

'Trumanising' the New Global Human Order

DR CHEDDI Jagan's New Global Human Order (NGHO) has been the subject of excessive but important expositions on what it is.

We now need to take the discussion to another level; to the implementing level; to understand why key stakeholders in the developed world are dragging their feet on the NGHO, and what can be done to move the process to the implementation phase.

Many previous UN proposals for development and international cooperation, though sketchy, received approval; but their implementation has always met with opposition, e.g., Declaration of Programme of Action for a New International Economic Order; and Declaration on International Economic Cooperation 1990. Then there were the global summit conferences between 1990 and 1995 on children; population and development; sustainable development of small states, human settlements and food, among others, yielding minuscule results.

Subsequently, the UN documented an Agenda for Development and an Agenda for Peace, again with minimum

results. And so given the adoption of these development paradigms, the coming of the NGHO brings an image of duplication. But the NGHO only would be duplication if it were sketchy and not holistic. Dr Cheddi Jagan's NGHO is quite comprehensive and definitive as a new paradigm for development with a human face.

The NGHO made its formal appearance in the theatre of politics in the 1990s. But the essence of the NGHO was birthed as long ago as 1945 when Dr Jagan's political mission was poverty elimination and advancing a human-centred development among the developed and developing economies. This mission captures what the NGHO is all about.

Last week, I talked about the NGHO's principles and its numerous endorsements, both regionally and internationally. Today, let's review its current status. But first let me summarise the NGHO.

Dr Jagan envisaged a fair system of global governance grounded in: (1) a real North/South partnership and interdependence for mutual benefit; participatory

democracy; a lean and clean government; a people-centred development paradigm free from external domination; use of science and technology for enhancing production and productivity; and the establishment of a Global Development Fund.

efforts, ultimately would produce non-productive and duplicative discussions; (2) the NGHO's proposed policies would extend UN functions outside the boundaries of the UN Charter, violating mandates of other international bodies; (3) the NGHO's proposals

PERSPECTIVES

A resolution on the NGHO was tabled on November 29, 2000 before the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), and then adopted through a consensus. It took six years of campaigning for the NGHO proposal to reach the United Nations agenda and consciousness. After receiving views from member states and other organs, a resolution again was adopted at the 57th UNGA on November 14, 2002.

Early formidable resistance to the NGHO came from the United States. United States Public Delegate Jay Snyder presented a statement on the NGHO in the UN debate in 2000, articulating that: (1) the NGHO was duplicative of previous UN developmental

seem to place a high premium on international responsibility for increasing economic growth in developing economies; and (4) the NGHO fails to explain why some developing economies and not others have achieved high income growth and poverty reduction, when they all function under the same international system.

Snyder's criticisms are erroneous and really are a camouflage for preserving vested American economic interests, thereby complying with the Truman Doctrine.

The NGHO's career seems to be stalemated, given the U.S. and other developed economies' resistance, and the poor fate befallen the earlier UN Declarations, summits, and agendas of the past decades.

Anyway, advancing the NGHO agenda to a threshold of implementation requires political will and financial resources. Countries of both North and South will need to

collectively endorse these requirements as the way forward, and then forge ahead toward an implementing phase. Public discourse and dialogue would be a significant methodology to demonstrate the goodwill of all nations and to show that the NGHO is not a threat to stakeholders; in spite of everything, the reality of the NGHO requires a partnership between countries of the North and of the South.

However, in the absence of a human-centred paradigm of development, the rich will continue to become richer, and

other similar proposals as a nuisance to globalisation; therefore, they would engage in imperialist adventures to block any implementation of the NGHO.

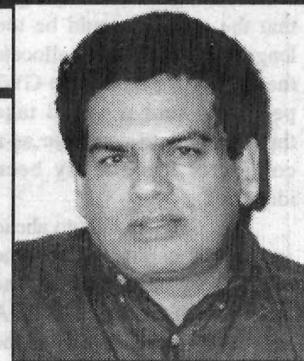
The rationale for this kind of imperialism was well articulated by Senator Albert Beveridge in 1898, "...the trade of the world must and shall be ours..." — (Greene, p.105).

American President Woodrow Wilson promoted the idea of imperialism, too, thus: "...Colonies must be obtained or planted, in order that no useful corner of the world may be overlooked or left unused" (Parenti, p.40).

President Harry Truman added his piece, thus: "...the whole world should adopt the American system..." Any UN proposal will face American wrath; will become a no-go if U.S. interests are not a primary variable and if the proposal is not part of the American way.

But public discourse and dialogue are the way forward to implementing the NGHO, notwithstanding the developed world's resistance; both North and South countries can temper this resistance through assurances that the proposal seeks common ground for international cooperation and mutual benefit for all parties; that the proposal is complementary to previous development initiatives; and that a distinguishing line now marks the NGHO within the UN Charter.

The NGHO discussion now has to centre on implementation; developing a way to reach the implementing line with all 'ayes' on board is the way forward; a sure way to remove a 'Trumanising' of the NGHO.



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the poor poorer; great ingredients for political conflicts, and certainly not peace.

As former President Janet Jagan speaking at the 53rd UN General Assembly in 1998 pointed out, peace is not just the absence of war. Janet Jagan added that true peace happens when it is founded on sound economic and social development, e.g., having something like the NGHO.

Clearly, developed nations control the globalization process that protects their vested interests; the developed world sees the NGHO and