

*"We are indeed of one mind...we can't be put in a situation where we are asked to join in the dessert and miss the main meal." **President Thabo Mbeki.** 17 October 2007*

"The political arena as dominated by major powers - the very political process itself - is losing credibility and legitimacy. People are questioning both the effectiveness of the G-8 process and the international legitimacy of the G-8 as a forum."

**Kazuo Ogoura, President of the Japan Foundation,** 7 August, 2007

"To build not just security but environmental stewardship and prosperity free of global poverty, I want a G8 for the 21st century ... The G8 has to increasingly broaden to encompass the influential emerging economies now outside but that account for more than a third of the world's economic output.

**Prime Minister Gordon Brown** 12 November, 2007

"I hope that bit by bit, the G8 becomes the G13. Alongside economic consultations, the close cooperation between the most industrialized countries and the major emerging countries that is needed to combat climate change warrants this expansion.

**M. Nicolas Sarkozy, President of the Republic of France,** Paris, 27 August 2007

"We were not active participants in the G8 processes. In fact, the G8 communiqué was issued even before our meeting... (In the future) we should get a chance to discuss issues of our concern... so that our point of view can be reflected in (the G8's) thought processes..."

**Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh,** New Delhi, 23 June, 2007

"We must go more in the direction of a G20 than a G5...We can no longer have serious discussions without China, India, Indonesia, Brazil."

**Pascal Lamy, Director General, World Trade Organization,** 06 June 2007

"...I make the case for the extended summit to become the core of a permanent forum where the developing and industrialized countries can transparently and representatively exchange their views on the issues that require a concentrated answer.... This will enable the intensification of multilateral action to make globalization show more solidarity and become less asymmetrical."

**Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva** 18 May, 2007

"Chinese leaders believe strongly in the potential of the G20. We want to get involved and make a contribution. We believe the G20 is very important for global governance. But China has no interest in the G8. We don't want to join a rich man's club."

**Yu Yongding, Director, Institute of World Economics and Politics, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences** January 2007, Davos

"...In the interests of speeding up negotiations, WTO chief Pascal Lamy had designated seven trading "powers" to hammer out a deal for everyone else. They were the United States, the European Union, Japan, Australia, Brazil, India and China - representing a cross-section of developed and developing countries. The plan was to get a deal among those powers, and then present the text to the full WTO".

**Barrie McKenna column** July 30, 2008 *Globe and Mail*

"Well, here we are on top of the world, and we have arrived at this peak to stay there forever. There is, of course, a thing called history, but history is something unpleasant that happens to other people. We are comfortably outside all of that I am sure."

**Fareed Zakaria quoting Arnold Toynbee**, June 22, 1897, reflecting on the 60th anniversary of Queen Victoria's ascension to the British throne

"For proof that the G8 has outlived its usefulness...look no further than the inability of the world's richest democracies to forge an agreed global strategy for tackling climate change... The G8's problem is that it has become so divided and poorly led that its annual summits have deteriorated into little more than photo opportunities... The severity of the current financial crisis only emphasizes the G8's impotence.... Some of the Group of Eight leaders might have choked on their green tea when Nicolas Sarkozy...proposed expanding...to 14 or 15 members. Not only should China and India, the world's two biggest emerging economies, be invited into the club, the French president said, but Brazil, Mexico, South Africa, an Arabic country and possibly another African nation should be thrown in for good measure."

**David Pilling** *Financial Times*: July 9 2008

"...Russian president Dmitry Medvedev said...it might be wise for the world's largest economies to listen to Russian solutions for a change. One revered institution in dire need of a shakeup is the Group of Eight countries '...it could be expanded it to include...Brazil, India and China. It's obvious...a series of institutions...set up in the 1960s. . .are not getting on top of the problem.' "

**Jane Armstrong**, *Globe and Mail*, July 2, 2008.

"Take for instance the G8. Some dream of reducing it to just the economic superpowers: the United States, the EU, China and Japan. An appealing idea, but Silvio Berlusconi and Vladimir Putin are unlikely to give up their seats at the top table. Better to enlarge the current body to include the world's biggest dozen economies. A G12 would bring India, Brazil, China and Spain into the club, while allowing Canada (just) to stay in."

*Jul 3rd 2008, The Economist*

"Efforts by the Group of Eight to enter a closer dialogue with new economic powers such as China and India are being undermined by the rich nations' unwillingness to listen fully to the emerging nations' concerns, according to one of their representatives.... the 'developed countries have basically set the agenda', Lourdes Aranda, Mexico's deputy foreign minister and co-coordinator on the G8 for the five countries, believes....the leaders of...India, China, Mexico, Brazil and South Africa would have 'not enough time' at next week's G8 summit in Japan to give their views....Japan, this year's G8 host, has been reluctant to pursue the dialogue with the G5....for fear of too openly acknowledging the power of China....the dialogue at...the summit has been shortened and watered down by inviting...Indonesia, South Korea and Australia.

**Hugh Williamson** column: July 2 2008.

"...it is best to keep together countries which share the same principles...in 2009 the first day of the summit should see just the G8 meet. On the second day, the table can be expanded in the morning to include the G5...while the G8 would then meet alone in the afternoon to draw their conclusions. This program...will be used at the G8 summit in Italy."

**Italian Prime Minister Berlusconi**, July 8, 2008

***"IF ALL YOU EVER DO IS ALL YOU'VE EVER DONE,  
THEN ALL YOU'LL EVER GET IS ALL YOU EVER GOT".***