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THE WORLD BANK

Washington, D.C.

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The World Bank

1818 H Street NW

Washington DC 20433

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390-2-4

Interview: Mr. Martin Baker
Sunday Business

Tuesday, February 10, 1998
3:30 - 4:30 p.m.
JDW Office

**DECLASSIFIED
WITH RESTRICTIONS**
WBG Archives



30489564

R2002-036 Other #: 49 Box #: 186499B

President Wolfensohn - Briefing Book for President's Meetings - Briefing Material
Interview - Martin Baker - Sunday Business - February 10, 1998

Archive Management for the President's Office

Document Log

Reference # : Archive-02037

1/28

Edit

Print

A. CLASSIFICATION

☐ Meeting Material
☐ Trips
☐ Speeches

☐ Annual Meetings
☐ Corporate Management
☐ Communications with Staff

☐ Phone Logs
☐ Calendar
☐ Press Clippings/Photos

☐ JDW Transcripts
☐ Social Events
☒ Other

B. SUBJECT: INTERVIEW: MR. MARTIN BAKER, SUNDAY BUSINESS (NEW U.K. NEWSPAPER) (B) (N) // TIME: 3:30 - 4:30 P.M. // VENUE: MC12-750 (OFFICE) // CONTACT: KLAS BERGMAN @ 33798 // IN ATTENDANCE: JDW, BAKER, KLAS & POSSIBLY CAROLINE // NOTES: KLAS ADVISED THAT JDW HAS AGREED TO THIS INTERVIEW // THIS INTERVIEW WILL APPEAR IN THE FIRST ISSUE OF SUNDAY BUSINESS ON FEB. 15 // (B) KLAS BERGMAN // DUE: THURSDAY, FEB. 5 // EXC: JDW // ALI (1/6)

DATE: 02/10/98

Brief includes:

---Note to JDW from Las Bergman
---Bio
---WB Press Release: Notice of Meeting (02/18-19/98)
---WB Press Release: Agenda (02/18-19/98)
---WB Press Release: Bios
---World Faiths and Development - Question and Answer Brief

C. VPU

Corporate

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☐ EXT
☐ LEG
☐ MPS
☐ OED
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☐ TRE

Regional

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☐ FPD
☐ FPR
☐ HRO

Affiliates

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☐ ICSID
☐ IFC
☐ Inspection Panel
☐ Kennedy Center
☐ MIGA

D. EXTERNAL PARTNER

☐ IMF
☐ UN
☐ MDB/Other IO
☐ NGO
☐ Private Sector

☐ Part I
☐ Part II
☐ Other

E. COMMENTS:

File Location ☒ EXC ☐ ISC ☒ Archives	Cleared By Caroline Anstey Marie	Date: 03/02/98
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OFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 6, 1998

TO: Mr. James D. Wolfensohn, EXC

FROM: Klas Bergman, EXTMD 

EXTENSION: 33798

SUBJECT: **Your Interview with Sunday Business (London)**

Mr. Martin Baker, Associate Editor of the new British Sunday newspaper *Sunday Business*, will interview you on **Tuesday, February 10 from 3:00 to 4:00 PM**. Mr. Baker will be accompanied by a photographer, Ms. Catherine Lambert, who will take pictures during the interview and who hopes to have 10 minutes in the end of the interview for some extra pictures.

Mr. Baker's interview is to run in the premier edition of *Sunday Business* on Sunday, February 15. The new newspaper is expected to create a large interest in the financial and business community in the U.K., as well as among the political establishment and the media.

Since the interview will be published only a couple of days before your meeting in London with the religious leaders, Mr. Baker will ask you why it's happening and what you hope will come out of it.

The main focus of the interview will be on East Asia and how you see the situation there and the lessons to be learned from that crisis.

Mr. Baker also wants to ask you about the role and the strategy of the Bank in the global economy, and the relationship between economic development and the environment in developing countries.

Finally, Mr. Baker would like to ask you about your personal management philosophy and how it relates to the Bank and the Strategic Compact.

Mr. Baker is an experienced journalist, author and Asia specialist, having previously been an editor at *Finance Asia*, a leading journal on Asian economies.

I will accompany Mr. Baker and Ms. Lambert to the interview.

cc: Mr. Malloch Brown (EXTVP); Mmes. C. Anstey, J. Holden, A. Tsatsakis (EXC).
Attachments



Record Removal Notice

File Title President Wolfensohn - Media Coverage and Interviews - Interview - Martin Baker - Sunday Business - February 10, 1998		Barcode No. 30489564		
Document Date February 6, 1998	Document Type CV / Resumé			
Correspondents / Participants				
Subject / Title CV - Martin F. D. Baker				
Exception(s) Personal Information				
Additional Comments		The item(s) identified above has/have been removed in accordance with The World Bank Policy on Access to Information or other disclosure policies of the World Bank Group. <table border="1"><tr><td>Withdrawn by Diego Hernández</td><td>Date June 18, 2025</td></tr></table>	Withdrawn by Diego Hernández	Date June 18, 2025
Withdrawn by Diego Hernández	Date June 18, 2025			



The World Bank

Lambeth Palace
London SE1 7JU

Embargoed until 00.01hrs local time
Monday 9 February 1998

Archbishop of Canterbury and President of World Bank Co-host a Dialogue of Leaders from World Faiths

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr George Carey, and the President of the World Bank, James D Wolfensohn, will be hosting a Dialogue, "World Faiths and Development" at Lambeth Palace, London, on February 18-19 1998. Leaders from the following nine world Faiths, including the main traditions within the Faiths, will participate: Bahai; Buddhist; Christian; Hindu; Jains; Jewish; Muslim; Sikh; and Taoist.

The main aim of the Dialogue is to broaden opportunities for common understanding and action in tackling the critical issue of global poverty. It is designed to help the Bank and the Faiths to reach a better understanding of each other's ideas about approaches to development and possible obstacles in the way of achieving desirable development aims. The Dialogue will discuss how the criteria applied in development policies might continue to be broadened to include the notion of cultural, religious and social structures and values. This meeting represents an important step towards a new relationship between the World Bank and the Faiths.

Some advisers from the different Faiths were involved in a preparatory meeting held at the World Bank in Washington DC in May 1997. Arrangements for the February 1998 meeting were then refined in discussions between the World Bank and Lambeth Palace with help from the Alliance of Religions and Conservation (ARC).

Further media information including the Agenda and a list of attendees with biographical details will be available from Monday 9th February on the following websites:

Archbishop of Canterbury: <http://www.church-of-england.org/main/lambeth/abchome.htm>
The World Bank: <http://www.worldbank.org/html/extdr/faithsdialogue/>
or from the contact names below.

A copy of the joint statement from the meeting's two co-chairs, the Archbishop of Canterbury Dr George Carey and the President of the World Bank, Mr James D Wolfensohn, will be posted on the above websites at 15.00GMT on Thursday, 19 February following the conclusion of the Dialogue.

Contacts: Press Office, Lambeth Palace, London (+44) 171 928 8282
Keiko Itoh, World Bank, London (+44) 171 930 8511
David Theis, World Bank, Washington DC (202) 473-2475



The World Bank

Lambeth Palace
London SE1 7JU

Embargoed until 00.01hrs local time
Monday 9th February 1998

World Faiths and Development - Dialogue **Lambeth Palace, London 18-19 February 1998**

Agenda

Wednesday 18th February

Session 1 Understandings of 'development'

09.00-12.30 This session will include discussion on what is meant by terms such as 'poverty', 'prosperity' and a 'developed' society/world.

It will also discuss the gap between the present situation and the kind of societies to which we aspire and how this might be addressed.

Session 2 Criteria for development

14.00-17.30 This session will focus on three themes: Participation; Sustainability and Voice.

Participation will include development principles needed to overcome growing inequality nationally and internationally; the importance of including underprivileged groups in development and respect for different cultural values amongst faith and development agencies.

Sustainability includes generating the necessary spiritual and material resources for a sustainable future that builds upon community organisations and traditions and which protects our natural environment and sacred sites.

Voice is potential action by the faiths, including the role of religion in the community and faiths' inter-relationships with Governments.

Thursday 19th February

Session 3 Planning for the future

09.00-11.10 The final session will be a review of discussions: next steps and a statement on the outcome of the dialogue from the Co-Chairs, the Archbishop of Canterbury and President of World Bank.

11.15 MEDIA. Brief closing remarks by the Dialogue's two Co-Chairs and a short photocall. This will be followed by a brief question and answer session.

Full details on media arrangements and accreditation will be available from 16th February from the Press Office, Lambeth Palace (+44 171 928 8282)



The World Bank

Lambeth Palace
London SE1 7JU

Embargoed until 00.01hrs local time
Monday 9th February 1998

World Faiths and Development - Dialogue February 18-19, 1998

Biographies of Co-Chairs, Faith Participants and Observers

CO-CHAIRS

Archbishop of Canterbury

Dr. George Carey was enthroned as the 103rd Archbishop of Canterbury in April 1991. The Archbishop is *primus inter pares* among the Primates of the 70 million strong Anglican Community world-wide, and as such, is expected to maintain the unity of the Communion through bonds of affection and shared belief. He has a key role in relationships with other denominations and faiths not only within the United Kingdom, but throughout the world.

Dr Carey was ordained priest in 1963 and served parishes in London and Durham. He was a lecturer in theology in London and Nottingham and also served as the Principal of Trinity College in Bristol before becoming Bishop of Bath and Wells in 1987.

President of the World Bank Group

James D. Wolfensohn became President of the World Bank Group on June 1, 1995. He established his career as an international investment banker with parallel involvement in development issues and the global environment. As President of the World Bank he has taken the initiative in forming new strategic partnerships between the Bank and the governments it serves, the private sector, civil society, regional development banks and the United Nations. In 1996, together with the IMF, Mr. Wolfensohn initiated the multilateral debt relief proposal for the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) to ease their debt burden. In order to improve the Bank's effectiveness in fighting poverty, and to meet the needs of a rapidly changing global economy, Mr. Wolfensohn has launched a major reform programme in the Bank - The Strategic Compact.

Prior to joining the Bank, Mr. Wolfensohn was President and Chief Executive Officer of James D. Wolfensohn Inc., his own investment firm set up in 1981. He was born in Australia and is a naturalised US citizen. In May 1995 he was awarded an Honorary Knighthood by Queen Elizabeth II for his contribution to the arts.

BAHA'IS

Kiser Barnes, representing the International Baha'i Community, Haifa, Israel. Mr Barnes, who holds the position of International Counsellor, is a member of the International Teaching Centre, the body responsible for fostering and monitoring the propagation of the Baha'i teachings throughout the world. He is a citizen of the United States of America and an attorney. For many years he taught the Law of Corporations and International Economic Law at universities in the Republic of Benin, Togo, and Nigeria, before relocating to Israel in 1993.

Accompanying Mr. Barnes will be **Lawrence Arturo**, Director of the Baha'i International Office of the Environment in New York City and Baha'i Representative to the United Nations on environmental and development issues.

BUDDHISTS

Nambaryn Enkhbayar, Leader of the Minority in the Parliament of Mongolia, a Member of the Parliament and Chairman of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party. Former Minister of Culture, he continues to work on religious and cultural issues through his involvement with UNESCO and as President of Mongolia's National Commission of Museums. He is also working closely with Indian Ambassador Sri Kushok Bakula, who, among Mongolians, is a highly respected Buddhist Lama.

Accompanied by **Sulak Sivaraksa**, who is a social activist and founder of small economy model developments in Thailand. He has been particularly involved in the 'Spirit in Education' movement and the 'Alternative to Consumerism' network which seeks to combat consumerist values and promote spiritually-based development. Winner of the 1995 Right Livelihood Award, he is a writer, traveller and speaker.

CHRISTIANITY - ORTHODOX

Metropolitan John of Pergamon, representing the Ecumenical Patriarchate. Formerly Professor of Theology at Glasgow University and Kings College, London, he is a key figure in major ecumenical dialogues between the Orthodox Church and the other main Christian traditions. He is a leading theologian in the area of 'Orthodoxy and Ecology' and he has played a central role in making the Orthodox Church one of the most active religious communities involved with development and environmental issues.

Archimandrite Feofan (Ashurkov), Deputy Chairman of the Moscow Patriarchate Department for External Church Relations.

CHRISTIANITY - PROTESTANT

Dr. George Carey, The Archbishop of Canterbury - (see Co-Chairs)

Accompanying the Archbishop of Canterbury will be *Wendy Tyndale* . . .

The Right Rev. Thomas Olmorijoi Laiser, Bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania, the Arusha Diocese. Bishop Laiser was first elected Diocesan Bishop in 1986, also served as Synod President and as well as district and parish minister. He has represented the ELCT at a number of international conferences dealing with justice and development issues and

is a member of the Maasai Tribe. He holds both a Bachelor of Divinity and a Master of Sacred Theology.

CHRISTIANITY - ROMAN CATHOLICS

His Eminence Cardinal Roger Etchegaray, President of The Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace, The Vatican. He was Secretary General of the French Episcopal Conference (1966-70), Archbishop of Marseilles (1970-84), appointed Cardinal (1970) and became International President of the Council for Justice and Peace for the Roman Catholic Church (1984 to present). Based at the Vatican, he oversees the international programme of the Catholic Church on issues related to justice and peace, such as ecology, development, and human rights.

HINDUS

Swami Vibudhesha Teertha, Head of the Sri Admar Mutt, Udipi, Karnataka, South India. He is a lifelong sannyasi, celibate monk, and one of twelve traditional acharyas, spiritual leaders, of the Madhva Sampradaya, established in the 11th century as one of the four great Vaishnava orders. So closely are they associated with the spiritual and physical well-being of India until the 1990s none of them were permitted to travel outside of India. Swami Vibudhesha is the only one so far to do so. He has within his sphere of influence hundreds of primary and secondary schools as well as whole villages and towns, and his spiritual authority is recognised throughout India.

Acharya Srivatsa Goswami, Head of the Sri Caitanya Prema Samsthana, in Vrindavan. His family of eminent scholars and spiritual leaders at Sri Radharamana Mandir, are directly descended from one of the original disciples of Sri Caitanya, the great religious reformer of the 16th century, and have been among the leadership of the Bhakti (devotional) movement since. He is a leading figure in the Vaishnava tradition which is based around worship of Lord Krishna and, in particular, his manifestation or avatar, Krishna. He is also chief adviser to the Vrindavan Conservation Project and a trustee of Friends of Vrindavan. He is a leading figure in interfaith relations world-wide, working with groups such as the World Conference on Religion and Peace, and is a former visiting professor of Religious Studies at Harvard University.

JAINS

His Excellency Dr. L. M. Singhvi, President of the Institute of Jainology and a leading scholar of Jainism and of Vedic and Indic religions. Dr. Singhvi was instrumental in bringing together for the first time in over a thousand years the three major Jain traditions of Digambara, the Shvetambara and the Sthanakavasi to create the only ecumenical international Jain organisation, the Institute of Jainology. This institution, under his presidency, has pioneered both scholarly studies and pragmatic environmental projects. Dr. Singhvi served as the Indian High Commissioner in London from 1990 to 1997 and has been keenly involved in both academic and practical programmes concerned with interfaith dialogue, the promotion of Indian and Vedic studies and with questions raised to/by religious communities about the secular status of India.

Professor Padmanabh S. Jaini, who is a trustee of the Institute of Jainology and Professor of Buddhist Studies at the University of California at Berkeley. He has served as a trustee of the UK-based International Sacred Literature Trust and currently is a member of its Editorial Board. Professor Jaini received his Ph.D. at the University of London and publishes in the field of Buddhist and Jaina doctrine. He participated in the 1995 Interfaith Dialogue on Jainism and Christianity held at the Vatican.

JEWS

Professor Rabbi Arthur Hertzberg (Conservative tradition), Vice President Emeritus of the World Jewish Congress. Former Professor of Humanities at Dartmouth, currently the Edgar Bronfman Professor of Humanities at New York University. He is one of the foremost scholars and writers on Judaism and he is often called upon by secular media to comment authoritatively on issues relating to Israel and Jewish values.

Professor Rabbi René Sirat (Orthodox tradition), Former Grand Rabbi of France, current Grand Rabbi of the Consistoire Central, Professor Emeritus and former Director of the Department of Near and Far Eastern Studies, University of Paris. Former President and permanent advisor to the Conference of European Rabbis. Founding President of the Hillel Academy and of the RACHI European University Institute.

Dr. Thomas Lachs (Reform tradition), former Board Member of the Bank of Austria and Head of the Foreign Affairs Department of the bank and, in this capacity, a past Alternate Governor for Austria at the International Monetary Fund. He currently serves as the Chair of the Board of the Jewish Museum of Vienna.

MUSLIMS

His Royal Highness Crown Prince El-Hassan Bin Talal of Jordan, 42nd generation direct descendant of the Prophet Mohammad. In Jordan he has chaired the National Development Plan Committee and has established and directed the Islamic Scientific Academy, the Centre on Refugees, and the Centre for Educational Development. He also founded and co-chaired the Independent Commission on International Humanitarian Issues whose final report he presented to the United Nations in 1987. Crown Prince Hassan has been active in facilitating interfaith dialogue in co-operation with the Orthodox Centre of the Ecumenical Patriarchate (Chambesy), the Pontifical Council for Inter-religious Dialogue (Vatican) and the Independent Commission of Christian Muslim Relations.

His Highness, The Aga Khan, the fourth Aga Khan since the foundation of the honorific title in 1817. The title denotes the spiritual leader or Imam of the Nizaris, the larger of the two main branches of Ismaili Shia community. The Ismailis and in particular the Aga Khan have developed a world-wide reputation for charity welfare and development work. In 1967 the current Aga Khan established the Aga Khan foundation specifically to promote such humanitarian and cultural work.

SIKHS

Sri Singh Sahib Manjit Singh, Jathedar of Anandpur, Punjab, India. President of the Sikh World Council. The Council of the Five Jathedars include the head priests of the five major centres of Sikhism and both spiritual and temporal leaders in Sikhism. The Jathedar has been instrumental in founding the Council in order to take seriously both the social and political realities of Sikhism in the Punjab and India but also the extensive Sikh diaspora around the world. He is also the moving inspiration behind the development of the Anandpur Development project - a project which is to design a sustainable, eco-friendly development in the ancient pilgrimage town of Anandpur.

Dr. Rajwant Singh, is a founding member of the Guru Gobind Singh Foundation, a leading Sikh organisation in the United States. Dr. Singh is a past president of the Interfaith Conference of Metropolitan Washington and is a board member of the American Interfaith Network. He has been invited by President Bill Clinton to the White House for consultations as well as to represent Sikhism.

TAOISTS

Zhang Ji Yu, Vice-President, Vice Secretary of General of the China Taoist Association at Bai Yun Guan, Beijing. Master Zhang is the 65th descendent of the Heavenly Master, Zhang Daoling, founder of the first Taoist school. Master Zhang is the chief editor of the periodical "China Taoism" and also is a member of the China Peoples Political Consultative Committee, the highest political advising body in China. Master Zhan has worked extensively with ARC and ICOREC on a project conserving China's Sacred Taoist Mountains.

Accompanied by **Zhang Xun Mu**, an academic researching Taoism at the Religious Research Center, an institute under the Religious Affairs Bureau of China. Mr. Zhang Xun Mu has worked on numerous occasions with the China Taoist Association which is the official body representing Taoism in China.

Also attending will be **Tjalling Halbertsma**, a Dutch national who has been working with Taoist groups in China to preserve seven major Taoist sacred mountains. He has been working with the China Taoist Association at the White Cloud Temple in Beijing on many international projects including the May '97 preliminary meetings at the World Bank in Washington, D.C.

ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY'S OFFICE

Andrew Purkis, the Archbishop of Canterbury's Secretary for Public Affairs. Dr. Purkis is the Archbishop's most senior adviser on the world outside the Church - Government and politics, royal family, industry and trade unions, and voluntary organisations. He is also the Archbishop's chief public relations strategist. His previous positions include National Director for the Council for the Protection of Rural England, and Head of Policy and subsequently Assistant Director for the National Council for Voluntary Organisations. From 1974 to 1980 he served as a civil servant in Northern Ireland including a term as Private Secretary to the Permanent Under Secretary.

WORLD BANK

James D Wolfensohn, President of the World Bank Group - (see Co-Chairs).

Accompanying the President of the World Bank will be:

Ismail Serageldin, Vice-President for Environmentally and Socially Sustainable Development.

Andrew Rogerson, the World Bank's representative for the United Kingdom and Ireland. Most recently he was Country Director, based in Washington, for operations in Central Africa. From 1992 through 1994 he was manager of the Bank's regional office in Budapest, which focuses on welfare and financial sector reforms in Central Europe. In earlier assignments for the World Bank, he led project teams on the Maghreb, on India and Africa, and lived for three years in Burkina Faso. He holds degrees in economics from Cambridge University and the London School of Economics.

OBSERVERS:

Dr. Wangari Maathai - Well-known environmentalist and women's rights activist, Maathai is the founder and moving spirit behind Kenya's Green Belt Movement, a highly successful grassroots environmental movement. She is Kenya's first female Ph.D. and Nairobi University's first woman professor.

Dr. Vandana Shiva, is a Hindu activist well known for her views on international development. She is Director of the Institute of Science, Technology and Ecology in Delhi.

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WORLD FAITHS AND DEVELOPMENT - A DIALOGUE
AT LAMBETH PALACE LONDON, 18-19 FEBRUARY 1998

QUESTION AND ANSWER BRIEF

Q1. What is the purpose of this meeting?

A. The main aim is to help the World Bank and the Faiths to reach a better mutual understanding of each other's ideas about approaches to development. It will seek to examine the definition of desirable development aims and discuss obstacles to their fulfilment, and how these obstacles might be overcome.

Q2. What, more precisely, do the Faiths hope will come from this meeting?

A. As a minimum, we hope that there will be better mutual understanding. We also see this not as a one-off flash in the pan but as a process of engagement, so that we hope this Dialogue might lead on to an agreement to longer term commitments to effective dialogue at different geographical levels in carrying forward the fight against poverty. (if pressed) It would be discourteous to be more specific in advance of the Dialogue itself.

Q3. Why is the World Bank involved in this meeting and what does it hope will come from it?

A. The World Bank acknowledges that people of faith play an important role in civil society and development, at the local, national and international level. It is therefore co-chairing this dialogue with the Faiths, in order to broaden opportunities for common understanding and action in tackling the critical issue of world poverty and to reach a better understanding of each others ideas about approaches to development and possible obstacles in the way of achieving desirable development aims.

Q4. How did this meeting come about?

A. The idea of a more systematic dialogue between the World Faiths and the World Bank was one of the fruits of a "Summit" meeting of religious leaders at Windsor Castle in 1995. The Summit focused particularly on conservation concerns and marked the creation of the Alliance of Religions and Conservation (ARC) which has since been the catalyst for discussions leading up to the Lambeth Dialogue. During those discussions, the personal interest of both the Archbishop of Canterbury and the President of the World Bank have been enlisted and the agenda has been broadened to include a full range of shared concerns amongst different World Faiths and the Bank about the purposes and delivery of healthy, long-term development.

Q5. What is Mr Wolfensohn's personal commitment on these issues?

A. Since becoming President of the World Bank on June 1st 1995, Mr Wolfensohn has travelled widely in order to get first-hand experiences of the challenges facing the World Bank and its 180 member countries in the post-cold war era. During his travels Mr Wolfensohn has not only visited development projects sponsored by the World Bank and met with the Bank's government clients, he has also met many representatives from non-governmental organisations, religious groups and others sections of civil society. These meetings have convinced him of the importance of the Bank working more closely with religious groups. This dialogue is an important step forward towards that goal.

Q6. Why is the Archbishop of Canterbury chairing it alongside the President of the World Bank?

A. The Archbishop is passionately committed to dialogue and better understanding between the World Faiths and to development policies and projects which are not conceived in narrowly financial terms and have truly sustainable and beneficial impacts, particularly for the poorest and weakest members of society. He is delighted to use his position as spiritual leader of the worldwide Anglican Communion to invite other spiritual leaders and development experts from the World Faiths to come together to discuss these vitally important issues with the World Bank.

Q7. Why aren't other development agencies involved like the UN?

A. Of course there are many other agencies with an interest in this subject and we shall report widely on our deliberations. But an agenda which focuses on the policies and practice of the World Bank is in itself enormous and at this stage the Dialogue will be more intensive and fruitful if we keep the numbers manageable and do not try to encompass other agencies. The lines are open to many different interested parties, many of whom will no doubt have a significant contribution to make once the momentum of dialogue and follow-up action has been generated.

Q.8 What's the involvement of the British Government?

A. The British Government, like any other Government, will certainly take an interest in this Dialogue and we shall ensure that they are kept very well informed. They are not, however, actual participants in the Dialogue, which is between World Bank staff and people from the world's religious faiths. To include representation from interested national governments would create a larger and different kind of gathering: this particular one depends on the special chemistry of a relatively small number of people from the World Bank and World Faiths engaging in quite intensive dialogue together in the privacy of Lambeth Palace.

Q.9 What is ARC and ICOREC, and what is their involvement?

A. ARC is the international agency of conservation and religious organisations, bringing together nine major world religions [list if necessary]. Launched in May 1995 by HRH The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, at that time International President of the World Wide Fund for Nature, it builds upon work begun in Assisi in 1986, when five religious and the WWF began working together on practical environmental issues and projects worldwide.

ARC funds and assists religiously based environmental projects. It was the meeting at Windsor Castle in 1995 where ARC was founded, that first initiated the dialogue between the nine faiths and the World Bank. ARC has been the body closely involved in co-ordinating the faiths (with the exception of the Christian Churches) for the World Bank meeting.

The International Consultancy on Religion, Education and Culture (ICOREC) is the organisation which administers ARC and has undertaken the practical details of organising the participation of the faiths.

Q10 Why haven't the media been allowed to attend the sessions?

A. The sessions are being held in private to facilitate free and frank discussions. Some participants might feel constrained by the presence of journalists in discussion.

Q.11 Why haven't any of the major Faith based development agencies been invited?

A. The meeting is between key religions as religions. Not all faiths have development agencies, but all faiths have teachings, practical experience and insights which have immediate bearing on development and economic issues. To have brought in the relatively few faith based developments agencies would have been to narrow the participation and exclude a number of faiths.

Q.12 Is the conference going to discuss issues such as population, and gender - if not, why not? (Or why isn't X coming up?)

A. As you can see from the agenda, the questions for each session are very broad to allow participants for the faiths to raise the issues of greatest concern to them. The issue you mention may well be raised at X.

Q.13 Why are so few women attending this Conference?

A. Most of the world's faiths still reserve their leadership positions for men. In the context of dialogue about development issues, this could be a weakness. But the Archbishop of Canterbury's expert adviser participating in the Dialogue is Wendy Tyndale of Christian Aid, and the Archbishop and Mr Wolfensohn have invited three additional women with very broad experience to participate in the Dialogue as full members. The special importance of women in development strategies and projects will certainly not be neglected in this Dialogue.

Q14. Is it about debt? Will debt be discussed? Why not?

A. Although the debt crisis is of course part of the context for this Dialogue, there are many other fora in which the debt issue is being addressed. This Dialogue has a distinctive, complementary focus on the purpose and practice of development, especially the development policies and projects in which the World Bank plays a part. This is in itself an enormous and complex agenda, and although there is of course no bar on discussing debt if appropriate this is not expected to be discussed in any depth.

Q15. What is the involvement of the Duke of Edinburgh?

A. His Royal Highness will kindly host a Reception on the eve of the Dialogue in order to welcome participants, set the scene for the Dialogue and invite people from a wider range of interested parties, including other UK religious leaders, and representatives from the world of Government, politics, business and voluntary organisations to meet the participants and take an interest in this initiative. His Royal Highness was himself at the Windsor Castle Summit in 1995 which led on to the current Dialogue and he has maintained a long-standing personal interest in conservation and development issues worldwide.