

New Year Greetings for 1999

Dear members of the PP21 Council, Coordinating Team, Secretariat Support Group, and Partners and Friends,

It has been quite some time since you heard from the Secretariat. I must first apologize for not having been able to keep up communication among ourselves. After the June 1997 Council meeting in Hong Kong, the secretariat was moved to the Philippines under the care of Jean Laguerder of PRRM. In July 1998, I wrote to you informing you that the CSD in Hong Kong would take up the secretariat work again, and requested you to send me news about your activities for publication in *Alliance of Hope*. Meanwhile, I have not been able to get in touch with Jean to find out what has been done on her side, and as for the CSD, several core members, all being postgraduates, were preoccupied with submitting their thesis, and the CSD was almost non-functioning up till the end

of 1998. I understand that personal problems are no excuse but that is usually the fact of life, especially for a small voluntary organization like the CSD. Now, with the new year, the CSD is re-vitalizing its activities, and I hope that it will function in a "normal" way and fulfill its functions, one of which is taking up the secretariat work for PP21. Needless to say, the secretariat should facilitate a flow of information and views, but without the active participation of every one of us, there cannot be any real and meaningful progress.

While I take full responsibility for the lack of communication and make a promise for a more active role from the secretariat in Hong Kong, I would like to urge all of you

to make an effort in communication. I would like to propose some minimum tasks that need to be done:

1. (Reply No.1) That you respond immediately to this by confirming the information about your organization. An updated directory will then be sent to everyone. So, please just fill in the simple questionnaire below and return to me.

2. That you send to the secretariat a simple account of

A) (Reply NO.2) your own life and work in the past one and a half years (since we know each other, we are all interested in what is happening in a more personal way). This information will be put in this internal newsletter.

B) (Reply No.3) the major activities of your organization/network in 1998, and major events happening in your sector/region/country. This information will be put in *Alliance of Hope* No.8, scheduled to come out soon. Please send in your contributions as soon as possible.

3. You are also most welcome to write some reflections or recommendations on how the PP21 processes should proceed, and please state where you would like it to go into: the internal newsletter or *Alliance of Hope*.

4. Could the five coordinators for the five projects/processes decided on in the June 1997 Council meeting work with your group members, and write something about what has been done, what is feasible, what changes are recommended, and ways to proceed?

5. Apart from producing *Alliance of Hope*, the secretariat is starting this informal, irregular (but hopefully once a month) newsletter *PP21 Channel* to facilitate exchange of information and ideas, which is for internal circulation only, so we are more free to say what we think or feel. This will be circulated among partners and friends. If you have names to add to the mailing list, please let me know.

6. Please also try to make better use of the PP21 web-page, installed thanks to the efforts of Boonthan:

<http://www.hr-alliance.org/pp21>

If you have other suggestions, please let me know.

I look forward to renewed activities amongst ourselves, so that we are well prepared for the new millennium!

With warmest regards,

Kin Chi

5 January 1999

 **Reply No.1:**

Name:


Organization:

Address:

Tel:

Fax:

Email:

 **Reply No.2**

Just write anything you would like to share among PP21 partners. For example, what were you most preoccupied with in the past one and a half years: adding new family members? starting new projects? finishing a new book? getting into fights? Your joys, concerns, or fears? What are some of your latest insights or observations? etc., etc.

 **Reply No.3**

What are the major activities of your organization/network in 1998, and major events happening in your sector/region/country? And your comments?

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