Agenda Commission. Meeting January 2005

From: Agenda Commission for the January 2005 meeting
To: Members of the Assembly.

Subject: Development of the next ordinary meeting of the Assembly scheduled for the 13th and 14th January 2005

Participants: This commission consists of the following General Coordinators:

C2 Luis M. lmilani@ciudad.com.ar
C3 Alejo C. alejocroce@speedy.com.ar
C10 Roberto K. kohanoff@fibertel.com.ar
C11 Dario E. dergas@mi.cl
C17 Ariane W. arianew@free.fr
C18 Javier T. javiert@arnet.com.ar,
C22 Margarete T. teraguch@uninet.com.br
C24 Maxi E. melegido@retemail.es
C26 Piro P. piro@telefonica.net
C35 Agostino L. a.lotti@agora.it, ,
C39 Silvia G. silviagomez@arnet.com.ar
C42 Analía de la C. analia@eresmas.net
C51 Alexandre S. alexandresam@terra.com.br
C54 Pepe F. pepef@terra.cl
C73 Fernanda P. fernandamendes22@yahoo.com.br,
C105 Tony R. tmr@zoom.co.uk
C118 Robby B. rblueh@mi.cl
C137 Pablo M. pablo@proyectoshumanistas.org
C138 Montse C. curull@telefonica.net

Maxi E. is responsible for the commission

Joint action in the next two years (2005-2006)

1. Introduction:
The Humanist Movement is a phenomenon in full growth and expansion in quantities and qualities. Its advance towards the corners of the planet, the richness of the diversity of its action and the growth of its social presence and influence, constitutes an already unstoppable tendency.

This document is to evaluate and propose elements of common strategy that boosts this process over the next two years.

2. Evaluation of the joint action of the previous two years (2003-2004)
Two years ago the Assembly approved a material with considerations “about joint action in the next two years”, i.e. the period between January 2003 and January 2005.

We note these agreements:

... “In the short term, we aspire to accelerate our process and to perfect our joint actions with the use of 5 instruments: Organisms, Coordination bodies, use of productions and common experience, the Assembly and Demonstration effects.”

Organisms: **...it is a priority to boost their creation and the development of their autonomy. Similarly, it is also a priority to consider the creation of the regionals that are not yet constituted.**

Coordination bodies: **...It will be important to put intention into coordination between councils as in instrument of supreme interest.**

Use of productions and common experience: **...it will be interesting to develop and perfect instruments that allow the autonomous councils to have access to the large quantity of productions and experiences that exist.**

The Assembly: **...a dynamic Assembly of permanent work and sustained interchange, with strong participation in the works of its commissions and with growing pronouncement towards the environment.**

Demonstration effects: **...Pushing the impressive multiplicity of fronts and activities with the intention of generating conditions to produce demonstration effects.**

It seems that today, it is possible to recognise important advances in nearly all of these objectives according to what can be seen in the chart of the present situation that orders the organisms and coordination bodies by country, as well as the situation of the International and the Regionals.

Although we do not have the chart with the situation from January 2003, from the current chart we can extract the following information:

COORDINATION BODIES	
TOTAL COUNTRIES	110
COUNTRIES WITH LESS THAN 10 MEMBERS	16
COUNTRIES WITH ONLY ONE COUNCIL WORKING	25
COUNTRIES WITH TWO COUNCILS WORKING	13
COUNTRIES WITH MORE THAN 2 COUNCILS	**56**
No. COORDINATION BODIES	30
% OF COORDINATION BODIES IN COUNTRIES WITH > 2 COUNCILS	**53.6%**

ORGANISMS			% in countries with more than 2 councils	% in countries with coordination bodies
HP	LEGALISED	19	34%	63%
	AUTONOMOUS	3		
THE COMMUNITY	LEGALISED	16	29%	53%
	AUTONOMOUS	1		
CENTRE OF CULTURES	LEGALISED	11	20%	37%
	AUTONOMOUS	1		

With regard to the Regionals: The autonomous Regionals of Latin America and Europe continue developing with their own strength; the African Regional has had its first preparational meeting in Accra, Ghana and has fixed its first congress for one years time (January 2006 in Dakar, Senegal), while its thematic secretariats consolidate; and the Asian Regional has fixed its pre-regional meeting for mid-2005. In turn the International, already autonomous for 4 years, maintains its functioning.

We can also note significant advances with respect to the use of productions and common experiences, as the interchange of materials through a network of servers has already been

implemented; the “Materials Website” is maintained and the “Bulletin Website” has been implemented and has been in use for one year.

The Assembly has consolidated its internal working as an ambit of coordination and interchange between the autonomous councils.

With regard to demonstration effects, there seem to have been advances in the generation of conditions of positioning in the environment in some fields and places, as steps of the process conducive to the production of these multiplying effects

3. The present moment: Multipolar Fragmentation

Today everything is fragmenting into many poles. The United States has already lost its opportunity to become the epicentre of a world empire and, instead, the process now tends towards regionalisation and multipolarity in diverse centres of power. Through the model of economic globalisation, the United States, Europe, Russia, China and India, look to position themselves in their regions, becoming markets in line with their interests. For its part, Islam, not as a geographical region but as a religious-cultural current is expanding and strengthening.

Each pole continues to consolidate supported by the globalizing model, paradoxically increasing the social destructuration and disintegration.

If the system appeals to certain ideological cultural contents to promote its cohesion, its sign is economic. Beyond communal purposes there continues to operate a competitive and authoritarian look. Economic growth is aspired to in order to then become a power with the capability to neutralise the advance of the others and in this way gain a greater control and military and political hegemony; true economic wars between regions and zones in which the powerful go on taking control. It is nothing less than the violence inherent in this system, manifesting itself on a planetary scale.

Today the destructuration of the system is more flashy, the deepening abyss between political discourse and living conditions of the people; between the fantasy of a consumer society promoted by the media and the impoverishment and deterioration of the quality of life; the discord between what people aspire to and how they live.

At a personal level an isolated way to perceive the world is more and more evident. Life is seen from the particular, disconnected from other realities. For people, their world has become a video clip, a reality cut into chunks and partialities, which sometimes touches on virtual reality. There are less and less cohesive ties and more difficulty to relate the partialities into a broader reality.

We are also witnessing the symptoms of culture shock that accompany the process of globalisation. Some treat the cultural differences as divergences whose customs and lifestyles must be made uniform. The ethnic and religious groups react by searching for a strong identity and withdraw into themselves in a kind of cultural chauvinism that reinforces the confrontation with other ethnicities, cultures or religions.

In this scenario there is beginning to appear a new generation that will express itself, as is usual with a generational dynamic, with a dialectic approach and a clash. The values that have been installed will receive the onslaught of this generation that is beginning to appear but does not come with the same values. Youth are appearing in all latitudes, looking for references and they do not look for them in the media or in the establishment or in declarative reasoning: we are dealing with a world-wide phenomenon. They are without references and confused, they don’t participate because they don’t want to participate in a world that rejects them and doesn’t like them. Their presence must be highlighted although we do not know precisely when its direction will be manifested.

A worsening of social, political and cultural conflict approaches, manifesting itself in a destructured and uncontrolled way.

In synthesis, a fragmented world is emerging, a fragile and violent mosaic, where the particular is perceived as if it were universal; a connected and global world on the surface, unconnected and partial in its depths.

In this landscape, our project of converging diversity, our eagerness to connect the disconnected, to unite, recovering the horizon of the evolution process, to connect

existence with meaning, to build a universal human nation with space and freedom for all, pushes us with the strength of necessity.

4. Joint action in the next two years

As we have shown, conflicts are increasing and will increase even more in the political, social and cultural fields. Events push towards decontrol, towards psychosocial overflow

Peoples will protest for change of structures with greater or lesser precision, with greater or lesser reach, but surely with the strength that comes from necessity.

To constitute the Humanist Movement as a psycho-social reference will signify then, in this scenario, to actively involve oneself in conflict, to be, decidedly, a protagonist of the struggle for social transformation, to work for the emergence and the expansion of demonstration effects in the political, social and cultural fields.

We understand that this opportunity, this twist that History is offering, demands the concentration and the convergence of energies, of intentions, to push the work in influence and in the positive articulation of particular directions. To combine forces, converge, complement, are certainly challenges in the times that are coming and constitute in this way, the liberating act that jumps over destructuration and sterile atomisation.

Organisms, Regionals and the International

From the convergent perspective towards conflict and the transformation of conditions, our organisms, as a defined expression in the political, social and cultural fields acquire maximum relevance.

Through the Humanist Party, the Community for Human Development and the Centre of Cultures we are able to develop our action in these fields without the necessity to create new organisms.

On the other hand, numerous fronts of action which we have been developing in growing degrees of specificity are able to converge, including themselves in the process of creation, development, expansion and autonomy of each one of the organisms, attending to their thematic affinity.

We propose to create the organisms where they do not exist; to develop them where they are already in an initial stage; to make their influence, rooting and interactivity with the environment grow and finally we propose to launch the organisms towards their autonomy, in this way liberating energies in them and in the structures that generate and push them.

Our organisms have the mission to be constituted as tools at the service of transformation, to position themselves giving priority to conflicts in their respective fields, to grow their real influence in the social base and interact with other forces in the direction of revolutionary change.

The organisms constitute, in this opportunity, the aim that corresponds to the act of our converging and transforming intention. It is in the organisms, fundamentally, that we try to establish joint work.

On the other hand, the generation of powerful, active and inclusive Humanist Regionals are important in this moment of Regionalisation on the way to the Universal Human Nation.

These Regionals, that will be ambits of coordination of actions between diverse organisations and fronts, must show the energetic and defined presence of Humanism in every regional conflict, to be vehicles related with other progressivisms and currents of social transformation in their region.

We also note the importance of the Humanist Regionals in support of the development of the political organism at a national level.

The Humanist International, as a convergent channel of the Regionals and the National Political Parties, will also be a factor of supreme importance, linking regions, bringing intelligence to the efforts, and positioning itself in front of multi-regional conflicts.

In accordance with these priorities, the Coordination Bodies of each one of the countries where structures of the Movement act, have as primary, the creation and development of the 3 organisms of the Movement, and from that comes the need to generate coordination bodies with this interest, where they do not exist.

The Assembly of General Coordinators

The Assembly works permanently through its commissions. These, in turn, work on doctrinary positions; make contributions and develop initiatives orientated to improve the internal functioning of the Assembly.

Ideological positions in front of conflict is the work of the organisms, the Regionals or the International, but there is also the need for studies and postures which give more general context and references than situational positionings. These positionings are not thought of in terms of high impact communiqués, rather by their function of ideological orientation.

Given the foreseen incorporation of General Coordinators from different continents and cultures, we need to facilitate their participation in the works of the Assembly, giving strong intention to the use of other languages apart from Spanish and English in the interchanges and materials that are produced.

5. Resolutions

We will orientate our joint action towards:

- Decidedly pushing our 3 organisms, creating them where they are not even formed and developing them where they already exist, multiplying their action and presence respectively to political, social and cultural conflicts, to become a reference and aspiring to their legalisation and autonomy in the maximum number of countries.
- The foundation of the Regionals that are not constituted and the development of the Regionals that are already formed, with the inclusion of many organisations in its heart and with a relevant social presence.
- The development of the International, looking to become a factor of coming together, intelligence and public pressure at a global level.
- To give priority to the Commissions of Positioning in the works of the commissions of the Assembly.

Development of the Assembly Meeting: 13th and 14th January 2005

The virtual meeting will take place on the 13th and 14th of January at 12:00 pm in Santiago and Buenos Aires and 4:00pm in Madrid and Rome.

The first day is estimated to last some two hours and the second day between two and three hours.

We recommend to meet by point on the day before to interchange about the themes that will be dealt with in the meeting. The updated agreements of the Assembly, reports of the commissions, the report of the GCD and the agenda of the meeting will be available (in printed form).

First Day

Reading and agreement of the agenda.

The meeting will begin with a quick presentation of the new General Coordinators. It would help if the new General Coordinators are grouped by place according to the council from which they have come.

To follow, the General Coordinator Delegate will report on the data collected on the 24th December and give a summary of the biannual report that will be distributed prior to the meeting through the Assembly list.

Afterwards, those responsible for the commissions and contributions will make a brief summary of what has been produced:

Massive Stage
Demonstration Effects
Public Dissemination
Digital Archive
E-learning
Ad-Hoc teams: African and Asian Regionals
Education
Rapid Action
(Updated agreements, Translations and information are part of the team of the G.C.D.)

To continue, the first round of the triple secret ballot for the election of the new General Coordinator Delegate will happen, and the result will be reported.

The videoconference connection will end and at 16:00hrs in Buenos Aires and Santiago and 20:00hrs in Madrid and Rome, the second round of voting will happen and take one hour. The results will be put on the web and sent via the list.

Second day.

We will start at the same time as the previous day. In the first 15 minutes, the third round of voting will take place. Following this the outgoing General Coordinator Delegate will report the result of the third round and the new General Coordinator Delegate.

The new General Coordinator Delegate will coordinate the meeting from this point.

The resolutions about the joint action for the next two years will be interchanged upon and approved.

We will move on to see the proposals for new commissions and they will be formalised, giving precision to the interest, responsible person, participants and estimated duration.

The date of the next meeting of the Assembly will be fixed.

The meeting will end with a summary of what has been agreed and final words of the General Coordinator Delegate.

After the meeting the minutes will be sent through the Assembly list in the official languages, money will be sent urgently (through Western Union) to the points that need it and the memory of the Assembly will be updated.

COORINATION BODIES, ORGANISMS, REGIONALS AND INTERNATIONAL

November-04

COUNTRIES	QUANITY OF COUNCILS OPERATING (*)	COORDINATION BODY	ORGANISMS					
			HP		TC		COC	
			LEGAL	AUTON	LEGAL	AUTON	LEGAL	AUTON
GERMANY	3							
ANGOLA	6							
ALGERIA	5							
ARGENTINA	50							
ARMENIA								
AUSTRALIA								
AUSTRIA								
BANGLADESH	13							
BELGIUM	2							
BENIN	17							
BOLIVIA	37							
BRASIL	41							
BULGARIA	3							
BURKINA FASO	15							
BURUNDI	1							
CAPE VERDE	4							
CAMEROON	10							
CANADA	2							
CHAD	2							
CHILE	42							
COLOMBIA	21							
CONGO	7							
SOUTH KOREA								
IVORY COAST	13							
COSTA RICA	7							
DENMARK								
DOMINICA	2							
ECUADOR	22							
EGYPT	1							
EL SALVADOR	5							
SPAIN	31							
PHILIPINES	4							
FRANCE	10							
GAMBIA	7							
GHANA	17							
GREECE	3							
GUATEMALA	2							
GUINEA	5							
EQUATORIAL GUINEA	2							
GUINEA-BISSAU	4							
HAITI	4							
NETHERLANDS								
HONDURAS	3							
HONG KONG								
HUNGARY	1							
COMORES ISL.	1							
INDIA	13							
INDONESIA	2							
ICELAND	1							
ISRAEL	1							
ITALY	15							
JAMAICA								
JAPAN	1							
KAZAKHSTAN								
KENYA	12							
KUWAIT								
LIBERIA	1							
LIBYA	1							
LITHUANIA								
LUXEMBOURG								
MACEDONIA	1							
MALAWI	1							
MALI	11							
MORROCCO	10							
MAURITANIA	4							
MEXICO	15							
MOLDAVIA	1							
MONGOLIA	1							
MOZAMBIQUE	16							
NEPAL	2							
NICARAGUA	4							
NIGER	6							
NIGERIA	4							
NORWAY								
PAKISTAN	4							
PALESTINE	1							
PANAMA	6							
PARAGUAY	17							
PERU	54							
POLAND								
PORTUGAL	10							
PUERTO RICO	2							
UNITED KINGDOM								
CZECH REPUBLIC	1							
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	9							
SLOVAKIA	1							
ROMANIA	9							
RUSSIA								
RWANDA	4							
SAO TOME	1							
SENEGAL	40							
SERBIA	1							
SIERRA LEONE	2							
SRI LANKA	2							
SOUTH AFRICA	1							
SUDAN	1							
SWEDEN								
SWITZERLAND	1							
TANZANIA	4							
EAST TIMOR	1							
TOGO	23							
TUNISIA	1							
TURKEY	2							
U.S.A.	7							
UKRAINE	1							
UGANDA	6							
URUGUAY	17							
VENEZUELA	6							
ZAIRE	1							
ZAMBIA	3							
ZIMBABWE	2							

NOTES: (*) not counting councils with a development of less than 10 members

STATISTICAL SYNTHESIS OF COORDINATION BODIES AND ORGANISMS

COORDINATION BODIES	
TOTAL COUNTRIES	110
COUNTRIES WITH LESS THAN 10 MEMBERS	16
COUNTRIES WITH ONLY ONE COUNCIL WORKING	25
COUNTRIES WITH TWO COUNCILS WORKING	13
COUNTRIES WITH MORE THAN 2 COUNCILS	**56**
No. COORDINATION BODIES	30
% OF COORDINATION BODIES IN COUNTRIES WITH > 2 COUNCILS	**53.6%**

ORGANISMS			% in countries with more than 2 councils	% in countries with coordination bodies
HP	LEGALISED	19	34%	63%
	AUTONOMOUS	3		
THE COMMUNITY	LEGALISED	16	29%	53%
	AUTONOMOUS	1		
CENTRE OF CULTURES	LEGALISED	11	20%	37%
	AUTONOMOUS	1		

REGIONALS	LATINAMERICA	EUROPE	AFRICA	ASIA
SITUATION	AUTONOMOUS	AUTONOMOUS	IN FORMATION	IN FORMATION

INTERNATIONAL	AUTONOMOUS

SYNTHESIS OF AGREEMENTS AND RESOLUTIONS OF THE HUMANIST MOVEMENT ASSEMBLY

The following list consists of two parts:
1- Agreements recorded in the minutes
2- Resolutions and agreements coming from the approved works of the commissions

1) Agreements recorded in the minutes

The list is ordered by theme, making reference to the date of the meeting where the agreement was made

Functions of the Assembly

January 2001
The Assembly sets the objectives, the strategy, and the official and recommended materials of the Movement, leaving the tactics and concrete implementations to the discretion of each particular Council.

Autonomy of the Councils

January 2002
The priority of interchange and coordination between General Coordinators through the agreements taken define the limits of autonomy of the councils.

Functioning

January 2001
- The rhythm of ordinary meetings is set to yearly, allowing for extraordinary meetings to take place whenever circumstances dictate and the coordinator delegate deems appropriate. The date and place of the next ordinary meeting will be set in the preceding one. The Assembly does not have permanent functions but instead creates commissions according to needs.
- The Assembly does not have funds and resolves its logistic needs as these arise.
- The resolutions of the Assembly are documented in Minutes which are public and are freely circulated.
- The day-to-day communication among its members is carried out through the Assembly electronic mailing list among other means.
- The work performed by the Assembly is a team work; it is a work of interchange and collaboration.
- Structural statistical data by country and council is periodically collected with the objective of having general information available to all and to facilitate the coordination of activities.
- The Assembly does not organize campaigns, does not produce materials nor does it set the amounts for the financial campaigns, leaving the coordination of these themes up to the councils that develop activities in each particular geographical location, as well as everything concerning the organisms that are not yet autonomous and all the other joint activities.
- The Assembly will arbitrate the necessary means for its protection

New members

January 2001

- The promotion of new members to the Assembly takes place according to the requirements established by the Humanist Movement and known to all. The responsibility of the promotion falls upon the person who promotes, the Assembly not being required to accept those who do not fulfil the requirements. In the same fashion, those who have the conditions to be promoted and confront resistance in their Council of origin, may request the Assembly to hear their case.

January 2002

- The sectors that a general coordinator promotes when closing a council also participate in the Assembly.

January 2003

- "Promotions may be effected during the months of the seasonals, coinciding with the month of the financial campaign. It is suggested that the councils who modify their financial campaign rhythm notify the coordinator delegate."

Commissions

January 2001

- Commissions are ad hoc functions that are created for a specific objective and are dissolved once their objectives are met.

January 2002

- It is one of the forms of work of the Assembly.
  Each commission, upon being formed, defines its interest, development and how long will it last.
  These commissions are created from the Assembly. Commissions are constituted by two General Coordinators as a minimum, with no maximum limit of participants. Commissions are open and any general coordinator who manifests their interest to participate in them may do so. The Assembly will consider, at the initiative of a general coordinator, the convenience of forming a particular commission. The initiative, with proper foundation, will be circulated in the mailing list of the Assembly, and the coordinator delegate will be informed; the latter will, after consultation to the Assembly, make the commission official or will keep it as an initiative.
- The work of a commission is presented to the members of the Assembly so they may interchange about it and consider it, for the purpose of converting the commission into an instrument of the Assembly. Time will be given for such consideration and interchange.

January 2003

- An agreement was reached to number the commissions and the bi-yearly edition of the list of official materials and documents produced by the different commissions.

January 2004

- Before making a commission official the Assembly will be consulted and then it will be formalised by the General Coordinator Delegate.

Delegate Coordinator

January 2001
The Assembly chooses a coordinator delegate—through the system of self-postulation and triple secret voting—who will exercise their function for two years, without the possibility of being re-elected. Their function is to serve the Assembly by coordinating in time and form what the Assembly decides.

- The coordinator delegate coordinates the preparation of the agenda for the meetings, the place and duration of the same, the distribution of information, communication with the members and all other aspects that make for a good functioning of the Assembly.
- The coordinator delegate receives information about promotions, records contact details of the promoted members and assigns a number correlative with the prior ones to the new general coordinator.

In case of impediment due to a greater force, the coordinator delegate will be replaced in a new meeting of the Assembly called by the most senior member—according to his or her number of promotion—that accepts the function.
The mechanism used is the self-postulation and triple secret voting.

Finances

January 2002
The Assembly does has no financial budgets, does not carry out monetary collections, nor does it have funds of any type available to it; therefore, it resolves its logistical needs as they arise.

Meetings

January 2002
- The rhythm of ordinary meetings is set to yearly. Extraordinary meetings may be carried out when circumstances demand it and/or when the coordinator delegate deems it necessary. These extraordinary meetings can be promoted by any general coordinator and their realization will depend on the agreements reached with the majority of the general coordinators.
- Virtual meetings will have priority and may be carried out physically when the Assembly considers it convenient.
- The agenda for each meeting will be proposed by the general coordinators prior to the meeting and will be studied in commissions. The coordination of this agenda and its full preparation will be a function of the coordinator delegate.
- Joint meetings incorporate the work performed in the commissions, so that common agreements regarding coordination may be arrived at the meetings.

Materials

January 2002
- Official materials are those that have been considered as such in an Assembly meeting. The same criterion holds true for the recommended materials.
- Other interesting materials and productions done in the councils will be circulated, at the discretion of each general coordinator, in the Assembly mailing list. Such is the case of the Retreat of the Force, the Guide, etc.

- It is advisable that these productions be accompanied by a summary and a position paper in cases where it might be necessary.

January 2004
- It was agreed to incorporate an index by theme into “Collected Works” by Silo, volume I and II.

Assembly decision making

January 2002
The Assembly aims at the convergence of diversity. To this end, it gives precedence to the search of consensus over all other form of decision-making. This search for consensus takes place in the work of the commissions, in the permanent interchange among its members and during the joint meetings.
- While recognizing that the majority is not infallible, in any case we need a mechanism to make decisions when consensus is not achievable.
- This mechanism is simple majority mixed voting in which each voter chooses his or her mode of voting—secret or open—according to their option. This mechanism will be reviewed in the future.
- Voting will take place after organizing the commission for a third time and failing to achieve an agreement of the Assembly.
- The decisions of the Assembly, whether by consensus or voting, are binding for all general coordinators.
- Minority positions that wish to may have their opinion appear in the Minutes.
- The extensive diffusion of the Assembly’s agreements and decisions is the best mechanism for its protection.
- Cases of extreme seriousness to the whole, arising from a particular council, will be dealt with by the Assembly which will take the necessary measures for its protection.

Instruments of the Assembly

January 2002
- **Minutes.** The resolutions of the Assembly are recorded in minutes which are public and circulate freely. This instrument is of the utmost importance because it is the only one where a record will be made of the themes that were dealt with, the decisions that were made, the procedures that have been set, calendars, etc. It is the only material that will set a precedent in the manner of “jurisprudence.”
- **Archive**. Productions of the Assembly will be available to general coordinators of the Movement and the public at large in the materials archive web. This web site will contain official materials, productions of the Assembly, interchange materials, an index of council-specific web sites and the bulletins of the councils. The coordinator delegate will be the responsible person for this web site. Materials that are in the process of being translated and those that already have an official version in another language are also included.

January 2004
- **Synthesis of activities**. It was agreed that the collection of information for the World Bulletin will be made through the Bulletin website.

Languages and translations

January 2002

- Minutes will be available, at least, in the following 5 languages: Spanish, English, French, Portuguese and Italian.
- Simultaneous translation will be available for Assembly meetings.
- A commission is created to complete a study of this theme (languages) taking into account the direction of planetarisation in which we are going.

January 2004

- It is convenient that the messages and materials that circulate through the list are done simultaneously in the official languages.
- Given the important number of members of the Movement that use French it was agreed to accelerate the translation of the works of the commission into this language.

Ideological positioning and the press

January 2002

- The Assembly may adopt ideological positions whenever it considers it convenient. In order to accomplish this, commissions will be formed to study themes within a fixed timeframe. The outcome of the commission's work will be a position that requires the approval of the Assembly.
- In case of an emergency, the coordinator delegate will form a team of general coordinators and will let all other members of the Assembly know about this, so that any and all interested parties may join as well. This team will immediately produce an initial position.
- The Assembly will let the press know about the ideological positions it takes, as well as any other theme. General coordinators will take care of the implementation in their respective countries, in the name of the Assembly of General Coordinators of the Humanist Movement.

Definition of structure, procedures and official materials

January 2002

We will maintain the known form of structuring, levels and promotions, as well as procedures such as the annual financial campaigns of the councils of the Movement—divided into two parts—and the official materials. Likewise we will maintain the known designations (General Coordinator, Coordinator, General Delegate, Team Delegate, Group Delegate and Supporter) and the specialization of sectors (structural, administrative and support).

With respect to the structural proportions of 1 to 10 or 1 to 7 (according to gender, male and female respectively), from the point of view of autonomy it doesn't seem necessary to add or change anything given the objective and the interest that gave rise to these proportions.

The amount of financial campaigns should be homogeneous by country.

Ad-hoc coordination

January 2002

For the purpose of resolving difficulties and promoting joint activities in a country where several councils operate, it seems useful to coordinate in an ad-hoc basis according to need and particular circumstances (excepting the case of autonomous organisms).

Agreements and coordination correspond to the highest level, the delegation of this function being performed after the agreements among general coordinators have been reached in each country.

Autonomy of organisms

January 2002
One of the objectives of the Movement has been to launch and develop different organisms that translate and apply their action to the issues as they appear in each geographical point, according to a global strategy. It is not the function of the Assembly to create or support organisms.

Differences between organisms and other tools of action

January 2002
- The Movement has organisms and actions fronts. Different councils participate jointly in the organisms. Action fronts arise from one or more councils.
- The Movement sets in motion action fronts through its councils. Later on, if these prove to be efficient, they may be declared by the Assembly as official organisms of the Movement.
- All members of the councils operating in a country who wish to support an organism may participate in it. For this to be possible, it is important that all councils have the information available to them. People who have a liking for it, work in the organisms.

January 2002
The Movement organizes action fronts through its councils. Later, if these prove to be efficient, they may be declared as official organisms of the Movement.

What does it mean for an organism to become autonomous from the Movement?

January 2002
Autonomy refers to a disconnection of an organism from the orientation given by the Movement—its orientation, internal functioning and general dynamics being left now in the hands of those people who have the interest and liking for its development, according to the internal planning of activities that its members set for it.
In the case of action fronts or other initiatives coming from the councils, we don't speak of autonomy since their basic characteristics depend on the structure of the council or councils of the Movement that set them in motion.
If an organism does not achieve autonomy, this is an indicator that it lacks real strength.
Any of the international, regional, national or local problems that an organism may face are resolved by that organism according to the rules established in its own foundation document, rules and regulations or bylaws.

Starting an organism

January 2002
Starting the activities of an organism in a country (when that organism already exists in other countries) must be done with the agreement of all councils that operate on that point, independently of whether they participate or not in said organism.

Who decides on the autonomy of an organism? How, when and where is this produced?

January 2002
The Assembly has no organic relationship with the councils or the organisms; it does not create them nor does it support them; the organization of organisms is not defined by the Assembly.

- The autonomy of each organism is decided in each country by a common agreement among the general coordinators of the councils operating in that country and in the moment they deem opportune.
- An organism is either autonomous or not. In each case the procedures and the orientation of activities is different.
- Certain conditions are necessary to achieve autonomy; for example: to have an ideological, conceptual and organizational foundation; to have continuity in time; the capacity to agglutinate people; the participation of several councils; etc.
- In this stage, we lean more towards a rapid autonomy of existing organisms than towards keeping them under the orientation of the Movement.
- When an organism in a particular country has not yet achieved autonomy and there's more than one council operating in that country, it is necessary to coordinate all joint activities.

Recommended materials

January 2002
The ample diffusion of the animated presentations based on the book Self-Liberation is recommended.

How final versions of translated materials become official

July 2002

- If a material progresses through the different instances or steps defined as 1 through 5 and is finally picked up by someone who gives it a final polish, we may consider it to be a translated "final version," but not necessarily "official." It remains as a final version of a process that has been cared for sufficiently.
- Councils are left with the initiative to conduct good translations that progress to the end of a 5 stage process. This would allow for the printing and circulation of a good translated version of the original. For this reason we change "official" for "final version."
- We could add a responsible person or team of responsible persons per language and have them determine when a translation is in its final version. These would be versions that have gone through a 5 step process and they would be in conditions of being printed.
- Since the Assembly has reached an agreement on this matter, we could start by proposing responsible persons or teams of persons by language. The proposal could take the form of self-postulation and/or a proposal from those councils that have been involved in the translations in each language.
- The way of conducting these self-postulations is through the Assembly mailing list.

Collection of information

July 2002

We agree to keep the collection of structural information through the Assembly web site on the 24th of June and 24th of December. We also agree not to collect more information than necessary for the purposes of coordination.

Working with themes and agenda for the meeting

July 2002
The different themes to be dealt with at the meeting will be discussed in open commissions, with a responsible person in charge, within a timeframe and after having presented a brief summary that serves as the frame of discussion of the theme to be worked on.
Commissions, coordinated by a responsible person, may conduct their work through forums, chat and electronic mailing lists among the interested parties. Their conclusions will be included in the agenda for the virtual meeting at which point their approval or modification will be determined.

January 2004
Before each meeting of the assembly the appendix II prepared by the "Agenda Commission" will be updated with the agreements of the Assembly in force.

Closed councils

January 2003
We incorporate to the memory of the Assembly the closing minutes of the councils that complete their structural process. The General Coordinator Delegate is the custodian of these materials.

Regarding the Commissions and Contributions

May 2004
In the present moment of our development we have considered taking into account the following parameters in the works of the Assembly

Internal functioning and technical works, such as communications, technical aspects of the meetings, the website, the bulletin, collection of data, translation to the official languages and those aspects that we can include in the responsibility of the General Coordinator Delegate and their team; these works would be included in the report that the General Coordinator Delegate makes in every period of two years, along with the modifications of functioning that would require the approval of the assembly

Situational and tactical works, which contemplate possible implementations but do not inhibit others, or better, are for a fixed period of time that allow for subsequent amplification; these works we propose to frame them as Contributions and not requiring approval. Their circulation would remain to the judgement of the General Coordinators.

Works of ideological positioning that are considered as opinions require approval of the Assembly and cover the whole Movement. These would be commissions to which we assign a number and would be for wider circulation.

There could also be works which cover diverse areas, as is the case of the Agenda Commission, which could include a technical subsection for the development of the meeting or the voting, but also include a position or study of the world situation. In these cases we can

differentiate between these in the appendixes where some would be public and others would remain as contributions or in the archive of the Assembly.

2) List of resolutions that come out of the approved works of the commissions

TRANSLATIONS COMMISSION

Suggestions for mechanisms to use in the coordination of the translation of materials.

a) Before beginning a new translation, to notify through the Assembly mailing list for the purpose of preventing duplicate efforts.
b) After completing the first draft, upload the translation to the Materials web site so as to make it available. In time, the translation will be improved thanks to the action of the translators of the different councils. This process will be regulated through the Materials web site.
c) To complete the work on missing translations, as well as improving on the ones already started until getting them to their final version. The Assembly may give itself a timeline to complete this process, and may form commissions for this task.
d) Once new materials are made official by the Assembly, they may be placed in the Materials web site as well as the translated versions as they become available.

TECHNICAL TEAM COMMISSION

Bibliographical Form
We suggest that each new or revised version of an official or recommended material be accompanied by a short form in which the responsible council, version (according to the classification agreed upon), date, name and electronic address of the responsible person and size of the file are stated. This additional information can be inspected in the web page by hovering the cursor over the material.

Quarterly update bulletin
We propose the quarterly distribution of an update bulletin which will contain information about new translations and updates made to previous versions. This bulletin will be distributed by the webmaster to those that are subscribed to said bulletin.
We think that this bulletin would allow the councils to always work with the most up to date versions of each material in an agile manner.

Proposal to create an online catalogue of multimedia materials (or website of materials in new formats)

COMMISSION REGARDING JOINT ACTIONS FOR THE NEXT TWO YEARS (2003/2004)

Organisms:
It would be important to consider in these next two years, in places where organisms have not yet been set in motion, the creation of these organisms and their development in the direction of autonomy. From the same point of view, it would be interesting to set in motion the regionals where these have not yet been constituted.

Coordinated actions inside countries:
It will be important to give impetus to the Coordination among Councils as a very important instrument.

The role of the Assembly in the psycho-social world:
A dynamic Assembly, with permanent work and sustained interchange, with strong participation in the tasks of its commissions and with an increasing positioning towards the social environment (…) will no doubt be useful for the Assembly to increasingly become an instrument capable of generating psycho-social models and stimuli.

Demonstration effects:
In the same direction pointed at before—the production of stimuli and models that act as guiding images, illuminating the landscape of the future and mobilizing individual and collective consciousness—it will be relevant to consider the urgency of generating conditions for the production of demonstration effects in some point in the planet.

COMMISSION ON THE FORMATION OF COORDINATING BODIES BY COUNTRY

We propose that the coordination among different councils of the Humanist Movement acting in one country be done through the general coordinators or those whom they so designate.

The agreement among two General Coordinators will be sufficient for the promotion and formation of a Coordinating Body and the invitation of the rest of General Coordinators to participate in it. The representing member at the Coordinating Body, irrespective of their structural level or instance, acts as a representative of the General Coordinator of the councils he belongs to. It will be the General Coordinators the ones who will have to coordinate among themselves in case of difficulties at the local level.

The minutes of the meetings of coordination will be sent through the list and will be included in the Assembly website (to show the historical process), in the minutes the councils that participate will be recorded.

COMMISSION ON THE USE OF LANGUAGES IN THE WORK OF THE ASSEMBLY

Criteria for the adoption of a new language in the work of the Assembly

1. There have to be General Coordinators who require this language as they are unable to communicate in any of the other languages presently being used.
2. The language in question should be international—that is, widely used in different cultures and geographies—so that the effort expended in the adoption of a new language has maximum applicability.
3. There should be reasonable availability inside our organization of people that can help with translations in this language.

Mechanism for the adoption of a new language in the work of the Assembly:

When a new General Coordinator who is unable to communicate through the currently available languages is incorporated into the Assembly, he or she may request from the Assembly, through the General Coordinator Delegate, the inclusion of a new language which, fulfilling the requirements outlined above, allow for his or her normal participation. The General Coordinator Delegate will submit this request for the consideration of the Assembly, and once approved the new language will be incorporated as a working language.

<u>Regarding the use of languages in the different forms of work.</u>

Meetings:
A service of simultaneous translation will be incorporated in the virtual or physical meetings of the Assembly. The technical team responsible for the organization of said meeting may determine the most appropriate mechanism for this task.

Work in Commissions:
Commissions will use the language or languages that are appropriate for their efficient work. Translations will not be necessary in case all participants speak the same language.
Once the commission produces a final document to be submitted to the Assembly, this document should circulate in all the languages that at that moment have been determined to be working languages for the Assembly.
Each commission will make their own arrangements for the translation of their productions.

General communications:
Communications with a general scope whether it be it from one member to the rest of the Assembly, from a commission to the Assembly or from the General Coordinator Delegate to the Assembly, will be translated to all the working languages of the Assembly.

Assembly website:
Menus used in the Assembly web site may be translated to all languages of widespread use in addition to official working languages in order to facilitate access to and use of the site since this is not a difficult task. The archives area contains materials in all languages in which they're available.

Official Materials:
All official materials of the Assembly must be translated to, at least, the official working languages as a condition of they being made official.

Recommendations:
This commission proposes to add English to the official working languages of the Assembly.

Additionally, we propose the support of French, Italian and Portuguese.

COMMISSION ON ACTION FRONTS AND THE MECHANISM FOR THEIR CONVERSION INTO ORGANISMS

Means of conversion:
It is not the function of the Assembly to create organisms. Nevertheless, the Assembly may make official different initiatives presented by the councils.

In this fashion, one or more councils may propose to the Assembly the conversion of an Action Front into an official organism, accompanying their proposal with a report that helps Assembly members make a decision.

This report should include the conditions and experiences of said Action Front that justify the conversion, and other recommendations that may be useful to Assembly members to implement such Action Front or organism.

Then the Assembly will analyze the situation and decide whether or not to make the organism official.

COMMISSION ON NEW FORMATS

The graphic contributions of the commissions are obtainable in the rooms of WinMX. Instructions of how to use it is included in the section of contributions on the website.

TECHNICAL APPENDIX

Communication test: 10 minutes test, two hours before the meeting to assure the circuit, connections, translations, lighting, disposition of the room, web connection, paltalt, etc..

Documents or vídeos: If there are documents or videos to show, advise beforehand.

Translations: Simultaneous translation will be made in each reception point into french, spanish, italian and english, with two translators, if possible, our people, for each language in each point. For the reports that are fixed, it will be convenient to have them available previously for their translation.

Procedure for the election of the General Coordinator Delegate

The postulation process will open on January 5, it being sufficient that any GC sends a note through the list of the assembly (with a copy though a second circuit directly to the GCD), informing of the interest of postulating themselves to this function.

On January 12, the day previous to the virtual meeting, at 22 hours in Rome and Madrid, and at 18 hours in Buenos Aires and Santiago the period for the self-postulation of general coordinators to the function of CGD will close.

Two hours after having concluded this process of self-postulation, the GCD will send a report to the assembly through the list, confirming the names of the postulants.

For the election of the GCD the system to be used will self-postulation and secret triple voting, as described in the records of the first meeting of the Assembly, in Mar del Plata, January 2001: *"The election mechanism will be by self-postulation and secret triple ballot, which in general terms is as follows: a combined definition of the profile of the function for the next two years ago is produced. Those interested postulate themselves, a member is designated to arbitrate and a first round of voting proceeds. The votes can be positive, null or blank, all being counted. The count is carried out and a first result declared. There is a pause and there begins a period of dialogue, after which votes are cast again. In this instance, there cannot be any new postulants. It may happen that one or more of the postulants retires, the election continuing with those that remain. In the event that only one remains then their election is automatic. After another pause, dialogue and exchange a third and final vote is made, the result being determined by simple majority. In the case of a tie, new postulants are able to present themselves and the three rounds are repeated."*

The voting will be carried out by internet through the Assembly website. We suggest one computer connected to the Internet for every five participants.

To enter the website, if the password has not been modified the Council will be “consejoxxx”, without spaces in the middle, where xxx is the council number, and the password is the same (councilxxx).

As an alternative voting system, if some place or geographical point becomes disconnected because of technical problems at the moment of voting, the secret vote will be carried out in the non connected place, and by telephone (through a mobile phone, prearranged in each point) the General Coordinator with technical responsibilities for the place will communicate the result to the outgoing General Coordinator Delegate (and only to him) who will add the data to that of the web and will give to the Assembly the final result. This way the vote of each GC and of each geographical point will remain secret.

Those responsible by point:

They will attend to the technical aspects of the virtual meeting and the voting and if necessary, of the alternative voting system. The team is coordinated by Piro.

Place	**Person responsable**
Buenos Aires	Roberto K. y Gerardo F. Roberto Tel: 005411-15-5412-9876
Roma	Fulvio, Agostino. Fulvio Tel: +39 347 1415464 Agostino: +393395607169
Santiago	Robby y Pepe. Robby Tel: +56 98216660 Pepe Feres Tel: +56 94167914
Madrid	Montse, Piro. Montse Tel: +34 617202536 Piro Tel: +34 696394812