

## **“United Global Citizens”:** ~ A Global Network of Peoples, Citizens, NGOs, CSOs and Existing Networks for a Sustainable Society in Peace ~

### ● **What is “United Global Citizens (UGC)”?**

It is civil society network on a global scale for world peace that link peoples, citizens, NGOs, CSOs and existing networks. In order to realize global peace, environmental degradation, starvation, poverty, war, conflicts etc. are to be solved. To this end, root causes should be solved. Some of the root causes are the current system of economy that expand the disparity between the rich and the poor, as well as the consciousness and values of people that support the current system. By sharing root causes that could be common to various areas of issues, there will be a chance for people, citizens, NGOs, CSOs and existing networks to be linked with each other. In order to facilitate the formation of links on a global scale and to tackle root causes effectively, a worldwide network of civil society is now strongly required.

### ● **Limitation of International Organizations**

Of course, there are other mechanisms to solve world problems such as the United Nations. It was exactly established for solving these problems for world peace. However, it is difficult for the current international UN system to do so, realizing a peace in a real term, as they are strongly affected by national interests and powers of member states, or vetoes of big powers.

### ● **Citizens can Change the World!**

In opposite, we the people, citizens, have a substantial power to make a difference, as we are free from both national interests and vetoes of big powers. What is necessary for us is to network and cooperate with each other, expressing our voices, taking actions all together against our common wishes. For example, what if the overwhelming majority of the world citizens loudly express “No!” at once to nuclear, global environmental degradation, war and other worldwide problems all together, boycotting products made in countries acting against our common wishes? Is it possible for the governments to resist our request? Anyone can join the boycott. If many people join this movement, we can dramatically change

the current situation with a peaceful and effective way. We call this global civil society network as “United Global Citizens (UGC)”.

### ● **Features of UGC**

Non-violence, Non-confrontation, Neutral, Diversity, Free Choice, Voluntary, Transformation of consciousness and values

### ● **Steps toward a formation of “United Global Citizens”**

- 1) Facilitate discussion among like-minded NGOs, CSOs and existing networks.
- 2) Share the current situation of the world, their root causes, visions, and what to be done.
- 3) Identify priorities of issues and actions.
- 4) Propose concrete solutions to tackle root causes.
- 5) Facilitate citizens of the world to join for collective actions.

### ● **Main Issues:**

Although main issues of UGC are to be decided by discussion, the followings will be critical themes for UGC:

- 1) Global environmental degradation;
- 2) Shrinking the gap between the rich and the poor;
- 3) Disarmament including abolition of nuclear weapons;
- 4) Globalization that causes environmental degradation, resource depletion and poverty etc.

### ● **Let’s Realize “United Global Citizens”!**

Network Earth Village is currently the ad hoc secretariat of UGC, advocating a global network of networks that gathers wishes of the world citizens beyond national boundaries. With the following schedule, we will continue to work hard to realize a creation of “United Global Citizens”.

In 2001: Called citizens and NGOs in the world for active participation for a formation of “United Global Citizens”;

In 2002: Pre-“Global Citizens’ Summit” is to be held in Johannesburg;

In 2005: “Global Citizens’ Summit” is to be held; and

In 2010: “United Global Citizens” is to be established.