

"Rebirth, Renewal, and Human Development"

20th Anniversary Conference of the Chornobyl Nuclear Disaster

International Fund "Ukraine 3000"

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Conference Committee:

MANIFESTO OF RESPONSIBILITY

I. LESSONS LEARNED FROM DISASTERS

Experience gained: We are aware that a lack of timely and true information in an extreme emergency causes a sharp increase in human casualties.



Hence the first lesson learned: To pursue and speak the truth.

Experience gained: A lack of balance between the rate of Children of Chornobyl **Relief and Development** progress and man's spiritual development disturbs the technological equilibrium between humanity's growing needs and the natural limitations of man and nature alike.



Hence the second lesson learned:. In taking strategic decisions on development, we must base them on the interests of future generations.

Experience gained: Disasters force us to stop and rethink our week, values and intentions. Humanity is beginning to realize that the world and all things in it do interconnect. The destructive impact of contemporary life on man's nature and the destructive impact of man on nature can cause global catastrophes.



Therefore the third lesson learned is: We must preserve the balance of harmonious development.

Experience gained: Global disasters, both man-made and UNDP natural, are impossible to overcome through the efforts of just those who ediately affected. are





The fourth lesson learned. We must admit that global problems cannot possibly be solved through the efforts of a single nation. This will help us understand the necessity of joining efforts not only during a natural calamity, catastrophe or terrorist act, but also in order

"Physicians of Chernobyl"

to find ways of future development in harmony with nature.

II. IMMEDIATE STRATEGIC INITIATIVES:

Based on the above, and with growing awareness that we are facing the need to initiate resolute and concerted strategic steps, we propose to adopt immediate strategic initiatives in the following spheres of human life:

1. Health

- consolidating international efforts in the sphere of health of children and therefore of the generations to come;
- developing an integrated system of international monitoring and caring for the needs of children who have suffered from disasters; and to admit that the increased morbidity in Ukrainian children may have been caused by the Chornobyl disaster;
- inviting all countries to take part in medical and humanitarian aid to the hardest hit areas, the needs of children being a priority;
- joining the efforts and capabilities of the civil, military and emergency medical services to provide a rapid response to any large-scale tragic events; and,
- building partner relations among the world's leading health centers to maintain an effective exchange of up-to-date technology and treatment/diagnostic standards.

2. Improving Education

- broadening our understanding of the integration between the world and humanity;
- building awareness of the responsibility to future generations; and,
- creating awareness of the real consequences and the scale of man's impact on the environment.

3. Global Partnership in the Sphere of Development

- setting up mechanisms of international cooperation in overcoming disasters;
- working out an integrated civilizational approach to development that would center on the interests of man and rule out or reduce the risk of disasters; and,
- creating organizations and procedures for ongoing international humanitarian expert evaluation of new technology and ways of meeting humankind's growing demands

III. CHARITY AND RESPONSIBILITY

We extend our compassion to the nations who have borne the brunt of any disaster, survived it and continued to rebuild their environment and society.

We express our respect for and our gratitude to all those who at the most critical of moments showed the best human qualities – mercy and courage, responsibility and readiness for sacrifice, kindness and professionalism, unity and willingness to join efforts for the sake of disaster victims.

At the same time, we propose that humanitarian assistance be regarded as a moral responsibility

IV. DIALOG ON HUMAN DEVELOPMENT: VALUE OF THE HUMAN BEING, HUMAN VALUES

We think it necessary to institute a regular international forum on human development as a critical tool in the prevention of humanitarian catastrophes or injuries.

It is after a catastrophe that we comprehend the value of our life and civilization.

Therefore, we should think about how humanity should develop, and which path every person and nation have to choose so that this world can become safer and more harmonious for future generations.

Our experience of the disasters we have survived compels us to concentrate on the seminal issue – development of society and empowerment of the individual, and the strengthening of our responsibility to the future.

WE PROPOSE:

To make the dialogue on man's future development that has been initiated at the humanitarian forum REBIRTH, RENEWAL, AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT a continuous process.