

The Contributions of IUCN to Global Ethics

WORKING DRAFT CHRONOLOGY 1948 - 2018

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“The Union is concerned with values more, I would say, even than with science. For science should be the servant not the master of mankind. Our strategy must be firmly based in realism, but it must move ahead with vision. We should be the architects of guided change (call it development if you will) in the direction of increasing ...the good life.” -- Duncan Poore, Acting Director General IUCN, 1976-77

“As we become aware that this is one world, that how we live in one place can affect everyone and everything everywhere, now and in the future, ineluctably we must seek some universal basis of right conduct, a standard applicable to and acceptable by all the people of the world... A joint compact is what we must have to sustain life on Earth.” -- Shridath Ramphal, OUR COUNTRY, THE PLANET, 1991

“We must now forge a new ‘Earth ethic’ which will inspire all peoples and nations to join in a new global partnership of North, South, East and West to ensure the integrity of the Earth as a secure, equitable, and hospitable home for present and future generations.” -- Maurice Strong, June 5, 1991, at Stockholm

I. POST-WORLD WAR II HOPES FOR GLOBAL DEMOCRACY: PEACE AND SECURITY, HUMAN RIGHTS, JUSTICE AND CONSERVATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES

A. 1945 -- UNITED NATIONS CHARTER done at San Francisco

“WE THE PEOPLES OF THE UNITED NATIONS DETERMINED

to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war, which twice in our life-time brought untold sorrow to mankind, and

to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person, in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small, and

to establish conditions under which justice and respect for the obligations arising from treaties and other sources of international law can be maintained, and

to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom,

AND FOR THESE ENDS

to practice tolerance and live together in peace with one another as good neighbors, and

to unite our strength to maintain international peace and security, and

to ensure, by the acceptance of principles and the institution of methods, that armed force shall not be used, save in the common interest,

to employ international machinery for the promotion of the economic and social advancement of all peoples,

HAVE RESOLVED TO COMBINE OUR EFFORTS TO ACCOMPLISH THESE AIMS”

B. 1948 -- UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS signed in Paris

“Whereas recognition of the inherent dignity and of the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world,

Whereas disregard and contempt for human rights have resulted in barbarous actions which have outraged the conscience of mankind, and the advent of a world in which human beings shall enjoy freedom of speech and belief and freedom from fear and want has been proclaimed as the highest aspiration of the common people...

Article 1. All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood. . .

Article 28. Everyone is entitled to a social and international order in which the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration can be fully realized.

Article 29. (1) Everyone has duties to the community in which alone the free and full development of his personality is possible...”

C. 1948 -- UNESCO convenes the Constitutive Conference for the founding of the International Union for the Protection of Nature (IUPN) -- IUPN renamed International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) in 1956

D. 1949 -- Julian Huxley charges IUPN-UNESCO Conference on the Protection of Nature to undertake “a preliminary study of a World Convention for the Protection of Nature”

E. 1952 -- IUPN Caracas General Assembly substitutes “a World Charter inspired by the Universal Declaration on the Rights of Man”

F. 1960 -- The first attempt to create a network of lawyers interested in 'nature and natural resources conservation' and thus the effective founding of the IUCN Commission on Environmental Law (CEL) and the IUCN Environmental Law Programme (ELP) at the 7th General Assembly of IUCN in Warsaw.

G. 1961 -- New World Wildlife Fund adopts “World Wildlife Charter”

H. 1972 -- Stockholm Declaration declares “a solemn responsibility to protect and improve the environment for present and future generations,” and to remedy conditions of under-development in developing countries

I. THE WORLD CONSERVATION STRATEGY LAUNCHED BY IUCN, WITH UNEP, WWF, FAO. UNESCO (1980)

A. IUCN staff writer Robert Prescott-Allen, principal author; Martin Holdgate in THE GREEN WEB considers it most important contribution of IUCN to world conservation: introduces idea and terminology of “sustainable development”

B. Section 13.1: “Ultimately the behavior of entire societies towards the biosphere must be transformed if the achievement of conservation objectives is to be assured. A new ethic, embracing plants and animals as well as people, which will enable human societies to live in harmony with the natural world on which they depend for survival and well-being.”

II. WORLD CHARTER FOR NATURE (1982)

A. Using UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS as a model, CEL Working Group led by Wolfgang Burhenne drafts text

B. World view and ethical principles of the WORLD CHARTER (selected)

“Civilization is rooted in nature, which has shaped human culture and influenced all artistic and scientific achievement, and living in harmony with nature gives man the best opportunities for the achievement of his creativity, and for rest and recreation,”

“Every form of life is unique, warranting respect regardless of its worth to man, and, to accord other organisms such recognition, man must be guided by a moral code of action ...

“Lasting benefits from nature depend upon the maintenance of essential ecological processes and life support systems, and upon the diversity of life forms ...

“The degradation of natural systems owing to excessive consumption and misuse of natural resources, as well as failure to establish an appropriate economic order among peoples and among States, leads to the breakdown of the economic, social and political framework of civilization,

“Competition for scarce resources creates conflicts, whereas the conservation of nature and natural resources contributes to justice and the maintenance of peace and cannot be achieved until mankind learns to live in peace and to forsake war and armaments...”

“Nature shall be respected and its essential processes shall not be impaired.

“The genetic viability on the earth shall not be compromised ...

“Activities which are likely to pose a significant risk to nature shall be preceded by an exhaustive examination; their proponents shall demonstrate that expected benefits outweigh potential damage to nature, and where potential adverse effects are not fully understood, the activities should not proceed...”

“Each person has a duty to act in accordance with the provisions of the present Charter; acting individually, in association with others or through participation in the political process, each person shall strive to ensure that the objectives and requirements of the present Charter are met.”

C. 1982 -- WORLD CHARTER adopted by United Nations General Assembly, 111-1

III. IUCN AND THE GROWING INTERNATIONAL DIALOGUE ON ETHICS, CULTURE, AND CONSERVATION

A. Concern for ethics expressed by IUCN leaders such as Charles Bernard, Gerardo Budowski, Wolfgang Burhenne, Hal Coolidge, Jean-Paul Harroy, Rueben Olemba, Duncan Poore, Shridath Ramphal, Peter Scott, Maurice Strong, and among members in Commissions on Ecology, Education and Environmental Policy, Law, and Administration

- B. 1983 -- Environmental Law Center sponsors influential publication by Kader, A., Al Sabbagh, Al Glenid, M. Izzidien, ISLAMIC PRINCIPLES FOR THE CONSERVATION OF THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT
- C. ELC prepares initial draft of Global Convention on Biological Diversity (adopted 1992); Convention affirms “intrinsic value of biological diversity and ...the conservation of biological diversity is a common concern of humankind”
- D. The Working Group on Traditional Resource Rights, led by Darrell A. Posey
- E. Sacred Mountains: efforts by Lawrence Hamilton and Edwin Bernbaum to bring subject of sacred mountains into the Mountain Theme of World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA)
- F. Working Group on Non-Material Values organized by Allen Putney within WCPA to address theme of the “sacred dimension of protected areas”; in 2002 Dave Harmon and Allen Putney edit THE FULL VALUE OF PARKS for World Parks Conference and working group sponsors Special Ceremony on the Sacred dimension of Protected Areas, technical sessions on the non-material values of protected areas, and presentation of pre-feasibility study and video on Gran Ruta Inca; Task Force renamed Task Force on Cultural and Spiritual Values

IV. IUCN ETHICS WORKING GROUP (1984-2000)

(See VI, VII and VIII for activities related to CARING FOR THE EARTH, DRAFT INTERNATIONAL COVENANT, and EARTH CHARTER)

- A. 1984 -- R. Engel invited by Kenton Miller, IUCN Director General, to address IUCN General Assembly in Madrid on environmental ethics after visit to IUCN headquarters in Gland following his sabbatical research on biosphere reserves with Unesco. Engel argues for the importance of IUCN facilitating a dialogue and partnership between the world conservation movement and the great historic moral traditions of the world (religious and secular) in order to marshal worldwide support for the WORLD CONSERVATION STRATEGY and emerging global ethic of social justice and ecological wholeness (published as Ethics in David Pitt, ed. THE FUTURE OF THE ENVIRONMENT: THE SOCIAL DIMENSIONS OF CONSERVATION AND ECOLOGICAL ALTERNATIVES, 1988).
- B. 1984 -- 2000 Following the Assembly Miller invites Engel to establish an Ethics Working Group (EWG) “as an inter-commissional working group to advise the Director General of IUCN on how IUCN can play a more effective role in promoting the ethical dimensions of the World Conservation Strategy”. EWG chaired by Ron Engel, Professor of Environmental and Social Ethics, Meadville/Lombard Theological School (University of Chicago affiliate) 1984 - 1996; Stephen Marglin, Professor of Economics, Harvard University, 1996-2000; located in Commission on Education (1984--1991), Commission on Environmental Strategy and Planning (1992-2000); strong Secretariat support from Jeff McNeely; between 1984 and 1996 the EWG network grows to 537 corresponding members in 71 countries.
- C. 1985 -- Workplan for EWG involves four objectives:

- (1) create a truly global consensus in conservation ethics that reconciles utilitarian and preservationist values and is integral to the philosophy and goals of the **WORLD CONSERVATION STRATEGY** and the **WORLD CHARTER FOR NATURE**;
 - (2) increase capacities for ethically informed choice and action on environmental issues by citizens, resource managers, and public leaders;
 - (3) support and promote private and government initiatives that seek the development and adoption of effective environmental ethics in each of the world's cultures;
 - (4) establish effective cross-cultural, cross-disciplinary, and cross-sectoral collaboration between scholars, artists, educators, religious leaders, conservationists and development interests on key issues involving environmental values
- D. 1986 -- First face to face meeting of 23 members of EWG at World Conservation Strategy Conference, Ottawa, Canada.
- E. EWG Projects include ethical and symbolic dimensions of Unesco MAB biosphere reserves, collaboration with **WWF Religion and Conservation Network**, beginning with 1986 Inter-faith Congress at Assisi, and program on "Theological Education to Meet the Environmental Challenge."
- F. EWG Collaboration with **International Development Ethics Association (IDEA)**, through mutual steering committee representation, conferences in Mexico, Honduras, Scotland
- G. 1990 -- adoption of a code of environmental ethics and practice by **European Economic Summit** nations, with leadership by EWG member, R. J. Berry.
- H. 1990-1992 -- **GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY STRATEGY**: in response to invitation by **World Resources Institute** to prepare materials for the ethical, cultural and spiritual dimensions of the Global Biodiversity Programme, EWG consults 80 persons from 23 countries; holds workshops at IUCN General Assembly Perth, Australia, and XVII Pacific Science Congress; authors comprehensive proposal *The Role of Ethics, Culture, and Religion in Conserving Biodiversity: A Blueprint for Research and Action*, published in Lawrence Hamilton, ed. *ETHICS, RELIGION AND BIODIVERSITY*; EWG member Holmes Rolston III prepares a draft "Preface" for the **GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY STRATEGY**, *The epic of life on the home planet*; Engel and Rolston critique drafts before publication; published version (1992) Action 82 *Strengthen research on ethical, cultural, and religious concerns related to conserving biodiversity* draws on the EWG Proposal and recommends support for its work in collaboration with WWF Network on Religion and Conservation.
- I. 1994 -- Ethics and AGENDA 21: EWG member Donald Brown organizes United Nations Conference on "The Ethical Dimensions of the United Nations Program on Environment and Development, Agenda 21," with several EWG speakers; published **PROCEEDINGS** circulated through EWG network.
- J. 1995 -- World Bank/CRLE Conference on Ethics and Spiritual Values and the Promotion of Environmentally Sustainable Development involves EWG members Rick Clugston (USA), Denis Goulet (USA), Ashok Khosla (India), Ted Trzyna (USA), Arthur Westing (USA).
- K. 1996-2000 -- EWG Work in Ethics and Economics: Tariq Banuri, chair of Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy (CESSP), and Stephen Marglin begin work on (a) critique of the historical and cultural construction of the ethical presuppositions of the discourse of economics;

and (b) elaborating alternatives to economic ethics. Aim is to connect issues of governance and management with ethical concerns and build on alternative ethical viewpoints both within and outside the modern West. Stephen Marglin writes “The Assumptions of Economics,” and shows their historical and culturally constructed character as reflections of the outlook of the modern West, not a reflection of “human nature” or a universal way of being that cuts across culture and history; and with Franck Amalric (France/Italy) composes “Ethics Working Group: An Input for Discussion” (April 30, 1999) to begin this discussion.

V. CARING FOR THE EARTH: A STRATEGY FOR SUSTAINABLE LIVING (WCSII)

- A. 1986 -- International Conference on the World Conservation Strategy, Ottawa, Canada, with central theme “conservation with equity” recommends preparation of a second world conservation strategy, by IUCN in cooperation with **UNEP, FAO, and Unesco**
- B. 1986 - 1990 -- EWG asked to prepare chapter on “Ethics, culture and conservation” for the new strategy; holds first workshop on “Ethics culture and sustainable development” at Ottawa; international consultations at Meadowcreek Conference Center, USA recommends Strategy as a whole be placed on moral basis; workshop with educators at IUCN General Assembly, San Jose, Costa Rica; **International Development Ethics Association** conference at Merida, Mexico; and Perth, Australia IUCN General Assembly; as well as worldwide consultative correspondence.
- C. 1990 -- publication of J. Ronald Engel and Joan G. Engel, eds., *ETHICS OF ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT: GLOBAL CHALLENGE, INTERNATIONAL RESPONSE*, based on Ottawa workshop, with forward by IUCN President M.S. Swaminathan and chapters by authors from Australia, Canada, China, Finland, India, Israel, Kenya, Norway, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Tanzania, Thailand, the United Kingdom, the United States, Uruguay, and Yugoslavia.
- D. EWG submits four separate drafts to drafting committee Robert Prescott Allen, Martin Holdgate, David Munro, which become the basis for first principle of the Strategy: “Respect and care for the community of life.” “This principle reflects the duty of care for other people and other forms of life, now and in the future. It is an ethical principle,” and Chapter II of CARING FOR THE EARTH, “Respecting and caring for the community of life”:

Action 2.1. Develop the world ethic for living sustainably ...(by) new national and international coalitions of groups concerned with respecting and caring for the community of life...

Box 2. Elements of a world ethic for living sustainably:

community of life of all living beings: “Every human being is a part of the community of life, made up of all living creatures. . .

respect for every life form: “Every life form warrants respect independently of its worth to people...

responsibility for impacts: “Human development should not threaten the integrity of nature...

ecological imperative: “People should conserve ecological processes and the diversity of nature...

treatment of animals: “People should treat all creatures decently, and protect them from cruelty, avoidable suffering, and unnecessary killing.

fundamental and equal rights of people: “Every human being has the same fundamental and equal rights...

fair sharing of benefits and costs: “Everyone should aim to share fairly the benefits and costs of resource use, among different communities and interest groups, among regions that are poor and those that are affluent, and between present and future generations...

sustainable development: “The real aim of development is to improve the quality of human life. It is a process that enables human beings to realize their potential, build self-confidence and lead lives of dignity and fulfillment... “Economic growth is an important component of development, but it cannot be a goal in itself, nor can it go on indefinitely.””

universal responsibility: “The protection of human rights and those of the rest of nature is a worldwide responsibility that transcends all cultural, ideological and geographical boundaries. The responsibility is both individual and collective.”

Action 2.2. “Promote the world ethic for living sustainably at the national level” by “adopting a Declaration and Covenant that commits States to the world ethic for living sustainably and defines their rights and responsibilities accordingly

Action 2.3. “Implement the world ethic for living sustainably through action in all sectors of society”

E. 1990 -- Conference on Spirit and Nature, **Middlebury College**, USA, organized by Steven Rockefeller and John Elder, brings together leaders of world faiths, including the Dalai Lama, to discuss the interfaith foundations for the principles of CARING FOR THE EARTH, conference presentations disseminated through Rockefeller and Elder, eds., *SPIRIT AND NATURE*, and PBS documentary produced by Bill Moyers. R. Engel addresses the conference on the faith of Earth Democracy, and Robert Prescott Allen spells out the content of Caring for the Earth.

F. 1991 -- IUCN launches second *World Conservation Strategy II*, *CARING FOR THE EARTH: A STRATEGY FOR SUSTAINABLE LIVING*, in 65 countries

G. 1993 -- Andrea Matte-Baker, consultant to IUCN, in *Follow-up to Caring for the Earth*, concludes that in comparison to AGENDA 21 “a truly unique aspect of CARING FOR THE EARTH is its treatment of the ethical question, which provides the strongest single principle that can guide society towards a sustainable path of development.” Engel invited to Gland to plan major IUCN ethics initiative throughout world conservation movement. ENGEL PREPARES PROPOSAL.

H. 1993 -- EWG workshop in the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, USA, plans follow-up to CARING FOR THE EARTH: attended by representatives of five IUCN commissions, including Parvez Hassan, and twelve partner organizations; workshop concludes that the first priority is to launch a global dialogue that will culminate by the year 2000 in a vision of how the diverse cultures of the world can affirm a shared conservation ethic; it also explores ways in which to facilitate the implementation of a world ethic through international environmental law, sustainable use of wildlife, sustainable development strategies, and environmental education and communication; workshop proceedings, including *The Moral Challenge to Care for the Earth* by Martin W. Holdgate, and *A World Ethic for Living Sustainably; Sources and Principles*, by Steven Rockefeller, published in Engel and Denny-Hughes, eds. *ADVANCING ETHICS FOR LIVING SUSTAINABLY* (1994)

- I. 1993 -- George Rabb, chair, Species Survival Commission, Robert and Christine Prescott-Allen, co-chairs of the SSC Specialist Group on Sustainable Use of Wild Species, Ted Trzyna, chair of CESP, and R. Engel, chair EWG, prepare a Preliminary Report titled *Towards Guidelines for Ethical Uses of Wild Species*, based on commissioned papers by nine experts from Africa, Australia, Europe, India, South America and USA.
- J. 1993 -- EWG Chair R. Engel submits proposal for a *World Environmental Ethics Initiative*, to the IUCN Secretariat; based on the recommendations of the Indiana workshop, it lays out the challenge of further developing the content of a world ethic for living sustainably, and the objectives of a three year programme to implement the ethic in law, education, science and religion:

“Many persons and groups throughout the world now believe that only a fundamental change in human consciousness -- expressed in the form of a world environmental ethic, and embodied in a global covenant -- will enable human civilization to enter the 21st century with prospects of achieving a sustainable and fulfilling relationship to the earth”

there are “compelling religious and moral reasons” in support of this belief:

“The sacredness of life obliges human beings to care for the whole of creation. In an interdependent world human beings have collective responsibility for the welfare and evolution of the planet . Global moral determination is required to marshal the resources necessary to meet the needs of communities threatened by extreme poverty and environmental deterioration. Environmental issues are inseparable from issues of human rights, equity, and security, and require similar broad moral understandings and agreements for their resolution. Biological and cultural diversity will survive only if the nations of the world create a normative world order that supports them.”

After considering the potential of the contemporary movement for a world environmental ethic, the problem of conceiving ‘ethics’ as a practical social activity, the questions regarding what form the ethic should take and what its implications for policy should be, the disciplinary, cultural and other barriers that must be overcome, the proposal concludes: “This means that the challenge of a world environmental ethic needs to be responded to with the same intellectual seriousness, and the same institutional and financial support, as any other aspect of conservation.”

- K. 1995 -- Building on CARING FOR THE EARTH and Engel’s 1993 proposal for an IUCN *World Environmental Ethics Initiative*, Ted Trzyna, Chair of CEESP, after consulting with IUCN member organizations, councilors, staff, and commission members, prepares IUCN proposal for building ethics into decision-making, LINKING VALUES AND POLICY FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: AN INTERNATIONAL STRATEGY TO BUILD THE SUSTAINABILITY ETHIC INTO DECISION-MAKING
- L. Tests for admission to IUCN include: “adoption of the mission statement and Statutes, acceptance of WORLD CONSERVATION STRATEGY and CARING FOR THE EARTH as documents expressing the ethos or fundamental philosophy of the Union.”

VI. DRAFT INTERNATIONAL COVENANT FOR ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

- A. 1987 -- **World Commission on Environment and Development** recommends the preparation of a Universal Declaration and a Convention on environmental protection and sustainable development; 1988 IUCN General Assembly gives support; 1990 UN Secretary-General Report: “The time has come to devise a covenant regulating relations between humankind and nature.”
- B. 1989 -- first full CEL Working Group meets in Bonn with Wolfgang Burhenne as Chair.
- C. 1993 -- EWG members R. J. Berry, Luis Camacho, R. Engel, Richard Falk, Richard MacNeil, and Steven Rockefeller serve as special advisers to CEL Covenant Working Group in Bonn; in preparation for this meeting EWG solicits ethical critique of the draft Covenant by 30 ethicists in Europe, North and South America.
 - a. P. Hassan, Foreward to the First Edition of the Draft Covenant, “The fourth meeting of the full, and now expanded, Working Group took place in Bonn in September 1993. Because of the important moral element of the Draft Covenant, leading members of the IUCN Ethics Working Group were invited to attend.”
- D. 1994 -- EWG, CEL and ELC jointly sponsor Workshop #1 on environmental ethics and law, at IUCN General Assembly in Buenos Aires, with special attention to Draft 5 of the proposed International Covenant on Environment and Development; speakers include Ambassador Julio Barboza (Argentina), R. J. Berry (United Kingdom), Louis Camacho (Costa Rica), Nigel Dower (Scotland), R. Engel (USA), Eduardo Gudynas (Uruguay), Lothar Gundling (Germany), Parvez Hassan (Pakistan), Chatsumarn Kabil Singh (Thailand), Nick Robinson (USA), Steven Rockefeller (USA); Clever Tabaziba (Zimbabwe), Josef Vavrousek (Czech Republic), Laura Westra (Canada); Martin Holdgate devotes Chapter 5, “Developing New Values” in FROM CARE TO ACTION to the ethics of CARING FOR THE EARTH and the papers prepared for Workshop #1
- E. 1995 -- draft Covenant launched at the United Nations Congress on Public International Law at New York.
- F. 2004 -- Third Edition (updated text) presented to member states of United Nations; Engel joins drafting committee in Bonn to help draft updated text in 2003.

Preamble world view and ethical principles include:

“Recognizing the unity of the biosphere, a unique and indivisible ecosystem, and the interdependence of all its components;

Conscious that humanity is a part of nature and that all life depends on the functioning of natural systems which ensure the supply of energy and nutrients;

Convinced that living in harmony with nature is a prerequisite for sustainable development, because civilization is rooted in nature, which shapes human culture and inspires artistic and scientific achievement;

Aware that respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms is essential to the achievement of sustainable development;

Conscious that the right to development must be fulfilled...

Recognizing that intergenerational and intra-generational equity, as well as solidarity and cooperation among peoples, are necessary...

Acknowledging that addressing the particular situation and needs of developing countries, especially those of the least developed and of the most environmentally vulnerable, is a high priority...

Affirming the duty of all to respect and care for the environment...

Recognizing that poverty eradication is a primary responsibility of each State...

Committed to ensuring that gender equality and the empowerment and emancipation of women..."

Part II, Fundamental Principles, articles 2-10, comprise a very strong ethical statement:

"Nature as a whole warrants respect.

integrity of the Earth's ecological systems shall be maintained and restored

Every form of life is unique and is to be safeguarded independent of its value to humanity

(global environment) common concern of humanity

(global environment to be governed by) international law, the dictates of the public conscience and the fundamental values of humanity

The freedom of action of each generation in regard to the environment is qualified by the needs of future generations.

Precaution requires taking appropriate action to anticipate, prevent and monitor (risks)

implementation of the right to development entails obligation to meet the developmental and environmental needs of humanity in a sustainable and equitable manner

the eradication of poverty, which necessitates a global partnership, is indispensable for sustainable development

the Parties have common but different responsibilities according to their available resources and their varying contributions to global environmental degradation"

VII. EARTH CHARTER

- A. 1987 -- **Brundtland Commission** recommends that the UN "General Assembly commit itself to preparing a universal Declaration and later a Convention on environmental protection and sustainable development."
- B. 1987-92 -- in preparation for the 1992 Rio Summit numerous NGOs and some governments prepare draft Earth Charters, Declarations, and other aspirational documents, e.g. "Earth Covenant" of Global Education Associates signed by two million persons in over 100 countries.

- C. 1992 - **IUCN President Sonny Ramphal publishes *OUR COUNTRY, THE PLANET***, official book of the Earth Summit, an eloquent plea for global citizenship and an “Earth Charter” that will distill a new global ethic based on the “duty of care.”
- D. 1992 -- UNCED Rio Earth Summit: International NGO Forum produces “People’s Earth Declaration,” “Rio de Janeiro Declaration,” “Earth Charter,” and “Ethical Commitments to Global Ecological Posture and Behavior” but governmental agreement on “Rio Declaration on Environment and Development” fall short of aspirations.
- E. 1994 -- EWG prepares analysis of the ethical content of 60 of the most important declarations, charters, covenants seeking to articulate a global environmental ethic -- John Callewaert, “International Documents and the Movement Toward a Global Environmental Ethic.”
- F. 1994 -- Earth Charter Initiative reignited by Rudd Lubbers, prime minister of the Netherlands; Maurice Strong, chair of the Earth Council; Mikhael Gorbachev, chair of Green Cross International; Jim MacNeil, former secretary-general of the Brundtland Commission; Ambassador Mohamed Sahnoun; the Earth Council, San Jose, Costa Rica, serves as secretariat; Alicia Barcena, Executive Director of the Earth Council, invites EWG to participate in new initiative
- G. 1995 -- worldwide consultative process initiated with appointment of Earth Charter Commission members; EWG member Steven Rockefeller appointed chair of drafting committee; official launch at Peace Palace in the Hague with address by Parvez Hassan.
- H. 1996 -- Montreal IUCN General Assembly: R. Engel, R. Lubbers and S. Rockefeller speak at special workshop session on IUCN and EARTH CHARTER
- I. Steven Rockefeller, with Nick Robinson, prepares **PRINCIPLES OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: SUMMARY AND SURVEY**, an analysis of forty-seven principles of global ethics that have emerged over the past half century, grouping them into nine basic themes, and a compendium of the documents in international law that express them:
1. The goal: global partnership
 2. Preamble: the human situation
 3. World view
 4. A common concern and universal responsibility
 5. The rights of people
 6. Sustainable development
 7. Equity and justice
 8. Governance and security
 9. Environmental protection
- J. 1997 -- EWG members asked to serve as value facilitators at Rio+5; Brendan Mackey (Australia) leads EWG delegation and participates in writing first draft of EARTH CHARTER, endorsed by Assembly.
- K. 17-18 November 1998 -- P. Hassan chairs Earth Charter Drafting meeting, Hastings Center, Garrison, New York.

- L. 4-6 January 1999 -- P. Hassan chairs Earth Charter Drafting Committee meeting, (Rockefeller) Pocantico Conference Centre, New York.
- M. 1997 - 2000 -- Earth Charter core drafting committee includes Abelardo Brenes (Costa Rica), R. Engel (USA), B. Mackey (Australia), and Steven Rockefeller, chair (USA); other members include Rustem Khairov, member of IUCN CEESP, Nick Robinson, Deputy Chair, CEL, P. Hassan, Chair, CEL; other IUCN leaders who participate in drafting sessions include: Tariq Banuri, K. Bosselman, Wolfgang Burhenne, Yolanda Kakabadse, Alexandre Kiss, Wangari Maathai, Prue Taylor.
- N. 1999 - Parvez Hassan submits "EARTH CHARTER Issues Checklist":

NORTH

1. Population Stabilization
2. Intellectual property rights
3. Forests
4. Governance

SOUTH

1. Sovereignty of national resources
2. Alleviation of poverty
3. Transfer of resources
4. Transfer of technology
5. Consumption patterns
6. Foreign debt -- write off/reschedule
7. Waste trade
8. TNC -- Codes of Conduct
9. Capacity building

COMMON

1. Global partnership -- interdependence
 2. Sacred trust for future generations
 3. Youth
 4. Women
 5. Indigenous peoples
 6. Access to dispute avoidance/settlement
- O. 2000 -- Approval of final text of EARTH CHARTER by Earth Charter Commission at Unesco, Paris; and launch at the Peace Palace at The Hague with Queen Beatrix, with keynote by Parvez Hassan, *The Earth Charter: The Journey from The Hague 2000*.
 - P. 2003 -- Earth Charter endorsed by UNESCO to be the key reference document for the United Nations Decade for Education for Sustainable Development (2005-2014).
 - Q. April 2004 – P. Hassan represents CEL at the "Global Ethics, Development, Environment and the Earth Charter" Conference organized by the ESG and the **International Development Ethics Association** in the **University of Aberdeen**, Scotland.

- R. 2004 -- Earth Charter endorsed by the IUCN 3rd World Conservation Congress to guide the IUCN's policies and programmes.
- S. 2005 -- Earth Charter +5 in Amsterdam, Netherlands. R. Engel, K. Bosselmann, and L. Westra present at an ESG workshop.
- T. 2005 -- P. Hassan, *Earth Charter: An Ethical Lodestar and Moral Force*, In *The Earth Charter in Action*, Corcoran, Peter Blaze, ed. (Royal Tropical Institute KIT 2005).
- U. 2010 -- Earth Charter +10 at the Peace Palace, The Hague.

VIII. HOPES FOR ETHICAL GLOBALIZATION REAFFIRMED IN THE NEW MILLENNIUM

- A. 2000 -- UNITED NATIONS MILLENNIUM DECLARATION and GOALS: “We reaffirm our commitment to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, which have proved timeless and universal. Indeed, their relevance and capacity to inspire have increased, as nations and peoples have become increasingly interconnected and interdependent...”
- B. 2002 -- World Summit on Sustainable Development: DECLARATION ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: “it is imperative that we, the peoples of the Earth, declare our responsibility to one another, to the greater community of life, and to future generations”; PLAN OF IMPLEMENTATION 5 bis: “we acknowledge the importance of ethics for sustainable development...”
- C. 2003 -- A FAIR GLOBALIZATION, report of ILO Commission on Social Dimensions of Globalization: “We urgently need a shared vision of basic values to provide an ethical foundation for the emerging world community...respect for human rights, nature, diversity; fairness, solidarity, eradication of poverty, gender equality, sustainable development, participatory and democratic system of global governance.”
- D. 2005 -- UNEP Roundtable Dialogue on Advancing the Millennium Development Goals through International Law. Members of IUCN CEL participating in the Dialogue.
- E. 2006 -- IUCN Academy of Environmental Law adopts research agenda with numerous projects on the “Earth Charter and International Law”.

IX. WCEL ETHICS SPECIALIST GROUP (ESG)

(See X for activities related to BIOSPHERE ETHICS INITIATIVE)

- A. 1998 -- 2000 Working Group on Ethics and Jurisprudence, chaired by Parvez Hassan, provides ongoing support for the EARTH CHARTER and DRAFT INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

- B. 2000 -- Recommendation 2.96 of the World Conservation Congress at its 2nd Session in Amman, Jordan calls for members at the 3rd Session to consider a response to the Earth Charter.
- C. 2004 Bangkok 3rd World Conservation Congress – ESG workshops and consultative meetings. Resolutions passed by the Congress were WCC 3.020 and 3.022. Respectively these called for the development of a code of ethics for biodiversity conservation and endorsed the Earth Charter as an ethical guide to IUCN policies and programmes. See Mirian Vilela, R. Engel, and B. Mackey, *The Earth Charter at the World Conservation Congress, Bangkok, 2004* (March, 2005); and R. Engel, *The Moral Power of the World Conservation Movement to Engage Economic Globalization*, plenary address, Bangkok World Conservation Forum (published in George Wright Forum, December, 2004).

Resolution 3.022 (Bangkok, 2004) endorsed the Earth Charter as “the ethical guide for IUCN policy,” and “the strong ethical purpose that inspired the formation of IUCN in 1948 and that continues today in the IUCN Vision of ‘A just world that values and conserves nature.’”

Resolution 3.020 (Bangkok, 2004) reaffirmed IUCN’s “commitment to an ethical view of nature conservation, based on respect for the diversity of life, as well as the cultural diversity of peoples.” The **IUCN Comité français** initiated the drafting process in the early 2004, led by Patrick Blandin and François Moutou. **This Resolution led to what is now known as the Biosphere Ethics Initiative, see X.**

- D. 2006 -- ESG co-chairs K. Bosselmann and Brendan Mackey appointed by Sheila Abed, Chair, CEL. Bosselmann and Engel attend meeting of CEL specialist groups in Brazil in June. Bosselmann represents ESG at the New York Colloquium of the IUCN Academy of Environmental Law and is appointed as chair of the CEL Governance project.
- E. 2007 -- CEL and ESG members Antonio Benjamin, Ben Boer, K. Bosselmann, R. Engel, F. Guilmin-Burhenne, and B. Mackey prepare revised text for the *IUCN Precautionary Principle Guidelines*, with a new section included on the ethical basis and meaning of the Precautionary principle. Sheila Abed successfully argues for the adoption of the revised text by the IUCN Council.
- F. 2008 -- ESG Governance for Sustainability Project, produces monograph by K. Bosselmann, R. Engel and Prue Taylor, *Governance for Sustainability*, launched at IUCN WCC4 Barcelona, October. The ESG hosts the first ever IUCN debate among Presidential candidates.
- G. 2008 -- R. Engel steps down as Co-Chair of the ESG, K. Bosselmann becomes Chair and K. Kintzele Gwiazdon as Deputy Chair.
- H. June 2010 – Vancouver, Canada, ESG roundtable discussion at the annual meeting of the **Global Ecological Integrity Group**, an international group of more than 200 experts across disciplines.
- I. July 2011 -- In July, several members of the ESG met in Prague, Czech Republic to discuss the Earth Democracy project and several white papers. They also attended the annual meeting of the Global Ecological Integrity Group, “Human Rights and Duties: Supporting Biological Integrity for Public Health” at Charles University.

- J. October 2011 – Chair K. Bosselmann attended, “Green Economy and Sustainable Development: Bringing back the social dimension,” of the United Nations Institute for Social Development, Geneva; and “National Legal Cultures in a Globalized World,” 24th Biennial Congress, World Jurists Association.
- K. 2013 -- K. Bosselmann continues as Chair of the ESG; K. Gwiazdon steps down as Deputy Chair; Peter Burdon becomes Deputy Chair
- L. 2013 -- D. Brown, *Climate Change Ethics: Navigating the Perfect Moral Storm*, Routledge
- M. 2014 -- D. Brown, Contributing Author to *Chapter 4: Sustainable Development and Equity, Working Group III*. In: *Climate Change 2014: Mitigation of Climate Change. Contribution of Working Group III to the Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change*.
- N. 2015 – D. Brown, Prue Taylor, *Ethics and Climate Change: A Study of National Commitments*, IUCN, with chapters from P. Burdon and K. Gwiazdon. Climate change is the most significant moral and environmental issue of our time. This publication and project seek to help deepen explicit ethical reflection around the world on national responses to climate change by developing a publicly available record on national compliance with ethical obligations for climate change similar to the reports that are now available on national compliance with human rights obligations.
- O. June 2016 -- *Oslo Manifesto for Ecological Law and Governance – From Environmental Law to Ecological Law: A Call for Re-Framing Law and Governance* launched at the ESG Workshop, IUCN Academy of Environmental Law Colloquium, University of Oslo, Norway.
- P. July 2017 -- ESG and CEEL host a special session, *Democracy at a Tipping Point?* alongside the annual gathering of the **Global Ecological Integrity Group**, with ESG leaders R. Engel, K. Bosselmann, K. Gwiazdon, and D. Brown.
- Q. ESG Climate Justice Project, Donald Brown, Prue Taylor, and Peter Burdon
- R. October 2017 -- **The Ecological Law and Governance Association** (ELGA) launched at the University of Siena, Italy, with the ESG, CEEL, and the UN Harmony with Nature program. K. Bosselmann and K. Gwiazdon serve on the Steering Committee of ELGA. The work includes principles of the Biosphere Ethics Initiative. Led to *The Siena Declaration of Solidarity*, an addendum to the Oslo Manifesto that lists the need and the general framework towards ecological law and governance.
- S. 17 October 2017 -- K. Gwiazdon presents, “The Promise of Ecological Law: The Ethical and Legal Implications of State Non-Action in Protecting the Foundations of Life” at “Economics for the Anthropocene: from environmental law to ecological law,” a conference and project led by ESG member Geoffrey Garver. The conference was hosted by **McGill University**, Montréal, Canada, in partnership with the Ecological Law and Governance Association.
- T. December 2017 -- ESG Member P. Blandin publishes, *Biodiversité: de la science à l'éthique*, and speaks of the particular role of IUCN in advancing ethics for the protection of nature, including its advancement of the Biosphere Ethics Initiative. Abstract: Inventé en 1985, le mot « biodiversité » a connu un remarquable succès dans les milieux scientifiques, tandis qu’il a pris place en droit de

l'environnement. Cet article tente de cerner ce que le néologisme, devenu concept, a provoqué comme renouveau en biologie et dans les façons d'envisager la conservation de la nature. Des ambiguïtés dans sa définition juridique sont soulignées. Enfin, les fondements éthiques de la conservation d'une biosphère diversifiée sont présentés dans une perspective écologique et évolutionniste.

- U. December 2017 -- ESG Member K. Gwiazdon speaks on the ethical principles of water at the IUCN WCEL and the **Executive Preparatory Colloquium on Sharing Water for Judges and Prosecutors, Subprocess of the 8th World Water Forum**.
- V. January 2018 -- P. Burdon steps down as Deputy Chair; K. Gwiazdon nominated as Deputy Chair through 2020.
- W. April 2018 – ESG Member K. Gwiazdon speaks at the **UN General Assembly 8th Interactive Dialogue on Harmony with Nature** on the ethics of consumption and production, and the challenges to living in harmony with nature.
- X. July 2018 -- ELGA and BEI at the ESG Workshop, “Ecological Law and Governance,” at the **IUCN Academy of Environmental Law Colloquium**, University of Strathclyde, Glasgow. The ESG also holds a side-meeting for 2018-2019 developments.
- Y. July 2018 -- **UN General Assembly Report of the Secretary General on Harmony with Nature, A/73/221**, includes references to the work of the ESG and the Biosphere Ethics Initiative, and partnerships with ELGA, CEEL, and the Earth Law Center.
- Z. November 2018 -- Inaugural **ESG Webinar Course** held, in partnership with the **Earth Law Center**, on “Legal Developments in the Rights of Nature (RoN).” Panelists included judges and practitioners from around the world: Grant Wilson: Directing Attorney of Earth Law Center; K. Gwiazdon: Executive Director of Center for Environmental Ethics and Law; Julio Prieto: Ecuadorian lawyer and author of "Rights of Nature, Rationale and Jurisdictional Enforcement"; Colin Robertson: Scottish Lawyer, EU Lawyer-Linguist (retired) and UN Harmony with Nature Expert; Jorge Iván Palacio: Former judge on the Constitutional Court of Colombia and distinguished Colombian lawyer; Patrick J. Lynch: American attorney and Louis Bacon Environmental Fellow at Harvard Kennedy School's Center for Public Leadership; and Michelle Maloney: Co-Founder and National Convenor of Australian Earth Laws Alliance (AELA).
- AA. October 2018 – ESG launches the **Proposal for the IUCN 2020 Congress theme: VALUES IN ACTION FOR THE FUTURE OF LIFE: ADDRESSING THE GLOBAL CRISES IN CONSERVATION AND GOVERNANCE**, with the support of the following IUCN member organizations: IUCN Comité français – Chair Bernard Cressens, Director Sébastien Moncorps; the Association des Naturalistes de la Vallée du Loing et du Massif de Fontainebleau, France – Chair Jean-Philippe Sibley; A Rocha France, France – Chair Paul Jeanson; International Council for Environmental Law – Executive Governor Nicholas Robinson (and Ex Officio Member Steering Committee, IUCN WCEL); Ecological Society of the Philippines – Chair Antonio Claparols, Vice-Chair Javier Claparols; Fundación Ambiente y Recursos Naturales – Deputy Director Ana Di Pangracion; The George Wright Society – Interim Executive Director David Reynolds.

BB. October 2018 -- ELGA launches its first regional hub, Oceania, in partnership with the **Australian Earth Laws Alliance**, led by Michelle Maloney. K. Bosselmann and K. Gwiazdon spoke at the launch.

CC. October 2018 -- K. Bosselmann and K. Gwiazdon present on ecological law, ethics, and governance at the annual gathering of the Australian Earth Laws Alliance at **Griffith University**, Brisbane, Australia.

DD. December 2018 -- *The Hague Principles for a Universal Declaration on Responsibilities for Human Rights and Earth Trusteeship* were launched at The Hague, with keynote by K. Bosselmann. Co-sponsored by ESG and ELGA and endorsed by CEEL.

X. BIOSPHERE ETHICS INITIATIVE

A. **Resolution 3.020 (Bangkok, 2004)** reaffirmed IUCN's "commitment to an ethical view of nature conservation, based on respect for the diversity of life, as well as the cultural diversity of peoples." The **IUCN Comité français** initiated the drafting process in early 2004, led by Patrick Blandin and François Moutou. **This Resolution led to what is now known as the Biosphere Ethics Initiative.**

B. 2005 -- The ESG in partnership with the **Center for Humans and Nature (CHN)**, holds a Consultation Workshop in Chicago, 27-30 August, on follow-up to the Bangkok Congress Resolutions WCC 3.020 and 3.022. See *Strengthening the Ethical Dimensions of the IUCN Programme, Report of Consultative Group meeting, August, 2005*.

C. 2006 -- ESG and CHN sponsor a **planning meeting for the implementation of WCC 3.020 on a Code of Ethics for Biodiversity Conservation at IUCN headquarters**, Gland, Switzerland. Representatives from all IUCN Commissions were present, including S. Abed and A. Herman Benjamin (CEL); Grazia Borrini Feyerabend and Taghi Farvar (CEESP); John Callewaert and Gillian Martin Mehers (CEC); Kalev Sepp (CEM), Robin Sharp (SSC), as well as key members of the IUCN Secretariat, including Jeff McNeely (Chief Scientist), Bill Jackson (Director of Global Programs), Gabriel Lopez (Director of Strategic Planning), Gonzalo Oviedo, Mohammed Rafiq (Business and Biodiversity). Other participants included Bittu Sahgal (India, Sanctuary Magazine), Almah Tararia (lawyer, Papua New Guinea), Mas Achmad Santosa (Indonesia), and Martha Rojas-Chouchena. Razeena Wagiet Omar represented the Earth Charter Council.

P. Blandin and F. Moutou represented the IUCN Comité français and presented the origins of Resolution 3.022. K. Bosselmann and B. Mackey represented the ESG, and R. Engel, K. Kintzele Gwiazdon, Strachan Donnelley, Paul Heltne, and Bruce Coull represented CHN and the ESG. See *Toward a Code of Ethics for Biodiversity Conservation – Project Proposal*, and *Report of the Interim Coordinating Committee* (December 2006). The meeting report was published for the 2008 Congress, Biosphere Ethics Project Interim Coordinating Group. (2008), *The Biosphere Ethics Project: Implementing the Bangkok World Conservation Congress resolution to draft and promote a code of ethics for biodiversity conservation*. IUCN, Gland, Switzerland. v + 17.

D. 2006 - 2007 -- The Code of Ethics for Biodiversity Conservation project is renamed the Biosphere Ethics Project (and later, in its now current name, Biosphere Ethics Initiative), and the first of several regional meetings to be held in countries throughout the world is planned for Chicago in September.

- E. September 2007 -- **The Chicago Wilderness (CW) *Relato*** was held in 2007 at Windblown Hill, just north of Chicago, Illinois, USA. It brought together partners from the CW alliance, which includes over 200 organizations across several states. Together, they seek to expand natural areas and improve the quality of the life of the entire region.
- a. As the first formal meeting of the BEI (what would be later called “*Relato*”), much of the discussion focused around the structure of this and future meetings. In other words, what is the best methodology to bring together a sometimes abstract view of ethical principles, to the real work being done on the ground? How to mix theory with practice, or look at ethics in a new, practical way? This was the origins of the *Relato* Methodology.
 - b. The resulting publication is B. Mackey, K. Kintzele et al. (2008). *Keeping Nature Alive: Toward a Code of Ethics for Biodiversity Conservation*. IUCN, Gland, Switzerland. vii + 27. The document includes guidance for moving forward, as well as an insight into many of the programs and principles of Chicago Wilderness.
- F. 2008 -- **BEI at the World Social Forum**, The Biosphere Ethics Initiative joined over 10,000 participants in the Amazon Rainforest at the WSF in Belém, Brazil. World Social Forums are global meetings of civil society organizations and individuals that seek a more fair, democratic world. K. Kintzele Gwiazdon presented the BEI on a panel with Environment Minister Carlos Minc and representatives from Brazil's Local Agendas 21. A separate workshop was then hosted to receive input on environmental ethics in the region with Patrick Blandin, Karla Monteiro Matos, and K. Kintzele Gwiazdon.
- G. 2008 -- **The South African National Parks (SANParks) *Relato*** was held in 2008 at the Kirstenbosch Botanic Gardens on the slopes of Table Mountain National Park, in Cape Town, South Africa, with thanks to Brett Myrdal and Razeena Wagiet Omar. The *Relato* brought together partners of the park and the surrounding Cape region, as well as representatives from the IUCN SSC (Rob Wild) and IUCN Chief Scientist, Jeff McNeely. B. Mackey (ESG), K. Monteiro Matos (Brazil Local Agendas 21), and K. Kintzele Gwiazdon (CHN, ESG) participated. The beauty of the natural environment, and the human spirit, came through every day during our time in South Africa. The culture, history, and socio-economic realities, and hopes, of the country could not be separated from their work in conservation. The key themes from the SANParks *Relato* included:
1. Conservation management through social upliftment: caring for the Earth and creating jobs leads towards ecological and human integrity.
 2. The concept and practice of "Touching the Earth" lightly
 3. Reconciliation ecology: looking to the past harms of people and places guides future action in an open, honest, and thoughtful way.
 4. Care and respect for other species
 5. Conservation is about managing change
- H. 2008 -- IUCN WCC4 Barcelona. IUCN adopted messaging from the BEP to place throughout the Congress, particularly “Keeping Nature Alive.” The Biosphere Ethics Project sponsors a workshop, with K. Bosselmann and K. Kintzele Gwiazdon. The BEP leadership was structured as four co-chairs: P. Blandin (France), Karla Monteiro Matos (Brazil), Razeena Omar (South Africa), K. Kintzele Gwiazdon (USA); and Director of Local Ethics, Mayyada Abu Jaber (Jordan).

- I. 2009 -- **The Yunnan Province Symposium** was hosted by CHN and was one of the key, early development meetings of the BEI. In addition to foundational programmatic structuring, participants learned about the culture, environment, and ethical principles of the Yunnan Province of China. See 15 January 2010 SYMPOSIUM REPORT, *4th Annual Keeping Nature Alive Symposium: Drafting the Biosphere Ethics Project's Code of Ethics for Biodiversity Conservation, 15-20 September 2009*, prepared by K. Kintzele, with assistance from Nigel Dower.
- J. 2009 -- K. Kintzele Gwiazdon presented the BEI at **American University School of Law**, "Developments in International Law," and at **George Washington University School of Law**, with a panel of WCEL members including WCEL Chair Sheila Abed, David Hunter, and Dinah Shelton.
- K. February 2010 -- **BEI Launch at the Paris Museum National d'Histoire Naturelle** (2010). With thanks to the Paris Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle and the Muséum Directeur Général, Bertrand-Pierre Galey, and due to the support of the IUCN Comité français, and with the leadership of P. Blandin, the BEI was formally launched in February 2010 in Paris, France at the Paris Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle.
 - a. Here, the first draft of the global Evolving Biosphere Ethic was presented and the term "*Relato*" was selected for our meeting methodology.
 - b. Remarks were made by the Director General of the Paris MNHN Bertrand Pierre Galey; President of the IUCN Comité Français Francois Letourneux; IUCN WCEL Chair Sheila Abed; IUCN Director General Julia Martin Lefevre; IUCN President Khosla; the French Director General of l'aménagement, du logement et de la nature Jean-Marc Michel; and K. Kintzele Gwiazdon.
 - c. Participants also included George Rabb, A. Herman Benjamin, and B. Mackey.
- L. March 2010 -- ESG Deputy Chair K. Kintzele Gwiazdon presents the BEI at the **IUCN Environmental Law Center** in Bonn, Germany, with the support and leadership of Françoise Burhenne-Guilmin.
- M. June 2010 -- **BEI Resolution passed at the 74th IUCN Council**, noting the work of CEL and BEI, and inviting BEI leadership to host a workshop at the 75th Council meeting, with noted leadership from B. Mackey.
- N. September 2010 -- Chicago and Indiana, USA, **Indiana Dunes Relato**. The *Relato* of the Indiana Dunes Region was held in 2010 at various locations throughout Northwest Indiana, on the shores of Lake Michigan. The Great Lakes make up 20% of the world's freshwater resources, and the care, conservation, and responsibility over these resources falls to community organizations, and local, state, and federal government agencies. The Indiana Dunes has been deemed the "birthplace of ecology", and the diversity of the people, places, species, industries, and economies shows why it has earned that name. This *Relato* resulted in the first local ethic of the BEI: *The Local Ethic of the Indiana Dunes Region*,

The Local Ethic is a call to ethical action to all those who impact the Indiana Dunes region. It identifies their values: (1) strength in their diversity in humans and nature; (2) the unique and rare geography and geology; (3) their place in history and the leaders who have come before them; and (4) community minded advocates and activists. It also identifies their aims, divided by (1) individual in the community; (2) environment; (3) industry; (4) social responsibility; and (5) education and the arts. The document was launched at a screening of the Aldo Leopold documentary, *Green Fire*, in collaboration with local, state, and federal partners and the Aldo Leopold Foundation.

- O. October 2010 -- ESG co-hosts an official side event at **COP11 of the Convention on Biological Diversity** in Nagoya, Japan. The work of the BEI was presented at a panel with WCEL Chair S. Abed and V. Graffin of the Paris Muséum national d'histoire naturelle. The focus was on the ethical considerations of the CBD and the resulting Nagoya Protocol.
 - a. At Nagoya, V. Graffin had a contact with our colleagues from “**Espace pour la vie**” à Montréal, that resulted in an international, France-Canada, *Relato* between museums for the implementation of BEI (2013-2015).
 - b. K. Kintzele Gwiazdon also presented before the full plenary on the ethics of biodiversity conservation, as a representative of ICLEI, Local Governments for Sustainability.
- P. November 2010 -- Gland, Switzerland. **BEI workshop at the 75th IUCN Council** and adoption of a BEI Resolution, noting the work of BEI, supporting two IUCN *Relatos*, and an “on-request” Ethics Advisor to the Council. **IUCN Council Decisions C/74/18 and C/75 (IUCN Council, 2010) on the Biosphere Ethics Initiative** that recognized the cross-commissional and cross-sectoral nature of ethics in IUCN, inviting all Commission Chairs, Councillors and the Secretariat’s Component Programmes “to work with the Biosphere Ethics Initiative to identify opportunities for integration and implementation of the BEI into their programme of work” as well as the need for ethical guidance when decision-making, recommending “that an on-request 'Ethics Advisor' to the IUCN Council be appointed.”
- Q. November 2010 -- Valparaiso, Indiana, USA. K. Kintzele Gwiazdon presented the BEI at **Valparaiso University School of Law**.
- R. December 2010 -- Brasilia and Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. P. Blandin presents the BEI at a colloquium of Franco-Brazilian judges, with WCEL Chair A. Herman Benjamin.
- S. December 2010 -- Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. P. Blandin presents the BEI at "Museums and Biodiversity Conservation: the ethical dimension," hosted by the **Jardim Botânico, the Museu do Meio Ambiente and the Museo de la Vida**.
- T. 2010 -- **The Museums of Dijon adopt the BEI**. In Dijon, France, Gérard Ferrière (director of the Natural History Museum of Dijon), François Rebsamen (Mayor of Dijon, Senator and former minister), and Bruno David (President of the MNHN-Paris) announced the *Déclaration du Jardin des sciences de Dijon (Muséum, Jardin Botanique, Planétarium): Initiative pour une éthique de la biosphère*. They

commit to advance the principles of the BEI, and recognize the particular importance of the values of existence, memory, and the future to natural and cultural diversity.

- U. May 2011 -- **The Jordan *Relato*** launched an environmental ethics program in Jordan to help influence local, state and international law and policy. The *Relato* was hosted by the Amman-based World of Letters, Executive Director M. Abu Jaber, with support from CHN and ESG, and under the Patronage of Her Royal Highness Princess Alia Al Hussein. Government, Royal Family and NGO leaders from around the country came together with BEI leaders to discuss particular environmental ethics initiatives in Jordan, and to see these ethical principles in practice: from issues of water scarcity and peace at Wehdah Dam, the Jordan River and Sharharbil bin Hassneh EcoPark; to community history/culture/reliance on water at Azraq Wetland Reserve ; to environmental education and sustainability at Feynan EcoPark; to wildlife protection at the Princess Alia Foundation; and plant species protection and community employment at the Royal Botanic Garden.
 - a. The *Relato* of Jordan continued to emphasize the importance that water plays to human and natural communities across the world. Not only is there a vital need for water, but there are deep spiritual connections to it. One of the most provocative working principles was that water scarcity brings opportunities for peace, not cause for conflict. Yet they also recognized that the promotion of peace, such as open borders and allowing increased refugees and immigrants, causes stresses to the natural and man-made environment, including water availability. Wise and equitable use of water and natural resources was a common theme.
 - b. The structure of the Local Ethic of Jordan is a bit different than that of the Indiana Dunes Region. It includes Foundations, Values, and Principles, but also *specific recommendations for action*. These include hosting ethics forums and offering BEI tours, to drafting a water focused climate change action plan and advancing environmental therapy with animals rescued from illegal trade.
- V. October 2011 – **The Rio State *Relato***. The BEI group met at several locations throughout Brazil for the Rio State *Relato*, hosted by Karla Monteiro Matos of the Center for Applied Sustainability. This *Relato* focused on site visits to show ethics in action, ranging from Nova Friburgo (the location of deadly floods and landslides in early 2011) to Gramacho Landfill and Mesquita. As with the Jordan *Relato*, water was a key issue to these communities, whether too much or too little. Solid waste, recycling, local governance and social economic justice were also major facets of the *Relato*.
 - a. The Rio State *Relato* took place in 2011 at several locations throughout Rio State, Brazil, including Rio de Janeiro, Mesquita, and Nova Friburgo. The *Relato* was focused on community-based conservation, from the catadores that collected recyclables in Gramacho Landfill, to those that formed organized collectives in Mesquita. Participants also saw first-hand the devastation caused by climate change at Nova Friburgo, and the efforts by the city and Local Agenda 21 partners to respond to these new threats.
 - b. The immense spirit and determination of the peoples of Rio State was grounded in the recognition of the interlacedness of all of the communities of life. Conservation cannot be separated from community, and conservation, particularly, cannot be separated from the protection and upliftment of vulnerable people.

- c. Brazil is second only to South Africa with the largest gap between rich and poor. And the conservation efforts of government officials, community-based organizations, and even private industries work to address this gap, and promote the quality of life for all. It is important to understand that the poor are often not in control of what happens to them, and it a core concept of human dignity to be a part of conservation efforts, to be a part of the decisions that affect you. To not be given gifts, but to be given a voice.
- W. November 2011 – Durban, South Africa. ESG member D. Brown hosted a panel at the **COP 17 of the UNFCCC** on human rights and climate change. K. Kintzele Gwiazdon presented on the human rights principles that were witnessed or discussed at *Relatos*.
- X. March 2012 – Marseilles, France. **6th World Water Forum**. Representing the ESG and using the work of the BEI, K. Kintzele Gwiazdon, with Rio State *Relato* participant David Groenfeldt, led the International Working Group on Ethics, Culture and Spiritualities. The group drafted the *Marseilles Water Ethic* and committed the Forum to create a Water Ethics Advisory Council, and to “implement the concrete application of the principles of this living document.”
- 1. We will honor and promote justice, equity, the rights of nature, care and compassion in decision-making.
 - 2. We will learn from and engage all disciplines and schools of thought, including science, law, philosophy, and religion, as well as from the traditional knowledge of indigenous cultures.
 - 3. We will learn from and engage the private and the public, at the local, regional and global levels.
 - 4. We, and this document, will continue to evolve.
- Y. September 2012 -- IUCN WCC5 2012 at Jeju, Republic of Korea. The ESG advanced the work of the BEI and its *Relato* Methodology with **Res. 004, *Establishment of the Ethics Mechanism***, and **Emergency Motion 181, *World Appeal to Protect the People, Nature, Culture and Heritage of Gangjeong Village***. The ESG also sponsored a Workshop and a Knowledge Café, centered around the threats to culture and conservation due to military development in Gangjeong Village. The Emergency Motion included multiple contact groups and Assembly discussions, where ESG leaders and IUCN NGO members spoke to IUCN’s legal and ethical duties to protect the people, place, and species of Gangjeong.
- a. Motion 181 carried 35 sponsor/co-sponsors, more than any other motion in IUCN history. The Motion ultimately failed with a State vote of 20/68/60 (yay/nay/abstain) and an NGO vote of 269/120/128 (yay/nay/abstain).
 - b. R. Engel, closing remarks on behalf of Motion 181: “Gangjeong Village is everything IUCN says it believes in. It is an indigenous community that has lived sustainably with a rare and fragile ecological community for hundreds of years. It is everything the World Charter for Nature and the Earth Charter aspire for us to follow... Mr. Chairman, the people of the world need Jeju island to remain an island of peace, as a beacon of hope for all of us.”
 - c. K. Gwiazdon, with assistance from Shauna Lange, led procedural efforts to advance Motion 181, including structuring workshops and visits to the village, chairing the drafting meetings with the villagers and ESG members, gathering co-sponsors, representing the ESG at contact

groups, re-drafting the motion during negotiations, and defending the motion before the Assembly.

- d. WCEL leadership S. Abed, A. Herman Benjamin, and Nilufer Oral were instrumental in assisting with Motion 181, as well as Harry Jonas and Grazia Borrini-Feyerabend. Former SSC Chair George Rabb was also an important partner.
- Z. September 2012 – Gangjeong Village, Jeju, Republic of Korea. **The Gangjeong Village *Relato*** was held in 2012 during the events of the 5th IUCN World Conservation Congress in Jeju, Republic of Korea.
- a. It centered around an ancient, indigenous culture that was biologically, culturally, and spiritually dependent upon the environment around them. This community, just a few kilometers from the Congress site, and their way of life, is under direct threat from the construction of a major military outpost. It takes moral courage to stand up to some of the most powerful forces on Earth. The lessons learned from this small community on this small island in the Pacific should be shared with the wider world, and that was the overarching message of this *Relato*. It is a story of endangered species, and an endangered people, and it is also the origins of the BEI's aim to develop Position Statements - we must stand for the principles we state.
 - b. The villagers of Gangjeong approached the BEI to help give them a voice at the IUCN Congress, co-hosted by the very government whose policies they were fighting against. An Emergency Motion was successfully advanced to support the history and conservation, the endangered species and sacred spaces, of this village. However, when placed before the full Plenary for a vote, and although it passed by the NGO members, it ultimately failed due to the number of abstentions by government members. The Gangjeong *Relato* forced the BEI and its partners to confront the geopolitical realities of so many conservation efforts, and the solidarity needed to confront them.
- AA. September 2016 -- K. Gwiazdon incorporates of the **Center for Environmental Ethics and Law**, a US-501(c)(3) to serve as the permanent home of the Biosphere Ethics Initiative. The BEI is the overarching program of CEEL, and influences all of the organization's partners, projects, presentations, and publications (see related activities under IX. WCEL ESG).
- BB. December 2017 - The Evolving Biosphere Ethic is now available in Russian, with thanks to the students from Group 8, 3rd Year, at the Russian State University of Justice: Alexandra Mazcka, Julia Ataullova, and Maria Kurilova, with the assistance of Professor Irina Krasnova. The BEI is now available in Arabic, English, French, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, and Xhosa.
- CC. 2018 -- P. Blandin, **Païolive**: when a French local association meets the Biosphere Ethics Initiative.
- DD. 2018 – P. Blandin presents “L’initiative éthique au cœur du Congrès Mondial de la Nature” at the annual gathering of the IUCN Comité français. He calls upon IUCN to build off its history and rise to address the ethical crisis at the IUCN 2020 Congress.

EE. 2008-current -- an important aspect of the BEI is unpacking and incorporating the principles in publications. The BEI has been cited and unpacked in the following articles,

1. K. Kintzele, *Keeping Nature Alive: from moral motivations to legal implications*, in *Globalisation and Ecological Integrity in Science and International Law*, L. Westra, K. Bosselmann et al, eds. (Cambridge Scholars Press, Newcastle Upon Tyne 2011), 515 pp.
2. P. Blandin, *Ethical Arguments in Biodiversity Conservation* (2012)
3. K. Kintzele, *Keeping nature alive: Ethical principles on the environment and human health in state statutes*, in *Human Health and Ecological Integrity: Ethics, Law and Human Rights*, L. Westra, C. Soskolne et al, eds. (Earthscan, 2012).
4. P. Blandin, *Towards EcoEvoEthics*, in *The Structural Links between Ecology, Evolution and Ethics: The Virtuous Epistemic Circle*, D. Bergandi, ed. (Springer 2013).
5. K. Gwiazdon, *Seeking justice in a land without justice: The application of anti-corruption principles to environmental law*, in *Ecological Systems Integrity: Governance, Law and Human Rights*, L. Westra, J. Gray et al, eds. (Earthscan 2014).
6. K. Gwiazdon, *Japan's Consideration of Ethics and Justice Issues in Formulating Climate Change Policies*, in *Ethics and Climate Change: A Study of National Commitments*, D. Brown and P. Taylor (IUCN 2015).
7. K. Gwiazdon, *International Law and Human Security: The Environmental and Geopolitical Impacts of China's Artificial Island-Building at Fiery Cross Reef*, in *The Role of Integrity in the Governance of the Commons*, L. Westra, J. Gray, and F. Gottwald, eds. (Springer 2017).
8. P. Blandin, *Biodiversité: de la science à l'éthique*. In *Energy, Environment, Infrastructure*, No. 12 (Dossier 2017).
9. K. Gwiazdon, *The State v. The Environment: The ethical and legal implications for state non-action in protecting the foundations of life*, in *Integrity, Governance and Law*, L. Westra, K. Bosselmann, and K. Gwiazdon, eds. (Routledge 2018).
10. P. Blandin, *Crise environnementale ? Crise éthique !* (La Croix 2018)
11. K. Gwiazdon, *From Sacred Sands to Stardust: Protecting Life on Earth through a Human Story of Ethics, Care, and the Cosmos* (Edward Elgar 2019).
12. K. Gwiazdon, *State Global Responsibility for Environmental Crises: the ethical and legal implications of a state's failure to protect human rights* (Intech Open 2019).
13. K. Gwiazdon, *Ecological Integrity and Land Abuses: A Legal and Ethical Analysis of Consumption and Production* (Nova 2019).

XI. IUCN SECRETARIAT AND ETHICS (in development)

- A. 2008 -- IUCN WCC4, Barcelona, Spain. Two resolutions were adopted in Barcelona that advanced ethics at IUCN: Resolution 4.098, *Intergenerational partnerships: fostering ethical leadership for a just, sustainable and peaceful world*; and Resolution 4.099, *Recognition of the diversity of concepts and values of nature*.
- B. 2012 -- IUCN WCC5, Jeju, Republic of Korea. IUCN Congress adopts Resolution 100, *Incorporation of the Rights of Nature as the organizational focal point in IUCN's decision making*.
- C. 2016 -- IUCN WCC6, Honolulu, Hawaii, USA. Indigenous Peoples' Organizations (IPO) is adopted as a new Membership category, with voting powers, strengthening the recognition of their rights, participation, voice, and role in IUCN.

XII. IUCN WCEL AND ETHICS (in development)

- A. September 2018 -- WCEL partners with UN-Environment to launch campaign to protect environmental defenders, the **UN Initiative for Environmental Rights**. Partners include the Global Judicial Institute on the Environment (GJIE), the Organisation of American States (OAS), Global Witness, Ministério Público Federal, Museu do Amanhã, and Instituto de Desenvolvimento e Gestão. Speakers included WCEL members Claudia de Windt, Arnold Kreilhuber, and WCEL Chair Antonio Herman Benjamin.

XIII. IUCN CEESP AND ETHICS (in development)

XIV. IUCN CEC AND ETHICS (in development)

XV. IUCN CEM AND ETHICS (in development)

XVI. IUCN SSC AND ETHICS (in development)

XVII. IUCN WCPA AND ETHICS (in development)