

Visions 2100:

New World Order

By **Ken Hickson**, author of **The ABC of Carbon** and **Race for Sustainability**

Writing as **Emily May Chandra-Hickson**:



The most remarkable change we accept as we sit outside on a pleasantly warm mid-winter's day alongside Lake Geneva, Switzerland - the outside temperature is 18C and the sun is shining – is the effective “privatisation” of the United Nations and all its agencies, merged in with private sector and non-government organisations.

Now we have thirty independently managed global business units – corporations if you like - each one headquartered in a different centre somewhere in the world.

We're part-way through the monthly Governors meeting of SWIPE (Sustainable World for Innovation & Productivity Enterprise), the organisation I was elected Chairman of at our annual meeting in 2099.

SWIPE evolved out of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) and the World Trade Organisation (WTO), which was abolished in 2025 after years of failing to bring about any substantive multi-lateral trade agreements, along with members of the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) and the World Economic Forum (WEF).

We have representatives on the council from fifteen governments, as well as from major industry bodies and unions, regional groups like the Asian Productivity Council, the Zero Waste Alliance and the former UN Sustainable Consumption and Production group.

SWIPE was formed in 2035 and, along with most of the other twenty-nine international groups, has been remarkably successful in managing global business.

Admittedly, the world had to endure the Ten Year War in the Middle East – from 2015 to 2025 – which showed up the failings of the United Nations Security Council, as well as the former Arab League.

The peace was finally brokered by Pakistan, Turkey and Egypt, plus European and American teams and led to the establishment of three major institutions:

1. The Arab Union of States, incorporating thirty members from Mediterranean, Africa, Middle East and South Asia.

2. CROW – Council of Religious Organisations Worldwide (including Muslim, Buddhist, Hindu, Christian, Jewish and other organisations), altogether twenty-five members, with a Court for Mediation, Resolution and Co-operation.

3. Secure World for Energy, Environment & Peace - SWEEP – to replace the UN Security Council, based in New York, and incorporating thirty member states.

We continue to experience extreme weather events and 'natural' disasters, but we are better prepared, having adapted well to a changing climate. We are also much better at managing things since the establishment CODEM, the Crisis Organisation & Disaster Efficiency & Management and IMT3, the International Mobilisation Taskforce of Troops & Transport.

No, the world has not managed to keep the average temperature increase to two degrees Celsius above the pre-industrial levels. For the first fifty years of the twenty-first century the rising continued, with every year being hotter than the one before. By 2050, the global average temperature hit 2.50°C above the long-term average for the twentieth century, but it had at least started to level off.

Major achievements? International agreements to shut down all coal mining and coal fired power stations by 2030 and the insistence in 2016 that major oil companies (including the Middle East oil producers) invest 80% of their profits in renewable energy.

All thirty global corporations are running smoothly, as they're decentralised, lean, productive and effective. Communication, co-ordination, collaboration and co-operation are “four top C keys” to successful global business.

There's much more I could tell you about, but remarkably things are working, like a well-oiled machine, running on “clean energy” of course.

As I look at the snow-capped peaks of the Swiss Alps, I can't help thinking: Yes, we're on top of the world. Finally.

Emily May Chandra-Hickson is the 64-year-old great granddaughter of Ken Hickson. She was appointed in 2099 to head SWIPE (Sustainable World for Innovation & Productivity Enterprise). Her mother was from Anglo-Indian Chandra family and her father was Australian born and bred. Ms Chandra-Hickson served as Australia's Ambassador to the European Union for five years until 2095 and worked in corporate law for thirty years throughout Asia Pacific.

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