

DRAFT VISION FOR A VALUES-DRIVEN INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY CULTURE - see notes to participate

QUALITIES

- Authenticity
- Governance
- Idealism
- Love
- Peace
- Pragmatism
- Solidarity
- Spirit

REALITY CHECK

POSITIVE

- the fact that different groups are forced into dialogue
- the freedom NGOs have to express ideals
- acknowledgement of the common interests of humanity
- current efforts to renew the internal justice system
- informal diplomacy
- representation in the system
- the commitment of staff in the field
- Week of spirituality, values and global concerns

NEGATIVE

- bureaucracy and hierarchy
- lost idealism
- power imbalances
- use of language which obscures rather than promotes communication
- the narrow definition of states
- lack of openness at the individual and organizational levels
- poor leadership and models
- inadequate application of knowledge
- lack of inclusiveness
- the economics of weaponry
- arrogance
- hypocrisy

OPTIONS

- Authenticity
 - recruiting persons for integrity
 - breaking down bureaucracy and increasing enthusiasm
- Governance
 - developing and implementing practical steps
 - cooperation among democracies to avoid dictatorships
- Idealism
 - forming an organization dedicated to solving the problems identified
 - effective communication on all levels
 - reflection and meditation
 - being open and honest
- Love
 - work on one-self
 - developing confidence in convictions
 - finding and maintaining sources/concrete examples of love in one's own life
 - being open to the perspectives of others
- Peace
 - communication
 - modeling peace in one's own behaviour
 - respecting cultural and religious differences
 - creating social and economic justice
 - overcoming isolation
 - building trust by modeling values-based behaviour
- Pragmatism
 - establishment of inclusive partnerships
 - taking risks
 - caring and warm strong leadership
 - mentoring on an individual level
 - ending meetings with practical and bold action steps
 - assigning responsibilities to specific individuals or institutions
 - follow-up and monitoring
 - responsibility/accountability to principles
 - scholarship
- Solidarity
 - modernization of structures
 - good governance
 - increased transparency
- Spirit
 - building time for meditation in the schedules of leadership and staff
 - recruitment based more on authenticity and sense of spirit

Notes

1) DRAFT VISION FOR A VALUES-DRIVEN INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITYCULTURE - see notes to participate

Building the vision

The IVC held three coaching workshops – in November 2007, April and May 2008. These workshops provided a space for participants – a total of 45 diplomats, UN staff, NGO representatives and members of the private sector in the international community in New York – to explore what an international system based on universal values would look like. What would be the qualities of this system? What would be its behaviours, processes, mechanisms, relations and output? What are the real-life supports and obstacles to these now? And what paths can take us there from where we are today? How can we be now to bring this about? These were the kinds of questions asked, and the outcomes of these probes are captured below in text and mind-map representations. The words are the unedited, unprompted responses of participants in reflecting creatively on these questions. The full workshop debriefing texts are available on our website under the "PUBLICATIONS AND EVENTS" section.

This is the beginning of a new process of engagement, collectively constructing a framework of actions and processes that best reflect the system's core values. The output thus far has necessarily been introductory in nature, and we encourage further elaboration, debate and experimentation in future activities as well as in our online community and other interactions. Some suggestions for further development on the existing vision framework is proposed in the Draft Vision for an International System and Culture based on Universal Values, which also appears under the Vision Mapping section of our website. We hope it will inspire further thinking and applied action as we move ahead in understanding and embracing more fully the implications of our roles as international servants.