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QUESTIONNAIRE

on

**WORLD PROBLEMATIQUE**

and

**FUTURE DIRECTION**

for

file → **THE CLUB OF ROME**

**December, 1988**

## QUESTIONS:

1. How would you define world problematique - raison d'etre for the existence of The Club of Rome? How it evolved since the founding of the Club and what does it mean to you today?

2. What is the way (approach, methodology, process) to advance understanding of the world problematique? What are the activities (actions, projects) that the Club should conduct specifically toward that aim?

The broadest possible spectrum of approaches may be considered here: from databased and scientific exercises to humanistic and philosophical considerations. As a somewhat extreme illustration, Milan Kundera in his recent book, "The Art of the Novel", which explains the philosophy behind his bestseller, "Unbearable Lightness of Being" argues that the real task of the novelist is not to entertain, but to explore dimensions of human existence which other domains, such as psychology, sociology, hard sciences, etc., do not address. How much of the phenomenal success as well as historical significance of the Limits To Growth is due to its being a good novel (in the Kundera sense) and how much to being good science?

3. How do you think the world will evolve over the next 30 years, i.e. by the year 2020? The response to this question requires consideration of two items:

a. What is the process (path) by (through) which the world is evolving?

b. What is the state the world will be in by the year 2020?

This question is not posed as an exercise in "futorology"; rather it is simply posed as a challenge for "thinking through" or for being consistent.

In the discussions at the Paris meeting it has been argued that not one, but two or three alternative world situations by the year 2020 can readily be envisioned. While acknowledging that to be the case, it is suggested that one should have as few alternative scenarios as possible stating explicitly the basic underlying assumptions.

The view on world problematique espoused in (1) should be reflected in response to this question.

For the sake of specificity, it might be *advisable* in response to this question to refer, in addition to the global situation, to at least some (if not all) major geographic/political areas.

4. What suggestion on organization do you have that will help The Club to accomplish its mission?

CoR = 1<sup>st</sup>  
subsequent development  
Meigun & company  
Folly: agreement  
public journals  
interdependence  
d-d-E,

but more work to do  
to do...

- institutional  
impl. in  
"responsibility"  
the historical  
process

- About time to  
push it home

Change driven by a combination of ideology, economic, environmental factors, and technology

that development are accelerating

clearly a sense  
of urgency to be  
encouraged  
by those in the  
ow, it probably  
will be the process  
of distribution rather  
Nov 3 or 4

## Degree of Confidentiality of the Response

The degree of confidentiality of the response is solely determined by each member to suit his/her situation. Please indicate your choice in the table below by putting your initials in the line with the appropriate category.

*Complete Confidentiality* \_\_\_\_\_  
*Personal Confidentiality* \_\_\_\_\_  
*Non-Confidential* \_\_\_\_\_

*Complete Confidentiality* means that no reference to your name, background, profession, etc. will be made. I will personally open every response and will make sure that all references to name or any other possible indication of its source are completely removed.

*Personal Confidentiality* means that the response will not be used to identify you as respondent. However, in the overview of the results of the questionnaire activity the reference could be made, if appropriate, to general categories such as profession (economist, businessman, politician, professor, etc.) proximity to decision process in private and public sectors, educational background, etc.

*Non-Confidential* information will be used only judiciously, in a way which will not compromise the decisions of the members who have made other choices.