

Declaration of Ilha Bela

In April 1998, in Ilha Bela, Brazil at the conference of the Green parties of the Americas I proposed a Declaration and worked with others on preparing three versions in English, Spanish and Portuguese; and I read the English version at the final plenary

Declaration of Ilha Bela:

Green Parties in the Americas Meeting in Ilha Bela, Brazil, formed the Federation of Green Parties of the Americas and declare:

Recalling that in 1992, concern for the urgency of the Global situation and for the urgent need for action was expressed in the Green Party document, the "Green Agenda" which was submitted to the UN Conference on the Environment and Development (UNCED);

Recalling also that at UNCED in Rio, member states of the United Nations confirmed this urgency by stating:

"Humanity stands at a defining moment in history. We are confronted with a perpetuation of disparities between and within nations;

A worsening of poverty, hunger, ill health and illiteracy and the continuing deterioration of the ecosystem on which we depend for our well-being" (Agenda 21);

Concerned that in the six years since Rio the governments of the member states of the United Nations have not demonstrated the political will to discharge obligations and act on commitments to address the global urgency;

Concerned also that, in the six years since Rio as a result of a disregard by governments for the rule of international law;

- o There has been an increasing violation of human rights, including denial of social justice and disrespect for civil, political, cultural and ethical rights.

- o The environment has increasingly deteriorated.
- o The so-called development that destroys the environment and that is culturally inappropriate has been increasing in the lands of indigenous peoples.

In March 28-29, 1998, the following Green Parties met in Ilha Bela, São Paulo, Brazil:

Partido Verde de Brasil

The Green Party of Canada

Partido Verde Ecologista de Mexico

Partido del Sol Ecologista Federal y Pacifista (Uruguay)

The Greens/Green Party U.S.A.

Association of State Parties (U.S.A.)

Movimiento de Integridad Nacional (Venezuela)

These parties formed the Federation of Green Parties of the Americas which is part of an international movement of green parties addressing the urgency of the global situation.

The Federation of Green Parties of the Americas believes that for every day there is a delay in resolving these urgent problems, these problems become much more destructive for ourselves and for future generations. If the parties in power are not capable in dealing with the basic threats to life on this planet, it is time to elect parties that can.