'Peace Through Development' Sudan Hosts Historic Nile Valley Conference

In Khartoum, the capital city of Sudan—located where the Blue and White Niles join together to form one river as they flow north towards Egypt and the Mediterranean-a historic conference entitled "Peace Through Development Along the Nile Valley, in the Framework of A New, Just World Economic Order," was co-sponsored January 14-17 by the Centre For Strategic Studies and the Ministry of Information and Culture from Sudan, along with the Schiller Institute and Executive Intelligence Review of Germany and the United States.

Lyndon LaRouche keynoted the opening of the conference on Sunday, at the Friendship Palace Hotel in Khartoum North, with a comprehensive presentation on strategic method, to an audience of 75 primarily Sudanese intellectuals, officials, and current and former members of government, including Sadiq al-Mahdi, the leader of the opposition Umma Party, who is now involved in a dialogue of reconciliation with Sudan's President General Bashir. A second presentation by LaRouche, "The New Bretton Woods System: A Framework For a New, Just World Economic Order," was delivered the following day.

The Monday evening panel, "The Economic and Political Failure of Globalization in Africa," heard presentations by Professor Sam Aluko of Nigeria, well known throughout West Africa for his staunch opposition to the I.M.F. and the structural adjustment programs that destroyed Nigeria during the 1980's, and Uwe Friesecke of EIR-Germany.

The New Silk Road

On Tuesday, two Egyptian professors from Cairo University provided detailed plans to connect Africa to the "New Silk Road." First, Dr. Gabir Said Awad, of the Center for Asian Studies, gave an exciting presentation using materials first published by EIR in its 1997 Special Report, "The Eurasian Land-Bridge." Then, Professor Hamdy



Above: Lyndon LaRouche and Helga Zepp LaRouche (center), with conference participants. Below (left to right): Mogus T. Michael, Ethiopian International Institute for Peace and Development; Prof. Hamdy Abdel Rahman, University of Cairo; Prof. Ode Ojowu, Centre of Development Studies, University of Jos, Nigeria.



Abdel Rahman provided the audience with a picture of various proposals to link Africa, through Egypt, to the Middle East, to the Land-Bridge crossing from China through Central Asia to Europe.

That evening, engineer Kamal Ali Mohamed, Minister of Irrigation and Water Resource, presented a paper on how the three nations sharing the Nile-Sudan, Ethiopia, and Egypthave developed a "Shared Vision Program" for development of the river. And, Professor Abdalla Ahmed Abdalla, former Minister of Agriculture, detailed the state of food production in Sudan, and the country's potential, not only to become self-sufficient, but to become a net food exporter.

The final session of the conference, "The Peace Process in Sudan," was chaired by Mogus T. Michael, vice president of the Ethiopian International Institute for Peace and Development. This panel included Amin Omer, editor-in-chief of Al-Abna daily newspaper; Dr. Tagelsir Mahgoub, Secretary General of the States Support Fund Round Table Discussion; Professor Ode Ojowu from the Centre for Development Studies at the University of Jos in Nigeria; and Helga Zepp LaRouche, founder of the Schiller Institute. Zepp LaRouche, quoting from Confucius and Nicolaus of Cusa, introduced the importance of having a policy based "on love," and on respect for the dignity of all people.