interest in WFSF.

Our members are of course the main reason why WFSF exists. It is no doubt that many or most of the members are quite active in the futures field at home and that they are doing invaluable work for a better future. What has been rewarding to us in the office is that this diversified work has become more visible to us and that through the Newsletter, we have been able to make it become more international. When WFSF can support this, it has a mission.

### Newsletter

Five issues of the Newsletter (56, 57, 58, 59, 60) have been published since May 90 till September -91, and mailed to all members listed in the Directory or joined after that.

Updating of the personal data was called upon for the Directory in August 1990 but those who didn't respond to our request were still listed with their previous contact information.

At the end of August 1991, there were 15 subscribers to the Newsletter and copies were

delivered to the addresses of 30 exchange partners

There has been some very curious malfunctioning in the postal service, especially in the US, which delayed the Newsletters for several weeks in the spring 1991. We hope that this problem has been eliminated and everybody got his/her latest copy in good time. If, however, it came late again, the members are urged to inform us

### Conferences and Proceedings

The XI World Conference *Linking Present Decisions to Long Range Visions* took place in Budapest from 27-31 May, 1990, and it has been reported in the Newsletter 2/90

The proceedings of the conferences deserve to be discussed separately because WFSF has a very poor record in getting anything ready in due time. However, we are progressing

The Beijing proceedings edited by Jim Dator and SHARON RODGERS were finally published by UNESCO - hopefully it will be available in Barcelona

The Budapest proceedings edited by MIKA MANNERMAA has been sent back to the authors for corrections. The authors are expected to do their share fast enough so that the printing of the proceedings in Budapest under supervision of the European Center and ERZSEBET GIDAI will be possible this year

The proceedings of the Sofia conference will be published this

year, too, and this will make a record in publishing our proceedings. The on-going Barcelona conference may even break this record by making the proceedings come out by the end of the year as originally planned

Organizing the XII World Conference in Barcelona has been conducted the whole year by the local organizer CCP. Also two meetings of the International Committee were held, one in Barcelona on December 10th, organized by the CCP, and the other in Sofia 4th June, 1991

The planning of the XIII World Conference in Finland in 1993 started by initiating the National Committee within the Finnish Society for Futures Studies as the local organizer, and Academician Pekka Jauho as the Chair of the committee

Negotiations with the North Korean futurists on having a regional Asian conference held jointly with the South Koreans continued during the visit of the Secretary General in Pyongyang in May 1991 (for more information, see the Editorial of the Newsletter 2-3 1991)

Several other proposals for regional conferences in 1992 were put on the agenda of the Barcelona meeting by the members

### Dubrovnik courses

The Dubrovnik course for 1991 was successfully executed despite of the threat of civil war at that time in May when almost all other

course at the IUC were cancelled. More detailed reports of the course can be read from the latest Newsletter

There have been changes in the team of course leaders, as has been reported in the Newsletter. WENDY SCHULTZ who has been in charge of coordinating, planning and leading the courses for several years is leaving the team and TONY STEVENSON has joined it recently, as did UVAIS AHAMED last year. We welcome them to lead this flagship of the Federation with LEENA-MAIJA SALMINEN and Miroslav Pecujlic. Warm appreciation from WFSF to Wendy is also more than deserved

Plans for the 1992 course and for the future have already been prepared by the new team for decision making in Barcelona

### UNESCO FUTURES CO

In December 1990, Pierre Weiss from UNESCO called a meeting in Turku for initiating a program called FUTURES CO. This means two things: 1) A global data base of futures studies in UNESCO's field of interest, and 2), a bulletin on futures studies coming out once this year, and then more regularly

WFSF joined the program as a cooperative partner in companying MICHAEL MARIEN (World Future Society, USA), ROBERT JUNGK (Salzburg Futures Library, Austria), and the Futuribles (France). WFSF agreed on supplying, in English, abstracts of futures studies published since

1988, and to provide synopses for the bulletin as well as to take part in the editorial board of the bulletin

WFSF supplied 46 abstracts written by its members, and RICK SLAUGHTER wrote a synopsis on Education of futures studies for the first bulletin. The contributors for the project were RAJA IKRAM AZAM (Pakistan), Silvia Borbely (Hungary), Christian Calude (Romania), CHUN TUK-CHU (South Korea), R G CROCOMBE (Pacific Islands), KJELL DAHLE (Norway), KENJI EKUAN (Japan), Sirkka Hirsjarvi (Finland), Kim EuiKon (South Korea), Attila Korompaj (Hungary), LIM TEK-GHEE (Malaysia), MESBAH-US-SALEHEEN (Bangladesh), MIKA MANNERMAA (Finland), BRIAN MURPHY (New Zealand), Petr Pajas (Czechoslovakia), Sidthinat Prabudhanitisarn (Thailand), VIORICA RAMBA-VARGA (Hungary), Pirkko Remes (Finland), DUSAN RISTIC (Yugoslavia), Jana Sereghyova (Czechoslovakia), Tony Stevenson (Australia), and Zia Jullundhuri (Pakistan). All contributors deserve our great appreciation for their activity. The work is continuing for some years. Jim Dator, Mika Mannermaa and Eleonora Masini are taking part in the editorial board of the bulletin. Leena-Maija Salminen (Finland) and Trish Jones (USA - Hawaii) were appointed to manage the WFSF part of the cooperation. Anyone interested in contributing, please contact them

UNESCO is granting its participation, and writers can be honoured by a small amount of money for their efforts

### Office facilities and economic situation

The location of the office of the Secretariat is with the Turku School of Economics and Business Administration. The university has rented an apartment near the school for the office. I work as Professor of Mathematics and Statistics with this university. We have been granted by the university all the modern office facilities which make the necessary day-to-day communications possible and effective around the globe.

The office has one worker, Ms ANITA RUBIN, who manages the daily routines, Newsletter etc. I want to express my warm thanks to Anita for her excellent work and services to the Federation, which many members may have noticed also. Paul Hayes helps with editing the language in the Newsletter and other important papers.

The university allocates some amount of its internal resources to WFSF and channels support from the Finnish Ministry of Education. A more detailed breakdown of the finances and costs of the office is reported separately in the financial auditing report. The auditing report was prepared by STEPHANE BINAND, who is a student of La Rochelle Business School in France. He was working during the summer 1991 in the WFSF office as an exchange student. Stephane deserves great thanks for his expert service.

### European Center

The WFSF European Center in Budapest headed by Professor Erzsebet Gidai and assisted by Dr MARIA KALAS KOSZEGI and Prof ERZSEBET NOVAKY was in charge of the Budapest conference. After the conference, Maria Kalas Koszegi completed all the reporting duties and assisted in collecting the proceedings papers for the editor. The European Center will print the proceedings in Budapest and deliver it to the readers.

### Communication

The most crucial element for running the WFSF Secretariat office effectively is daily communication between the Secretary General, the President, and the Chair of the Council. In his report, Jim Dator spoke of these contacts thoroughly and I will full heartedly agree with him and express my personal enthusiasm (and that of Anita's) for our good cooperation with Jim and Eleonora.

I feel happy to thank also all our other Hawaiian friends for the active contacts as well as the other members who have contributed to our daily "WFSF-life" by E-mail or fax messages or by their interesting letters.

The most essential thing for me personally is that I really enjoyed doing this service for WFSF and the good company of all its members.

Pentti Malaska

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## BARCELONA 1991

*Was Democracy and Participation advanced and were the Challenges for the Future met during our meeting? Recollections and reflections of the XII World Conference which was held in Barcelona, Catalonia from 17-21 September*

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### A LETTER TO THE PARTICIPANTS OF THE CONFERENCE FROM VACLAV HAVEL, PRESIDENT OF THE CZECH AND SLOVAK FEDERAL REPUBLIC

Prague, 11 September 1991

Dear participants in the World Futures Research Conference,

Let me thank you for your invitation to your gathering and express to you at least in this way my best wishes for the success of your deliberations. As Czechoslovakia experienced a devaluation of the notion of future under the totalitarian system, we are all the more aware of the importance of the study of this dimension. Without it we would be ill-prepared to face new risks and incapable to make use of new opportunities. The increasing difficulty of predicting possible future developments should prompt us to pay full attention to this line of activity.

I have therefore welcomed the theme of your Conference – *Advancing Democracy and Participation – Challenges for the Future*. None of the futures that the map of our possibilities may offer can be attained without unreserved and continuous participation of all those who can take part in shaping them.

It is to be hoped that the contemporary participative approaches will prevail in my country, too, in the political, social, economic and environmental fields as well as in other spheres of human endeavour.

Sincerely

Václav Havel

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## PARTICIPATING WITH THE UNIVERSE

### OPENING REMARKS FOR THE XII WORLD CONFERENCE

Jim Dator

September 17 1991  
Barcelona, Catalonia

As many of you know, I always try to use the themes of our World Conferences to guide my thoughts, actions teaching, and research in the period prior to their convening. So "advancing democracy and participation" has been very much on my mind for the last sixteen months and in many different ways.

I am sure it has been in the forefront of your concerns as well - of every person in this room. Indeed, the topic of our Conference has been a focal point of world attention in the period since the XIth World Conference in Budapest was adjourned. Seldom has democracy and participation advanced and receded and advanced again with such rapidity as it has during the months we were preparing for this Conference. Even a review of the "call for contributions" which appeared in the front of the several an-

nouncements for the Barcelona conference altered between the euphoria following the Fall of the Wall, the despair during the Gulf War, the caution and confusion following it, and then the fear which gripped the world during the coup d'etat in Moscow recently which turned out to be, not a coup d'etat but rather just a two day coup.

So, what's next? What will transpire this week while we are trying to focus on the future of democracy and participation once again?

Now it will surprise no one that during all these global upheavals, I have frequently thought of the future of participation and democracy within the WFSF itself. And in this, too, I know that I am not alone. I look forward very eagerly to the many positive suggestions for improving, or achieving, participation and democracy in the WFSF which I am certain will flow like a mighty river from the plenary discussion of that topic tomorrow morning.

For my part, I hope that all members have carefully read over the Statutes and By-laws of the Federation which were reprinted for your information in the most recent edition of the WFSF Newsletter. I also hope that everyone will read before the Plenary the copy of my report to the General Assembly which you each received in your registration packet.

From my perspective, it is necessary to understand the present constitutional basis, and current practice, of the WFSF in order to make useful suggestions for changing or improving them. But as I always say about all of our discussions, I hope that our focus will be on the future--and especially an achievable preferred future - and not primarily on the problems, or the glories, or the excuses of the present or the past.

Like many other members of the Federation who have been deeply influenced by visions of self-governance from the 1960s, or of the Greens or others more recently, I have for years struggled with what democracy means in my work place, classroom, and family. The issue has always seemed to be one of maintaining a delicate and fluid balance between freedom and order, or between autocratic interference and irresponsibility.

I imagine you can get a good argument going among my friends, colleagues, and family as to which I more generally am - autocratic or irresponsible. As near as I can figure it out, I am both simultaneously and to all people. Being putatively male, arguably

white, and certainly of advancing age does not make it any easier for me.

But there I go again, as though participation and democracy in the Hawaii Research Center for Futures Studies, or the Alternative Futures Option of the Department of Political Science of the University of Hawaii, or in the various tentacles of my extending family were MY problem, instead of those whom I so exquisitely harass and oppress.

It is also the case, as CLEM BEZOLD TOM MANDEL and other consulting futurists among us told us all in Budapest last time that the best futures work always involves the client and consultant co-evolving a vision for the future. While many clients seek merely to buy a preferred future from a futures consulting firm, Clem, Tom and the rest pointed out that the only good future is one you envision and struggle towards by and for yourself together with all of the other selves who are expected to inhabit it. If the firm is to march towards a brave new world, then everyone doing the marching had also better be in on the envisioning.

Now many of you recall that I have had a special interest in what TED BECKER and Christa Slaton call "quantum politics." Along with many of you, I have been struck by the severely limited application of positivistic science to the study of the future - or of anything else for that matter. I find the notion of an objective observer passively observing an objective real world to be of very limited utility.

Instead, I find the perspective of quantum physics to be more appealing. Specifically, that perspective reveals that

1 Things are not what they seem. If we restrict our understanding of the world to only that narrow band which our human senses perceive, we will have only a shallow and misleading notion of the structures and process of the world

2 For example it is misleading to conceive of the world as being composed of discrete units which are knit together into, say, systems. There are, rather, quanta and fields

3 While immediate cause-effect determinism and rational decision-making both have roles in our lives, those roles are not primary in human affairs. Rather probability, randomness, uncertainty, and complementarity are "normal"

4 Moreover, there is no "balance of nature" which must be preserved. Such balances as may be observed are actually very short-lived phenomena. Non-equilibrium and "symmetry-breaking" are to be expected – indeed, to be preferred. Holding on to old ways is the grip of death

7 Living systems differ in important ways from non-living ones and human systems may have important differences from other living ones. One important difference is almost certainly human consciousness. Thus, at the meso level, we might say, "consciousness uber alles." That seems to be one of the most impor-

tant messages of the concepts of indeterminism and complementarity, namely "no observer, no world." "Different observer, different world." "Images of the world are reality." There is no "objective" or "real" world separate from each consciousness' images of it."

If this is so, then altered states of consciousness may be necessary to have an altered consciousness of the state. I conclude therefore that we should accept no "crackpot realism" (about politics or anything else.)

(Above from my *Quantum Theory and Political Design* in Rolf Homann et al *CHANGING LIFESTYLES AS INDICATORS OF NEW AND CULTURAL VALUES* Gottlieb Duttweiler Institute 1983 p 55-57)

In other words, we live in a participative universe and the universe of each of us differs significantly from that of every other person and all other life. There is no world except that which is interactively and participatively created by each of us

So the answer to the old question, "Does a tree which falls unobserved in the forest make a sound?" is wrong from the start. If it is unobserved the tree not only does not make a sound, but the tree and its fall, and the forest itself does not exist, or at least exists with no more certainty than does Schroeder's cat in the box whose life, death, and very existence remains uncertain until the box is opened and its interior observed

So reality happens when we look at it, and how reality happens depends on how we look at it, as

Danah Zohar puts it in her recent book, *THE QUANTUM SELF* (William Morrow, 1990) "At the moment of observation, some dialogue between the quantum wave function and the observer, be it human or machine, evokes and thus gives concrete form to one of the many possible realities inherent in that wave function," Zohar says

Yogi Berra said, "you can observe an awful lot by merely looking." But it turns out that is the only way you can observe anything at all. Until you, or someone, looks at it, there is no there there

So I believe it is time that we try to move beyond ideas of democratic politics which are based on obsolete, or at least super-heroic, assumptions of rationality, objectivity, ideology, or interest, and develop a cybernetic politics based on quantum assumptions

We should, that is, move beyond democracy to participation, beyond the delusion of each citizen controlling the system, to the illusion of each individual participating in a self-controlling system. A government, "of, by, and for the people" assumes much more than anyone can attain, and leads inevitably to disillusion, apathy, and fascism

Now I know this may sound cynical, if not irresponsible, at a time when so many people all over the world are in the throes of ecstasy over their apparent liberation and freedom, whether indi-

vidual or national, and the possibility of, for the first time, achieving democratic, or at least,

representative, forms of government

But I regret to say that I believe this ecstasy will be very short-lived for at least two reasons. First of all, every so-called democracy I know anything about soon becomes some kind of a plutocracy at best – a government of, by, and for the few and privileged. I am absolutely certain that as long as we act as though the present forms of representative government, whether parliamentary or presidential, and whether in Europe, North America, Asia or anywhere else in the world, are in any way satisfactory, much less final, forms of democracy, then we are partners either to a dangerous illusion or to a purposeful disception

We can, if we want, view present forms of representative government as improvements over earlier, or even some recent, forms, and perhaps even as progressive, evolutionary steps forward. In this light, we can support and celebrate movements towards representative government wherever in the world they might have been recently achieved

But it is very important that we ourselves understand, and that we help others understand that true participation and democracy lies ahead, perhaps in a quantum cybernetic understanding of the world, perhaps elsewhere in other ideas developed, I hope, at this conference

My very deep and everlasting thanks to FELIX MARTI and to all the members of the local

organizing committee for bringing us here to discuss this potent topic. There could be no more appropriate spot in all the world to do so than Catalonia, historically, at present, and futuristically considered.

My personal regards to ALBERT OLIVA and JORDI SERRA with whom

ELEONORA MASINI, HIDETOSHI KATO, and myself along with many others, once dreamed the dream which has come true here today.

And to Josep Pereña in whose memory this meeting must be dedicated. I am certain he is participating in all we say and do  
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## THE CLOSING PLENARY

### Pentti Malaska

BARCELONA 16-21 September, 1991

Perhaps the most precious secret of democracy is already revealed by the question in the title of the closing plenary:

*"What have we learned about democracy and participation during the conference?"*

The question tells us that democracy is not inherited, it is not in our genes, but it is something learned and to be learned by humans. Democracy is not a necessity but a possibility, a conscious choice by free will,

assuming coherence with other free wills for learning, attaining and maintaining that objective and facing the obstacles firmly. As such as an outcome from learning, democracy is not either a state nor a thing but a never-ending, complex social process which has succeeding stages and more or less turbulent periods in between. There is no terminal.

The other secret which was revealed by the discussions is that democracy is made by participation – not by abstract equal opportunities which may considerably help anyhow – but of real participation, being present and being active even when the opportunities are still unequal.

Those who don't participate are the most undemocratic. In this sense we must look at ourselves as a Federation. We are very undemocratic, unparticipatory. Only about one quarter or less of the WFSF members participated in this conference or activity. The question "how to make WFSF more democratic?" thus coincides with the problem how to make the members themselves more participatory. Is the diminishing interest of our members a sign of a growing undemocratic trend among us, the futures wakers?

Another question which I wish to raise is this: "Has democracy anything to do with a high quality of life, measured in any other but the monetary terms of the market economy or capitalism?" The late Aurelio Peccei stated once in his book *Human Quality* that "to be a human means a certain high quality of life". Not all life in general may be regarded as human in that sense of high quality, perhaps not even all men or women. What are the quality requirements of life so that it can be said to be really human and democratic? Are they based more in the science and technology rationale than of ethical awareness and participation? I have just learned to ask these questions, not knowing the answers yet.

And let me continue the questioning.

Does our undemocratic impetus extend towards the nature and environment, and does it not come back to us unused like a

boomerang from these sections of Life? Is our fatal relation towards nature an essential symptom of our undemocratic attitudes in general?

I like poems, especially this one:

*If you destroy nature  
you destroy everything  
If you destroy the countryside  
you destroy human life  
If you destroy a city  
it can be rebuilt*

So you see, we should watch carefully what we destroy. What happened in the Gulf War in this respect?

However, there is still something reliable in this world of chaos. Life is more omnipotent than humans.

*Life will always win  
in the end  
whatever we will do  
It will win either with us  
or without*

Our task is not to worry about life as such, but only about the human part of it. Will it be a precious part of life, or will we dehumanize it, or destroy it totally? That we could accomplish.

The mission of human life is evidently and solely to pursue and demonstrate by its very existence that human life is a precious gift to all life in general, without which life itself could not attain its highest qualities – free will and democracy included.  
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## ADVANCING DEMOCRACY AND PARTICIPATION CHALLENGE FOR THE FUTURE

### WHAT WE/I HAVE LEARNED

*Final Remarks at the Congress by*

**Antonio Alonso Concheiro**

What follows is a collection of personal reflections on our work in the Conference, a set of individual perceptions on what I have struggled to learn during a week of intense intellectual stimuli gratefully received from all of you. Wherever you think I am being critical please accept that my intention is not to offend but to share. The rivers of ideas flowed everywhere. I offer you a vision of how a few mainstreams looked from my side of the waters.

### Mosaic of World Democracy

As a start, let us think about the four concepts which were (or should have been) the fundamental concern of our deliberations: Democracy, participation, challenges and future. The title of our Conference contains these four words. Reading it, the first thing that it suggests to me is that although it might not be an easy task, we should imagine possible present and future alternatives to turn challenges into opportunities,

in order to advance democracy and participation. I think I will not be off the target if I take it for certain that what was meant is that democracy and participation were undisputably taken by all of us as good, pursuable concepts ideas lying on unquestionable grounds. Advancing them, furthering them, should be good news.

Without attempting to pass a value judgement on this assumption, I can safely say that one of the first things I learned is that the 'bad news' is we do not all mean the same things by democracy and participation. From what I heard, these two concepts are culturally and ideologically determined and, unavoidably, they are value charged. Without further precisions and a more rigorous treatment, we could totally agree or completely disagree with any single statement made about them, due to our cultural and ideological interpretations or misinterpretations of these terms. And this more rigorous analysis was absent from our debates.

### Voting, a sure sign of Democracy?

The prevailing paradigm, it seemed to me, was a reference to them as entities which exclusively belong to the political sphere, within this paradigm, in a more limited sense, as governance procedures, characterized by a set of (fundamental) rules establishing who is authorized to make decisions in the name of the collectivity and the procedures under which this is to be done. In particular, the advancement of democracy tended to be interpreted mainly (unfortunately) as a progressive increase in the number of those who have the right to vote and maybe even in structures where options solely mean choice between parties in elections.

Because of the diversity of composition of our meeting, I here learned that although this may be the dominant interpretation (perhaps due to misrepresentation) it is not the only one possible. Equating democracy and participation with voting within existing formal structures is a very limited conception, prevailing mostly in the so-called developed Western world.

### Democracy-fix

Within this paradigm, it was frequently recognized, this kind of democracy has shown, in practice, limitations 'imperfections', some have called them. However, no matter how imperfect this kind of democracy is, I seem to have read it is the best we can do and we should therefore adopt it and ex-

pand it, while at the same time improving it and perfecting it. Gradual accommodation, and not radical change, as the underlying assumption for the future. More of it, but better. Is that the best our imagination reservoir as students of the future can do? I, for one, refuse to believe it.

Some of you pointed at trends of participation withdrawal from the existing formal structures. In his opening welcoming address, FELIX MARTI reminded us, I quote, of the *aging of the formulas invented during the nineteenth century which still govern the practices of the democratic control of power in our age*. In the working groups the role of civil society and organizations outside of the accepted formal political structures was certainly discussed, although still as fringe movements. Our frame of mind was still mostly fixed on these ageing formulas most of the time.

Perhaps it was not here at the Conference where a stretching of our imagination had to be done. But what I think I learned, is that such an exercise has to be done and is urgently needed.

### Counterforces and Disparities

During the discussions, attempts were made to include other spheres of life, and not only the political formal structures, into the debate. The meaning and interpretation of democracy and participation in these other realms was still, however, in my reading, I refer to what they could bring to the political arena. In my opinion

much more should have been said about poverty and economic marginalization, which gravely and negatively affect participation and democracy, both within nation-states

At a global scale, the economic distance, or 'gulf' and even 'ocean', as some would say to emphasize the importance of its size, between individuals and nations has been and still is increasing and not decreasing. The debt problem has reversed capital flows from South and North, and it has not been solved as yet. The trends for the future do not seem to point to a greater participation by the poor in the international market, nor to a more democratic allocation of relative prices to balance the unequal benefits the richer countries seem to appropriate to themselves in their exchanges with the poorer countries.

Within nation states, the unequal distribution of wealth, prevailing in most countries, but particularly in the less economically developed, is obviously a tall barrier to participation and a serious obstacle to democracy, however loosely we interpret the term. Whatever happens in the futures of democracy and participation will be inexorably linked to whatever happens in the future in the economic field. It is clear that transnational firms have today an important role in the decision making process. No one would deny, I hope, that they do influence the national economies and the national political processes. Some even claim that their role in the making of our global futures will increase substantially. If this is so, have we devoted enough

thought to them in our deliberations on democracy and participation?

### **Democracy for Non-Nationals and for Non-Us**

Probably one of my many misreadings of our discussions is that by advancing democracy and participation we have mainly thought in geographical terms, rather than in qualitative terms. Advancing democracy and participation has meant introducing or expanding present democratic and 'participatory' practices in more parts of the world, rather than upgrading the quality of participation and democracy in all parts of the world. Thus, maybe, our enjoyment for the opening of possibilities in Eastern Europe (still very much the center of concern in this conference, to the exclusion of what is happening in other regions, for example in Central America), and our concern for what might hinder the advancement of democracy and participation there. Thus, maybe, our welcoming of a future with more independent and autonomous nation-states, taking independence as a positive sign for democracy and participation.

However, I must thank a dear new friend for pointing out the dangers of confusing nationalism and democracy. The new nationalisms not only exclude non-nationals from participating, thus reducing global democracy, but often mean depriving them from some basic human rights. I thank her for teaching me to think beyond naive images.

Our duality in our value systems and measuring sticks, when thinking locally, within national boundaries, new or old, and when dealing with global, world, participation and democracy, was clear to me. Movements towards self-reliance and self-determination are welcomed, at least if they mean what we believe is a movement towards systems similar to ours. Local national impositions and authoritarianism are almost universally condemned.

But with regards to the international situation, we seem to have found different sets of justifications for non-participation. We did not find economic dependent relations between nation states particularly disturbing. We did not wonder that the establishment and use of vetoing procedures in international bodies are undemocratic. It is not the watchful eye of 'big brothers' deciding who can or cannot have 'nukes' and other mass destruction weapons by all parties. There can be no grounds for international armed intervention, not even the much used childish national security justifications. The mere existence of exclusive clubs of privileged parties, whether it is the economic and political group of 7 or the club of 8, is by itself a limiting factor in global participation.

It is not by protecting the self interest of the few that we will advance global democracy, but by respecting and actively tolerating all the non-us. The very same nations that were repeatedly mentioned here as paradigms and examples of democratic behavior within their borders, have been

and still are (although by different means) exercising colonial rights.

### **Challenging the Prevalent View**

What I have just said about the economic arena, could equally be applied in my view to other spheres of human life. How democratic and participatory are our basic social institutions such as the family, the educational system, the firms, the trade unions? Can we advance democracy and participation in the strict political sense without advancing democracy and participation in these other structures?

It is now time to review our attitudes and low level of tolerance for those with different systems of meanings and ways of lives from ours. Otherwise, in the future we will still be justifying undemocratic international behaviours in the name of preventing what we, from our own ethnocentric values and ideologies, judge as undemocratic. JIM DATOR told us at our first session that democracy was a balance between freedom and order. I guess what I am trying to say is that what this balance is and what freedom and order mean, have to be defined and interpreted dynamically and with the participation of all. The global international situation is far from satisfactory.

Our measures of success in achieving democracy and participation can no longer be measured by our proximity or distance to the western rich countries. In the future, cultural diversity will have to mean respect and tolerance for a

diversity of solutions Cuba has been branded here by some as a prototype of an authoritarian regime I do not want to and I do not have to defend this regime or any other for that matter But when comparing it on the whole with other so called democratic regimes of Latin America, it would be wise to remain silent and humble

To end up these few chaotic thoughts, let me share with you my astonishment at the very few times that solidarity, altruism, cooperation, and other terms of the same nature were mentioned during our week of deliberations Individualism, liberalism, efficiency, representation, etc were far more frequent Not even the extremely well deserved prize given by our Finnish colleagues to our young example of pure altruism, ROBERT JUNGK, altered our pace

The means were all important The ends, in the final tenure human happiness for all, were secondary Participation for the sake of participation with no concern for the goals - democracy even if that means oppression for many Nevertheless, progress can be made when the exchange of points of view is not closed And I am certain that we will remember our differences and our agree-

ments and end up by working out a future where democracy and participation will have more in common for us all and will be more advanced both in quantity and in quality

All opening sessions are happy welcoming occasions We are thrilled by hellos and the prospects for new lasting friendships All closing sessions are the opposite, sad occasions for goodbyes But every ending is a prologue and we will all be looking forward for a new welcoming perhaps the new opening ceremony in Helsinki for our 13th World Conference, or even before, if possible Until my now fully developed addiction to the intellectual stimula provided by the thoughts and ideas of all of you can be satisfied again, please retain my heart and best wishes in your memory, for certainly this meeting, here in warm Barcelona, warm by temperature and by the generosity of everyone of our hosts, including those we met in the streets, has been a most memorable occasion

My best wishes and my deepest gratitude to you all

**Antonio Alonso Concheiro** ♦



## MESSAGE OF HOPE

*Visioning in the Closing Speech by*

**Felix Marti**

There are obstacles to the advancement of democracy and participation of which the following three are especially important

### 1 Poverty

A large part of humanity is denied all access to democracy and participation because it is too poor Unless between all of us - politicians, intellectuals, technicians, communicators - we manage to find the way to overcome the state of poverty in which a large part of humanity is living, there can be neither democracy nor participation

### 2 Cultural Domination

There are many cultures that are submerged, many cultures that are dominated When we in Catalonia speak of cultural identity, what we mean is that all cultures are equal in dignity and that no culture should dominate others If we are not able to imagine a future, to create a future without dominant cultures, there cannot be either democracy or participation

### 3 Social Status of Women

In order for democracy and participation to exist, we must profoundly change the paradigms of today's world which result in half of the population participating insufficiently Women do not participate enough, and there will be no democratic societies if women do not participate Even in those societies where women seem to participate, the issue is not fully resolved We must imagine and work towards our planet's future without poverty, without discriminating against cultures, and without discriminating against women

And further, there will not be a humane future if our conception of culture forgets the rich inspirations offered by religions, mythologies, literary narrations, philosophical traditions, and great wisdom, because they integrate that essential dimension of awareness of ethical responsibility

### To a Commitment to Transform Society

The World Futures Studies Federation is like a large

international family of people who care about the future and who free the future of the mortgages weighing on it and are committed to bringing about the future. We can be satisfied with the stronger links we have created between us these days so as to acquire more energy to ensure that cultures are rich in their sense of responsibility.

Economic liberalism and the market economy have many positive aspects and we cannot renounce some of these positive aspects, but it is not a very reliable system if the ultimate reasoning behind political decisions is always economic reasoning. The ultimate reasoning behind political decisions cannot be an exclusively economic reasoning, it must be the reasoning of human fraternity. Unless we are able to develop political projects in which the ultimate reasoning is the ordering of human fraternity, our world will be a world of violence, it will be a world in which we shall not be able to live as human beings. It will be a defromed world, it will be a world in which people will not want to participate. If we want participation, we must ensure that our political, economic, and cultural projects have an ultimate reasoning different from those that derive from the laws of the market, that the ultimate motivation is not economic logic but the logic of fraternity.

We do not want an industrial society that makes do with research and production directed at military ends. We want a different world. We want a world in which neither the arms trade nor any form of dehumanizing commercial relationship provide the dominant parameters. We want a different world in which each of us, in keeping with the awareness of our human dignity, can participate in the construction of fraternal societies. We want a world in which all cultures can develop without domination and without dominators. We want a world in which women participate. We want a world in which there are no built-in discriminations.

All forms of society are provisional and all that is established can change. The things that seemed not to be able to change things we took to be immovable, have been shaken during the last year. Now hope is less utopian. All that which has not yet moved can be moved if we want to move it. This is the message of hope we have shared these days, each saying it in his/her own way. All that which does not move can be moved if our imagination is awake, if our intelligence is awake, if our heart is awake, and if our courage is alive.

Thank you very much

**Felix Marti**

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## REFLECTIONS

### Auvo Sarmanto

One young Finnish colleague asked me recently how did the Barcelona conference succeed in the light of its main theme "Advancing democracy and participation - challenges for the future". I was somehow confused when I realized that I could not give a positive answer to him. In fact the conference failed in a rather humiliating way from the future studies point of view.

The world is reshaping itself swiftly, concepts like "democracy", "participation" seem to possess more historical than future value. That's why the theme of the conference allowed in fact the participants to argue openly about the mistakes of the past and problems of the present but not so much about the visions of the future. The methods and paradigms of the future studies seem to be rather vague today. We are now in a crisis.

Our Catalan host and president of Centre Catala de Prospectiva FELIX MARTI interpreted the theme of the conference in his welcoming address. His noble words, however, reflected more the present problems of Catalonia and Europe than some new thinking

after the bankrupt of old ideologies.

JIM DATOR was interviewed by the reporters of the conference newsletter and he estimated that a "real democracy is perhaps unattainable in the immediate future. But it means self-government, direct democracy at a global level, with everyone participating in all of the areas that influence their lives. So it's an ideal standing to which no government at the present time is close."

According to Jim the enigmatic concept "culture" gets some new flesh around its bones and is more and more synonymous - that's my impression - with the word "folk". "we think that preserving certain cultures that wish to maintain their identity, understanding the interpenetration between different cultures and the conflict, as well as the enrichment that will bring encouraging the development of new cultures that never existed before that makes an independent field for our studies."

Many interesting and important views about the present were dictated *ex cathedra* during the conference. However, no notable

discussion or counterarguments rose ALVIN TOFFLER was an exception with his populist and provocative presentations At once the main theme of the conference seemed to be the Gulf War! We could not get fully rid of this feeling, unfortunately!

I didn't see any reporter sewing results into a clear outcome An open forum like the Barcelona

conference seem to leave results open Perhaps this is rather common in the academic world but doesn't give a good evidence of the analyzing skills of futurologists or an absolution to the participants

There is only one way left Futurists, forwards!

Auvo Sarmanto

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## The Future of Democracy in the Developing World

### WFSF Asian Regional Conference

will be held in Islamabad Pakistan  
from 24-27 October 1992

co-organized with the Pakistan Futuristics Foundation & Institute (PFI)

All interested in participating are requested to register immediately for the conference so as to enable the PFI to provide the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Pakistan their names and full identifying particulars along with their passport details and nationality for necessary clearance

#### Registration and more information

Ross M Husain Chairman  
H No 474-A  
St No 10  
Sector F-10/2  
Islamabad Pakistan  
tel 282 151

Dr Raja Ikram Azam Director  
House No 5  
St No 19  
Sector F-8/2  
Islamabad Pakistan  
tel 856 718

PFI Office  
Post Office Box 2548  
Islamabad Pakistan

## REFLECTIONS ON THE BARCELONA CONFERENCE AND SUGGESTIONS FOR THE FUTURE

Bart van Steenbergen

In Barcelona, I bought the Norwegian book "Alternative Ways of Studying the Future" and on the first day after the conference I started reading the introduction written by the founding father and former president of the WFSF, JOHAN GALTUNG He made a statement that struck me and for that reason I shall quote it at length

*'Why did we get this explosive-growth in future studies in the 1960s and in the 1970s and why did it then die so quickly? I mean, why do we have so little of real future studies today - whether of the predictive, really long trend kind or of the prescriptive, deeply imaginative kind? Why did future studies, or at least the excitement about it, disappear almost as quickly as it came? Why did the WFSF transform itself into some kind of elementary social science association, concerned with the future of yesterday, with the present, with the problems already on the agenda instead of with imaginative leaps into the future?'*

Well, such a straightforward statement will raise questions and doubts, but more important for me is that I see it as a challenge, is it

still possible to revitalize this almost dying patient?

In principle I think that there is much truth in the analysis of Galtung I also do think that the eighties showed a strong decline in the interest in futures studies, the mood of the time then seemed to be short term, no nonsense and no alternatives There was little room for long term imaginative thinking However, I am of the opinion that the nineties show some change in this respect, in the sense that there is now much more room again for long term futures studies, for new and innovative ideas So, the time is ripe for a new start

I also do agree in principle with Galtung's characterization of the WFSF, especially when I look at the last conference in Barcelona

There is no doubt that the WFSF consists of very concerned citizens, who are deeply worried about the great problems of our time poverty, ecological degradation, etc These are however the problems of the present and they are already for some time on everybody's agenda It is good to discuss them, but

we should ask ourselves what is the uniqueness value of the Federation and its conferences. If we tried to compete with professional organizations in the social sciences, we will lose, for, as I know from my own experience their conferences are generally on a higher scientific level. Galtung's description of the WFSF as some kind of elementary social science association was felt by me as painful, but also as correct to a certain degree.

In short I think that we should capitalize on what we are (or at least were) good at, the development of creative and imaginative ideas about the future.

I want to say here explicitly that Galtung's criticism is also valid for my own activities in Barcelona. I chaired there a group on civil society and I presented a paper on this topic. Looking back at it, I can say that we had a good group, some nice papers and interesting discussions but still I am not satisfied for exactly the reasons Galtung mentioned, we dealt with the problems of today and, moreover everybody else in the field is also dealing with these problems.

Well, it is easy to speak of '*we should*' and '*we ought*' and to make individual appeals to do it better next time. That does not help very much. I am enough of a sociologist to know that the structural and cultural conditions at a conference are crucial in order to create the necessary climate for a more imaginative approach to the future.

In that sense I was somewhat disappointed by the Barcelona confer-

ence. The local organizers had done their utmost to make it a nice conference with lots of interesting receptions, excursions, cultural events, and for this they should be praised. However, I also do think that they had not listened carefully enough to the more experienced members of the international preparatory committee. The whole set up of the meetings, working groups, etc. was very traditional and gave little room to any type of innovation.

I am somewhat more optimistic about the next conference in Finland. Although the theme '*chaos*' is undoubtedly fashionable today, it gives more room for some form of new paradigmatic thinking and moreover the themes of the workshops are different from the ones we normally have and which are based on a sectoral approach (government, economics, ecology, etc.).

How to promote this spirit of newness and explicit future orientation? Let me come up with a few suggestions.

- In Sofia we had a scenario-contest, which worked very well in the sense that there were more futures oriented and imaginative papers than there normally would have been. So I suggest something like that for Finland, too. Naturally some other form could be chosen but the point is that it should stimulate (and for that matter reward) imaginative thinking.

- The papers that are sent in should be screened and selected more carefully and the main criteria for selection should be things

like new ideas, imagination, originality, etc.

- For the (unavoidable) plenary sessions we would invite more non-members. It was not bad to have TOFFLER in Barcelona, he provoked a lively discussion, but it was all in his books and for our purposes he is not future oriented enough, although he definitely is more future oriented than many of us.

I remember that, when I was in Berkeley in the beginning of the eighties, I met a group of very funny, original, often crazy people around Fritjof Capra (like Callenbach, Anderson, Roszak, etc.). I am not suggesting one of them, because they have become well known and probably have had their most creative time (although one never knows), but what I am suggesting is that we search for such creative people for our conference and hopefully for our Federation. (I know that ALLEN TOUGH has made some attempts in this direction, maybe we should encourage him to follow this path).

- In my working group in Barcelona I heard good reports on the way BOB JUNGK's invention of the future creating workshop can work

in practice. We need more of those reports, but more important is that we use the method of the future workshop at our own conferences. Why not have at least one working group in Finland devote all of its time to create a future image of something in this way?

I know from experience that there is always some tension between what the local organizers want to put into a conference and what the Federation wants in that respect. Since the Finland conference will be the one of our own Secretary General, I have confidence that this time that tension will be less, if not absent and that this conference will be a real reflection of the way the members of the Federation want it to be.

Let me end by saying explicitly that on some levels our conferences show progress. I saw many new faces in Barcelona and what is more important, from new parts of the world like Africa and Latin America. Thus in some respects the Federation is doing well. However, on other levels I do see a decline and it is the concern about that, which I want to express here.

**Bart van Steenbergen**

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## LOST OPPORTUNITY

Bernd Hamm

I was struck by the fact that the Barcelona Conference made no mention (with only a few notable exceptions) of the Gulf War and what it means for possible global futures. This is especially surprising as these implications are obvious, relevant and easily detectable. This leads me to make three remarks

1 The Gulf War was an event of extremes (although one in a long line of similarly terrible events with similar patterns, from Hiroshima on). The power structure was essentially monocentric: the alliance bought together with all sorts of political pressure and economic incentives; even profits were made and appropriated. The use of power was extreme and the arrogance of power extraordinary. The misuse of international institutions was unprecedented, especially when taking into account that the leading nation had been refusing for years to pay its dues in order to paralyze the UN. The war was fought with extreme brutality of which we have seen only the peak, and commented on and covered by the media in extreme cynicism. Media manipulation had never before reached such perfec-

tion. It was the first in possibly a long row of North-South conflicts which essentially are about Third World resources. And it produced, at the end, not only an environmental disaster of global extent but also hundreds of thousands of refugees who only under public opinion pressure were considered by the winners of the war

Thus, the Gulf War could and should be analyzed as a blueprint for one of the possible scenarios of the future though not a desirable one

2 The future does not fall down on us from space but is a result of human behavior and social action for which we are responsible to future generations. There can, therefore, be no social action and no thinking about futures without ethical foundation, may this be explicit or implicit. There is simply no way for people in futures studies, nor for their professional organizations, to avoid clear value judgements. An individual or an organization may decide not to touch an issue and keep silent which is usually the case when the individual or organization feels dependent of an external power. But

even then non-issues and non-decisions mean the fact that the force in power is supported. There is no unpolitical organization, and certainly not in futures studies. If this is an epistemological argument, I do not hesitate to add that there is a common sense argument, too. No normal human being can accept, without contradiction, to hear the song of the individual human rights, American style, sung while American troops squeeze Iraqi soldiers to death in the desert sands. The spontaneous reaction would be to bring the responsible before court.

The Gulf War does not only challenge our and our organization's

ethical self-definition, it challenges as well our responsibility to present and future generations and our creativity in the search for solutions for the future.

3 My personal conclusion is that if the WFSF understands and accepts this obligation, it should devote a clearly discernable proportion of time of future Congresses to current future relevant developments. This always involves power at the price of becoming irrelevant and boring. If, however, the organization does not accept this duty, I have to ask myself why I should spend further time and money to appreciate further membership and attend its meetings. ◇

## FUTURES-Project continues

The UNESCO FUTURES-Project has well-advanced into its second phase. The topic to be covered is the ENVIRONMENT on which new abstracts by members are welcomed as contributions from WFSF in this project.

Those interested please contact one of the project managers

Leena-Maija Salminen  
at the WFSF Turku office  
c/o Turku School of Economics  
Rehtorinpellonkatu 3  
SF-20500 Turku Finland  
fax 358-21-330 755

Trish Jones  
University of Hawaii at Manoa  
Social Science Research Institute  
Porteus 720  
2424 Maile Way  
Honolulu Hawaii 96822 USA  
fax 808-956-2512 -2884

## LOOKING BACK ON BARCELONA

Rolf Homann

It is always a crucial task to write about a conference which has not been the most successful in my mind. It is not fair, as the organizer and local committee have done whatever they could do. It is not fair in the sense that the forerunners of this conference have had their shortcomings, too, as serious or as unimportant as this conference.

Firstly the most positive impressions of the conference. People of the organizing committee were extremely friendly, starting with the reception at the airport, the marvellous hotel Marti Codolar, and our friendly Dutch host at the same place. I know that some of us had difficulties with the far-away location, or the modest accommodation, but nevertheless that has been the most exciting part of the conference for myself and perhaps for a few others.

Sitting in the night under the Southern sky and hearing and listening to the beautiful voice of our curator. Here I got an impression of the deeply anarchistic and democratic tradition of Catalonia, here I got an impression how history

and future could exist together and here I found new forms of democracy and participation.

But in the official parts of the conference I looked curiously for new notions about democracy and participation. The content and terminology were the old way of industrial society – formal democracy mostly in the notion of capitalist state democracy or formal participation.

I couldn't discover either the notion of evolution in the content of democracy or the appropriate form of post-industrial democracy and participation. As a personal judgement I was afraid that I could deceive myself and so I started to read the abstracts again but unfortunately the answer still remained the same.

There is nothing to complain of if 95 percent of the presentations of the conference had nothing to do with the main topic, but it makes me wonder why we need a main topic at all. Indeed, I doubt if the results of the forthcoming conference in Finland will show another picture, especially when we look at

the most exciting topic on chaos- and fractal theories.

To repeat, this has nothing to do with the local organization but with the general preparation of the conferences, with the conference design and the internal structure of the WFSF.

In my opinion, nobody – perhaps except the international preparation committee itself – has discovered the handwriting of this international consulting group in the conference in Barcelona. I am not speaking specifically about this group, since earlier experiences have confirmed these statements. At least there are some standards of conferencing, may that be in a conservative or a more open approach. It is not a great secret that the new types of conferences are going to the experience or adventure convenience. Space and time for interaction of the participants should not be limited to bus trips. Flexible agendas are not an invention of tomorrow.

### Suggestions for improving conferences

Conference designs should allow intensive interaction, not separation. Monologues sold as panels are as boring as endless key-notes. Modern conference design uses a mixture of conference forms, starting from formal sections to all ways of working and sharing group experience. Modern conference designers are looking for a good mixture or diverse participants, the conference design creates and determines participants. Themes like work participation, economic

democracy and company structures of the future could interest people from non-university environments and we should be looking to involve them, too.

The internal structure of the WFSF allows at the moment not a market of ideas and opinions, but rather a two- or more class society. In the words of an American friend, we have a guru structure at least that of gurus who are convinced that they are the gurus. Lip service to alternatives and young participants is still lip service and neither democracy nor participation.

The good work of young journalists and communication specialists or generalists has had no influence in the communication structure of the conference. What a chance lost!

All these remarks bring me to the conclusion that we lost a unique chance for the creation of new images for democracy which could change the world, perhaps also Catalonia.

Facing these shortcomings and critical – or over-critical – statements, I am still convinced that the WFSF is a wonderful organization with a lot of future potential, but we have to realize it. I am sure that we will be at the next conference, at least we will become like the Council a listening and seeing society. But what we should become is a hearing and understanding Federation.

Wadenswil, November 4th

Rolf Homann

◇



## NEWS AND MESSAGES

### CONGRESS IN INDIA ON SOCIAL SCIENCES

JAGANATH PATHY sent information about the XVI Indian Social Science Congress meeting at the University of Poona, Pune, India, December 20-24, 1991. Dr Pathy is a member of the National Academic Committee for the Congress.

The "focal theme" of the Congress is *"Decay and Destruction Today: Social Reality and Social Theory"*. In a letter accompanying the program, Dr Pathy observes:

*"despite certain differences on the priorities largely due to the national vs international character of the organizations I presume it may have certain common denominators and therefore may be useful in detailing the plenary sessions and working groups of the next WFSF Conference at Espoo"*

That certainly seems to be the case. Some of the themes for the plenaries are: Conceptualizing decay, destruction, and the birth of the new in historical context; Processes of decay and destruction including the destructive potentials of people's struggles and the birth pangs of the new in third world societies; What is dying: socialism or imperialism,

destruction or revitalization of equality, fraternity and freedom.

Among the thematic panel themes are these: Historical approaches to the understanding of "development", "regression", and "destruction"; Destruction of traditional technology and development of modern technology; Ecological destruction and conservation; Decay and destruction of Indian languages; Weapons of mass destruction; Deconstruction and destruction literature and aesthetic theory; Problematique of cultural survival and many more.

We hope that Dr Pathy, and any other WFSF members attending the Congress will give suggestions for the WFSF Conference which arise from the Indian Congress to members of the International Organizing Committee, and we thank Dr Pathy for sending the program forward.

**For more information, write the Secretariat, Indian Academy of Social Sciences, Iswar Saran Degree College Campus, Allahabad-211004, India**

**Or, contact Dr Jaganath Pathy, Department of Sociology, South Gujarat University, Udhana Magdalla Road, Surat-395 007, India** ♦

### COHERENCE AND CHAOS

#### Pentti Malaska

*A proposal was presented to the Council in Barcelona and supported in subsequent discussion that brief notes should be published in the coming issues of the Newsletter about the theme of the next World Conference in Finland in 1993. This article is the first to be published and is meant to be an introduction and base for discussion about coherence and chaos. We await your replies.*

The main interest of the members of WFSF and other participants in the conference probably lies in social sciences and humanities rather than in the natural science fields or pure engineering techniques. That is one important point in focusing on the new angle of coherence and chaos in the notes.

The other important point to observe is that to most of the members, the subject and even its elementary concepts are new or not too well known. It puts a special demand on the writer to be as clear as possible and to stay as popular as possible – not an easy task to accomplish. But only then we can make a common progress in our understanding.

The exact meanings of the elementary concepts related to the subject of coherence and chaos are of quite recent origin. The subject's history begins with 19th cen-

tury thermodynamics and Poincaré's bifurcation theory in mathematics, and from the works of Gaston Julia and Pierre Fatou at the beginning of this century. It required advanced computers to make this branch of research really possible though the first observations using a chaos and coherence theory were recorded by Edward Lorenz with his non-linear dynamical climate models in the 60s. A vast research on the properties of these kinds of models has emerged since then with provocative new results for transitions dynamics and a whole new understanding of reality using fractals, invented by Mandelbrot in the 60s.

Ilya Prigogine with his Nobel Prize research on chaos and bifurcations (branching of processes) in chemistry, and by his popular book on the generalization of his findings and their importance to human life in general, has made a

major pioneering input to our understanding of these phenomena. His books are recommended readings.

Coherence and chaos are important concepts in evolution theories as well. This field of research will continue to enrich our general understanding with new concepts, such as punctual evolution and hyper cycles as proposed by Manfred Eigen, another Nobel Laureate of the 70s.

Evolutionary paradigm is becoming an important methodological approach in futures research as witnessed by two new dissertations published recently in Finland. One is an application of the evolutionary view to explain the historical development of American society by Mika Pantzar. The other one is MIKA MANNERMAA's work on futures studies methodology in general and especially the role of the evolutionary paradigm therein.

A systems philosopher Ervin Laszlo has books and writings on Complex systems and on different views of coherence and chaos applied in social development. In one of the books edited by him there is also a societal transformation dynamics model giving prospects for post-industrial societies, and finally the mechanism of transformation by myself.

To sum this up, we can easily observe that the elementary ideas and basic concepts of coherence and chaos in their recent form have emerged from mathematics and the natural sciences and reached new dimensions with the aid of computers. However, if a deeper look is taken to the history of ideas, all these concepts can be found to be very ancient, to be present in social understanding and in religions. These may be good sources of inspiration as well now.

#### Readings

Prigogine, Ilya - Stengers, Isabelle *Order out of Chaos. Man's New Dialogue with Nature* Bantam Books, New York, 1984.

Laszlo, Ervin *Evolution, The Grand Synthesis* New Science Library, Shambhala Boston and London, 1987.

Ivar Ekeland *Le Calcul, l'Imprevu* Editions du Seuil, 1984.

James Gleick *Chaos. Making a New Science* London, 1988.

Malaska, Pentti *Economic and Social Evolution. The Transformational Dynamics Approach* Chapter 7 in the book *The New Evolutionary Paradigm. Transdisciplinary Studies*, E. Laszlo, ed. Gordon and Breach, 1991.

## HELP!

Gunnar Adler-Karlsson

*"Although we cultivate only 10 per cent of the earth's land and surface today, it has been estimated that the human population has increased from a potential maximum of about 10 million hunter-gatherers to its present size."*

So wrote Bernard G. Campbell in his widely used textbook on *Human Evolution* (Aldine New York 2nd ed. 1974 p. 393).

"a potential maximum of about 10 million hunter-gatherers" - those words have got stuck in my mind.

Campbell gave no source for his estimate. I have written to him twice, but got no answer. I have written to half a dozen other anthropologists or ecologists, who should know. But nobody has been able to refer me to such estimates.

Campbell's figure seems to me to be of truly great importance. If it were correct that no more than ten million individuals could live on this globe in "the state of nature", and if we have passed the five billion mark, as we have, one important conclusion follows. Then only one out of 500 now living individu-

als lives thanks to Nature, the rest of us, 499 out of every 500, live thanks to Culture.

If we avoid things like a third world war or "mega-aids", we have ample grounds to believe that within some fifty years we will have doubled humanity. Then it follows that 500 out of every 500 new human beings in the year 2040 will have to live thanks to Culture.

Of course, Culture is nothing but "adulterated Nature". But these numbers give us a very strong sense of the importance of Culture for our existence, for my own life! The present ecological crisis seems to be one side of the same coin that gives life to 499 out of 500 of us. Has this adulteration of Nature been truly necessary in order to provide humankind with the preconditions for life, once we passed the ten million level long, long ago, possibly around 7000 B.C.?

If we know that we are to double our numbers in the next fifty years - if we assume that doubling to be a *fait accompli*, as I believe we should! - will we then be forced to

change Nature, with changes in technology, science institutions and values and all the other things that go into Culture, as much in these two short, coming generations, as we have done in some nine passed millennia?

If that would be our challenge, how then could we best guide our cultural process so as to preserve as much as possible of that Nature that still remains?

To my mind, Campbell's figure gives one of these pieces of information that goes to the very foundation of any malthusian or ecological thinking. But is it correct?

Does any reader of these lines know of any serious estimate published, about how many hunters and gatherers that could live on this globe in that unadulterated Nature that existed before the dawn of agriculture and conscious Culture?

If so, please give me a line (And inform the readers of this journal as well) If not, isn't this a high priority research project?

Gunnar Adler-Karlsson

The Capri Institute  
Box 79  
I-90071 Anacapri, Italy

## REVIEW ON A REPORT ON AFRICAN FUTURES WORKSHOPS

Paul Hayes

When I was given "African Cultures - African Futures" Workshop, A Report to the Funders" to write about I can't say I was astonished - the reason being that with so much being written about Africa by futurists, I always presumed that there was a fully fledged African futures organization of some sort. How wrong I was.

There are some futures research projects under way, however they would seem to be in the first stages of development and relatively isolated from each other. So as I

read the report, I became astonished at the problems facing African futures studies. As I read further, I then became astonished at what would appear to be an incredibly successful workshop that succeeded where others have failed.

The first reason for the success was the planning and preparation that went into organizing the workshop. This included finding adequate funding, providing detailed introductory information for the workshop, plenty of pre-workshop communication and having

workshop materials arrive on time and in plentiful supply for the workshop itself. All that resulted in the workshop generating lots of ideas and discussion with everyone became involved and enthusiastic about the workshop.

Consequently, the participants left understanding more about the nature and benefits of futures studies and the desire to expand their own projects on futures studies lines. The workshop also acted as a catalyst for generating ideas about possible futures projects in sub-Saharan Africa and in bringing together people who would benefit from each others work.

For those who are interested "A Guide to Organizing an International Workshop" specifically designed to cope with the problems of organizing an African workshop was written. It should also be applicable to other developing regions. Although prepared for the Institute for 21st Century Studies, Sweden, the Handbook will be made more widely available. For more information, use the addresses given below.

Finally, the project created many ideas for increasing futures studies in Africa. Among them were

- a regional futures network,
- a special African issue of the journal "Futures",
- making futures material more widely available in sub-Saharan Africa,
- increasing the publication of books and films relevant to African futures studies.

In contrast to what might be perceived as apathy by the developed nations towards futures studies, there would seem to be a surge of interest and desire to cooperate in the world of African futures. The potential for futures studies there is obviously far greater at the moment. So - and although as a non-member I have no real right to say it, but - do something to encourage development there!

Special thanks should be given to the co-organizers Professors GODWIN SOGOLO and Olufemi Bamiro, and Dr MARTHA GARRETT.

More information  
Prof Godwin Sogolo  
Dept of Philosophy  
University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Nigeria

Martha J Garrett  
Institute for 21st Century Studies  
Svealiden 15 B  
S-431 39 Mölndal, Sweden  
fax +46-31-822 360

In our previous issue of the Newsletter, the article on the African issue by Lammin Sullay had its first paragraph mixed with the last paragraphs of James Wellesley-Wesley's article on the New World Order.

The Editor wishes humbly to apologize to both writers and to all the readers for this unfortunate mixup.

## NEWS ON THE CAMDUN-PROJECT

Jeffrey J Segall

CAMDUN is a project for open international Conferences On A More Democratic United Nations. CAMDUN-1 and CAMDUN-2 were held in New York and the UN's Vienna International Centre respectively in October 1990 and September 1991, the former was sponsored by 50 organizations and the latter by 49.

A comprehensive account of the Proceedings of CAMDUN-1 has been published as a book entitled *Building A More Democratic United Nations*, edited by Frank Barnaby. Distinguished contributors include UN Under-Secretary-General Therese Paquet-Sevigny, former Governor Harold Stassen, Ramses Nassif, KEITH SUTER, Dietrich Fischer and JOHAN GALTUNG, and Sir Brian Urquhart.

Published and distributed by Frank Cass & Co., 11 Cainsborough Road, London E11 1RS, UK

The CAMDUN-2 Concluding Statement lists issues for discussion on UN reform - those feasible under

the existing Charter and those that would probably require Charter amendment. Copies of the Concluding Statement are available from the CAMDUN International Coordinator, Dr JEFFREY J SEGALL.

CAMDUN is following the advice offered by Harold Stassen: 'With your own devotion toward a better United Nations, aim high, think in terms of trying to project the next 50 years. So it ought to appeal to WFSF members!'

CAMDUN-3 will be held in the Third World.

More information.

Dr Jeffrey J Segall  
CAMDUN International Office  
308 Cricklewood Lane  
London NW2 2PX, UK  
tel 081-455 5005  
fax 081-209 123

## NEW MEMBERS

## LAJOS BESENYEI

is an economist doing business forecasting as Head of Department at Miskolc University, with Budapest University of Economic Sciences, Hungary. Vice President of the Future Research Committee of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, and President of the Future Research Department of Hungarian Management Association, Dr Besenyi is in charge of a business forecasting project in his country. He is also interested in business forecasting in market economy at the international level and in strategic planning and quantitative methods.

## STEPHANE BINAND

is a French student from La Rochelle School of Business and Economics. While working in Turku on a student exchange program during summer 1991, he did the auditing of the WFSF finances and economy from 1990-1991.

## SURENDRA K GUPTA

received his Ph D in Russian and Soviet history at the Johns Hopkins University. He has taught a course called *Future as*

*History*, and presently Dr Gupta teaches courses in Russian, Soviet, and Asian history at Pittsburg State University, Kansas, USA. He is also planning a research project on *Prospects for a New World Order*, especially from a Third World Perspective. He is interested in Soviet and American foreign policies and Soviet-Asian relations as well as American-Asian relations and in the emerging democratic order in the Soviet Union in relation to the complex nationality problems.

## ELENA IVANENKO

from Kiev, the Ukraine, researches culture and its perspectives, spiritual culture, spiritual needs, and human acting in culture at the Centre of Public Opinion Research, Kiev. She took part in the Dubrovnik workshop in May this year and finds futures studies important to her work in researching different aspects of Human culture. Dr Ivanenko is interested in participating in various future-oriented occasions and seminars for exchanging opinions and research results, with the aim of overcoming the diversities between Western and Eastern European culture.

MARGARITA KAISHEVA is Associate Professor at the Institute of Management and Administration in Sofia, Bulgaria. After receiving her Ph Ds both in the USSR and at Sofia University, she has worked in the field of strategic management of business organizations. Dr Kaisheva has also participated in several projects connected with planning and researching future economic models for Bulgaria, as well as cultural integration with the EC.

#### JAGANATH PATHY

is Doctor of Political Sociology working at the Department of Sociology in South Gujarat University, Surat, India. His main fields of research are the problems of tribal and indigenous peoples, Agrarian structure and rural development. He has researched tribal and rural dynamics in India, Vietnam, Canada, Malaysia and elsewhere from a futures point of view. Dr Pathy has published four books and over 70 papers on the subject. He has also participated in comparative studies of land and cultural rights in India and Canada, and in a project on structural dynamics and labour. He is engaged in civil and human rights movements, and is planning to do further work in the USA on indigenous peoples rights, and on documenting the nature of struggles for self-determination.

#### LUMINITA-MARIANA RAUT

is a councillor in the Ministry of Culture in Bucharest, Romania, and presently she is studying for her Doctorate in literature at Faculty of Philology with the University of Bucharest. The topic of

her thesis deals with Hispanic-American writers and their works. She took part in the Dubrovnik futures workshop in May, 1991.

#### SEPPO REMES

has a M A in economics from the Turku School of Economics and he is working as a researcher in the Finnish state oil company in Helsinki. His field of work deals with Soviet and Eastern-European studies, East-West trade, futures studies, and corporate scenarios and strategies. Seppo Remes has created scenarios on the alternative futures of the Soviet Union and presently, he is responsible of a project on corporate strategic planning systems for his employer. Moreover, he is planning a research project called *The Future of Post-Communism. Generalities and Differences between (China), the Soviet Union, and Central (Eastern) Europe*.

#### MARTHA ELIZABETH ROGERS

is Founder and Director of Canadian Nursing Consultants, Toronto. She is a doctoral student at York University, Toronto and at the same time, works with Health Education Program there. Moreover, she is working on an independent study course which focuses on the learning processes of adults as they explore the potential realities of the future. In addition, Martha Rogers tells us that she is interested in women's issues and health care.

#### MTANGULIZI SANYIKA

is an independent consultant in Hercules, California, USA, specializing in the participation of citizens in emerging, developing,

and marginal economies. In his services, both the organizational and technical dimensions of strategic planning are included. Mtangulizi Sanyika also says that he is interested in advancing his work towards governmental, non-political and private organizations.

#### RODGER DANIEL SCHWASS

received his D Ed from the University of Toronto, Canada. Presently he is Professor of Environmental Studies at York University, Downsview Toronto. He has 20 years experience and expertise in work on strategic planning in Canada, Kenya, Indonesia, Pakistan, and Jamaica. Professor Schwass has taken part in several projects on environmental issues. At present, he is in charge of an on-going project on *National Conservation Strategies in Pakistan and Jamaica*.

#### ZBIGNIEW TOKARSKI

is Secretary of the Commission on the Studies and Prognoses on Social Pathology for the Committee Poland 2000 at the Polish Academy of Sciences, Warsaw. He has written several articles and been involved with studies on development in all fields of political, social, and economic life in his country.

#### VASOVIC VUCINA

received education in law and presently, he studies comparative governments at the Faculty of Political Science, Beograd University, Yugoslavia. Dr Vucina has taken part in a research project on post-socialist pluralistic revolution in the Eastern and Middle-European countries and, in addition, he has studied theories of democracy and contemporary political systems and has published books on these subjects.

#### W WARREN WAGAR

is a distinguished teaching professor of History at the State University of New York at Bingham, USA. Writer and author of several books and articles on the history of futurism, futures methods, and alternative world futures, Professor Wagar has also published works on poetry and science fiction. In addition, he has been teaching undergraduate and graduate courses in the field of world futures since 1974. His recent book called *The Next Three Futures Paradigms of Things to Come* came out recently. Moreover, Professor Wagar is interested in European intellectual history, utopian studies, peace studies, comparative world history, and science-fiction. ◇





WORLD FUTURES  
STUDIES FEDERATION

### ADDRESS INFORMATION CARD

One of the main concerns of the office of the Secretary General is how the Newsletter and other information will reach you. Also the members need an easy access to the list of addresses and phone-, telex-, and fax numbers of their colleagues in different parts of the world.

If your address has changed please fill this form and return it to the office of the Secretary General, c/o Turku School of Economics, Rehtorinpellonkatu 3 sf-20500 TURKU, FINLAND



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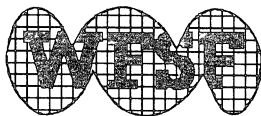
Other information \_\_\_\_\_



WORLD FUTURES STUDIES FEDERATION

WFSF Secretariat  
Turku School of Economics  
Rehtorinpellonkatu 3 sf-20500 Turku Finland  
phone 358-21-638 3310 330 835  
telex 62710 tkkk sf  
telefax 358 21-330 755

E-mail PMALASKA@FINABO ABO FI or ARUBIN@FINABO ABO FI



## **Chaos and Coherence in Our Uncommon Futures**

**- Ideologies, Means, Actions**

### **The XIII WFSF World Conference**

will be arranged in Turku Finland from August 23-27 1993, together with the Finnish Society for Futures Studies (FSFS). The transfer of the conference from Espoo to Turku was due to the need to avoid the problems of long distances between the actual conference site and the hotels as well as the urge to give the participants a chance to visit the city. Since the office of the Secretary General is also in Turku the practical arrangements will be easier. This is why the conference will take place at the congress hotel *Rantasipi Ikituuri* which has previous experience in hosting international conferences. The site is located within walking distance of the old city of Turku the former capital of Finland which is on the south coast some 150 kilometres west from Helsinki.

The first announcement with more specific details will be mailed to the members by the end of the year.

#### **More information**

Office of the WFSF Secretariat  
c/o Turku School of Economics  
Rehtorinpellonk. 3  
sf-20500 Turku, Finland  
tel +358-21-330 835  
fax +358-21-330 755  
E-mail PMALASKA@FINABO ABO FI

FSFS office  
Sirikka Heinonen  
c/o VTT/YRT  
Itätuulenkuja 11  
sf-02100 Espoo, Finland  
tel +358-0-4561  
fax +358-0-464 174