THE SCORE

As of October 15, 2010, 21,495 people have voted. So far, the votes are 95.5% in favor of creating a democratic world parliament.

Quotes of the month

There are no passengers on spaceship earth. We are all crew. Marshall McLuhan

SPECIAL EDITION

Introducing the portable ballot for the global referendum

by

Ted Stalets, Co-President of Vote World Parliament

In the August, 2010 issue of *The WorldVoter*, I wrote: "Wouldn't it be great if we could take the ballot on the official website of the referendum and allow other non-governmental organizations—or any interested person with a website for that matter—to put the ballot on their websites as well?"

Well, with this October 2010 issue of *The WorldVoter*, we are now announcing the above capability to the world – in 53 different languages. There are millions of non-governmental organizations whose philosophical mindsets mesh well with the goal of a directly-elected, representative and democratic world parliament that is authorized to

legislate on global issues. By allowing these organizations and millions of others to host their own referendum "voting booths," the number of votes cast is expected to start advancing geometrically or exponentially rather than the arithmetic advances that have been the case since 2004.

For a sample of this new technology, go to www.LifeProfilesBooks.com and click on the global referendum graphic link on the upper right of the website. What happens next is a new technology that allows the ballot to appear on the page, front and center. This is a live ballot with direct linkage to the main database of votes at VoteWorldParliament.org.

Accessing and installing the portable ballot.

Once you call up the ballot on the above website, you will notice at the bottom of the ballot there is a link for "Click Here to put this ballot on your website." This link goes to http://voteworldparliament.org/shadowbox/getballot.html which provides the simple code for your webmaster to insert the portable ballot into your website. For best visibility of the graphic link with your website visitors, please place the code towards the top of your website's home page. The ballot has been tested to work on the top four Internet browsers – Internet Explorer, Firefox, Chrome and Safari. Once a person votes, the count advances for the local website as well as the total count at Vote World Parliament. The ballot box can then be closed by clicking the "X" on the top right. You will notice 4 icons on the bottom of the ballot for Facebook, Twitter, Linked-in and Blogger. The portable ballot installs in these applications automatically.

Please note: If your webmaster has any problems installing the portable ballot, they can email Ted Stalets at tstalets@bellsouth.net (please allow 24 hours for response).

Internet evolution

We are now just passing through an Internet phase known as Web 2.0. Web 2.0 has been all about freedom – you can pretty much say anything you want and share it with whoever you want – think Facebook, Twitter and YouTube. This social web we are in right now is in transition as well – moving to Web 3.0. Just a brief overview of the evolution of the Internet.

Web 1.0 – 1990 to 2000 – Websites were static – like online brochures
Web 2.0 – 2000 to 2010 – Websites were social – the users generated the web's content
Web 3.0 – 2010 to 2020 – Websites go mobile, go video, allow instant collaboration, as the Internet becomes quite ubiquitous. (Here's a good overview of the evolution of the Internet from mid 2007
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yDYCf4ONh5M&feature=related.)

The ancient Chinese saying "may you live in interesting times" is upon us. Starting now and throughout the second decade of this century, we are in the midst of a new Web 3.0 revolution fueled by advancements in both the Internet and technology. Today's Internet

contains an unimaginable amount of information, and the size of social interaction on the web has reached a colossal scale.

In the upcoming ten years, technology will evolve (think smartphones) to the point where the world's knowledge will be accessible and available to everyone, unless censored by national governments (see http://listverse.com/2010/10/02/top-10-countries-that-censor-the-internet/). Governmental censorships will be short-lived, in my opinion. Some have called the Internet the most powerful democratizing force ever.

As well, with smartphones now outpacing stationary desktop computers and the whole Internet going mobile, voting on mobile/cell phones will be extremely important during 2010 to 2020. The portable ballot will mesh in with this new technology quite easily.

Political gravity

Prior to the Internet, successful politicians spent their days reaching out to their old friends, being introduced to new ones, making cold calls, speaking in front of groups and organizations—activities to help grow their political organization. The social aspects of today's Internet (Facebook, YouTube, Twitter, etc.) are perfect for asking opinions and moving interested parties into political organization groupings.

Many commentators believe that without Obama's use of these networking sites and the Internet in general, he would not have won the 2008 American election. Arianna Huffington, editor in chief of *The Huffington Post* (2008), an online blog site dedicated to news and commentary, said: "Were it not for the Internet, Barack Obama would not be President. Were it not for the Internet, Barack Obama would not have been the nominee."

Through the Internet and social networking sites in particular, voters are now able to intervene in political debate directly. With this increased freedom of communication, the ability of thousands or even millions of websites to host portable ballots for the global referendum on a democratic world parliament is "interesting times." With the portable ballot technology, we are at the right place at the right time, with the right message, and for the right reasons. The portable ballot brings geometric growth to a movement that started six years ago. We are counting on the membership of our newsletter to be the original source of political gravity for this noble initiative.

Please remember, the Internet global referendum isn't meant to do the complete job, but it should gather enough momentum to get noticed by national governments and other power centers such as corporations and religions. Ideally, once they see that the human race has acquired the ability to speak with a single voice, and is doing so on its own on the issue of creating a democratic world parliament (especially if the global referendum is passing at a percentage of 67% or higher), most national governments will yield to the inevitable and agree to a UN resolution that requires all national governments to conduct national referendums using our ballot wording, and do this in conjunction with national elections to take advantage of voter fraud protection systems and to reduce costs. Yes,

this will take a while, and yes there will be holdout governments, but we will just continue on with our eyes on the prize.

Out of the starting gate, and how you can help

We have a plan to sort of "kickstart" the portable ballot, but the true assistance in helping the global referendum go viral will depend upon interested people across the globe who long for a safer, more just world. Below are the first efforts we have undertaken.

WATUN – One of Vote World Parliament's earliest partners was the World Alliance to Transform the United Nations. These 36+ organizations have all pledged to support the global referendum via their individual web presences.

VWP Authors' Campaign – We will also be asking the 120+ authors comprising the Vote World Parliament authors' campaign to add the portable ballot to their websites.

WANGO – We recently became a member of the World Alliance for Non-Governmental Organizations, and we will be soliciting this huge list of organizations for their assistance in installing the portable ballot on their websites.

And others – We will approach trade unions, all religions, professional groups, famous musicians and actors, and so on, and we will not relent until we have either a completed global mandate or until the process has been turned over to the UN for completion (the draft UN resolution is at http://voteworldparliament.org/allies-initiatives/draft-un-resolution).

Now, how can you help?

Perhaps you could write an article about the global referendum in process. You are welcome to use material from the www.VoteWorldParliament.org website. The link you can direct people to in order gather the code to put the ballot on their websites is http://voteworldparliament.org/shadowbox/getballot.html.
You can also make a video and upload it to YouTube. Another way you can help make the portable ballot go viral is with social networking. Use your current Facebook, Twitter, MySpace, etc. accounts to post your support of the global referendum.

The top 16 social networking sites are found here:
www.voteworldparliament.org/pdf/top-16-most-popular-social-networking-sites.pdf.

Is it worth it?

The board of Vote World Parliament, the member organizations of the World Alliance to Transform the United Nations and the impressive Authors List Campaign all believe that it is. Do you? If you say "Yes" to the ballot and "Yes" to the initiative, please help a little every day for the rest of your life, or until the job is done. We will make history, and the children of the world will thank you for that.