

## **MONETARY REFORM**

By Richard Duffee

Average life expectancy in Sub-Saharan Africa and in “low human development countries” is now only 46 years, 36 years shorter than the current maximum, in Japan. Essentially, the average person in a poor country is unnecessarily losing 44% of his or her life. The largest reasons for this are 1) that the rich countries, led in this by the US, have not kept their promises of aid; 2) voting in the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank is by amount of money invested, so the rich countries use those institutions to increase their own wealth by forcing currency devaluations; 3) the UN cannot affect the world economic institutions; 4) the US has a stranglehold on both the UN and the Bretton Woods Institutions, and uses it to keep poor countries in subservient positions and to extract as much wealth from them as possible. The net result is that the richest people on earth are feeding off the poorest.

I'm for abolishing the IMF and World Bank outright, replacing them with the International Credit Union Keynes and the Europeans originally wanted. I favor making population the largest factor in the voting systems of the World Trade Organization and Credit Union and giving the UN General Assembly some power over both.

Most importantly for the people our international economic system impoverishes, speculation in currency should be abolished and replaced by a system in which currency value is set by purchasing power parity.

I believe all economic policy should be based on the Law of Diminishing Returns because the human benefit derived from expenditures is inversely proportional to the log of the income level at which they are spent. Policies that do not take calculations from the Law into account are designed as if the purpose of economic policy were merely to increase numbers of things, not to improve human life. The intent to increase mere numbers of things or money, of course, is always just a cover for the intent to increase the profit of their owners.