The purpose of human life is to make the greatest possible use of the resources provided by the past in order to make the greatest possible contribution to the resources available to the future.

Therefore, what I've taken to be implied by the original call to be a human being—to make effective use of all means of ultimate transformation provided by the past in order to administer the same means to others in the future—is really only one aspect of this purpose, as fundamental and important as it surely is.

31 January 2004