

Maurice Guernier

7, AVENUE DE LA BOURDONNAIS . 75007 PARIS

Paris, le 3 Février 1977

Aurelio,

Voici quelques idées que je t'avais promis d'écrire sur les prochaines tactiques du COR :

1 - Le Club de Rome doit-il "se retirer sur l'Aventin" ?

comme le suggère Robert LATTES .

Ma réponse est NON.

D'abord, parce qu'il serait déloyal, vis à vis de tous les hommes et de toutes les femmes dont nous avons soulevé l'enthousiasme dans le monde entier, d'abandonner.

Ensuite, parce qu'il serait indigne d'abandonner vis-à-vis de tous ceux qui nous critiquent et nous combattent. Ce serait accrédi-ter leur thèse.

Enfin, il nous faut convaincre sans cesse d'avantage l'opinion mondiale et les Chefs d'Etat qui sont encore loin d'être convaincus.

2 - Faut-il rester une opération informelle, ou bien nous organiser et nous structurer ?

Là également ma réponse est sans nuance : il faut rester informel.

Il faut essayer de tenir aussi longtemps que tu pourras ce système de secrétariat.

Car tout autre système coûtera - de toutes façons - 100.000 à 200.000 \$ et nous ne trouverons jamais ce financement pour une bureaucratie, alors qu'on peut trouver beaucoup plus pour des études.

Pourquoi alors ne pas demander sur toutes les études une contribution de 5% par exemple comme remboursement de frais au COR? C'est à étudier.

3 - Nombre de membres actifs

Il faut maintenir le chiffre de 100 membres actifs.

Il frappe l'opinion.. qui en déduit que c'est une élite!

On imagine 100 sages se réunissant pour réfléchir au destin du Monde...

500 membres ne feraient pas sérieux et coûterait trop cher à réunir.

La qualité de membre actif est factuelle : ceux qui ne viennent pas à deux Assemblées consécutives, deviennent ipso facto membres associés. S'ils viennent ensuite, et à leur demande, à deux Assemblées, ils retrouvent leur capacité de membre actif. Tous les ans le Comité Exécutif établit la liste des actifs automatiquement d'après leurs présences, et la liste des associés.

Cette procédure simple permettrait d'appeler de nouveaux membres actifs de l'extérieur.

En particulier :

il faudrait 4 Arabes au lieu de 1
6 Africains au lieu de 4
8 des pays de l'Est...au lieu de 5
et augmenter les Asiatiques.

Enfin, il faudrait des jeunes de 30 à 40 ans.

Parmi les Arabes : El Manjra, Abdel Rahman, Sabri Abdallah, Jaroudy, Ayari, Jazairy sont des candidatures à étudier.

En France, il faudrait envisager Cousteau, Leprince-Ringuet, par exemple.

- 4 - Depuis longtemps, je pense que le monde a essentiellement besoin d'un "Conseil de Sages". Les grands hommes ont disparu : Churchill, de Gaulle, Mao, Nehru.. Les hommes de toutes les latitudes ont besoin de sages qui fassent le point et qui tracent la route...

C'est évidemment très prétentieux de le dire, et nous ne pouvons le dire qu'entre nous : le Club de Rome est la seule organisation qui peut jouer ce rôle ... sans le dire... Mais en s'imposant à l'opinion publique et aux decision-makers.

Nous avons déjà un crédit énorme, nous avons 100 membres du monde entier, de toutes les cultures, de toutes les philosophies... nous sommes les mieux placés. Il faut marcher dans ce sens.

- 5 - Que faire dans ce sens ?

Publier chaque année une sorte d'examen de conscience sur la situation du monde, et présenter des suggestions pour l'avenir.

C'est ce que je propose dans le :

"MEMORANDUM SUR LA SITUATION DU MONDE EN 1977"

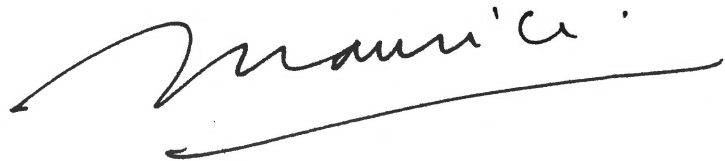
Ce document est une première rédaction rédigée comme un croquis. Il faudra le perfectionner 10 fois pour arriver au document final.

Ce document serait présenté à la presse mondiale à une date et une heure précise. Des accords seraient pris avec les grands journaux pour publication en première page etc... présentations et discussions devant des T.V.

Personne ne lira les 500 pages de RIO. On peut penser que 50 millions de lecteurs et peut-être beaucoup plus connaîtront, par la presse et la TV, le Memorandum. Cela pourrait être une tâche régulière du COR. Pour le premier Memorandum on pourrait le signer à 2 ou 3 membres du Club. Ensuite, on demandera aux autres ce qu'ils en pensent et comment en faire un document du Club de Rome.

Voilà mes idées sur le Club.

Bien à toi,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Maurice', written in black ink on a white background. The signature is fluid and somewhat stylized, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Rome, 16 February 1978

TO ALL CLUB MEMBERS AND NATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Dear Friends,

CoR Meeting in Rome, 13-15 July 1978
(10 years after CoR's formation)

After consultation with some CoR Members and Associations, it was agreed that it is opportune to mark the 10th anniversary of CoR's formation with a brainstorming meeting in Rome to review and discuss the state of affairs in the world, as well as in CoR, and possibly establish some guidelines for the latter's activity in the near future. It is felt that this should be mainly a meeting of CoR Associations, of course with the participation also of a certain number of CoR Members from areas where there is as yet no Association.

In this optic, the following arrangements have been made.

1. Dates: Thursday 13 to Saturday 15 July, with six Sessions (morning and afternoon on each day). Participants should therefore arrive in Rome on Wednesday 12 and will be free to leave as from the morning of Sunday 16.
2. Location: The meeting will take place at the Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei, Via della Lungara 10, telephone 65 08 31.

It has not been easy to make the pertinent arrangements, because the Academy has adopted the rule that only meetings organized by the Academy itself will be held on its premises. We insisted, because these are simply magnificent and inspiring, definitely appropriate for the CoR decennial meeting--and indeed the place where it all started. Finally, we came to the following agreements:

- = Thursday 13 July will be a joint meeting of the Academy and CoR in the main building (Palazzo Corsini). In the Academy's tradition of the great occasions, the event will be somewhat solemn, with the presence of many of its own Members, dignitaries, Ambassadors, etc.
- = Since the first day will be very official, there will be some speeches on subjects of general interest. Each presentation (some 30 minutes) will be followed by a brief discussion. I will

propose that we should make three presentations (by one European, one American, and one Third World) and that the Academy should make two. Details will be defined as soon as possible. Languages will be English and Italian (with simultaneous translation).

= During the following two days (Friday 14 and Saturday 15), CoR will have its internal meeting (in a dépendance in the gardens). I propose that each Association (those which are ready for it) should expound on one project and/or activity they are developing or considering, that the CoR projects under way or consideration should also be outlined, and that each presentation should be followed by a short discussion. After this project-by-project review, a more general exchange of views (supplementing that initiated in Stockholm) should be held on the alternatives and options open for the CoR activity in the years to come.

3. Participants: The Associations invited are indicated below, with the number of their members we understand they intend to send to Rome shown in brackets. It is however clear that they are free to change these numbers:

= The CoR Japanese Group (2-3)
 = The Canadian Association for the CoR (4-5)
 = The U. S. Association for the CoR (5-6)
 = Australian CoR (1-2)
 = Capítulo Español del Club de Roma (4-6)
 = The Belgian Section of the CoR (1-2)
 = The CoR Swiss Group (2-3)
 = The CoR Finnish Group (1-2)
 = Foundation 'Club van Rome Nederland' (1-2)
 = New Zealand CoR (1)

In principle, apart from the CoR Members indicated by the Associations themselves, no others are expected to come from the areas where there are CoR Associations. However, also this rule is quite flexible and, if there are other CoR Members who want to join the meeting, they are welcome provided that they inform this office at the latest by 15 April.

There are however areas where there is not a CoR Association. For them, I would propose the following solution (though Members who think that this can be improved or who have different ideas could let me know by 15 March):

= 2 Members should be invited from Latin America: Víctor Urquidi is asked to act as 'organizer' of this group, contacting the other colleagues of the area and, in agreement with them, suggesting the two names.
 = 2-3 ditto from Northern Europe (except Finland): Sam Nilsson is asked to act as above.

- = 1 from U.K.: Alex King, ditto.
- = 2 from Germany: Eduard Pestel, ditto.
- = 3 from France: Maurice Guernier, ditto.
- = 4-5 from Italy: myself, ditto.
- = 3 from Eastern Europe: myself, ditto.
- = 1 from Austria: myself, ditto.
- = 4 from Africa and the Middle East: myself, ditto.
- = 1 from Asia (except Japan): myself, ditto.

The total participants as per the figures listed above range from 45 to 57.

4. Travelling costs: As already indicated to the Associations and Members with whom we have been in contact, there is no possibility of CoR defraying travelling expenses. These will have to be borne by the Associations themselves and by the individual Members invited or willing to attend. In the case, however, of Members who are invited to attend but are not in a position to take care of their own ticket, the possibility of a refund will be examined--if we can find some financial help from somewhere. The 'organizer' Members indicated above are asked kindly to explore the possibility of finding travel cost support locally and to let us know as soon as possible both the name of the suggested participants and whether their airticket cost can be covered locally.
5. Hospitality: CoR, although by definition a non-organization with no budget and no financial means, will do the necessary hopefully to find funds to cover the hotel expenses for all the participants who are not in a position to take care of them personally. Details about logistics in Rome, hotels, etc., will be communicated to participants later on. In the meantime, the participants who will be accompanied by other persons or have special requirements, should let us know as soon as possible, because hotel accommodation in Rome in the month of July is always a problem.
6. Programme: More indications on the agenda (besides the cursory outline of point 2) will be given to participants as soon as possible. Associations taking part in the meeting as well as Members, both attending it or not, are kindly asked to make suggestions.

Looking forward to hearing from you I am,

Yours cordially,


Aurelio Peccei

cc: Associate Members

Rome, 2 November 1977

TO ALL CLUB MEMBERS

Dear Fellow Member,

This letter is intended particularly for those of you who were unable to attend the 29-30 September CoR internal meeting in Stockholm. The actual number of participants was 34. I have to apologize with those who wished to go to Stockholm but could not fund the cost of their own ticket. Unfortunately neither our Swedish hosts, nor of course we ourselves as CoR, were in a position to provide travel assistance, and it was only at the very last moment that the Swedish CoR Members were able to get even a small amount of financial support from local sources.

A 'Summary Analysis of the Views of the Members' as expressed in their answers to our 4 March circular letter was prepared by Alex King and Victor Urquidi as a basis for discussion in Stockholm. I am enclosing a copy of this for those who were not at the meeting. The ensuing discussion substantially confirmed the views expressed. Hugo Thiemann and Maurice Guernier had also undertaken to examine Members' answers on matters of organization and financing. The conclusions reached in Stockholm are reported herebelow.

1. Highlights of 1977 (Continuation)

Let me now review rapidly the CoR events which have occurred since the March circular. Three important meetings have taken place: in Moscow (30 August-2 September), Stockholm (27-28 September, followed by the 29-30 CoR internal meeting), and The Woodlands, near Houston (2-4 October).

The Moscow meeting was organized by the State Committee for Science and Technology in conjunction with the Academy of Sciences, with the participation of more than 100 top scientists, including a dozen full Academicians and the directors of several important institutes in various branches of science, the economy, and social studies. Names that many of you probably know are G.A. Arbatov, V.A. Engelhardt, E.K. Fedorov, P.N. Fedosseev, J.M. Gvishiani, Y.A. Israel, L.V. Kantorovich, P.L. Kapitsa, M.M. Maksimova, Y.A. Ovchinnicov, M.A. Styricovich, and V.A. Vinogradov. On our side, there were ten CoR Members.

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The programme was centred around the purpose, projects and postures of our group. These received the greatest attention of our hosts, who, as a body, discussed them with us for three full days, one of which was entirely devoted to demonstration and analysis of the Mesarovic-Pestel system. In our view the meeting was crowned with great success, and showed uncommon open-mindedness on the part of top representatives of Soviet thinking and their present eagerness to discuss the global problematique, as presented by CoR. A few small working groups were organized in unscheduled time or after meetings on specific subjects. We expect psychological and operational follow-ups after this event.

The Stockholm meeting of 27-28 September with senior statesmen and/or their personal representatives was attended, at our invitation, by the Swedish Prime Minister Thorbjörn Fälldin (host) and his Norwegian colleague Nordli, President Senghor of Senegal, and high personalities designated as their personal representatives by the Presidents of Algeria, Finland, Mexico, Rumania, Venezuela, the Chancellor of Austria, the Prime Ministers of Canada and Denmark, and the First Secretaries of Hungary and Poland. An approximately equal number of CoR Members took part in the meeting. Three background documents had been prepared, on 'New Roads to Peace', 'Mobilization of the Human Potential', and 'Which New World Economic Order?'. Those of you who would like to have them, please let us know.

The enclosed notes on the programme and 'Guidelines for the Future' (distributed but not discussed) will give an idea of how the discussion took place and of some of the views expressed. Many of us feel that compared with the similar meeting held in February 1974 in Salzburg, the political personalities at Stockholm showed greater awareness of the fact that mankind's general condition has grown tenser and more difficult and that there is an even more urgent need for joint efforts throughout the world, although it is yet unclear what should be done in practical terms. (Many colleagues think that this is what CoR should now be addressing its attention to). Some follow-ups, in the way of further contacts and activities are envisaged; we will keep you informed on developments.

The Woodlands Conference on 'Alternatives to Growth '77' (ATG '77) was held immediately after Stockholm. As you know, this initiative was jointly sponsored by CoR, the University of Houston, and the Mitchell Energy and Development Corporation.

It was in two parts: one was the Mitchell International Contest and Prize, for which an ad hoc Steering Committee was established; and the other was the Conference itself at The Woodlands, mainly an American event even if one-sixth of the participants were from abroad. As the Conference is the place where the prizes are normally awarded and a review of the best entries in the contest is made, there is an in-built linkage between the two. The 1977 Conference was interesting and provided a good meeting point. The best papers presented for the contest will be published very shortly in a volume, and those of you who are interested in procuring a copy may write either to Dennis Meadows (Research Program on Technology and Public Policy, Dartmouth College, Hanover, N.H. 03755, USA) or to this office. It is indeed opportune to maintain the ATG initiative for the whole duration initially considered (i. e. as a biennial event extending forward to 1979, 1981 and 1983) although it would be advisable to keep the two parts of it rather more separate; we discussed this in Houston.

The Barcelona meeting, initially scheduled for last July, was postponed to 1-3 December due to internal exigencies of the Spanish sponsoring organizations. The meeting, whose title is 'Science and Society', is shaping up well, with the participation of a dozen CoR Members, and a number of personalities who around the world are interested either in reappraising the role of science in society henceforth, or in discussing some specific points of science policy. We hope that this meeting will be useful from many aspects, as was the one held in Madrid last year; we will give you more information about it in the next circular letter at the beginning of next year. If any of you have any specific interests in this matter, please let us know.

Developments have also occurred in the activities of the CoR National Associations. The Spanish one is now legally established. It benefits from the participation of important personalities active in the most diverse walks of life, and has a top flight 'Junta Directiva'. This Association is co-sponsoring the Barcelona meeting.

The U. S. Association expanded its membership and stepped up its activity in such a way that CoR ideas and global vision are going to have a much wider resonance in many US quarters which have hitherto been relatively indifferent or skeptical. On 3 June a day-long public conference with more than 200 participants was convened by this Association in Washington on 'Alternative Views for the Future'. Having been able to attend, I can go on record as saying that this conference, too, was an important step forward. The U.S. Association issues a very interesting and complete newsletter every so often, as does the Canadian Association, which also

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has important initiatives for the future. We are enclosing an updated list of the CoR Associations and would very much like to encourage them to keep each other informed of their activities, the minimum basis for this being the exchange of their newsletters or other publications (of which we should also be pleased to receive copies). Will the colleagues mentioned in the annex see to it that this actually occurs henceforth? Thanks.

As to the projects under way, there is continuing wide interest, not to mention preparation and implementation activities concerning the Mesarovic-Pestel 'APT-system'. We hope to let you have a synoptical view of the developments and worldwide use of this tool in the near future. A meeting of the 'Learning' project leaders and a number of their consultants will be held in Madrid on 5-7 December. Research and reflections thereon are making good progress, but funding for the Western part, which should also support studies from LDCs, is still a largely unsolved question.

2. CoR Membership and Financing

On the basis of the Thiemann-Guernier review of Members' suggestions on CoR internal matters, attention in Stockholm was addressed to a number of points. CoR's objectives remain those defined so many years ago in the Statutes (showing that they are fairly well thought of), namely, in very broad terms, "to contribute to the understanding of the world problematique, awaken consciousness of the threat that lies in its growing complexity, diffuse results of studies and reflections and bring them to the attention of the public and decision makers with a view to helping world affairs to be conducted in a more rational and humane direction".

Some were inclined to have a more institutionalized CoR, but the general consensus was to leave it as an informal, non-structured organization of free people convinced that the CoR, and themselves as a part of it, can contribute, even if only modestly, to the betterment of the human condition at this juncture. It was recalled that Members can be Ordinary or Associate, and it was unanimously agreed that each Ordinary Member, after three years with the Club, should be invited by letter either to continue for another three-year period or, if he prefers, to become an Associate Member. Ordinary Members should feel a moral obligation to do something for CoR, or the National Associations to which they belong, but should be free to decide themselves what this contribution may be (it need not even remain the same over the long term), such as participating in meetings or projects, writing, lecturing, helping contact people or raising funds, or any other activity compatible with their position and occupations. Associate Members will

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receive the same information as Ordinary Members. Some of them may be very active in the National Associations, and would certainly be highly welcome as Ordinary CoR Members, too, if the 100-Member numerus clausus were not an impediment. All Ordinary Members with more than three years will now be receiving the abovementioned letter and are kindly requested to answer at their earliest convenience. (When pertinent, the letter is enclosed herewith).

Finally, the meeting considered the problem of fund raising, which is becoming ever more difficult due to the ferocious competition of many claimants (organizations, projects, programmes, meetings) at a time of economic difficulties, austerity and restrictions in which practically all possible donors find themselves.

The question of available and acceptable sources of funds for CoR operations was touched on in point D. 2 (pages 13 and 15) of the 4 March circular letter. In Stockholm it was decided to create a task force to deal with the question of fund raising, under the leadership of Hugo Thiemann and with the participation of George McGhee, Anton Eduard Pannenberg, and myself, with Nello Celio being invited to join.

3. New Activities

A number of suggestions have been advanced on projects or papers which CoR should sponsor or accept as contributions to its thinking. It is understood that, while CoR can encourage and support many initiatives in many possible ways, the imprimatur for the end product (as a 'Report, or Paper, to CoR') can be given only when ExCom has judged that this is worthy of being published this way.

Among the studies which have been suggested and are under consideration, are the following (provisional titles):

- = Victor Urquidi/Helio Jaguaribe: 'A Reappraisal of the World Problematique'
- = Orio Giarini: 'World Capital Requirements and Capital Formation'
- = Richard Eells: 'The Future of Private Enterprise' (possibly under the aegis of the U. S. Association)
- = W. R. Stadelman: 'Future Role of the Transnational Corporation' (possibly under the aegis of the Canadian Association and in connection with the previous project)
- = Jean Saint-Geours: 'Contribution by and Adaptation of DCs to NIEO'

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- = Robert Lattès: 'A Plethora of Studies on Energy: What Conclusions Can They Afford?'
- = André van Dam: 'Global Waste Management'
- = Manfred Siebker (already considered): 'Society in Transition'.

Most if not all of these topics are interesting. An advance outline is now required from the proponents in order to examine each project on its own merits, including those of the work teams, and to assess the possibility of funding them.

If you have any suggestion about these studies, please let us know it at your earliest convenience.

Looking forward to hearing from you I am, with best wishes,

All the best, ever!

Yours cordially,

Aurelio
Aurelio Peccei

cc: CoR National Associations
CoR Associate Members

Enclosures (in some cases under separate cover)

INSTITUT FÜR STATISTIK
AN DER UNIVERSITÄT WIEN

Annex 7

Univ.-Prof. Dr. Gerhart Bruckmann
A-1010 Wien, Rathausstraße 19

Telefon: Sekretariat 43 41 59
Assistenten 43 68 52

To
Dr. Aurelio PECCEI
The Club of Rome

Via Giorgione 163
I - 00147 ROMA

October
Wien am ~~November~~ 27, 1976

Dear Dr. Peccei,

In the informal meeting of the Club in Algier, the evening of the 27th, you have invited everybody to contribute ideas.

Upon this invitation, let me comment freely on how I, as a relative newcomer, see the image and the tasks of the Club.

As to the image: Everything critical that has been expressed during the meeting may be correct; but there remains one aspect that seems not to have received sufficient attention.

When a patient finds no cure for his disease in traditional medicine, he clings his last hope to some none-traditional healer. Wide parts of the public, in many countries, are now aware that national governments, political parties, industry and all other traditional institutions seem to be unable to cope with the predicament of mankind. They now attach their hopes to the Club of Rome, a none-institution, to help the world upon a better path.

We all know quite well how irrational this hope is; and yet, this role-expectation persists to an incredibly high degree. This hope, however, represents an immense responsibility for us.

It obliges us, first, not to dissolve. A dissolution of the Club would have a disastrous repercussion upon any attempts to foster long-term goals for mankind.

But it obliges us, furthermore, to remain active, in as many aspects as our limited forces may permit.

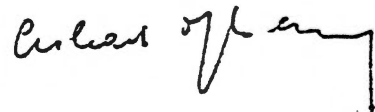
The projects proposed in Algier may have their merits, but they are more in the field of analysis than in the field of therapy. Of course, there must be analysis before therapy, but analysis is only fruitful if followed by therapy.

I could, therefore, envisage some project to follow thereafter, a project that will start out from the findings of RIO and of the Laszlo Reports, and incorporate these findings into the Pestel - Mesarovic - Model language. In a recent paper he gave at a IIASA-Conference, Millendorfer said it is not sufficient to speak of hard-variables and of soft variables; he showed ways how to incorporate what he called "very soft" variables: Family-health, crime rate, human satisfaction and the like.

But knowing that the world looks upon the Club as a miracle doctor, our obligation goes even further, namely to give hope to mankind, or, more correctly, our work must give mankind the confidence that it will never be too late to give up hope. It is in this sense that I am working on a book on solar energy, because solar energy represents the way out of one of the predicaments of mankind.

I hope very much that next time you come to Vienna I won't be out of town again. Looking forward to seeing you, I am

Very sincerely Yours,



P.S. This very moment I received the copy of your most flattering letter of recommendation to the Woodrow Wilson Institute.

Many thanks!

LEO MATES
SENJACKA 14
11040 Beograd
Yugoslavia

Annex 8

Belgrade, November 1. 1976.

Dear Aurelio,

I am writing you immediately after my return from the meeting in Algiers. I wish in this way to start the agreed procedure of exchanges between you and the members of the Club. I shall appreciate if you would circulate this letter to other Club members.

I believe that we have reached an important stage in our activities. The success of the meeting in Algiers has given us all great satisfaction, but I am worried about the future. The original effort to arouse people throughout the world was successful and has led to linking our own activities with those of governments. The general diagnosis, as imperfect as it was, of the Limits to Growth, is now transformed into an acceptable basis for the negotiations of states. We are no longer speaking of universal limits to economic growth, but of restraining or supporting certain activities of the governments of the world.

The Mesarović-Pestel model may be very useful in programming concretely actions and the planning of countries or groups of countries. The RIO project may well serve as a basis for negotiations between the North and the South, or at least advance the forging out such a basis. What may come out of these negotiations we do not know, since it will depend on many unforeseeable circumstances. We can, however, be sure that this outcome will be very limited.

The result of intergovernmental negotiations, even if we assume much more good will than is normally displayed in such cases, and certainly even more in comparison with the now prevailing attitude of most of the developing countries, the results will still change only incrementally the existing state of affairs. This pessimistic view is based on the inclination of governments to consider the negotiations, and for that matter almost all negotiations, as a Zero Sum Game. They are inclined, and even induced by the attitude of public opinion, to calculate only on established facts. Expected, or by the very governmental action induced change in patterns of behaviour, are regarded as uncertain and therefore unreliable elements. A Gain for All Game is therefore not acceptable.

In other words, we must understand and take into consideration the very simple truth that the type and magnitude of change which is required to pull humankind out of the present predicament, cannot be obtained merely and solely by governmental and/or intergovernmental action and negotiations. If nothing else, then the need for a substantial change in patterns of consumption in the developed world and changes in the modes and the efficiency of production in the less developed world, will be affected only peripherally by even a most radical and full implementation of RIO or other similar plans.

Because of all these considerations, I agree strongly with the views advanced during our informal meeting after dinner at the Hotel El Riadh in Algeria that we should not develop further RIO or try to pin our activities on its further evolution or development. But, at the same time I am convinced that we must not forget RIO and disregard the lesson which we can learn from this project.

After having explored the road that led us to RIO, we should return to our main and fundamental preoccupation with the general Problematique and use our experience and the results of RIO as a new input in the study of the general situation in the world.

I have not yet worked out in my mind a more elaborated and structured view of this approach and I hope that we all together can do that best and therefore I shall welcome comments to this idea and other ideas circulated through the Rome office, and in particular an opportunity to have a full debate of members at a future meeting.

Nevertheless, I firmly believe that we must look for a new approach to the problematique, an approach that would not be a continuation on the road which lead us to RIO, but in a new direction. Perhaps the best way of defining this new approach would be if somebody were to try to translate into quantitative terms possible effects of RIO. A series of scenarios could than be played through, using such a model. This would approximately give us insight into the main features of a world in which RIO is being carried out. In this way it should be possible to identify the limitations and shortcomings of inter-governmental actions. On the other side, this would help to identify the type of action and the direction of efforts needed to complement activities of governments.

Very tentatively, I should like to submit that it may be more important to define the changes in the patterns and habits of our daily life, than enacting many of the proposals contained in RIO. But, in this field, as in most others, selfevident courses of action may not prove to be also the most fruitful ones. A solid scientific approach is most needed in cases of great importance that appear to be simple and evident.

Along the same lines would be also a critical examination of the efficiency of the United Nations with the whole family of international organizations. This line of study may be taken as a parallel effort to the examination of the possible results of RIO, since RIO will have to depned greatly on the UN.

I am, of course, aware that the intergovernmental basis of RIO and of the United Nations is based on the fact of the nation states. I am also aware that we cannot conjure the nation state out of existence and with it the intergovernmental approach to problems of humankind. However, I do not accept the resigned attitude and the complacency of those who would not go beyond repeating the existence of the nation state, and who implicitly or explicitly wish us to accept its shortcomings as virtues. On the other hand, neither would I, nor do I wish the Club to merely repeat the annathema so often heard from confused well-wishers. We must go about it seriously and based on quantitative facts and analyses.

As an illustration of limited significance, I wish to point out that it appears from quantitative studies that the global income obtainable from mining the Seabed would in the following decades yield not more than some 3-4 % of the sum needed as transfer to the neediest nations and which is 10-12 thousand million Dollars. If this should turn out to be a correct calculation, much of the thinking and of expectations in this domain was poorly founded. By the way, this calculation was advanced by Mr La Que in the Algiers meeting of Pacem in Maribus, or more precisely at the RIO-PIM group over which I presided there.

In conclusion, I wish to give my views also in connection with the examination of various projects and their merits at the informal meeting in Algiers. We did not have time and energy to discuss these projects in the meeting, but I think that a discussion on the basis of short introductions would anyhow not led to meaningful conclusions. I know at least two of the proposed projects somewhat, but I wish to reserve my opinion on them here and in this context. I am doing so, because I believe that we must in the first place clarify our position in principle. This means that we must agree on a general course of action and define our task in the first place.

I do not think that we should convert the Club into a broker of scientific projects, not even as a side line of our activities. Our task must be first well defined, and then, if we need some scientific clarification or elaboration of some fundamental ideas, we should sponsor a project to this end and only to this end.

Briefly, our procedure must remain as it was earlier. We did define our preoccupation, we had a vision, and then we asked qualified people to help us grasp its full meaning, provided it is well founded. Projects which would not serve this purpose, namely the verification and elaboration of whatever may be our agreed purpose, should not be connected with the Club.

I submit this letter to you, Aurelio, and the members of the Club in the spirit of sharing thoughts and with the desire of re-establishing the intensity of communication which so regrettably was somewhat neglected lately. I shall be glad to hear reactions to this epistolary essay, essay in both senses of the word.

Yours, as ever,


Leo Mates