

April 2/17 Toronto Don Chisholm donchism@kos.net

World Federalist Movement WFM <http://wfm-igp.org/about/overview>

This paper on web at: <http://gaiapc.ca/PJ/WorldFederalistMovment.pdf>

Envisioning Whole Systems Change: But who will bell the cat?

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Belling_the_cat

As an opening thought, it seems to me that the World Federalist Movement (WFM), as a global organization, is the most likely vehicle to bell the cat.

The title of this talk suggests that something vital is missing from the many 'change' initiatives to date, and like the mice VS the cat in the old fable in the title, we make resolutions, we propose, we suggest - but our BAU (Business As Usual) economic growth driven world continues while the global environment keeps getting worse. Something is stopping all corrective measures. As the fable suggests, we must bell the cat. But first the cat must be identified.

In preparing for this talk, I read quite a lot about the *World Federalist Movement* on your web page, and I enthusiastically agree with most of the concerns and goals, especially the need for a global government in order to deal with global environmental issues – and as illustrated on your web in the quote by Albert Einstein:

There is no salvation for civilization, or even the human race, other than by the creation of a world government."

About 20 years ago I had some exchanges with [Alexander King](#), co-founder *Club of Rome*, of *Limits to Growth* fame. He spoke of an event where the club had invited many world leaders to a meeting to discuss the implications of the message within the controversial book. King stated that he and others were pleased with the level of understanding among the national leaders. But would they act? At the end of the meeting, one of the leaders spoke for the group saying that they understood what our future appears to hold, "*But were he to act on this substantially, he would be out of office, not at the next election, but in a few months*".

And so it appears that our national leaders cannot or will not bell the cat. Do they know what the cat is? Probably, but they don't have the constitutional tools to deal with it. And if they did, no county could act alone.

We note that the WF Movement was founded in 1947 even before the Limits booklet. The WFM resolutions page indicates many initiatives that appear to me to be in the right direction such as:

2013 A resolution to establish global democratic hubs; (Regions in PJ)
http://www.wfm-igp.org/sites/default/files/documents/resolutions_on_global_democracy_hubs.pdf

2012 A resolution for Global Environmental and Economic Governance
Calls to reform WT Organization and IMF.

http://www.wfm-igp.org/sites/default/files/documents/commission_4_word_final.pdf

<http://wfm-igp.org/environmental-economic-governance>

Calls for implementation of the Stiglitz Report

http://www.wfm-igp.org/sites/default/files/documents/commission_4_word_final.pdf

<http://www.socialpolicyconnections.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2011/02/Stiglitz-Report-2010.1.pdf>

2011 A resolution to establish a world currency;

http://www.wfm-igp.org/sites/default/files/documents/2011_resolution_on_world_currency.pdf

http://www.wfm-igp.org/sites/default/files/documents/25-proposal_for_a_world_currency.pdf

I could enthusiastically endorse these resolutions, BUT the WF Movement has been working for better governance within our small blue planet for 70 years, yet our planet's environmental degradation rate is now critical.

And on the economic front the massive and growing wealth inequity ratio, along with the exponentially expanding global debt bubble, all suggest that conditions are ripe for an economic meltdown, as almost happened in 2008. The industrialized world's debt-based money creation system is, by design, a one way street to collapse, as clarified in an enlightening Ted talk by Jem Blendel - see footnoteⁱ. However, this inevitable collapse could become our window of opportunity **if** we have developed a functional alternative to provide a transition rather than a meltdown of civilization.

It's time for a new approach

We are at a *Paradigm Junction*. It's time for a plan to bell the cat, or cats. The first cat is clearly identified in many of your resolutions as the global Monetary Economic System (MES). You have made resolutions to have it modified in various helpful ways, but I notice no effort to fundamentally cage the cat, and work toward development of a desperately needed dynamically interactive monetary economic system that is capable of regulating human-activity in response to global ecological and energy realities. The commercial banks behind the control of the IMF and WTO will not and cannot make the needed changes for many reasons.

The second cat is human population numbers. There were about 2.5 billion of us when the WFM was founded and the number has since tripled to about 7.5 billion. This cat must be even more frightening than the Monetary Economic System cat because it is not even mentioned in your resolutions except to indicate that we can deal with growing populations via *sustainable development*, an expression that many knowledgeable researchers, such as Herman Daly, consider to be a sinister oxymoronⁱⁱ. I found no data to acknowledge that population growth itself is a driver of ecological decline during my brief search of your pages. Is it not considered an issue? It is certainly a question.

In mid 2015, with public resistance in Germany growing to the large numbers of incoming refugees, Chancellor Angela Meckel said something to the effect, *But we don't know how many people Germany can safely absorb!* To me, this valid question underlies one of the greatest human management failures of our times.

National leaders simply cannot manage when they don't have up-to-date scientific data on the many factors that would go into assessing the human Carrying Capacity (CC) within

their borders. Failure to have developed this vital information leads us to where we are today, leading to the valid question, *are humans smarter than yeast?*

As discussed later, among the world's thousands of NGOs we could find the expertise and tools needed to measure a region's human carrying capacity within a subjective range, perhaps using energy usage per capita as part of the criteria. But these organizations are now disparate NGOs that could gain the synergy found within a common vision of pathway leading toward a sustainable future: A vision that would enable a dynamic interplay between and human-activity and global resources in a way that appeals to human nature and to our innate tribal instinctsⁱⁱⁱ. Reference to the many of these NGOs have been made by Paul Hawkins, as he refers to at least 200k movements in a youtube video. ^{iv}

Here's a recent comment from an internet discussion group:

Today's global polity needs our attention because it is as ugly as fascism. It is violent, destructive, dangerous and expensive. It is incomprehensibly violent and destructive as witnessed in Aleppo or in Mosul. It creates deadly danger for all by threatening the application of nuclear weapons. It is expensive due to the costly arms race, which the existing political reality requires. We live in a global anarchy of self centered sovereign nations vying for hegemony and carelessly ruining our "Lebensraum", the ecosystem. This is a nightmare. How can we tolerate and even hang on to such a bad political culture?

Helmut Burkhardt March 28/17

In her book, *This Changes Everything*, Naomi Klein tells us straight up:

So we are left with a stark choice: allow climate disruption to change everything about our world, or change pretty much everything about our economy to avoid that fate. But we need to be very clear: because of our decades of collective denial, no gradual, incremental options are now available to us.

And the ever realistic Buckminster Fuller commented:

You never change things by fighting the existing reality. To change something, build a new model that makes the existing model obsolete.

Once we digest the views of Burkhardt, Klein and Fuller, we can be free to begin thinking outside the box, or more specifically, the cat box ☺. I arrived at that point about 25 years ago and have since done a lot of reading, communicating with concerned others. About 5 years ago I started writing the chapters of *Paradigm Junction*,^v a web based booklet. The first three sections introduce the readers to some background information leading up to Section 4, the envisioning chapters introduce the concept of

Blue Planet Governance

... as one example of a better story of our times

The story is written as a backcast, 50 years after the chaotic struggles during paradigm change had settled down, describing the nature of the geopolitical and economic world at that time. As I was reading through the WFMovement resolutions I was struck with the thought that these are the types of initiatives that could be seen as leading toward the envisioned stewardship of our world through *Blue Planet Governance*. The PJ booklet is written as a working document with each chapter having a revision level and date.

In order to understand how this dynamic social/political/economic system deals with the aforementioned two cats, it is necessary to ***envision the whole system***.

Here is a simplified ^{vi} big picture view of BPG as it might appear in about 50 years, or perhaps 10 years if we start today.

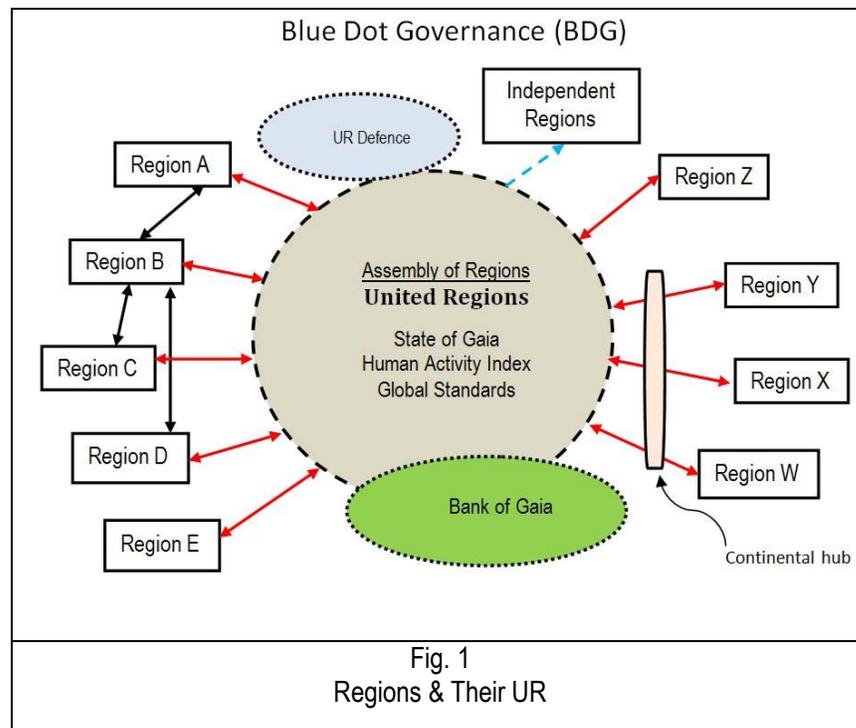


Fig. 1 provides overviews of the *United Regions* (UR) where many medium size counties such as those in the European Union EU, Africa, South America, along with parts of Asia, USA (Trump may help the breakup (-:)), Canada, and Russia are referred to as Regions. These regions united in common cause, and they have changed the nature of, and the name of, the *United Nations* to the *United Regions* (UR)^{vii}.

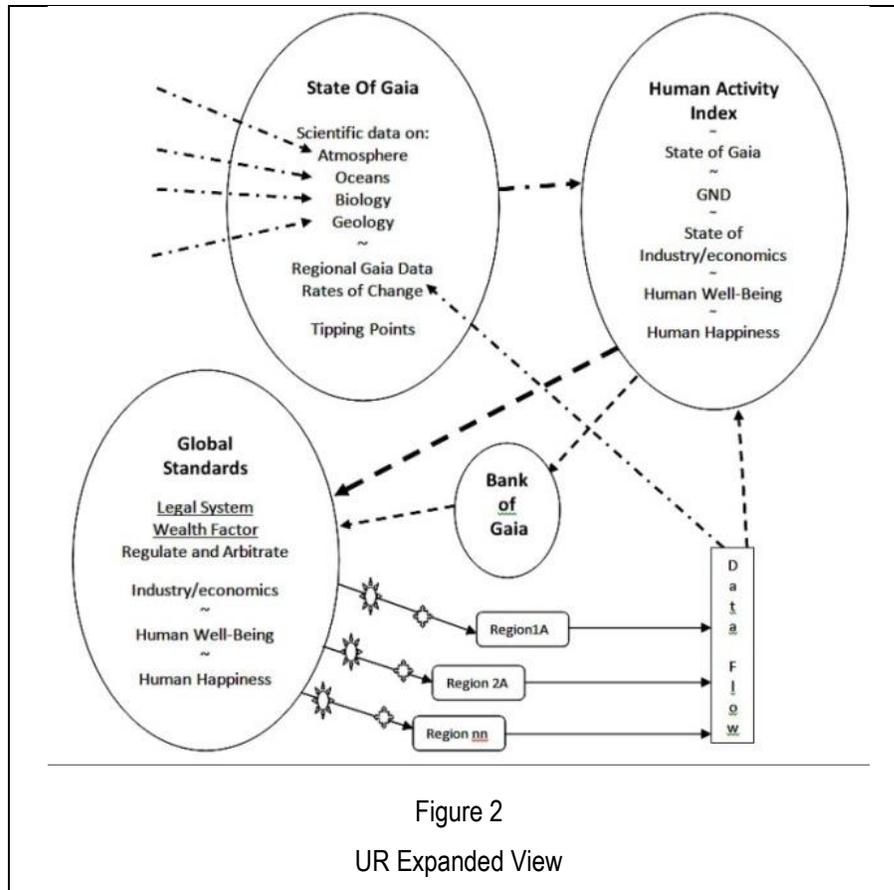
Borrowing a successful concept from the corporate world^{viii}, the UR is a chaordic organization^{ix}, meaning that it has been created by the highly autonomous regions of the world in order to deal with common issues that are beyond the scope of any one region. Fig. 1 shows the cluster of regions that are part of this sustainable system of global trade and commerce, where most trade is local and with local regions. Some regions are represented through a continental hub representative government. (As suggested in the WFM resolution of 2013, mentioned above)

A key concept herein is a changed definition of wealth:

Gone is the fatally flawed debt-based computer generated numbers that create today's vast 'wealth' inequity. Remember Fuller's comment, we must change the parts that don't work. As penned by economist Riane Eisler in, *The Real Wealth of Nations*, the new definition of wealth is:

Real wealth is a measurement of a robust ecology and of the general health and happiness of the people!

The many elements that go into that definition are called *Wealth Factors*. These elements of physical and social reality become the commodity basis for the Gaia\$ money system. It is their scientific measurement that determines a region's human carrying capacity and Gaia\$ supply.



As illustrated in Figures 1 & 2, the UR has various sections as listed:

- The State of Gaia (SOG) section is responsible for scientific observation of, and needed response to, our natural world;
- The Human Activities Index (HAI) gathers data from the regions regarding well-being of local natural systems, energy usage, energy generation, wetlands, etc., the state of industry, the state of civic infrastructure, farming, human population, human happiness, etc.
- The Global Standard (GS) develops:
 - laws that apply to the global commons;
 - the criteria for a region's acceptance into the UR community;
 - the standards that apply to the measurement of regional wealth, based on the HAI data.
- The Bank Of Gaia (BOG) gathers data from the HAI in order determine how many Gaia\$ dollars can be issued to each region, based on their wealth factor assessment. In this system an individual's wealth potential is inversely proportional to his or her region's population. Now population and procreation considerations become dynamically tied to regional wealth and wellbeing. This data will now influence personal resource throughput and procreation considerations.
- UR Defence: There is a UR military presence in each continent to police the global commons and as the tool of last in inter regional disputes.

Here are a few other characteristics of Regions:

- ✓ Regional governments are democratically elected.
- ✓ There is no corporate or private ownership of land. The lands, forests and lakes are under the stewardship of the Regional government, but can be leased to individuals or corporations.
- ✓ UR recommends that each Region provide individuals with a minimum wage and to be subject to a maximum annual income.
- ✓ Regional money is generally expressed on a per capita basis.
- ✓ Regional governments are the shareholders of all public corporations, not individuals, as it was BPC (Before Paradigm Change). This change enhances the common good wherein automated production now provides enjoyable leisure time instead of unemployment.
- ✓ The blockchain (Bitcoin-like) system of accounting enables regional governments to limit external trade as necessary, and it enables them to have full control over immigration because only registered citizens can use the local Gaia\$ money system.

We have work to do. As suggested by cyberneticist Stafford Beer who said, in his book, *Designing Freedom*:

I am proposing simply that society should use its tools to *redesign* its institutions, and to operate those institutions quite differently. You can imagine all the problems. But the first and gravest problem is in the mind, screwed down by all those cultural constraints. You will not need a lot of learning to understand what I am saying: what you will need is intellectual freedom. It is a free gift for all who have the courage to accept it. Remember: our culture teaches us not intellectual courage, but intellectual conformity.

As a closing thought, it seems to me that the World Federalist Movement (WFM), as a global organization, in its current form is the organization most likely to break down the walls preventing social progress (to bell the cats), to reach out to the many thousands of other NGOs to help with development and implement the Blue Planet Governance proposal!

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<sup>i</sup> “ ... a one way street to collapse - See Jem Blendel’s Ted talk.  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X5uGLbV5zVo&feature=youtu.be>  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QQoBAc95tnw>

<sup>ii</sup> The Brundtland Commission’s summary comment of ‘[sustainable development](#)’ is often been considered a sinister oxymoron. <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/sd.281/abstract>  
Herman Daly <http://dieoff.org/page37.htm>  
<http://peakoil.com/consumption/is-sustainable-development-an-oxymoron-2>  
<http://www.whydev.org/is-sustainable-development-an-oxymoron/>  
<http://petermcmanners.blogspot.ca/2011/09/is-sustainable-development-oxymoron.html>

<sup>iii</sup> Pete Richardson on tribal tendencies help shape society

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<https://evolution-institute.org/article/tribal-social-instincts-gene-culture-co-evolution-and-business/>

- iv Paul Hawking on social movements <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iW8BytVil54>  
Important NGOs for determining Wealth Factors are the Ecological Footprint group <http://www.footprintnetwork.org/>  
and the Community Indicators organization <http://www.communityindicators.net/home>
- v <http://gaiapc.ca/PJ/1a-Cover.pdf>  
<http://gaiapc.ca/PJ/1a-Index.pdf>  
<http://gaiapc.ca/PJ/PJ-Synopsis.pdf>  
<http://gaiapc.ca/PJ/1b-GlossaryOfTerms.pdf>  
<http://gaiapc.ca/PJ/1c-Preamble.pdf>  
<http://gaiapc.ca/PJ/1d-TheNewStory.pdf>  
<http://gaiapc.ca/PJ/1e-BioOfWriter.pdf>  
<http://gaiapc.ca/PJ/2a-TheTriad.pdf>  
<http://gaiapc.ca/PJ/2b-DynamicSystems.pdf>  
<http://gaiapc.ca/PJ/3a-MCP.pdf>  
<http://gaiapc.ca/PJ/3b-OtherParadigmFlaws&CompoundingIssues.pdf>  
<http://gaiapc.ca/PJ/3c-GraphicBeforeAfter.pdf>  
<http://gaiapc.ca/PJ/4a-ThoseWhoEnvision.pdf>  
<http://gaiapc.ca/PJ/4ba-050APC.pdf>  
<http://gaiapc.ca/PJ/4b-DynamicSociety050-APC.pdf>  
<http://gaiapc.ca/PJ/4c-UR-Wheelhouse.pdf>  
<http://gaiapc.ca/PJ/4d-TheViewFrom050APC.pdf>  
<http://gaiapc.ca/PJ/4e-DynamicFlows.pdf>  
<http://gaiapc.ca/PJ/5a-AreWeReadyToEnact.pdf>  
<http://gaiapc.ca/PJ/5b-ChapterAndVerse.pdf>  
<http://gaiapc.ca/PJ/6b-Appendix-MCP.pdf>  
<http://gaiapc.ca/PJ/6a-Appendix-OurJourneyIntoToday.pdf>  
<http://gaiapc.ca/PJ/KingLetter.pdf>  
<http://gaiapc.ca/PJ/Cybernetics.pdf>
- vi Paradigm Junction overview <http://gaiapc.ca/PJ/PJ-Overview-pdf.pdf>
- vii <http://whatthenmustwedo.org/> Alperovitz calls for an evolution, not a revolution, from the old system to the new. That new system would democratize the ownership of wealth, strengthen communities in diverse ways, and be governed by policies and institutions sophisticated enough to manage a large-scale, powerful economy. - See more at: <http://whatthenmustwedo.org/#sthash.FprPPTq0.dpuf>  
Alperovitz explains that, for many reasons, large nations such as USA, Canada, Russia, China, as example, are too large to govern satisfactorily and that smaller Regional governments are likely to serve the people much better.
- viii Chapter PJ/4a illustrates how corporate management has many policies and procedures that could work extremely well in global and regional governance. <http://gaiapc.ca/PJ/4ba-050APC.pdf>
- ix Chaordic [http://wiki.p2pfoundation.net/Chaordic\\_Organizations\\_-\\_Characteristicsnization](http://wiki.p2pfoundation.net/Chaordic_Organizations_-_Characteristicsnization)