Basing organization-building on the twelve qualities instead of working with political ideals compares to working with spirituality as compared to religions.

When we work with the twelve qualities we work from a base of unity, we are not trying to create it, the unity is already there.

The twelve Qualities are not goals to be reached, they are rather like the directions on the compass, North, South, East and West. You can go north, there is always a north beyond. And maybe - having the starting point in the center, from the soul, that will also be the ultimate reaching point, the atman, the unity.
For so long a time I was looking at how we work, always building with the past, and I thought that was how it must be. I thought that our aspiration would be the magic wand that eventually would transform and make something else of what we were building. Using our mind we try to fix things and be smart. Somehow, if we aspired, this would change by itself and one day it would magically be different.

On the 21st of February 2013, standing by the Matrimandir in the morning talking with Peter A, he said - “It worries me, when we have to collaborate with the outside about the development, how will we hold our own, we cannot play these political games well enough. And it was so clear - But we are not meant to play them - we will never be good at that - But if we use the twelve qualities - then we can hold our own, we will have the strength on our side, and people will come towards us, meet us with all the goodwill needed.

On the 28th February 2013, at the Bonfire there was an amazing sense of how all these people had come here for the ideals of Auroville. It did not matter at what stage of their personal development they were - They had come here drawn by the ideals of Auroville. Then I saw how we are building with the past, and how it re-creates the past - that is built in to the system. Its will is to re-create itself.

So we are trying to build the future but we are building with a material that strives backwards.... It is like driving a car with only the back gear. We can turn it around and back forwards - looking in the mirrors - it is not very safe, not very efficient. And though some people are good at it - our “politicians” - and can drive pretty fast, all they see is the little view in the mirror, they do not see the whole landscape with its many possibilities as well as possible dangers.

Now imagine that we put in our car a gear system, one which was especially made for our car, so there is no debating amongst us about which brand to choose.... - 12 gears, covering all possibilities of landscape and situations, fine tuned for all events and possibilities. It is true that at first we will not quite know how to use them. Some might be better
drivers than others. But surely, our vehicle will now drive forward at a better pace. And the joy of the smooth driving when it comes. A high gear on a fast lane, the smoothness of it. A low gear when going up a hill, the strength and stability it gives. Driving on ice, city driving, getting caught in a car queue...

When we work with the twelve qualities we work with The Mother's powers, with the qualities of manifestation of The Mother. This is working directly with her force to build the new world.

And the amazing thing is that here in Auroville, in Sri Aurobindo's yoga, on an individual level we work with these qualities all the time. There is not a day when we are not processing events in this light. And at the center of the city, surrounding its soul, they are placed there for us, for our work in reaching towards the Divine. "Concentration is when you open yourself to the Divine Force, mediation is when you reach towards the Divine, bring what you need to change."

We have fields and fields beyond to explore.
In the soul we are one
In the Psychic we play
In the ego we fight in division

We think the ego is a mystic entity, an evil which eludes our grasp. The ego is just a wall we built for protection, as we have grown strong it is no longer needed but its walls still stand. So we need to start breaking them. Or maybe not. Maybe we grow so large that they become a thin skin compared to our true being, vast as it potentially is... as it stretches and widens there is simply a point when there is more space than substance, and then it simply evaporates.

Mother/Sri Aurobindo explains Sri Aurobindo's symbol like this:

The descending triangle...
With Sat Chit Ananda - Truth Consciousness Bliss - the Divine reaches down towards us.
And the ascending triangle...

Through Life, Light and Love we reach towards the Divine.

Life: Life is in our material world – we are not leaving it behind, it must come along, be transformed. The world matters. The collective life matters, society building matters.

Light: In the peace is found the light, and the light shall bring you the knowledge.

Love: In the workshop from Jean Francoise Noubel in January 2013, he asked the participants to ponder deeply in mediation what they would want to communicate if they knew that tomorrow they would die. For the people I spoke with as for myself, it was love. As a young girl said; I would want to know about love, real love, not sex, not relations, Love, real Love.

There has been a long-standing concern about the fact that practically all our rules are fear-based. This means that we create fences for everybody – When actually at least 85% of people are OK following general guidelines and regulations which are put in place for everyone’s good. So instead of having these 85% of people moving happily through the landscape, we create fences which they have to spend time on walking around, sometimes really substantially so, wasting time and energy. The 15%, out of them the larger part simply need adjustment of the guidelines, which are working groups who actually have the mandate to make. The very last percents, who create real problems, usually know well how to climb fences, it so far does not keep them out.

Now, the issue is, can these twelve qualities help us in making guidelines which are not based on fear of the last percents, but are made to accommodate as well as possible and make smooth and easy for the 85 to 99%?

We might not always be successful to live this, but as a collectivity, we are certainly on our way.