RESPECTING THE OTHER AND INFORMING ABOUT HUMAN RIGHTS, TO ERADICATE POVERTY.

CHANGING THE OUTLOOK ON THE POOREST: ANOTHER WAY TO LIVE TOGETHER OUR DIVERSITY.

NO ACTION AGAINST POVERTY, UNDERTAKEN WITHOUT THE POOR.

TRANSITION FROM "MICRO" (FIELD), TO "MACRO" (POLICIES) AND ACTION AGAINST CAUSES, THROUGH ADVOCACY AND PROPOSALS.

FROM NGOs’ BEST PRACTICES:
TEN PRINCIPLES WHICH MUST BECOME RESPECTED NORMS

1. Acknowledgement of human dignity (a basic value) and, so, of the universal equality and human rights of all people.

2. Taking into account the cultural dimension of the poor aspirations and drawing upon, for all projects, the power of community links.

3. Preliminary consultation with any poor community before any project be undertaken therein.

4. Interactive listening to enhance the self-confidence of the poor in expressing their needs, knowledge, skills and experience.

5. Meaningful consultation with the affected communities on the start-up, progress, and evaluation of their projects.

6. Promotion of partnerships creating synergies that emphasize the linking role played by NGOs of all levels.

7. Sharing responsibility, between decision makers and those who hold local skills, for post-project assessment.

8. Follow-up measures undertaken by the affected people, with the means to maintain the efficacy of projects and create various lucrative opportunities.

9. Training, alternating with education, in order to ensure permanent and lucrative work, that validates and respects dignity of all.

10. Alternative, informal education, which replaces or complements formal education, recognized and supported by local or national authorities.

TOWARDS A COMMON ALTERNATE DEVELOPMENT, THAT PUTS PEOPLE AT THE CENTRE.

EDUCATION, SCIENCES, CULTURE, COMMUNICATION:
TAKING UNESCO’S ETHICAL DIMENSION INTO ACCOUNT.

Preliminary consultation with any poor community before any project be undertaken therein.

Meaningful consultation with the affected communities on the start-up, progress, and evaluation of their projects.

Interactive listening to enhance the self-confidence of the poor in expressing their needs, knowledge, skills and experience.

Acknowledgement of human dignity (a basic value) and, so, of the universal equality and human rights of all people.

TOWARDS A WORLD THAT LETS NO ONE FALL BY THE WAYSIDE...
The decision to produce a document for the World Summit of Johannesburg was taken during the meeting of the Commission “Poverty”, held on Wednesday the 6th of February 2002, and was based on the theme of reflection proposed to all the members of that Commission.

The task is to propose something concrete, based on knowledge of the daily life of the poor, something useful for them in their fight against poverty, considering the fact that poverty is a violation of human rights.

Taking into account, as UNESCO / NGOs, the areas of competence of the Organisation and the will to proclaim their ethical dimension, these proposals are the result of the rereading of ten years’ worth of speeches by the Working Group “Culture and Development”, which later became the NGOs – UNESCO Joint Programme Commission “Poverty”.

The best practices of local NGOs, brought to light by the different actions set about in each of the five regions, lead us to believe that they must become basic principles for any project whose aim is to fight against poverty.

Such principles speak as well to NGOs as to decision-makers, at any level: local, national or international. They could become a long-term basis for norms contributing to the writing of a world convention on the eradication of poverty.

The presentation of this document seeks to break with the custom of linear papers, to offer a more global and synoptic vision of basic requirements for a fight which cannot be undertaken, except in accordance with the concerned communities and in co-operation with them.

On behalf the JPC “Eradication of Poverty”

Janine Marin (ISOCARP) President
E-mail: jh.marin@wanadoo.fr

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c/o NGO – UNESCO Liaison Committee, UNESCO House, 1, rue Miollis, F 75732 Paris Cedex 15

Note: This document is given as a tool and not as an achievement.

Translation into English: James PICKEL, Thayer Academy, Braintree, MA, US