

# THE ROUND TABLE OF BIAŁOWIEŻA FOREST

(Poland, July 2001 – July 2002)

The following statement was drafted by scientists gathered at the XX and XXI Workshop on Geometric Methods of Physics held in the forest of Białowieża, Poland — the last primeval forest in Europe. We invite those who share our views to endorse and circulate our statement to help alert the public to the approaching ecological crisis and to the absolute priority of protecting the world jungles.

## **Białowieża Message**

We, the undersigned, express our profound concern regarding the acceleration of large-scale environmental changes, including global warming, brought about by human activity. Scientific evidence for such effects is accumulating and the dangers to humanity should not be underestimated. In particular we are deeply worried by the prospect of the destruction of the great Amazon jungle by precipitate industrial projects. We declare our full solidarity with Brazilian colleagues who seek to defend the jungle. We ask that the industrial projects be stopped and their implications carefully analyzed, to avoid an irreversible disaster. We suggest that the Amazon jungle be declared a ‘treasure of the planet’, to be preserved for future generations - and we ask the Parliaments of the region to ensure this status by the consistent legislation. We also appeal to the world’s governments and financial powers to offer maximum help to the Amazon countries and their scientists in all efforts to protect the jungle’s integrity.

## **Signed by:**

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