

THE CHAIRMAN
ALEXANDER KING

November 7, 1977

Dr Elizabeth Mann Borgese,
Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions,
P.O.Box 4716,
Santa Barbara,
California 93013
USA.

Dear Elizabeth,

I have just received your letter of October 31, with its invitation to participate in the Mexico meeting of Pacem in Maribus. Very unfortunately there is no possibility for me to be there. I shall be in the United States for the next few weeks, but have to return for the Club of Rome meeting on Science and Technology at Barcelona where I am giving the introductory paper, at the beginning of december.

Your agenda looks very interesting and I hope that the meeting will be a great success.


I was very sorry that you were unable to come to the Stockholm meetings. They were rather effective. The ministerial meeting was on a rather low key, with few fanfares, but the discussion was serious and may have some useful follows up. The Club meeting was excellent and discussion free and frank. It was very necessary as the first occasion for a long time for the members to have time for real and informal discussion. The IFIAS seminar on contemporary problems which preceded the Club of Rome meetings was quite magnificent.

I was particularly sorry that you were not there, because I wanted to give you my reactions to your chapter on fish farming. I thought that this was excellent - very interestingly written yet full of real and easily digested information. If this is a representative sample of the quality of your book, it should be terrific.

I am very much occupied at the moment with the problems of the 1979 UN Conference on Science and Technology for development. This is going terribly badly and all the original ideas of Ritchie and myself have been betrayed. It looks as it will be a dialogue des sourdes, between science administrators of the industrialized countries and third level diplomats of the third world. With Maurice Strong I am considering the possibility of organizing a conference of the scientific community some months before the UN meeting, but with practically the same agenda to see whether it could generate an honest discussion of the real problems of science and development and to demonstrate a real concern on the part of the non-official scientists. But it is an up ill job.

I am to be at Brandeis University in Massachusetts from January thru May of 1978, giving a course of 24 lectures on the State of the Planet. Would you be able to give one talk in this series on the ocean problems?

yours ever,


Alexander King



UNIVERSITÉ DE MONTRÉAL

26th February 1979.

M^{rs} Elyzabeth Mann Borgese,
Dept. of Political Sciences,
Dalhousie University,
Halifax N.S.

Dear Elyzabeth,

As you will know from Jesus Munes, there is a proposal to organize a major meeting on the oceans in a long-term socio-economic context at Palma next September under the patronage of Juan Carlos and Munes, whose organization is a member of IFIAS wants our joint sponsorship, especially as continuing activities are envisaged.

The IFIAS Executive Committee is meeting next month in Toronto and Ottawa (to suit my convenience) and this question will be discussed in Ottawa at the office of the Science Council of Canada, ~~100 Metcalfe St.~~ 150 Kent Street on Wednesday March 14th. Munes and Aurelio (who will also be there) are particularly anxious that you should be present and I very much hope that this will be possible for you. Others present will be Paul Fge, Walter Roberts, Tom Odrumbo of Kenya and Shreekantam, the director of the Tata Institute of Bombay. The discussion will look well beyond the Palma meeting and your enthusiasm and experience are essential to us. Please do try to come.

Please excuse this handwritten letter. As a visiting professor here,
my access to typewriters is spasmodic.

I was in Halifax in October and actually gave
a lecture at Dalhousie of the Institute of Public Administration
of Canada. I made enquiries as to how to get in touch
with you but you were apparently absent.

I hope to see you in Ottawa.

Yours

Alex

Alexander King

IFIAS

September 12, 1983

THE CHAIRMAN
Alexander King

Professor Elisabeth Mann Borgese,
Department of Political Science,
Dalhousie University,
Halifax, N.S. B3H 4H6
Canada.

Dear Elisabeth,

I have just returned to Paris and found your letter and kind invitation, which, by some accident had not been forwarded with my other mail to my place in the Midi. I am terribly sorry, therefore to have been so long in replying. I sent you a cable today declining the invitation, which I did with very much regret, both because I would like to support you and because I am deeply concerned with the subject you allotted to me. Unfortunately I am already completely committed for the days of your meeting. The previous week is that of the annual meeting of IFIAS (which Paul Fye will be attending) and I have to go immediately after that to lead a discussion on the impact of microelectronics on society at Barcelona. As the meeting is built around my introduction to that topic in the report to the Club of Rome, "For Better or for Worse", I cannot possibly withdraw. Otherwise I would certainly have come to Pachem in Maribus XII. I feel sure from the programme that it will be a great success and you have my best wishes.

As you say, it is now a long time since we have met. I was very sad about the collapse of the RIO Foundation. I spoke to Jan van Ettinger the other day and was glad to know that he has at last found another job. It is some sort of consulting business which he has bought himself into as a partner.

We had a meeting of the Executive committee of the Club of Rome here yesterday. Aurelio was in good form, although he is showing signs of age. The Club is very active at the moment, with lots of new projects. We look forward very much to receiving your manuscript on the future of the oceans. One interesting development is the creation of a Polish Association for the Club in Warsaw, agreed between the church and the party to provide a non-political forum for the discussion of their problems within the perspective of the problematique.

Our book on microelectronics has been a success and is going into print in 14 languages including those of most of the East European countries. I have been busy mainly on an alternative (regionalized) approach to world development as the North/South approach seems to be in impasse. I have also tried to integrate the approach of the Club to the Peace problems and you may have seen my paper on that. I am trying to withdraw from the Chairmanship of IFIAS which I have held for ten years and is becoming too heavy a burden. We recently has an interesting seminar in New York State, led by Victor Urquidi on what is wrong with the world's economy and what is wrong with economics in its impotence in attacking it. Louis Emerij was one of the participants - as wild and as stimulating as ever.

I do hope that our paths cross again soon.

with every good wish,

yours affectionately,

Alex
Alexander King

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STOCKHOLM COLLOQUIUM ON WORLD SITUATIONS AND PROSPECTS

(The Grand Hotel, Saltsjöbaden, Tuesday 27 afternoon and Wednesday 28 Sep. 1977)

Note on the Programme

- The purpose of the Colloquium is to review in an objective manner the condition and prospects of the Human Family at this stage of its evolution.

Although in-depth analyses of all relevant factors are not possible on this occasion, sufficient elements exist on the overall situations and trends for the Participants to draw responsible conclusions on the extreme alternatives opening up before mankind--for good or for evil.

- Many members of The Club of Rome are convinced that the present course of events is leading to ever more serious crises and eventually to disaster. This outcome is inevitable if, in our age of critical and vital interdependencies, quick change and complex choice, the human system continues to be torn apart by intolerable inequalities, outdated rivalries and mutual mistrust. Under these conditions, the immense patrimony of knowledge, information, material means and human resources now available is largely wasted, if not applied to globally negative ends.

A supreme effort must therefore be made by concerted action of all peoples and nations to change this course and set mankind firmly on a new, saner and safer direction.

The Club of Rome believes that this is still possible and hopes that the Stockholm Colloquium will mobilize fresh forces to this effect.

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- It is proposed that the First Session (Tuesday 27 September afternoon) be devoted to an illustration by Club of Rome members of the background papers and other issues relevant in their opinion for the next day's discussion.
 - During the evening, the Demonstration of the Mesarovic-Pestel techniques--designed to permit decision makers as well as citizens to assess the validity and/or consequences of policies in a world made difficult, as mentioned, by complexity, change and interdependence--is intended as a further preparation for the discussion.
 - The format and substance of this during the Second and Third Sessions (Wednesday 28 September morning and afternoon) will then be decided by the Participants themselves, so as to make the Colloquium as meaningful and fruitful as possible.

GUIDELINES FOR THE FUTURE

- Having reached an advanced stage of evolution, it is urgent for mankind to overcome the current period of generalized crises--which threaten its very survival--by abiding to an ethic consonant with the unprecedented position of power it has reached on the planet. A foundation of this ethic is the responsibility vested in all individuals, peoples and nations to strive for the common good and future of mankind in proportion to their capacity, wealth and power.
- The recognition by the world community of this overarching necessity is a political, psychological and indeed cultural prerequisite not only for controlling otherwise inevitable downtrends but also for clearing the road for further evolution.
- In their own enlightened interest, the more developed countries should be in the forefront of such a movement. One of the major contributions by the Western nations would be the adoption of lifestyles in harmony with global equilibrium. This would no doubt require a modicum of austerity, which would however be imposed on them at any rate by constraints outside their control.
- The less developed countries should in turn seek patterns of development based as far as possible on self reliance and their cultural identity. In several of them, social justice should be a particularly important aim.

- Jointly, all countries should--over and above their ideological and political differences--agree on certain common global objectives to be attained stepwise within a limited number of years, using the UN system and all other machinery which might be required. The agenda should include:
 - Rapid and effective demilitarization of the world, starting by its denuclearization
 - Attack on extreme poverty and related ills, so that satisfaction of basic human needs be assured to all citizens
 - Reform of the international systems, both political and economic, with a view to fostering greater equality of opportunity for all human groups and careful management of the world environment and natural resources
 - Development and employment of the human potential, in order both to make good use of the manpower available and to increase the preparedness of man and society in response to, and possibly in anticipation of, change
 - Adoption of coordination and planning at regional and global levels in all fields where separate policies could be detrimental for the common good now or in the future
 - Involvement of world public opinion in the discussion, adoption and implementation of these and other guidelines for the future.

- A special plea should be made to the strongest nations fully to support, by their example and by their immense means, the hope of hundreds of millions of people that this world can be made better for their children to live in.

THE CLUB OF ROME - National Associations and Groups

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- THE CLUB OF ROME FINNISH GROUP
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- FOUNDATION 'CLUB VAN ROME NEDERLAND'
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NEW ZEALAND CLUB OF ROME

Contact: J. L. Robinson, Department of Scientific and Industrial
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