

## RESPONSES TO THE CLUB OF ROME QUESTIONNAIRE

by  
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### QUESTION 1:

-to identify the conditions in which a rapidly growing world population could improve its living conditions, and live in peace, justice and civility while maintaining and possibly improving the global environment in which future generations of humankind will have to live.

-to articulate the changes in human and social behavior most likely required to make human survival in peace, justice and equity under the above conditions., possible

We are concerned here with questions of lifestyles, ethics and values and their individual and collective internalisation, as well as their implications for social and political organisation, on the national and international level.

-to identify and study the problems in the area of governance, international as well as national, which have to be born in mind in the search for political systems that might be more suited for the kind of individual and collective decisionmaking needed in dealing with greater effectiveness in very complex situations., while maintaining the values of human freedom and human dignity.

-to reflect on the ways in which science and technology could be made better to serve the needs for human survival, dignity and freedom, while maintaining the freedom science and technology needs to continue to advance..

### QUESTION 2:

There is no single methodology that would help to enhance understanding of the world problematique. Several roads will have to be followed simultaneously, if we want to make a substantial contribution that would do justice to the extreme complexities of the issues before us.

There is a need for intellectuals, philosophers and religious leaders to become technologically and scientifically literate, so that they can involve themselves in the crucial choices that mankind has to make in the scientific and technological fields. Each technological choice is a social, but also a cultural and value choice. Apart from a new kind of "Humanities" the world's universities will also have to make the scientist and technologist more sensitive to the social and ethical implications of their work and more willing to accept their social and political responsibility in that respect.



What we all need to do more is to nurture our moral imagination, our capacity for empathy. When everything is said and done, in the end the future is an ethical category.

#### QUESTION 3;

We should expect a crowded, in places hungry, very competitive world in constant flux, in which every tendency is matched by a countertendency, and hence a great uncertainty about where we are going. This prolonged period of flux will be most likely accompanied by great instabilities, armed conflict at the regional, national and local levels, and a general sense of vulnerability which will strain humankind's rational inclinations.

It will take some time before out of this cauldron more effective political systems as well as more relevant concepts and values will evolve that could restore a greater degree of order, of a kind that is respectful of freedom and pluralism. In the process the concept of national sovereignty and even of the nationstate may undergo considerable changes in light of the overriding need better to ensure human survival. This will require a more equitable distribution across the globe of productive and scientific and technological capabilities, so as to overcome the global structural dualism that is not tenable much longer. (see my paper). It will also require a greater and more widely spread capability to digest and integrate large amounts of information, and to develop new and more relevant concepts that will help to enhance our understanding. In short the situation will require great intellectual creativity and institutional inventiveness as well as a clear sense of the values of human solidarity that can help ensure human survival.

#### QUESTION 4;

For the Club of Rome to encourage its members and friends to do more future studies on a wide variety of problem areas as well as regions.

- to encourage scientists, technologists and large corporations to discuss and think through their responsibility in shaping a humane and sustainable future.

- to prepare younger generations for such a difficult but not impossible future through their involvement in the work done by or on behalf of for the Club of Rome.

- to "network" more effectively and frequently with its friends and constituencies in different countries and develop additional ones. Also to consider including the use of computer networks. Greater sensitivity to the problems, perspectives, concerns and values, especially of the young, women, and of people in the Third world. 1/4th of humankind will in the future most likely live in the 3d world.

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