

**4<sup>th</sup> URI BRAZIL MCC MEETING**  
**1<sup>st</sup> INTERNATIONAL MEETING “THE PLANET IS SACRED AND WANTS PEACE”**  
**Climate Change and Spirituality**  
**Salvador, Bahia, Brazil | October 27-30, 2017**



**Meeting location:** Itapuã Leaders Training Center – a very beautiful, inspiring and cozy place, located on Itapuã Beach, Salvador - Bahia, one of the most famous beaches in Brazil. Pope John Paul II was hosted in this space in 1980 when he visited this city.



## 1 – INTRODUCTION

The 4<sup>th</sup> URI Brazil MCC Meeting was held together with the 1<sup>st</sup> International Meeting “The Planet is Sacred and Wants Peace”, organized by the House of United Religions, an interfaith organization that gathers religious, spiritual and indigenous traditions as well as other interfaith movements, headed by three URI Brazilian CCs: UNISOES CC - Union of Spiritualist, Philosophical, Scientific and Religious Societies, São Paulo CC and Fé Menina CC. It was the second time URI Brazil MCC held what we call a sustainable funding event, where URI Regional Office contributes with a given amount and CCs also mobilize to contribute with funding. The 3 mentioned CCs, led by Ana Santos, Elias Andrade, Marly Pedra e Célia Regina organized raising funds activities to make the event possible, counting also on the organizational and financial support of the Global Council Trustee Salette Aquino. The representatives of the other Brazilian CCs contributed with the cost of some of their expenses. Representatives of several traditions and organizations were present. Among the international invitees were Enoé Texier - URI coordinator for Latin America and the Caribbean; Oscar Gámez - volunteer collaborator at the Dialogue CC, Venezuela; and Monica Willard - URI representative at the United Nations Organization, in New York City, USA. Deivid Gomes, Regional Coordination Assistant, assisted Monica with simultaneous translations throughout the event.

## 2 – OBJECTIVES

The objectives was divided into three main axes:

### 2.1 - Reconciliation with Nature:

Working with the United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) as a basis for cooperation among religious traditions. Sharing concrete actions in support of the "Sustainable Common House".

### 2.2 - Freedom of Belief and Culture:

Articulate strategies to end violence and religious motivated wars and eradicate religious fanaticism.

### 2.3 - Culture of Peace and Interreligious Cooperation:

Seek a common agenda among the various interfaith movements around the world. Bring contributions from art, science and spirituality for a culture of cooperation and peace.

## 3 – EXPECTED RESULTS

- Strengthening connections among traditions, organizations and CCs;
- Firming the institutional bases of the House of United Religions (UNISOES CC, São Paulo CC and Fé Menina CC) and of the other CCs that make up URI Brazil MCC;
- Enrichment of the participants through spiritual practices;
- Proclamation of a Global Spiritual Commitment for Peace.

## 4 – PARTICIPANTS

### 4.1 – URI BOARD AND CC REPRESENTATIVES/MEMBERS

#	NAME OF PARTICIPANT	RULE AT URI / COOPERATION CIRCLE
1	Monica Willard	URI Representative at UN
2	Enoé Texier	URI LA&C Regional Coordinator
3	Oscar Gámez	Dialogue CC, Caracas, Venezuela
4	Salette Aquino	Global Council Trustee / Campinas CC
5	Deivid Gomes	URI LA&C Regional Coordination Assistant
6	Genivalda Cravo	Council of Elders CC / Goiás CC
7	Ana Santos	UNISOES CC – Salvador
8	Dulce Sampaio	UNISOES CC – Salvador
9	Ernersto Cardoso	UNISOES CC – Salvador
10	Paulo Santos	UNISOES CC – Salvador
11	Nilton Nunes	UNISOES CC – Salvador
12	Edilton Tourinho	UNISOES CC / Roerich Brazil Institute
13	Raimundo dos Santos	UNISOES CC / Roerich Brazil Institute
14	Maria Eugênia dos Santos	UNISOES CC / Female Spiritual Crusade
15	Sérgio Reis	UNISOES CC / UNIPAZ
16	Graças Nascimento	MIR CC – Rio de Janeiro
17	Alice Gress	MIR CC – Rio de Janeiro
18	Célia Regina Martins	Fé Menina CC – SP
19	Andréa Eduardo	Fé Menina CC – SP
20	Elias Andrade	São Paulo CC
21	Marly Pedra	São Paulo CC / Fé Menina CC
22	Mostafa Bartar	Campinas CC
23	Moreno Overá	Latin American CC of Musicians
24	Elianildo Nascimento	Brasília CC
25	Iza Marina Vicino	Brasília CC
26	Cláudia Regina Luz	Goiás CC
27	Isabel Cristina Medeiros	Paths of Earth CC – Goiás
28	Luiz Omar Saboia	Curitiba CC
29	Ley Tao	Tao Jewish Community of Truth CC
30	Iekuroh	Tao Jewish Community of Truth CC
31	Ándres	Tao Jewish Community of Truth CC

#### 4.2 – OTHER PARTICIPANTS

The meeting had the participation of several people related to the topic of sustainability, concerned with climate changes and with possible actions to curb its negative impact on Mother Earth, as well as religious leaders and other invitees interested in the protection of nature and all living beings.

#	NAME OF PARTICIPANT	ORGANIZATION / LOCATION
1	Antonieta Alves Pereira	House of United Religions / SP
2	Sueli Regina Soares Silva	House of United Religions / SP
3	Claudina Silva Santos	Espiritualist / Professor - Salvador
4	Inez Martins Fialho	UNIKÓSMICA / Cuiabá
5	Anibal	Environmentalist / Inventor
6	Maria Auxiliadora Sampaio	Salvador
7	Taise Rodrigues Pereira	Sergipe
8	Cássia Candra	Journalist and Photographer

#### 5 – PROGRAM

**26/Oct/2017**

The House is the Planet! The Earth is Holy!

7 pm - Indigenous Video: "Hope" 4 min

Opening Table (Salette Aquino, Jonathan de Jesus, Elias Andrade, Ana Santos, Enoé Texier, Monica Willard, Deivid Gomes and Ernersto Cardoso); National anthem; Entrance of the 4 elements of nature.



For the presentation of URI, the GC Trustee Salette made a historical recount of its creation from its beginnings, from the inspiration of Bishop William Swing to the present day, showing its current regional and global extension. Elias and Ana talked about the conformation of the House of United Religions and its uninterrupted work for seven years. Enóé highlighted the importance of the Cooperation Circles as the heart of URI and the multiculturalism that characterizes the Latin America and the Caribbean Region. Monica referred to the UN Sustainable Development Goals - SDG and its importance in the current international context. Andréa read the Call of Paris (Cop21 December 2015): a call to the commitment of all the world's representatives to solve the problem of climate change together. The representative of the Muslim Community of Salvador – BA, Hassan, prayed for the eradication of violence by religious motivation, reciting the Quran. Then followed the entrance of the four elements of nature and Sacred Ceremony of Pacification of the Fire Element by the representative of the Afro-Brazilian Tradition, Tata Willer of Oxossi of Umbanda. In addition to the internal registration of the event, there was documentation by the media.

8 pm - 7 Years of the House of United Religions: Cultural Presentation and Cocktail



**27/Oct/2017**

**Morning:** Culture of Peace and Interfaith Cooperation. Freedom of Belief and Cultures. Violence and Wars for Religious Motivation: How to Eradicate Fanaticism and Intolerance?



8:15 am - Daily Holy Practice: Air Element Pacification.

Guided by Alice Gress, from MIR CC – Rio de Janeiro, a shamanic practice connected to indigenous wisdom led the participants to circulate the oldest tree of the property hosting the Meeting, connecting and harmonizing heaven and earth, humanity and nature, ancestors and present generation.

9 am – Lecture: "Planetary Security and the good use of Nuclear Energy.", by Paulo Santos - Ecobairro Brazil Institute / House of United Religions / UNISOES CC.

10:15 am – Round Table: Interfaith people for the Planetary Healing: Wisdom Voices for Freedom of Belief: Eradication of Violence and Fanaticism by religious motivation!

Cláudia Regina - Afro tradition – Goiás CC / Elianildo Nascimento - Brasília CC / Mostafa Bartar – Baha’i Faith – Campinas CC / Graças Nascimento - MIR-Rio CC / Ernesto Cardoso – Salvador CC / Pastor Djama Torres of the Nazareth Baptist Church of Salvador – Christianity.



11:15 am – Lecture: "Practices of Tolerance and Respect: Education for Coexistence", by Prof. Dulce Sampaio -UNISOES CC, Salvador.



27/Oct/2017

Afternoon: Culture of Peace: Inspirations for the Construction of Interfaith Cooperation.



2 pm – Lecture: "Human and Nature in the construction of a Living Ethic", by Marly Pedra – Urusvati House – São Paulo/Fé Menina CC.

3 pm – Lecture: "An urgent dialogue for cooperation between Science and Spirituality!", by Prof. Bruno Pitanga, University of Salvador. (side picture)

4:15 pm – Lecture: "Encyclical Laudate Si, of Pope Francis", by Jonathan de Jesus, representative of the Ecumenical and Interfaith Dialogue of the Archdiocese of Salvador.

5:15 pm - Listening to participants: Synthesis of Contributions to a Culture of Cooperation and Peace.

5:45 pm - Cultural Presentation: "Sacred Planet", by Moreno Overá.



**Purpose** (by Moreno Overá): The simple desire to show through the music the unity in diversity, mixing compositions of different styles, religious and philosophical lines. Many of them come from popular cultures, others from renowned authors, who without being aware, spoke the same love language of URI. **Songs:** Frutíferas Quânticas [Quantum Fruit Trees] (Moreno Overá); Força da Paz [Strength of Peace] (Sacred Circular Dance); Yo vengo ofrecer mi corazón [I come to offer my heart] (Fito Paes); Abrete corazón [Open you, heart] (Rosa Giove); Calix Bento (public domain “Folia of Kings”); Sal da Terra [Salt of Earth] (Beto Guedes); Prayer of Saint Francis (Francis of Assisi); Eu Ví Mamãe Oxum [I saw Mother Oxum] (Umbanda tradition song); Tá caindo Fulô [Raining Flowers] (public domain “Congado”).

**Evening:**

8 to 11 pm - URI Brazil MCC Assembly (part 1/3)

Reports; announcements; distribution of gifts; activities at the World Interfaith Harmony Week; URI activities at the UN; 2018 Plan; Project presentation: Total Recycling Unit.

**28/Oct/2017**

**Morning** - Climate Change in the Perspective of Spirituality / UN Sustainable Development Goals and Reconciliation with Nature

8 am - Daily Holy Practice: Earth Element Pacification.

Near the rooms that hosted Pope John Paul II in 1980 when he visited Salvador, Brazil, the Global Council Trustee Salette Aquino led a circle of representatives of the Spiritual and Religious Traditions of the Sacred Books (Christians, Muslims, Vedic, Baha'is, etc.), sacred prayers and blessing for the unity of all people.



8:30 am – Lecture: "Climate Change and Global Economy: How to Inspire Cooperation in the World?", by Eduardo Ataíde.

9 am - Japanese Video: "The House of the Little Cubs." 12 min



9:15 am – Lecture:  
 "The Planet is Sacred and Wants Peace: we are energy, infinite beings and capable of amplifying peace".  
 Enoé Texier, PhD. –  
 URI LA&C Coordinator.



11 am – Round Table:  
 "Spirituality and Climate Change." Voices of Wisdom for Planetary Healing.  
 - "Spirituality and Climate Change in the View of Religious, Spiritual and Indigenous Traditions!"  
 With representatives of the African Tradition – Tata Willer de Oxossi; Brama Kumaris – Ida Meirelles; Seicho No Ie – Simone; Islam – Hassan; Hare Khrisna – Josimar Sales; and Spiritism – the poetess Ester Ferreira.

**28/Oct/2017**

**Afternoon:** Spiritual and Interfaith Practices for a Sacred Planet of Peace! Actions and practices for Reconciliation with Nature.

2:30 pm – UN Sustainable Development Goals: Interreligious Cooperation and Concrete Actions.

Lecture: "Sustainability and Interfaith Cooperation at the United Nations", by Monica Willard – URI representative at the UN. With simultaneous translation by Deivid Gomes.



3:30 pm - Workshop: "Actions to combat climate change. How to cooperate with the UN's 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG)? ", by Paulo Santos and Denise Noronha – Ecobairro Brazil Institute.

5 pm - Listening to participants: Synthesis of Contributions for Reconciliation with Nature that inspire global cooperation.

5:30 pm – Spiritual Practice: “Geocosmic Connection of Solar Power”, by Andrés Jaztopks - Tao Jewish Community of Truth CC.

The purpose of this practice was the union of human minds to achieve common purposes and for the benefit of the Planet Earth, world peace, generating human and earthly cosmic consciousness on the minds of human beings and the leaders of the planet to be united in a single purpose on



the common benefit, creating an energy so strong that influences the whole sacred Mother Gaea. It also aimed to make energetic connections with the central sun of Earth, with the elements of nature and with the cosmos, using the power of the human being. We are potential gods and when we unite forces we become invincible. As leaders of the world's religions, we can have the power to change minds, bodies and hearts so that peace may reign.

6 pm - Cultural Presentation: "The Planet is Sacred and wants Peace" by Radha Vitória

**Evening**

8 pm – Meditation and Contemplation of the Stars. To live and understand a Common House requires a vision of the Cosmos and to contemplate the Cosmic Creation. Practice for cooperation between all interfaith movements and traditions for the Sacred and Pacific Planet, led by Paulo Santos – UNISOES CC.



8 to 11 pm – URI Brazil MCC Assembly (part 2/3)  
 Presence in Social Networks;  
 Political-Economic-Social Situation in Brazil; Organization of the MCC;  
 Donation of books by Iza Marina, from Brasilia CC.

**29/Oct/2017**

**Morning:** Final document and creation of the Global Spiritual Cooperation for combating Climate Change: inspirations of planetary reality to global cooperation!

8:15 am - Sacred Practice: Interreligious Blessing in the Sea of Itapuã, Pacification of the Water Element. It was led by the representatives of the Fé Menina CC: Marly Pedra, Ana Santos, Célia Palma, Sueli Soares and Andréa Elias, establishing connection with the Sacred in the Feminine Principle expressed in the waters of the ocean. (pictures below)



9 am – Joint drafting of the Final Document of the First International Meeting "The Planet is Sacred and Wants Peace!". Letter of Proclamation: A Call to Planetary Action.

12:30 pm - Creation of the "Global Spiritual Cooperation for Combating Climate Change".

**29/Oct/2017**

2:00 pm to 8:00 pm - Pilgrimage and Interreligious Blessing in Salvador

**City Park – Brechó Eco Solidário (Eco-Solidary Thrift Store)**

At the City Park, in Pituba, Salvador, in connection with UNISOES CC and Ecobairro Brazil Institute, we promoted an Interfaith Celebration for the Cure of the Planet within the 12th Eco-Solidary Thrift Store - the open air thrift store plays an important role in raising the awareness of the people of Salvador about the effects of consumption for current climate change, thinking about other healthier forms of consumption and prioritizing products from cooperatives of solidarity economy. It is one of the Brazilian expressions of the Dialogues en Humanité Network, which originated in 2002 in Lyon, France, present in several countries by collective transformations to build a better world.



**- Dique do Tororó (Tororó Dike)**

The interreligious pilgrimage then passed through the Tororó Dike, site of the city's only natural wellspring and city's postcard, with 8 large sculptures of the Orixás (African Deities) on the dammed waters, part of the identity of the local community. It is also the site where the House of United Religions was founded on 10-10-10, when was present the former Coordinator of URI Latin America and Chair of the URI Global Council, Yoland Trevino.



**- Pelourinho Historic Center and São Francisco Church**

We were warmly welcomed by Franciscans of the Catholic Christian Community of the Convent of St. Francis, and guided by Frei Arnaldo in an amazing tour within de Church/Convent. They are active participants of UNISOES CC.



**- African Matrix Tradition  
Temple: Ilê Axé Opô Afonjá**

We closed our interfaith pilgrimage, at a *Terreiro* (African-Brazilian temple) of 39000 square meters, located in the neighborhood of São Gonçalo and founded in 1910, heir of the ancient African tradition in Salvador.



We were kindly received by elder and young leaders, all spiritual sons of the current “Mother of Saint”, the *Terreiro’s* spiritual leader, with 92 years - Mother Estela of Oxossi. Adriano Filho guided us in an astonishing tour through the property. We participate in the main shrine - the *Barracão* - of the beginning of the Feast of the Yabás (female Orixás / African deities).

**Evening:**

Confraternization dinner with joy at the beautiful restaurant Barravento, facing the sea, near the Barra Lighthouse, with the collaboration of URI and also of the people who attended.

**30/Oct/2017**

**9 to 12 am – URI Brazil MCC Assembly  
(part 3/3)**

Spiritual Moment; Presentation of new members; Report of the CCs on their activities; Letter of the Meeting; 2018 Plan; URI Brazil letter for Human Rights; Virtual Meetings; Thanks; Spiritual Closure.



## 6 – FINAL DOCUMENT

### LETTER OF PROCLAMATION

"THE PLANET IS SACRED AND WANTS PEACE!"

All taking care of the sustainable common house

Gathered from October 26 to 29, 2017 in Salvador, Bahia, Brazil at the "I INTERNATIONAL MEETING THE PLANET IS SACRED AND WANTS PEACE" With the theme Climate Change in the perspective of Spirituality, with the purpose of cooperating with the 17 SDG - Sustainable Development Goals - UN Agenda 2030, we invite all religious, spiritual and indigenous traditions, diverse inter-religious and intercultural movements of the world and all people of good will to the creation of the **Global Spiritual Cooperation (GSC)** for building a planetary citizenship committed to sustainability and a culture of peace.

The goals of **Global Spiritual Cooperation (GSC)** are:

- 1 - Commit to the implementation of the 17 SDG - Sustainable Development Objectives - UN Agenda 2030, as well as initiatives that support the care of Sacred Mother Earth as the Common House;
- 2 - Collaborate with initiatives for the consolidation of the Nuclear Weapons Ban Treaty and eradicate other threats to the balance of planetary life;
- 3 - Carry out joint actions to consolidate "The Planet Is Sacred and Wants Peace" with interfaith people, governmental and non-governmental movements, aiming at the reconciliation with nature as a way of facing climate change, valuing cultural diversity, the wisdom of indigenous peoples and ensuring their protection, promoting freedom of belief, to eradicate all forms of violence with an emphasis on those caused by religious motivation and foster peaceful and healthy coexistence.

Salvador, Bahia, Brazil, October 29, 2017.

Organized by the following Cooperation Circles of the United Religions Initiative (URI): UNISOES - Union of Spiritualist, Philosophical, Scientific and Religious Societies; Interfaith Movement of São Paulo; and Fé Menina, together with the House of United Religions and Ecobairro Brazil Institute.

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Climate Change and Spirituality**



**Salvador | Brazil | 2017  
May peace prevail on Earth!**

**This report was written by Deivid Gomes, Enoé Texier, Elias Andrade and Ana Santos.  
Pictures taken by Cássia Candra, Deivid Gomes, Cláudia Regina and Alice Gress.  
Formatting and translations by Deivid Gomes.**

"We unite to use our combined resources only for nonviolent, compassionate action, to awaken to our deepest truths, and to manifest love and justice among all life in our Earth community."

URI Charter Preamble excerpt

**More information can be found at:**

United Religions Initiative – URI: [www.uri.org](http://www.uri.org)

URI Latin America and the Caribbean: [www.uralc.org](http://www.uralc.org)

House of United Religions: [www.casadasreligioesunidas.org.br](http://www.casadasreligioesunidas.org.br)