



**INTERACTION  
COUNCIL**

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Dear Mr. President,

On behalf of the members of the InterAction Council, I wish to present to you herewith the final statement adopted by the Council at its tenth session held from 28 to 31 May 1992 in Queretaro, Mexico. It is supplemented by two reports, one by Mrs. Maria de Lourdes Pintasilgo on "Crisis and Change in Latin America" and another by myself on "The Search for Global Order: The Problems of Survival". Both reports were fully endorsed by the Council. These documents contain a series of recommendations and suggestions which I commend for your and your Government's consideration.

The Council is convinced that at this juncture the world needs the development of additional rules to cope with the changing international constellation. In the area of arms control and proliferation, the Council urges to press ahead with dramatic arms reductions and a revitalisation of the entire range of disarmament negotiations, including new weapons. We also call for an extension and broadening of the Non-Proliferation Treaty for a further 25 years. Ultimately, however, the Council is convinced that the nuclear powers will have to consider whether it is not time to proceed towards the elimination of nuclear weapons worldwide.

The arms trade continues unabated, while poverty is rampant in many parts of the world. The Council calls on the five permanent members of the Security Council to take the lead in imposing strict limits on the export of armaments and immediately to stop the export of weapons to areas of armed conflict. The potential for savings in this area is compelling and they can be redirected to more productive purposes, both for national and global purposes.

In the economic sphere, numerous challenges call for substantive funds while the world currently experiences substantial savings shortages. Public savings must be increased deliberately and dramatically. The stalemate in the Uruguay Round must be broken without delay as this will encourage global growth.

His Excellency  
Mr. Patricio Aylwin  
President of Chile  
Santiago, Chile



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The principle of economic and monetary cooperation through the system of multilateralism, which has become a hallmark of this century, must be reinforced and its application broadened, such as in the regulation and supervision of the burgeoning globalised financial markets. To that end, the InterAction Council presented in 1991 detailed proposals which you may wish to review.

Yet, all efforts to improve the living standards and prosperity of peoples all over the world will remain ineffective, lest the world begins to adopt and adhere to the principle of demographic and ecological self-discipline. This will require a new global compact based on unequivocal, monitorable and enforceable commitments by all countries. Measures to mitigate population growth rates must be one principal point of departure for the development of globally responsible policies.

Today, already more than one billion people live under conditions of absolute poverty. What will the picture be some 40 years from now, when the present world population of 5.5 billion will have doubled? Unless population growth can be stabilised in the developing world, poverty will become increasingly acute and will render official development assistance, unless dramatically increased, irrelevant. Deliberate family planning policies by developing countries, coupled with incentives in the form of international support, must speedily be introduced.

Industrialised countries, on the other hand, must pursue measures of energy savings and adopt ecologically less harmful patterns of energy production and consumption. One dramatic step could be the launching of a collaborative programme in research and development of renewable energy sources, such as solar energy, biomass and wind, which the Council is advocating since 1990. Societies are increasingly ready to accept and support such a programme, yet the political will appears to lag behind. The Council urges you to support such an initiative. The global awareness process for environmental protection and preservation, now set in motion by the Rio Earth Summit, must be accelerated and more concrete action must follow without delay.

All Council members hope that you may find it possible to pursue our proposals both in the context of your own country's policies and at high-level meetings which you may attend in the future.

With best personal wishes, I remain,

Yours sincerely,

Helmut Schmidt