

*Ambassade de France
aux Etats-Unis*

*L' Ambassadeur
M^o 2204*

Washington, December 12, 2006

Dear Mr. Rifkin:

Please find herewith an invitation from Mr. Jacques Chirac, President of the French Republic, to attend the Paris International Conference on the Environment on February 2 and 3, 2007.

Also enclosed is an unofficial translation.

Sincerely yours,



Jean-David Levitte

Mr. Jeremy Rifkin
President
The Foundation on Economic Trends
4520 East West Highway
Suite 600
Bethesda, MD 20814

Unofficial Translation

Paris, December 6, 2006

Dear Mr. Rifkin,

The gravity of the global environmental situation calls for a large-scale mobilization. Certainly commitments have been made, in the spirit of the Rio and Johannesburg summits, but the international community's efforts are not commensurate with the challenge, even though the cost of inaction will be beyond measure.

In this situation, everyone is responsible.

First, the industrialized countries, the leading consumers of natural resources and the principal polluters, who must initiate new modes of production and consumption. Then the emerging countries, whose economic weight is increasing and who must assume their environmental responsibilities. And finally the poorest countries, which are facing strong demographic pressure and must be helped to adjust.

But our societies too are responsible, for the key to success is the mobilization of each person in a new civic spirit, aware of the environmental impact of our ways of life.

It is therefore essential for a new global environmental consciousness to be embraced by all—scientists, entrepreneurs, political leaders and citizens—who are determined to reject the status quo and ready to effect environmental change. To create this pioneering group, I decided to hold a conference on February 2 and 3, following the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). It will bring together leading international personalities who have indicated their determination to act.

I am aware of your commitment on environmental issues and the international reputation of your work. That is why I would like to invite you personally to take part in the conference on February 2 and 3.

I suggest that we meet in Paris to focus on a shared environmental diagnosis—whether it be climatic disturbances, the impoverishment of biodiversity, the increasing scarcity of natural resources such as water, or pollution—and shared priorities for action, beginning with the urgent strengthening of international institutions devoted to the environment.

Thank you in advance for indicating if you will be able to take part in this event.

Sincerely,
[handwritten:] With my warm respects and cordial greetings,

Jacques Chirac

Mr. Jeremy Rifkin
President, Foundation on Economic Trends