

# Founding documents of the Food for Peace organization

During the two-day Food for Peace proceedings in Chicago, resolutions were presented and passed, which committed the participants to mobilize for both emergency food assistance measures for the Sudan and Bangladesh, and also for a sustained policy movement to restore agricultural growth and to provide adequately for food needs worldwide. These resolutions are printed in full below.

In addition, at the conclusion of the conference, over 100 participants remained to debate and ratify a Statement of Principles for an ongoing Food for Peace organization. The statement began with the declaration, "It is the inalienable right of every single human being living on this planet to have adequate amounts of nutritious food in order to live a productive life. In years past, when the United States allowed the productive family farmer to produce, America had the moral outlook to produce large surpluses, and farmers had the moral outlook to feed the world. Over the last 20 years, and especially the last 10 years, there has been a systematic effort to destroy the family farmer, worldwide."

The Statement of Principles focused attention on the need to plan ahead for the "year 2000, with an expected population of 6-8 billion human beings." A three-point emergency program stressed 1) an end to farm foreclosures; 2) a nationwide grain audit in the United States, to confirm the true level of stocks; and 3) a moratorium and rescheduling of farm debt.

Five points of general action were stated: 1) "Farmers must be paid parity prices for their products"; 2) "Farmers must be freed from the interest rates dictated by the Federal Reserve, which force farmers further into debt"; 3) "All tilled or potentially farmable land taken out of production" should be brought back into production under the current emergency; 4) "There is no reason for shortages of water," regardless of weather cycles, if proper water management policies are in force and infrastructure developed; and 5) "The Environmental Protection Agency has gone too far in preventing farmers from using necessary and safe insecticides and pesticides," and use of necessary chemicals, including DDT, should be reviewed and restored.

## EMERGENCY RESOLUTIONS Resolution on Bangladesh

The Food for Peace Conference has learned with great concern and horror the dimensions of the floods in Bangladesh and calls on the governments of the OECD countries to immediately relaunch an emergency effort to help that nation.

## Stop genocide in Sudan!

WHEREAS the government of Sudan has issued an international appeal for emergency assistance required to prevent that nation's extinction from famine and disease, caused by uncontrolled flooding and locust swarms, which are wiping out 300,000 tons of food per day; and

WHEREAS in 1985 the government of Sudan warned the Western world that, if at that time the murderous conditionalities imposed by the International Monetary Fund were not reversed, then such a state of affairs would necessarily occur in the very near future; and

WHEREAS Sudan, a nation the size of Western Europe, has 40% of the arable land in the Arab world, and could therefore become the breadbasket of that part of the globe;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that this body demand emergency action from their respective governments to: 1) Provide all necessary food to Sudan to prevent mass starvation. 2) Begin emergency spraying programs to wipe out the locust swarms and their breeding areas. 3) Reverse the policy of IMF conditionalities in order to relaunch and complete all necessary water control and irrigation projects, such as the Jonglei Canal project, to ensure that Sudan and the rest of the continent of Africa is never again faced with a holocaust of such magnitude.

## War on drugs

We the representatives of the food producers of the world,  
DO RESOLVE TO:

- 1) Pledge all our efforts to obliterate the drug plague;
- 2) Fight to restore all lands currently used for the culti-

vation of drugs to the production of food for mankind;

3) Fight for the implementation of the recommendations made by our Ibero-American brothers at their unity conference, "Toward a Second Amphictyonic Congress" held in Panama, which include: the creation of a joint command to coordinate in each nation "a devastating simultaneous attack to destroy all the cultivations, laboratories, and distribution of drugs," and also: the jailing of the financiers and bankers who finance the drug trade and launder the dirty money. . . .

### **On reforestation**

WHEREAS, the world climate system depends upon the continued existence of the tropical rain forests—in particular, those of Brazil and Indonesia; and

WHEREAS, these nations have been driven to exploit these resources because of intolerable economic conditions imposed upon them by the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, and others of their creditors; and

WHEREAS, these creditors, now claiming to recognize an impending ecological disaster, are attempting to seize the property of the nation of Brazil in return for protecting its resources;

BE IT RESOLVED, that in order to protect the rain forests and to give the population of Brazil and other nations of the developing sector the opportunity to live in peace and prosperity, these nations will be offered low-interest credits to establish industry and establish appropriate farmlands for the populations now in these areas, and to reimburse all owners of rain forest property to the amount which they paid for the land from their own funds (not at the present faked market values); and that these nations be given additional funds for the rapid development of nuclear energy, massive infrastructure programs, and other advanced technologies.

### **Call for the dissolution of GATT and the establishment of a New World Economic Order**

The ongoing round of General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) negotiations for a reform of world agriculture policy is a declaration of war on the farmers. Under the guise of more "market orientation," powerful financial and grain cartel interests are trying to force through further drastic price reductions for agricultural products of the industrial sector. This will be the end of the free farmer and it will further destroy the world food supply. These cartel interests also try to establish the GATT bureaucracy as a supranational institution to dictate agriculture policy worldwide.

We, the representatives of the farmers from the United States, Canada, New Zealand, and Europe, reject those cartel policies and will mobilize our fellow citizens for a world agriculture policy which is based on parity prices and the need to rapidly produce more food for an expanding world population.

We call for the dissolution of GATT and the replacement of it by negotiations between sovereign nations to establish a New World Economic Order.

### **On parity**

To produce the amounts of food required to feed the world population today and for the future, a World Parity Price must be established.

Farmers cannot grow food in the abundant supply necessary if they are paid 50% or less of their costs. Farmers worldwide are forced to sell their products at artificially low prices determined by the food cartels.

Using technologically advanced capital equipment, adequate amounts of fertilizer and seed, and new irrigation systems, we will advance world levels of food production. Very simply, if we want the food, we must pay the cost for production and improvement.

Policies to dump cheap food on the markets or cheat on paying these costs, will insure that food production remains below levels of necessary global consumption, leading to further starvation.

It is politically, economically, and morally unacceptable to allow a single human being to die from starvation, when food can be abundantly and inexpensively produced at world parity prices.

### **To ensure farm parity**

WHEREAS, the Agriculture Commission of the Schiller Institute has determined that adequate food shall be made available for all of the world's citizens, it follows that the world's farmers must receive a parity price for the commodities they produce in order to sustain the food supply required, and

WHEREAS, the Commodity Boards of Trade in Chicago and New York set the world price of agricultural commodities of food and fiber;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the U.S. Congress must be prevailed upon to amend the Commodity Exchange Act so that no agricultural commodities can be speculatively sold on any futures or options contract market below the parity prices computed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

### **In defense of Dr. Martin Welt**

Recognizing the crisis in world food supplies and . . . supporting the technological advances in food preservation developed by Dr. Martin Welt, a pioneer in food irradiation, [We] express our moral support of Dr. Welt for the leadership he has shown. . . . Mindful of his selective prosecution prompted by an anti-science outcry by malthusian environmentalists resulting in charges of violations of nuclear regulations and findings of violations of federal law in July of 1988,

[We] urge the Federal District Court in sentencing this September to not only consider the fact of conviction but also give great weight to the substance of Dr. Welt's important contributions to mankind's ability to preserve food, thus promoting economic progress, and the value of Dr. Welt's effort to resolve the food crisis on the side of life.