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Statement submitted by Institute for Planetary Synthesis, a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council

The Secretary-General has received the following statement, which is being circulated in accordance with paragraphs 30 and 31 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

* E/2011/100.



Statement*

Education for world stewardship for the benefit of all

There is a growing movement of people(s) attempting to come to grips with today's social and environmental crises by:

- Replacing unequal power structures with forms of governance by and for all people.
- Stewarding the fruits of nature and society so that all have access to those resources required for their full individual development (including future generations).

This development emphasizes the need for universal implementation of articles 21 and 26.2 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. These two articles assert that people shall be the basis of authority of government and that people have the right to the full development of the human personality.

These rights can be implemented and backed by deep understanding of the issues if they are emphasized and clarified at every level from primary through tertiary education and in every field, as well as by the media. This can be done:

1. By demonstrating both in theory and in practice that, since all are interdependent:

- What one does unto others one does unto oneself and therefore,
- There is a need to apply the all-win principle to every situation and relationship.

This principle states that personal fulfilment, peace and human survival are sustainable to the degree that all act for the well-being of all people and for nature as a whole.

2. Through the development of:

- Deep reflection and listening skills that allow the individual both to see beyond his or her own likes and dislikes and also to attune to nature.
- Individual empowerment to be responsible, creative and effective in implementing constructive change.
- Tools for peaceful conflict resolution and effective communication.
- Means of providing all levels of government and the United Nations with constructive feedback on the needs and creative solutions of people.

Relevant teaching methods, materials and curricula should be made available to all educational institutions via the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

Such an educational programme will enable people everywhere to sensitively steward natural common resources such as water, land and biodiversity for the benefit of all. It will also enable them to share social, cultural and informational common resources such as knowledge banks, the Internet, etc. and build a strong foundation for a global community that works well for all.

* The present statement is being issued without formal editing.