

## DECLARATION OF BIOSPHERE DAY\*

On behalf of the Foundation for Environmental Conservation with its most pertinent affiliate the World Council For The Biosphere, and of others who have lent their support in various ways, I hereby solemnly declare that the 21st day of September, which presages the Autumnal Equinox of equal division of night and day in the Northern Hemisphere and similarly the Spring Equinox in the Southern Hemisphere, shall this year and henceforth annually in perpetuity be marked, recognized, and vehemently celebrated, as '**Biosphere Day**'.

The Biosphere is that favoured layer of our planet's periphery (solid, liquid, and gaseous) in which any form of life exists naturally. It is our sole home and living heritage whose protection should be our first human imperative. Energized in virtual eternity by the Sun, The Biosphere is our only proven life-support — as the world is at last beginning to realize, while concomitantly recognizing the immense implications of this most basic fact. It is also the only proven venue of organized life in our Universe, hence multiplying our gargantuan responsibilities to safeguard it in every possible way.

The recognition and celebration of Biosphere Day shall, above all, demonstrate the firm resolve of participants to spread fundamental information world-wide concerning The Biosphere and how to preserve and foster it. This we all have to do and activate to the utmost limits of our various capacities, while adjuring others to follow suit. Particularly must we aim at effectively fostering among our fellow humans — men and women, and rich and poor alike — the will and absolute resolve to place, in everybody's thinking and acting, the welfare of The Biosphere before all selfish or factional considerations. Our motto and guiding principle should henceforth be: 'Every Day a Biosphere Day'. For it is The Biosphere which is so gravely threatened by human overpopulation and profligacy — not the inert and more solid Planet Earth.

It is our conclusive belief that such resolve to save The Biosphere, and reorientation of our lives accordingly, will be necessary if our world is to survive, and that the most effective means of attaining this most fundamental objective would be the emergence of a dominant category of humans based on this resolve.

NICHOLAS POLUNIN, *President*  
The Foundation for Environmental Conservation  
& The World Council For The Biosphere

\* following its Announcement (12th draft) on page 118 of *Environmental Conservation*, Vol. 18, No. 2, Summer 1991  
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