

THE EARTH CHARTER

by Andrew Darbyshire, June 2006

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That we sustain the earth
seems like an obvious starter
but perhaps to achieve it
we need an "Earth Charter"

But as we all know
it's easier said than done
what would it look like?
can we all think as one?

Well we really have to
to protect this earthly home
there's really no choice
as it's only here we roam

Because of this given
we need to honestly face
a number of things
that will sustain this place

Overarching it all is
**'Respect and care for the
community of life'**
Without this first principle
We're all in a lot of strife!

This will involve at the very least
understanding, compassion and love
with that justice and peace
symbolised by the dove

For the planet's survival
'Ecological integrity' is a must
It's really a case of
achieve it or bust!

So we need to manage
life's systems and resources
in a balanced way
that maintains life sources

A precautionary approach
in all ventures that impact
will stop irreversible harm
as a matter-of-fact

'Social and economic justice'
underpins this all
because without it
we are bound to fall

Struggling to survive
by depleting life sources
will only be counteracted by
equitable access to resources

Finally, the value put on human life
needs to greatly increase
we all need to strenuously promote
**'Democracy, non-violence and
peace'**

In all human arenas
we need to give everyone a say
and all strategies should embrace
the life affirming non-violent way!

To sum this all up
the Earth Charter makes total sense
if we choose to ignore it
it'll be at the whole world's expense!