

**The Caux Round Table
401 North Robert Street
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May 30, 2003

The Honorable George W. Bush
President of the United States of America

President Jacques Chirac
President of the French Republic

President Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin
President of the Russian Federation

The Right Honourable Jean Chrétien
Prime Minister of Canada

The Right Honorable Tony Blair
Prime Minister of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Chancellor Gerhard Schröder
Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany

Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi
Prime Minister of Japan

The Honorable Silvio Berlusconi
President of the Council of Ministers of the Italian Republic
Prime Minister, Italian Republic

Re: Global Corporate Responsibility

Dear Mr. President/Prime Minister/Chancellor:

You and seven leaders of the world's most industrialized nations will gather in Evian to consider measures leading to higher standards of living for our human community. The International Chamber of Commerce, the US Business Round Table, the European Business Round Table, the European Employer's Confederation, the Nippon Keidanren Business Association and the Canadian Council of Chief Executives have asked that you and your colleagues rebuild consumer confidence to revive a weak global economy.

We, members of the World Advisory Council of the Caux Round Table, firmly endorse this request with the additional observation that consumer confidence has been wounded in

recent years by a lack of corporate responsibility on the part of many senior executives and boards of directors. These failures have not been limited to the United States, but have implicated large European, Australian and Japanese companies as well.

Therefore, in our judgment, your highest priority with regard to reviving the global private sector at this time is to take measures to improve levels of corporate governance and corporate responsibility to the many stakeholders who depend upon business for their economic and social well-being.

The Caux Round Table *Principles for Business* furnish you and your colleagues with proven guidelines for the enhancement of corporate social responsibility. These *Principles* rest solidly upon the highest ethical teachings of humanity's religious traditions. A copy of these *Principles* is enclosed. We along with members of the Caux Round Table are available to assist your administration in further consideration of these *Principles* as guides to public policy and private accountability.

We would be remiss in our responsibilities, however, if we did not further note the importance to corporate social responsibility of responsible and accountable public authority. Business cannot be expected to reach high levels of transparency and accountability in environments that do not respect the rule of law. Everywhere public power is held in stewardship for citizens as a means to improve the quality of their lives.

Sincerely yours,

Tunku Abdul Aziz, President, The Kuala Lumpur Society for Transparency and Integrity,
Transparency International Malaysia – *Malaysia*

Mr. Joseph J. Melone, Chairman Emeritus and Former Chief Executive Officer, The
Equitable Companies, Inc. — *USA*

Hon. Anand Panyarachun, Retired Chairman of Saha-Union Public Company and Former
Prime Minister of Thailand — *Thailand*

Dr. Herman H.F. Wijffels, Chairman, Social and Economic Council, the Netherlands;
Former Chairman, Rabobank — *The Netherlands*

Winston R. Wallin, Chairman Emeritus, Medtronic, Inc.; Former Chairman, Caux Round
Table – *USA*