

Further

1 September 5, 2011

2 Draft Declaration of the 64th Annual UN DPI/NGO Conference

3 Chair's Text

4 Bonn, Germany, 3-5 September 2011

5 Sustainable Societies: Responsive Citizens

6 The participants of the 64th Annual UN DPI/NGO Conference, assembled from 3-5 September 2011 in Bonn,
7 Germany, seat of UN organizations and conventions working for sustainable development worldwide and home
8 to an interdisciplinary cluster of NGOs and institutions working in the fields of volunteerism, environment and
9 development;

10 *Noting* that the 64th Annual UN DPI/NGO Conference is a major stakeholder event aimed at contributing to the
11 two volunteer-focused sessions of the UN General Assembly scheduled to take place on 5 December 2011 in
12 New York to mark the 10th Anniversary of the International Year of Volunteers;

13 *Further noting* that the 64th Annual UN DPI/NGO Conference also aims to inform the preparatory process
14 towards the UN Conference on Sustainable development ("Rio + 20") in Rio de Janeiro, 3-5 June 2012;

15 *Bearing in mind* the objective of Rio + 20, as mandated in the UN General Assembly Resolution A/64/236, to
16 secure renewed political commitment for sustainable development, assessing the progress to date and the
17 remaining gaps in the implementation of the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development and
18 addressing new and emerging challenges which include the themes of green economy in the context of poverty
19 eradication and sustainable development and the institutional framework for sustainable development;

20 *Mindful* of the failure of states to subsequently address the urgency conveyed in the opening paragraph of
21 Agenda 21: "Humanity stands at a defining moment in history. We are confronted with perpetuation of
22 disparities between nations, and a worsening of poverty, hunger, ill health and illiteracy and the continuing
23 deterioration of the ecosystem on which we depend for our well being (Agenda 21, UNCED, 1992)."

24 *Noting* the need to reaffirm and renew Agenda 21, which, in section 3.7, stresses that "sustainable development
25 must be achieved at every level of society [...] Governments, in cooperation with appropriate international and
26 non-governmental organizations, should support a community-driven approach to sustainability";

27 *Recognizing* that the strength of sustainable development is its inherent nature to interlink problems and solutions
28 across a wide spectrum of "issue silos";

29 *Guided* by the outcome documents of the major global summits of the 1980s and the 1990s, Agenda 21 and the
30 Rio Declaration, the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development's Johannesburg Plan of Implementation
31 ("JPOI"), the Cochabamba Peoples' Agreement;

32 *Recalling* that the Earth Charter can play a vital role in helping to inspire renewed political commitment expected
33 for Rio + 20;

34 *Recalling* the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, in particular Principle 10, on the need to
35 ensure participation of all concerned citizens in environmental decision-making as well as access to

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36 environmental information and environmental justice and Principles 20-22 on the need to promote participation
37 of women, youth, and indigenous people;

38 *Reaffirming* the importance of attaining the goals set in the International Conference on Population and
39 Development (ICPD) and the UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs);

40 *Further guided* by General Assembly Resolution 63/153 of 18 December 2008 inviting Governments and other
41 stakeholders to carry out activities focused on marking the tenth anniversary of the International Year of
42 Volunteerism (“IYV + 10”), in 2011;

43 *Bearing in mind* the request to the Secretary-General of the UN to report to the UN General Assembly at its
44 sixty-seventh session on the implementation of the tenth anniversary of the International Year under the item
45 entitled “Social Development” and to be pursued by the United Nations Volunteer program, its partners and the
46 other relevant parts of the United Nations system;

47 *Aware* of the need for a follow-up to the 2011 tenth anniversary of IYV+10 and noting that the momentum
48 created has contributed to increase the vibrancy of volunteerism nationally, regionally and globally with the
49 involvement of more governments, more civil society organizations, more private sector partners, and more
50 people from a broader cross-section of societies;

51 **GENERAL STATEMENTS**

52 *Recognizing* that human beings are entitled to a healthy and productive life in harmony with nature;

53 *Alarmed* at the increasing loss of biodiversity; the rate of desertification, deforestation, especially in the tropics
54 and forest degradation globally; the collapse of fishery resources and the aggravated effects resulting from global
55 warming;

56 *Concerned* about climate change and its effects, including exacerbating biodiversity loss as well as ocean
57 acidification and the collapse of glaciers ice caps and polar ice shelves;

58 *Recognizing* continuing poverty for billions of people, lack of consistent and sustainable sources of energy for
59 both the developed and the developing world, unsustainable agriculture, rises in food prices, the alarming
60 humanitarian famine illustrated by the human disaster in the Horn of Africa;

61 *Taking note* of the inter-relationships between in the environmental challenges, climate change, food crisis and
62 financial instability, aggravated by the unprecedented concentration of resources and flagrant inequity;

63 *Noting* that solutions based on de-regulated markets without social and environmental safeguards have
64 accentuated the problems and have brought adverse consequences; and that commitments on financing for
65 development have not been fulfilled;

66 *Also recognizing* that the current economic system and unequal power relations are the main drivers for the
67 active process of environmental and moral impoverishment;

68 *Recognizing* that peace is a precondition for sustainable development and that high expenditures are being
69 allocated in warfare, and that military activities, in particular the use of nuclear weapons, represent a serious
70 threat to the planet;

71 *We call upon* Member States and all stakeholders to take immediate action in addressing the humanitarian crisis
72 and famine in the Horn of Africa;

73 *Acknowledging* that sustainable development as a means to ensure human well-being requires that
74 interrelationships between population, resources, the environment and development should be fully understood,

Further

- 75 recognized, appropriately managed and brought into harmonious, dynamic balance, States should promote
76 appropriate policies, including population-related policies, to meet the needs of current and future generations
77 without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs;
- 78 *Recognizing* that sustainable development should become the only form of development and that the business-as-
79 usual practices and policies should not be accepted;
- 80 *Highlighting* the need for youth empowerment through formal and non-formal education on sustainable
81 development as well as through participation at all levels and at all stages of decision-making processes;
- 82 *Acknowledging* the important role of formal, non-formal, informal and vocational learning and education for
83 sustainable development;
- 84 *Acknowledging* synergies and inter-relationships between gender equality and sustainable development, the
85 importance of girls' and women's participation in decision-making in sustainable development processes and
86 governance at all levels, and their role as "agents of change"; and the need to ensure their full contribution to
87 building green economies and sustainable societies;
- 88 *Committed* to promoting respect for cultural and ethnic diversity and fostering solidarity and reciprocity among
89 peoples and nations and an alliance and partnership among civilizations;
- 90 *Aware* of the important role the media and modern means of communication play for raising awareness and
91 facilitating collaboration, promoting sustainable behavior and developing south-south news distribution
92 mechanisms;
- 93 *Recognizing* that people and nature are interdependent and that the "global commons" are resources on which we
94 all rely – the air and oceans for example – we encourage communities, governments and other stakeholders to
95 manage and share the responsibility of making decisions on safeguarding and increasing the fruits of nature and
96 society that form the foundation of a green economy;
- 97 *Recognizing* that the implementation of the sustainable development agenda requires, besides strong political
98 actions and political leadership, the everyday, voluntary actions of millions of people and civil society
99 organizations across the globe;
- 100 *Recognizing and enhancing* the impact of volunteering for climate change and sustainable livelihoods, keeping in
101 mind the long history of volunteer engagement in environmental issues, it will be important to acknowledge that
102 the role of citizen engagement and volunteer action will become even more significant in assuring an
103 environmentally sustainable future and a green economy, particularly as we approach Rio+20;
- 104 *Recognizing* the role of volunteerism to achieve sustainable societies by fostering social inclusion and as a
105 means to involve and benefit all segments of society, including women, children, young people, older persons,
106 people with disabilities, minorities, migrants, and those excluded and vulnerable for social or economic reasons;
- 107 *Recognizing*, that volunteerism, as a type of non-formal education, offers opportunities for young people to take
108 responsibility for their livelihoods, acquire skills and capacities and act as positive role models for other youth;
- 109 *Reaffirming* that volunteerism is an important component of any strategy aimed at mobilizing communities to
110 achieve the Millennium Development Goals and, inter alia, such areas as poverty reduction, community-centred
111 sustainable development, health, including sexual and reproductive health, disaster risk reduction, disaster
112 recovery management and peacekeeping;
- 113 *Highlighting* the crucial contribution of volunteering in post-conflict contexts to construct sustainable societies
114 by rebuilding institutions, local capacity, and social cohesion through various forms of volunteering;

Further

115 **The NGOs here present in Bonn, Germany, on 5 September 2011, declare the following on the**
116 **matters of a green economy, sustainable lifestyles, education and learning for sustainable**
117 **development, civic engagement in sustainable development governance and volunteerism:**

118 **RIO+20**

119 We call on governments to adopt the Sustainable Development Goals set out below;

120 We encourage all stakeholders to become involved in Rio + 20 and to make their own commitments to
121 sustainable development;

122 We call on governments to:

123 come to Rio + 20 represented by Heads of State or Government, with concrete commitments to take
124 individual and collective actions towards sustainable development and address the gaps and emerging issues,
125 based on the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities;

126 produce a politically-binding outcome document that recommits governments to achieve sustainable
127 development;

128 generate an appendix to the outcome document containing country commitments to form the foundation
129 of a global registry of sustainability actions and major stakeholder commitments, which includes robust
130 monitoring and reporting provisions;

131 We call for the preparation and implementation of green economy roadmaps that consider and address
132 commonly agreed Rio Principles and adopt Sustainable Development Goals in critical areas, and implement
133 governance reforms to foster the transition to a green economy and to improve the institutional framework for
134 sustainable development.

135 We call for replacement of the current inefficient, unsustainable and inequitable economic model with economic
136 policies that advance rather than detract from sustainable development goals and that build rather than deplete
137 the stocks of natural, human, built and social capital on which human well-being ultimately depends. We propose
138 that where the current economy aids inequity, destruction and greed, it should be replaced by an economy that
139 cares for the people and the planet.

140 We call for the establishment of the proposed Financial Transaction Tax to help build social protection systems
141 in the most vulnerable countries, the LDCs, and contribute to sustainable climate adaptation, strengthen civil
142 society worldwide and support more sustainable and equitable economies.

143 We call for improved access to information technology, especially for young people, to facilitate growth towards
144 healthy communities in every sense – civic engagement, health, gender, education, food security and stability.

145 We call upon the UN General Assembly to proclaim 21 December each year as International Low-Carbon
146 Lifestyle Day, to be a day of reflection to live more simply and to create a lighter environmental footprint, and
147 that the Secretary-General invite UN Member States, international institutions, civil society and individuals to
148 mark the day with appropriate low-carbon events worldwide.

149 A sustainable society requires social and gender equity; protection of the ecological balance and create economic
150 sufficiency that aims towards replacing the current economic order, with the core idea of green economies being
151 to enhance sustainable development and prosperity of all nations, ensure wellbeing of all people, respect the
152 rights and wisdom of indigenous peoples and minorities and conserve biodiversity for future generations.

Further

153 We hereby call upon governments to work in partnership with civil society, the private sector and international
154 institutions to fulfill the commitments set forth in this declaration before and at Rio + 20.

155 **GREEN ECONOMY IN THE CONTEXT OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY**
156 **ERADICATION**

157 We are concerned that the current economic model, which promotes unsustainable consumption and production
158 patterns, facilitates a grossly inequitable trading system, fails to eradicate poverty, assists exploitation of natural
159 resources towards the verge of extinction, and has induced multiple crises on Earth, needs to be replaced by
160 sustainable economies in community, local, national, regional and international spheres.

161 We are concerned that the prevailing economic development model built on policies such as privatization,
162 export-led development, structural adjustment, deregulation, substitution of technology for nature, and driven by
163 the goal of GDP growth suffers from a series of market and institutional failures that render it inefficient,
164 unsustainable, inequitable, and a poor vehicle for advancing sustainable development goals.

165 We acknowledge the need to establish a new way to measure the progress towards a sustainable development
166 with gender-specific and other indicators, integrating them with those of sustainable development rather than
167 only relying on a country's GDP.

168 We are aware that a significant paradigm change was introduced through the UNDP Human Development Index
169 that piloted for the first time social indicators such as education, gender equality and life expectancy to measure
170 development, and through the Universal Social Protection Floor Initiative that, once implemented, will
171 significantly improve human well-being.

172 We recognize further that these failures take the form of prices that do not reflect their true environmental and
173 social costs, underinvestment in natural, human, built and social capital, harmful subsidies, restricted access to
174 information about production technologies and their impacts, lack of democratic economic governance,
175 increasing unemployment and inadequate indicators of progress.

176 We are convinced that green economies should be economic systems that ensure social justice and equity, protect
177 the ecological balance and create economic sufficiency, stressing again that green economy does not replace
178 sustainable development.

179 We acknowledge that a just transition to green economies is in the context of sustainable development,
180 elimination of extremes of wealth and poverty, climate justice, equitable investment in people's education,
181 health, and decent work.

182 We acknowledge that green economies within a sustainable societies should also ensure gender equality,
183 democracy, improve human well-being, reduce environmental risks, enhance opportunities for green, decent
184 work and right livelihoods, and ensure that jobs and social benefits are distributed equitably among all peoples;

185 Considering that sustainable economies should be based on far-sighted policy-making, we need pathways to the
186 green economies and low carbon development with clear and binding targets and timetables.

187 For these reasons we call upon governments to:

188 ensure extraction of materials only on a sufficiency basis, and that they are utilized efficiently;

189 ensure the reuse of waste as raw material for new products to maximize the lifecycle and take action
190 through providing the right incentives for research and development;

Further

191 phase out fossil fuel subsidies, setting up environmentally and socially friendly fiscal incentives, and
192 operationalizing wide-ranging innovative sources of finance, like the proposed Financial Transaction
193 Tax (FTT);

194 facilitate the transition to an ecologically-based, resilient, fair, fully inclusive and humane agriculture,
195 and the establishment of a participatory mechanism to oversee the transition. The world's millions of
196 smallholder farmers, especially women, need to be politically empowered and given access to inputs,
197 and fair markets;

198 implement a just transition to sustainable economies as fast as possible through an unprecedented level
199 of cooperation and policy coherence at the local, state, national and international levels, by the sharing of
200 green technologies and know-how, by restructuring regulatory, taxation, and expenditure policies, and
201 by establishing democratic oversight of economic policy decision making;

202 create green jobs and green existing jobs with a special focus on youth, women and disadvantaged
203 groups;

204 replace or supplement GDP and other traditional economic metrics with broader indicators;

205 institute sustainable procurement standards, including ones encouraging the use of recycled products and
206 renewable energy;

207 strengthen local economies and avoid the destruction of forest and biodiversity through the support to
208 independent certification systems, based on robust principles, applied through transparent and balanced
209 participatory processes, guaranteeing the interest of local communities, and with independent, on the
210 ground, verification. Governments and the private sector should pledge concrete and systematic support
211 and promotion of such multi-stakeholder managed forest certification systems, in all parts of the world,
212 with particular emphasis on the tropical rainforests;

213 promote mutual supportiveness between trade and sustainable development and environmentally-
214 friendly fair trade products;

215 regulate the economy to put an end to speculation on food and global commons;

216 promote local alternative economies, such as time banks, complementary monetary systems, etc. and to
217 rethink the monetary system to be based on carbon standard.

218 **INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

219 We call for the establishment of a global sustainable development coordinating mechanism and parallel
220 institutions at the national level, empowered to pursue system-wide policy coherence for Bretton Woods and UN
221 institutions to advance sustainable development principles, pathways, and policies in a coordinated manner. Such
222 a mechanism must involve interactive multi-stakeholder forums and annual meetings of Heads of State to assess
223 developments and provide leadership in economic, social and ecological issues, lead and oversee the global
224 sustainable production and consumption governance process and help secure consistency and coherence in the
225 policy goals of all the major international organizations.

226 We call for the establishment or reform of sub Committees on Sustainable Consumption and Production to be
227 operated within National Council for Sustainable Development, with a mandate to advise all national agencies
228 working on sustainable consumption and production and national representatives on the Intergovernmental
229 Sustainable Consumption and Production Mechanisms. Sufficiently resourced National Councils on Sustainable
230 Development should be in place to drive the transition to green economies and develop a national sustainable
231 green economy roadmap for each Member State of the UN by 2017.

Further

- 232 We call for the strengthening of national and international environmental laws, the establishment of an
233 International Environmental Court and the strengthening of domestic judiciaries to deal with environmental
234 disputes.
- 235 We call for the establishment of Ombudspersons for Future Generations at global, national and local level, who
236 will advocate for sustainable development as envisaged and defined by the Brundtland Commission: “to enhance
237 the well-being and prospects of present and future generations to meet their needs”, serve as an auditor at the
238 heart of governments and deal with citizens complaints.
- 239 We call for the establishment of an intergovernmental negotiating committee to create a framework convention
240 on corporate environmental and social responsibility for the accountability of corporate investments for all
241 companies listed on stock exchanges worldwide and take into account the ISO 26000 standard on corporate
242 accountability.
- 243 We move for the adoption of an intergovernmental mechanism or instrument to assess the environmental, health
244 and socio-economic impacts of new and emerging technologies, in line with the precautionary principle. We call
245 for the outright ban on technologies that put the planet at grave risk.
- 246 We call for the establishment of an intergovernmental negotiating committee to create a framework convention
247 on international sustainability impact assessment, requiring the assessment of the sustainability implications for
248 certain projects, plans, programs, policies and legislative instruments.
- 249 We call on the Rio + 20 conference to launch negotiations for the establishment of an international convention
250 on Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration that deals with access to information, public participation and
251 environmental justice.
- 252 We further call on the Rio + 20 conference to encourage the development of regional conventions on Principle
253 10, to invite interested states to accede to the Aarhus Convention and to mandate UNEP to develop a robust
254 program to implement the 2010 Bali Guidelines on Principle 10.
- 255 We call for strengthening existing UNEP bodies and upgrading UNEP to the status of a high level body in the
256 UN system.
- 257 We call for the widespread ratification and effective implementation of all multilateral environmental
258 agreements.
- 259 We call on national governments to ratify and effectively implement the 1997 UN Watercourses Convention, the
260 only global environmental treaty that has not yet entered into force.
- 261 We call on the UN to mainstream sustainable development into the “Delivering As One” process.
- 262 We call upon governments to ensure that Free Prior Informed Consent (FPIC) is implemented with regard to
263 development decisions, and other decisions such as REDD+, that impact indigenous groups and tribal and local
264 communities.
- 265 We call on corporations to engage youth to make sustainable development initiatives a key part of their work
266 taking local communities into consideration. Being a responsible corporate citizen is not only the right thing to
267 do, but the right thing to do for business. Companies are not outside of communities: they are part of
268 communities.
- 269 We call upon all stakeholders for openness to new ways to volunteer by connecting and engaging people through
270 internet and other new technologies.

Further

271 We recommend enhancing existing and the creation of new volunteerism contributions to sustainable peace and
272 development by the private sector through collaborative corporate social responsibility (CSR) strategies
273 including employee volunteering.

274 We recommend the incorporation of volunteerism, citizen engagement and volunteers in all global, national and
275 local plans and priorities for peace, sustainable development and human well-being to commit to the creation of
276 an enabling environment for citizen engagement and voluntary action to flourish.

277 We recommend promotion youth volunteering strategies which engage young people as agents for sustainable
278 development and peace.

279 Recommends the documentation and exchange of best practices on the role of volunteers, particularly at the
280 community level, in peace, sustainable development and human well-being efforts, including at each stage of
281 disaster management — prevention, mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery;

282 Recommending the creation of an academy of Olympics Volunteers to be facilitated by the past directors of
283 Olympics Volunteers in Host Cities of the Olympic Games;

284 We call upon:

285 *Governments* to recognize the power, economic and social value of volunteerism to achieve national
286 development goals and well-being, and to provide a supportive environment for sustaining volunteerism
287 with resources and support for infrastructure, as well as recognition of the values of civic participation;

288 *The Private Sector* to actively engage in employee volunteering and partnerships in enhancing capacities
289 of volunteer involving organizations for achieving sustainable peace and development;

290 *The Media* to communicate to the public the value of volunteerism and join as a stakeholder in
291 promoting a supportive environment for community engagement and volunteerism;

292 *Civil Society* to mainstream volunteerism and civic engagement strategies into sustainable peace and
293 development programming;

294 *Educational Institutions and Academia* to integrate volunteerism and an understanding of civil society
295 into curricula and similar structures to promote a deeper and more universal understanding of civic
296 service and volunteering;

297 *The Research Community* to carry out more research and studies on (but not limited to) the value and
298 impact of volunteerism on development and the role of volunteering in crisis prevention and response
299 and to develop new indicators of progress that incorporate citizen engagement, voluntary action and
300 human well-being;

301 *Religious Bodies* to affirm volunteering for peace and development as an appropriate response to the
302 spiritual call to service and human well-being;

303 *Volunteer Involving Organizations* to ensure the effectiveness and accountability of volunteerism
304 through sound governance, development of capacity to manage volunteers, and monitoring and
305 evaluation of impact;

306 *All stakeholders* to call for a World Volunteer Coalition to provide a platform for promotion, knowledge
307 sharing, capacity development, and collective actions on volunteerism;

308 *Governments, the United Nations system and other stakeholders* to renew efforts to implementing
309 resolution 56/38 and subsequent resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly on measures to

Further

310 support volunteerism and look forward to further actions by the UNGA to commemorate IYV+10 and to
311 continue to call for global recognition, support, and advocacy for volunteerism for sustainable peace and
312 development.

313 We recommend to governments and stakeholders to adopt a holistic and integrated approach to sustainable
314 development and human well-being through a gender sensitive community-centered approach that utilizes the
315 significant role, contributions and value of volunteers to address sustainable development, livelihoods, fair trade,
316 food insecurity, energy, forestry, water, health, HIV/AIDS, disasters and other issues;

317 We call on governments to acknowledge the importance of civil society organizations for the promotion of
318 volunteerism and to recognize that strengthening the dialog and interaction between civil society and the United
319 Nations contributes to the expansion of volunteerism;

320 We note with appreciation the contributions for the UN Volunteers over the last 10 years and marking the 10th
321 Anniversary of the International Year of Volunteers.

322 We note with appreciation the efforts of all UN DPI/NGO conference participants to increase awareness of
323 volunteerism through global outreach, information sharing and education.

324 SUSTAINABLE LIFESTYLES:

325 We are convinced that our planet and the human-earth community will only survive, thrive and prosper by a shift
326 to an economy that is sustainable, equitable, focusing on the elimination of the extremes of wealth and poverty,
327 through responsive citizens and volunteerism.

328 We note that unsustainable consumption and production patterns have been major contributors to climate change
329 and poverty, and that sustainability can only be ensured if humanity, directed and led by government policies,
330 embraces humane sustainable, low-carbon lifestyles and adopts sustainable livelihoods.

331 We note that sustainable lifestyles and livelihoods must be built on sustainable consumption and production in
332 our globalizing world and equity among generations, genders and nations.

333 We acknowledge that sustainable consumption, in particular, needs to consider the minimization of the
334 environmental impact of purchasing decisions and the maximization of the social impact of our purchases.

335 We reaffirm consequently, that individuals, families and communities are key actors in achieving sustainable
336 consumption and production and should be empowered and enabled through education in everyday life
337 competencies to assume responsibility for achieving sustainable lifestyles all around the world.

338 CIVIC ENGAGEMENT IN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOVERNANCE:

339 We note that streamlining management of multilateral environment agreements, drawing on the foundations of
340 community participation and governance structures and education for sustainable development can provide better
341 understanding to resolve complex sustainability issues.

342 We denounce the growing scarcity of resources to civil society organizations, oppressive action against social
343 movements and the increasing criminalization of environmental and indigenous movements in many countries by
344 governments and large multi-national corporations.

345 We further reaffirm that civic participation, including volunteering, have been valuable partners in a broad
346 spectrum of peace and sustainable development activities, with the overriding goal of poverty eradication and the
347 betterment of the human condition, among a number of other causes;

Further

348 We also recognize the contributions of civil society, NGO movements, trade unions, social entrepreneurs, and
349 volunteer alliances and associations, ready to share responsibility with local and national governments in their
350 communities.

351 We note the threats to freedom of expression, association and assembly. It is vital that the principles enshrined in
352 the UN Declaration on Human Rights Defenders are respected in law and practice.

353 We reaffirm that meaningful involvement of youth, women, and wider civil society in decision-making processes
354 and partnerships, as stressed in Agenda 21, Section 3, are critical to the success of sustainable development
355 initiatives.

356 **OTHER ISSUES TO BE CONSIDERED AT RIO + 20**

357 Population:

358 We call on governments and other stakeholders to make systematic use of population data and projections to
359 anticipate and plan for population dynamics and address associated challenges in a pro-active manner.
360 Recognizing human rights and freedoms, governments should enlarge individual choices and opportunities by
361 ensuring universal access to sexual and reproductive health and family planning, empowerment of women, and
362 investment in education, particularly of disadvantaged children and youth, and girls and young women.

363 We call on the full and effective implementation of Agenda 21, the MDGs, the Beijing Platform for Action, and
364 the ICPD to ensure young peoples' rights to education, employment and health, emphasizing sexual and
365 reproductive health, including access to contraceptives, and universal access to HIV prevention and treatment,
366 through the understanding of linkages between social, environmental and population dimensions.

367 We call on governments to start a debate that recognizes the choices we have to make about human population as
368 we consider the limits of the carrying capacity of the planet and the need to enable fair and equitable use of
369 available resources and leave space for wildlife and wilderness.

370 **EDUCATION AND LEARNING FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT:**

371 We acknowledge the necessity to reaffirm the UN decade of education for sustainable development;

372 We are convinced that the shift to a sustainable society is deeply dependent on the educational system;

373 We affirm that education should address the material, social and development of the spiritual dimensions of
374 human and in its fullest sense must provide the space for value-based sustainable learning;

375 We call upon educational institutions to increase their participation in the transformation process for a
376 sustainable society, in order to enhance capacity building of their communities, to create an environment in
377 which meaningful and sustained education can take place and thereby mainstreaming education for sustainable
378 development and lifelong learning;

379 We are aware that successful education and learning in all its forms are dependent on the full support of
380 governments at all levels, the private sector, policy makers and the civil society;

381 We suggest the construction of laboratory schools in the context of post-conflict development that will teach
382 skills to develop holistically minded citizens.

383

Further

384 **DRAFT SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS**

385 To achieve the goals of Rio + 20 in an ambitious, time-bound and accountable manner, we call upon
386 governments in accordance with human rights, the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and
387 respective capabilities to adopt the following draft Sustainable Development Goals together with the sub-goals,
388 reasons and clarifications relating to each goal:

389 The goals below are aspirational. While some of these are based on commitments already made by governments
390 and other stakeholders, others are proposed on the basis of advanced thinking among civil society organizations.

391 **SDG – SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION:** By 2020, consistent with the Biodiversity
392 Strategic Plan adopted at the 10th meeting of the conference of the parties to the UN Convention on Biological
393 Diversity (CBD COP10), the human ecological footprint is reduced so that it remains within the Earth's
394 biological carrying capacity. In accordance with the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities we
395 call on nations and populations engaged in wasteful overconsumption to reduce their impacts and help increase
396 the consumption of vital goods and services for impoverished nations and peoples so they can enjoy reasonably
397 high standards of living that provide equitable access to health care, decent work opportunities and education.

398 By 2020, governments should promote production processes reflect the best available technologies for eco-
399 efficiency, recycling, remanufacturing, reuse of waste materials, product durability and longevity. Wasteful
400 practices such as planned obsolescence are identified and eliminated. Public procurement standards and
401 incentives reward leading corporations that share and disseminate best green practices worldwide. By 2020, the
402 majority of the world's goods and services are procured by governments from sources certified by objective third
403 parties as sustainably produced.

404 This goal is tied to the preparation and implementation of sustainability or green economy roadmaps, that
405 consider and address commonly agreed sustainability principles, adopt sustainable development goals in critical
406 areas, and implement governance reforms to foster the transition to a green economy and to improve the
407 institutional framework for sustainable development.

408 Further, establish a set of Millennium Consumption Goals for the period 2012-2020 towards creating an
409 intergenerational and internationally shared right to equitable consumption opportunities and ensuring quality of
410 life and wellbeing of all people by 2020, while eradicating all kinds and levels of poverty, respecting animal
411 welfare and embedding sufficiency based sustainable economies.

412 **SDG – SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS, YOUTH & EDUCATION:** By 2015, nations commit to the
413 principle of sustainable livelihoods as a right for all people and implement monetary and fiscal policies to
414 encourage full and decent work. By 2020, biodiversity and ecosystem service considerations are mainstreamed
415 within existing rural development platforms and initiatives to conserve sustainable livelihoods in indigenous and
416 local communities that depend on natural capital for survival.

417 By 2015, governments incorporate within development frameworks as a priority, investments in the education,
418 health and employment of young people, who constitute a large proportion of the population of developing
419 countries and face disproportionate levels of poverty, unemployment, gender discrimination and ill health.
420 Governments should support comprehensive policies, youth participation and multisectoral programmes that
421 empower present and future generations to fully and freely exercise their human rights, fulfill their aspirations
422 and be productive citizens.

423 By 2030, national governments reorient all national aims and objectives towards achieving sustainable societies
424 and will mainstream sustainable development into national educational policies and curricula.

425 By 2020, consistent with the Biodiversity Strategic Plan adopted at CBD COP10, governments ensure that
426 people are aware of the values of biodiversity and the step they can take to conserve and use it sustainably.

Further

427 **SDG -CLIMATE SUSTAINABILITY:** By 2050, governments should have reached clear pathways towards
428 climate sustainability that regulates the global temperature rise below 1.5 degrees C. Emissions of greenhouse
429 gases should be reduced to 25% of 1990 levels by 2020, 40% by 2030, 60% by 2040 and 80% by 2050. Carbon
430 taxes and tariffs should be in place to incentivize low-carbon development and manufacturing, finance GHG
431 emissions reduction projects, REDD+ and other offset mechanisms, and green infrastructure solutions to help
432 vulnerable communities adapt to climate change.

433 Developed countries, as the main cause of climate change, in assuming their historical responsibility, must
434 recognize and honor their climate debt in all of its dimensions as the basis for a just, effective, and scientific
435 solution to climate change. The above goal shall include the equitable sharing of remaining atmospheric space,
436 considering past use and consumption and mid and long-term emission reduction targets that are in line with
437 what the science requires.

438 **SDG – CLEAN ENERGY:** By 2030, at least 50% of the world’s energy supply comes from renewable sources.
439 By 2020 energy demand is reduced through efficiency and conservation by at least 20%. By 2030 energy poverty
440 is eliminated by providing universal access to modern energy services from renewable sources.

441 **SDG - BIODIVERSITY:** Governments are urged to honor their commitments to implementing the Biodiversity
442 Strategic Plan, in particular those related to the Green Economy such as Target 2: “By 2020, at the latest,
443 biodiversity values have been integrated into national and local development and poverty reduction strategies
444 and planning processes and are being incorporated into national accounting, as appropriate, and reporting
445 systems”; and Target 3: “By 2020, at the latest, incentives, including subsidies, harmful to biodiversity are
446 eliminated, phased out or reformed in order to minimize or avoid negative impacts.” We urge governments to
447 support investments in natural infrastructure and ecological restoration and to facilitate the development of
448 markets that value the regulatory services provided by ecosystems.

449 **SDG –WATER:** By 2030, governments will achieve universal availability of an acceptable quantity and
450 quality of water for health, livelihoods, ecosystems and production, adequate sanitation, coupled with an
451 acceptable level of water-related risks to people, environments and economies.

452 This goal is over and above the achievement of the MDGs and other internationally agreed development goals.
453 The right to safe and clean drinking water and sanitation shall be recognized as a human right and it shall be the
454 responsibility of all states to respect such right. As an interim goal, by 2015 the proportion of people unable to
455 reach or afford safe drinking water, and without access to basic sanitation, shall be halved as agreed in the Plan
456 of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable development (“Johannesburg Plan of Implementation”).

457 By 2020, local, municipal and national governments and all stakeholders commit to achieve the following
458 intermediate targets:

459 20% increase in total food supply-chain efficiency – reducing losses and waste from field to fork;

460 20% increase in water efficiency in agriculture – more nutrition and crop per drop;

461 20% increase in water use efficiency in energy production – more kWh per drop;

462 20% increase in the quantity of water reused;

463 20% decrease in water pollution;

464 **SDG – HEALTHY SEAS AND OCEANS (BLUE ECONOMY):** By 2020, consistent with the Biodiversity
465 Strategic Plan, governments establish at least 10% coastal and marine areas. By 2030, oceanic dead zones will be
466 recovered by reducing nitrogen runoff from land by 50% or more. By 2020, Marine Protected Areas will be
467 established in at least 25% of each Exclusive Economic Zone (“EEZ”) and the high seas in representative

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468 networks capable of restoring minimum viable populations of all at-risk stocks, protecting marine biological
469 diversity, and maximizing benefits to commercial and subsistence fishers in surrounding waters. By 2015, the
470 use of bottom trawling, dynamite fishing, electro-fishing, poisons and other unsustainable practices will be
471 eliminated. By 2030, reverse the decline of fish stocks and create sustainable and diverse and abundant fish
472 stocks, supported by healthy habitat to provide for the needs of all users, and by 2015, ban the practice of shark
473 finning.

474 We also make the following policy recommendations: (a) reduce plastic pollution in the oceans, including by
475 banning or taxing single-use plastics, supporting the use of recycled plastics in new products, and holding
476 manufacturers responsible for plastics through their entire life cycle; (b) establish an international monitoring
477 network for ocean acidification to enable the identification of vulnerable regions and industries and to provide an
478 early warning system for industries already experiencing harm; (c) designate the high seas of the Central Arctic
479 Ocean as a zone for international scientific cooperation, where extractive and polluting activities are suspended
480 until we have a better understanding of the area and the potential effects of such activities; and (d) schedule, as a
481 matter of urgency, an intergovernmental conference to address the multiplying threats to ocean areas beyond the
482 jurisdiction of individual nations.

483 **SDG – HEALTHY FORESTS:** All remaining frontier forests are protected from conversion and degradation
484 by 2020, consistent with the Biodiversity Strategic Plan adopted at COP10, with a well-resourced and equably
485 governed REDD+ mechanism in place to reward developing countries for protection and sustainable
486 management of their forests, not only for carbon capture and storage but for their wider ecological services. A
487 policy of no net loss of forestland, globally and nationally, is also achieved by 2020. At that time, all new forest
488 areas cleared will be offset by ecologically sound restoration of forests in nearby areas. Restoration of over 150
489 million hectares of cleared or degraded forest landscapes is achieved by 2020, with the creation of millions of
490 new jobs and enhanced livelihoods, improved security and adaptation to climate change.

491 Reduce deforestation emissions by key corporations and their supply chains committing to avoid the purchase of
492 products that cause deforestation, such as soy or cattle from deforested lands in the Brazilian Amazon, palm oil
493 from deforested agricultural land in Indonesia, or illegal wood and wood products throughout the world.

494 Additionally, for stakeholders everywhere to undertake and/or participate in large-scale, environmentally and
495 socially responsible reforestation efforts.

496 Measures proposed under CDM must be carefully examined by the communities depending on forests for their
497 subsistence, as we see that they favor already important land-grabbing and the destruction of their livelihoods.

498 At Rio+20, we call on governments to pledge concrete and systematic support and promotion of multi
499 stakeholder managed forest certification systems, in all parts of the world, with particular emphasis on tropical
500 rainforests.

501 **SDG - SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE:** By 2030, global agricultural production is transformed from
502 industrial to sustainable. Chemical inputs, herbicides, and pesticides are largely replaced with organic and
503 biological alternatives. Interspersed natural areas are protected and restored as source of pollination, pest control
504 and soil fertility. Food for export is secondary to food for local consumption. Cultivated crop strains are
505 diversified, as are production techniques and the mix of agricultural producers. Best management practices
506 reduce erosion by 90% and nitrogen runoff by 50% or more. Local ecological knowledge of indigenous,
507 traditional, and local communities is utilized to identify resilient crops and cultivation practices that provide
508 maximum protection against climate change.

509 This goal should also include sustainable and humane food systems that provide healthy food to meet current
510 food needs while maintaining healthy ecosystems, farmer resilience, and ensures high animal health and welfare
511 that can also provide food for generations to come with minimal negative impact to the environment, through

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- 512 agro-ecological farming systems. We consider the right to keep the own seeds as an important issue of farming.
- 513 A sustainable and humane food system should promote food sovereignty of communities, empower small-scale
514 food producers in food and agricultural governance, and also encourage local production and distribution
515 infrastructures with equal opportunities for men and women farmers and makes nutritious food available,
516 accessible, and affordable to all, while at the same time providing sustainable livelihoods to producers through
517 the payment of fair prices for their products. Sustainable food systems must be based on food sovereignty and the
518 right for small-scale peasants, women's groups and local communities to plant, exchange their seed and
519 knowledge.
- 520 Give strong and increasing support to small scale farming, producing healthy foods through targeted research,
521 extension services and enabling conditions, and wherever possible, vegetarian diets, and to ensure womens'
522 property and inheritance rights.
- 523 Support the important role and special needs of women in agriculture.
- 524 **SDG - GREEN CITIES:** By 2030, cities have developed and are implementing action plans to address
525 transport, public health and environmental needs in a harmonious and integrated way. By 2030, local to national
526 government policies fosters compact, mixed-use, pedestrian-oriented, urban development that minimizes energy
527 use and maximizes residential health and that reflects the concept of a society for all ages. All new buildings
528 meet green building standards by 2030. By 2030, city transport needs are or remain predominantly met by mass
529 transport, walking and bicycling. Quality of life is also improved for residents by 2030, providing access to green
530 buildings with urban rooftop gardens, clean water, clean energy, waste management systems and sustainable
531 transportation. By 2030, urban areas with significant storm water pollution issues reduce impervious surface area
532 by 30% below 2012 levels.
- 533 **SDG - SUBSIDIES AND INVESTMENT:** By 2020, consistent with the Biodiversity Strategic Plan adopted at
534 CBD COP10, at the latest, harmful incentives, including subsidies, for fossil fuel production, unsustainable
535 agricultural, fisheries and forest practices, and those harmful to biodiversity, are eliminated, phased out or
536 redirected to promote renewable energy, sustainable practices and the conservation and sustainable use of
537 biodiversity. By 2015, governments commit to a minimum investment of 2% of GDP per year to foster the
538 transition to a green economy, taking into account national socio-economic conditions.
- 539 **SDG - NEW INDICATORS OF PROGRESS:** By 2020 nations supplement or replace GDP with a new
540 measure of sustainable economic welfare based on best available information at that time. Economic
541 performance and the forecasted effects of policy changes will be measured by this new metric. We encourage a
542 process of continuous improvement and refinement of the new measure over time and an international process to
543 set standards and make available common methods and data sources. We also encourage the adoption of several
544 other headline indicators of environmental, economic and social sustainability to provide a measure of progress
545 towards the green economy transition, improved well-being and achievement of sustainable development goals.
- 546 **SDG - ACCESS TO INFORMATION:** By 2022, governments will enact and implement Freedom of
547 Information laws giving people the right to obtain accurate and truthful information held by their government,
548 especially on the environment. Governments will actively make available useful, accurate and truthful well-
549 publicized data and information in appropriate formats, including on the internet. These laws should include
550 whistleblower protection and should extend to information disclosure by corporations.
- 551 **SDG - PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** By 2022, governments will include mandatory public participation in (a)
552 major development project approvals and environmental impact assessment procedures, (b) drafting of national
553 level sustainable development policies, laws and regulations and (c) administrative decisions such as pollution
554 permitting.
- 555 **SDG - ACCESS TO REDRESS AND REMEDY:** By 2022, governments will adopt laws ensuring effective

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556 access to judicial and administrative proceedings concerning sustainable development, including redress and
557 remedy. In particular, they will ensure that the costs of such proceedings are reasonable and affordable to
558 affected people and that access to such proceedings is available through expansion of legal standing and other
559 means to interested people and organizations.

560 **SDG - ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE FOR THE POOR AND MARGINALIZED:** By 2022, governments
561 will adopt laws that obligate government agencies to take appropriate measures to provide information and
562 engage affected people living in poverty, women and other disadvantaged groups when making sustainable
563 development decisions.

564 **SDG – BASIC HEALTH:** By 2015, to support attainment of the health MDGs, and to contribute to health,
565 well-being and sustainable development, ensure universal access to basic health care and services, wherever
566 feasible free at the point of use for women and children, and including sexual and reproductive health, and thus
567 strengthen the resilience of people and communities to the consequences of climate change and environmental
568 degradation.

569 We endorse the finalization of a global mercury treaty by February 2013 that will aggressively limit the global
570 use and trade in mercury and reduce global mercury emissions.

571 We recommend a ban the export of mercury and the mining of mercury for export and secure the agreement by
572 chlor-alkali and mining companies not to place mercury into commerce and take responsibility for ensuring its
573 safe management.

574 Create new partnerships around the responsible sourcing of raw materials for production and the regulation of
575 specific harmful chemicals.

576 Calling on governments to foster sustainable health systems as an indispensable condition for sustainable
577 development of societies through provision of essential health services, promotion of healthy lifestyles, and
578 production of healthy cross sectorial public policies.

579 Further strengthening the World Health Organization in this process.

580 Calling on Governments to address social determinants of health as a means of reducing global health inequities
581 through acknowledging that all policies affect health. Health equity is paramount towards sustainable societies.

582 Calling on governments to make direct and relevant interventions to improve young peoples' health ensuring
583 their role as agents of change for a sustainable society.

584 We welcome the recognition of the work of the United Nations Volunteer program as the focal point for the
585 follow-up to the International Year of Volunteers, and request it to continue to raise awareness of the
586 contribution of volunteerism to sustainable development, to act as a convener on the subject for the various
587 interested stakeholders, to make available networking and reference resources and to provide technical
588 cooperation to developing countries, at their request.

589 We call upon the United Nations, through its budgetary process and mechanisms, to enable the UN Department
590 of Public Information to host this Annual Conference with the financial and human resources necessary to do so.

591 We thank the people and Government of Germany and the city and Mayor of Bonn for their warm welcome and
592 for hosting the 64th annual Conference of the UN Department of Public Information for Non-Governmental
593 Organizations.

594 Asking that all parties involved with UN conferences on increase their efforts towards reducing the ecological
595 footprint of these events and hereby setting a positive example.