

THE GOOD TIMES

THURSDAY, AUGUST 6, 2009

A solemn oath will bind scientists to society

An appeal for social responsibility relieves scientific research from pressure from governments and commercial interests

By Paterson Lea

LIKE THE Hippocratic oath sworn by doctors, upon graduation, the scientists of the future will also swear a solemn oath confirming their commitment to mankind and the future generations.

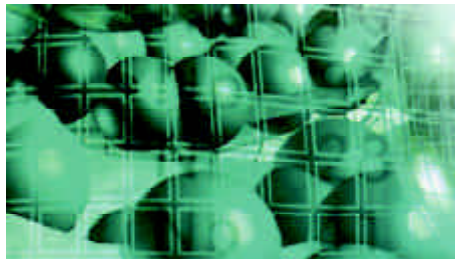
This confirms the scientific community's moral commitment to work for a better world in which science is used in a socially responsible manner, and scientists refrain from undertaking projects that damage individuals or nature.

The oath also includes the criteria covered by the conscience clause which protects, with total confidential-

ity, those who report continuous and deliberate activities that violate the principle of precaution, public health, the environment, and the ethical and deontological codes relating to scien-

tional Labour Organisation as a civil society initiative.

The solemn oath, therefore, will be a moral tool that, together with the conscience clause (legal protection), will relieve



tific research and technological production. This conscience clause is included in an international convention established two years ago by the Interna-

scientific research from the pressure brought to bear by the production system, represented by business enterprises and the governments themselves.

News item 18 inspired by the Proposals Booklet: **Social control of sciences**, coordinated by Frédéric Piguet

Collection of Desirable News (1) inspired by 25 Proposals Booklets of the Alliance for a Responsible, Plural and United World, www.alliance21.org

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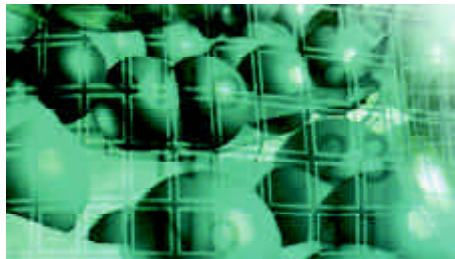
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