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February 5, 1993

Ms. Katie McGinty
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Dear Katie:

Thanks for taking the time to see me yesterday. I will follow up on a number of the things we talked about and get back in touch with you. This letter relates to the question of the Chief Economist at the World Bank.

The first choices that I think are worth fighting for, even though the economics establishment may find them less than totally acceptable, are:

1) Herman Daly, now at the World Bank. I need not say much more than the fact that he is well trained as an economist, but is asking the right set of questions about development and the environment and poverty, and therefore, is eminently suited for the position.

2) Richard Norgaard, at the University of California, Berkeley. He has worked at the Bank as a consultant. He has worked overseas. Like Daly, he is asking the right set of questions. He is not now in an economics department at Berkeley simply because he found it too stultifying.

3) David Pearce, who is at University College, London. He has worked a lot with the Bank, is respected therein, but is also respected outside. He is a person who can talk both with Daly and with the more traditional economists at the Bank.

A second group of people, who would be my B list are:

1) Stephen Marglin, who has a named chair in economics at Harvard, has worked with the United Nations University program and development economics in Helsinki and has thought a lot about the greening of economics.

2) Bob Repetto, at World Resources Institute, who you know, and who has a Harvard Ph.D., and who has taught at Harvard.

3) Rob Stavins, who is now an Assistant Professor at Harvard and was the economist behind Project 88. I think he pays too little attention to equity issues and I do not know if he has had

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any development experience, but at least he is willing to hear some of the different questions.

4) Amartya Sen, a development economist at Harvard who is interested in issues of poverty and who probably would have some sympathy for environmental issues.

I hope these are useful. As suggested earlier, I think we also, in addition to putting in names, need to establish certain principles unless we will be in a sisyphusian situation, always pushing the ball up the hill but never getting anywhere. Thus, the idea that the job description should include demonstrated concern for equity, poverty, the scale of human populations and the economic system, the environment, etc., as well as demonstrated experience in development are absolutely necessary. Without wanting to be too apolitical, I think this is a good time to really push for what is right, and really make an effort to support someone like Daly.

With all best wishes.

Cordially,



Stephen Viederman
President

SV/ak