

The Commission has a lot of sympathy for the idea of an international monetary conference. But I would insist on a tremendous difference: in 1944 [the year of the Bretton Woods conference], markets were closed, it was a start from scratch. But we won't have a super-crash now. . . . One has to explore carefully the idea a big crash would clear the deck—but it would hardly be wise to perform the experiment. We'll have a lot of smaller reforms. [Ohlin advocated a major effort for raw-material stabilization. His concern with UNCTAD's Common Fund approach was that there "is no world government to run it."—L.M.]

One thing could be misleading, that is, to blame "the system" for weaknesses that have to do with the tremendous inward pull of national governments which makes them so reluctant to submit to international discipline. . . . We don't need the crash, but it heightens the comprehension of the issues involved.

Peter Scott, World Wildlife Fund Vice-President

From an interview with Sir Peter Scott, Vice-President, World Wildlife Fund (WWF) International, and head of the World Wildlife Fund, United Kingdom:

If we look at things causally, the biggest problem in the world is population. There are too many people for too few resources. . . .

I would start with this: all development aid should be made dependent on the existence of strong family planning operations in the countries concerned. If they have family planning, we send wheat, food, money. . . .

All the big international population organizations have existed for umpteen years, but they have only barely scratched the surface. We must set population ceilings.

The present financial crisis is a great opportunity. . . . I am not a financial expert, of course, I cannot go into details. I have great admiration for [former Secretary of Defense] Robert McNamara. Of course he could not achieve all he had set out to achieve, especially in the population sphere—there was too much inertia, he was up against too much resistance.

My biggest concern—I am a wild life chap, a naturalist, a biologist. . . . Well, we are destroying the tropical rain forest. That's the most dreadful thing. . . . We should come to growing firewood per se: we should have huge plantations of firewood near the population centers.

A bright spot is that nuclear energy is losing out in the developing countries, even though there are enough countries involved with it. It can be potentially disastrous. These fast-breeder people in France, they're making plutonium all the time. . . .

What is great about Prince Philip [Chairman of the WWF International] is that he can talk to the leading people, to the

rulers of any country, man to man, and they listen. . . . I have known him for a long time—he was the president of my own Waterfowl Association, now the Wildfowl Trust—Prince Charles is now its president, and we have a Wildfowl Trust of North America, too.

When we started the WWF, one of the first people I visited was Prince Philip. . . . We did not want to have a British president at that time, . . . so we had Prince Bernhard. But since [Philip] became president, he has made it a much sharper-edged organization.

At the Commonwealth Secretariat, we do find some echo; Sonny Ramphal [Sridath Ramphal of Guyana, Secretary-General of the British Commonwealth] is very good, very good. I have spent a lot of time trying to convince him to get Commonwealth policies working along these lines. He's very well aware of things. He's good news. He's doing a very good job.

Charles de Haes, WWF Director-General

From an interview with Charles de Haes, Director-General, World Wildlife Fund (WWF):

In the short run, the world economic and financial crisis is not making our job easy because the first thing countries cut in the budgets is conservation. . . . But more conservation, not less, is needed. . . .

Eco-catastrophies will awaken awareness. . . . But until now, governments lack the political will. . . .

If there is depression, if it goes to a financial collapse, developing countries will suffer most. We have some fat we can live off, we can retrench, consume less. But in the developing world, poverty is the biggest threat to conservation. . . . We are working to make sure that the aid agencies directing aid to the real priorities, in which conservation is included from the beginning.

IUCN [International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources] alone, WWF alone, UNDP [United Nations Development Program] alone had not one chance of success. Together, it was another matter, since all three had a common strategy.

We now have a special project for followup on the world conservation strategy, within IUCN: the Conservation for Development Center, headed by Michael Cockerell. He's building up a team here, since many resources are available in aid agencies; it will help developing countries to establish their own national conservation strategies. . . .

We've just had a meeting where we had invited all the U.N. agencies. There was Mustafa Tolba, the head of UNDP, Dr. Lee Talbot of IUCN, and I. We had the FAO [Food and Agriculture Organization], UNESCO, UNDP, WHO [World Health Organization], ILO [International Labor Organiza-

tion], UNIDO [United Nations Industrial Development Organization]. . . . We were making sure that there would be no overlap, that we would all focus our efforts.

It is an absolutely crucial, absolutely important effort to control population. . . . End of January, we're having a meeting with International Planned Parenthood Federation in London, with IUCN and WWF—we'll discuss on how conservation can be brought into the 1984 World Population Conference, which will meet for the tenth anniversary of the Bucharest conference of 1974. We're sending Peter Sand and Mike Cockerell. . . .

Prince Philip is brilliant. He's incredibly active. He chairs all the executive committee meetings. He's involved right down with every aspect of policy.

Global 2000 is a remarkable document. It does good things. It draws a very dramatic view of the situation—the same thing that the Club of Rome study *Limits to Growth* did. The figures may not be accurate, but people who complain about that miss the point.

Michael Cockerell, a WWF diplomat

From an interview with Michael Cockerell, of the World Wildlife Fund-International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) and the Conservation for Development Center:

The January meeting at the IPPF [International Planned Parenthood Federation] in London will be a large one: it is going to be a forum to prepare the [1984] World Population Conference. You see, it is pointless to simply concentrate on conservation alone. . . . The root cause is population in the first place. . . .

Take for example the national conservation strategy in Nepal: We [IPPF] have the business of population built into that whole structure. The magnitude of the problem there is terrifying. The mountains of the Himalayas for millions of years have been falling into the ocean, and mankind has helped a great deal since it has been around. The population problem has pushed that beyond all bounds.

Inevitably, for the Third World, you must think in terms of appropriate technologies. In much of the developing world, nuclear energy is not appropriate. . . .

We face the problem [of triage] every day. To ensure the best return on investment for our assistance, we have to decide: are there countries that have gone too far to be helped?

At IUCN we discussed it last week: typically, a country will concentrate aid or resources it gets on industrialization in its richer areas. We concentrate on the marginal areas.

Population conditionality is a very tricky one for any type of outside imposition. . . . I was in Rwanda recently; you know how much of an overpopulation problem they have. You cannot even mention population control. The question

is almost taboo! "It's the will of God, the country is infinite, resources are infinite." It's a question of education—so that they will accept it from the inside. For this reason they need education—that's our most important contribution. We don't educate children only. We have a whole program: how to get a message gradually accepted; identify the influentials in a village, figure out how certain concepts can be put over, and so on. They must experience things for themselves.

Eleonora Masini of the Club of Rome's Forum Humanum

Excerpts follow from an interview with Eleonora Masini, Club of Rome member and reported to be the controller of Club of Rome President Aurelio Peccei. Masini is a professor at the Gregorian University in Rome and created the Club of Rome's Forum Humanum organization.

We are living in a moment of crisis which is not only economic. It is the crisis of a way of life and of a conception of development. It was assumed that [development] could go on and be projected in the future the way it went in the 1960s. The future would be better. The 1970s have shown us that it is not possible in physical terms. . . . It is a double process; in developed countries, people realize that the economic-based model of development based on science and technology is not meeting their needs. The second trend is in developing countries; they are not accepting the transfer of the Western, industrial conception of life. The pressure of the world economic and financial crisis brings to the fore the need for the other aspects to dominate. . . .

The time is finished of the economic growth that was centralized, measured in GNP, with science and technology saving us all, or the idea that transfers of technology would save the North-South debate. Whatever transfer—of capital, of technology, of "know-how" (I don't like that word)—it does not help answer the basic needs. . . .

The logic which caused the [population] problem—science, technology—cannot be used to solve it! Africa must meet its basic needs within its own culture.

That puts a lot of things, of institutions, in question. Like the family. . . . Unfortunately, the notion of the nation-state seems to be very important for developing countries. . . .

I am working at present on the theme of the family in developing countries. It's a U.N. university project, called "Household, Gender, and Age". . . .

Psychosociological movements, threads that cut across cultures, [are] reactions to or guidelines from history, to the woman's image in history. . . . an image concealed and overpowered by layer upon layer of industrial societies. We must unearth, *unearth* it. . . . This is the resurrection of Isis, of Cybele, one could say, Magna Mater brought to light. . . . This is very important in Latin America. I am doing field work there. . . .