

Boutros-Ghali outlines agenda for mass death

by Joseph Brewda

United Nations Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali released his "Agenda for Development" in New York City on May 25, saying that it represents a "blueprint for a reenergized drive to improve the human condition" and is a contribution toward providing a "new and compelling vision of the future." The central concept of the report is that economic progress is deemed irrelevant or even contrary to "human development," which is instead defined as "carrying capacity." Hence, population reduction, the only way to ensure that man's numbers stay within Boutros-Ghali's claimed limits, is the order of the day. No opposition to this vision will be tolerated, Boutros-Ghali makes clear. "In light of the new vision of development that is emerging," Boutros-Ghali warns, "an alternative to the United Nations in development simply does not exist."

The report complements the "Human Development Report 1994" issued by the U.N. Development Program (UNDP) on June 1, which demands that developing countries surrender all rights of national sovereignty, and disarm and demobilize their armed forces (see **Documentation**). It is a followup to the secretary general's "Agenda for Peace" released in 1992 in the aftermath of the U.N. annihilation of Iraq, which declared that the "time of absolute and exclusive sovereignty has passed," and that from now on the "sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence of states" is limited and defined by "the established international system."

All three reports are intended to facilitate the ongoing British-steered transformation of the U.N. into a one-world dictatorship, predicated on the murder of the majority of the world's population through famine, war, and disease, and through the reduction of future generations by enforced birth control. The British hope to accomplish this transformation

at a series of what the U.N. has defined as "landmark conferences," whose agenda has largely been set by the three documents. These conferences include the September 1994 International Conference on Population and Development in Cairo, Egypt; the March 1995 World Summit for Social Development in Copenhagen, Denmark; and the World Conference on Women: Action for Equality, Development and Peace, scheduled for Beijing, China in September 1995.

A 'new conception of development'

In his report, Boutros-Ghali says that a "new conception" is needed for a "universal, human-centered culture of development, in which peace, economy, the environment, societal justice, and democracy are each considered distinct aspects of the same drive for a better world." Explaining himself more frankly in a talk at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Maryland immediately following the report's release, Boutros-Ghali emphasized that "economy was once of the sole dimension of development. This is no longer so."

Boutros-Ghali makes clear that any sane idea of Third World development is dead and buried, and that what passes for development these days is meant to facilitate mass death.

Peace: "Peace is the foundation of development," Boutros-Ghali argues, in direct opposition to Pope Paul VI's *Populorum Progressio* of 1967 which asserted that "development is the new name for peace." And what does Boutros-Ghali mean by peace? Third World nations must demilitarize.

"Development cannot proceed easily in societies where military concerns are at or near the center of life," he explains. "Societies whose economic effort is given in substantial part to military production inevitably diminish the prospects of their people for development." Therefore, he argues,

development requires “promoting the transition toward smaller militaries” and supporting U.N. “peace building,” which allegedly “identifies and supports structures which will tend to strengthen and solidify peace.”

The failure to demilitarize, Boutros-Ghali warns, contributes to international tension, and makes more likely conflicts which “pose security and developmental concerns beyond a state’s borders.” Such concerns, Boutros-Ghali has specified elsewhere, justify U.N. military intervention.

The environment: “Development and environment are not separate concepts,” Boutros-Ghali claims. “Preserving the availability and rationalizing the use of the Earth’s natural resources are among the most compelling issues that individual societies and states must face.” And what does he mean by this? People must make do with less, and even die. “Competing needs and interests must be balanced” in such a way that the satisfaction of economic needs do not “undermine the viability of ecosystems.” To do so requires a “change in lifestyles and attitudes,” especially “toward energy consumption.”

Failure to address “environmental degradation” also poses a security threat to the international community, potentially requiring U.N. action. “Environmental degradation has produced pressures that have touched off bitter conflicts . . . dramatizing the stake that all nations have in addressing the challenge of the environment,” he warns.

Justice: “Without societal justice, mounting inequalities will threaten social cohesion,” Boutros-Ghali expounds. Societal justice, he says, is based on decentralizing government while extending greater powers to non-governmental organizations (NGOs). “Social development, if it is to take hold, must spring from society itself. Government must lead and facilitate, but government cannot be the only force for social progress. NGOs must be actively involved.”

Democracy: “Without political participation in freedom, development will remain fragile.” But by freedom, Boutros-Ghali does not mean the ability of a citizen to develop himself for the benefit of mankind, but rather a system that provides unparalleled opportunities for imperial powers to overthrow states. “Democracy provides the only long-term basis for managing competing ethnic, religious, and cultural interests in a way that minimizes the risk of violent internal conflict,” Boutros-Ghali—currently engaged in supervising the murder of Bosnia—asserts.

Economic growth: “Economic growth is the engine of development as a whole,” Boutros-Ghali reports; but what does he define by it? “Successful economic growth must be based on pragmatic policies . . . the need to take advantage of the efficiency of markets.” Consequently, “governments can no longer be assumed to be paramount economic agents.”

Back to the Stone Age

Speaking before the U.N. Commission on Sustainable Development, where his new report was released, Boutros-

Ghali stated that the theoretical basis for his report is the “sustainable development” doctrine rammed through the U.N. Commission on Environment and Development in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in 1992. The commission had been formed at the Rio conference as a standing body to monitor compliance with the decisions taken there.

“Since Rio,” Boutros-Ghali told over 100 environment ministers and NGO representatives, “solid progress has been made both politically and organizationally. Sustainable development is now squarely on the world political agenda. Never again can we speak of development without speaking as well of sustainability.”

But what is “sustainable development”?

In its proclamation of the 1993 International Year of Indigenous People, the U.N. Secretariat officially defined the most miserable, backward peoples of the earth, peoples deprived of all means of technology, as following practices which exemplify the “the very essence of sustainable development.”

“In their farming and in their faith,” it reports, “indigenous peoples exercise vital stewardship over the Earth’s resources and environment. Where most of humankind tends to seek dominion over the natural world, indigenous peoples generally favor a holistic approach that is the very essence of sustainable development. Once dismissed as ‘too primitive’ to cope with modernization, and for centuries the victims of discrimination, indigenous peoples have begun to be recognized for their prowess at environmental management—and acknowledged as key players in the global effort to chart a more hopeful course of development for the future of humanity.”

The Rio conference endorsed this perverse view. “Indigenous peoples and their communities have a vital role in environmental management,” the final report of the conference claims. “States should recognize their effective participation in the achievement of sustainable development.”

But because most people do not want to return to the Stone Age, whatever diplomats might formally agree to at conferences, U.N. military action remains a required means of enforcement.

One pretext for such action is ongoing efforts to define so-called “biodiversity hot spots,” regions where industrialization and agriculture have threatened endangered species. The December 1993 cover story of *Choices*, the UNDP magazine, identified 15 tropical rain forest “hotspots” that require “urgent action.” The rain forests cover most of Central America, the Atlantic coast of Brazil, much of Colombia and Peru, the Ivory and Gold Coast region of western Africa, and all of Madagascar, Malaysia, Indonesia, and the Philippines. Efforts are also under way to identify other “threatened ecosystems,” including deserts and wetlands. Areas considered for such designation include the Sudd swamp in Sudan, the Sonoran desert of Mexico, and much of the southwestern United States.

Documentation

The UNDP's 'Human Development Report 1994'

Below are excerpts from the U.N. Development Program's blueprint for world government. Page numbers are designated in parentheses at the end of each excerpt. Excerpts appear with permission from the report's publisher, Oxford University Press.

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The roots of the concept of human development can often be traced to early periods in human history and can be found in many cultures and religions. Aristotle wrote that "wealth is evidently not the good we are seeking, for it is merely useful and for the sake of something else." A similar strain was reflected in the writings of the early founders of quantitative economics (William Petty, Gregory King, François Quesnay, Antoine Lavoisier, and Joseph Lagrange) and in the words of the pioneers of political economy (Adam Smith, Robert Malthus, Karl Marx, and John Stuart Mill). When Adam Smith, the apostle of free enterprise and private initiative, showed his concern that economic development should enable a person to mix freely with others without "being ashamed to appear in publick," he was expressing a concept of poverty that went beyond counting calories—a concept that integrated the poor in the mainstream of the community. . . . (14)

But it is well to remember Immanuel Kant's injunction, "to treat humanity as an end in itself, never as a means only." The quality of human life is an end. (17)

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Global taxation may become necessary in any case to achieve the goals of human security. (5)

The World Summit for Social Development might want to consider . . . urging the international community . . . to undertake a comprehensive review of international development cooperation, and in this connection, to undertake studies on the practicability of such measures as . . . introducing a world income tax and supporting the Tobin tax (on foreign exchange movements) as a potential source of financing for a more effective United Nations. (89)

Pollution taxes—Tradable pollution permits . . . could also generate significant North-South financial flows and be an important source of development finance. (69)

* * *

A World Central Bank is essential for the 21st century—for sound macroeconomic management, for global financial stability, and for assisting the economic expansion of the poorer nations. It would perform five functions:

- Help stabilize global economic activity
- Act as a lender of last resort to financial institutions
- Calm the financial markets when they become jittery or disorderly
- Regulate financial institutions, particularly the deposit banks

- Create and regulate new international liquidity

The IMF [International Monetary Fund] was supposed to perform all these functions, but the industrial countries have been reluctant to give it the responsibility for them, weakening its role considerably over the last two decades.

It will take some time—and probably some international financial crisis—before a full-scale World Central Bank can be created. In the meantime, four steps could convert the IMF into an embryonic central bank.

- 1) A renewed issue of Special Drawing Rights. . . .
- 2) An expanded compensatory and contingency financial facility. . . .
- 3) Global macroeconomic management. An enhanced IMF should be central in global macroeconomic management—reviewing the policies of all countries, whether or not they are active borrowers. If major countries have unsustainable policies—such as high budget deficits or inappropriate interest rates—the IMF should request the Bank for International Settlements (BIS) to link the level of reserves that banks are required to hold against loans to these countries to the IMF's evaluation. This would affect the industrial countries' ability to raise funds from private banks and give the IMF an important lever on their policies. . . .
- 4) Supervision of international banking. In collaboration with the BIS, the IMF should acquire some regular control over international banking agencies. (84-85)

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(From "Special Contribution—Global Governance for the 21st Century"—Jan Tinbergen)

What is needed is World Government. This can best be achieved by strengthening the United Nations system. . . . The FAO [Food and Agriculture Organization] would become the World Ministry of Agriculture. UNIDO [U.N. Industrial Development Organization] would become the World Ministry of Industry, and the ILO [International Labor Organization] the World Ministry of Social Affairs.

In other cases, completely new institutions would be needed. These could include, for example, a permanent World Police which would have the power to subpoena nations to appear before the International Court of Justice. . . . But some of the most important new institutions would be financial—a World Treasury and a World Central Bank. The World Treasury would serve as a world ministry of finance. (88)

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And for the future, one could think of expanding a WTO [World Trade Organization] into a WTPO—a World Trade and Production Organization—to cover investment and tech-

ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT
 Rio de Janeiro 3-14 June 1992



The U.N.'s "new world order" in action at the Eco '92 conference in Brazil. Here U.N. Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali (fifth from left) is shown opening the conference. Today, the U.N. is moving rapidly to set up a full institutional structure for world government, smashing the nation-states that get in the way.

nology transfers, too. (87)

A useful starting point would be to complete the U.N. Code of Conduct for Transnationals. . . . This could be followed by the creation within the U.N. of a World Anti-Monopoly Authority—to monitor observance of the new code and to ensure that TNs do not resort to monopolistic and restrictive practices. (87)

A further role in strengthening the U.N. role in sustainable human development would be the creation of an Economic Security Council—a decision making forum at the highest level to review the threats to global human security and agree on required actions. . . . An intermediate alternative would be to extend the mandate of the present Security Council so that it could consider not just military threats but also threats to peace from economic and social crises. (84)

The [Economic Security] council would act as a watchdog over the policy direction of all international and regional institutions. (11)

It [sustainable human development] brings human numbers into balance with the coping capacities of societies and the carrying capacities of nature. (4)

Intensive industrialization and rapid population growth have put the planet under intolerable strain. (28)

The real threats to human security in the next century will arise more from the actions of millions of people than from aggression by a few nations—threats that take many forms:

- unchecked population growth. . . .

The rapid rate of population growth . . . is overcrowding the planet, adding to the enormous pressure on diminishing nonrenewable resources. (34)

The target over the next ten years should be that . . .

- World population moves towards stabilization at 7.3 billion by 2015. . . . For this compact, all countries would have to commit themselves to the following steps: . . .

- Participating in annual reviews of the 20:20 compact—to be held as joint donor-recipient meetings on each country as well as annual reviews in the Economic and Social Council.

Four situations would appear to warrant international intervention: 1) mass slaughter of the population of the state, 2) decimation through starvation or the withholding of health or other services, 3) forced exodus, 4) occupation and the denial of the right to self-determination. Environmental destruction would appear to be the natural choice for a fifth reason. (57)

The poorest regions of the world (especially sub-Saharan Africa) failed to contain their military spending. (8)

"Special Contribution" by Oscar Arias on a Global Demilitarization Fund:

This fund could add dynamism to the current demilitarization trend by rewarding primarily, but not exclusively, the efforts of developing countries to:

- Disarm and demobilize their armed forces

● Re-integrate military personnel into society through retraining and re-education. . . .

● Promote arms control and the shrinkage of arms production facilities

● Encourage civic education and participation in full democratic political life. . . .

Who will manage the Global Demilitarization Fund? . . . The World Bank and United Nations agencies should strongly be considered. (59)

The next challenge for disarmament is to phase the Third World out of the cold war. . . . Donor countries should reduce allocations of official development assistance (ODA) if a recipient country insists on spending more on its armies than on the social welfare of its people. (8)

A collective effort must be made at the time of the Summit to:

● Endorse the principle that no nation should spend more on its military than on the education and health of its people.

● Agree on a targeted reduction in military spending for the decade 1995-2005—say 3% a year.

● Endorse the establishment of a national demilitarization fund in each country as well as the creation of a global fund for human security.

● Recommend a review of the scope of Chapter VII of the U.N. Charter [which sets guidelines for U.N. military intervention]. (60)

Some of the most important steps in further world disarmament would be to:

● Establish forums for disarmament

● Defuse tensions around the globe

● Phase out military assistance

● Regulate the arms trade

● Design a new aid policy dialogue

● Agree on criteria for U.N. mediation in conflicts within nations

● Create more effective information systems (51)

Mandate the United Nations to maintain a list of sophisticated weapons and technologies that should not be exported at all, except under international agreement.

Several nation-states are beginning to disintegrate. While the threats to national survival may emerge from several sources . . . the underlying causes are often the lack of socio-economic progress and the limited participation of people in any such progress. (2)

For too long, nations have sought to protect their security. (3)

The concept of security has for too long been interpreted narrowly as security of territory from external aggression or as protection of national interests in foreign policy or as global security from the threat of nuclear holocaust. It has been related more to nation-states than to people. . . . Human security is easier to ensure through early prevention than later

intervention. (22)

The new demands of global human security require a more positive relationship among all nations of the world. . . . In such a design, economic partnership would be based on . . . far-sighted internationalism, not stubborn nationalism.

Manufacturing jobs have been disappearing, while many of the new opportunities are in the service sector, where employment is much more likely to be temporary or part-time—and less protected by trade unions. (25). . .

Real wages in many parts of the world have declined. In Latin America, in the 1980s, they fell by 20%, and in many African countries in the same period, the value of the minimum wage dropped sharply—by 20% in Togo, 40% in Kenya, and 80% in Sierra Leone. . . . In the United States, real earnings fell by 3% during the 1980s. (26)

All countries have made substantial progress in human development. (95)

Sustainability is, in a very broad sense, a matter of distributional equity. . . . (13)

The use that nations make of their wealth, not the wealth itself, is decisive. (15)

Developing countries have considerable scope for changing their budget priorities: by reducing their military spending . . . by privatizing their loss-making public enterprises, and by giving up some low priority development projects.

Human development is a broader concept—defined in previous *Human Development Reports* as a process of widening the range of people's choices: (23)

Using the HDI

● To stimulate national debate. . . . People have used the HDI for advocacy and to hold their representatives accountable—fueling a national debate involving political parties and the press as well as NGOs. . . .

● To give priority to human development. . . . Even the poorest countries can afford improvements in human development. . . .

● To highlight disparities within countries. . . . Disaggregation by social group or region can also enable local community groups to press for more resources, making the HDI a tool for participatory development. . . .

● To stimulate dialogue on aid policy. . . . Should aid go to countries with low HDIs—to the needy? Or should it go to countries showing the fastest rate of improvement in HDI over time—or to the speedy? Or should it go as a reward to countries that already have a high HDI? (101)

One radical alternative is drug decriminalization. This would reduce the violence and crime associated with drugs and allow for production and consumption in less squalid and dangerous circumstances. The risk, however, is that it might increase overall consumption. (37)