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ATTN: FRANCISCO SAGASTI

DRAFT DECLARATION READS WELL. SUGGEST SUBSTITUTING BRAVE FOR BROAD BEFORE NEW STRATEGY IN PARA 8.

REGARDS

SWAMI NATHAN

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IRRI LIAISON OFFICE
NEW DELHI
APR 4 1989
OUTWARD TELEX



**UNITED NATIONS
ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT**

March 21, 1989

Chairman:

Francisco R. Sagasti
(Peru)

Vice-Chairpersons:

Carlos R. Abeledo
(Argentina)
Harvey Brooks
(USA)
Stefen Kwiatkowski
(Poland)
Lydia P. Makhubu
(Swaziland)
Yash Pal
(India)

Messrs. C. Abeledo, H. Brooks, S. Kwiatowski, J. Mullin, Y. Pal,
G. Oldham, K. Ganzhorn, E. Galal, U. Colombo, and M. Swaminathan;
Ms. L. Makhubu

Dear Colleagues:

Rapporteur:

James Mullin
(Canada)

Attached is the final draft of the declaration we agreed to issue on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the Vienna Programme of Action.

Members:

Saleh Al-Athel
(Saudi Arabia)
Elizabeth Birman
(Hungary)
Ali Boussaha
(Algeria)
Robert Gyabaa J. Butler
(Ghana)
Hyuang Sup Choi
(Rep. of Korea)
Essam El-din Galal
(Egypt)
Karl Ganzhorn
(Fed. Rep. of Germany)
Elisabeth Helander
(Finland)
Yoichi Kaya
(Japan)
Mumtaz Ali Kazi
(Pakistan)
David Kear
(New Zealand)
Henry Isaac C. Lowe
(Jamaica)
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(Brazil)
Tansia M. Monkoy
(Zaire)
Abdulrahman S. Msangi
(Tanzania)
C.H. Geoffrey Oldham
(UK)
Nana Pratt
(Sierra Leone)
Omar bin Abdul Rahman
(Malaysia)
Daniel Resendiz
(Mexico)
Alexandre P. Vladislavlev
(USSR)
Wu Yi Kang
(Peo. Rep. of China)

The process of preparing the final draft has been a long and laborious one. On the basis of several informal conversations at our Goa meeting last October, Anandakrishnan and I developed a set of initial notes in December 1988. I revised and submitted them to the consideration of Bureau members at the Feldafing meeting last February. We had several lively discussions and your comments and suggestions were incorporated into a first draft. Upon my return to Washington I received a revised version of the draft prepared by Harvey Brooks, and also additional comments from Jim Mullin and Geoff Oldham by telephone.

I revised the Brooks draft, incorporated the suggestions by K. Ganzhorn, S. Kwiatowski, E. Galal and several of my own criticisms of earlier versions. However, at this stage the draft had become too long and unwieldy, resembling more an academic essay than the short and punchy declaration we had decided to issue. I therefore sought some editorial assistance (from John Stremlau, formerly of the Rockefeller Foundation and now a consultant to the World Bank) and after several revised versions and many hours of work the attached final draft was produced. It retains the essential points we agreed, eliminates repetitions and unnecessary sentences, and is directed to the broad and diverse international audience we want to reach.

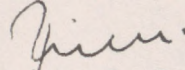
I would be most grateful if you could send me your reactions as soon as possible. Please focus your comments and suggestions on those aspects with which you strongly disagree. The declaration has just over 1200 words, the maximum that can be expected to be published in the mass media and a good length for a short pamphlet. Therefore, it will be very difficult to add additional themes or ideas. If you feel comfortable with the declaration (or at least can live with it!) please signal your approval by fax, telex or telephone call. I would then suggest that the four chairmen of our committee -- M. Swaminathan,

Secretary

M. Anandakrishnan

chairmen of our committee --M. Swaminathan, U. Colombo, E. Galal and myself-- write a joint letter to all present and past members of our committee inviting them to adhere to the declaration. When issuing the declaration we would only include the names of those that responded positively by mid-May.

I look forward to hearing from you. Best regards,



Francisco R. Sagasti

cc. Messrs. Sergio Trindade and M. Anandakrishnan

A DECLARATION OF PRESENT AND FORMER MEMBERS OF THE
UNITED NATIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
FOR DEVELOPMENT ON THE OCCASION OF THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE VIENNA PROGRAMME OF ACTION

1. Humanity approaches a new century confronting a fundamental paradox: we have never had so much power to influence the course of civilization, to shape the way our species will evolve, and to create an ever expanding range of opportunities for human betterment --but at the same time we remain unwilling or unable to use this newfound power to achieve our full potential as human beings.

2. Throughout most of history nations and societies have been compelled to behave as though some groups could only progress at the expense of others. Today, advances in science and technology have created new possibilities for global progress, and a situation in which all can prosper if we could but summon the collective will and wisdom to employ the new means available to us.

3. Science has been the most important factor in placing this unprecedented opportunity within our grasp. During the last four centuries the systematic process of subjecting abstract conceptions and propositions about the world to the test of empirical observations --which is the hallmark of modern science-- has superseded other forms of knowledge generation. As a result, science-based technologies are replacing those that developed primarily through trial and error, or through the codification of successful responses to environmental and social challenges.

4. Paradoxically, however, significant progress in material well being coexists with the stagnation and deterioration in standards of living for the poorest of the world's peoples. Increasing deprivation of food, health, education and employment beset a sizable portion of humanity, causing new stresses on the environment which, in turn, undermine future development efforts. The clash between rising aspirations and the realities of omnipresent poverty, largely triggered by growing awareness of the life styles of the affluent few, has become a source of social tensions, intolerance and violence.

5. The problems of poverty often find a mirror image in the pathologies of affluence: social anomie, hazardous wastes, resource depletion and the emergence of ominous threats to the global commons, such as the greenhouse effect and stratospheric ozone depletion. The same scientific advances that could assist in abolishing poverty and disease can be transformed into technologies of destruction so awesome as to threaten human survival.

6. The paradox of enormous potential for human advancement coexisting with gross inequalities and deprivation puts in sharp relief the critical problem of our age: our scientific knowledge and mastery of technology have outstripped our collective capacity to manage the new problems and opportunities created by advances in science and technology. A bold and imaginative effort in social and institutional innovation at all levels --from local to international-- is now essential for our survival and progress.

7. A changed and rapidly evolving global political and economic context suggests that the 1990s may offer historic opportunities to experiment with new forms of international cooperation in science and technology. After four decades of antagonisms and mistrust the bi-polar divisions of the world --East-West and North-South-- are giving way to a pluralistic international environment. This creates a unique setting for moving towards a more equitable and pragmatic distribution of the costs and benefits of scientific and technological progress, leaving behind the ideological blinders that constrained the visions of statesmen for nearly half a century. Our enormous and increasing stock of scientific knowledge and technological skills can become a key resource for easing international tensions.

8. We propose three guiding principles to advance the search for new ways of mobilizing science and technology in the service of development. The international community of statesmen, scientists, policy-makers, scholars, professionals, managers, workers and citizens --within which the United Nations system should play a leading role-- must in our view:

- Evolve a ^{brave} broad new strategy to ensure equality of access for all people to modern scientific and technological knowledge that is essential to alleviating poverty, reducing populations pressures, achieving minimum standards of health and nutrition, improving educational opportunities, and promoting economic growth. Without sacrificing the incentives for individual creativity and

practical imagination, we must evolve a common view that the fruits of scientific and technological progress should be directed towards fostering global equity.

- Undertake concerted efforts to build the human and institutional capacities to make independent decisions on matters of science and technology in developing countries. International cooperation will play a major role in this task, which is essential because of the huge and growing disparities in scientific and technological capabilities between the industrialized and the developing nations --disparities that dwarf all other indicators of global inequalities.
- Forge new international partnerships to achieve environmentally sustainable development. The times when humanity could act on the physical and biological environment with impunity --blindlessly and mindlessly trusting in the regenerative powers of ecosystems-- are forever gone. New approaches in which man and nature enhance each other's capacities are imperative. This will demand a re-evaluation of the many ways in which different cultures relate to the natural world, using science to build constructively on this diversity, rather than seeking to apply some single over-arching view of the relations between humanity and nature.

9. We believe a successful collective search for social innovations during the last decade of the 20th century will require a climate of openness and participation at all levels. Imposed solutions or visions, however well conceived, will lack authority and legitimacy in today's increasingly pluralistic political communities. Tolerance for cultural and religious diversity, respect for human rights, active encouragement of individual freedom and creativity, and sensitivity to economic inequities are essential for laying the foundations to effectively link science and technology to the preservation and advancement of humanity.

10. We reaffirm our belief in international cooperation as the most effective way to transcending the intolerable conditions which deny the enormous power and benefits of science and technology to those most in need. International cooperation and development assistance must become more than tools of enlightened national self-interest. They must evolve into expressions of collective responsibility for the well-being of all humanity.