

5 June 2021

Dear Secretary General,

I am writing to you on this World Environment Day 2021 to suggest that the United Nations consider ratifying a 'Universal Aspiration'. This new concept seeks to inspire humanity to strive to reinstate ecological balance in our damaged world. It is intended to focus our aspirations on the need to voluntarily curb our global consumption until we successfully return 50% of the biocapacity of the Earth for the use of animals living freely in wild areas. The wording that is suggested for this Universal Aspiration is as follows:

*"This Universal Aspiration seeks to inspire a new emotional maturity within the human race. This new era will be characterised by increasingly selfless behaviour both individually and collectively in the face of escalating existential threats. To this end it recognises that our environmental impact is a product of our population size and the way that we utilise our affluence and technology. Henceforth we shall collectively and individually aspire to combine our free-choice, affluence and technology to redress the ecological imbalance, which is escalating the sixth mass extinction. All nations will collectively aspire to reduce their ecological footprint to less than 50% of the biocapacity available within their borders, as determined by the Global Footprint Network data. Globally, educational goals will prioritise the symbiotic relationships between ecological footprint, ecological balance, and the need to conserve at least 50% of the planet for sustaining the needs of non-livestock vertebrates. Human intervention in wildlife populations will be discouraged unless an invasive species is deemed to be a serious threat to either local or global eco-systems."*

Within this aspiration a new emotional maturity is sought for mankind, to encourage very different expectations and behaviours. The enhanced collective awareness and maturity should enable us to make decisions which are sympathetic to the world's ecology. We shall stop striving to dominate our environment and instead endeavour to leave most of it to evolve in the natural way. To achieve this we shall voluntarily choose to shrink our numbers and our consumption in the hope that the worst consequences of our past mistakes might be avoided. We shall try to use our affluence and technology to regenerate biodiverse eco-systems and increase their resilience; even as we experience the escalating challenges due to climate and ecological collapse.

This concept of 'Universal Aspiration' will afford us a slim chance to restore the ecological balance on Earth to a condition that can sustain mankind and the other life-forms that share our geological epoch. Without an aspiration of this type we shall continue on our current path of ecological destruction, which is a consequence of our global pursuit of economic growth.

Yours Sincerely

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<https://poemsforparliament.uk>