

Dear Compats,

The lovely Sunday-report was prepared by Julian. He sat with the laptop on his knees in the meetings, hour after hour, and faithfully reported what was said.

Thank you, Julian, for your work !

Now it is Monday, and it promises to be a beautiful sunny day for our walk through the forests to the beach today. At the end of the 3-hours or so walk, we will be picked up by van and brought back to the seminar center.

At the moment in the conference hall a workshop on "Consensus Decision Making" is going on, conducted by Megan. The topic of the day is "Being Together Here and Now". I must say a word about Megan -- it's the first time I see her "in action" like that, and I marvel at the efficiency, pointedness, concentration, and the mix of fun and seriousness she conveys by facilitating the sessions, and her ability to bring them back to focus when they threaten to spill over into chaos. In fact, the same goes for the rest of the main organizing team of AVI USA, who did and are doing a truly wonderful job in organizing this meeting, Nilauro, June, Chandresh, Julian, Bill, Kalpana, Taranti and others. Bill, Julian and Nilauro stand out in the way they facilitate communication and collaboration. Especially without Nilauro, who worked (and over-worked) for the past two months on his computer to bring this meeting to reality, it would not have been possible like that. One very important active member of AVI USA who did a lot of running around and in particular driving and organizing pick-ups from airport and transport in general. This is Constance - and I want to thank him here for all he's done in a totally dedicated spirit - not to mention that him and his wife Iris, who run a carpet cleaning business in Santa Cruz, are sharing their own small office with Nilauro, from where AVI USA is working right now without paying any rent. Nilauro is able to use their office equipment like printer and photocopier and others for AVI USA. Constance and Iris have lived in Auroville in the 70s for several years and are still very much Aurovilians in their hearts.

Yesterday in the context of the International Zone we talked about the qualities of nation-souls -- here is an example of the American soul -- to my feel it is communication and networking. They are just experts at it !! Also at organizing, it is marvellous, things can just flow into the well-prepared frame.

A little program preview: On Tuesday we'll have an AVI-day, with the center's reports and insider's discussions about what we, as AVIs, can do better and learn from each other, and how we interact with each other and reach out into the world. The discussions regarding AVI and the International Zone are of course on-going, and we hope to be able to formulate a common resolution about how to work with the International Zone and with Auroville, as that's an important aspect of the AVI-work for the next years. Friederike has volunteered to report to you about this day.

Wednesday will be our last day together, "Looking Forward" is the topic, with future directions, summarizing concrete outcomes of the meetings, sharing, and closing session.

But for now we're not yet closing, but look forward to either walk together, or visit the Monterey Aquarium, guided by Nilauro, who is well prepared for that task, as a studied marine biologist.

Please take a look at the AVI-2002 photos on the Auroville website:

[http://www.auroville.org/organisation/avi\\_2002/avi\\_2002.htm](http://www.auroville.org/organisation/avi_2002/avi_2002.htm)

and enjoy !

with Love from the Californian redwood forest,  
Tine