

# WORLD FEDERALIST MOVEMENT

## Congress Plenary Sessions

November 12-14, 2005

A ceremonial lamp was lit by several individuals representative of various Member Organizations of WFM. Congress President Sir Peter Ustinov officially opened the meeting of the 23rd World Federalist Movement Congress, welcoming all participants.

A statement was delivered by Dr. A.T. Ariyaratne, president of the South Asian Federalists. This was followed by a statement by Justice V.R. Krishna Iyer of the Asian Youth Center. Reports were given by Keith Best, chair of the WFM Executive Committee, James Christie, chair of the WFM Council, and William Pace, WFM executive director.

The Commissions were formally introduced to the Congress representatives.

Sir Peter Ustinov was unanimously re-elected President of WFM.

The organization the World Federalist Movement - Germany was unanimously accepted as a member organization of the World Federalist Movement.

### Reports from Congress Commissions

The following reports were presented by the five Congress Commissions:

*Commission I:* Democratization And Restructuring Of The United Nations And Other International Organizations And The Relationship Between Them; Financing The UN And Its Activities; The Effects Of Globalization

The resolution introduced by this Commission was approved with one abstention nem con.

*Commission II:* Management of the Global Commons; the Environment and Sustainable Development

The Resolution on the formation of a Committee to Study the Feasibility of Creating an Enforcement Mechanism of International Environmental Laws was passed unanimously with two absentions nem con.

The Resolution on Follow-up of Previous Environmental Education Training was passed unanimously with one abstention nem con.

The Resolution on WTO Consultations with NGOs and Civil Societies was passed unanimously nem con.

The Resolution on Reaching out to Key Technology Industry Leaders was passed unanimously nem con.

The Resolution on Microcredit Loans and Sustainable Development was passed unanimously nem con.

The Resolution on Early Environmental Education for Elementary and Grade School Students was passed unanimously nem con.

The resolution on the Utilization of Global Environment Facility (GEF) by WFM Member Organizations for Sustainable Development Projects was passed unanimously nem con.

*Commission III:* The Right to Development and the Eradication of Poverty

The resolution from this Commission was adopted unanimously.

*Commission IV: The Rule of Law - Development of Global Citizenship and Protection of Human Rights through International Legal Instruments*

The resolution from this Commission was adopted unanimously.

*Commission V: Peace and Security & Prevention of Conflict*

The resolution on Nuclear Disarmament was passed unanimously nem con.

The resolution on Universal and Complete Disarmament was passed with seven abstentions nem con.

The resolution on Peace and Religion was passed unanimously nem con.

The resolution on Global Action to Prevent War was passed with one abstention nem con.

The resolution on Rapid Deployment Peace-Keeping Force was passed with six opposed, one abstention nem con.

The resolution on Article 9 of the Japanese Constitution was passed unanimously nem con.

The resolution on the International Arms Trade was passed unanimously nem con.

The resolution on Weapons of Mass Destruction was passed unanimously nem con.

*Commission VI: Federalism / Regionalism / Subsidiarity*

The proposal on Federations and the Rights of People to Self-government was referred to the Council after protracted debate.

A definition of "sovereignty" was received by the Commission from the World Federalists Association. The Commission recommended the definition be disseminated to member organizations. The motion was carried, with two abstentions.

The Commission recommended that Member Organizations study the proposal of Dr. Tad Daley on a "Permanent Volunteer Peace Force." The motion was carried with two opposed.

The Commission recommended that the revised "Declaration of Chennai" be approved and released to the press at the conclusion of the Congress. After debate, it was moved that the matter be referred to Council. The motion was carried with four opposed and three abstentions.

Sir Peter Ustinov gave closing remarks.

Keith Best adjourned the meeting.