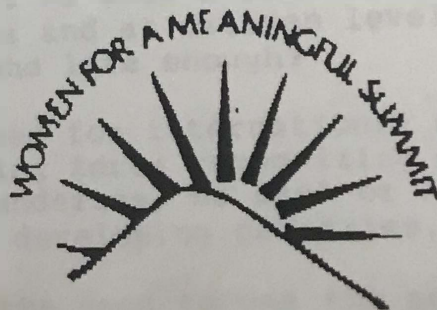


Women for a Meaningful Summit (WMS), a women's global peace network, is aware of the need for non-governmental organizations to play a role in assessing environmental impacts and designing and implementing measures to deal with them, and in creating a public awareness and political pressure for the urgent action governments must take.

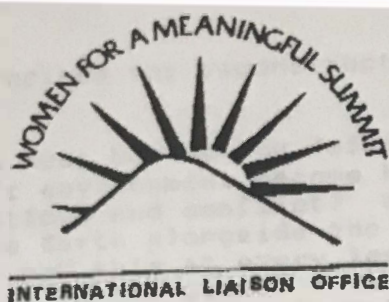
ENVIRONMENT
AND
INTERNATIONAL SECURITY
- A Women's platform -

Because of the importance of the protection of our environment, among which is the greatest and gravest danger of all - that of a nuclear war - and, because of the need for developing harmony and cooperation among nations to deal with the questions of Environment and International Security, WMS calls upon the leaders of the two super-powers to hold a Summit Meeting on this issue within the very near future.

The women of WMS pledge to work toward this goal, but also to assist in any way possible to help the world break out of harmful patterns and begin a new evolutionary path consistent with women's patterns of benign and harmonious collaboration with nature. This will ensure that we have an economic system that increases rather than decreases equality, that increases rather than decreases the economic well-being of the poor and hungry, that increases rather than decreases our sense of security by ridding the world of nuclear weapons and the arms race.



INTERNATIONAL LIAISON OFFICE



PEACE BOAT
WOMEN FOR A MEANINGFUL SUMMIT
ENVIRONMENT AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY PLATFORM
**Politics of Environment is Politics
of Disarmament and Development**

Formulated at a Conference in Athens, April 21-24, 1989
for use by governments and political activists.

INTRODUCTION

We are increasingly aware that we are a planetary community. With environmental destruction, proliferation of nuclear and chemical weapons, over-population, bizarre economic debt problems, depletion of our natural resources - we are a global community in danger of destroying not only the human species, but the planet itself. We can no longer say "the earth abides forever". Apart from the environmental shocks of 1988, space travel has given us a different perspective of our world, our planet. As one geologist put it, seeing photos of the earth from space, "Mother Earth will never be the same again. No more can thinking people take this little planet as an infinite theatre of action and provider of resources for man, yielding new largesse to every demand without limit."

When we look at development in the world today, we can say that humankind displays if not a perniciousness, a basic carelessness towards our precious natural resources, a carelessness with our scientific knowledge which is directed toward lethal aims rather than human aims, an insensitivity to the impoverished existence of many of our fellow human beings - and that we show a lack of responsibility both at government levels and at citizen levels. Is it that we do not love earth and life enough?

We stress the need for international cooperation on life. Life is a unifying force recognizing no ideological or geographical boundaries, no East or West, no North or South, no developed or developing countries.

We stress also the need to use the potentialities and creativities of women's culture to provide practical and

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philosophical recipes for reconstructing sustainable development.

Many more of us must become the defense attorneys for the Earth. Couldn't environment become the ultimate arbiter of all our negotiations and conflict? We need to negotiate the interests of the Earth alongside the interests of conflicting social groups - and this at every level - from the personal to the community, to the global. We would automatically begin to create a new society if we had in decision-making bodies an "Earth defender".

Women, for example, do two-thirds of the work in this world and nearly all their work is benign and enhancing. The relationship between women and nature historically has been co-operative, not-exploitative or plundering. With environment as the ultimate arbiter, women's work and role would be revalued.

The environmentally destructive impact of the debt crisis would cause us to see North-South relations in a new light.

We recognize that the whole concept of security - in the traditional sense of political and military threats to national sovereignty - must be changed to include the growing menace of environmental destruction. Guns cannot resolve "environmental insecurity". But if we don't spend money on reducing poverty, on finding new sources of energy, on restoring a devastated environment, the misuse of resources and the competition for depleted resources could lead to armed conflict. We must stress the need for reduction in military spending so funds can be freed for social and ecological needs.

Women for a Meaningful Summit, a global women's peace network, made up by organizations and individuals in the women's movement and in the peace movement, is concerned about the security of future generations, and wants to help society evolve the ethical and moral judgements necessary to AVOID self-destruction.

There can be no liberation for women and no solution to the ecological crisis within a society whose fundamental model of relationships continues to be one of domination. We must unite the women's movement with the ecological movement to envision a radical reshaping of the basic socioeconomic relations and the underlying values of this type of society.

We must use new ways of thinking which involves new approaches, new attitudes, new philosophies, values, new ways of living and accepting others.

We call for summit meetings at the highest level on the issue of Environment and International Security. We call on governments to show a deep concern for the planet and the interlinked economic and ecological threats to its people. We call on all citizens to accept the global challenge of survival and work together for new ways of thinking and new forms of behaviour.

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is a message of urgency. The urgency is the need for action to maintain our children's right to a healthy, peaceful, life enhancing world.

At our conference in Athens, April 21-24, we took up the following issues and developed a plan of action for each. We hope these guidelines will be useful to all persons willing to join a mass effort to build a peaceful and sustainable world.

I. NUCLEAR WEAPONS FREE ZONES

There is no doubt that weapons of mass destruction, as well as conventional weapons, represent the greatest threat to the human environment. Nuclear free zones are a very important part of global strategy towards a nuclear free and ecologically safe world.

Nowadays there are two types of zones:

1. Nuclear weapons-free-zones, as covered by international law or national constitutional law.
2. Nuclear free zones, as declared by a local authority with limited legal significance. This type of N.F.Z. is a statement of opposition to the arms build-up, nuclear industry and uranium mining.

The first type of zone is of the greatest legal and political significance. But even nuclear free villages, towns, ports declared by local authorities have not only a symbolic and declarative role but a practical impact as well. The campaign for their creation could be one of the factors in alerting people to the danger of the escalation of the arms race.

The creation and implementation of N.F.Z. is a process which needs support of government, public opinion and individuals. The international legal status of these zones, whenever installed has to be recognized and respected by all states and especially by nuclear powers, both in peaceful times and especially in military crises.

Global problems and mutual interconnections require a new way of thinking, new strategies and new concrete actions. The activities of the U.N., provisions of the Vienna final document, as a part of the Helsinki process, are a good platform for this.

ACTIONS

1. Call upon states, especially nuclear powers, which have not yet signed the existing Treaties and Protocols on nuclear weapons free zones (Latin America and South Pacific) to do so immediately.
2. Call upon states, especially nuclear powers, to stimulate and promote the process of creation of nuclear free zones and to support the initiatives which have already been proposed. (For example: nuclear free corridor in Central Europe, nuclear free zone in the Balkans and Northern Europe, etc.)

3. Call upon states to stop all kinds of modernization and modification of weapons of mass destruction, as well as conventional arms.
4. Demand the stopping of all nuclear tests as provided by non-proliferation Treaty (NPT).
5. Call upon states, national and international organizations, and women's organizations and movements in particular:

To control and monitor the process of creation of nuclear free zones.

- To cooperate in promoting solutions to human environment and disarmament problems.
- To provide full information and education concerning environment, disarmament, and development.
- To promote research in the field of alternative kinds of energy.
- To transfer financial resources from the military field to environmental protection.
- To begin the conversion of military industries to civilian operations.

11. HAZARDOUS WASTES

We know the effect development policies of the industrialized world has had in the Third World. Now we have rapidly spreading disasters in the rich world as well: a warming globe, threats to the Earth's ozone layer, the so-called "greenhouse-effect", the creeping death of forests, deserts consuming agricultural land, pollution of rivers and lakes, the amassing of more and more dangerous weapons, and the generation of HAZARDOUS WASTE and weak SAFETY SYSTEMS for industries handling and processing potentially toxic materials.

We turn our attention here to the hazardous waste issue. Because of inadequate legislation and regulatory processes, and inadequate enforcement of existing legislation, hazardous wastes are found in storm sewers and open lagoons, spread on fields and forest areas, sometimes injected into deep wells several hundred metres into the earth, or shipped and disposed of to other countries.

The question of management of hazardous wastes has to do with political will, not only at the national, but also at the international level. Hazardous wastes pose threats to national security and international peace and relations.

1. Clear identification and definition of hazardous wastes is essential for a comprehensive hazardous wastes management system. This can be reinforced through:
 - a) International harmonization of definitions and identification procedures of hazardous wastes;
 - b) International harmonization of classification and registration of hazardous wastes;

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- c) Comprehensive international Referral Data System on a) and b) above;
- d) Development of national and international legislative guidelines for dealing effectively with the management of hazardous wastes.

2. Promoting alternative social and management attitudes through:

- a) Relevant information to the public, industry and government;
- b) Introducing relevant education at all levels;
- c) Training of technical, regulatory and managerial personnel; and,
- d) Building public awareness and identifying strategies and policies for a comprehensive cradle-to-grave hazardous wastes system.

3. Promoting effective waste management technologies and methodology.

- a) Minimizing of hazardous wastes through modifying production processes or reprocessing/recycling of wastes, and by promoting cleaner (low-waste) and safer, renewable energy sources not producing hazardous wastes.
- b) Supporting and financing research and development, and commercialization of cleaner production technologies for coal, oil and natural gas by governments and international organizations.
- c) Separating hazardous and non-hazardous wastes. If hazardous and non-hazardous wastes can be separated at source, only limited quantities of hazardous wastes need to be handled.
- d) Instituting guidelines for handling and storing hazardous wastes.
- e) Transforming hazardous wastes to non-hazardous. If carried out properly, this will not contribute to environmental degradation.
- f) Disposing of waste in secure and controlled landfills. Regular monitoring of disposal sites is essential, even after they are closed, to ensure potential health hazards and environmental contamination do not occur.

ACTIONS

1. Call on governments and industries and international organizations to promote the introduction of clean technologies.
2. Demand comprehensive information be provided by international, national and non-governmental organizations about the dangers both to health and environment.
3. Call for international security and global sustainable development to narrow the gap between developing and industrial countries, to assist countries to preserve their ecological balance, and refrain from dumping waste on soil and waters of developing countries.
4. Appeal to relevant international organizations such as the World Bank, UNIDO, IAEA, UNEP, UNDP, FAO, WHO, UNCTAD, IMO, etc., as well as the international banking community and national governments, to provide mechanisms for debt

forgiveness to distressed developing countries. Part of this relief can be used to deal with the already dumped waste, without interference in their national sovereignty.

5. Call to all governments to ratify a treaty to limit and control the international transportation and disposal of hazardous wastes (Basel Treaty).
6. Support the general principle that the cost of cleaning hazardous waste problems should be borne by the polluters.
7. Call the policy makers, the managers of industrial plants, the technical community, the labour force, as well as the affected public, governments and international organizations to pay due importance to education, training and public awareness on environmental matters and hazardous waste potential dangers.
8. The proliferation of nuclear power should be discontinued and a process of phasing out of existing facilities inaugurated.

III. RESOURCE DEPLETION

Irreplaceable resources are being depleted at unsustainable rates. Energy and minerals are being used wastefully, and we are needlessly degrading the environment in the process of mining, transporting, using and disposing of these resources.

Deforestation, over-fishing, soil depletion, and dessertification threaten not only the survival and well-being of the human species, but endanger the earth's biological vitality.

Unsustainable use of agricultural lands, aggravated by unabated consumption in the industrialized states and population growth in developing countries, results in deepening hunger, malnutrition and death, which touches hundreds of millions of children, women and men.

The possible warming of the atmosphere may cause the sea level to rise; threaten agricultural productivity around the world; and will cause droughts, water shortages, floods, and climate unpredictability. Some climate change is now inevitable, and adaption will be expensive and difficult. Efforts should be focused on preventing further climate changes by reducing the emissions of green house gases. Similarly, the causes of ozone depletion can be resolved; what is lacking is the political will.

The extreme aggravation of disparities between rich industrialized countries and the developing countries requires rapid and thorough-going changes in the world economy. The acceleration of growth and diversification of economies in the Third World is the necessary prerequisite for sustainable development and international security.

ACTIONS

Support:

1. Sustainable use of renewable resources in areas such as agriculture, fisheries, forests, soil and water.

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3. Serious consideration of cost-effective ways to use energy and materials far more effectively.
 4. Incorporating environmental and social costs in the extraction, transportation, use and disposal of resources.
 5. Increasing reliance on renewable forms of energy such as solar, wind, biomass, and geothermal.
 6. Reducing harmful emissions to the atmosphere and chemical pollution of land and water.
 7. Greatly increasing funding for research and education in all of the above areas.

IV. SOUTH PACIFIC

The Pacific islands have lived through and are living with militarization, westernization, environmental destruction, political instability and nuclear fall-out. The people of the Pacific have been fighting back and their struggle is a symbol of bravery and courage for the rest of the world. yet their effort is still being undermined by continued pressure from the west.

Militarization of the Asia-Pacific region is a result of past U.S. nuclear tests, the current French nuclear testing, and the American, Soviet and Chinese missile testing in the Pacific, as well as the existence of military installations and bases (about 500), for example in South Korea, the Philippines, Japan, Okinawa, and Guam.

300,000 out of 700,000 citizens of East Timor and West Irian have been killed by Indonesia since 1975. The U.S. has provided assistance to Indonesia since 1965.

We draw attention to U.S. pressure to overturn Belau's (Micronesia) unprecedented 1970 anti-nuclear Constitution with the intention of creating new bases on this island. U.S. contingency plans exist to militarize a string of islands (Guam, Saipan, Tinian, Rota and Belau), known as the "fallback arc" to replace the possible loss of the Philippine bases.

The historical and global economic shift from the Atlantic to the Pacific, is largely due to the need for cheap labour, raw materials, new markets, and lack of environmental restrictions. It is well known that the tuna industry in the Pacific provides 700 million dollars a year to the U.S., Japan, Taiwan, South Korea and Philippine tuna companies. None of this remains in the Pacific.

Increased exploitation by trans-national corporations, as for example the de-forestation by timber industries and the use of toxic chemicals which depletes natural resources, is a source of great concern. All of this further impoverishes and perpetuates the economic dependency of the indigenous people of the Pacific.

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In the Pacific region, the island people face serious threats from the following factors:

- Previous U.S. nuclear testing and current French nuclear testing, and the depletion of vital marine resources by foreign fishing fleets.
- Other harmful influences on the environment include de-forestation, proposals to store hazardous wastes, including nuclear waste and other toxic substances.
- Cigaretta (fish poisoning).
- Monoculture (single crop agriculture that depletes soil nutrients).
- Deep sea mineral mining should be carried out only under the U.N. Convention on the Law of the Sea and due regard to the conservation of the environment.

Nuclear tests and other forms of militarism, economic exploitation, cause forced migration. At the same time there is an increase of adverse health effects, especially on women and children (including changes in diet, new diseases) and epidemic rates of youth suicide. Violence, particularly toward women in the form of rape and prostitution is prevalent. Foreign domination and militarization fosters patriarchal stereotypes, and has helped to create extensive political corruption in the Pacific.

The current destabilization practices by metropolitan powers (e.g., the U.S. and France), include trade union infiltration (e.g., Asian-American Free Labour Institute - AAFLI), CIA, U.S. Information Services, the DGSE (the French intelligence service), and media control by foreign-owned corporations.

In response to the history of foreign intervention in the Pacific, indigenous reaction has arisen in the form of the Nuclear-Free and Independent Pacific (NFIP) movement. This movement has pressured the member nations of the South Pacific Forum to create the South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone Treaty (SPNFZT), known regionally as the Treaty of Rarotonga.

ACTIONS

1. Demand that France immediately cease nuclear testing in the Pacific.
2. Urge the U.S., France, and the United Kingdom to sign the protocols of the Treaty of Rarotonga, following the example of the Soviet Union and China.
3. Appeal to all states to sign the Law of the Sea Treaty.
4. Support the proposal for a Zone of Peace, Freedom and Neutrality (ZOPFAN), which is being promoted by the Association of South-East Nations (ASEAN), as well as Gorbachev's proposals made in Vladivostok in 1986 and Kresnayarsk in 1987.
5. Support the Soviet proposal for the launching of an international space lab to monitor changes in environmental safety.

6. Maintain solidarity with the women of Belau (in Micronesia), the Philippine Women's Federation of Gabriella, and the other progressive women's organizations in the Pacific.
7. Participate in and support the WMS Anti-nuclear Pacific Policy Congress in January 1990 in Papua New Guinea.

V. MEDITERRANEAN

The Mediterranean Sea is a small semi-enclosed sea. At the same time, it is a microcosm of all the problems which face humanity. It is surrounded by 18 SOVEREIGN countries with widely differing cultures, political and religious beliefs.

Despite differences, the Mediterranean community has a long common heritage and common characteristics among its people.

Among problems afflicting the Mediterranean region the pollution of the marine environment occupies an important place. The sources of pollution are:

- a) land-based
- b) ship-borne
- c) mining and drilling seabed
- d) atmospheric pollution

Over 70% of the planet's surface is ocean and all of the pollution eventually ends up in these seas. The Mediterranean gets its fair share.

The consequences of pollution is aggravated by the fact that the waters of the Mediterranean basin take 80 years for their renewal. In addition the Mediterranean region is affected by two major factors:

Tourism (100 million a year now and a projection of 300 million by the year 2000).

It is the most heavily militarized body of water in the world.

We feel encouraged by the fact that 18 disparate countries have come together to form an effective working group, to implement the Mediterranean Action Plan, under the umbrella of the Barcelona Convention (1976).

The Mediterranean Action Plan was the first of eleven regional action plans (i.e., Kuwait, Caribbean, South West Pacific, etc.). It has halted the pollution process and in some cases has actually reduced it.

HELMEPA, an organization made up of Greek shipowners and unions of seamen and shippers, has mounted a successful training program to teach its people not to pollute the sea. This example could be followed in other countries, since education is needed to complement legislative action.

The example of the Mediterranean teaches us that new economic thinking is needed. The financial bottom line is no longer the measurement of success. At present, neither

socialist nor free market economies are able to cope with the interactions between environment and economics. therefore we must join to find a new synthesis between economy and ecology.

The unbreakable triangle of Disarmament, Environment and Development should be the new standard for decision-making to move this process forward. The protection of the environment is no longer a luxury, but a necessity.

ACTIONS

Recommend:

1. De-nuclearization of the Mediterranean Sea (in step with the Soviet recommendation) and the decrease in the tension between the U.S. and the U.S.S.R.
2. To fund the Mediterranean Action Plan for the next 10 years, we suggest a tourist assessment of \$1 to \$5 upon entry of the tourist into the region. The government of Egypt has had a similar assessment in effect since 1985, and it is successful.
3. Establish a Mediterranean Centre for Research and Development in marine industrial technology, on the basis of joint ventures between the public and private sector, with full participation of developing countries and with the participation of the World Bank and other international funding agencies, to facilitate this process.
4. Establish immediately a joint venture for research and development on fusion to ensure that it is for the use of all the people from the developing and industrialized countries, for peaceful purposes, on sound environmental principles.

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES FOR ALL ISSUES DISCUSSED IN THE PLATFORM

These environmental challenges must be met at every level: individual, local, national, and multinational. Effective international cooperation on a scale never before achieved will be required.

This could be accomplished through:

1. Education: The aim should be to create a fundamental change in the relationship between human beings and their environment.
2. Legislation: At the local and national level to provide the necessary incentives to preserve the environment and constraints to prevent the abuse of the environment.
3. Incorporating environmental objectives at a national level into all government agencies, to be coordinated and promoted by an appropriate institution (e.g. a ministry for the environment).

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Environmental concerns should be incorporated also into the programs of all agencies of the UN system and other international organizations and communities (particularly into the European Community and CMEA).

5. Individuals taking responsibility for the consequences of their lifestyles and actions, and for monitoring the policies and actions of their governments.

PARTICIPANTS

BELGIUM

1. Lorelei Kelly
Research Fellow, Watson Foundation

BULGARIA

2. Kapka Voutchkova
Member of the Commission of International Affairs
of the committee of Bulgarian Women
Ministry for Foreign Affairs

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

3. Stanislava Hybnerova
Professor of Law, Charles University
Czechoslovak Union of Women

FINLAND

4. Hilikka Pietila
Secretary General, Finnish Women for Peace
5. Leena Vatanen, Journalist

FRANCE

6. Cecile Goldet, Senator
7. Catherine Valabrègue, Journalist

GREAT BRITAIN

8. Irene Ridge
Department of Biology,
The Open University Milton Keynes
9. Elisabeth Mann-Borgese, President
International Ocean Institute

WEST GERMANY

10. Dr. Susanne Meyer, Journalist

HUNGARY

11. Eva Szilagyi
Foreign Editor of the Women's Weekly "Nők Lapja"

12
KENYA
Phoebe Asiyo, W.W.P.P.

13. Emily Onyango, Journalist

NORWAY
14. Ane Høgl, Socialist Left

PHILIPPINES
15. Patricia Sutter, Journalist/Writer

SWEDEN
16. Ulla Loven
Peace Activist, Women for Peace

U.S.S.R.
17. Elena Kamenetskaya
Senior Research Worker, Institute of State and Law
Academy of Sciences Candidate of Science (Law)

18. Olga Romashko
Leading Scientific Worker, Institute of Biophysics
Ministry of Health, Doctor of Medicine

19. Olga Sakharova
Scientific Worker
Scientific Research Institute of Industrial Hygiene
and Occupational Diseases, Academy of Medical Sciences

U.S.A.
20. Richard Heede
Rocky Mountain Institute

21. Susan Hassol
IRT Publications, Associate Editor
Windstar Foundation

22. Glenn Alcalay
Anthropologist/Researcher

23. Lenora Focrstel
Cultural Historian, Board of WMS

24. Ruth Salinger
President, Dana Mclean Greeley Foundation
Board Member of WMS/USA

25. Warren Salinger
Executive Director, Dana Mclean Greeley Foundation

26. Cory Atkins
Member of WMS/USA
Wife of Congressman Chester Atkins

YUGOSLAVIA
Ljubica Stanimirovic
Member of the Presidency of the Yugoslav League of Peace
Member of the Council SR Supreme Serbia

28. Slavenka Drakulic-Ilic
Sociologist, Newspaperwoman

ORGANIZATIONS

- W.I.D.F.
29. Mirjam-Vive Tuominen
General Secretary WIDF

UNIDO
30. Keiki Fugita
Director, Technology Division

31. Sonia Maltezos
Scientific Adviser and Coordinator
Environment Programme
Industrial Technology Promotion Division

GREECE

32. Margarita Papandreou
Global Network Co-ordinator,
Women for a Meaningful Summit

33. Nikos Antoniou
34. Chryssanthi Laïou-Antoniou
35. Aliki Antypa
36. Anna Atlidaki
37. Panayotis Christodoulakis
38. Ioanna Cribeni
39. Yolanda Damianou
40. Eleni Gamaris
41. Nikos Kessarais
42. Yota Kyriakou
43. Irene Laganis
44. Katerina Maria
45. Nikos Papandreou
46. Rania Paschou
47. Thanassis Platias
48. Maria Polychroniou
49. Lila Stavridou
50. Ellie Sirmopoulou
51. Panayota Vlachava
52. Irini Zachariou
53. Eleni Z...