

## **The Arosa Declaration**

Third WSF World Spirit Forum: Collaboration in Consciousness  
22-25 January 2006 - Arosa (Switzerland)

### **Preamble:**

#### **Background for the Arosa Declaration**

The Third World Spirit Forum built further on the considerable momentum inspired by the two prior annual meetings in Arosa, and reached a high plateau in what is more clearly recognizable now as a rapidly growing worldwide movement. This movement towards a higher form of sustainable global culture is based upon an awakened global consciousness and spirituality.

Recognizing this sense of an emergent "global consciousness and spirituality movement," the Third World Spirit Forum focused its creative energy on ushering in a spiritual renaissance. We face a growing, urgent planetary crises now challenging and threatening our collective sustainability as we enter the 21st Century.

After deep deliberations, stirring presentations and searching dialogues there emerged a certain consensus affirming that there was, indeed, urgent need for an appropriate open and inclusive global forum at this moment in our cultural evolution to foster, gather, grow, network and amplify this awakening consciousness as a powerful transforming force for the common good in today's global world. This historic gathering ended on a high note of affirmation. The Third World Spirit Forum, serving this vital role at this time, made specific suggestions and recommendations to help advance the potential of the WSF, and embraced the **Arosa Declaration** (below) which seeks to capture the spirit of this affirmation and commitment.

#### **An Historic Advance toward Global Spirituality**

The continuing, intense dialogue on the vital importance of awakened global spirituality for cultural sustainability and human flourishing recognizes, of course, that there is no simple or easy definition of "spirituality" in this global context; and perhaps none is possible, or even desirable. Many participants would agree that spirituality is a dynamic process of consciousness which brings us into deeper touch with our whole selves, with one another, with our diverse ecologies, the earth and our wider cosmos. A signature of this global spirituality is an ever-deepening experience of inter-connectivity, even communion, as a unified force field with all life and all existence transcending all boundaries of localized

worldviews, ideologies, or forms of religious life, which separate us from our natural connectivity.

There was a keen awareness among the WSF participants that a focus on "spirit" and "spirituality" can be a real barrier in communicating to people across the planet who may confuse it with "religion", "spiritualism" or "utopian thinking"; or who live in a worldview in which "spirituality" or "consciousness" can make no real difference in seriously addressing the urgent crises and tangible challenges that loom before us in our human condition and threaten our sustainability on this planet.

Indeed, this growing awareness is precisely what is fuelling the great and unprecedented cultural awakening and spiritual renaissance that is now igniting on a global scale in the lives of people across the planet.

It is not surprising, then, that this emergence of spirituality on a global scale is an evolutionary development of the highest importance upon which our very sustainability depends. The World Spirit Forum sees itself as opening and providing an ongoing venue to help facilitate, foster and accelerate this unprecedented evolutionary movement and human renaissance in the 21st Century.

## **Overview of Proceedings: Prelude to The Arosa Declaration**

### **Organizing Theme: Collaboration in Consciousness**

This historic gathering, in a sense, sought to convene a certain "microcosm" that reflected diverse strands, interests, constituencies and dimensions of cultural life. The welcoming cover letter from President Sesto Giovanni Castagnoli set the overall focus and tone of this gathering: "This year's Forum brings together the Club of Budapest's World Wisdom Council (WWC) with the first World Spirit Youth Council (WSYC), which has been installed at the Third World Spirit Forum 2005 with support of the Children of the Earth Foundation (CoE). Together with delegates from spiritual organizations and other participants, we will take part in a meaningful dialogue to prepare for the future."

In keeping with the spirit of the theme of the Third World Spirit Forum, "Collaboration in Consciousness," 120 international participants including members of the World Wisdom Council of the Club of Budapest, The World Spirit Youth Council, members of spiritual organizations and interested individuals from business and society (WSF Friends) came together in the beautiful town of Arosa, in the Swiss Alps.

## **The Arosa Declaration**

We, the participants of the Third World Spirit Forum in Arosa, hereby declare and resolve:

### **Whereas:**

In recognition of the fact that we are currently in the midst of a great evolutionary shift in our maturation as human beings in the awakening of an integral global consciousness and spirituality on a mass scale across our planet;

That this maturation of global consciousness is deeply grounded in the spectrum of our diverse wisdom teachings on a planetary scale through the ages and thus has been millennia in the making;

That this collective wisdom teaches that mentality matters, that how we conduct our consciousness is of supreme importance in the quality of our lives, and that our living realities directly result from our mental conduct and patterns of consciousness;

That this global wisdom also reveals that egocentric patterns of consciousness which separate, fragment, polarize and alienate us across boundaries and artificial barriers are a primary cause of diverse individual and collective dysfunctions and human pathologies across our cultures and worlds;

That our maturation beyond such fragmenting patterns of ego-based cultures to more integrative, holistic and dialogic patterns of consciousness lifts us to more humane, healthful, harmonious and sustainable patterns of life in which we may all flourish together;

That the current state of our planet is a direct cumulative result of our individual and collective mental habits and practices, and thus the diverse urgent crises facing humanity today which threaten our survival and sustainability are directly rooted in such chronic ego-based patterns;

That this global consciousness makes clear that the most powerful and comprehensive way to change our human condition, to reverse these destructive patterns and bring us to a higher form of sustainable culture is to foster the awakening of this global spirituality which brings us more deeply in touch with our whole selves, with each other, with the fabric of all life and with Nature;

That we further recognize as we enter the 21st Century that humanity is stirring across the planet in unprecedented proportions, as more and more people are awakening through this global consciousness in response to the great challenges before us, and thus a mass consciousness movement is now imminent, calling for our priority attention;

That in meeting this evolutionary moment in which our future sustainability is at risk, we recognize it is of the highest importance now for us to join in common cause to open inclusive, global, intentional spaces to nurture the growth of self-organizing networks of awakening individuals and organizations working in solidarity through a collaboration of consciousness to assist our cultures in this great transition...

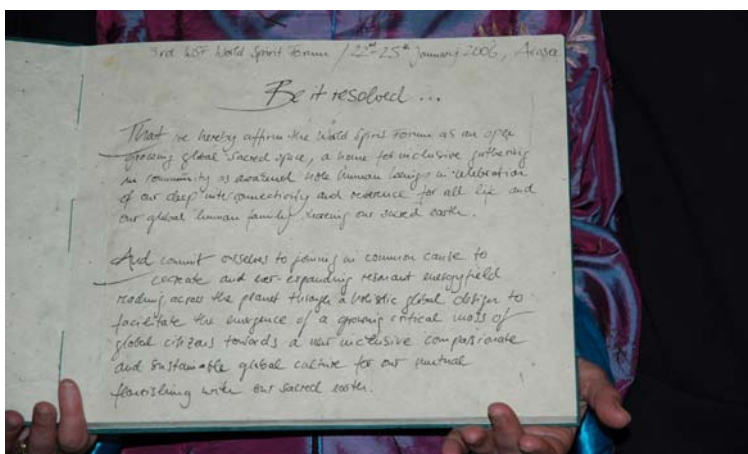
**Be it resolved:**

That we hereby affirm the WSF World Spirit Forum as an open growing global sacred space, a home for inclusive gathering in community as awakened whole human beings in celebration of our deep interconnectivity and reverence for all life and our global human family sharing our sacred earth and the cosmos;

And hereby commit ourselves to joining in common cause to co-create an ever-expanding resonant energy field reaching across our planet through a holistic global design to facilitate the emergence of a growing critical mass of global citizens towards a new inclusive, compassionate and sustainable global culture for our mutual flourishing with our sacred earth and the cosmos.

**Signed:** Participants of the Third World Spirit Forum

*(This "Be it resolved" portion was read at our concluding session, hand written into our signature book which most participants signed)*



*The Arosa Declaration is considering the ideas of the participants of the 3<sup>rd</sup> WSF World Spirit Forum 2006 and has been adapted from the Arosa Declaration Drafting Team:*

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**Appendices:**

*The following documents are hereby fully incorporated into this Arosa Declaration as integral supplements:*

1. The World Parliament of Spirituality: The Arosa Declaration (Summary/Preamble)
2. Cover Letter of WSF President Sesto Giovanni Castagnoli: Welcoming all participants of the Third WSF World Spirit Forum and setting the overall focus and tone of the Forum.
3. The program of the Third WSF World Spirit Forum
4. WSF Collaboration in Consciousness - The World Parliament of Spirituality (general statement)
5. "Transcending the Boundaries, A Reflection on the Third World Spirit Forum" by Diane Williams
6. Four submissions from leaders/members of the World Spirit Youth Council:  
"A New Breed of Activist" by Oran Cohen  
"Perspective on the World Spirit Youth Council" by Jacqueline Furtado  
"Youth and Spirituality" by Sammy Jacobs Abbey  
"Foreword" from his forthcoming book by Joshua Groman
7. "Tokyo Declaration" and List of Members of the World Wisdom Council