

Gordon



## The United Nations University

FAX COVER SHEET

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Millennium Project Feasibility Study

To: Prof. Matthew S. Meselson  
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Dear Prof. Meselson:

The United Nations University - in collaboration with the Smithsonian Institution, The Futures Group, and with funding from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - is examining the feasibility of the "Millennium Project," a proposed effort to organize futures research to continuously up-date and improve humanity's thinking about the future and make that thinking available through a variety of media for advanced training, public education and feedback.

The initial international panel advising on the process of organizing the Millennium Project has identified the long-range issues of population and environment as the most critical for further consideration. Because of your interest and experience in these areas, we wish to include your views in the UNU feasibility study. We will be concentrating on developments that have made a difference in the past, future developments that could have beneficial or deleterious consequences, and the policy implications of these developments. We plan to elicit international expert opinion on these matters via a two round Delphi over the next two months. The first round of this Delphi is enclosed and we invite your participation. The participants will receive a report summarizing the panel's views as well as a copy of the feasibility report on the Millennium Project as-a-whole.

As with other Delphi studies, we intend to include the list of participants with our report, but will not associate any particular response with an individual or institution. Our objectives are both methodological and substantive. Methodologically, we are interested in continuing the development of techniques to be used in the full scale Millennium Project, if it is implemented, including setting up networks of experts. From a substantive standpoint, we want to begin the exploration of possible futures of some key environmental and population problems and policy alternatives that could be helpful.

The US Environmental Protection Agency is particularly interested in the use of international computer linkages. Therefore, we would prefer that you respond via electronic mail, if that is possible; if not, then please respond via fax or airmail. Details are on the enclosed instruction sheet. If you have any questions, please contact us at any time. We look forward to your responses.

Sincerely yours,

Theodore J. Gordon, Director  
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