

The Right to a Healthy Environment and the Representation of the Future Generations' Interests in the new Hungarian Constitution

Budapest, 14th February 2011

**Constitutional protection of the environment and future generations:
humility, reality and legality**

Peter Roderick

Schedule 1 to Resolution 46/1994 (IX. 30.) OGY

The Text of the Oath for the Taking of the Oath of Members of Parliament

"I,, as a Member of the Parliament of the Republic of Hungary, swear that I shall be faithful to my country, the Republic of Hungary, and to its people; that I shall observe the Constitution and the legal rules, and keep the secrets that come to my knowledge; that I shall - according to the will of my constituents and to my mandate - proceed conscientiously; and that I shall do my utmost to promote the development of the Republic of Hungary and the prosperity of its people.

(Depending on the faith of the Member) As God is my witness, so me help me God!"

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Constitution of Ecuador, 2008
Preamble, second paragraph

“CELEBRANDO a la naturaleza, la Pacha Mama, de la que somos parte y que es vital para nuestra existencia”

“IN CELEBRATION OF nature, the Pacha Mama (Mother Earth), of which we are a part and which is vital to our existence”

Constitution of South Africa 1996, section 26

“Everyone has the right-

- a. to an environment that is not harmful to their health or well-being; and**
- b. to have the environment protected, for the benefit of present and future generations, through reasonable legislative and other measures that-**
 - i. prevent pollution and ecological degradation;**
 - ii. promote conservation; and**
 - iii. secure ecologically sustainable development and use of natural resources while promoting justifiable economic and social development.”**

Constitution of Argentina 1994, section 41

“Todos los habitantes gozan del derecho a un ambiente sano, equilibrado, apto para el desarrollo humano y para que las actividades productivas satisfagan las necesidades presentes sin comprometer las de las generaciones futuras; y tienen el deber de preservarlo.....”

“All inhabitants are entitled to the right to a healthy and balanced environment fit for human development in order that productive activities shall meet present needs without endangering those of future generations; and shall have the duty to preserve it.....”