



GOIANIA DECLARATION

We , the undersigned, participants of the Brazilian way of life, members of families, ministries and educational, governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), present at the First Brazilian Children's Conference of the Millennium, being held at Goiânia's Marist College between 12 and 14 of October, 2000, make the following declaration:

Considering that:

1. the recommendations, conventions and action plans of the Belgrade Conference on Environmental Education (1975), Tbilisi (1977), Moscow (1987), The Children's World Meeting (New York, 1990) and the Environmental Education Treaty for Sustainable Societies and Global Responsibility (1992) in Rio de Janeiro and Toronto (1992) are important historical contributions for application in the different world regions, and that they have not been made sufficiently public or put into practice in Brazil, especially in relation to children;
2. the ideal of the relationship between education and social awareness in Brazil will have to be further enriched and developed, by children, by means of the organization of a children's cultural community in the country, both to articulate and to think about, to be educated and informed about Brazil and the world;
3. agendas of action plans of various Children's Conferences which have been held since 1975 throughout Europe, US, Africa and Asia are being taken to the UN Special Session on Children in 2001 as working documents to establish a Children's Agenda for the Third Millennium which the nations will adopt as a basis for Children's environmental education and world sustainability;



4. children in Brazil must exercise their right to and duty of having a voice in this process as part of their exercise of local and planetary citizenship – in the exercise of their rights and because of their responsibility as Brazilians, they should tell society, their governments, the UN Organizations and other international organizations what is important for them;
5. we approve section III of the international tribunal on human rights pre-project on the rights of children and adolescents, in its 5th edition, presented to us by the representative of the Brazilian Bar, Dr. Celuta Cardoso Ramalho, President of the Brazilian Commission on Human Rights and Brazilian representative on the UN Human Rights Commission;
6. the untenability of the dominant economic model is made explicit by the environmental problems and that the 1989 UN Resolution, which agreed to hold the Environment and Sustainable Development Conference in 1992, affirms that “the greatest cause of the continuous deterioration of the Global Environment is the unsustainable production and consumption model, especially of industrialized countries” while in “the developing countries, extreme poverty and environmental degradation are intimately related”;
7. there is a need for a consistent pedagogical theory, based on the collective construction of knowledge, on reflective and conscious action and on ethical changes in behavior, which will concretize participative and democratic decision making processes. Overcoming naive notions which at most have resulted in sensitizing individuals, for example: the naturalist pedagogies which demand contact with nature; but, while still very important, do not go beyond sensitization and do not bring about the transformation of these individuals. There is a need to understand the repercussions of present conditions in education and social relations, the



processes of critical analysis, reflection and socio-environmental management.

We affirm that:

1. the concept of the national community organization of children involves their preparation for the sustainability, development and cultural integration of the country with adult orientation but voiced by children. To reach the stage of a Children's cultural community at national level, organized by children, an enormous coordination and integration of forces in the different sectors crucial to Brazilian society would be necessary, starting from the family nucleus. With this in mind, the CCBM Organizational Committee and the body of social representatives present at the Goiânia forum propose a social pact to the participant families, NGOs, Institutes, educators and intellectuals;
2. to empower children to organize themselves in associations at local, regional and national levels, with aims and relations defined by the Brazilian and International Agenda 21, the cultural unity and integration of Brazil and the world and the exercise of their rights and social responsibilities. We reaffirm that the CCBM is a forum for action in that it brings together children's association projects in accordance with the dynamic contributions of the child participants and the studies and analyses of environmental questions and globalization;
3. bringing about the organization of the national children's community is one of the essential tasks and an indispensable condition for the sustainability of all the social programs fighting against exclusion, crime, poverty and prejudice in order to build democracy, solidarity, fraternity, peace and human welfare;
4. at the CCBM, children with hearing deficiencies participated and integrated perfectly into the work process;



5. the production of life experience involving the various socio-cultural and children's human realities are an indispensable means of giving all the world's children the capacity to lead their own lives, extend their limits, potentialities, personal choices and responsibilities, to assume a life without frontiers, be they political, geographic, ethnic and live without social, cultural, religious, linguistic or gender class distinction;

We recommend that:

1. the Iberian-American Children's Conference examine this document in its entirety and register it among its publications for the UN Special Session on Children;
2. governments and leaders throughout Brazil offer the necessary organizational conditions for the future reaching out to the national children's community and its organized presence in Brazil and in the world;
3. the scientific community have an active role in guaranteeing the content of education and programs for heightening public awareness;
4. the media mobilize its know-how and distribution channels to broadcast children's messages, while helping with the transfer of the complex items of material made for the general public into language accessible to them;
5. schools be encouraged to incorporate into their planning and help in the running of meetings of children from different schools and different social and human conditions;
6. governmental and non-governmental organizations, private individuals and legally constituted companies give adequate support so as to mobilize children in environmental and sustainable programs, at international, national and regional levels;
7. another CCBM be held by August, 2001, as a basis for the drawing up of a final Brazilian children's



document for the UN Special Session for Children in
September, 2001.

A document registering the children's declaration, their expression and voice in the tasks carried out at the CCBM will be written up for annexation to this document. It will be drawn up by the following committee, set up during the Assembly:

- 1 – Heloise Moreira Martins Câmara
- 2 – Divino Roberto Veríssimo
- 3 - Geruza Rocha Ferreira
- 4 – Cristiane Vaz Ataíde Inocente
- 5 – Carlos Eduardo Ramos de Sant'Ana
- 6 - André Barcellos Carlos de Souza
- 7 - Bernd Rusteberg

This committee is responsible for the production of the Children's Declaration according to the declaration documents drawn up with the children during the conference. The original copies of the latter will be available whoever for whatever investigation they might wish to undertake.

This is the Goiânia Declaration agreed on at the Assembly and signed by us, CCBM coordinators and planners, co-planners and adult participants who sign it in thrust. The Declaration is open to adherence by all institutes, companies and organizations in the country as well as national and international civil society.

Goiânia, 14 October, 2000.

Heloise Moreira Martins Câmara
CCBM Organizational coordinator



CCBM Conferência
Criança
Brasil no
Milênio

Divino Roberto Veríssimo

CCBM Coordinator

Execution:

The Director President

Organization for Environmental Preservation

The Rector

Federal University of Goiás

The Secretary

Secretariat for the Environment, Hydro-Resources and
Housing – SEMARH

The President

Environmental Agency of Goiás

Participants and supporters:

Dra Celuta Cardoso Ramalho

Representative of the Brazilian Bar and President of its
Human Rights Commission.

The Director

Marist College of Goiânia



Dr. Djalma Tavares de Gouveia

Deliberative Council of the Brazilian Association of
Magistrates for Infancy and Youth.