

# **The Earth Constitution Movement**

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## The Earth Constitution

The Earth Constitution is the fundamental document for World Parliament. The Earth Constitution embodies all these values within a system that protects human rights, eliminates war, restores the environment, and guarantees equality before the law for all citizens of the Earth. The Constitution is not just another set of ideals like the Earth Charter or the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights. It provides a real blueprint for governing the Earth on behalf of all its citizens equally. It provides specific arrangements for a World Parliament, a World Judiciary, a World Ombudsmus (for protecting human rights), and a Civilian World Police Force.

The Constitution for the Federation of Earth was written through the combined effort and input of hundreds of world citizens, including many international legal experts over a period of 23 years (from 1968 to 1991). Sponsored by the World Constitution and Parliament Association (WCPA), the painstaking process of drafting and revising the Earth Constitution resulted in a historic document and holistic solution for the progress of humanity.

At the first Constituent Assembly in Interlaken, Switzerland in 1968, the delegates elected a drafting committee of 25 persons, which included a prominent Indian Mr. Godey Murahari, former Deputy Chairperson of Rajya Sabha. In 1972, five primary authors from this committee completed the first draft:

- Philip Isely, a visionary philanthropist from the United States;
- Dr. Terence P. Amerasinghe, an

international lawyer from Sri Lanka;

- Hon. S. M. Hussain, a Justice at the Supreme Court of Bangladesh;
- D. M. Spencer, a Professor of Law in Mumbai, India; and
- Dr. Max Habicht, a prominent international lawyer from Switzerland.

The first draft was circulated worldwide several times for comments and amendments. It was reviewed paragraph-by-paragraph at the Second Constituent Assembly in Innsbruck, Austria in 1977, and at the Third Assembly in Colombo, Sri Lanka in 1979. Small changes were again made at the Fourth Constituent Assembly in Troia, Portugal in 1991. The Fourth Assembly then declared the Earth Constitution “completed” and ready for ratification by the people and nations of Earth.

## History of the Earth Constitution

### Brief Milestones

Since 1958, the organization has worked through its worldwide membership to write and ratify the Earth Constitution in four international Constituent Assemblies. Under the authority of Article 19 of the Earth Constitution the WCPA has also sponsored 14 sessions of the Provisional World Parliament till date, building a new world order of freedom, justice, prosperity, and equality within the shell of the old, unjust world order. Below is a summary history of our work.

1958. Agreement to Call a World Constitutional Convention initiated by four persons, circulated worldwide for signatures,

requesting both national governments and people of each country to send delegates.

1959-1960. World Committee for a World Constitutional Convention formed. Thousands sign the Agreement, including many prominent leaders. Organizers of this action travel around the world to enlist support.

1961-1962. Definitive Call to the World Constitutional Convention adopted. Many persons sign, including Heads of five national governments.

1963-1964. First Preparatory Congress held Denver, Colorado, USA, with delegates from five continents. Call to the World Constitutional Convention is publicly issued, then circulated for more signers and response.

1965-1966. Second Preparatory Congress held at Milan, Italy. Outline for Debate and Drafting of a World Constitution is formulated, on basis on alternative choices. Plan agreed for a Peoples' World Parliament to meet concurrently.

1967. Decision made at Third Preparatory Congress to begin Convention in 1968, even if no government sends delegates. 300 Peoples' Delegates pledged.

1968. First working sessions of World Constitutional Convention and Peoples' World Convention held at Interlaken, Switzerland, and Wolfach, W. Germany with 200 Peoples Delegates from 27 countries, of five continents. Work begun on drafting the World Constitution.

1969-1971. Strategy for Reclaiming Earth for Humanity is circulated. Emergency Council of World Trustees Meet, Santa Barbara, Calif.,

and issues First Decree for Protection of Life, outlawing nuclear weapons. Directions given to drafting commission.

1972. World Constitution drafting commission of four persons, with a fifth communicating by telephone, works for two months, nearly completing first draft of Constitution for the Federation of Earth.

1973-1975. First draft finished, printed in 1974, then circulated worldwide for comment, together with Call to the second session in 1977, now defined as the World Constituent Assembly. Comments on first draft complied.

1976. Drafting Commission meets again. Second draft completed, circulated.

1977. Second Session of World Constituent Assembly held in June, Innsbruck, Austria. Earth Constitution debated paragraph by paragraph, amended, then adopted with 138 original signers from 25 countries of 6 continents. Call for ratification by the nations and peoples of Earth is issued. Constitution is sent to U.N. General Assembly and to all national governments.

1978-1980. Earth Constitution is circulated worldwide for debate and ratification. Third session of World Constituent Assembly held in January, 1979, Colombo, Sri Lanka; adopts Rationale For a World Constituent Assembly, defining right of people to convene Assembly, draft constitution, and obtain ratification. Appeal issued for national parliaments to ratify.

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