

# Institute for Planetary Synthesis

Speaker: Leonidas Zeferino Lex

Good Afternoon,

Thank you, Co-facilitators, I speak for the Institute for Planetary Synthesis/IPS on **INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL SOLIDARITY AS A MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION.**

Solidarity, Unity and cooperation are imperative for a strong Global Declaration and a possible cohesive Global Pact for the Environment, as well as creating synergy between the MEAs. It will close the gaps in international environmental laws and protect our shared biosphere. Such a dimension encompasses ethical, moral and legal content, associated with universal values and responsibility. It is also needed to strengthen the implementation of the international law we already have. Solidarity is already enshrined in numerous international legal instruments and agreements and can form a foundation, for example:

*The Stockholm Declaration* (Principle 1, 9, 12, 21, 22);

*The Rio Declaration on Environment and Development* (Principles 4 and 7);

*The Principles on Transboundary Pollution;*

*The World Charter for Nature;*

*The United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea* (Articles 61<sup>o</sup> (3) , 62<sup>o</sup> (2, 3), 82<sup>o</sup> (3, 4) , 144<sup>o</sup> , 202<sup>o</sup> e 203);

*Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer*, of September 16, 1987 (Articles 5, 10 and 10A);

*The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change*, signed in New York, on May 9, 1992 (Principles announced in Article 3);

*The International Convention to Combat Desertification in Countries Affected by Serious Drought and / or Desertification, Particularly in Africa;*

*Agenda 21*, through the “Official Development Assistance (ODA);

*Convention on Biological Diversity;*

*The Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change* of 10 December 1997;

*“The Paris Agreement on Climate Change”*.

Because no one is exempt from the combined economic, social and environmental consequences of environmental degradation and the causes of this pandemic. In this context, CBDR principles provide an opportunity for each country to do their utmost of what is in their often unique capacity to achieve, and for all nations to respect CBDR and in assistance to each other, standing in solidarity, ensuring that none gets left behind.

A strong sense of solidarity, unity and need for cooperation is a means of increasing the synergy, goodwill and motivation for all to work for our combined survival and well-being. It should be enshrined in an international legal agreement that would bind all entities, Governments, the private sector, civil society and individuals.

Thank you very much,

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