



Preparing the Way for a Planetary Civilization

J.R. Vallentyne

KEYWORDS Ecosystem Approach. Biosphere. UN. Morality. Boundary Waters Treaty.

ABSTRACT Four stages are described in the evolution of our species: (1) the development of a technological species; (2) a period characterized by subplanetary, warring nations; (3) an integrated planetary civilization; and (4) a Cosmic civilization (a planetary civilization that believes it has a cosmic purpose in being here). Stage (1), while still in progress, has been essentially completed. We have been stuck in stage (2) for too long. Stage (3) is in early phases of formation. A basis for stage (4) has recently been emerging from an insightful blends of scientific, evolutionary and religious beliefs etc. A re-structuring of the United Nations Organization (UN) is essential to facilitate the transformation from stage (2) to stage (3). Necessary changes in the UN system include: (1) political recognition of the need to preserve and enhance the health and integrity of the Biosphere in the joint interest of nations; (2) appointment of ambassadors to the UN to act in the joint interest of nations globally rather than as representatives of national governments; (3) an open-ended process in which nations designate themselves as politically defined national ecosystems, managing their affairs jointly in national and Biospheric interest; and (4) adoption by the UN and national constitutions of procedures to be followed in the event that a substantial majority of people in an area express a firm desire to disengage from their current national government. The Boundary Waters Treaty of 1909 between the United States and Canada is suggested as a useful model to follow in instituting the above changes.

Author's Address: J.R. Vallentyne, Scientist Emeritus, Canada Centre for Inland Waters, P.O. Box 5050, Burlington, Ontario L7R 4A6, Canada

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Human Ecology Special Issue No. 10: 241-247 (2001)

Human Ecology in the New Millennium

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