

The Earth Charter Initiative

# ISO 26000 Guidance for Social Responsibility and the Earth Charter



Let ours be a time remembered for the awakening of a new reverence for life, the firm resolve to achieve sustainability, the quickening of the struggle for justice and peace, and the joyful celebration of life

*The Earth Charter*



The Earth Charter Initiative

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# ISO 26000 Guidance for Social Responsibility and the Earth Charter



**VERSION 1**  
July 2011

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# Introduction

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The voluntary International Standard ISO 26000:2010 Guidance for social responsibility aims to be a first step in helping all types of organizations, in both the public and private sectors, to achieve the benefits of operating in a socially responsible manner<sup>1</sup>.

As the concepts of sustainability and social responsibility become mainstream elements of the corporate environment, organizations of various types around the world increasingly realize the need to adapt a pro-active approach in regards to their CSR practices. This is especially valid in light of the increased scrutiny of organizations by various stakeholders<sup>2</sup>, and the scientific realization of interdependence between the natural environment and human infrastructure and actions.

At the same time, many initiatives of an originally non-business nature also continue to provide guidance towards sustainable development by supplementing the economic perspective with a broader, comprehensive approach to sustainability. The Earth Charter, a declaration of fundamental ethical principles for building a just, sustainable and peaceful global society<sup>3</sup>, offers such vision and the benefits related to its use.

This paper argues for the compatible nature of the Earth Charter and the ISO 26000:2010.

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<sup>1</sup> ISO 26000 – The essentials (<http://www.iso.org/>)

<sup>2</sup> ISO 26000 – Why is social responsibility important? (<http://www.iso.org/>)

<sup>3</sup> What is the Earth Charter (<http://www.earthcharterinaction.org/>)

# one

## I. Scope and focus of the ISO 26000:2010 Standard

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The ISO 26000:2010 addresses the challenges related to social responsibility, defined as the responsibility of an organization for the impact of its decisions and activities on society and the environment through transparent and ethical behaviour<sup>4</sup>. The Standard offers a framework of seven core subjects and issues. These are:

- Organizational governance
- Human rights
- Labour practices
- The environment
- Fair operating practices
- Consumer issues
- Community involvement and development

Each of the core subjects covers a wide selection of topics. For example: the core subject of environment includes the discussion on pollution prevention, sustainable resource use, climate change mitigation and adaptation, and the protection of the environment, biodiversity and restoration of natural habitats. For each of the core subjects an overview is presented, followed by recommended principles and considerations. In addition, the ISO 26000:2010 introduces and explains the seven principles of social responsibility:

- Accountability
- Transparency
- Ethical behaviour
- Respect for stakeholder interests
- Respect for the rule of law
- Respect for international norms of behaviour
- Respect for human rights

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<sup>4</sup> ISO 26000:2010; 248

## two II. Scope and focus of the Earth Charter

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The Earth Charter vision reflects the conviction that caring for people and caring for Earth are two interrelated dimensions of one great task<sup>5</sup>. It aims to generate an awareness of the inter connections of all with all.

In general terms, the Earth Charter rejects the widely held idea that economic development is an end in itself. It supports the view that economic institutions and activities in reality are depended on a healthy planet and people and it should ensure equitable human development. It should therefore value and protect Earth's ecological systems and the many services they provide. The Earth Charter is both people-centered document and ecosystem-centered document.

The Preamble of the Earth Charter describes the most important challenges we are facing as humanity, but it also points out to the opportunities humanity has to address these challenges<sup>6</sup>.

These opportunities for change are presented as ethical principles, as guidance to be used when making decisions. The Earth Charter consists of sixteen broad principles for sustainability, supplemented by 63 sub-clauses providing depth to each of the main principles. The principles are organized in four main pillars:

- Respect and care for the community of life
- Ecological integrity
- Social and economic justice
- Democracy, nonviolence, and peace

The Earth Charter does not intend to describe the mechanisms and instruments required to implement these principles, because this has to be done considering each national and local context.

The first principle on respect for Earth and all life is the foundation of all the other principles in the Charter. Our sense of ethical responsibility flows from an attitude of respect. The second, third and fourth principles cover the major spheres of relations between human beings and the greater community of life, relations among human beings and society, and the relations between present and future generations<sup>7</sup>. The subsequent twelve main principles and sub principles describe in more detail the meaning of the first four principles. The ethic of care is central to the Earth Charter. The conclusion of the Charter, entitled "The Way Forward", is a call for commitment and action.

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<sup>5</sup> Rockefeller, S. 2001. "The Earth Charter: An Ethical Foundation".  
<http://www.earthcharterinaction.org/invent/details.php?id=552>

<sup>6</sup> Boff, L. 2008. "The Ethic of Care". In: "A Voice for Earth, American Writers Respond to the Earth Charter". Corcoran and Wohlpart (eds). University of Georgia Press.

<sup>7</sup> Rockefeller, 2001 (idem 5)

# three

## III. Synergies between the ISO 26000 and the Earth Charter

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While the ISO 26000:2010 and the Earth Charter originate from different areas, their focus can be seen as mutually supportive. The ISO 26000:2010 is intended to be useful to all types of organizations in the private, public, and non-profit sectors<sup>8</sup>. The Earth Charter, through its principles and the Earth Charter Initiative network, seeks to reach all members of the global community<sup>9</sup>. Both organizations strive toward the holistic goal of sustainability by promoting values which enable actors to maximize their contribution to sustainable development<sup>10</sup>.

When studied in detail, many synergies can be identified. The following description contains only a brief selection of these.

The ISO 26000:2010 principles of accountability and transparency correspond strongly with principle 10d of the Earth Charter. While the International Standard calls the organizations to be accountable for [their] impacts on society, the economy and the environment, as well as being transparent in [their] decisions and activities that impact on society and the environment<sup>11</sup>, the Earth Charter requires multinational corporations and international financial organizations to act transparently in the public good, and hold them accountable for the consequences of their activities<sup>12</sup>.

The ISO 26000:2010 core subject of the environment corresponds with the Earth Charter's Ecological Integrity pillar (principles 5-8). As an example, the International Standard recommends the precautionary approach – according to which, where there are threats of serious or irreversible damage to the environment or human health, the lack of full scientific certainty should not be used as a reason for postponing cost-effective measures to prevent environmental degradation or damage to human health<sup>13</sup>.

The Earth Charter expresses this belief by urging actors to prevent harm as the best method of environmental protection and, when knowledge is limited, apply a precautionary approach [EC Principle 6]. This is followed by the call to place the burden of proof on those who argue that a proposed activity will not cause significant harm, and make the responsible parties liable for environmental harm [EC Principle 6b], corresponding to the polluter pays principle, discussed by the ISO 26000:2010.

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<sup>8</sup> ISO 26000:2010 – Introduction.

<sup>9</sup> Earth Charter – Vision, Ethics and Action for a Just, Sustainable, and Peaceful World.

<sup>10</sup> ISO 26000:2010; 521.

<sup>11</sup> ISO 26000:2010; 530-572.

<sup>12</sup> Earth Charter – *Principle 10d*.

<sup>13</sup> ISO 26000:2010; 1772-1778.



The ISO 26000:2010 core subject of human rights lies at the heart of the Earth Charter's approach to sustainability. It returns as a key theme throughout the document, expressed in many of the principles. As an example, the Earth Charter makes a call to:

- Uphold the right of all, without discrimination, to a natural and social environment supportive of human dignity, bodily health, and spiritual well-being, with special attention to the rights of indigenous peoples and minorities<sup>14</sup>.
- Empower every human being with the education and resources to secure a sustainable livelihood, and provide social security and safety nets for those who are unable to support themselves.<sup>15</sup>
- Ensure that communities at all levels guarantee human rights and fundamental freedoms and provide everyone an opportunity to realize his or her full potential<sup>16</sup>.

The topics of gender equity and equality, the abolition of child labor, and the enforcement of economic, social and cultural rights for everyone, are also discussed in the Earth Charter.

The ISO 26000:2010 core subject of community involvement and development appears on the Earth Charter principle 3 - Build democratic societies that are just, participatory, sustainable, and peaceful, as well as the basis of the fourth pillar – democracy, nonviolence, and peace. Both the ISO 26000:2010 and the Earth Charter draw upon the experiences and conclusions of the UN Millennium Declaration, the Millennium Development Goals and the Agenda 21.

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<sup>14</sup> Earth Charter – *Principle 12*.

<sup>15</sup> Principle 9b

<sup>16</sup> Earth Charter – *Principle 3a*.

# four

## IV. Ethical framework, comprehensive perspective

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Both the ISO 26000:2010 and the Earth Charter offer a comprehensive approach toward the issues and challenges of working towards a sustainable future. The strength of the ISO 26000:2010 Standard lies in its compact, organized nature covering all essential aspects of sustainable development an organization might be asked to consider.

The first steps to implement ISO 26000 aim to increase an understanding and awareness of the organization about what is social responsibility, and what that means for the specific context of the organization. In this sense, the Earth Charter is a very valuable tool in the process of understanding and clarifying what is sustainability and social responsibility. The Earth Charter, with its global perspective and multi-stakeholder approach originating from the drafting process, offers a complete, well-structured ethical framework, perfectly suited for any actor interested in acting in a socially responsible way. Supported by the expanding network of the Earth Charter Initiative, it not only delivers a set of principles, but also a growing collection of useful experiences and cases from organizations around the world already adapting the Charter.

# five

## V. Appendix A: ISO 26000:2010. Core subjects and issues of social responsibility

Core subject:	Addressed in sub-clause	Corresponding Earth Charter Principles
<b>1. Organizational governance</b>	<b>6.2</b>	, 13
<b>2. Human rights</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>1b, 3a, 3b, 9-16 (14)</b>
Issue 1: Due diligence	6.3.1	10d,13a, 13d
Issue 2: Human rights risk situation	6.3.2	9, 16
Issue 3: Avoidance of complicity	6.3.3	3a, 10d, 13a
Issue 4: Resolving grievances	6.3.4	2a, 13d, 16b, 16f
Issue 5: Discrimination and vulnerable groups	6.3.5	11, 12, 12a, 12b, 12c
Issue 6: Civil and political rights	6.3.6	3, 11a, 13(a,b,c,d)
Issue 7: Economic, social and cultural rights	6.3.7	3, 9(a,b,c), 10, 10c,12
Issue 8: Fundamental principles and rights at work	6.3.8	9b,10c, 12a
<b>3. Labour practices</b>	<b>6.4</b>	<b>10</b>
Issue 1: Employment and employment relationships	6.4.1	10c, 11b,16a,
Issue 2: Conditions of work and social protection		
Issue 3: Social dialogue	6.4.2	9b,10c,12
Issue 4: Health and safety at work	6.4.3	13(a-f)
Issue 5: Human development and training in the workplace	6.4.4 6.4.5	-7,12, 9b, 12,14
<b>4. The environment</b>		
Issue 1: Prevention of pollution	<b>6.5</b>	<b>1, 2,4, 5-8, 15</b>
Issue 2: Sustainable resource use	6.5.1	2a, 4a, 6(a-d)
Issue 3: Climate change mitigation and adaptation	6.5.2	7(a-f)
Issue 4: Protection of the environment, biodiversity and restoration of natural habitats	6.5.3 6.5.4	1a,5, 6, 7a, 7b, 8 5(a-f)
<b>5. Fair operating practices</b>		
Issue 1: Anti-corruption	<b>6.6</b>	<b>3, 10, 13</b>
Issue 2: Responsible political involvement	6.6.1	13, 13e
Issue 3: Fair competition	6.6.2	4b, 6c, 13, 13c
Issue 4: Promoting social responsibility in the value chain	6.6.3 6.6.4	10(a-d) 7(a-f), 10(a-d)
Issue 5: Respect for property rights		
<b>6. Consumer issues</b>	<b>6.6.5</b>	<b>2a,10d,12b</b>
Issue 1: Fair marketing, factual and unbiased information and fair contractual practices	<b>6.7</b> 6.7.1	7, 10 10d,11b,13a
Issue 2: Protecting consumers' health and safety		
Issue 3: Sustainable consumption	6.7.2	2a, 6, 7d,10d
Issue 4: Consumer service, support, and dispute resolution	6.7.3 6.7.4	7a,7b, 7f 16,16a
Issue 5: Consumer data protection and privacy		
Issue 6: Access to essential services	6.7.5	10d
Issue 7: Education and awareness	6.7.6 6.7.7	3(a-b),9a,9b 7d, 9b, 13a, 14c
<b>7. Community involvement and development</b>		
Issue 1: Community involvement	<b>6.8</b>	<b>1b, 311,13,14</b>
Issue 2: Education and culture	6.8.1	3(a-b), 6c, 13
Issue 3: Employ creation and skills development	6.8.2	3, 14(a-d)
Issue 4: Technology development and access	6.8.3	1b,9c, 14(a-b)
Issue 5: Wealth and income creation	6.8.4	7c, 8, 10b
Issue 6: Health	6.8.5	9(a-c), 10(a-d)
Issue 7: Social investment	6.8.6 6.8.7	7e,7f,9a, 113b, 9(a-c), 10(a-d)

### ***Preamble***

*We stand at a critical moment in Earth's history, a time when humanity must choose its future. As the world becomes increasingly interdependent and fragile, the future at once holds great peril and great promise. To move forward we must recognize that in the midst of a magnificent diversity of cultures and life forms we are one human family and one Earth community with a common destiny. We must join together to bring forth a sustainable global society founded on respect for nature, universal human rights, economic justice, and a culture of peace. Towards this end, it is imperative that we, the peoples of Earth, declare our responsibility to one another, to the greater community of life, and to future generations.*

### ***Earth, Our Home***

*Humanity is part of a vast evolving universe. Earth, our home, is alive with a unique community of life. The forces of nature make existence a demanding and uncertain adventure, but Earth has provided the conditions essential to life's evolution. The resilience of the community of life and the well-being of humanity depend upon preserving a healthy biosphere with all its ecological systems, a rich variety of plants and animals, fertile soils, pure waters, and clean air. The global environment with its finite resources is a common concern of all peoples. The protection of Earth's vitality, diversity, and beauty is a sacred trust.*

### ***The Global Situation***

*The dominant patterns of production and consumption are causing environmental devastation, the depletion of resources, and a massive extinction of species. Communities are being undermined. The benefits of development are not shared equitably and the gap between rich and poor is widening. Injustice, poverty, ignorance, and violent conflict are widespread and the cause of great suffering. An unprecedented rise in human population has overburdened ecological and social systems. The foundations of global security are threatened. These trends are perilous—but not inevitable.*

### ***The Challenges Ahead***

*The choice is ours: form a global partnership to care for Earth and one another or risk the destruction of ourselves and the diversity of life. Fundamental changes are needed in our values, institutions, and ways of living. We must realize that when basic needs have been met, human development is primarily about being more, not having more. We have the knowledge and technology to provide for all and to reduce our impacts on the environment. The emergence of a global civil society is creating new opportunities to build a democratic and humane world. Our environmental, economic, political, social, and spiritual challenges are interconnected, and together we can forge inclusive solutions.*

### ***Universal Responsibility***

*To realize these aspirations, we must decide to live with a sense of universal responsibility, identifying ourselves with the whole Earth community as well as our local communities. We are at once citizens of different nations and of one world in which the local and global are linked. Everyone shares responsibility for the present and future well-being of the human family and the larger living world. The spirit of human solidarity and kinship with all life is strengthened when we live with reverence for the mystery of being, gratitude for the gift of life, and humility regarding the human place in nature.*

*We urgently need a shared vision of basic values to provide an ethical foundation for the emerging world community. Therefore, together in hope we affirm the following interdependent principles for a sustainable way of life as a common standard by which the conduct of all individuals, organizations, businesses, governments, and transnational institutions is to be guided and assessed.*

## **Principles**

### **1. Respect Earth and life in all its diversity.**

- a. Recognize that all beings are interdependent and every form of life has value regardless of its worth to human beings.*
- b. Affirm faith in the inherent dignity of all human beings and in the intellectual, artistic, ethical, and spiritual potential of humanity.*

### **2. Care for the community of life with understanding, compassion, and love.**

- a. Accept that with the right to own, manage, and use natural resources comes the duty to prevent environmental harm and to protect the rights of people.*
- b. Affirm that with increased freedom, knowledge, and power comes increased responsibility to promote the common good.*

### **3. Build democratic societies that are just, participatory, sustainable, and peaceful.**

- a. Ensure that communities at all levels guarantee human rights and fundamental freedoms and provide everyone an opportunity to realize his or her full potential.*
- b. Promote social and economic justice, enabling all to achieve a secure and meaningful livelihood that is ecologically responsible.*

### **4. Secure Earth's bounty and beauty for present and future generations.**

- a. Recognize that the freedom of action of each generation is qualified by the needs of future generations.*
- b. Transmit to future generations values, traditions, and institutions that support the long-term flourishing of Earth's human and ecological communities.*

*In order to fulfill these four broad commitments, it is necessary to:*

### **5. Protect and restore the integrity of Earth's ecological systems, with special concern for biological diversity and the natural processes that sustain life.**

- a. Adopt at all levels sustainable development plans and regulations that make environmental conservation and rehabilitation integral to all development initiatives.*
- b. Establish and safeguard viable nature and biosphere reserves, including wild lands and marine areas, to protect Earth's life support systems, maintain biodiversity, and preserve our natural heritage.*
- c. Promote the recovery of endangered species and ecosystems.*
- d. Control and eradicate non-native or genetically modified organisms harmful to native species and the environment, and prevent introduction of such harmful organisms.*
- e. Manage the use of renewable resources such as water, soil, forest products, and marine life in ways that do not exceed rates of regeneration and that protect the health of ecosystems.*
- f. Manage the extraction and use of non-renewable resources such as minerals and fossil fuels in ways that minimize depletion and cause no serious environmental damage.*

**6. Prevent harm as the best method of environmental protection and, when knowledge is limited, apply a precautionary approach.**

- a. Take action to avoid the possibility of serious or irreversible environmental harm even when scientific knowledge is incomplete or inconclusive.
- b. Place the burden of proof on those who argue that a proposed activity will not cause significant harm, and make the responsible parties liable for environmental harm.
- c. Ensure that decision making addresses the cumulative, long-term, indirect, long distance, and global Z consequences of human activities.
- d. Prevent pollution of any part of the environment and allow no build-up of radioactive, toxic, or other hazardous substances.
- e. Avoid military activities damaging to the environment.

**7. Adopt patterns of production, consumption, and reproduction that safeguard Earth's regenerative capacities, human rights, and community well-being.**

- a. Reduce, reuse, and recycle the materials used in production and consumption systems, and ensure that residual waste can be assimilated by ecological systems.
- b. Act with restraint and efficiency when using energy, and rely increasingly on renewable energy sources such as solar and wind.
- c. Promote the development, adoption, and equitable transfer of environmentally sound technologies.
- d. Internalize the full environmental and social costs of goods and services in the selling price, and enable consumers to identify products that meet the highest social and environmental standards.
- e. Ensure universal access to health care that fosters reproductive health and responsible reproduction.
- f. Adopt lifestyles that emphasize the quality of life and material sufficiency in a finite world.

**8. Advance the study of ecological sustainability and promote the open exchange and wide application of the knowledge acquired.**

- a. Support international scientific and technical cooperation on sustainability, with special attention to the needs of developing nations.
- b. Recognize and preserve the traditional knowledge and spiritual wisdom in all cultures that contribute to environmental protection and human well-being.
- c. Ensure that information of vital importance to human health and environmental protection, including genetic information, remains available in the public domain.

**9. Eradicate poverty as an ethical, social, and environmental imperative.**

- a. Guarantee the right to potable water, clean air, food security, uncontaminated soil, shelter, and safe sanitation, allocating the national and international resources required.
- b. Empower every human being with the education and resources to secure a sustainable livelihood, and provide social security and safety nets for those who are unable to support themselves.
- c. Recognize the ignored, protect the vulnerable, serve those who suffer, and enable them to develop their capacities and to pursue their aspirations.

**10. Ensure that economic activities and institutions at all levels promote human development in an equitable and sustainable manner.**

- a. Promote the equitable distribution of wealth within nations and among nations.
- b. Enhance the intellectual, financial, technical, and social resources of developing nations, and relieve them of onerous international debt.
- c. Ensure that all trade supports sustainable resource use, environmental protection, and progressive labor standards.
- d. Require multinational corporations and international financial organizations to act transparently in the public good, and hold them accountable for the consequences of their activities.

**11. Affirm gender equality and equity as prerequisites to sustainable development and ensure universal access to education, health care, and economic opportunity.**

- a. Secure the human rights of women and girls and end all violence against them.
- b. Promote the active participation of women in all aspects of economic, political, civil, social, and cultural life as full and equal partners, decision makers, leaders, and beneficiaries.
- c. Strengthen families and ensure the safety and loving nurture of all family members.

**12. Uphold the right of all, without discrimination, to a natural and social environment supportive of human dignity, bodily health, and spiritual well-being, with special attention to the rights of indigenous peoples and minorities.**

- a. Eliminate discrimination in all its forms, such as that based on race, color, sex, sexual orientation, religion, language, and national, ethnic or social origin.
- b. Affirm the right of indigenous peoples to their spirituality, knowledge, lands and resources and to their related practice of sustainable livelihoods.
- c. Honor and support the young people of our communities, enabling them to fulfill their essential role in creating sustainable societies.
- d. Protect and restore outstanding places of cultural and spiritual significance.

**13. Strengthen democratic institutions at all levels, and provide transparency and accountability in governance, inclusive participation in decision making, and access to justice.**

- a. Uphold the right of everyone to receive clear and timely information on environmental matters and all development plans and activities which are likely to affect them or in which they have an interest.
- b. Support local, regional and global civil society, and promote the meaningful participation of all interested individuals and organizations in decision making.
- c. Protect the rights to freedom of opinion, expression, peaceful assembly, association, and dissent.
- d. Institute effective and efficient access to administrative and independent judicial procedures, including remedies and redress for environmental harm and the threat of such harm.
- e. Eliminate corruption in all public and private institutions.
- f. Strengthen local communities, enabling them to care for their environments, and assign environmental responsibilities to the levels of government where they can be carried out most effectively.

**14. Integrate into formal education and life-long learning the knowledge, values, and skills needed for a sustainable way of life.**

- a. Provide all, especially children and youth, with educational opportunities that empower them to contribute actively to sustainable development.
- b. Promote the contribution of the arts and humanities as well as the sciences in sustainability education.
- c. Enhance the role of the mass media in raising awareness of ecological and social challenges.
- d. Recognize the importance of moral and spiritual education for sustainable living.

**15. Treat all living beings with respect and consideration.**

- a. Prevent cruelty to animals kept in human societies and protect them from suffering.
- b. Protect wild animals from methods of hunting, trapping, and fishing that cause extreme, prolonged, or avoidable suffering.
- c. Avoid or eliminate to the full extent possible the taking or destruction of non-targeted species.

**16. Promote a culture of tolerance, nonviolence, and peace.**

- a. Encourage and support mutual understanding, solidarity, and cooperation among all peoples and within and among nations.
- b. Implement comprehensive strategies to prevent violent conflict and use collaborative problem solving to manage and resolve environmental conflicts and other disputes.

- c. Demilitarize national security systems to the level of a non-provocative defense posture, and convert military resources to peaceful purposes, including ecological restoration.*
- d. Eliminate nuclear, biological, and toxic weapons and other weapons of mass destruction.*
- e. Ensure that the use of orbital and outer space supports environmental protection and peace.*
- f. Recognize that peace is the wholeness created by right relationships with oneself, other persons, other cultures, other life, Earth, and the larger whole of which all are a part.*

### ***The Way Forward***

*As never before in history, common destiny beckons us to seek a new beginning. Such renewal is the promise of these Earth Charter principles. To fulfill this promise, we must commit ourselves to adopt and promote the values and objectives of the Charter.*

*This requires a change of mind and heart. It requires a new sense of global interdependence and universal responsibility. We must imaginatively develop and apply the vision of a sustainable way of life locally, nationally, regionally, and globally. Our cultural diversity is a precious heritage and different cultures will find their own distinctive ways to realize the vision. We must deepen and expand the global dialogue that generated the Earth Charter, for we have much to learn from the ongoing collaborative search for truth and wisdom.*

*Life often involves tensions between important values. This can mean difficult choices. However, we must find ways to harmonize diversity with unity, the exercise of freedom with the common good, short-term objectives with long-term goals. Every individual, family, organization, and community has a vital role to play. The arts, sciences, religions, educational institutions, media, businesses, nongovernmental organizations, and governments are all called to offer creative leadership. The partnership of government, civil society, and business is essential for effective governance.*

*In order to build a sustainable global community, the nations of the world must renew their commitment to the United Nations, fulfill their obligations under existing international agreements, and support the implementation of Earth Charter principles with an international legally binding instrument on environment and development.*

*Let ours be a time remembered for the awakening of a new reverence for life, the firm resolve to achieve sustainability, the quickening of the struggle for justice and peace, and the joyful celebration of life.*