

Paris, January 16, 2006

Dear Friends and Allies,

In April 2005, the Foundation Board sent you a letter to submit to you a project for a Constituent Charter for the Alliance for a Responsible, Plural and United World. As underscored by the Board at the end of the letter, your reactions would condition the Foundation's will to continue its support to the Alliance.

Your reactions were initially expected by May 2005. When, however, the Foundation Board convened last June, it observed that the time allowed had been too short, given the variety of mail-delivery conditions in the different continents. Considering that the number of responses that had reached it by the end of May was not significant enough, it did not wish to draw conclusions at that moment; it preferred to wait for the fall to decide how the FPH would follow up on the consultation.

To facilitate the compilation and analysis of the responses, the Foundation backed the establishment of an efficient team and set up the technological conditions that would allow everyone to respond through a number of different procedures: through regular mail, via e-mail, or by replying to a questionnaire on line.

When the Foundation Board convened last October 18, it examined the summary report drawn up by the facilitation team on the basis of the nearly 300 replies that had reached it.

Assessment of this report called up contradictory feelings among the Foundation Board. On the one hand, the roughly 300 persons who went to the trouble of answering the questionnaire and making comments on the Constituent Charter project were nearly unanimous in demonstrating deep attachment to the founding idea of the Alliance for a Responsible, Plural and United World and broad approval for the submitted Charter project. On the other hand, the Foundation Board considered that the low number of answers to the Consultation showed that there was not, today, a collective dynamics of the Alliance that was equal to its ambitions.

The Foundation Board therefore judged that it had to draw lessons from this absence of collective dynamics and decided that, as of 2006, it would no longer provide significant financial support for the rekindling or development of the Alliance.

It is not up to the Foundation Board to decide the future of the Alliance. The Alliance is a collective dynamics. As underscored by the Charter project, it exists only through the Allies' initiatives. The Foundation Board's decision not to finance the development of the Alliance in 2006-2007 does not in any way bar the Alliance from continuing; it will, however, entail that Allies be more self-sufficient than in the past in their initiatives, as much for the launching as for the funding of its actions.

For this greater self-sufficiency in its dynamics to be possible, it is necessary to complete the clarification process begun with the Constituent Charter project. In this perspective, the team in charge of the facilitation of the consultation will now establish a new version of the Constituent

Charter that will take into account the thoughts and contributions of the 300 persons who responded. The support and intercession group proposed in the Charter project will be formed. Many of those who responded to the consultation manifested their desire to be active in the different bodies proposed in the Charter project, in particular in the support and intercession group. The initial project will be reformulated to take into account the importance of this implication.

In addition, the Foundation will support the completion of the work in methodological and technological development of the Alliance Web site so that the latter can, in compliance with the Charter project, constitute an appropriate tool through which Allies will be able to display the initiatives that they wish to launch or publicize.

In this moment of the Foundation Board's decision to put an end to its financial support, which has been substantial since 1994 and culminated in 2001 with the preparation of the sixty Proposal Papers and the organization of the World Citizens Assembly, I would like to state, in the name of the Foundation Board, our conviction that the Alliance approach, philosophy, methods, insights, and proposals match the needs of our society at the beginning of the twenty-first century. The Foundation itself took direct inspiration from the findings of the World Citizens Assembly to define its guidelines for 2003-2010. It is also the methods developed in the framework of the Alliance that inspired its will to support the emergence of citizens' alliances. There is no doubt in our minds that this philosophy, these insights, and these methods, widely acknowledged today, will one day give the Alliance new momentum once again. When this happens, it will find the Charles Léopold Mayer Foundation for the Progress of Humankind by its side again.

My very best regards and my best wishes for 2006.

Pierre Calame

P.S.

You can download this letter at the following address:

http://www.alliance21.org/constitution/Decision_FPH_EN.pdf

You can download the initial consultation letter at the following address:

http://www.alliance21.org/constitution/IMG/pdf/Lettre_allies_EN.pdf