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Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development

Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002

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Note

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Chapter I

Resolutions adopted by the Summit

Resolution 1*
Political Declaration

The World Summit on Sustainable Development,

Having met in Johannesburg, South Africa, from 26 August to 4 September 2002,

1. *Adopts* the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development, which is annexed to the present resolution;

2. *Recommends* to the General Assembly that it endorse the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development as adopted by the Summit.

Annex
Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development

From our origins to the future

1. We, the representatives of the peoples of the world, assembled at the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg, South Africa, from 2 to 4 September 2002, reaffirm our commitment to sustainable development.

2. We commit ourselves to building a humane, equitable and caring global society, cognizant of the need for human dignity for all.

3. At the beginning of this Summit, the children of the world spoke to us in a simple yet clear voice that the future belongs to them, and accordingly challenged all of us to ensure that through our actions they will inherit a world free of the indignity and indecency occasioned by poverty, environmental degradation and patterns of unsustainable development.

4. As part of our response to these children, who represent our collective future, all of us, coming from every corner of the world, informed by different life experiences, are united and moved by a deeply felt sense that we urgently need to create a new and brighter world of hope.

5. Accordingly, we assume a collective responsibility to advance and strengthen the interdependent and mutually reinforcing pillars of sustainable development — economic development, social development and environmental protection — at the local, national, regional and global levels.

6. From this continent, the cradle of humanity, we declare, through the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and the present Declaration, our responsibility to one another, to the greater community of life and to our children.

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* Adopted at the 17th plenary meeting, on 4 September 2002; for the discussion, see chap. VIII.

7. Recognizing that humankind is at a crossroads, we have united in a common resolve to make a determined effort to respond positively to the need to produce a practical and visible plan to bring about poverty eradication and human development.

From Stockholm to Rio de Janeiro to Johannesburg

8. Thirty years ago, in Stockholm, we agreed on the urgent need to respond to the problem of environmental deterioration.[1] Ten years ago, at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, held in Rio de Janeiro,[2] we agreed that the protection of the environment and social and economic development are fundamental to sustainable development, based on the Rio Principles. To achieve such development, we adopted the global programme entitled Agenda 21[3] and the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[3] to which we reaffirm our commitment. The Rio Conference was a significant milestone that set a new agenda for sustainable development.

9. Between Rio and Johannesburg, the world's nations have met in several major conferences under the auspices of the United Nations, including the International Conference on Financing for Development,[4] as well as the Doha Ministerial Conference.[5] These conferences defined for the world a comprehensive vision for the future of humanity.

10. At the Johannesburg Summit, we have achieved much in bringing together a rich tapestry of peoples and views in a constructive search for a common path towards a world that respects and implements the vision of sustainable development. The Johannesburg Summit has also confirmed that significant progress has been made towards achieving a global consensus and partnership among all the people of our planet.

The challenges we face

11. We recognize that poverty eradication, changing consumption and production patterns and protecting and managing the natural resource base for economic and social development are overarching objectives of and essential requirements for sustainable development.

12. The deep fault line that divides human society between the rich and the poor and the ever-increasing gap between the developed and developing worlds pose a major threat to global prosperity, security and stability.

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[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, Stockholm, 5-16 June 1972* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.73.II.A.14 and corrigendum), chap. I.

[2] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vols. I-III.

[3] Ibid., vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[4] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[5] See A/C.2/56/7, annex.

13. The global environment continues to suffer. Loss of biodiversity continues, fish stocks continue to be depleted, desertification claims more and more fertile land, the adverse effects of climate change are already evident, natural disasters are more frequent and more devastating, and developing countries more vulnerable, and air, water and marine pollution continue to rob millions of a decent life.

14. Globalization has added a new dimension to these challenges. The rapid integration of markets, mobility of capital and significant increases in investment flows around the world have opened new challenges and opportunities for the pursuit of sustainable development. But the benefits and costs of globalization are unevenly distributed, with developing countries facing special difficulties in meeting this challenge.

15. We risk the entrenchment of these global disparities and unless we act in a manner that fundamentally changes their lives the poor of the world may lose confidence in their representatives and the democratic systems to which we remain committed, seeing their representatives as nothing more than sounding brass or tinkling cymbals.

Our commitment to sustainable development

16. We are determined to ensure that our rich diversity, which is our collective strength, will be used for constructive partnership for change and for the achievement of the common goal of sustainable development.

17. Recognizing the importance of building human solidarity, we urge the promotion of dialogue and cooperation among the world's civilizations and peoples, irrespective of race, disabilities, religion, language, culture or tradition.

18. We welcome the focus of the Johannesburg Summit on the indivisibility of human dignity and are resolved, through decisions on targets, timetables and partnerships, to speedily increase access to such basic requirements as clean water, sanitation, adequate shelter, energy, health care, food security and the protection of biodiversity. At the same time, we will work together to help one another gain access to financial resources, benefit from the opening of markets, ensure capacity-building, use modern technology to bring about development and make sure that there is technology transfer, human resource development, education and training to banish underdevelopment forever.

19. We reaffirm our pledge to place particular focus on, and give priority attention to, the fight against the worldwide conditions that pose severe threats to the sustainable development of our people, which include: chronic hunger; malnutrition; foreign occupation; armed conflict; illicit drug problems; organized crime; corruption; natural disasters; illicit arms trafficking; trafficking in persons; terrorism; intolerance and incitement to racial, ethnic, religious and other hatreds; xenophobia; and endemic, communicable and chronic diseases, in particular HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis.

20. We are committed to ensuring that women's empowerment, emancipation and gender equality are integrated in all the activities encompassed within Agenda 21, the Millennium development goals[6] and the Plan of Implementation of the Summit.

21. We recognize the reality that global society has the means and is endowed with the resources to address the challenges of poverty eradication and sustainable development confronting all humanity. Together, we will take extra steps to ensure that these available resources are used to the benefit of humanity.

22. In this regard, to contribute to the achievement of our development goals and targets, we urge developed countries that have not done so to make concrete efforts reach the internationally agreed levels of official development assistance.

23. We welcome and support the emergence of stronger regional groupings and alliances, such as the New Partnership for Africa's Development, to promote regional cooperation, improved international cooperation and sustainable development.

24. We shall continue to pay special attention to the developmental needs of small island developing States and the least developed countries.

25. We reaffirm the vital role of the indigenous peoples in sustainable development.

26. We recognize that sustainable development requires a long-term perspective and broad-based participation in policy formulation, decision-making and implementation at all levels. As social partners, we will continue to work for stable partnerships with all major groups, respecting the independent, important roles of each of them.

27. We agree that in pursuit of its legitimate activities the private sector, including both large and small companies, has a duty to contribute to the evolution of equitable and sustainable communities and societies.

28. We also agree to provide assistance to increase income-generating employment opportunities, taking into account the Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work of the International Labour Organization.[7]

29. We agree that there is a need for private sector corporations to enforce corporate accountability, which should take place within a transparent and stable regulatory environment.

30. We undertake to strengthen and improve governance at all levels for the effective implementation of Agenda 21, the Millennium development goals and the Plan of Implementation of the Summit.

Multilateralism is the future

31. To achieve our goals of sustainable development, we need more effective, democratic and accountable international and multilateral institutions.

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[6] See General Assembly resolution 55/2.

[7] See *ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work and its Follow-up Adopted by the International Labour Conference at its Eighty-sixth Session, Geneva, 18 June 1998* (Geneva, International Labour Office, 1998).

32. We reaffirm our commitment to the principles and purposes of the Charter of the United Nations and international law, as well as to the strengthening of multilateralism. We support the leadership role of the United Nations as the most universal and representative organization in the world, which is best placed to promote sustainable development.

33. We further commit ourselves to monitor progress at regular intervals towards the achievement of our sustainable development goals and objectives.

Making it happen!

34. We are in agreement that this must be an inclusive process, involving all the major groups and Governments that participated in the historic Johannesburg Summit.

35. We commit ourselves to act together, united by a common determination to save our planet, promote human development and achieve universal prosperity and peace.

36. We commit ourselves to the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and to expediting the achievement of the time-bound, socio-economic and environmental targets contained therein.

37. From the African continent, the cradle of humankind, we solemnly pledge to the peoples of the world and the generations that will surely inherit this Earth that we are determined to ensure that our collective hope for sustainable development is realized.

Resolution 2*
Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development

The World Summit on Sustainable Development,

Having met in Johannesburg, South Africa, from 26 August to 4 September 2002,

1. *Adopts* the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, which is annexed to the present resolution;

2. *Recommends* to the General Assembly that it endorse the Plan of Implementation as adopted by the Summit.

* Adopted at the 17th plenary meeting, on 4 September 2002; for the discussion, see chap. IX.

Annex
Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development

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I. Introduction

1. The United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, held in Rio de Janeiro in 1992,[1] provided the fundamental principles and the programme of action for achieving sustainable development. We strongly reaffirm our commitment to the Rio principles,[2] the full implementation of Agenda 21[2] and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21[3]. We also commit ourselves to achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[4] and in the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and international agreements since 1992.

2. The present plan of implementation will further build on the achievements made since the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and expedite the realization of the remaining goals. To this end, we commit ourselves to undertaking concrete actions and measures at all levels and to enhancing international cooperation, taking into account the Rio principles, including the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities as set out in principle 7 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development.[5] These efforts will also promote the integration of the three components of sustainable development — economic development, social development and environmental protection — as interdependent and mutually reinforcing pillars. Poverty eradication, changing unsustainable patterns of production and consumption and protecting and managing the natural resource base of economic and social development are overarching objectives of, and essential requirements for, sustainable development.

3. We recognize that the implementation of the outcomes of the Summit should benefit all, particularly women, youth, children and vulnerable groups. Furthermore, the implementation should involve all relevant actors through partnerships, especially between Governments of the North and South, on the one hand, and between Governments and major groups, on the other, to achieve the widely shared goals of sustainable development. As reflected in the Monterrey Consensus,[6] such partnerships are key to pursuing sustainable development in a globalizing world.

4. Good governance within each country and at the international level is essential for sustainable development. At the domestic level, sound environmental, social and economic policies, democratic institutions responsive to the needs of the people, the rule of law, anti-corruption measures, gender equality and an enabling environment for investment are the basis for sustainable development. As a result of globalization, external factors have become critical in determining the success or failure of developing countries in their national efforts. The gap between developed and developing countries points to the continued need for a dynamic and enabling

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[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda).

[2] Ibid., vol. I: *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[3] General Assembly resolution S-19/2, annex.

[4] General Assembly resolution 55/2.

[5] Report of the *United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex I.

[6] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development , Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

international economic environment supportive of international cooperation, particularly in the areas of finance, technology transfer, debt and trade and full and effective participation of developing countries in global decision-making, if the momentum for global progress towards sustainable development is to be maintained and increased.

5. Peace, security, stability and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development, as well as respect for cultural diversity, are essential for achieving sustainable development and ensuring that sustainable development benefits all.

6. We acknowledge the importance of ethics for sustainable development and, therefore, emphasize the need to consider ethics in the implementation of Agenda 21.

II. Poverty eradication

7. Eradicating poverty is the greatest global challenge facing the world today and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, particularly for developing countries. Although each country has the primary responsibility for its own sustainable development and poverty eradication and the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized, concerted and concrete measures are required at all levels to enable developing countries to achieve their sustainable development goals as related to the internationally agreed poverty-related targets and goals, including those contained in Agenda 21, the relevant outcomes of other United Nations conferences and the United Nations Millennium Declaration. This would include actions at all levels to:

(a) Halve, by 2015, the proportion of the world's people whose income is less than 1 dollar a day and the proportion of people who suffer from hunger and, by the same date, to halve the proportion of people without access to safe drinking water;

(b) Establish a world solidarity fund to eradicate poverty and to promote social and human development in the developing countries pursuant to modalities to be determined by the General Assembly, while stressing the voluntary nature of the contributions and the need to avoid duplication of existing United Nations funds, and encouraging the role of the private sector and individual citizens relative to Governments in funding the endeavours;

(c) Develop national programmes for sustainable development and local and community development, where appropriate within country-owned poverty reduction strategies, to promote the empowerment of people living in poverty and their organizations. These programmes should reflect their priorities and enable them to increase access to productive resources, public services and institutions, in particular land, water, employment opportunities, credit, education and health;

(d) Promote women's equal access to and full participation in, on the basis of equality with men, decision-making at all levels, mainstreaming gender perspectives in all policies and strategies, eliminating all forms of violence and discrimination against women and improving the status, health and economic welfare of women and girls through full and equal access to economic opportunity, land, credit, education and health-care services;

(e) Develop policies and ways and means to improve access by indigenous people and their communities to economic activities and increase their employment through, where appropriate, measures such as training, technical assistance and credit facilities. Recognize that traditional and direct dependence on renewable resources and ecosystems, including sustainable harvesting, continues to be essential to the cultural, economic and physical well-being of indigenous people and their communities;

(f) Deliver basic health services for all and reduce environmental health threats, taking into account the special needs of children and the linkages between poverty, health and environment, with provision of financial resources, technical assistance and knowledge transfer to developing countries and countries with economies in transition;

(g) Ensure that children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling and will have equal access to all levels of education;

(h) Provide access to agricultural resources for people living in poverty, especially women and indigenous communities, and promote, as appropriate, land tenure arrangements that recognize and protect indigenous and common property resource management systems;

(i) Build basic rural infrastructure, diversify the economy and improve transportation and access to markets, market information and credit for the rural poor to support sustainable agriculture and rural development;

(j) Transfer basic sustainable agricultural techniques and knowledge, including natural resource management, to small and medium-scale farmers, fishers and the rural poor, especially in developing countries, including through multi-stakeholder approaches and public-private partnerships aimed at increasing agriculture production and food security;

(k) Increase food availability and affordability, including through harvest and food technology and management, as well as equitable and efficient distribution systems, by promoting, for example, community-based partnerships linking urban and rural people and enterprises;

(l) Combat desertification and mitigate the effects of drought and floods through measures such as improved use of climate and weather information and forecasts, early warning systems, land and natural resource management, agricultural practices and ecosystem conservation in order to reverse current trends and minimize degradation of land and water resources, including through the provision of adequate and predictable financial resources to implement the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa,[7] as one of the tools for poverty eradication;

(m) Increase access to sanitation to improve human health and reduce infant and child mortality, prioritizing water and sanitation in national sustainable development strategies and poverty reduction strategies where they exist.

8. The provision of clean drinking water and adequate sanitation is necessary to protect human health and the environment. In this respect, we agree to halve, by 2015, the proportion of people who are unable to reach or to afford safe drinking water (as outlined in the Millennium Declaration) and the proportion of people who do not have access to basic sanitation, which would include actions at all levels to:

(a) Develop and implement efficient household sanitation systems;

(b) Improve sanitation in public institutions, especially schools;

(c) Promote safe hygiene practices;

(d) Promote education and outreach focused on children, as agents of behavioural change;

[7] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

(e) Promote affordable and socially and culturally acceptable technologies and practices;

(f) Develop innovative financing and partnership mechanisms;

(g) Integrate sanitation into water resources management strategies.

* * *

9. *Take joint actions and improve efforts to work together at all levels to improve access to reliable and affordable energy services for sustainable development sufficient to facilitate the achievement of the Millennium development goals, including the goal of halving the proportion of people in poverty by 2015, and as a means to generate other important services that mitigate poverty, bearing in mind that access to energy facilitates the eradication of poverty. This would include actions at all levels to:*

(a) *Improve access to reliable, affordable, economically viable, socially acceptable and environmentally sound energy services and resources, taking into account national specificities and circumstances, through various means, such as enhanced rural electrification and decentralized energy systems, increased use of renewables, cleaner liquid and gaseous fuels and enhanced energy efficiency, by intensifying regional and international cooperation in support of national efforts, including through capacity-building, financial and technological assistance and innovative financing mechanisms, including at the micro- and meso- levels, recognizing the specific factors for providing access to the poor;*

(b) *Improve access to modern biomass technologies and fuelwood sources and supplies and commercialize biomass operations, including the use of agricultural residues, in rural areas and where such practices are sustainable;*

(c) *Promote a sustainable use of biomass and, as appropriate, other renewable energies through improvement of current patterns of use, such as management of resources, more efficient use of fuelwood and new or improved products and technologies;*

(d) *Support the transition to the cleaner use of liquid and gaseous fossil fuels, where considered more environmentally sound, socially acceptable and cost-effective;*

(e) *Develop national energy policies and regulatory frameworks that will help to create the necessary economic, social and institutional conditions in the energy sector to improve access to reliable, affordable, economically viable, socially acceptable and environmentally sound energy services for sustainable development and poverty eradication in rural, peri-urban and urban areas;*

(f) *Enhance international and regional cooperation to improve access to reliable, affordable, economically viable, socially acceptable and environmentally sound energy services, as an integral part of poverty reduction programmes, by facilitating the creation of enabling environments and addressing capacity-building needs, with special attention to rural and isolated areas, as appropriate;*

(g) *Assist and facilitate on an accelerated basis, with the financial and technical assistance of developed countries, including through public-private partnerships, the access of the poor to reliable, affordable, economically viable, socially acceptable and environmentally sound energy services, taking into account*

the instrumental role of developing national policies on energy for sustainable development, bearing in mind that in developing countries sharp increases in energy services are required to improve the standards of living of their populations and that energy services have positive impacts on poverty eradication and improve standards of living.

10. *Strengthen the contribution of industrial development to poverty eradication and sustainable natural resource management. This would include actions at all levels to:*

(a) *Provide assistance and mobilize resources to enhance industrial productivity and competitiveness as well as industrial development in developing countries, including the transfer of environmentally sound technologies on preferential terms, as mutually agreed;*

(b) *Provide assistance to increase income-generating employment opportunities, taking into account the Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work of the International Labour Organization;*[8]

(c) *Promote the development of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises, including by means of training, education and skill enhancement, with a special focus on agro-industry as a provider of livelihoods for rural communities;*

(d) *Provide financial and technological support, as appropriate, to rural communities of developing countries to enable them to benefit from safe and sustainable livelihood opportunities in small-scale mining ventures;*

(e) *Provide support to developing countries for the development of safe low-cost technologies that provide or conserve fuel for cooking and water heating;*

(f) *Provide support for natural resource management for creating sustainable livelihoods for the poor.*

11. *By 2020, achieve a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers, as proposed in the "Cities without slums" initiative. This would include actions at all levels to:*

(a) *Improve access to land and property, to adequate shelter and to basic services for the urban and rural poor, with special attention to female heads of household;*

(b) *Use low-cost and sustainable materials and appropriate technologies for the construction of adequate and secure housing for the poor, with financial and technological assistance to developing countries, taking into account their culture, climate, specific social conditions and vulnerability to natural disasters;*

(c) *Increase decent employment, credit and income for the urban poor, through appropriate national policies, promoting equal opportunities for women and men;*

(d) *Remove unnecessary regulatory and other obstacles for microenterprises and the informal sector;*

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[8] See *ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work and its Follow-up Adopted by the International Labour Conference at its Eighty-sixth Session, Geneva, 16 June 1998* (Geneva, International Labour Office, 1998).

(e) *Support local authorities in elaborating slum upgrading programmes within the framework of urban development plans and facilitate access, particularly for the poor, to information on housing legislation.*

12. *Take immediate and effective measures to eliminate the worst forms of child labour as defined in International Labour Organization Convention No. 182, and elaborate and implement strategies for the elimination of child labour that is contrary to accepted international standards.*

13. Promote international cooperation to assist developing countries, upon request, in addressing child labour and its root causes, inter alia, through social and economic policies aimed at poverty conditions, while stressing that labour standards should not be used for protectionist trade purposes.

* * *

III. Changing unsustainable patterns of consumption and production

14. Fundamental changes in the way societies produce and consume are indispensable for achieving global sustainable development. All countries should promote sustainable consumption and production patterns, with the developed countries taking the lead and with all countries benefiting from the process, taking into account the Rio principles, including, inter alia, the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities as set out in principle 7 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development. Governments, relevant international organizations, the private sector and all major groups should play an active role in changing unsustainable consumption and production patterns. This would include the actions at all levels set out below.

* * *

15. *Encourage and promote the development of a 10-year framework of programmes in support of regional and national initiatives to accelerate the shift towards sustainable consumption and production to promote social and economic development within the carrying capacity of ecosystems by addressing, where appropriate, delinking economic growth and environmental degradation through improving efficiency and sustainability in the use of resources and production processes and reducing resource degradation, pollution and waste. All countries should take action, with developed countries taking the lead, taking into account the development needs and capabilities of developing countries, through mobilization, from all sources, of financial and technical assistance and capacity-building for developing countries. This would require actions at all levels to:*

(a) *Identify specific activities, tools, policies, measures and monitoring and assessment mechanisms, including, where appropriate, life-cycle analysis and national indicators for measuring progress, bearing in mind that standards applied by some countries may be inappropriate and of unwarranted economic and social cost to other countries, in particular developing countries;*

(b) *Adopt and implement policies and measures aimed at promoting sustainable patterns of production and consumption, applying, inter alia, the polluter-pays principle described in principle 16 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development;*

(c) *Develop production and consumption policies to improve the products and services provided, while reducing environmental and health impacts, using, where appropriate, science-based approaches, such as life-cycle analysis;*

(d) *Develop awareness-raising programmes on the importance of sustainable production and consumption patterns, particularly among youth and the relevant segments in all countries, especially in developed countries, through, inter alia, education, public and consumer information, advertising and other media, taking into account local, national and regional cultural values;*

(e) *Develop and adopt, where appropriate, on a voluntary basis, effective, transparent, verifiable, non-misleading and non-discriminatory consumer information tools to provide information relating to sustainable consumption and production, including human health and safety aspects. These tools should not be used as disguised trade barriers;*

(f) *Increase eco-efficiency, with financial support from all sources, where mutually agreed, for capacity-building, technology transfer and exchange of technology with developing countries and countries with economies in transition, in cooperation with relevant international organizations.*

16. *Increase investment in cleaner production and eco-efficiency in all countries through, inter alia, incentives and support schemes and policies directed at establishing appropriate regulatory, financial and legal frameworks. This would include actions at all levels to:*

(a) *Establish and support cleaner production programmes and centres and more efficient production methods by providing, inter alia, incentives and capacity-building to assist enterprises, especially small and medium-sized enterprises, particularly in developing countries, in improving productivity and sustainable development;*

(b) *Provide incentives for investment in cleaner production and eco-efficiency in all countries, such as state-financed loans, venture capital, technical assistance and training programmes for small and medium-sized companies while avoiding trade-distorting measures inconsistent with the rules of the World Trade Organization;*

(c) *Collect and disseminate information on cost-effective examples in cleaner production, eco-efficiency and environmental management and promote the exchange of best practices and know-how on environmentally sound technologies between public and private institutions;*

(d) *Provide training programmes to small and medium-sized enterprises on the use of information and communication technologies.*

17. *Integrate the issue of production and consumption patterns into sustainable development policies, programmes and strategies, including, where applicable, into poverty reduction strategies.*

18. *Enhance corporate environmental and social responsibility and accountability. This would include actions at all levels to:*

(a) *Encourage industry to improve social and environmental performance through voluntary initiatives, including environmental management systems, codes of conduct, certification and public reporting on environmental and social issues, taking into account such initiatives as the International Organization for Standardization standards and Global Reporting Initiative guidelines on sustainability reporting, bearing in mind principle 11 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development;*

(b) *Encourage dialogue between enterprises and the communities in which they operate and other stakeholders;*

(c) *Encourage financial institutions to incorporate sustainable development considerations into their decision-making processes;*

(d) *Develop workplace-based partnerships and programmes, including training and education programmes.*

19. *Encourage relevant authorities at all levels to take sustainable development considerations into account in decision-making, including on national and local*

development planning, investment in infrastructure, business development and public procurement. This would include actions at all levels to:

(a) *Provide support for the development of sustainable development strategies and programmes, including in decision-making on investment in infrastructure and business development;*

(b) *Continue to promote the internalization of environmental costs and the use of economic instruments, taking into account the approach that the polluter should, in principle, bear the costs of pollution, with due regard to the public interest and without distorting international trade and investment;*

(c) *Promote public procurement policies that encourage development and diffusion of environmentally sound goods and services;*

(d) *Provide capacity-building and training to assist relevant authorities with regard to the implementation of the initiatives listed in the present paragraph;*

(e) *Use environmental impact assessment procedures.*

20. *Call upon Governments as well as relevant regional and international organizations and other relevant stakeholders to implement, taking into account national and regional specificities and circumstances, the recommendations and conclusions adopted by the Commission on Sustainable Development concerning energy for sustainable development at its ninth session, including the issues and options set out below, bearing in mind that in view of the different contributions to global environmental degradation, States have common but differentiated responsibilities. This would include actions at all levels to:*

(a) *Take further action to mobilize the provision of financial resources, technology transfer, capacity-building and the diffusion of environmentally sound technologies according to the recommendations and conclusions of the Commission on Sustainable Development, as contained in section A, paragraph 3, and section D, paragraph 30, of its decision 9/1*[9] *on energy for sustainable development;*

(b) *Integrate energy considerations, including energy efficiency, affordability and accessibility, into socio-economic programmes, especially into policies of major energy-consuming sectors, and into the planning, operation and maintenance of long-lived energy consuming infrastructures, such as the public sector, transport, industry, agriculture, urban land use, tourism and construction sectors;*

(c) *Develop and disseminate alternative energy technologies with the aim of giving a greater share of the energy mix to renewable energies, improving energy efficiency and greater reliance on advanced energy technologies, including cleaner fossil fuel technologies;*

(d) *Combine, as appropriate, the increased use of renewable energy resources, more efficient use of energy, greater reliance on advanced energy technologies, including advanced and cleaner fossil fuel technologies, and the sustainable use of traditional energy resources, which could meet the growing need for energy services in the longer term to achieve sustainable development;*

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[9] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2001, Supplement No. 9* (E/2001/29), chap. I.B.

(e) *Diversify energy supply by developing advanced, cleaner, more efficient, affordable and cost-effective energy technologies, including fossil fuel technologies and renewable energy technologies, hydro included, and their transfer to developing countries on concessional terms as mutually agreed. With a sense of urgency, substantially increase the global share of renewable energy sources with the objective of increasing its contribution to total energy supply, recognizing the role of national and voluntary regional targets as well as initiatives, where they exist, and ensuring that energy policies are supportive to developing countries' efforts to eradicate poverty, and regularly evaluate available data to review progress to this end;*

(f) *Support efforts, including through provision of financial and technical assistance to developing countries, with the involvement of the private sector, to reduce flaring and venting of gas associated with crude oil production;*

(g) *Develop and utilize indigenous energy sources and infrastructures for various local uses and promote rural community participation, including local Agenda 21 groups, with the support of the international community, in developing and utilizing renewable energy technologies to meet their daily energy needs to find simple and local solutions;*

(h) *Establish domestic programmes for energy efficiency, including, as appropriate, by accelerating the deployment of energy efficiency technologies, with the necessary support of the international community;*

(i) *Accelerate the development, dissemination and deployment of affordable and cleaner energy efficiency and energy conservation technologies, as well as the transfer of such technologies, in particular to developing countries, on favourable terms, including on concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed;*

(j) *Recommend that international financial institutions and other agencies' policies support developing countries, as well as countries with economies in transition, in their own efforts to establish policy and regulatory frameworks which create a level playing field between the following: renewable energy, energy efficiency, advanced energy technologies, including advanced and cleaner fossil fuel technologies, and centralized, distributed and decentralized energy systems;*

(k) *Promote increased research and development in the field of various energy technologies, including renewable energy, energy efficiency and advanced energy technologies, including advanced and cleaner fossil fuel technologies, both nationally and through international collaboration, strengthen national and regional research and development institutions/centres on reliable, affordable, economically viable, socially acceptable and environmentally sound energy for sustainable development;*

(l) *Promote networking between centres of excellence on energy for sustainable development, including regional networks, by linking competent centres on energy technologies for sustainable development that could support and promote efforts at capacity-building and technology transfer activities, particularly of developing countries, as well as serve as information clearing houses;*

(m) *Promote education to provide information for both men and women about available energy sources and technologies;*

(n) *Utilize financial instruments and mechanisms, in particular the Global Environment Facility, within its mandate, to provide financial resources to developing countries, in particular least developed countries and small island developing States, to meet their capacity needs for training, technical know-how and strengthening national institutions in reliable, affordable, economically viable, socially acceptable and environmentally sound energy, including promoting energy efficiency and conservation, renewable energy and advanced energy technologies, including advanced and cleaner fossil fuel technologies;*

(o) *Support efforts to improve the functioning, transparency and information about energy markets with respect to both supply and demand, with the aim of achieving greater stability and predictability, and to ensure consumer access to reliable, affordable, economically viable, socially acceptable and environmentally sound energy services;*

(p) *Promote policies to reduce market distortions would promote energy systems compatible with sustainable development through the use of improved market signals and by removing market distortions, including restructuring taxation and phasing out harmful subsidies, where they exist, to reflect their environmental impacts, with such policies taking fully into account the specific needs and conditions of developing countries, with the aim of minimizing the possible adverse impacts on their development;*

(q) *Take action, where appropriate, to phase out subsidies in this area that inhibit sustainable development, taking fully into account the specific conditions and different levels of development of individual countries and considering their adverse effect, particularly on developing countries;*

(r) *Governments are encouraged to improve the functioning of national energy markets in such a way that they support sustainable development, overcome market barriers and improve accessibility, taking fully into account that such policies should be decided by each country, and that its own characteristics and capabilities and level of development should be considered, especially as reflected in national sustainable development strategies, where they exist;*

(s) *Strengthen national and regional energy institutions or arrangements for enhancing regional and international cooperation on energy for sustainable development, in particular to assist developing countries in their domestic efforts to provide reliable, affordable, economically viable, socially acceptable and environmentally sound energy services to all sections of their populations;*

(t) *Countries are urged to develop and implement actions within the framework of the ninth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development, including through public-private partnerships, taking into account the different circumstances of countries, based on lessons learned by Governments, international institutions and stakeholders, including business and industry, in the field of access to energy, including renewable energy and energy-efficiency and advanced energy technologies, including advanced and cleaner fossil fuel technologies;*

(u) *Promote cooperation between international and regional institutions and bodies dealing with different aspects of energy for sustainable development within their existing mandate, bearing in mind paragraph 46 (h) of the Programme of Action for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, strengthening, as appropriate,*

regional and national activities for the promotion of education and capacity-building regarding energy for sustainable development;

(v) *Strengthen and facilitate, as appropriate, regional cooperation arrangements for promoting cross-border energy trade, including the interconnection of electricity grids and oil and natural gas pipelines;*

(w) *Strengthen and, where appropriate, facilitate dialogue forums among regional, national and international producers and consumers of energy.*

21. *Promote an integrated approach to policy-making at the national, regional and local levels for transport services and systems to promote sustainable development, including policies and planning for land use, infrastructure, public transport systems and goods delivery networks, with a view to providing safe, affordable and efficient transportation, increasing energy efficiency, reducing pollution, congestion, and adverse health effects and limiting urban sprawl, taking into account national priorities and circumstances. This would include actions at all levels to:*

(a) *Implement transport strategies for sustainable development, reflecting specific regional, national and local conditions, to improve the affordability, efficiency and convenience of transportation as well as urban air quality and health and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, including through the development of better vehicle technologies that are more environmentally sound, affordable and socially acceptable;*

(b) *Promote investment and partnerships for the development of sustainable, energy efficient multi-modal transportation systems, including public mass transportation systems and better transportation systems in rural areas, with technical and financial assistance for developing countries and countries with economies in transition.*

22. *Prevent and minimize waste and maximize reuse, recycling and use of environmentally friendly alternative materials, with the participation of government authorities and all stakeholders, in order to minimize adverse effects on the environment and improve resource efficiency, with financial, technical and other assistance for developing countries. This would include actions at all levels to:*

(a) *Develop waste management systems, with the highest priority placed on waste prevention and minimization, reuse and recycling, and environmentally sound disposal facilities, including technology to recapture the energy contained in waste, and encourage small-scale waste-recycling initiatives that support urban and rural waste management and provide income-generating opportunities, with international support for developing countries;*

(b) *Promote waste prevention and minimization by encouraging production of reusable consumer goods and biodegradable products and developing the infrastructure required.*

23. *Renew the commitment, as advanced in Agenda 21, to sound management of chemicals throughout their life cycle and of hazardous wastes for sustainable development as well as for the protection of human health and the environment, inter alia, aiming to achieve, by 2020, the use and production of chemicals in ways that lead to the minimization of significant adverse effects on human health and the environment, using transparent science-based risk assessment procedures and*

science-based risk management procedures, taking into account the precautionary approach, as set out in principle 15 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, and support developing countries in strengthening their capacity for the sound management of chemicals and hazardous wastes by providing technical and financial assistance. This would include actions at all levels to:

(a) *Promote the ratification and implementation of relevant international instruments on chemicals and hazardous waste, including the Rotterdam Convention on Prior Informed Consent Procedures for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade*[10] *so that it can enter into force by 2003 and the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants*[11] *so that it can enter into force by 2004, and encourage and improve coordination as well as supporting developing countries in their implementation;*

(b) *Further develop a strategic approach to international chemicals management based on the Bahia Declaration and Priorities for Action beyond 2000 of the Intergovernmental Forum on Chemical Safety*[12] *by 2005, and urge that the United Nations Environment Programme, the Intergovernmental Forum, other international organizations dealing with chemical management and other relevant international organizations and actors closely cooperate in this regard, as appropriate;*

(c) *Encourage countries to implement the new globally harmonized system for the classification and labelling of chemicals as soon as possible with a view to having the system fully operational by 2008;*

(d) *Encourage partnerships to promote activities aimed at enhancing environmentally sound management of chemicals and hazardous wastes, implementing multilateral environmental agreements, raising awareness of issues relating to chemicals and hazardous waste and encouraging the collection and use of additional scientific data;*

(e) *Promote efforts to prevent international illegal trafficking of hazardous chemicals and hazardous wastes and to prevent damage resulting from the transboundary movement and disposal of hazardous wastes in a manner consistent with obligations under relevant international instruments, such as the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal;*[13]

(f) *Encourage development of coherent and integrated information on chemicals, such as through national pollutant release and transfer registers;*

(g) *Promote reduction of the risks posed by heavy metals that are harmful to human health and the environment, including through a review of relevant studies, such as the United Nations Environment Programme global assessment of mercury and its compounds.*

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[10] UNEP/FAO/PIC/CONF.5, annex III.

[11] www.chem.unep.ch/sc.

[12] Intergovernmental Forum on Chemical Safety, third session, Forum III final report (IFCS/Forum III/23w), annex 6.

[13] United Nations *Treaty Series*, vol. 1673, No. 28911.

IV. Protecting and managing the natural resource base of economic and social development

24. Human activities are having an increasing impact on the integrity of ecosystems that provide essential resources and services for human well-being and economic activities. Managing the natural resources base in a sustainable and integrated manner is essential for sustainable development. In this regard, to reverse the current trend in natural resource degradation as soon as possible, it is necessary to implement strategies that should include targets adopted at the national and, where appropriate, regional levels to protect ecosystems and to achieve integrated management of land, water and living resources, while strengthening regional, national and local capacities. This would include the actions at all levels set out below.

* * *

25. *Launch programmes of action, with financial and technical assistance, to achieve the Millennium development goal on safe drinking water. In this respect, we agree to halve, by 2015, the proportion of people who are unable to reach or to afford safe drinking water, as outlined in the Millennium Declaration, and the proportion of people without access to basic sanitation, which would include actions at all levels to:*

(a) *Mobilize international and domestic financial resources at all levels, transfer technology, promote best practice and support capacity-building for water and sanitation infrastructure and services development, ensuring that such infrastructure and services meet the needs of the poor and are gender-sensitive;*

(b) *Facilitate access to public information and participation, including by women, at all levels in support of policy and decision-making related to water resources management and project implementation;*

(c) *Promote priority action by Governments, with the support of all stakeholders, in water management and capacity-building at the national level and, where appropriate, at the regional level, and promote and provide new and additional financial resources and innovative technologies to implement chapter 18 of Agenda 21;*

(d) *Intensify water pollution prevention to reduce health hazards and protect ecosystems by introducing technologies for affordable sanitation and industrial and domestic wastewater treatment, by mitigating the effects of groundwater contamination and by establishing, at the national level, monitoring systems and effective legal frameworks;*

(e) *Adopt prevention and protection measures to promote sustainable water use and to address water shortages.*

26. *Develop integrated water resources management and water efficiency plans by 2005, with support to developing countries, through actions at all levels to:*

(a) *Develop and implement national/regional strategies, plans and programmes with regard to integrated river basin, watershed and groundwater management and introduce measures to improve the efficiency of water infrastructure to reduce losses and increase recycling of water;*

(b) *Employ the full range of policy instruments, including regulation, monitoring, voluntary measures, market and information-based tools, land-use management and cost recovery of water services, without cost recovery objectives becoming a barrier to access to safe water by poor people, and adopt an integrated water basin approach;*

(c) *Improve the efficient use of water resources and promote their allocation among competing uses in a way that gives priority to the satisfaction of basic human needs and balances the requirement of preserving or restoring ecosystems and their functions, in particular in fragile environments, with human domestic, industrial and agriculture needs, including safeguarding drinking water quality;*

(d) *Develop programmes for mitigating the effects of extreme water-related events;*

(e) *Support the diffusion of technology and capacity-building for non-conventional water resources and conservation technologies, to developing countries and regions facing water scarcity conditions or subject to drought and desertification, through technical and financial support and capacity-building;*

(f) *Support, where appropriate, efforts and programmes for energy-efficient, sustainable and cost-effective desalination of seawater, water recycling and water harvesting from coastal fogs in developing countries, through such measures as technological, technical and financial assistance and other modalities;*

(g) *Facilitate the establishment of public-private partnerships and other forms of partnership that give priority to the needs of the poor, within stable and transparent national regulatory frameworks provided by Governments, while respecting local conditions, involving all concerned stakeholders, and monitoring the performance and improving accountability of public institutions and private companies.*

27. *Support developing countries and countries with economies in transition in their efforts to monitor and assess the quantity and quality of water resources, including through the establishment and/or further development of national monitoring networks and water resources databases and the development of relevant national indicators.*

28. *Improve water resource management and scientific understanding of the water cycle through cooperation in joint observation and research, and for this purpose encourage and promote knowledge-sharing and provide capacity-building and the transfer of technology, as mutually agreed, including remote-sensing and satellite technologies, particularly to developing countries and countries with economies in transition.*

29. *Promote effective coordination among the various international and intergovernmental bodies and processes working on water-related issues, both within the United Nations system and between the United Nations and international financial institutions, drawing on the contributions of other international institutions and civil society to inform intergovernmental decision-making; closer coordination should also be promoted to elaborate and support proposals and undertake activities related to the International Year of Freshwater, 2003 and beyond.*

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30. Oceans, seas, islands and coastal areas form an integrated and essential component of the Earth's ecosystem and are critical for global food security and for sustaining economic prosperity and the well-being of many national economies, particularly in developing countries. Ensuring the sustainable development of the oceans requires effective coordination and cooperation, including at the global and regional levels, between relevant bodies, and actions at all levels to:

(a) Invite States to ratify or accede to and implement the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 1982,[14]which provides the overall legal framework for ocean activities;

(b) Promote the implementation of chapter 17 of Agenda 21, which provides the programme of action for achieving the sustainable development of oceans, coastal areas and seas through its programme areas of integrated management and sustainable development of coastal areas, including exclusive economic zones; marine environmental protection; sustainable use and conservation of marine living resources; addressing critical uncertainties for the management of the marine environment and climate change; strengthening international, including regional, cooperation and coordination; and sustainable development of small islands;

(c) Establish an effective, transparent and regular inter-agency coordination mechanism on ocean and coastal issues within the United Nations system;

(d) Encourage the application by 2010 of the ecosystem approach, noting the Reykjavik Declaration on Responsible Fisheries in the Marine Ecosystem[15] and decision V/6 of the Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity;[16]

(e) Promote integrated, multidisciplinary and multisectoral coastal and ocean management at the national level and encourage and assist coastal States in developing ocean policies and mechanisms on integrated coastal management;

(f) Strengthen regional cooperation and coordination between the relevant regional organizations and programmes, the regional seas programmes of the United Nations Environment Programme, regional fisheries management organizations and other regional science, health and development organizations;

(g) Assist developing countries in coordinating policies and programmes at the regional and subregional levels aimed at the conservation and sustainable management of fishery resources and implement integrated coastal area management plans, including through the promotion of sustainable coastal and small-scale fishing activities and, where appropriate, the development of related infrastructure;

(h) Take note of the work of the open-ended informal consultative process established by the United Nations General Assembly in its resolution 54/33 in order to facilitate the annual review by the Assembly of developments in ocean affairs and the upcoming review of its effectiveness and utility to be held at its fifty-seventh session under the terms of the above-mentioned resolution.

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[14] *Official Records of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea*, vol. XVII (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.84.V.3), document A/CONF.62/122.

[15] See Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations document C200/INF/25, appendix I.

[16] See UNEP/CBD/COP/5/23, annex III.

31. To achieve sustainable fisheries, the following actions are required at all levels:

(a) Maintain or restore stocks to levels that can produce the maximum sustainable yield with the aim of achieving these goals for depleted stocks on an urgent basis and where possible not later than 2015;

(b) Ratify or accede to and effectively implement the relevant United Nations and, where appropriate, associated regional fisheries agreements or arrangements, noting in particular the Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks[17] and the 1993 Agreement to Promote Compliance with International Conservation and Management Measures by Fishing Vessels on the High Seas;[18]

(c) Implement the 1995 Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries,[19] taking note of the special requirements of developing countries as noted in its article 5, and the relevant international plans of action and technical guidelines of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

(d) Urgently develop and implement national and, where appropriate, regional plans of action, to put into effect the international plans of action of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, in particular the International Plan of Action for the Management of Fishing Capacity[20] by 2005 and the International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing[21] by 2004. Establish effective monitoring, reporting and enforcement, and control of fishing vessels, including by flag States, to further the international plan of action to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing;

(e) Encourage relevant regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to give due consideration to the rights, duties and interests of coastal States and the special requirements of developing States when addressing the issue of the allocation of share of fishery resources for straddling stocks and highly migratory fish stocks, mindful of the provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and the Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks, on the high seas and within exclusive economic zones;

(f) Eliminate subsidies that contribute to illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and to over-capacity, while completing the efforts undertaken at the World

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[17] See *International Fisheries Instruments* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.98.V.11), sect. I; see also A/CONF.164/37.

[18] Ibid.

[19] Ibid., sect. III.

[20] *International Plan of Action for Reducing Incidental Catch of Seabirds in Longline Fisheries: International Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks: International Plan of Action for the Management of Fishing Capacity* (Rome, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, 1999).

[21] See *Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations Technical Guidelines for Responsible Fisheries, No. 9*, appendix I.

Trade Organization to clarify and improve its disciplines on fisheries subsidies, taking into account the importance of this sector to developing countries;

(g) Strengthen donor coordination and partnerships between international financial institutions, bilateral agencies and other relevant stakeholders to enable developing countries, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States and countries with economies in transition, to develop their national, regional and subregional capacities for infrastructure and integrated management and the sustainable use of fisheries;

(h) Support the sustainable development of aquaculture, including small-scale aquaculture, given its growing importance for food security and economic development.

32. In accordance with chapter 17 of Agenda 21, promote the conservation and management of the oceans through actions at all levels, giving due regard to the relevant international instruments to:

(a) Maintain the productivity and biodiversity of important and vulnerable marine and coastal areas, including in areas within and beyond national jurisdiction;

(b) Implement the work programme arising from the Jakarta Mandate on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine and Coastal Biological Diversity of the Convention on Biological Diversity,[22] including through the urgent mobilization of financial resources and technological assistance and the development of human and institutional capacity, particularly in developing countries;

(c) Develop and facilitate the use of diverse approaches and tools, including the ecosystem approach, the elimination of destructive fishing practices, the establishment of marine protected areas consistent with international law and based on scientific information, including representative networks, by 2012 and time/area closures for the protection of nursery grounds and periods, proper coastal land use and watershed planning and the integration of marine and coastal areas management into key sectors;

(d) Develop national, regional and international programmes for halting the loss of marine biodiversity, including in coral reefs and wetlands;

(e) Implement the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance Especially as Waterfowl Habitat,[23] including its joint work programme with the Convention on Biological Diversity,[24] and the programme of action called for by the International Coral Reef Initiative to strengthen joint management plans and international networking for wetland ecosystems in coastal zones, including coral reefs, mangroves, seaweed beds and tidal mud flats.

* * *

33. *Advance implementation of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities*[25] *and the Montreal Declaration on the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based*

[22] See A/51/312, annex II, decision II/10.

[23] United Nations *Treaty Series,* vol. 996, No.14583.

[24] See United Nations Environment Programme, Convention on Biological Diversity (Environmental Law and Institution Programme Activity Centre), June 1992.

[25] A/51/116, annex II.

Activities,[26] *with particular emphasis during the period from 2002 to 2006 on municipal wastewater, the physical alteration and destruction of habitats and nutrients, by actions at all levels to:*

(a) *Facilitate partnerships, scientific research and diffusion of technical knowledge; mobilize domestic, regional and international resources; and promote human and institutional capacity-building, paying particular attention to the needs of developing countries;*

(b) *Strengthen the capacity of developing countries in the development of their national and regional programmes and mechanisms to mainstream the objectives of the Global Programme of Action and to manage the risks and impacts of ocean pollution;*

(c) *Elaborate regional programmes of action and improve the links with strategic plans for the sustainable development of coastal and marine resources, noting in particular areas that are subject to accelerated environmental changes and development pressures;*

(d) *Make every effort to achieve substantial progress by the next Global Programme of Action conference in 2006 to protect the marine environment from land-based activities.*

34. *Enhance maritime safety and protection of the marine environment from pollution by actions at all levels to:*

(a) *Invite States to ratify or accede to and implement the conventions and protocols and other relevant instruments of the International Maritime Organization relating to the enhancement of maritime safety and protection of the marine environment from marine pollution and environmental damage caused by ships, including the use of toxic anti-fouling paints, and urge the International Maritime Organization to consider stronger mechanisms to secure the implementation of its instruments by flag States;*

(b) *Accelerate the development of measures to address invasive alien species in ballast water and urge the International Maritime Organization to finalize its draft International Convention on the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments.*

35. *Governments, taking into account their national circumstances, are encouraged, recalling paragraph 8 of resolution GC (44)/RES/17 of the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency, and taking into account the very serious potential for environment and human health impacts of radioactive wastes, to make efforts to examine and further improve measures and internationally agreed regulations regarding safety, while stressing the importance of having effective liability mechanisms in place, relevant to international maritime transportation and other transboundary movement of radioactive material, radioactive waste and spent fuel, including, arrangements for prior notification and consultations done in accordance with relevant international instruments.*

36. *Improve the scientific understanding and assessment of marine and coastal ecosystems as a fundamental basis for sound decision-making, through actions at all levels to:*

[26] See E/CN.17/2002/PC.2/15.

(a) *Increase scientific and technical collaboration, including integrated assessment at the global and regional levels, including the appropriate transfer of marine science and marine technologies and techniques for the conservation and management of living and non-living marine resources and expanding ocean-observing capabilities for the timely prediction and assessment of the state of marine environment;*

(b) *Establish by 2004 a regular process under the United Nations for global reporting and assessment of the state of the marine environment, including socio-economic aspects, both current and foreseeable, building on existing regional assessments;*

(c) *Build capacity in marine science, information and management, through, inter alia, promoting the use of environmental impact assessments and environmental evaluation and reporting techniques, for projects or activities that are potentially harmful to the coastal and marine environments and their living and non-living resources;*

(d) *Strengthen the ability of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and other relevant international and regional and subregional organizations to build national and local capacity in marine science and the sustainable management of oceans and their resources.*

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37. An integrated, multi-hazard, inclusive approach to address vulnerability, risk assessment and disaster management, including prevention, mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery, is an essential element of a safer world in the twenty-first century. Actions are required at all levels to:

(a) Strengthen the role of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction and encourage the international community to provide the necessary financial resources to its Trust Fund;

(b) Support the establishment of effective regional, subregional and national strategies and scientific and technical institutional support for disaster management;

(c) Strengthen the institutional capacities of countries and promote international joint observation and research, through improved surface-based monitoring and increased use of satellite data, dissemination of technical and scientific knowledge, and the provision of assistance to vulnerable countries;

(d) Reduce the risks of flooding and drought in vulnerable countries by, inter alia, promoting wetland and watershed protection and restoration, improved land-use planning, improving and applying more widely techniques and methodologies for assessing the potential adverse effects of climate change on wetlands and, as appropriate, assisting countries that are particularly vulnerable to those effects;

(e) Improve techniques and methodologies for assessing the effects of climate change, and encourage the continuing assessment of those adverse effects by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change;

(f) Encourage the dissemination and use of traditional and indigenous knowledge to mitigate the impact of disasters and promote community-based

disaster management planning by local authorities, including through training activities and raising public awareness;

(g) Support the ongoing voluntary contribution of, as appropriate, non-governmental organizations, the scientific community and other partners in the management of natural disasters according to agreed, relevant guidelines;

(h) Develop and strengthen early warning systems and information networks in disaster management, consistent with the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction;

(i) Develop and strengthen capacity at all levels to collect and disseminate scientific and technical information, including the improvement of early warning systems for predicting extreme weather events, especially El Niño/La Niña, through the provision of assistance to institutions devoted to addressing such events, including the International Centre for the Study of the El Niño phenomenon;

(j) Promote cooperation for the prevention and mitigation of, preparedness for, response to and recovery from major technological and other disasters with an adverse impact on the environment in order to enhance the capabilities of affected countries to cope with such situations.

38. Change in the Earth's climate and its adverse effects are a common concern of humankind. We remain deeply concerned that all countries, particularly developing countries, including the least developed countries and small island developing States, face increased risks of negative impacts of climate change and recognize that, in this context, the problems of poverty, land degradation, access to water and food and human health remain at the centre of global attention. The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[27] is the key instrument for addressing climate change, a global concern, and we reaffirm our commitment to achieving its ultimate objective of stabilization of greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system, within a time frame sufficient to allow ecosystems to adapt naturally to climate change, to ensure that food production is not threatened and to enable economic development to proceed in a sustainable manner, in accordance with our common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities. Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration, in which heads of State and Government resolved to make every effort to ensure the entry into force of the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[28] preferably by the tenth anniversary of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in 2002, and to embark on the required reduction of emissions of greenhouse gases, States that have ratified the Kyoto Protocol strongly urge States that have not already done so to ratify it in a timely manner. Actions at all levels are required to:

(a) Meet all the commitments and obligations under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change;

(b) Work cooperatively towards achieving the objectives of the Convention;

[27] A/AC.237/18 (Part II)/Add.1 and Corr.1, annex I.
[28] FCCC/CP/1997/7/Add.1, decision 1/CP.3, annex.

(c) Provide technical and financial assistance and capacity-building to developing countries and countries with economies in transition in accordance with commitments under the Convention, including the Marrakesh Accords;[29]

(d) Build and enhance scientific and technological capabilities, inter alia, through continuing support to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change for the exchange of scientific data and information especially in developing countries;

(e) Develop and transfer technological solutions;

(f) Develop and disseminate innovative technologies in regard to key sectors of development, particularly energy, and of investment in this regard, including through private sector involvement, market-oriented approaches, and supportive public policies and international cooperation;

(g) Promote the systematic observation of the Earth's atmosphere, land and oceans by improving monitoring stations, increasing the use of satellites and appropriate integration of these observations to produce high-quality data that could be disseminated for the use of all countries, in particular developing countries;

(h) Enhance the implementation of national, regional and international strategies to monitor the Earth's atmosphere, land and oceans, including, as appropriate, strategies for integrated global observations, inter alia, with the cooperation of relevant international organizations, especially the specialized agencies, in cooperation with the Convention;

(i) Support initiatives to assess the consequences of climate change, such as the Arctic Council initiative, including the environmental, economic and social impacts on local and indigenous communities.

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39. *Enhance cooperation at the international, regional and national levels to reduce air pollution, including transboundary air pollution, acid deposition and ozone depletion, bearing in mind the Rio principles, including the principle that, in view of the different contributions to global environmental degradation, States have common but differentiated responsibilities, with actions at all levels to:*

(a) *Strengthen capacities of developing countries and countries with economies in transition to measure, reduce and assess the impacts of air pollution, including health impacts, and provide financial and technical support for these activities;*

(b) *Facilitate implementation of the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer by ensuring adequate replenishment of its fund by 2005;*

(c) *Further support the effective regime for the protection of the ozone layer established in the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer and the Montreal Protocol, including its compliance mechanism;*

(d) *Improve access by developing countries to affordable, accessible, cost-effective, safe and environmentally sound alternatives to ozone-depleting substances by 2010, and assist them in complying with the phase-out schedule under the*

[29] FCCC/CP/2001/13 and Add.1-4.

Montreal Protocol, bearing in mind that ozone depletion and climate change are scientifically and technically interrelated;

(e) *Take measures to address illegal traffic in ozone-depleting substances.*

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40. Agriculture plays a crucial role in addressing the needs of a growing global population and is inextricably linked to poverty eradication, especially in developing countries. Enhancing the role of women at all levels and in all aspects of rural development, agriculture, nutrition and food security is imperative. Sustainable agriculture and rural development are essential to the implementation of an integrated approach to increasing food production and enhancing food security and food safety in an environmentally sustainable way. This would include actions at all levels to:

(a) Achieve the Millennium Declaration target to halve by 2015 the proportion of the world's people who suffer from hunger and realize the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of themselves and their families, including food, including by promoting food security and fighting hunger in combination with measures which address poverty, consistent with the outcome of the World Food Summit and, for States Parties, with their obligations under article 11 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights;[30]

(b) Develop and implement integrated land management and water-use plans that are based on sustainable use of renewable resources and on integrated assessments of socio-economic and environmental potentials and strengthen the capacity of Governments, local authorities and communities to monitor and manage the quantity and quality of land and water resources;

(c) Increase understanding of the sustainable use, protection and management of water resources to advance long-term sustainability of freshwater, coastal and marine environments;

(d) Promote programmes to enhance in a sustainable manner the productivity of land and the efficient use of water resources in agriculture, forestry, wetlands, artisanal fisheries and aquaculture, especially through indigenous and local community-based approaches;

(e) Support the efforts of developing countries to protect oases from silt, land degradation and increasing salinity by providing appropriate technical and financial assistance;

(f) Enhance the participation of women in all aspects and at all levels relating to sustainable agriculture and food security;

(g) Integrate existing information systems on land-use practices by strengthening national research and extension services and farmer organizations to trigger farmer-to-farmer exchange on good practices, such as those related to environmentally sound, low-cost technologies, with the assistance of relevant international organizations;

[30] See General Assembly resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

(h) Enact, as appropriate, measures that protect indigenous resource management systems and support the contribution of all appropriate stakeholders, men and women alike, in rural planning and development;

(i) Adopt policies and implement laws that guarantee well defined and enforceable land and water use rights and promote legal security of tenure, recognizing the existence of different national laws and/or systems of land access and tenure, and provide technical and financial assistance to developing countries as well as countries with economies in transition that are undertaking land tenure reform in order to enhance sustainable livelihoods;

(j) Reverse the declining trend in public sector finance for sustainable agriculture, provide appropriate technical and financial assistance, and promote private sector investment and support efforts in developing countries and countries with economies in transition to strengthen agricultural research and natural resource management capacity and dissemination of research results to the farming communities;

(k) Employ market-based incentives for agricultural enterprises and farmers to monitor and manage water use and quality, inter alia, by applying such methods as small-scale irrigation and wastewater recycling and reuse;

(l) Enhance access to existing markets and develop new markets for value-added agricultural products;

(m) Increase brown-field redevelopment in developed countries and countries with economies in transition, with appropriate technical assistance where contamination is a serious problem;

(n) Enhance international cooperation to combat the illicit cultivation of narcotic plants, taking into account their negative social, economic and environmental impacts;

(o) Promote programmes for the environmentally sound, effective and efficient use of soil fertility improvement practices and agricultural pest control;

(p) Strengthen and improve coordination of existing initiatives to enhance sustainable agricultural production and food security;

(q) Invite countries that have not done so to ratify the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture;[31]

(r) Promote the conservation, and sustainable use and management of traditional and indigenous agricultural systems and strengthen indigenous models of agricultural production.

* * *

41. *Strengthen the implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa,[7] to address causes of desertification and land degradation in order to maintain and restore land, and to address poverty resulting from land degradation. This would include actions at all levels to:*

[31] *Report of the Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Thirty-first Session, Rome, 2-13 November 2001* (C2001/REP), appendix D.

(a) *Mobilize adequate and predictable financial resources, transfer of technologies and capacity-building at all levels;*

(b) *Formulate national action programmes to ensure timely and effective implementation of the Convention and its related projects, with the support of the international community, including through decentralized projects at the local level;*

(c) *Encourage the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Convention to Combat Desertification to continue exploring and enhancing synergies, with due regard to their respective mandates, in the elaboration and implementation of plans and strategies under the respective Conventions;*

(d) *Integrate measures to prevent and combat desertification as well as to mitigate the effects of drought through relevant policies and programmes, such as land, water and forest management, agriculture, rural development, early warning systems, environment, energy, natural resources, health and education, and poverty eradication and sustainable development strategies;*

(e) *Provide affordable local access to information to improve monitoring and early warning related to desertification and drought;*

(f) *Call on the Second Assembly of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) to take action on the recommendations of the GEF Council concerning the designation of land degradation (desertification and deforestation) as a focal area of GEF as a means of GEF support for the successful implementation of the Convention to Combat Desertification; and consequently, consider making GEF a financial mechanism of the Convention, taking into account the prerogatives and decisions of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, while recognizing the complementary roles of GEF and the global mechanism of the Convention in providing and mobilizing resources for the elaboration and implementation of action programmes;*

(g) *Improve the sustainability of grassland resources through strengthening management and law enforcement and providing financial and technical support by the international community to developing countries.*

* * *

42. Mountain ecosystems support particular livelihoods and include significant watershed resources, biological diversity and unique flora and fauna. Many are particularly fragile and vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change and need specific protection. Actions at all levels are required to:

(a) Develop and promote programmes, policies and approaches that integrate environmental, economic and social components of sustainable mountain development and strengthen international cooperation for its positive impacts on poverty eradication programmes, especially in developing countries;

(b) Implement programmes to address, where appropriate, deforestation, erosion, land degradation, loss of biodiversity, disruption of water flows and retreat of glaciers;

(c) Develop and implement, where appropriate, gender-sensitive policies and programmes, including public and private investments that help eliminate inequities facing mountain communities;

(d) Implement programmes to promote diversification and traditional mountain economies, sustainable livelihoods and small-scale production systems, including specific training programmes and better access to national and international markets, communications and transport planning, taking into account the particular sensitivity of mountains;

(e) Promote full participation and involvement of mountain communities in decisions that affect them and integrate indigenous knowledge, heritage and values in all development initiatives;

(f) Mobilize national and international support for applied research and capacity-building, provide financial and technical assistance for the effective implementation of sustainable development of mountain ecosystems in developing countries and countries with economies in transition, and address the poverty among people living in mountains through concrete plans, projects and programmes, with sufficient support from all stakeholders, taking into account the spirit of the International Year of Mountains, 2002.

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43. *Promote sustainable tourism development, including non-consumptive and eco-tourism, taking into account the spirit of the International Year of Eco-tourism 2002, the United Nations Year for Cultural Heritage in 2002, the World Eco-tourism Summit 2002 and its Quebec Declaration, and the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism as adopted by the World Tourism Organization in order to increase the benefits from tourism resources for the population in host communities while maintaining the cultural and environmental integrity of the host communities and enhancing the protection of ecologically sensitive areas and natural heritages. Promote sustainable tourism development and capacity-building in order to contribute to the strengthening of rural and local communities. This would include actions at all levels to:*

(a) *Enhance international cooperation, foreign direct investment and partnerships with both private and public sectors, at all levels;*

(b) *Develop programmes, including education and training programmes, that encourage people to participate in eco-tourism, enable indigenous and local communities to develop and benefit from eco-tourism, and enhance stakeholder cooperation in tourism development and heritage preservation, in order to improve the protection of the environment, natural resources and cultural heritage;*

(c) *Provide technical assistance to developing countries and countries with economies in transition to support sustainable tourism business development and investment and tourism awareness programmes, to improve domestic tourism, and to stimulate entrepreneurial development;*

(d) *Assist host communities in managing visits to their tourism attractions for their maximum benefit, while ensuring the least negative impacts on and risks for their traditions, culture and environment, with the support of the World Tourism Organization and other relevant organizations;*

(e) *Promote the diversification of economic activities, including through the facilitation of access to markets and commercial information, and participation of emerging local enterprises, especially small and medium-sized enterprises.*

* * *

44. Biodiversity, which plays a critical role in overall sustainable development and poverty eradication, is essential to our planet, human well-being and to the livelihood and cultural integrity of people. However, biodiversity is currently being lost at unprecedented rates due to human activities; this trend can only be reversed if the local people benefit from the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, in particular in countries of origin of genetic resources, in accordance with article 15 of the Convention on Biological Diversity. The Convention is the key instrument for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from use of genetic resources. A more efficient and coherent implementation of the three objectives of the Convention and the achievement by 2010 of a significant reduction in the current rate of loss of biological diversity will require the provision of new and additional financial and technical resources to developing countries, and includes actions at all levels to:

(a) Integrate the objectives of the Convention into global, regional and national sectoral and cross-sectoral programmes and policies, in particular in the programmes and policies of the economic sectors of countries and international financial institutions;

(b) Promote the ongoing work under the Convention on the sustainable use on biological diversity, including on sustainable tourism, as a cross-cutting issue relevant to different ecosystems, sectors and thematic areas;

(c) Encourage effective synergies between the Convention and other multilateral environmental agreements, inter alia, through the development of joint plans and programmes, with due regard to their respective mandates, regarding common responsibilities and concerns;

(d) Implement the Convention and its provisions, including active follow-up of its work programmes and decisions through national, regional and global action programmes, in particular the national biodiversity strategies and action plans, and strengthen their integration into relevant cross-sectoral strategies, programmes and policies, as well as those related to sustainable development and poverty eradication, including initiatives which promote community-based sustainable use of biological diversity;

(e) Promote the wide implementation and further development of the ecosystem approach, as being elaborated in the ongoing work of the Convention;

(f) Promote concrete international support and partnership for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, including in ecosystems, at World Heritage sites and for the protection of endangered species, in particular through the appropriate channelling of financial resources and technology to developing countries and countries with economies in transition;

(g) To effectively conserve and sustainably use biodiversity, promote and support initiatives for hot spot areas and other areas essential for biodiversity and promote the development of national and regional ecological networks and corridors;

(h) Provide financial and technical support to developing countries, including capacity-building, in order to enhance indigenous and community-based biodiversity conservation efforts;

(i) Strengthen national, regional and international efforts to control invasive alien species, which are one of the main causes of biodiversity loss, and encourage the development of effective work programme on invasive alien species at all levels;

(j) Subject to national legislation, recognize the rights of local and indigenous communities who are holders of traditional knowledge, innovations and practices, and, with the approval and involvement of the holders of such knowledge, innovations and practices, develop and implement benefit-sharing mechanisms on mutually agreed terms for their use;

(k) Encourage and enable all stakeholders to contribute to the implementation of the objectives of the Convention and, in particular, recognize the specific role of youth, women and indigenous and local communities in conserving and using biodiversity in a sustainable way;

(l) Promote the effective participation of indigenous and local communities in decision and policy-making concerning the use of their traditional knowledge;

(m) Encourage technical and financial support to developing countries and countries with economies in transition in their efforts to develop and implement, as appropriate, inter alia, national sui generis systems and traditional systems according to national priorities and legislation, with a view to conserving and the sustainable use of biodiversity;

(n) Promote the wide implementation of and continued work by the Parties to the Convention on the Bonn Guidelines on Access to Genetic Resources and Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits arising out of their Utilization, as an input to assist the Parties when developing and drafting legislative, administrative or policy measures on access and benefit-sharing as well as contract and other arrangements under mutually agreed terms for access and benefit-sharing;

(o) Negotiate within the framework of the Convention on Biological Diversity, bearing in mind the Bonn Guidelines, an international regime to promote and safeguard the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources;

(p) Encourage successful conclusion of existing processes under consideration by the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore of the World Intellectual Property Organization, and in the ad hoc open-ended working group on article 8 (j) and related provisions of the Convention;

(q) Promote practicable measures for access to the results and benefits arising from biotechnologies based upon genetic resources, in accordance with articles 15 and 19 of the Convention, including through enhanced scientific and technical cooperation on biotechnology and biosafety, including the exchange of experts, training human resources and developing research-oriented institutional capacities;

(r) With a view to enhancing synergy and mutual supportiveness, taking into account the decisions under the relevant agreements, promote the discussions,

without prejudging their outcome, with regard to the relationships between the Convention and agreements related to international trade and intellectual property rights, as outlined in the Doha Ministerial Declaration;[32]

(s) Promote the implementation of the programme of work of the Global Taxonomy Initiative;

(t) Invite all States that have not already done so to ratify the Convention, the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention[33] and other biodiversity-related agreements, and invite those that have done so to promote their effective implementation at the national, regional and international levels and to support developing countries and countries with economies in transition technically and financially in this regard.

45. Forests and trees cover nearly one third of the Earth's surface. Sustainable forest management of both natural and planted forests and for timber and non-timber products is essential to achieving sustainable development as well as a critical means to eradicate poverty, significantly reduce deforestation, halt the loss of forest biodiversity and land and resource degradation and improve food security and access to safe drinking water and affordable energy; in addition, it highlights the multiple benefits of both natural and planted forests and trees and contributes to the well-being of the planet and humanity. The achievement of sustainable forest management, nationally and globally, including through partnerships among interested Governments and stakeholders, including the private sector, indigenous and local communities and non-governmental organizations, is an essential goal of sustainable development. This would include actions at all levels to:

(a) Enhance political commitment to achieve sustainable forest management by endorsing it as a priority on the international political agenda, taking full account of the linkages between the forest sector and other sectors through integrated approaches;

(b) Support the United Nations Forum on Forests, with the assistance of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, as key intergovernmental mechanisms to facilitate and coordinate the implementation of sustainable forest management at the national, regional and global levels, thus contributing, inter alia, to the conservation and sustainable use of forest biodiversity;

(c) Take immediate action on domestic forest law enforcement and illegal international trade in forest products, including in forest biological resources, with the support of the international community, and provide human and institutional capacity-building related to the enforcement of national legislation in those areas;

(d) Take immediate action at the national and international levels to promote and facilitate the means to achieve sustainable timber harvesting and to facilitate the provision of financial resources and the transfer and development of environmentally sound technologies, and thereby address unsustainable timber-harvesting practices;

[32] See A/C.2/56/7, annex.
[33] Http://www.biodiv.org/biosafety/protocol.asp.

(e) Develop and implement initiatives to address the needs of those parts of the world that currently suffer from poverty and the highest rates of deforestation and where international cooperation would be welcomed by affected Governments;

(f) Create and strengthen partnerships and international cooperation to facilitate the provision of increased financial resources, the transfer of environmentally sound technologies, trade, capacity-building, forest law enforcement and governance at all levels and integrated land and resource management to implement sustainable forest management, including the proposal for action of the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests/Intergovernmental Forum on Forests;

(g) Accelerate implementation of the proposals for action of the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests/Intergovernmental Forum on Forests by countries and by the Collaborative Partnership on Forests and intensify efforts on reporting to the United Nations Forum on Forests to contribute to an assessment of progress in 2005;

(h) Recognize and support indigenous and community-based forest management systems to ensure their full and effective participation in sustainable forest management;

(i) Implement the expanded action-oriented work programme of the Convention on Biological Diversity on all types of forest biological diversity, in close cooperation with the Forum, Partnership members and other forest-related processes and conventions, with the involvement of all relevant stakeholders.

46. Mining, minerals and metals are important to the economic and social development of many countries. Minerals are essential for modern living. Enhancing the contribution of mining, minerals and metals to sustainable development includes actions at all levels to:

(a) Support efforts to address the environmental, economic, health and social impacts and benefits of mining, minerals and metals throughout their life cycle, including workers' health and safety, and use a range of partnerships, furthering existing activities at the national and international levels among interested Governments, intergovernmental organizations, mining companies and workers and other stakeholders to promote transparency and accountability for sustainable mining and minerals development;

(b) Enhance the participation of stakeholders, including local and indigenous communities and women, to play an active role in minerals, metals and mining development throughout the life cycles of mining operations, including after closure for rehabilitation purposes, in accordance with national regulations and taking into account significant transboundary impacts;

(c) Foster sustainable mining practices through the provision of financial, technical and capacity-building support to developing countries and countries with economies in transition for the mining and processing of minerals, including small-scale mining, and, where possible and appropriate, improve value-added processing, upgrade scientific and technological information and reclaim and rehabilitate degraded sites.

V. Sustainable development in a globalizing world

47. Globalization offers opportunities and challenges for sustainable development. We recognize that globalization and interdependence are offering new opportunities for trade, investment and capital flows and advances in technology, including information technology, for the growth of the world economy, development and the improvement of living standards around the world. At the same time, there remain serious challenges, including serious financial crises, insecurity, poverty, exclusion and inequality within and among societies. The developing countries and countries with economies in transition face special difficulties in responding to those challenges and opportunities. Globalization should be fully inclusive and equitable. There is a strong need for policies and measures at the national and international levels, formulated and implemented with the full and effective participation of developing countries and countries with economies in transition, to help them to respond effectively to those challenges and opportunities. This will require urgent action at all levels to:

(a) Continue to promote open, equitable, rules-based, predictable and non-discriminatory multilateral trading and financial systems that benefit all countries in the pursuit of sustainable development. Support the successful completion of the work programme contained in the Doha Ministerial Declaration and the implementation of the Monterrey Consensus. Welcome the decision contained in the Doha Ministerial Declaration to place the needs and interests of developing countries at the heart of the work programme of the Declaration, including through enhanced market access for products of interest to developing countries;

(b) Encourage ongoing efforts by international financial and trade institutions to ensure that decision-making processes and institutional structures are open and transparent;

(c) Enhance the capacities of developing countries, including the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, to benefit from liberalized trade opportunities through international cooperation and measures aimed at improving productivity, commodity diversification and competitiveness, community-based entrepreneurial capacity and transportation and communication infrastructure development;

(d) Support the International Labour Organization and encourage its ongoing work on the social dimension of globalization, as stated in paragraph 64 of the Monterrey Consensus;

(e) Enhance the delivery of coordinated, effective and targeted trade-related technical assistance and capacity-building programmes, including taking advantage of existing and future market access opportunities, and examining the relationship between trade, environment and development.

48. Implement the outcomes of the Doha Ministerial Conference by the members of the World Trade Organization, further strengthen trade-related technical assistance and capacity-building and ensure the meaningful, effective and full participation of developing countries in multilateral trade negotiations by placing their needs and interests at the heart of the work programme of the World Trade Organization.

49. Actively promote corporate responsibility and accountability, based on the Rio principles, including through the full development and effective implementation of intergovernmental agreements and measures, international initiatives and public-private partnerships and appropriate national regulations, and support continuous improvement in corporate practices in all countries.

50. Strengthen the capacities of developing countries to encourage public/private initiatives that enhance the ease of access, accuracy, timeliness and coverage of information on countries and financial markets. Multilateral and regional financial institutions could provide further assistance for these purposes.

51. Strengthen regional trade and cooperation agreements, consistent with the multilateral trading system, among developed and developing countries and countries with economies in transition, as well as among developing countries, with the support of international finance institutions and regional development banks, as appropriate, with a view to achieving the objectives of sustainable development.

52. Assist developing countries and countries with economies in transition in narrowing the digital divide, creating digital opportunities and harnessing the potential of information and communication technologies for development through technology transfer on mutually agreed terms and the provision of financial and technical support and, in this context, support the World Summit on the Information Society.

VI. Health and sustainable development

53. The Rio Declaration on Environment and Development states that human beings are at the centre of concerns for sustainable development, and that they are entitled to a healthy and productive life, in harmony with nature. The goals of sustainable development can only be achieved in the absence of a high prevalence of debilitating diseases, while obtaining health gains for the whole population requires poverty eradication. There is an urgent need to address the causes of ill health, including environmental causes, and their impact on development, with particular emphasis on women and children, as well as vulnerable groups of society, such as people with disabilities, elderly persons and indigenous people.

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54. *Strengthen the capacity of health-care systems to deliver basic health services to all in an efficient, accessible and affordable manner aimed at preventing, controlling and treating diseases, and to reduce environmental health threats, in conformity with human rights and fundamental freedoms and consistent with national laws and cultural and religious values, and taking into account the reports of relevant United Nations conferences and summits and of special sessions of the General Assembly. This would include actions at all levels to:*

(a) *Integrate the health concerns, including those of the most vulnerable populations, into strategies, policies and programmes for poverty eradication and sustainable development;*

(b) *Promote equitable and improved access to affordable and efficient health-care services, including prevention, at all levels of the health system, essential and safe drugs at affordable prices, immunization services and safe vaccines and medical technology;*

(c) *Provide technical and financial assistance to developing countries and countries with economies in transition to implement the Health for All Strategy, including health information systems and integrated databases on development hazards;*

(d) *Improve the development and management of human resources in health-care services;*

(e) *Promote and develop partnerships to enhance health education with the objective of achieving improved health literacy on a global basis by 2010, with the involvement of United Nations agencies, as appropriate;*

(f) *Develop programmes and initiatives to reduce, by 2015, mortality rates for infants and children under 5 by two thirds, and maternal mortality rates by three quarters, of the prevailing rate in 2000, and reduce disparities between and within developed and developing countries as quickly as possible, with particular attention to eliminating the pattern of disproportionate and preventable mortality among girl infants and children;*

(g) *Target research efforts and apply research results to priority public health issues, in particular those affecting susceptible and vulnerable populations, through the development of new vaccines, reducing exposures to health risks, building on equal access to health-care services, education, training and medical treatment and technology and addressing the secondary effects of poor health;*

(h) *Promote the preservation, development and use of effective traditional medicine knowledge and practices, where appropriate, in combination with modern medicine, recognizing indigenous and local communities as custodians of traditional knowledge and practices, while promoting effective protection of traditional knowledge, as appropriate, consistent with international law;*

(i) *Ensure equal access of women to health-care services, giving particular attention to maternal and emergency obstetric care;*

(j) *Address effectively, for all individuals of appropriate age, the promotion of healthy living, including their reproductive and sexual health, consistent with the commitments and outcomes of recent United Nations conferences and summits, including the World Summit for Children, the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, the International Conference on Population and Development, the World Summit for Social Development and the Fourth World Conference on Women, and their respective reviews and reports;*

(k) *Launch international capacity-building initiatives, as appropriate, that assess health and environment linkages and use the knowledge gained to create more effective national and regional policy responses to environmental threats to human health;*

(l) *Transfer and disseminate, on mutually agreed terms, including through public-private multisector partnerships, with international financial support, technologies for safe water, sanitation and waste management for rural and urban areas in developing countries and countries with economies in transition, taking into account country-specific conditions and gender equality, including specific technology needs of women;*

(m) *Strengthen and promote programmes of the International Labour Organization and World Health Organization to reduce occupational deaths, injuries and illnesses, and link occupational health with public health promotion as a means of promoting public health and education;*

(n) *Improve availability and access for all to sufficient, safe, culturally acceptable and nutritionally adequate food, increase consumer health protection, address issues of micronutrient deficiency and implement existing internationally agreed commitments and relevant standards and guidelines;*

(o) *Develop or strengthen, where applicable, preventive, promotive and curative programmes to address non-communicable diseases and conditions, such as cardiovascular diseases, cancer, diabetes, chronic respiratory diseases, injuries, violence and mental health disorders and associated risk factors, including alcohol, tobacco, unhealthy diets and lack of physical activity.*

55. *Implement, within the agreed time frames, all commitments agreed in the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS*[34] *adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-sixth special session, emphasizing in particular the reduction of HIV prevalence among young men and women aged 15 to 24 by 25 per cent in the most affected countries by 2005, and globally by 2010, as well as combat malaria, tuberculosis and other diseases by, inter alia:*

[34] General Assembly resolution S-26/2, annex.

(a) *Implementing national preventive and treatment strategies, regional and international cooperation measures and the development of international initiatives to provide special assistance to children orphaned by HIV/AIDS;*

(b) *Fulfilling commitments for the provision of sufficient resources to support the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, while promoting access to the Fund by countries most in need;*

(c) *Protecting the health of workers and promoting occupational safety, by, inter alia, taking into account, as appropriate, the voluntary Code of Practice on HIV/AIDS and the World of Work of the International Labour Organization, to improve conditions of the workplace;*

(d) *Mobilizing adequate public, and encouraging private, financial resources for research and development on diseases of the poor, such as HIV/AIDS, malaria, and tuberculosis, directed at biomedical and health research, as well as new vaccine and drug development.*

56. *Reduce respiratory diseases and other health impacts resulting from air pollution, with particular attention to women and children, by:*

(a) *Strengthening regional and national programmes, including through public-private partnerships, with technical and financial assistance to developing countries;*

(b) *Supporting the phasing out of lead in gasoline;*

(c) *Strengthening and supporting efforts for the reduction of emissions through the use of cleaner fuels and modern pollution control techniques;*

(d) *Assisting developing countries in providing affordable energy to rural communities, particularly to reduce dependence on traditional fuel sources for cooking and heating, the use of which affect the health of women and children.*

57. *Phase out lead in lead-based paints and in other sources of human exposure, work to prevent, in particular, children's exposure to lead and strengthen monitoring and surveillance efforts and the treatment of lead poisoning.*

VII. Sustainable development of small island developing States

58. Small island developing States are a special case both for environment and development. Although they continue to take the lead in the path towards sustainable development in their countries, they are increasingly constrained by the interplay of adverse factors clearly underlined in Agenda 21, the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States[35] and the decisions adopted at the twenty-second special session of the General Assembly. This would include actions at all levels to:

(a) Accelerate national and regional implementation of the Programme of Action, with adequate financial resources, including through Global Environment Facility focal areas, transfer of environmentally sound technologies and assistance for capacity-building from the international community;

(b) Implement further sustainable fisheries management and improve financial returns from fisheries by supporting and strengthening relevant regional fisheries management organizations, as appropriate, such as the recently established Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism and such agreements as the Convention on the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean;

(c) Assist small island developing States, including through the elaboration of specific initiatives, in delimiting and managing in a sustainable manner their coastal areas and exclusive economic zones and the continental shelf, including, where appropriate, the continental shelf areas beyond 200 miles from coastal baselines, as well as relevant regional management initiatives within the context of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and the regional seas programmes of the United Nations Environment Programme;

(d) Provide support, including for capacity-building, for the development and further implementation of:

(i) Small island developing States-specific components within programmes of work on marine and coastal biological diversity;

(ii) Freshwater programmes for small island developing States, including through the Global Environment Facility focal areas;

(e) Effectively reduce, prevent and control waste and pollution and their health-related impacts by undertaking initiatives by 2004 aimed at implementing the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities in small island developing States;

(f) Work to ensure that, in the ongoing negotiations and elaboration of the World Trade Organization work programme on trade in small economies, due account is taken of small island developing States, which have severe structural handicaps in integrating into the global economy, within the context of the Doha development agenda;

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[35] *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April-6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

(g) Develop community-based initiatives on sustainable tourism by 2004 and build the capacities necessary to diversify tourism products, while protecting culture and traditions and effectively conserving and managing natural resources;

(h) Extend assistance to small island developing States in support of local communities and appropriate national and regional organizations of small island developing States for comprehensive hazard and risk management, disaster prevention, mitigation and preparedness, and help relieve the consequences of disasters, extreme weather events and other emergencies;

(i) Support the finalization and subsequent early operationalization, on agreed terms, of economic, social and environmental vulnerability indices and related indicators as tools for the achievement of the sustainable development of the small island developing States;

(j) Assist small island developing States in mobilizing adequate resources and partnerships for their adaptation needs relating to the adverse effects of climate change, sea level rise and climate variability, consistent with commitments under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, where applicable;

(k) Support efforts by small island developing States to build capacities and institutional arrangements to implement intellectual property regimes.

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59. *Support the availability of adequate, affordable and environmentally sound energy services for the sustainable development of small island developing States by, inter alia:*

(a) *Strengthening ongoing and supporting new efforts on energy supply and services, by 2004, including through the United Nations system and partnership initiatives;*

(b) *Developing and promoting efficient use of sources of energy, including indigenous sources and renewable energy, and building the capacities of small island developing States for training, technical know-how and strengthening national institutions in the area of energy management.*

60. *Provide support to small island developing States to develop capacity and strengthen:*

(a) *Health-care services for promoting equitable access to health care;*

(b) *Health systems for making available necessary drugs and technology in a sustainable and affordable manner to fight and control communicable and non-communicable diseases, in particular HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, diabetes, malaria and dengue fever;*

(c) *Efforts to reduce and manage waste and pollution and building capacity for maintaining and managing systems to deliver water and sanitation services, in both rural and urban areas;*

(d) *Efforts to implement initiatives aimed at poverty eradication, which have been outlined in section II of the present document.*

61. *Undertake a full and comprehensive review of the implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States in 2004, in accordance with the provisions set forth in General Assembly resolution S-22/2, and in this context requests the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session to consider convening an international meeting for the sustainable development of small island developing States.*

VIII. Sustainable development for Africa

62. Since the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, sustainable development has remained elusive for many African countries. Poverty remains a major challenge and most countries on the continent have not benefited fully from the opportunities of globalization, further exacerbating the continent's marginalization. Africa's efforts to achieve sustainable development have been hindered by conflicts, insufficient investment, limited market access opportunities and supply side constraints, unsustainable debt burdens, historically declining levels of official development assistance and the impact of HIV/AIDS. The World Summit on Sustainable Development should reinvigorate the commitment of the international community to address these special challenges and give effect to a new vision based on concrete actions for the implementation of Agenda 21 in Africa. The New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) is a commitment by African leaders to the people of Africa. It recognizes that partnerships among African countries themselves and between them and with the international community are key elements of a shared and common vision to eradicate poverty, and furthermore it aims to place their countries, both individually and collectively, on a path of sustained economic growth and sustainable development, while participating actively in the world economy and body politic. It provides a framework for sustainable development on the continent to be shared by all Africa's people. The international community welcomes NEPAD and pledges its support to the implementation of this vision, including through utilization of the benefits of South-South cooperation supported, inter alia, by the Tokyo International Conference on African Development. It also pledges support for other existing development frameworks that are owned and driven nationally by African countries and that embody poverty reduction strategies, including poverty reduction strategy papers. Achieving sustainable development includes actions at all levels to:

(a) Create an enabling environment at the regional, subregional, national and local levels in order to achieve sustained economic growth and sustainable development and support African efforts for peace, stability and security, the resolution and prevention of conflicts, democracy, good governance, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development and gender equality;

(b) Support the implementation of the vision of NEPAD and other established regional and subregional efforts, including through financing, technical cooperation and institutional cooperation and human and institutional capacity-building at the regional, subregional and national levels, consistent with national policies, programmes and nationally owned and led strategies for poverty reduction and sustainable development, such as, where applicable, poverty reduction strategy papers;

(c) Promote technology development, transfer and diffusion to Africa and further develop technology and knowledge available in African centres of excellence;

(d) Support African countries in developing effective science and technology institutions and research activities capable of developing and adapting to world class technologies;

(e) Support the development of national programmes and strategies to promote education within the context of nationally owned and led strategies for poverty reduction and strengthen research institutions in education in order to increase the capacity to fully support the achievement of internationally agreed development goals related to education, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration on ensuring that, by 2015, children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling and that girls and boys will have equal access to all levels of education relevant to national needs;

(f) Enhance the industrial productivity, diversity and competitiveness of African countries through a combination of financial and technological support for the development of key infrastructure, access to technology, networking of research centres, adding value to export products, skills development and enhancing market access in support of sustainable development;

(g) Enhance the contribution of the industrial sector, in particular mining, minerals and metals, to the sustainable development of Africa by supporting the development of effective and transparent regulatory and management frameworks and value addition, broad-based participation, social and environmental responsibility and increased market access in order to create an attractive and conducive environment for investment;

(h) Provide financial and technical support to strengthen the capacity of African countries to undertake environmental legislative policy and institutional reform for sustainable development and to undertake environmental impact assessments and, as appropriate, to negotiate and implement multilateral environment agreements;

(i) Develop projects, programmes and partnerships with relevant stakeholders and mobilize resources for the effective implementation of the outcome of the African Process for the Protection and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment;

(j) Deal effectively with energy problems in Africa, including through initiatives to:

(i) Establish and promote programmes, partnerships and initiatives to support Africa's efforts to implement NEPAD objectives on energy, which seek to secure access for at least 35 per cent of the African population within 20 years, especially in rural areas;

(ii) Provide support to implement other initiatives on energy, including the promotion of cleaner and more efficient use of natural gas and increased use of renewable energy, and to improve energy efficiency and access to advanced energy technologies, including cleaner fossil fuel technologies, particularly in rural and peri-urban areas;

(k) Assist African countries in mobilizing adequate resources for their adaptation needs relating to the adverse effects of climate change, extreme weather events, sea level rise and climate variability, and assist in developing national climate change strategies and mitigation programmes, and continue to take actions to mitigate the adverse effects on climate change in Africa, consistent with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change;

(l) Support African efforts to develop affordable transport systems and infrastructure that promote sustainable development and connectivity in Africa;

(m) Further to paragraph 42 above, address the poverty affecting mountain communities in Africa;

(n) Provide financial and technical support for afforestation and reforestation in Africa and to build capacity for sustainable forest management, including combating deforestation and measures to improve the policy and legal framework of the forest sector.

* * *

63. *Provide financial and technical support for Africa's efforts to implement the Convention to Combat Desertification at the national level and integrate indigenous knowledge systems into land and natural resources management practices, as appropriate, and improve extension services to rural communities and promote better land and watershed management practices, including through improved agricultural practices that address land degradation, in order to develop capacity for the implementation of national programmes.*

64. *Mobilize financial and other support to develop and strengthen health systems that aim to:*

(a) *Promote equitable access to health-care services;*

(b) *Make available necessary drugs and technology in a sustainable and affordable manner to fight and control communicable diseases, including HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis, and trypanosomiasis, as well as non-communicable diseases, including those caused by poverty;*

(c) *Build capacity of medical and paramedical personnel;*

(d) *Promote indigenous medical knowledge, as appropriate, including traditional medicine;*

(e) *Research and control Ebola disease.*

65. *Deal effectively with natural disasters and conflicts, including their humanitarian and environmental impacts, recognizing that conflicts in Africa have hindered, and in many cases obliterated, both the gains and efforts aimed at sustainable development, with the most vulnerable members of society, particularly women and children, being the most impacted victims, through efforts and initiatives, at all levels, to:*

(a) *Provide financial and technical assistance to strengthen the capacities of African countries, including institutional and human capacity, including at the local level, for effective disaster management, including observation and early warning systems, assessments, prevention, preparedness, response and recovery;*

(b) *Provide support to African countries to enable them to better deal with the displacement of people as a result of natural disasters and conflicts and put in place rapid response mechanisms;*

(c) *Support Africa's efforts for the prevention and resolution, management and mitigation of conflicts and its early response to emerging conflict situations to avert tragic humanitarian consequences;*

(d) *Provide support to refugee host countries in rehabilitating infrastructure and environment, including ecosystems and habitats, that were damaged in the process of receiving and settling refugees.*

66. *Promote integrated water resources development and optimize the upstream and downstream benefits therefrom, the development and effective management of water resources across all uses and the protection of water quality and aquatic ecosystems, including through initiatives at all levels, to:*

(a) *Provide access to potable domestic water, hygiene education and improved sanitation and waste management at the household level through initiatives to encourage public and private investment in water supply and sanitation that give priority to the needs of the poor within stable and transparent national regulatory frameworks provided by Governments, while respecting local conditions involving all concerned stakeholders and monitoring the performance and improving the accountability of public institutions and private companies; and develop critical water supply, reticulation and treatment infrastructure, and build capacity to maintain and manage systems to deliver water and sanitation services in both rural and urban areas;*

(b) *Develop and implement integrated river basin and watershed management strategies and plans for all major water bodies, consistent with paragraph 25 above;*

(c) *Strengthen regional, subregional and national capacities for data collection and processing and for planning, research, monitoring, assessment and enforcement, as well as arrangements for water resource management;*

(d) *Protect water resources, groundwater and wetland ecosystems against pollution, and, in cases of the most acute water scarcity, support efforts for developing non-conventional water resources, including the energy-efficient, cost-effective and sustainable desalination of seawater, rainwater harvesting and recycling of water.*

67. *Achieve significantly improved sustainable agricultural productivity and food security in furtherance of the agreed Millennium development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration, in particular to halve by 2015 the proportion of people who suffer from hunger, including through initiatives at all levels to:*

(a) *Support the development and implementation of national policies and programmes, including research programmes and development plans of African countries to regenerate their agricultural sector and sustainably develop their fisheries, and increase investment in infrastructure, technology and extension services, according to country needs. African countries should be in the process of developing and implementing food security strategies, within the context of national poverty eradication programmes, by 2005;*

(b) *Promote and support efforts and initiatives to secure equitable access to land tenure, clarify resource rights and responsibilities, through land and tenure reform processes that respect the rule of law and are enshrined in national law, and provide access to credit for all, especially women, and that enable economic and social empowerment, poverty eradication and efficient and ecologically sound*

utilization of land and that enable women producers to become decision makers and owners in the sector, including the right to inherit land;

(c) *Improve market access for goods, including goods originating from African countries, in particular least developed countries, within the framework of the Doha Ministerial Declaration, without prejudging the outcome of the World Trade Organization negotiations, as well as within the framework of preferential agreements;*

(d) *Provide support for African countries to improve regional trade and economic integration between African countries. Attract and increase investment in regional market infrastructure;*

(e) *Support livestock development programmes aimed at progressive and effective control of animal diseases.*

68. *Achieve sound management of chemicals, with particular focus on hazardous chemicals and wastes, inter alia, through initiatives to assist African countries in elaborating national chemical profiles and regional and national frameworks and strategies for chemical management and establishing chemical focal points.*

69. *Bridge the digital divide and create digital opportunity in terms of access infrastructure and technology transfer and application through integrated initiatives for Africa. Create an enabling environment to attract investment, accelerate existing and new programmes and projects, connect essential institutions and stimulate the adoption of information communication technologies in government and commerce programmes and other aspects of national economic and social life.*

70. *Support Africa's efforts to attain sustainable tourism that contributes to social, economic and infrastructure development through the following measures:*

(a) *Implementing projects at the local, national and subregional levels, with specific emphasis on marketing African tourism products, such as adventure tourism, ecotourism and cultural tourism;*

(b) *Establishing and supporting national and cross-border conservation areas to promote ecosystem conservation according to the ecosystem approach, and to promote sustainable tourism;*

(c) *Respecting local traditions and cultures and promoting the use of indigenous knowledge in natural resource management and ecotourism;*

(d) *Assisting host communities in managing their tourism projects for maximum benefit, while limiting negative impact on their traditions, culture and environment;*

(e) *Support the conservation of Africa's biological diversity, the sustainable use of its components and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources, in accordance with commitments that countries have under biodiversity-related agreements to which they are parties, including such agreements as the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, as well as regional biodiversity agreements.*

71. *Support African countries in their efforts to implement the Habitat Agenda and the Istanbul Declaration through initiatives to strengthen national and local*

institutional capacities in the areas of sustainable urbanization and human settlements, provide support for adequate shelter and basic services and the development of efficient and effective governance systems in cities and other human settlements and strengthen, inter alia, the joint programme on managing water for African cities of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme and the United Nations Environment Programme.

IX. Other regional initiatives

72. Important initiatives have been developed within other United Nations regions and regional, subregional and transregional forums to promote sustainable development. The international community welcomes these efforts and the results already achieved, calls for action at all levels for their further development, while encouraging interregional, intraregional and international cooperation in this respect, and expresses its support for their further development and implementation by the countries of the regions.

A. Sustainable development in Latin America and the Caribbean

73. The Initiative of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development is an undertaking by the leaders of that region that, building on the Platform for Action on the Road to Johannesburg, 2002,[36] which was approved in Rio de Janeiro in October 2001, recognizes the importance of regional actions towards sustainable development and takes into account the region's singularities, shared visions and cultural diversity. It is targeted towards the adoption of concrete actions in different areas of sustainable development, such as biodiversity, water resources, vulnerabilities and sustainable cities, social aspects, including health and poverty, economic aspects, including energy, and institutional arrangements, including capacity-building, indicators and participation of civil society, taking into account ethics for sustainable development.

74. The Initiative envisages the development of actions among countries in the region that may foster South-South cooperation and may count with the support of groups of countries, as well as multilateral and regional organizations, including financial institutions. As a framework for cooperation, the Initiative is open to partnerships with governments and all major groups.

B. Sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific

75. Bearing in mind the target of halving the number of people who live in poverty by 2015, as provided in the Millennium Declaration, the Phnom Penh Regional Platform on Sustainable Development for Asia and the Pacific[37] recognized that the region contains over half of the world's population and the largest number of the world's people living in poverty. Hence, sustainable development in the region is critical to achieving sustainable development at the global level.

76. The Regional Platform identified seven initiatives for follow-up action: capacity-building for sustainable development; poverty reduction for sustainable development; cleaner production and sustainable energy; land management and biodiversity conservation; protection and management of and access to freshwater resources; oceans, coastal and marine resources and sustainable development of small island developing States; and action on atmosphere and climate change. Follow-up actions of these initiatives will be taken through national strategies and relevant regional and subregional initiatives, such as the Regional Action Programme for Environmentally Sound and Sustainable Development and the Kitakyushu Initiative for a Clean Environment, adopted at the Fourth Ministerial

[36] E/CN.17/2002/PC.2/5/Add.2.
[37] E/CN.17/2002/PC.2/8.

Conference on Environment and Development in Asia and the Pacific organized by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific.

C. Sustainable development in the West Asia region

77. The West Asia region is known for its scarce water and limited fertile land resources. The region has made progress to a more knowledge-based production of higher value-added commodities.

78. The regional preparatory meeting endorsed the following priorities: poverty alleviation, relief of debt burden; and sustainable management of natural resources, including integrated water resources management, implementation of programmes to combat desertification, integrated coastal zone management and land and water pollution control.

D. Sustainable development in the Economic Commission for Europe region

79. The Economic Commission for Europe regional ministerial meeting for the World Summit on Sustainable Development recognized that the region has a major role to play and responsibilities in global efforts to achieve sustainable development by concrete actions. The region recognized that different levels of economic development in countries of the region may require the application of different approaches and mechanisms to implement Agenda 21. In order to address the three pillars of sustainable development in a mutually reinforcing way, the region identified its priority actions for sustainable development for the Economic Commission for Europe region in its Ministerial Statement to the Summit.[38]

80. In furtherance of the region's commitment to sustainable development, there are ongoing efforts at the regional, subregional and transregional levels, including the Environment for Europe process; the fifth Economic Commission for Europe ministerial conference, to be held in Kiev in May 2003; the development of an environmental strategy for the 12 countries of Eastern Europe; the Caucasus and Central Asia; the Central Asian Agenda 21; work of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development on sustainable development, the European Union sustainable development strategy; and regional and subregional conventions and processes relevant to sustainable development, including the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-Making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (Aarhus Convention), the Alpine Convention, the North American Commission for Environmental Cooperation, the International Boundary Waters Treaty Act, the Iqaluit Declaration of the Arctic Council, the Baltic Agenda 21 and the Mediterranean Agenda 21.

[38] ECE/ACC.22/2001/2, annex I.

X. Means of implementation

81. The implementation of Agenda 21 and the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration as well as in the present plan of action, require a substantially increased effort, both by countries themselves and by the rest of the international community, based on the recognition that each country has primary responsibility for its own development and that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized, taking fully into account the Rio principles, including, in particular, the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, which states:

> "States shall cooperate in a spirit of global partnership to conserve, protect and restore the health and integrity of the Earth's ecosystem. In view of the different contributions to global environmental degradation, States have common but differentiated responsibilities. The developed countries acknowledge the responsibility that they bear in the international pursuit of sustainable development in view of the pressures their societies place on the global environment and of the technologies and financial resources they command."

The internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration and Agenda 21, as well as in the present plan of action, will require significant increases in the flow of financial resources as elaborated in the Monterrey Consensus, including through new and additional financial resources, in particular to developing countries, to support the implementation of national policies and programmes developed by them, improved trade opportunities, access to and transfer of environmentally sound technologies on a concessional or preferential basis, as mutually agreed, education and awareness-raising, capacity-building and information for decision-making and scientific capabilities within the agreed time frame required to meet these goals and initiatives. Progress to this end will require that the international community implement the outcomes of major United Nations conferences, such as the programmes of action adopted at the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries[39] and the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, and relevant international agreements since 1992, particularly those of the International Conference on Financing for Development and the Fourth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization, including building on them as part of a process of achieving sustainable development.

82. Mobilizing and increasing the effective use of financial resources and achieving the national and international economic conditions needed to fulfil internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration, to eliminate poverty, improve social conditions and raise living standards and protect our environment, will be our first step to ensuring that the twenty-first century becomes the century of sustainable development for all.

83. In our common pursuit of growth, poverty eradication and sustainable development, a critical challenge is to ensure the necessary internal conditions for mobilizing domestic savings, both public and private, sustaining adequate levels of productive investment and increasing human capacity. A crucial task is to enhance

[39] A/CONF.192/13.

the efficacy, coherence and consistency of macroeconomic policies. An enabling domestic environment is vital for mobilizing domestic resources, increasing productivity, reducing capital flight, encouraging the private sector and attracting and making effective use of international investment and assistance. Efforts to create such an environment should be supported by the international community.

* * *

84. *Facilitate greater flows of foreign direct investment so as to support the sustainable development activities, including the development of infrastructure, of developing countries, and enhance the benefits that developing countries can draw from foreign direct investment, with particular actions to:*

(a) *Create the necessary domestic and international conditions to facilitate significant increases in the flow of foreign direct investment to developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, which is critical to sustainable development, particularly foreign direct investment flows for infrastructure development and other priority areas in developing countries to supplement the domestic resources mobilized by them;*

(b) *Encourage foreign direct investment in developing countries and countries with economies in transition through export credits that could be instrumental to sustainable development;*

85. *Recognize that a substantial increase in official development assistance and other resources will be required if developing countries are to achieve the internationally agreed development goals and objectives, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration. To build support for official development assistance, we will cooperate to further improve policies and development strategies, both nationally and internationally, to enhance aid effectiveness, with actions to:*

(a) *Make available the increased commitments in official development assistance announced by several developed countries at the International Conference on Financing for Development. Urge the developed countries that have not done so to make concrete efforts towards the target of 0.7 per cent of gross national product as official development assistance to developing countries and effectively implement their commitment on such assistance to the least developed countries as contained in paragraph 83 of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010,*[40] *which was adopted in Brussels on 20 May 2001. We also encourage developing countries to build on progress achieved in ensuring that official development assistance is used effectively to help achieve development goals and targets in accordance with the outcome of the International Conference on Financing for Development. We acknowledge the efforts of all donors, commend those donors whose contributions exceed, reach or are increasing towards the targets, and underline the importance of undertaking to examine the means and time frames for achieving the targets and goals;*

(b) *Encourage recipient and donor countries, as well as international institutions, to make official development assistance more efficient and effective for poverty eradication, sustained economic growth and sustainable development. In this regard, intensify efforts by the multilateral and bilateral financial and development institutions, in accordance with paragraph 43 of the Monterrey*

[40] A/CONF.191/11.

Consensus, in particular to harmonize their operational procedures at the highest standards, so as to reduce transaction costs and make disbursement and delivery of official development assistance more flexible and more responsive to the needs of developing countries, taking into account national development needs and objectives under the ownership of recipient countries, and to use development frameworks that are owned and driven by developing countries and that embody poverty reduction strategies, including poverty reduction strategy papers, as vehicles for aid delivery, upon request.

86. *Make full and effective use of existing financial mechanisms and institutions, including through actions at all levels to:*

(a) *Strengthen ongoing efforts to reform the existing international financial architecture to foster a transparent, equitable and inclusive system that is able to provide for the effective participation of developing countries in the international economic decision-making processes and institutions, as well as for their effective and equitable participation in the formulation of financial standards and codes;*

(b) *Promote, inter alia, measures in source and destination countries to improve transparency and information about financial flows to contribute to stability in the international financial environment. Measures that mitigate the impact of excessive volatility of short-term capital flows are important and must be considered;*

(c) *Work to ensure that the funds are made available on a timely, more assured and predictable basis to international organizations and agencies, where appropriate, for their sustainable development activities, programmes and projects;*

(d) *Encourage the private sector, including transnational corporations, private foundations and civil society institutions, to provide financial and technical assistance to developing countries;*

(e) *Support new and existing public/private sector financing mechanisms for developing countries and countries with economies in transition, to benefit in particular small entrepreneurs and small, medium-sized and community-based enterprises and to improve their infrastructure, while ensuring the transparency and accountability of such mechanisms.*

87. *Welcome the successful and substantial third replenishment of the Global Environment Facility, which will enable it to address the funding requirements of new focal areas and existing ones and continue to be responsive to the needs and concerns of its recipient countries, in particular developing countries, and further encourage the Global Environment Facility to leverage additional funds from key public and private organizations, improve the management of funds through more speedy and streamlined procedures and simplify its project cycle.*

88. *Explore ways of generating new public and private innovative sources of finance for development purposes, provided that those sources do not unduly burden developing countries, noting the proposal to use special drawing rights allocations for development purposes, as set forth in paragraph 44 of the Monterrey Consensus.*

89. *Reduce unsustainable debt burden through such actions as debt relief and, as appropriate, debt cancellation and other innovative mechanisms geared to comprehensively address the debt problems of developing countries, in particular the poorest and most heavily indebted ones. Therefore, debt relief measures should,*

where appropriate, be pursued vigorously and expeditiously, including within the Paris and London Clubs and other relevant forums, in order to contribute to debt sustainability and facilitate sustainable development, while recognizing that debtors and creditors must share responsibility for preventing and resolving unsustainable debt situations, and that external debt relief can play a key role in liberating resources that can then be directed towards activities consistent with attaining sustainable growth and development. Therefore, we support paragraphs 47 to 51 of the Monterrey Consensus dealing with external debt. Debt relief arrangements should seek to avoid imposing any unfair burdens on other developing countries. There should be an increase in the use of grants for the poorest, debt-vulnerable countries. Countries are encouraged to develop national comprehensive strategies to monitor and manage external liabilities as a key element in reducing national vulnerabilities. In this regard, actions are required to:

(a) *Implement speedily, effectively and fully the enhanced heavily indebted poor countries (HIPC) initiative, which should be fully financed through additional resources, taking into consideration, as appropriate, measures to address any fundamental changes in the economic circumstances of those developing countries with unsustainable debt burden caused by natural catastrophes, severe terms-of-trade shocks or affected by conflict, taking into account initiatives which have been undertaken to reduce outstanding indebtedness;*

(b) *Encourage participation in the HIPC initiative of all creditors that have not yet done so;*

(c) *Bring international debtors and creditors together in relevant international forums to restructure unsustainable debt in a timely and efficient manner, taking into account the need to involve the private sector in the resolution of crises due to indebtedness, where appropriate;*

(d) *Acknowledge the problems of the debt sustainability of some non-HIPC low-income countries, in particular those facing exceptional circumstances;*

(e) *Encourage exploring innovative mechanisms to comprehensively address the debt problems of developing countries, including middle-income countries and countries with economies in transition. Such mechanisms may include debt-for-sustainable-development swaps;*

(f) *Encourage donor countries to take steps to ensure that resources provided for debt relief do not detract from official development assistance resources intended for developing countries.*

* * *

90. Recognizing the major role that trade can play in achieving sustainable development and in eradicating poverty, we encourage members of the World Trade Organization (WTO) to pursue the work programme agreed at their Fourth Ministerial Conference. In order for developing countries, especially the least developed among them, to secure their share in the growth of world trade commensurate with the needs of their economic development, we urge WTO members to take the following actions:

(a) Facilitate the accession of all developing countries, particularly the least developed countries, as well as countries with economies in transition, that apply for membership in WTO, in accordance with the Monterrey Consensus;

(b) Support the work programme adopted at the Doha Ministerial Conference as an important commitment on the part of developed and developing countries to mainstream appropriate trade policies in their respective development policies and programmes;

(c) Implement substantial trade-related technical assistance and capacity-building measures and support the Doha Development Agenda Global Trust Fund, established after the Doha Ministerial Conference, as an important step forward in ensuring a sound and predictable basis for WTO-related technical assistance and capacity-building;

(d) Implement the New Strategy for Technical Cooperation for Capacity-Building, Growth and Integration endorsed in the Doha Declaration;

(e) Fully support the implementation of the Integrated Framework for Trade-Related Technical Assistance to Least Developed Countries and urge development partners to significantly increase contributions to the Trust Fund for the Framework, in accordance with the Doha Ministerial Declaration.

91. In accordance with the Doha Declaration as well as with relevant decisions taken at Doha, we are determined to take concrete action to address issues and concerns raised by developing countries regarding the implementation of some WTO agreements and decisions, including the difficulties and resource constraints faced by them in fulfilling those agreements.

* * *

92. *Call upon members of the World Trade Organization to fulfil the commitments made in the Doha Ministerial Declaration, notably in terms of market access, in particular for products of export interest to developing countries, especially least developed countries, by implementing the following actions, taking into account paragraph 45 of the Doha Ministerial Declaration:*

(a) *Review all special and differential treatment provisions with a view to strengthening them and making them more precise, effective and operational, in accordance with paragraph 44 of the Doha Ministerial Declaration;*

(b) *Aim to reduce or, as appropriate, eliminate tariffs on non-agricultural products, including the reduction or elimination of tariff peaks, high tariffs and tariff escalation, as well as non-tariff barriers, in particular on products of export interest to developing countries. Product coverage should be comprehensive and without a priori exclusions. The negotiations shall take fully into account the special needs and interests of developing and least developed countries, including through less than full reciprocity in reduction commitments, in accordance with the Doha Ministerial Declaration;*

(c) *Fulfil, without prejudging the outcome of the negotiations, the commitment for comprehensive negotiations initiated under article 20 of the Agreement on Agriculture, as referred to in the Doha Ministerial Declaration,*[41] *aiming at substantial improvements in market access, reductions of with a view to phasing out all forms of export subsidies, and substantial reductions in trade-distorting domestic support, while agreeing that the provisions for special and differential treatment for developing countries shall be an integral part of all*

[41] A/C.2/56/2, annex, paras. 13 and 14.

elements of the negotiations and shall be embodied in the schedules of concession and commitments and, as appropriate, in the rules and disciplines to be negotiated, so as to be operationally effective and to enable developing countries to effectively take account of their development needs, including food security and rural development. Take note of the non-trade concerns reflected in the negotiating proposals submitted by members of the World Trade Organization and confirm that non-trade concerns will be taken into account in the negotiations as provided for in the Agreement on Agriculture, in accordance with the Doha Ministerial Declaration.

93. *Call on developed countries that have not already done so to work towards the objective of duty-free and quota-free access for all least developed countries' exports, as envisaged in the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010.*

94. *Commit to actively pursue the work programme of the World Trade Organization to address the trade-related issues and concerns affecting the fuller integration of small, vulnerable economies into the multilateral trading system in a manner commensurate with their special circumstances and in support of their efforts towards sustainable development, in accordance with paragraph 35 of the Doha Declaration.*

95. *Build the capacity of commodity-dependent countries to diversify exports through, inter alia, financial and technical assistance, international assistance for economic diversification and sustainable resource management and address the instability of commodity prices and declining terms of trade, as well as strengthen the activities covered by the second account of the Common Fund for Commodities to support sustainable development.*

96. *Enhance the benefits for developing countries, as well as countries with economies in transition, from trade liberalization, including through public-private partnerships, through, inter alia, action at all levels, including through financial support for technical assistance, the development of technology and capacity-building to developing countries to:*

(a) *Enhance trade infrastructure and strengthen institutions;*

(b) *Increase developing country capacity to diversify and increase exports to cope with the instability of commodity prices and declining terms of trade;*

(c) *Increase the value added of developing country exports.*

97. *Continue to enhance the mutual supportiveness of trade, environment and development with a view to achieving sustainable development through actions at all levels to:*

(a) *Encourage the WTO Committee on Trade and Environment and the WTO Committee on Trade and Development, within their respective mandates, to each act as a forum to identify and debate developmental and environmental aspects of the negotiations, in order to help achieve an outcome which benefits sustainable development in accordance with the commitments made under the Doha Ministerial Declaration;*

(b) *Support the completion of the work programme of the Doha Ministerial Declaration on subsidies so as to promote sustainable development and enhance the*

environment, and encourage reform of subsidies that have considerable negative effects on the environment and are incompatible with sustainable development;

(c) *Encourage efforts to promote cooperation on trade, environment and development, including in the field of providing technical assistance to developing countries, between the secretariats of WTO, UNCTAD, UNDP, UNEP, and other relevant international environmental and development and regional organizations;*

(d) *Encourage the voluntary use of environmental impact assessments as an important national-level tool to better identify trade, environment and development interlinkages. Further encourage countries and international organizations with experience in this field to provide technical assistance to developing countries for these purposes.*

98. *Promote mutual supportiveness between the multilateral trading system and the multilateral environmental agreements, consistent with sustainable development goals, in support of the work programme agreed through WTO, while recognizing the importance of maintaining the integrity of both sets of instruments.*

99. *Complement and support the Doha Ministerial Declaration and the Monterrey Consensus by undertaking further action at the national, regional and international levels, including through public/private partnerships, to enhance the benefits, in particular for developing countries as well as for countries with economies in transition, of trade liberalization, through, inter alia, actions at all levels to:*

(a) *Establish and strengthen existing trade and cooperation agreements, consistent with the multilateral trading system, with a view to achieving sustainable development;*

(b) *Support voluntary WTO-compatible market-based initiatives for the creation and expansion of domestic and international markets for environmentally friendly goods and services, including organic products, which maximize environmental and developmental benefits through, inter alia, capacity-building and technical assistance to developing countries;*

(c) *Support measures to simplify and make more transparent domestic regulations and procedures that affect trade so as to assist exporters, particularly those from developing countries.*

100. *Address the public health problems affecting many developing and least developed countries, especially those resulting from HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and other epidemics, while noting the importance of the Doha Declaration on the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS Agreement) and public health,*[42] *in which it was agreed that the TRIPS Agreement does not and should not prevent WTO members from taking measures to protect public health. Accordingly, while reiterating our commitment to the TRIPS Agreement, we reaffirm that the Agreement can and should be interpreted and implemented in a manner supportive of WTO members' right to protect public health and, in particular, to promote access to medicines for all.*

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[42] Ibid,. paras. 17-19.

101. States should cooperate to promote a supportive and open international economic system that would lead to economic growth and sustainable development in all countries to better address the problems of environmental degradation. Trade policy measures for environmental purposes should not constitute a means of arbitrary or unjustifiable discrimination or a disguised restriction on international trade. Unilateral actions to deal with environmental challenges outside the jurisdiction of the importing country should be avoided. Environmental measures addressing transboundary or global environmental problems should, as far as possible, be based on an international consensus.

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102. *Take steps with a view to the avoidance of, and refrain from, any unilateral measure not in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations that impedes the full achievement of economic and social development by the population of the affected countries, in particular women and children, that hinders their well-being or that creates obstacles to the full enjoyment of their human rights, including the right of everyone to a standard of living adequate for their health and well-being and their right to food, medical care and the necessary social services. Ensure that food and medicine are not used as tools for political pressure.*

103. *Take further effective measures to remove obstacles to the realization of the right of peoples to self-determination, in particular peoples living under colonial and foreign occupation, which continue to adversely affect their economic and social development and are incompatible with the dignity and worth of the human person and must be combated and eliminated. People under foreign occupation must be protected in accordance with the provisions of international humanitarian law.*

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104. In accordance with the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,[43] this shall not be construed as authorizing or encouraging any action which would dismember or impair, totally or in part, the territorial integrity or political unity of sovereign and independent States conducting themselves in compliance with the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples and thus possessed of a Government representing the whole people belonging to the territory without distinction of any kind.

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105. *Promote, facilitate and finance, as appropriate, access to and the development, transfer and diffusion of environmentally sound technologies and corresponding know-how, in particular to developing countries and countries with economies in transition on favourable terms, including on concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed, as set out in chapter 34 of Agenda 21, including through urgent actions at all levels to:*

(a) *Provide information more effectively;*

[43] General Assembly resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

(b) *Enhance existing national institutional capacity in developing countries to improve access to and the development, transfer and diffusion of environmentally sound technologies and corresponding know-how;*

(c) *Facilitate country-driven technology needs assessments;*

(d) *Establish legal and regulatory frameworks in both supplier and recipient countries that expedite the transfer of environmentally sound technologies in a cost-effective manner by both public and private sectors and support their implementation;*

(e) *Promote the access and transfer of technology related to early warning systems and to mitigation programmes to developing countries affected by natural disasters.*

106. *Improve the transfer of technologies to developing countries, in particular at the bilateral and regional levels, including through urgent actions at all levels to:*

(a) *Improve interaction and collaboration, stakeholder relationships and networks between and among universities, research institutions, government agencies and the private sector;*

(b) *Develop and strengthen networking of related institutional support structures, such as technology and productivity centres, research, training and development institutions, and national and regional cleaner production centres;*

(c) *Create partnerships conducive to investment and technology transfer, development and diffusion, to assist developing countries, as well as countries with economies in transition, in sharing best practices and promoting programmes of assistance, and encourage collaboration between corporations and research institutes to enhance industrial efficiency, agricultural productivity, environmental management and competitiveness;*

(d) *Provide assistance to developing countries, as well as countries with economies in transition, in accessing environmentally sound technologies that are publicly owned or in the public domain, as well as available knowledge in the public domain on science and technology, and in accessing the know-how and expertise required in order for them to make independent use of this knowledge in pursuing their development goals;*

(e) *Support existing mechanisms and, where appropriate, establish new mechanisms for the development, transfer and diffusion of environmentally sound technologies to developing countries and economies in transition.*

107. *Assist developing countries in building capacity to access a larger share of multilateral and global research and development programmes. In this regard, strengthen and, where appropriate, create centres for sustainable development in developing countries.*

108. *Build greater capacity in science and technology for sustainable development, with action to improve collaboration and partnerships on research and development and their widespread application among research institutions, universities, the private sector, governments, non-governmental organizations and networks, as well as between and among scientists and academics of developing and developed countries, and in this regard encourage networking with and between centres of scientific excellence in developing countries.*

109. *Improve policy and decision-making at all levels through, inter alia, improved collaboration between natural and social scientists, and between scientists and policy makers, including through urgent actions at all levels to:*

(a) *Increase the use of scientific knowledge and technology and increase the beneficial use of local and indigenous knowledge in a manner respectful of the holders of that knowledge and consistent with national law;*

(b) *Make greater use of integrated scientific assessments, risk assessments and interdisciplinary and intersectoral approaches;*

(c) *Continue to support and collaborate with international scientific assessments supporting decision-making, including the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, with the broad participation of developing country experts;*

(d) *Assist developing countries in developing and implementing science and technology policies;*

(e) *Establish partnerships between scientific, public and private institutions, including by integrating the advice of scientists into decision-making bodies to ensure a greater role for science, technology development and engineering sectors;*

(f) *Promote and improve science-based decision-making and reaffirm the precautionary approach as set out in principle 15 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, which states:*

> *"In order to protect the environment, the precautionary approach shall be widely applied by States according to their capabilities. Where there are threats of serious or irreversible damage, lack of full scientific certainty shall not be used as a reason for postponing cost-effective measures to prevent environmental degradation."*

110. *Assist developing countries, through international cooperation, in enhancing their capacity in their efforts to address issues pertaining to environmental protection, including in their formulation and implementation of policies for environmental management and protection, including through urgent actions at all levels to:*

(a) *Improve their use of science and technology for environmental monitoring, assessment models, accurate databases and integrated information systems;*

(b) *Promote and, where appropriate, improve their use of satellite technologies for quality data collection, verification, updating and further improvement of aerial and ground-based observations, in support of their efforts to collect quality, accurate, long-term, consistent and reliable data;*

(c) *Set up and, where appropriate, further develop national statistical services capable of providing sound data on science education and research and development activities that are necessary for effective science and technology policy-making.*

111. *Establish regular channels between policy makers and the scientific community to request and receive science and technology advice for the implementation of Agenda 21 and create and strengthen networks for science and education for sustainable development, at all levels, with the aim of sharing*

knowledge, experience and best practices and building scientific capacities, particularly in developing countries.

112. *Use information and communication technologies, where appropriate, as tools to increase the frequency of communication and the sharing of experience and knowledge and to improve the quality of and access to information and communications technology in all countries, building on the work facilitated by the United Nations Information and Communications Technology Task Force and the efforts of other relevant international and regional forums.*

113. *Support publicly funded research and development entities to engage in strategic alliances for the purpose of enhancing research and development to achieve cleaner production and product technologies, through, inter alia, the mobilization from all sources of adequate financial and technical resources, including new and additional resources, and encourage the transfer and diffusion of those technologies, in particular to developing countries.*

114. *Examine issues of global public interest through open, transparent and inclusive workshops to promote a better public understanding of such questions.*

115. *Further resolve to take concerted action against international terrorism, which causes serious obstacles to sustainable development.*

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116. Education is critical for promoting sustainable development. It is therefore essential to mobilize necessary resources, including financial resources at all levels, by bilateral and multilateral donors, including the World Bank and the regional development banks, by civil society and by foundations, to complement the efforts by national governments to pursue the following goals and actions:

(a) Meet the Millennium development goal of achieving universal primary education, ensuring that, by 2015, children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling;

(b) Provide all children, particularly those living in rural areas and those living in poverty, especially girls, with the access and opportunity to complete a full course of primary education.

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117. *Provide financial assistance and support to education, research, public awareness programmes and developmental institutions in developing countries and countries with economies in transition in order to:*

(a) *Sustain their educational infrastructures and programmes, including those related to environment and public health education;*

(b) *Consider means of avoiding the frequent, serious financial constraints faced by many institutions of higher learning, including universities around the world, particularly in developing countries and countries in transition.*

118. *Address the impact of HIV/AIDS on the educational system in those countries seriously affected by the pandemic.*

119. *Allocate national and international resources for basic education as proposed by the Dakar Framework for Action on Education for All and for improved*

integration of sustainable development into education and in bilateral and multilateral development programmes, and improve integration between publicly funded research and development and development programmes.

120. *Eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education by 2005, as provided in the Dakar Framework for Action on Education for All, and at all levels of education no later than 2015, to meet the development goals contained in the Millennium Declaration, with action to ensure, inter alia, equal access to all levels and forms of education, training and capacity-building by gender mainstreaming, and by creating a gender-sensitive educational system.*

121. *Integrate sustainable development into education systems at all levels of education in order to promote education as a key agent for change.*

122. *Develop, implement, monitor and review education action plans and programmes at the national, subnational and local levels, as appropriate, that reflect the Dakar Framework for Action on Education for All and that are relevant to local conditions and needs leading to the achievement of community development and make education for sustainable development a part of those plans.*

123. *Provide all community members with a wide range of formal and non-formal continuing educational opportunities, including volunteer community service programmes, in order to end illiteracy and emphasize the importance of lifelong learning and promote sustainable development.*

124. *Support the use of education to promote sustainable development, including through urgent actions at all levels to:*

(a) *Integrate information and communications technology in school curriculum development to ensure its access by both rural and urban communities and provide assistance, particularly to developing countries, inter alia, for the establishment of an appropriate enabling environment required for such technology;*

(b) *Promote, as appropriate, affordable and increased access to programmes for students, researchers and engineers from developing countries in the universities and research institutions of developed countries in order to promote the exchange of experience and capacity that will benefit all partners;*

(c) *Continue to implement the work programme of the Commission on Sustainable Development on education for sustainable development;*

(d) *Recommend to the United Nations General Assembly that it consider adopting a decade of education for sustainable development, starting in 2005.*

125. *Enhance and accelerate human, institutional and infrastructure capacity-building initiatives and promote partnerships in that regard that respond to the specific needs of developing countries in the context of sustainable development.*

126. *Support local, national, subregional and regional initiatives with action to develop, use and adapt knowledge and techniques and to enhance local, national, subregional and regional centres of excellence for education, research and training in order to strengthen the knowledge capacity of developing countries and countries with economies in transition through, inter alia, the mobilization from all sources of adequate financial and other resources, including new and additional resources.*

127. *Provide technical and financial assistance to developing countries, including through the strengthening of capacity-building efforts, such as the United Nations Development Programme Capacity 21 programme, to:*

(a) *Assess their own capacity development needs and opportunities at the individual, institutional and societal levels;*

(b) *Design programmes for capacity-building and support for local, national and community-level programmes that focus on meeting the challenges of globalization more effectively and attaining the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration;*

(c) *Develop the capacity of civil society, including youth, to participate, as appropriate, in designing, implementing and reviewing sustainable development policies and strategies at all levels;*

(d) *Build and, where appropriate, strengthen national capacities for carrying out effective implementation of Agenda 21.*

128. *Ensure access, at the national level, to environmental information and judicial and administrative proceedings in environmental matters, as well as public participation in decision-making, so as to further principle 10 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, taking into full account principles 5, 7 and 11 of the Declaration.*

129. *Strengthen national and regional information and statistical and analytical services relevant to sustainable development policies and programmes, including data disaggregated by sex, age and other factors, and encourage donors to provide financial and technical support to developing countries to enhance their capacity to formulate policies and implement programmes for sustainable development.*

130. *Encourage further work on indicators for sustainable development by countries at the national level, including integration of gender aspects, on a voluntary basis, in line with national conditions and priorities.*

131. *Promote further work on indicators, in conformity with paragraph 3 of decision 9/4 of the Commission on Sustainable Development.*[44]

132. *Promote the development and wider use of earth observation technologies, including satellite remote sensing, global mapping and geographic information systems, to collect quality data on environmental impacts, land use and land-use changes, including through urgent actions at all levels to:*

(a) *Strengthen cooperation and coordination among global observing systems and research programmes for integrated global observations, taking into account the need for building capacity and sharing of data from ground-based observations, satellite remote sensing and other sources among all countries;*

(b) *Develop information systems that make the sharing of valuable data possible, including the active exchange of Earth observation data;*

(c) *Encourage initiatives and partnerships for global mapping.*

133. *Support countries, particularly developing countries, in their national efforts to:*

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[44] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2001, Supplement No. 9* (E/2001/29), chap. I.B.

(a) *Collect data that are accurate, long-term, consistent and reliable;*

(b) *Use satellite and remote-sensing technologies for data collection and further improvement of ground-based observations;*

(c) *Access, explore and use geographic information by utilizing the technologies of satellite remote sensing, satellite global positioning, mapping and geographic information systems.*

134. *Support efforts to prevent and mitigate the impacts of natural disasters, including through urgent actions at all levels to:*

(a) *Provide affordable access to disaster-related information for early warning purposes;*

(b) *Translate available data, particularly from global meteorological observation systems, into timely and useful products.*

135. *Develop and promote the wider application of environmental impact assessments, inter alia, as a national instrument, as appropriate, to provide essential decision-support information on projects that could cause significant adverse effects to the environment.*

136. *Promote and further develop methodologies at policy, strategy and project levels for sustainable development decision-making at the local and national levels, and where relevant at the regional level. In this regard, emphasize that the choice of the appropriate methodology to be used in countries should be adequate to their country-specific conditions and circumstances, should be on a voluntary basis and should conform to their development priority needs.*

XI. Institutional framework for sustainable development

137. An effective institutional framework for sustainable development at all levels is key to the full implementation of Agenda 21, the follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and meeting emerging sustainable development challenges. Measures aimed at strengthening such a framework should build on the provisions of Agenda 21, as well as the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 of 1997, and the principles of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development and should promote the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration, taking into account the Monterrey Consensus and relevant outcomes of other major United Nations conferences and international agreements since 1992. It should be responsive to the needs of all countries, taking into account the specific needs of developing countries including the means of implementation. It should lead to the strengthening of international bodies and organizations dealing with sustainable development, while respecting their existing mandates, as well as to the strengthening of relevant regional, national and local institutions.

138. Good governance is essential for sustainable development. Sound economic policies, solid democratic institutions responsive to the needs of the people and improved infrastructure are the basis for sustained economic growth, poverty eradication, and employment creation. Freedom, peace and security, domestic stability, respect for human rights, including the right to development, and the rule of law, gender equality, market-oriented policies, and an overall commitment to just and democratic societies are also essential and mutually reinforcing.

A. Objectives

139. Measures to strengthen institutional arrangements on sustainable development, at all levels, should be taken within the framework of Agenda 21,[45] build on developments since the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and lead to the achievement of, inter alia, the following objectives:

(a) Strengthening commitments to sustainable development;

(b) Integration of the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development in a balanced manner;

(c) Strengthening of the implementation of Agenda 21, including through the mobilization of financial and technological resources, as well as capacity-building programmes, particularly for developing countries;

(d) Strengthening coherence, coordination and monitoring;

(e) Promoting the rule of law and strengthening of governmental institutions;

(f) Increasing effectiveness and efficiency through limiting overlap and duplication of activities of international organizations, within and outside the United Nations system, based on their mandates and comparative advantages;

[45] References in the present chapter to Agenda 21 are deemed to include Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the Summit.

(g) Enhancing participation and effective involvement of civil society and other relevant stakeholders in the implementation of Agenda 21, as well as promoting transparency and broad public participation;

(h) Strengthening capacities for sustainable development at all levels, including the local level, in particular those of developing countries;

(i) Strengthening international cooperation aimed at reinforcing the implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the Summit.

B. Strengthening the institutional framework for sustainable development at the international level

140. The international community should:

(a) Enhance the integration of sustainable development goals as reflected in Agenda 21 and support for implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the Summit into the policies, work programmes and operational guidelines of relevant United Nations agencies, programmes and funds, the Global Environment Facility and international financial and trade institutions, within their mandates, while stressing that their activities should take full account of national programmes and priorities, particularly those of developing countries, as well as, where appropriate, countries with economies in transition, to achieve sustainable development;

(b) Strengthen collaboration within and between the United Nations system, international financial institutions, the Global Environment Facility and the World Trade Organization, utilizing the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, the United Nations Development Group, the Environment Management Group and other inter-agency coordinating bodies. Strengthened inter-agency collaboration should be pursued in all relevant contexts, with special emphasis on the operational level, involving partnership arrangements on specific issues to support, in particular, the efforts of developing countries in implementing Agenda 21;

(c) Strengthen and better integrate the three dimensions of sustainable development policies and programmes and promote the full integration of sustainable development objectives into programmes and policies of bodies that have a primary focus on social issues. In particular, the social dimension of sustainable development should be strengthened, inter alia, by emphasizing follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit for Social Development and its five-year review, and taking into account their reports, and by support to social protection systems;

(d) Fully implement the outcomes of the decision on international environmental governance adopted by the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme at its seventh special session[46] and invite the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session to consider the important but complex issue of establishing universal membership for the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum;

(e) Engage actively and constructively in ensuring the timely completion of the negotiations on a comprehensive United Nations convention against corruption,

[46] UNEP/GCSS.VII/6, annex I.

including the question of repatriation of funds illicitly acquired to countries of origin;

(f) Promote corporate responsibility and accountability and the exchange of best practices in the context of sustainable development, including, as appropriate, through multi-stakeholder dialogue, such as through the Commission on Sustainable Development, and other initiatives;

(g) Take concrete action to implement the Monterrey Consensus at all levels.

141. Good governance at the international level is fundamental for achieving sustainable development. In order to ensure a dynamic and enabling international economic environment, it is important to promote global economic governance through addressing the international finance, trade, technology and investment patterns that have an impact on the development prospects of developing countries. To this effect, the international community should take all necessary and appropriate measures, including ensuring support for structural and macroeconomic reform, a comprehensive solution to the external debt problem and increasing market access for developing countries. Efforts to reform the international financial architecture need to be sustained with greater transparency and the effective participation of developing countries in decision-making processes. A universal, rules-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system, as well as meaningful trade liberalization, can substantially stimulate development worldwide, benefiting countries at all stages of development.

142. A vibrant and effective United Nations system is fundamental to the promotion of international cooperation for sustainable development and to a global economic system that works for all. To this effect, a firm commitment to the ideals of the United Nations, the principles of international law and those enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, as well as to strengthening the United Nations system and other multilateral institutions and promoting the improvement of their operations, is essential. States should also fulfil their commitment to negotiate and finalize as soon as possible a United Nations convention against corruption in all its aspects, including the question of repatriation of funds illicitly acquired to countries of origin and also to promoting stronger cooperation to eliminate money laundering.

C. Role of the General Assembly

143. The General Assembly of the United Nations should adopt sustainable development as a key element of the overarching framework for United Nations activities, particularly for achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration, and should give overall political direction to the implementation of Agenda 21 and its review.

D. Role of the Economic and Social Council

144. Pursuant to the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations, the provisions of Agenda 21 regarding the Economic and Social Council and General Assembly resolutions 48/162 and 50/227, which reaffirmed the Council as the central mechanism for the coordination of the United Nations system and its specialized agencies and supervision of subsidiary bodies, in particular its functional commissions, and to promote the implementation of Agenda 21 by strengthening system-wide coordination, the Council should:

(a) Increase its role in overseeing system-wide coordination and the balanced integration of economic, social and environmental aspects of United Nations policies and programmes aimed at promoting sustainable development;

(b) Organize periodic consideration of sustainable development themes in regard to the implementation of Agenda 21, including the means of implementation. Recommendations in regard to such themes could be made by the Commission on Sustainable Development;

(c) Make full use of its high-level, coordination, operational activities and the general segments to effectively take into account all relevant aspects of the work of the United Nations on sustainable development. In this context, the Council should encourage the active participation of major groups in its high-level segment and the work of its relevant functional commissions, in accordance with the respective rules of procedure;

(d) Promote greater coordination, complementarity, effectiveness and efficiency of activities of its functional commissions and other subsidiary bodies that are relevant to the implementation of Agenda 21;

(e) Terminate the work of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources for Development and transfer its work to the Commission on Sustainable Development;

(f) Ensure that there is a close link between the role of the Council in the follow-up to the Summit and its role in the follow-up to the Monterrey Consensus, in a sustained and coordinated manner. To that end, the Council should explore ways to develop arrangements relating to its meetings with the Bretton Woods institutions and the World Trade Organization, as set out in the Monterrey Consensus;

(g) Intensify its efforts to ensure that gender mainstreaming is an integral part of its activities concerning the coordinated implementation of Agenda 21.

E. Role and function of the Commission on Sustainable Development

145. The Commission on Sustainable Development should continue to be the high-level commission on sustainable development within the United Nations system and serve as a forum for consideration of issues related to integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development. Although the role, functions and mandate of the Commission as set out in relevant parts of Agenda 21 and adopted in General Assembly resolution 47/191 continue to be relevant, the Commission needs to be strengthened, taking into account the role of relevant institutions and organizations. An enhanced role of the Commission should include reviewing and monitoring progress in the implementation of Agenda 21 and fostering coherence of implementation, initiatives and partnerships.

146. Within that context, the Commission should place more emphasis on actions that enable implementation at all levels, including promoting and facilitating partnerships involving Governments, international organizations and relevant stakeholders for the implementation of Agenda 21.

147. The Commission should:

(a) Review and evaluate progress and promote further implementation of Agenda 21;

(b) Focus on the cross-sectoral aspects of specific sectoral issues and provide a forum for better integration of policies, including through interaction among Ministers dealing with the various dimensions and sectors of sustainable development through the high-level segments;

(c) Address new challenges and opportunities related to the implementation of Agenda 21;

(d) Focus on actions related to implementation of Agenda 21, limiting negotiations in the sessions of the Commission to every two years;

(e) Limit the number of themes addressed in each session.

148. In relation to its role in facilitating implementation, the Commission should emphasize the following:

(a) Review progress and promote the further implementation of Agenda 21. In this context, the Commission should identify constraints on implementation and make recommendations to overcome those constraints;

(b) Serve as a focal point for the discussion of partnerships that promote sustainable development, including sharing lessons learned, progress made and best practices;

(c) Review issues related to financial assistance and transfer of technology for sustainable development, as well as capacity-building, while making full use of existing information. In this regard, the Commission on Sustainable Development could give consideration to more effective use of national reports and regional experience and to this end make appropriate recommendations;

(d) Provide a forum for analysis and exchange of experience on measures that assist sustainable development planning, decision-making and the implementation of sustainable development strategies. In this regard, the Commission could give consideration to more effective use of national and regional reports;

(e) Take into account significant legal developments in the field of sustainable development, with due regard to the role of relevant intergovernmental bodies in promoting the implementation of Agenda 21 relating to international legal instruments and mechanisms.

149. With regard to the practical modalities and programme of work of the Commission, specific decisions on those issues should be taken by the Commission at its next session, when the Commission's thematic work programme will be elaborated. In particular, the following issues should be considered:

(a) Giving a balanced consideration to implementation of all of the mandates of the Commission contained in General Assembly resolution 47/191;

(b) Continuing to provide for more direct and substantive involvement of international organizations and major groups in the work of the Commission;

(c) Give greater consideration to the scientific contributions to sustainable development through, for example, drawing on the scientific community and encouraging national, regional and international scientific networks to be involved in the Commission;

(d) Furthering the contribution of educators to sustainable development, including, where appropriate, in the activities of the Commission;

(e) The scheduling and duration of intersessional meetings.

150. Undertake further measures to promote best practices and lessons learned in sustainable development, and in addition promote the use of contemporary methods of data collection and dissemination, including broader use of information technologies.

F. Role of international institutions

151. Stress the need for international institutions both within and outside the United Nations system, including international financial institutions, the World Trade Organization and the Global Environment Facility, to enhance, within their mandates, their cooperative efforts to:

(a) Promote effective and collective support to the implementation of Agenda 21 at all levels;

(b) Enhance the effectiveness and coordination of international institutions to implement Agenda 21, the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, relevant sustainable development aspects of the Millennium Declaration, the Monterrey Consensus and the outcome of the Fourth Ministerial Meeting of the World Trade Organization, held in Doha in November 2001.

152. Request the Secretary-General of the United Nations, utilizing the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, including through informal collaborative efforts, to further promote system-wide inter-agency cooperation and coordination on sustainable development, to take appropriate measures to facilitate exchange of information, and to continue to keep the Economic and Social Council and the Commission informed of actions being taken to implement Agenda 21.

153. Significantly strengthen support for the capacity-building programmes of the United Nations Development Programme for sustainable development, building on the experience gained from the Capacity 21 programme, as important mechanisms for supporting local and national development capacity-building efforts, in particular in developing countries.

154. Strengthen cooperation between the United Nations Environment Programme and other United Nations bodies and specialized agencies, the Bretton Woods institutions and the World Trade Organization, within their mandates.

155. The United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements, the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, within their mandates, should strengthen their contribution to sustainable development programmes and the implementation of Agenda 21 at all levels, particularly in the area of promoting capacity-building.

156. To promote effective implementation of Agenda 21 at the international level, the following should also be undertaken:

(a) Streamline the international sustainable development meeting calendar and, as appropriate, reduce the number of meetings, the length of meetings and the

amount of time spent on negotiated outcomes in favour of more time spent on practical matters related to implementation;

(b) Encourage partnership initiatives for implementation by all relevant actors to support the outcome of the World Summit on Sustainable Development. In this context, further development of partnerships and partnership follow-up should take note of the preparatory work for the Summit;

(c) Make full use of developments in the field of information and communication technologies.

157. Strengthening of the international institutional framework for sustainable development is an evolutionary process. It is necessary to keep relevant arrangements under review; identify gaps; eliminate duplication of functions; and continue to strive for greater integration, efficiency and coordination of the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development aiming at the implementation of Agenda 21.

G. Strengthening institutional arrangements for sustainable development at the regional level

158. Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcome of the Summit should be effectively pursued at the regional and subregional levels, through the regional commissions and other regional and subregional institutions and bodies.

159. Intraregional coordination and cooperation on sustainable development should be improved among the regional commissions, United Nations Funds, programmes and agencies, regional development banks and other regional and subregional institutions and bodies. This should include, as appropriate, support for development, enhancement and implementation of agreed regional sustainable development strategies and action plans, reflecting national and regional priorities.

160. In particular, taking into account relevant provisions of Agenda 21, the regional commissions, in collaboration with other regional and subregional bodies, should:

(a) Promote the integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development into their work in a balanced way, including through implementation of Agenda 21. To this end, the regional commissions should enhance their capacity through internal action and be provided, as appropriate, with external support;

(b) Facilitate and promote a balanced integration of the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development into the work of regional, subregional and other bodies, for example by facilitating and strengthening the exchange of experiences, including national experience, best practices, case studies and partnership experience related to the implementation of Agenda 21;

(c) Assist in the mobilization of technical and financial assistance, and facilitate the provision of adequate financing for the implementation of regionally and subregionally agreed sustainable development programmes and projects, including addressing the objective of poverty eradication;

(d) Continue to promote multi-stakeholder participation and encourage partnerships to support the implementation of Agenda 21 at the regional and subregional levels.

161. Regionally and subregionally agreed sustainable development initiatives and programmes, such as the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) and the interregional aspects of the globally agreed Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, should be supported.

H. Strengthening institutional frameworks for sustainable development at the national level

162. States should:

(a) Continue to promote coherent and coordinated approaches to institutional frameworks for sustainable development at all national levels, including through, as appropriate, the establishment or strengthening of existing authorities and mechanisms necessary for policy-making, coordination and implementation and enforcement of laws;

(b) Take immediate steps to make progress in the formulation and elaboration of national strategies for sustainable development and begin their implementation by 2005. To this end, as appropriate, strategies should be supported through international cooperation, taking into account the special needs of developing countries, in particular the least developed countries. Such strategies, which, where applicable, could be formulated as poverty reduction strategies that integrate economic, social and environmental aspects of sustainable development, should be pursued in accordance with each country's national priorities.

163. Each country has the primary responsibility for its own sustainable development, and the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized. All countries should promote sustainable development at the national level by, inter alia, enacting and enforcing clear and effective laws that support sustainable development. All countries should strengthen governmental institutions, including by providing necessary infrastructure and by promoting transparency, accountability and fair administrative and judicial institutions.

164. All countries should also promote public participation, including through measures that provide access to information regarding legislation, regulations, activities, policies and programmes. They should also foster full public participation in sustainable development policy formulation and implementation. Women should be able to participate fully and equally in policy formulation and decision-making.

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165. *Further promote the establishment or enhancement of sustainable development councils and/or coordination structures at the national level, including at the local level, in order to provide a high-level focus on sustainable development policies. In that context, multi-stakeholder participation should be promoted.*

166. *Support efforts by all countries, particularly developing countries, as well as countries with economies in transition, to enhance national institutional arrangements for sustainable development, including at the local level. That could include promoting cross-sectoral approaches in the formulation of strategies and plans for sustainable development, such as, where applicable, poverty reduction strategies, aid coordination, encouraging participatory approaches and enhancing policy analysis, management capacity and implementation capacity, including mainstreaming a gender perspective in all those activities.*

167. *Enhance the role and capacity of local authorities as well as stakeholders in implementing Agenda 21 and the outcome of the Summit and in strengthening the continuing support for local Agenda 21 programmes and associated initiatives and partnerships and encourage, in particular, partnerships among and between local authorities and other levels of government and stakeholders to advance sustainable development as called for in, inter alia, the Habitat Agenda.*[47]

I. Participation of major groups

168. *Enhance partnerships between governmental and non-governmental actors, including all major groups, as well as volunteer groups, on programmes and activities for the achievement of sustainable development at all levels.*

169. *Acknowledge the consideration being given to the possible relationship between environment and human rights, including the right to development, with full and transparent participation of Member States of the United Nations and observer States.*

170. *Promote and support youth participation in programmes and activities relating to sustainable development through, for example, supporting local youth councils or their equivalent, and by encouraging their establishment where they do not exist.*

[47] A/CONF.165/14, chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

Resolution 3*
Expression of thanks to the people and Government of South Africa

The World Summit on Sustainable Development,

Having met in Johannesburg, South Africa, from 26 August to 4 September 2002, at the invitation of the Government of South Africa,

1. *Expresses its deep appreciation* to His Excellency Thabo Mbeki, President of South Africa, for his outstanding contribution, as President of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, to the successful outcome of the Summit;

2. *Expresses its profound gratitude* to the Government of South Africa for having made it possible for the Summit to be held in South Africa and for the excellent facilities, staff and services so graciously placed at its disposal;

3. *Requests* the Government of South Africa to convey to the city of Johannesburg and to the people of South Africa the gratitude of the Summit for the hospitality and warm welcome extended to the participants.

Resolution 4**
Credentials of representatives to the World Summit on Sustainable Development

The World Summit on Sustainable Development,

Having considered the report of the Credentials Committee[1] and the recommendation contained therein,

Approves the report of the Credentials Committee.

* Adopted at the 17th plenary meeting, on 4 September 2002, for the discussion see chap. XII.

** Adopted at the 17th plenary meeting, on 4 September 2002, for the discussion see chap. X.

[1] A/CONF.199/15.

Chapter II
Attendance and organization of work

A. Date and place of the Summit

1. The World Summit on Sustainable Development was held in Johannesburg, South Africa, from 26 August to 4 September 2002, in conformity with General Assembly resolutions 55/199 and 56/226. During that period, the Summit held 17 plenary meetings.

B. Attendance

2. The following States and regional economic integration organizations were represented at the Summit:

Afghanistan
Albania
Algeria
Andorra
Angola
Antigua and Barbuda
Argentina
Armenia
Australia
Austria
Azerbaijan
Bahamas
Bahrain
Bangladesh
Barbados
Belarus
Belgium
Belize
Benin
Bhutan
Bolivia
Bosnia and Herzegovina
Botswana
Brazil
Brunei Darussalam
Bulgaria
Burkina Faso
Burundi
Cambodia
Cameroon
Canada
Cape Verde
Central African Republic
Chad
Chile
China
Colombia
Comoros
Congo
Cook Islands
Costa Rica
Côte d'Ivoire
Croatia
Cuba
Cyprus
Czech Republic
Democratic People's Republic of Korea
Democratic Republic of the Congo
Denmark
Djibouti
Dominica
Dominican Republic
Ecuador
Egypt
El Salvador
Equatorial Guinea
Eritrea
Estonia
Ethiopia
European Community
Fiji
Finland
France
Gabon
Gambia
Georgia

Germany
Ghana
Greece
Grenada
Guatemala
Guinea
Guinea-Bissau
Guyana
Haiti
Holy See
Honduras
Hungary
Iceland
India
Indonesia
Iran (Islamic Republic of)
Iraq
Ireland
Israel
Italy
Jamaica
Japan
Jordan
Kazakhstan
Kenya
Kiribati
Kuwait
Kyrgyzstan
Lao People's Democratic Republic
Latvia
Lebanon
Lesotho
Liberia
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
Liechtenstein
Lithuania
Luxembourg
Madagascar
Malawi
Malaysia
Maldives
Mali
Malta
Marshall Islands
Mauritania
Mauritius
Mexico
Micronesia (Federated States of)
Monaco
Mongolia
Morocco
Mozambique
Myanmar
Namibia
Nepal
Netherlands
New Zealand
Nicaragua
Niger
Nigeria
Niue
Norway
Oman
Pakistan
Palau
Panama
Papua New Guinea
Paraguay
Peru
Philippines
Poland
Portugal
Qatar
Republic of Korea
Republic of Moldova
Romania
Russian Federation
Rwanda
Saint Kitts and Nevis
Saint Lucia
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Samoa
Sao Tome and Principe
Saudi Arabia
Senegal
Seychelles
Sierra Leone
Singapore
Slovakia
Slovenia
Solomon Islands
Somalia
South Africa
Spain
Sri Lanka
Sudan
Suriname
Swaziland
Sweden
Switzerland

Syrian Arab Republic
Tajikistan
Thailand
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
Togo
Tonga
Trinidad and Tobago
Tunisia
Turkey
Tuvalu
Uganda
Ukraine
United Arab Emirates
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
United Republic of Tanzania
United States of America
Uruguay
Uzbekistan
Vanuatu
Venezuela
Viet Nam
Yemen
Yugoslavia
Zambia
Zimbabwe

3. The following associate members of the regional commissions were represented by observers:

American Samoa
British Virgin Islands
Netherlands Antilles
Puerto Rico
United States Virgin Islands

4. The following State, having received an invitation to participate as an observer at the Summit, was represented:

Timor-Leste

5. The following entity, having received an invitation to participate as an observer at the World Summit on Sustainable Development and in the work of Summit, was represented:

Palestine

6. The secretariats of the following regional commissions were represented:

Economic Commission for Europe
Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
Economic Commission for Africa
Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

7. The following United Nations bodies and programmes were represented:

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees-South Africa
United Nations Environment Programme
United Nations Children's Fund
United Nations Institute for Training and Research
United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
United Nations Development Programme
United Nations Human Settlements Programme
United Nations Population Fund
United Nations University

Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
Office of the Special Coordinator for Least Developed, Landlocked and Island Developing Countries
Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention

8. The secretariats of the following conventions were represented:

Convention on Biological Diversity
United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa
Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal

9. The following specialized agencies and related organizations were represented:

International Labour Organization
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
World Health Organization
World Bank
International Atomic Energy Agency
International Civil Aviation Organization
International Fund for Agricultural Development
International Maritime Organization
International Monetary Fund
Universal Postal Union
International Telecommunication Union
United Nations Industrial Development Organization
World Intellectual Property Organization
World Meteorological Organization
World Tourism Organization
World Trade Organization

10. The following intergovernmental organizations were represented:

African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States
African Development Bank
African Organization of Cartography and Remote Sensing
African Union
Andean Community
Andean Development Corporation
Annual Mines Ministries of the Americas Conference
Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa
Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization
Asian Development Bank
Asian Productivity Organization
Association of Caribbean States
Association of South-East Asian Nations
Baltic 21 (Agenda 21 for the Baltic Sea Region)
Caribbean Community Secretariat
Caribbean Conservation Agency
Caribbean Development Bank
Caribbean Disaster Emergency Response Agency

Centre for Applied Bioscience International
Commission on Science and Technology for Sustainable Development in the South
Committee on Earth Observation Satellites/European Space Agency
Common Fund for Commodities
Commonwealth of Independent States
Commonwealth Secretariat
Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research
Convention on Migratory Species
Convention on Wetlands
Council of Europe
Council of Europe Development Bank
Council of the Baltic Sea States
European Bank for Reconstruction and Development
European Space Agency
Global Environment Facility
Inter-American Development Bank
Intergovernmental Forum on Chemical Safety
International Association of Economic and Social Councils and Similar Institutions
International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology
International Development Law Institute
International Energy Agency
International Hydrographic Organization
International Institute for Refrigeration
International Joint Commission
International Oil Pollution Compensation Funds
International Organization of La Francophonie
International Organization for Migration
International Organization for Standardization
International Tropical Timber Organization
International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources
International Criminal Police Organization
Inter-Parliamentary Union
Islamic Development Bank
Iwokrama International Rainforest Project
Latin American Economic System
Latin American Parliament
League of Arab States
Lesotho Highlands Water Project
Organisation pour la mise en valeur du fleuve Sénégal
Nordic Council
Nordic Council of Ministers
North-South Centre of the Council of Europe
Organization of Eastern Caribbean States
Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development
Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries
Organization of the Islamic Conference
Pacific Centre for Environmental and Sustainable Development
Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat
Partners in Population and Development

Permanent Commission of the South Pacific
Permanent Court of Arbitration
Regional Organization for the Conservation of the Environment of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden
Regional Trade and Economic Integration
Sahara and Sahel Observatory
South Asia Cooperative Environment Programme
South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission
South Pacific Regional Environment Programme
Standing Committee of Parliamentarians of the Arctic Region
Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries Fund for International Development
World Conservation Union

11. A large number of non-governmental organizations attended the Summit. The Commission on Sustainable Development, acting as the preparatory committee of the Summit, accredited non-governmental organizations.[1]

12. Other entities having received a standing invitation and participating as observers are: the International Committee of the Red Cross, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and the Sovereign Military Order of Malta.

C. Opening of the Summit

13. The World Summit on Sustainable Development was opened on 26 August 2002 by the Secretary-General of the Summit. The President of the Summit delivered an opening statement. Statements were also made by the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the Secretary-General of the Summit, the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme and the President of the United Nations General Assembly (see annex II).

D. Election of the President and other officers of the Summit

14. At its 1st, 7th and 9th plenary meetings, on 26, 28 and 29 August 2002, the Summit elected the following officers:

President of the Summit

Thabo Mbeki, President of South Africa, was elected President of the Summit by acclamation.

Vice-Presidents

African States: Cameroon, Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, Uganda.

Eastern European States: Hungary, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovenia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

Latin American and Caribbean States: Antigua and Barbuda, Brazil, Cuba, Mexico, Peru.

Western European and Other States: Belgium, Denmark, Germany, New Zealand, Norway.

Asian States: Iran, Iraq, Maldives, Pakistan and Samoa.

Vice-President ex officio

Nkosazana Clarice Dlamini Zuma, Minister for Foreign Affairs of South Africa, was elected, by acclamation, Vice-President ex officio of the Summit.

Rapporteur-General

María Cecilia Rozas, Director of Environment and Sustainable Development of Peru, was elected, by acclamation, Rapporteur-General of the Summit.

Chairman of the Main Committee

Emil Salim (Indonesia) was elected, by acclamation, Chairman of the Main Committee of the Summit.

E. Adoption of the rules of procedure

15. At its 1st plenary meeting, on 26 August 2002, the Summit adopted the rules of procedure (A/CONF.199/2 and Corr.1).

F. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

16. At its 1st plenary meeting, on 26 August 2002, the Summit adopted the agenda as contained in document A/CONF.199/1. The agenda read as follows:

1. Opening of the Summit.
2. Election of the President.
3. Adoption of the rules of procedure.
4. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work of the Summit: accreditation of intergovernmental organizations.
5. Election of officers other than the President.
6. Organization of work, including the establishment of the Main Committee.
7. Credentials of representatives to the Summit:
   (a) Appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee;
   (b) Report of the Credentials Committee.
8. Partnership events.
9. General debate.
10. Multi-stakeholder event.
11. Round tables.

12. Draft plan of implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development.

13. Political document.

14. Adoption of the report of the Summit.

15. Closure of the Summit.

G. Accreditation of intergovernmental organizations

17. At its 1st, 11th and 14th plenary meetings, on 26 August, 30 August and 3 September 2002, the Summit approved the accreditation of the 22 intergovernmental organizations listed in document A/CONF.199/13, as well as the following four additional intergovernmental organizations: the Centre for Applied Bioscience, the Permanent Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel, Central Asia Regional Cooperation and l'Organisation pour la mise en valeur du fleuve Sénégal.

H. Organization of work, including the establishment of the Main Committee

18. At its 1st plenary meeting, on 26 August, the Summit approved the organization of work as outlined in document A/CONF.199/3.

19. At the same meeting, the Summit approved the proposed timetable of work for the Summit and the Main Committee as contained in annexes I and II to document A/CONF.199/3.

I. Credentials of representatives to the Summit

20. At its 1st plenary meeting, on 26 August, in accordance with paragraphs 16 and 17 of its rules of procedure, the Summit appointed the following members of the Credentials Committee on the basis of the composition of the Credentials Committee of the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session: China, Denmark, Jamaica, Lesotho, the Russian Federation, Senegal, Singapore, the United States of America and Uruguay.

J. Documentation

21. The list of documents before the Summit is contained in annex I to the present report.

Chapter III
Partnership events

Partnership plenary meetings on water and sanitation, energy, health, agriculture, biodiversity and cross-sectoral issues

1. At its 1st plenary meeting, on 26 August 2002, in accordance with decision 2002/PC/6 of the Commission on Sustainable Development acting as the preparatory committee for the World Summit on Sustainable Development (A/CONF.199/4, chap. X), the Summit approved the organization of work as set out in document A/CONF.199/3 and decided that under agenda item 8, "Partnership events", six partnership plenary meetings would be held, on the themes of water and sanitation, energy, health, agriculture, biodiversity and cross-sectoral issues. Accordingly, the Summit heard general statements at its 2nd to 7th meetings, from 26 to 28 August 2002.

2. The themes of the 2nd and 3rd partnership plenary meetings, held on 26 August, were "Health and the environment" and "Biodiversity and ecosystem management"; the themes of the 4th and 5th meetings, held on 27 August, were "Agriculture" and "Cross-sectoral issues" (finance/trade, technology transfer, information/education/science, consumption patterns and capacity-building); and the themes of the 6th and 7th meetings, held on 28 August, were "Water and sanitation" and "Energy". An account of the meetings is set out in paragraphs 4 to 43 below.

3. At the 17th plenary meeting, on 4 September 2002, the ex officio Vice-President of the Summit, Nkosazana Clarice Dlamini Zuma, Minister for Foreign Affairs of South Africa, introduced the summaries of the partnership plenary meetings, which were contained in document A/CONF.199/16 and Add.1 to 3.

1. Health and the environment

4. The ex officio Vice-President of the Summit opened the 2nd plenary meeting on 26 August 2002, and the Summit began its consideration of agenda item 8, "Partnership events", discussing the theme of health and the environment. The Secretary-General of the Summit made an introductory statement.

5. At the meeting, statements were made by the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General of the United Nations to the World Summit on Sustainable Development, acting as moderator, and the Executive Director for Sustainable Development and Healthy Environments of the World Health Organization (WHO), acting as presenter.

6. Statements were also made by the following panellists: the Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund, the Director for Water and Sanitation of the United Nations Children's Fund, a representative of the World Bank and the Medical Research Counsellor of South Africa.

7. Statements were made by the representatives of the following States: Senegal, Norway, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Swaziland, Denmark (on behalf of the European Union), Romania, Cuba, South Africa, Canada and Finland.

8. A statement was also made by the representative of Women's Environment and Development Organization, a non-governmental organization.

2. Biodiversity and ecosystem management

9. The ex officio Vice-President of the Summit opened the 3rd plenary meeting on 26 August 2002, on the theme of biodiversity and ecosystem management.

10. At the meeting, statements were made by the High-level Adviser for the United Nations Environment Programme and the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biodiversity, acting as presenters, and by the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General, acting as moderator.

11. As part of a panel discussion, statements were made by representatives of the following major groups: business, farmers, indigenous people, local authorities, non-governmental organizations, the scientific and technological communities, trade unions and women.

12. Also as part of the panel discussion, statements were made by the representatives of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the Ramsar Convention, the M. S. Swaminathan Foundation, the Global Environment Facility and the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources.

13. Statements were made by the representatives of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Ecuador, India, Uganda, Japan, the Czech Republic, Benin, Armenia, Nepal, Denmark (on behalf of the European Union), the Niger, Seychelles, Norway, Gabon, the Netherlands, Egypt, Mexico and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, as well as the observer of Palestine.

14. Statements were also made by representatives of the following major groups: the private sector, youth and indigenous people.

3. Agriculture

15. The ex officio Vice-President of the Summit opened the 4th plenary meeting on 27 August 2002, on the theme of agriculture.

16. At the meeting, statements were made by M. S. Swaminathan of the M. S. Swaminathan Foundation and Pedro Sanchez, Executive Director of the International Centre for Research in Agroforestry, acting as presenters, and the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General, acting as moderator.

17. As part of a panel discussion, statements were made by the representatives of the following major groups: youth, women, trade unions, the scientific and technological communities, non-governmental organizations, local authorities, indigenous people, farmers and business.

18. Also as part of the panel discussion, statements were made by the representatives of the World Bank, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the International Labour Organization and UNDP.

19. Statements were made by the representatives of Cape Verde, the United States of America, Austria, Iraq, Uruguay, Lesotho, the United Republic of Tanzania, Côte d'Ivoire, Bangladesh, Ethiopia, Malawi, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and

Northern Ireland, Equatorial Guinea, Australia, the Syrian Arab Republic, Romania, Senegal, South Africa and Venezuela.

20. A statement was made by the representative of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research, an intergovernmental organization.

21. A statement was made by the representative of the European Commission, on behalf of the European Community.

22. Statements were also made by the representatives of the following major groups: indigenous people, and business and industry.

4. Cross-sectoral issues (finance/trade, technology transfer, information/education/ science, consumption patterns and capacity-building)

23. On behalf of the ex officio Vice-President of the Summit, a Vice-President of the Summit, Srgjan Kerim (the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia), opened the 5th plenary meeting on 27 August 2002, on the theme of cross-sectoral issues.

24. Statements were made by the Secretary-General of the Summit and the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General, acting as moderator.

25. As part of a panel discussion, statements were made by the representatives of the following major groups: youth, women, trade unions, the scientific and technological communities, non-governmental organizations, local authorities, indigenous people, farmers and business.

26. Also as part of the panel discussion, statements were made by the representatives of UNESCO, UNDP, UNEP, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the World Trade Organization, the World Bank, the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development, the World High Technology Society and the United Nations Information and Communication Technologies Task Force.

27. Statements were made by the representatives of Saudi Arabia, Burkina Faso, Finland, Zambia, Yugoslavia, Pakistan, Ghana, Benin, Bangladesh, Uruguay, Sweden, Equatorial Guinea, Norway, Côte d'Ivoire, Japan, Cuba, Nepal, the United States of America and Botswana.

28. A statement was made by a representative of the Committee on Earth Observation Satellites of the European Space Agency.

29. Statements were also made by the representatives of the following major groups: women, business and industry.

5. Water and sanitation

30. The ex officio Vice-President of the Summit opened the 6th plenary meeting on 28 August 2002, on the theme of water and sanitation.

31. At the meeting, statements were made by Margaret Catley-Carlson, Chairperson of the Global Water Partnership, and Gourisankar Gosh, Executive Director of the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council, acting as presenters, and the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General, acting as moderator.

32. As part of a panel discussion, statements were made by the representatives of the following major groups: youth, women, trade unions, the scientific and technological communities, non-governmental organizations, local authorities, indigenous people, farmers and business.

33. Also as part of the panel discussion, statements were made by the representatives of FAO, WHO, UNDP, the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, the United Nations Children's Fund, UNEP, the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, the Chairman of the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council and the Special Rapporteur on the right to adequate housing of the Commission on Human Rights.

34. Statements were made by the representatives of Switzerland, Mauritania, Yemen, India, the United States of America, Uruguay, Ukraine, Eritrea, Belgium, Egypt, Pakistan, Kenya, Israel, Denmark (on behalf of the European Union), Madagascar, Canada, the Niger, Venezuela, South Africa, Greece and Burkina Faso, as well as by the observer of Palestine.

35. A statement was made by the Special Rapporteur on the right to adequate housing of the Commission on Human Rights.

36. A statement was made by a representative of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources, a non-governmental organization.

37. A statement was also made by the Secretary-General of the Ramsar Convention.

6. Energy

38. The ex officio Vice-President of the Summit opened the 7th plenary meeting on 28 August, on the theme of energy.

39. At the meeting, statements were made by Thomas B. Johansson, Director of the International Institute for Industrial Environmental Economics, University of Lund, Sweden, and Stephen Karekezi, African Energy Policy Research Network, Kenya, acting as presenters, and by the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General, acting as moderator.

40. As part of a panel discussion, statements were made by the representatives of the following major groups: youth, women, trade unions, the scientific and technological communities, non-governmental organizations, local authorities, indigenous people, farmers and business.

41. Also, as part of the panel discussion, statements were made by the representatives of UNDP, UNEP, UNIDO and the Department of Economic and Social Affairs.

42. Statements were made by the representatives of Nigeria, New Zealand, Brazil, Tuvalu, Zambia, Costa Rica, Lesotho, Denmark (on behalf of the European Union), Japan, Slovenia, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, the United States of America, Ecuador, Namibia, Nepal, Bulgaria, Germany, Uganda, Mexico, India, Algeria, Bhutan, Morocco, Chile, Sweden and Argentina.

43. Statements were also made by the representatives of the following major groups: business and industry and non-governmental organizations.

44. The comments of the ex officio Vice-President of the Summit (A/CONF.199/16/Add.1) on the partnership plenary meetings on water and sanitation, energy, health, agriculture and biodiversity read as follows:

> "1. The central task of our deliberations at the World Summit on Sustainable Development is to take stock of the successes and failures of the past 10 years and agree on clear and practical measures to implement sustainable development. In our collective efforts to move from commitments to action to ensure more sustainable livelihoods for all, water and sanitation, energy, health, agriculture and biodiversity (WEHAB) represent five specific areas in which concrete results are both essential and achievable. These and other important areas of implementation should be seen against the urgent need to mobilize the necessary cross-cutting means of implementation.
>
> "2. I wish to express my heartfelt thanks to the experts for their collaboration in the preparation of the implementation framework papers, and for their presentations. Their inputs, as well as those of the major groups, were of high quality and enhanced our dialogue during our interactive meetings. I would also like to thank the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General of the United Nations to the Summit, Jan Pronk, who did an exceptional job in moderating this rich dialogue, as well as all the participants.
>
> "3. The innovative nature of these discussions should be encouraged as a model for enhanced multi-stakeholder participation and engagement within the United Nations system. This is the time for concrete action, and all who can and should play a role should be able to engage each other fully and at all levels in connection with the modalities of implementation in the follow-up to the Johannesburg Summit.
>
> "4. The process started by the implementation frameworks should harness the resources and technologies at our disposal, in Governments and in all major groups, for real implementation, in the spirit of partnership, equitable participation and mutual benefit. The concrete initiatives and partnerships announced by some delegations are welcome, and we will make available to all delegates a systematic list of all initiatives that have been proposed during the Summit. All should look forward to more specific announcements during the remainder of the Summit.
>
> "5. The results of our deliberations will be made available in the form of a Chairperson's summary (A/CONF.199/16/Add.2). It is hoped that this will assist delegations in the further implementation of sustainable development and follow-up to outcomes agreed in Johannesburg.
>
> "6. The key highlights from each partnership plenary meeting included the following common themes:
>
> - The need for sound policies and strategies, and for proper consultation with all affected members of communities, in policy formulation and decision-making for sustainable development
> - The need to build and strengthen partnerships not only among Governments but also with women, youth, indigenous peoples, non-governmental organizations, local authorities, workers and trade unions,

business and industry, the scientific and technological community and farmers

- The need for capacity-building and technology sharing
- The mobilization of additional resources to achieve systematic and predictable funding
- The need for practical programmes and actions, with clear, time-bound targets and time frames, as well as a well-coordinated system of measurement, monitoring and reporting
- The need for infrastructure development
- The need to improve institutional frameworks for better implementation and participation, particularly by vulnerable groups.

"7. There should be a strong focus on follow-up from all parties involved, keeping in mind that WEHAB is an initiative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations. The WEHAB frameworks would be part of the implementation process of the proposed plan of implementation of the Summit. It is thus proposed that the Summit invite the Secretary-General to initiate consultations with all relevant and interested Governments and parties to translate the frameworks into action through a flexible, action-oriented process."

45. The summary of the partnership plenary meetings prepared by the ex officio Vice-President of the Summit (A/CONF.199/16/Add.2) read as follows:

"**Introduction**

"1. The WEHAB discussions in plenary were carried out in response to decision 2002/PC/6, (see A/CONF.199/4, chap. X), adopted at the fourth session of the preparatory committee. A focus on five key thematic areas — water and sanitation, energy, health, agriculture and biodiversity — was proposed by United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan as a contribution to the World Summit on Sustainable Development. The WEHAB initiative seeks to provide impetus for action in these five key thematic areas that are of crucial global importance, particularly for poor people throughout the developing world.

"2. In an effort to include all major stakeholders in the discussions, the plenary invited the participation of representatives of major groups and of the United Nations system, including the World Bank, in an interactive moderated dialogue with Governments. Each WEHAB theme had one meeting dedicated to it, involving a discussion of issues and challenges. Implementation framework documents prepared by a group of United Nations system experts were used as the basis of these discussions. There was also one meeting dedicated to a discussion of cross-sectoral issues. This experimental format for United Nations plenary meetings allowed the expression of a variety of valuable views and positions for the implementation of and follow-up to the World Summit on Sustainable Development. The interactive dialogue with major groups was moderated by Jan Pronk, Special Envoy of the Secretary-General of the United Nations to the World Summit on Sustainable Development.

"3. The purpose of the preparation of the implementation frameworks and the discussions at the Summit was to facilitate follow-up action and implementation after Johannesburg by all parties involved. The WEHAB frameworks could therefore be part of the implementation of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation.

"**Some common themes**

"4. Following are some common themes that ran throughout the five discussions.

"5. The issues:

- The important potential role of the WEHAB themes in reaching the Millennium development goals and the newly agreed targets of Johannesburg
- The importance of the WEHAB themes in the efforts of developing countries to eradicate poverty through people-centred development approaches
- The need for intersectoral approaches, the interrelatedness of each of the WEHAB areas with other sectors and the need for strong coordination among sectors and among United Nations system agencies
- The gender issue and the importance of placing greater emphasis on the empowerment of women as well as the negative effects on women in each of these areas
- The differentiated needs of the poor and the need to focus on improving knowledge, science, research and action in relation to their particular basic technological and economic needs
- The importance of the role of civil society and its potential contribution to policy and decision-making, as well as implementation
- The role of youth as important stakeholders in the Summit deliberations
- The importance of the role of the private sector, but with transparency and clarity of roles and standards, corporate responsibility and social contribution
- The central role of production and consumption patterns and their effects on each of the WEHAB areas.

"6. The challenges:

- Each WEHAB area is an entry point to achieving sustainable development, and taking action in any one of them advances the overarching goals of sustainable development.
- The lack of action in most of the WEHAB areas is not due to a lack of agreements. In each, there exists an impressive body of agreements, conventions and protocols that give the basis on which to take concrete action.

- There is a need to shift from addressing the cure for problems to addressing the underlying causes — prevention and mitigation are more cost-effective.
- It is important to establish a level playing field for the poor in their countries and for developing countries in the international system.
- The importance of local communities should be recognized and civil society should be empowered so that those who are most knowledgeable about their needs can participate in decision-making in areas that affect them.
- There is a need for decentralized approaches to fit the needs of local communities.
- There is a need for sound policies and strategies with concrete plans of action at the national level.
- Partnerships, particularly those that include Governments, business and other major groups, are an important feature of implementation.
- There is a need for capacity-building and financial resources.
- Economic instruments, including subsidies, have been used as a barrier to entry into markets and trade in general. Efforts should be made to eliminate these and to use these instruments instead to promote sustainable development.

“**WEHAB meetings**

“***Health***

“7. Good health is vital for eradicating poverty and achieving sustainable development. Health is not only about lack of illness but also about fundamental human rights to clean water, sanitation and high-quality, affordable and equitable health services. Health issues thus need to be placed at the centre of sustainable development concerns. There is a growing sense of urgency with regard to breaking the vicious cycle of strongly interlinked problems of environmental degradation, ill health and poverty. People who are poor are more likely to get sick. People who are sick are more likely to become poor. Health and environment linkages need to be given greater recognition.

“8. The strong link between health, productivity and development not only justifies but requires more integrated and intersectoral approaches to health. Health issues need to be tackled not only by health ministries and health sectors but, perhaps even more importantly, by sectors such as transportation, energy and agriculture. But such action requires resources, and many estimates have been made on what it would take to reach the Millennium development goal targets for health by 2015. The Commission on Macroeconomics and Health has recommended an increase in domestic budgetary resources of 1 per cent by 2015, and donor grants of $27 billion a year by 2007 and $38 billion by 2015, for tackling the diseases of the poor.

"9. Most speakers agreed on the need to take urgent action at all levels to deal with the following priority health issues:

- Controlling and eradicating communicable diseases, notably, tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS, as well as important diseases for developing countries, such as malaria
- Prompt diagnosis and treatment of common diseases, such as diarrhoea and respiratory diseases, including those caused by indoor air pollution as a result of cooking on wood fires
- Preventing and treating occupational health diseases and accidents
- Developing preventive measures and focusing more on prevention in general
- Improving access to better sanitation and clean water
- Tackling maternal mortality and reproductive health issues, and women's health issues in general
- Protecting the health of vulnerable sectors of the population, including children, women and the elderly
- Protecting and using indigenous knowledge and traditional medicines and recognizing and compensating their benefits
- Gender empowerment.

"10. For success in approaching health issues, many identified the need for:

- Strong political will and long-term commitments at a high level
- Sound policies and strategies
- Practical programmes and actions on the ground with clear targets and time frames
- Cross-sectoral and intersectoral coordination and harmonized actions (e.g., between energy, health, education, environment) at the various levels
- Strong coordination among United Nations system agencies and programmes
- Decentralized actions to get health assistance to people and communities that need it
- Shared commitments by partners
- Partnerships based on available scientific research, data and reliable information
- Broad involvement of civil society on a voluntary basis, through education, awareness-raising, dialogue, participation and empowerment
- Mobilization of additional resources to achieve systematic and predictable funding.

"11. At the same time, participants noted that capacity-building and research are needed for:

- Assessing and managing risks to health
- Identifying new and emerging health threats in time to take preventive measures (e.g., tobacco and smoking-related health issues)
- Planning, managing and monitoring health needs
- Training and retaining good health-care providers.

"12. Also considered essential by many were:

- Learning from past lessons, best practices and case studies
- Offering visible evidence of successful partnerships
- Developing an international code of conduct for recruiting health personnel from developing countries (reducing the brain drain from South to North)
- Mitigating the negative impacts on health of stabilization efforts by countries, such as structural adjustment programmes
- Advancing research on vaccines and preventive medicine for the diseases of the poor, and children most particularly, and ensuring the availability of and improving access to affordable medicine (links to trade and intellectual property rights)
- Committing further global funding for HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis, to be more consistent with needs
- Committing more resources to the health of children
- More recognition of the links between production and consumption patterns and health issues, and the need for paradigm shifts
- Placing greater focus on sanitation and the usefulness of time-bound targets for this important area (the Millennium development goals have targets for water but not for sanitation)
- Better monitoring and determined action on emerging diseases and behavioural patterns that affect health, such as the use of tobacco
- Better understanding that could lead to more focused action on the diseases of the poor in the rural sector, and health issues caused by types of livelihoods and daily work
- Improving health services and health infrastructure in rural areas.

"***Biodiversity***

"13. Biodiversity and the ecosystems they support are the living basis of sustainable development. They generate a wide range of goods and services on which the world economy depends. About 40 per cent of the global economy is based on biological products and processes. The economic value of biodiversity is estimated to be $2.9 trillion per year, whereas that of ecosystem services is $33 trillion per year. Activities that reduce biodiversity jeopardize economic development and often the survival of many who depend on biodiversity for their livelihood, such as the poor in the rural areas of

developing countries. The strong links that exist between biodiversity conservation and poverty alleviation are not always recognized or understood.

"14. Human-imposed threats to biodiversity demand immediate attention. The ecosystem approach, as laid out in the decisions under the Biodiversity Convention, should be implemented for progress to be achieved in conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. The links between poverty and biodiversity need to be paid greater attention, as they are intimately related. Many of the poor in rural sectors of developing countries depend on biodiversity for their survival.

"15. Many instruments are in place and many important decisions have been taken on biodiversity. But the many agreements and conventions are not consistent with the lack of action and implementation. Much of the discussion focused on the obstacles to implementation and the need not for more agreements, but for concrete action at the national and local levels.

"16. Although there is a need for more knowledge on biodiversity and its role in the functioning of ecosystems, there is enough knowledge to justify action. This knowledge is, however, often not provided to decision makers. Scientists must put the issues of biodiversity into understandable language for politicians to act on. There is an urgent need to mainstream biodiversity into overall development and sectoral strategies, but in order to do so, the closing of the feedback loop between science and policy makers must be better addressed. The lack of knowledge also applies to the public at large. There is not always recognition of the values of biodiversity and its links to other sectors. Strengthening intersectoral links is an essential prerequisite for tackling biodiversity concerns around the world.

"17. Challenges of biodiversity include:

- Ensuring equitable benefits arising from the use of biodiversity
- Empowering people and communities that are dependent on biodiversity and ecosystem functioning for their livelihoods, and supporting those that are affected by loss of biodiversity or negative changes in ecosystems
- Protecting and using indigenous knowledge and recognizing and compensating its benefits
- Integrating biodiversity concerns and the importance of biodiversity into all economic activity, including agriculture, forestry, land use, water resources management and infrastructure development
- Recognizing not only the economic value but also the cultural and spiritual value of biodiversity
- Shifting the focus from addressing the proximate causes of biodiversity loss to a strategy that addresses the underlying causes (treating the disease rather than the symptoms)
- Addressing the need for paradigm shifts (production and consumption patterns are at the root of biodiversity degradation and loss)

- Improving public knowledge and recognition of the importance of biodiversity for basic and daily needs for the public in general, which in turn could lead to a growing demand for more determined action on biodiversity by policy makers
- Improving knowledge on the links between production and consumption patterns and biodiversity
- Addressing the special conservation needs of important biodiversity areas and fragile ecosystems, such as those in many small island developing States.

"18. Among the many actions required to address the challenges, the participants noted the following:

- Developing better processes and mechanisms for concrete action and implementation
- Introducing and using economic instruments more widely in relation to biodiversity (economic incentives and a closer look at the relation between perverse subsidies and biodiversity loss and degradation)
- Sharing more openly global and regional research results on ecosystem functioning and establishing ecological networks, particularly those that lead to more sustainable ecological mosaics for better land use and ecosystem management
- Building capacities, sharing technology and scaling up outstanding examples of best practices of rural communities throughout the developing world
- Building better synergies among the various biodiversity-related conventions
- Better recognition of linkages between trade and environment, particularly trade and biodiversity, and of the need to establish cooperation to achieve synergies and mutual supportiveness between multilateral environmental agreements and WTO
- Addressing the challenges of poverty and the need to eradicate it, as a major impediment to biodiversity conservation and sustainable use, particularly rural poverty, and developing new, sustainable options for employment
- Building capacities at the local level and empowering local communities to take action, as it is at the local level where stress on biodiversity occurs
- Building partnerships among Governments, business, farmers and local communities, which is the best way to mainstream biodiversity concerns into economic and social activity
- Addressing the issues of intellectual property rights in support of equitable benefits and use through capacity-building and proper legislation.

"***Agriculture***

"19. Agriculture is central to sustainable development. About 70 per cent of the poor in developing countries live in rural areas and depend in one way or another on agriculture for their survival. Progress in agriculture, therefore, provides the best safety net against the poverty and hunger that exist in many countries of the world. Because of its important role in the economy of most developing countries, agriculture is also an engine for growth. A compact is needed to (a) defend gains already made (b) expand gains to marginal areas, and (c) make new gains through diversification of farming systems and products as well as by developing institutional structures to manage changes in ecology, economy and trade.

"20. One of the two presenters spoke of the polarization of agriculture: (a) the agriculture driven by technology, capital and subsidies (mass production) and (b) the agriculture driven by peasants and local farmers (production by the masses). Both commercial and peasant agriculture need to exist, and both make important contributions to feeding the population of the world. But both also require major reforms in order to realize their potential role of redressing the present trend of slow decline in the numbers of malnourished and hungry, particularly in Africa.

"21. Agriculture's bad image as the sector that overproduces while millions go hungry, that receives subsidies while blocking markets for those that could produce at lower prices and that harms the environment with its chemicals needs to be taken seriously and redressed. Changing the image of the sector and increasing agricultural productivity in the developing world require tackling underlying causes and reversing the downward trend in official development assistance of the past decade. Agriculture and the need to increase agricultural productivity need to be placed back in a position of priority on the global agenda. FAO mentioned that, according to its proposed anti-hunger programme, cutting hunger in half by 2015 will require additional public investments of $24 billion annually over the next 13 years.

"22. Many participants focused on the issues of trade and subsidies and the need to eliminate trade-distorting subsidies and trade barriers in developed countries. It was mentioned that without solutions in these areas, little would be accomplished by the efforts to increase agricultural productivity and to decrease the numbers of the hungry and malnourished around the world. Many focused on the 'governance of agriculture in the rich countries' as an area requiring serious and determined action if we are to achieve progress in agricultural productivity in developing countries. It was suggested that perhaps a small portion of the $1 billion-a-day subsidy given by rich countries to their agricultural sector should be dedicated to helping developing countries address their problems of soil fertility, internal market development (particularly rural infrastructure) and access to the markets of the rich countries.

"23. The challenges of agriculture are of a short- medium- and long-term nature. In order to achieve the target of halving hunger by 2015, the problem of hunger needs to be tackled in all time scales. The urgent and critical short-term problem of frequent food emergencies in some parts of the world requires not only resources but also innovation. The establishment of decentralized community food bank networks was mentioned as one potential formula for the international community to support to address the needs of food-deficient

areas. For the medium and long term, institutions and capacity-building are required to support sustainable production technologies and the competitiveness of agriculture in trade (both domestic and international).

"24. The key issues mentioned for agriculture, particularly in developing countries, included:

- The need to address the serious soil fertility problem in developing countries in sub-Saharan Africa
- The need to increase water-use productivity
- The potential diversification of crops, as well as non-farming activities, as alternative sources of income and employment in rural areas
- The need to involve farmers in policy- and decision-making
- Eliminating trade-distorting subsidies and trade barriers in developed countries to provide a level playing field and fair market access
- Building and strengthening rural infrastructure (roads, rural electrification, social infrastructure such as schools and hospitals) and strengthening the rural economy
- Addressing land tenure and land rights issues, including those related to women and indigenous people
- Applying research and development to increase productivity in crops and livestock that are of interest to the poor in rural areas
- Providing selective financial incentives in key areas to facilitate self-reliance and empower communities
- Strengthening early warning capacities vis-à-vis natural disasters
- Helping to scale up successful farming and agricultural practices in many parts of the developing world
- Supporting sustainable agricultural practices and organic farming efforts around the developing world, including for organically and sustainably produced crops that are increasingly in demand in developed countries
- Improving links to other sectors of the economy, particularly water (about 70 per cent of the water use in the world is for agriculture, and any efficiencies here will provide water resources for other sectors) and energy (efficiencies in this sector could help free up energy services for other uses; but agriculture could also be a major player in energy production with its vast potential for biomass)
- Supporting preventive measures for reducing hunger and increasing agricultural productivity.

"25. While large-scale, commercial agriculture does make an important contribution in feeding the world, the small farmers and their livelihood are key to sustainable development and key to reducing the numbers of hungry and malnourished around the world. But small farmers need technical and financial assistance, such as in the form of microcredits, to increase

agricultural productivity and to produce high-value crops that can be grown on a small scale. The suggestion was made that there should be a better distinction, in terms of policies and support, between low-value/high-volume products (such as maize and beans) and those that are high-value/low-volume (such as fruits and vegetables), which are more marketable domestically and internationally to those with greater purchasing power.

"26. The Green Revolution of the past was technology-driven and input-intensive. The future agricultural revolution should be small-farmer sustainable-agriculture and low-input based. We have many lessons from the Green Revolution, which helped the world make a quantum leap in agricultural productivity. But is also led to stresses on the environment that could be avoided with new sustainable agricultural practices.

"27. To achieve sustainable agricultural growth, changes are needed for:

- Promoting technological development — e.g., safe and accountable biotechnology use, new and renewable technology, information technology
- Building ecological foundations in terms of water, biodiversity, climate and land
- Developing marketable products and making use of marketable surplus
- Applying integrative approaches, since agriculture, water, energy, land, biodiversity and other factors are closely linked
- Increasing public investments in agriculture and building local markets
- Building capacities and establishing facilitating mechanisms for the diffusion of technologies to farmers, as well as the sharing of these technologies.

"28. In terms of human resources, special attention should be paid to:

- Empowerment of women — women play an important role in eradicating hunger since they are the majority of farmers affected most by hunger and are key agents of change
- Retaining youth in agriculture — youth holds the key to the future; farming should be made intellectually satisfying and economically attractive to them
- Recognition of waged agricultural workers' conditions and needs
- Recognizing and valuing indigenous knowledge as well as respecting the rights and cultures of indigenous people
- Empowering local communities to join a global campaign to reduce the numbers that go hungry and malnourished each day throughout the world.

"***Water and sanitation***

"29. Water is not only the most basic of needs but is also at the centre of sustainable development and essential for poverty eradication. Water is intimately linked to health, agriculture, energy and biodiversity. Without

progress on water, reaching other Millennium development goals will be difficult, if not impossible. Despite this, water is given low priority by countries, as evidenced by the decrease in official development assistance for this sector, by the reduction of investments by international financial institutions, by its low priority in national budgets and by the absence of water as a central feature in major regional programmes. And yet some 1.2 billion people still have no access to safe drinking water.

"30. Sanitation is intimately linked to good health and, for many, survival. There is no justification for the 6,000 deaths of children that happen every day as a result of insufficient or deficient sanitation facilities. The need to come up with concrete plans of actions to reduce the number of people — 2.4 billion — who do not have adequate sanitation was mentioned as one of the priorities of the World Summit on Social Development. The usefulness of time-bound targets to achieve this in the medium and long term was emphasized.

"31. The lack of action on water and the low priority it is given in many countries are not caused by a lack of agreement on the urgent need to take determined action. On the contrary, there is strong agreement on many of the key issues surrounding water and sanitation. On issues such as cost recovery, financial systems to ensure access and availability and the role of the private sector, there is less agreement. More global coordinated action and high national priority will help sort out these differences more easily. One of the presenters mentioned that there are several estimates on how much money is required to reach the Millennium development goals on water. One of these calculates that it would require between $14 billion and $30 billion a year on top of the roughly $30 billion a year already being spent.

"32. A common theme in the areas of water and sanitation is the need to involve all stakeholders in a multi-stakeholder approach to water and sanitation. The need to examine the institutional frameworks that establish priorities and policies for water and sanitation is also important, as many of the decisions regarding water and sanitation and the effects on people are taken in a variety of sectors and ministries.

"33. The subjects of water and sanitation revolve around:

- Access, availability and affordability
- Allocation issues
- Capacity-building and technological needs
- Social issues.

"34. The following were highlighted as important issues to address in each of these areas:

"35. Access and availability:

- The numbers of people to reach with adequate and quality coverage are immense, and they are either in poor rural areas or in marginal urban or peri-urban areas where the ability to pay for services is more limited

- The need to come up with policies, including cross-subsidization schemes to help pay for the services of the poorest sectors of the population
- The role of the private sector as a provider of technology, management and finance. It is most effective when there is a strong public sector assigning allocation priorities and where standards of accountability are present for all sectors
- The need for decentralized solutions to fit the needs of the local and rural communities, including with less costly technologies that use local human and capital inputs
- The difficulties of poorer countries facing water scarcity in providing access to water and sanitation, particularly when they are constrained by indebtedness.

"36. Allocation issues:

- Water has many uses and is the object of many competing demands. These demands come not only from various sectors of the population but also from various sectors of the economy. An integrated water resources management approach at the country, regional and local levels is key to mediating among the various demands in a rational way.
- Because there are sectors of the population that are less able to pay for services, policies and strategies need to be formulated to ensure that there are differentiated pay schemes that can replace the present system, which often has the poorest paying the highest costs for services.
- Transboundary considerations need to be given greater attention and resolution through regional cooperation (including those related to civil conflict that leads to ecosystem destruction).
- The biggest user of water resources — agriculture — needs to improve water use efficiencies ('more crop for the drop').
- Many ecosystems that are crucial for the water supply lack constituencies. As a result, they are often degraded by human activity. The link between the conservation of ecosystems and water needs to be better recognized.

"37. Capacity-building and technological needs:

- There is a need for capacity-building, particularly in the introduction, use and maintenance of technologies that fit the needs of local poor populations.
- There is a need for capacity-building and education in water management and conservation, as well as in sanitation and hygiene.
- Capacity-building in support of integration and coordination among sectors and communities is needed.
- Education, information and public awareness are essential in support of water management and conservation.

"38. Social issues:

- Water is a human right. Most countries are in agreement, but there is less agreement on how to put this right into practice.
- Women and children and vulnerable populations in general are bearing the brunt of the negative impacts of the lack of action on water and sanitation — when there is a scarcity of water and sanitation in a country or region, it is not the rich who are affected but the poor.
- Better institutional frameworks are needed for governance, decentralization and multi-stakeholder arrangements — an overarching framework that helps to link national, regional and local levels (linking strategies and policies with actions at the local level).
- Allocation of water among sectors of the population should be based not on the ability to pay but on need, and in the case of the ultra-poor, with little or no purchasing power, measures should be taken to ensure that water is supplied as needed.

"***Energy***

"39. Energy is central to the lives of the poor and affects them in terms of food, water, health, income and jobs. Access to energy is central to poverty alleviation. Currently, 50 per cent of the people living in least developed countries live on less than $1 a day, 70 per cent live on less than $2 a day, and approximately 50 per cent are unemployed. Access to affordable energy services is critical for increasing agricultural productivity, encouraging economic activity, generating employment and income opportunities and improving quality of life, particularly for women and children. The many hours a day spent fetching firewood and cooking using rudimentary methods could be used in other productive and family activities that they are now forgoing because of these chores.

"40. According to one of the presenters, energy interventions in the past have not been efficient. Small-scale technologies, ranging in cost from $50 to $300, are possible means to provide energy services to the poorest, particularly in rural areas. Some of the technologies recommended include mechanical water pumps, solar dryers and biofuel furnaces. The same presenter recommended that developing countries, particularly in Africa, should consider allocating from one quarter to one third of their energy budgets to small-scale energy technologies. These technologies should be as self-reliant as possible in terms of inputs, local equipment manufacture and maintenance.

"41. In addition to meeting the needs of the poor, energy services are crucial for economic growth and an entry point to sustainable development in general. Three major thrusts were mentioned as requiring action: the need to provide access to energy services to the approximately 2 billion people, mostly in rural areas, who do not have electricity; the need for an increased emphasis on renewable energy; and the need to develop clean and improved fossil fuel technologies. Switching to cleaner and more sustainable energy paths will, however, require policies and strategies. This shift will not be driven by scarcity, at least not in the foreseeable future. Setting time-bound targets on

renewable energy was emphasized by several as a useful method to promote more sustainable sources of energy.

"42. A comprehensive policy agenda for sustainable development will include capacity-building programmes, attention to the needs of the rural poor and to those who do not have access to adequate or any energy services, and support for renewable energy development. Reducing subsidies and effectively internalizing environmental costs associated with energy use are elements of effective markets. Deregulating electricity markets, as many countries are now doing, should be undertaken in a way that meets the needs of the rural and urban poor.

"43. Policies in general should be integrated and consistent to meet the needs of the poor in both rural and urban areas. The investments required for increasing the provision of energy services are immense and will be undertaken by both the public and the private sector. Creating an enabling environment for investments in the most appropriate energy paths for each country in support of sustainable development requires action now. Ten years ago, energy was not on the agenda, at least not directly (it was indirectly addressed through one of the conventions coming out of Rio — the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change). Ten years later in Johannesburg, energy not only is included but is one of the focal areas of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, requiring action and implementation.

"44. The following were highlighted as important issues in the various areas:

- The importance of energy conservation and efficiency and the need to integrate these into existing policies and consumption patterns
- The importance of clean energy and health linkages
- The importance of clean energy sources and the need to develop technologies to harness these resources
- The need for clear targets on renewable energy as a percentage of total energy
- The need to balance the current heavy emphasis on centralized, high-capital-cost conventional energy with investments in more decentralized, small-scale technologies for the rural poor
- The need to cooperate in all areas related to energy, including climate change, and the need for progress on the ratification of the Kyoto Protocol so that it can enter into force
- The ability of countries to take their own decisions on energy use and policies, but within improved global policy frameworks for energy use and access
- The need to engage with civil society in defining policy and implementation, with attention to the role of women and of local populations, including indigenous peoples
- The need to do away with subsidies that are not supportive of sustainable energy

- The need to provide safety nets for workers affected by transitions to cleaner energy paths
- The need to restructure markets in order to promote, support and accommodate transitions to more sustainable energy paths
- The importance of science and business for the development and improvement of technologies
- The need to launch large-scale programmes for dissemination of small-scale, cleaner energy technologies
- The importance of partnerships for developing and introducing sustainable energy technologies and energy services in developing countries
- The importance of regional integration and collaboration and the usefulness of these for reaching regional energy goals.

"45. The main energy objectives highlighted in the discussion included:

Energy for poverty alleviation. Access to energy services for poverty alleviation should include a focus on access to energy in rural areas and for women. National energy budgets should include a significant allocation for small-scale energy investments for affordable energy services for the poor. Large-scale energy projects, however, are also necessary to provide energy for industry and thus for creating jobs and increasing incomes.

Energy conservation and energy efficiency. Improvement in building design and management, better mass transportation, adoption of advanced and innovative cleaner technologies, energy labelling and standards, and better public procurement policies can contribute significantly in this area. All have a stake and all have a role to play. Trade unions, for example, have a role to play in conserving energy in the workplace. Indicative energy efficiency goals were mentioned as useful instruments for reaching energy efficiency.

Promotion of renewable energy. Many agreed that a target of increasing modern renewable energy sources to 10 per cent of the energy mix by 2010 or 2015 is reachable and useful. Some countries, while agreeing on the overall concept of setting targets, believed that each country should be left to decide on its energy policy and energy mix according to needs and capacities.

The use of policies and economic instruments. Many mentioned the need to reduce subsidies that do not promote clean energy technologies or renewable energy. Others suggested that some of these subsidies should be given to the same companies involved to increase research and development relating to renewable energy. Policies that internalize environmental costs were also mentioned, while it was also recognized that these would increase the cost of energy provision. When present, these adverse effects should be addressed with policies to protect the poor.

Meeting the needs of women. There is a need to design energy policies that meet the needs of women. These should address the particular burdens faced by women with regard to indoor air pollution and wood collection, access to credit for energy services and the inclusion of women in the decision-making process.

Action on climate change. Many called upon Governments to take action aimed at climate change. They called upon countries that have not yet done so to ratify the Kyoto Protocol so that it can enter into force at the earliest possible date. Some other countries, however, suggested that this was a subject that should be discussed in other forums.

"***Cross-sectoral issues***

"46. Unlike other meetings on WEHAB, the meeting on cross-sectoral issues did not have a framework document but instead a background issues paper as a guide. The discussion was clustered around three themes: (a) information, education and science; (b) consumption and production patterns; and (c) trade, technology transfer and development. Common challenges to promoting sustainable development in all three clusters include:

- The need for new approaches that emphasize empowerment, ownership, a bottom-up approach and gender sensitivity
- The need for capacity-building and information-sharing
- The need for resources
- Steering international cooperation and globalization into a direction that is more beneficial for sustainable development
- The need for the involvement of major groups in public policy-making in relation to all the foregoing.

"*Information, education and science*

"47. The scientific and technological community has much to contribute in the sharing of knowledge, the transfer of technology and capacity-building. Information based on scientific evidence is essential to sound decision-making as well. New lines of research are needed to address links between natural sciences and social sciences, so that science and research can contribute directly to poverty eradication and the promotion of sustainable consumption and production, among other goals.

"48. Education is a key to achieving sustainable development. Poverty eradication cannot be achieved without investment in primary education and public awareness-raising. Female education is essential to achieving gender equality.

"49. Good capacity-building initiatives need to be based on five principles:

- Ownership involving stakeholders from the beginning
- Integration and taking full account of ongoing actions
- Cross-sectoral harmonization between donors and recipients

- Increased use of modern technology and communication
- Development of new forms of cooperation, such as decentralized cooperation among local authorities.

"50. Information is essential for decision-making. Information-sharing is a form of capacity-building. Earth observation satellites and global mapping are essential tools for monitoring changes on the Earth. Data collection and distribution should be strengthened.

"51. Additional issues to be considered under this cluster include:

- The question of monopolizing knowledge, such as through patenting
- Emphasis not only on theoretical knowledge but also on practical knowledge
- Creating enabling environments for promoting education, science and research
- The sharing of the benefits of research
- The involvement of youth in capacity-building
- Making use of traditional and other already existing knowledge
- New ethics of sustainable development
- The importance of new technologies, such as remote sensing, and their wide potential application for developing countries
- Emerging trends and technologies, such as information and communication technologies, and their growing key role in development.

"*Consumption and production patterns*

"52. A notable difference between Rio and Johannesburg is the more conspicuous presence of business at the latter. Business has taken more interest in sustainable development issues; industries in some countries have realized that it might be more profitable to produce more sustainably. At the same time, Governments have been encouraging sustainable practices by business through tax relief and incentives. Efforts to achieve sustainable production in developed countries have focused on achieving resource efficiency in production and on minimizing waste, but the results so far have been mixed.

"53. Transnational corporations have the potential to contribute to sustainable development and to guide good practices in countries where they invest. Companies are interested in new technology, and many are aware of the need for capacity-building in developing countries. Pressures on them to adopt sustainable practices could come from host countries and non-governmental organizations through such means as environmental accounting and reporting requirements. Local authorities could promote green procurement policies to push industries to produce in environmentally friendly and fair manners.

"54. Consumer groups can play an important role in promoting sustainable consumption and thereby promoting sustainable production as well. Women

are important consumers and thus should participate in decision-making concerning production.

"55. Other issues highlighted include:

- Perspectives of small and medium enterprises to be considered
- Seeking corporate social responsibility and accountability
- The possibility that Government control may lead corporations to seek lowest common denominators thus, good governance is important
- The need for developed countries to take the lead in changing consumption and production patterns, given their past records.

"*Trade, technology transfer and development*

"56. The wide gaps that exist between developed countries and developing countries ("global apartheid") need to be bridged. Doha and Monterrey have achieved milestones in attaining commitments from donor countries to increase aid. There is a strong link between those processes and the World Summit on Sustainable Development.

"57. A major turning point in development assistance, according to the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development, has been for donors to agree to work on the basis of a single development framework that each of the developing countries itself decides on. Both bilateral and multilateral assistance are needed to tackle global issues such as poverty. Concrete results are needed in achieving the target of 0.7 per cent of gross national product for official development assistance and providing debt relief to free up resources for the development of the countries concerned.

"58. Additional issues mentioned include:

- The possibility that inappropriate development models can do more harm than good, particularly to poor communities
- The need to place greater emphasis on the appropriateness of technology
- A strong call for debt relief to free the countries concerned from their heavy burden
- Elimination of tariffs against non-agricultural products
- Removal of trade-distorting subsidies
- Long-term financing for building infrastructure and capacity
- Integrated, cross-sectoral development assistance
- Peace-building as an integral part of development strategies
- 'Today's complacency is tomorrow's plight' — a call for the entry into force of the Kyoto Protocol
- The impossibility of imposing a culture of sustainable development from outside; the need for people-centred development
- Partnership as essential for promoting sustainable development.

"**Conclusions**

"59. **The urgency of implementation**. The Plan of Implementation, and all WEHAB targets and policies, need to be applied. Action is needed at all levels: intergovernmental, regional, and local, with active participation of all major groups.

"60. **Partnerships to make things happen**. Partnerships, between Governments, business, local communities and non-governmental organizations are needed to do research, to set standards and to implement. In order to be effective, partnerships must be based on the principles of transparency, ownership, sustainability and major-group participation, and underpinned with new, more and better-directed financial resources.

"61. **A follow-up process**. Follow-up is needed in order to give a foothold to new partnerships and other initiatives in each of the WEHAB areas. Consultations are required between the United Nations, Governments and major groups on the modalities of the follow-up process. The Secretary-General of the United Nations, who took the initiative of focusing on WEHAB in the process leading to the World Summit on Sustainable Development, could be invited to start such consultations."

Partnership plenary meeting on regional implementation

46. At its 1st plenary meeting, on 26 August 2002, in accordance with decision 2002/PC/6 of the Commission on Sustainable Development acting as the preparatory committee for the World Summit on Sustainable Development (see A/CONF.199/4, chap. X), the Summit approved the organization of work as set out in document A/CONF.199/3 and decided that under agenda item 8 it would hold a partnership plenary meeting on regional implementation, at its 8th meeting, on 29 August 2002. An account of the meeting is set out below.

47. The ex officio Vice-President of the Summit opened the meeting.

48. A statement was made by Gustave Speth, Yale University professor and former Administrator of UNDP, acting as moderator.

49. Statements were also made by the Executive Secretaries of the Economic Commission for Europe, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the Economic Commission for Africa and the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, acting as presenters.

50. As part of a panel discussion, statements were made by the representative of the Women's Environment and Development Organization; the Minister of Environment of Croatia; the representatives of the African Ministerial Conference on Environment, the International Centre for Environment and Development, the Council of Europe, the UNDP Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, the Amazonian Environment Funds and the International Centre for Agricultural Research in Dry Areas; the Minister of Environment of Georgia; and the representatives of the African Development Bank, the Palestinian National Environment Authority, the UNEP Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean, the Pacific Islands Forum, UNDP, the Asian Development Bank, the

South Asia Cooperative Environment Programme and the Abu Dhabi Global Environmental Data Initiative.

51. Statements were made by the representatives of Brazil, South Africa, Denmark (on behalf of the European Union), Israel, Switzerland, Indonesia, Romania, Tajikistan, Tuvalu, Azerbaijan and Argentina.

52. Statements were also made by the representatives of the following intergovernmental organizations: Corporación Andina de Fomento and the League of Arab States.

53. The summary of the partnership plenary meeting on regional implementation prepared by the ex officio Vice-President of the Summit (A/CONF.199/16/Add.3) read as follows:

> "1. The partnership plenary meeting of the World Summit on Sustainable Development on regional implementation opened with brief presentations by the Executive Secretaries of the regional commissions, addressing the themes of poverty eradication and sustainable development, financing for sustainable development, natural resources and sustainable development, integrating environment and sustainable development into decision-making, and trade, investment and globalization in the context of sustainable development.
>
> "2. A panel made up of representatives of the International Centre for Environment and Development, the Amazonian Environment Funds, UNDP, the Council of Europe and the International Centre for Agricultural Research in Dry Areas then made statements. This was followed by an interactive dialogue between representatives of Governments and resource persons from the African Ministerial Conference on Environment, the African Development Bank, the Women's, Environment and Development Organization, UNEP, the Asian Development Bank, the South Asia Cooperative Environment Programme, the Palestinian Environment Authority, the Abu Dhabi Global Environmental Data Initiative and ministers from Belgium, Georgia and Croatia representing their respective subregions. Gustave Speth, Professor at Yale University and former UNDP Administrator, moderated the meeting.
>
> "**Highlights of the discussion**
>
> "3. Regional implementation has become increasingly important since the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development. Many economic, social and environmental issues, including trade and finance, natural disaster mitigation, integrated river basin management and waste management, are of a transboundary nature and cannot be dealt with at the national level alone. Actions taken at the regional or subregional level provide a bridge between national realities and global priorities, while also addressing common areas of concern and shared interests associated with geographic proximity, relative homogeneity and shared history. Regional groups give smaller countries a collective voice and, through regional networks, put them on a more equal footing in the global order.
>
> "4. The regional commissions and other regional institutions have strategic advantages in performing a number of functions, including:

- Promoting regional partnerships and regional cooperation through interdisciplinary and cross-sectoral partnerships
- Providing forums for intersectoral and multi-stakeholder dialogues at the regional level, particularly in preparation for global negotiations and conventions
- Acting as think tanks and undertaking analyses of transboundary problems related to environment and sustainable development
- Supporting capacity-building efforts and information exchange at the regional level
- Monitoring and assessing progress made, including the follow-up to Summit outcomes.

"5. Despite these potential roles for regional institutions, it is important to remember that the effectiveness of regional institutions is dependent on the continuous support provided by their respective member States.

"6. The following issues were raised in relation to the five themes introduced by the regional commissions:

- Although a regional approach must be further promoted, a clear framework must also be established to ensure that the benefits of such an approach reach the people at large. The empowerment of women, indigenous people and other vulnerable groups to take part in policy dialogues and in decision-making is essential in this regard. For example, a newly created women's action agenda in line with the Millennium development goals will empower women from each region to monitor actions for implementation.
- The management and equitable use of natural resources pose transboundary challenges that can be addressed only at the regional or subregional level, through joint and integrated strategies and management of regional ecosystems, river basins and common water systems, regional seas and movement of hazardous substances.
- Sound decision-making requires gathering more accurate data at the local, national and regional levels. The Abu Dhabi Environmental Data Initiative is one example of capacity-building at the regional level for data collection, analysis and dissemination. Building knowledge networks for scientific research and innovation is essential.
- Awareness has increased within the private sector on the importance of sustainable development issues. However, the notion of profits must be addressed for business and industry to become truly committed to undertaking private initiatives towards sustainable development. Markets and profits should be effectively directed to alleviate poverty and attain other Millennium development goals through market incentives.

"7. Statements were also made regarding issues specific to each region:

- In Africa, stable and high-quality assistance and partnerships are clearly needed to combat poverty, HIV/AIDS, food insecurity and other priority issues. The New Partnership for Africa's Development is a dynamic and

promising initiative characterized by African ownership, political commitment and financing, with 15 countries involved in partnership with the rest of the world. It could serve as a development model for other regions.

- An integrated strategy is needed to address the specific needs of the Pacific islands, which can be overshadowed in the greater Asia region. Subregional approaches involving relevant stakeholders should therefore be emphasized in order to increase participation by indigenous people. The question of island vulnerability and related risk management, including natural disaster prevention and mitigation, are important issues for the Pacific as well as the Caribbean and other island regions.

- Respect for human rights, the rule of law, transparency, equality of opportunities and universal access to social services is particularly important for achieving social cohesion in Europe. Strategies set up to promote ecological partnerships in such areas as waste management, water management, cleaner production and partnerships for new mechanisms for financing are to be endorsed at the Environment for Europe Conference, to be held in Kiev in 2003.

- The Latin America and Caribbean initiative aims to promote sustainable development, adopt effective actions with respect to Summit outcomes and raise the level of the use of renewable energy to 10 per cent of total energy by 2010. A comprehensive network of financial institutions in Latin America and the Caribbean exists to facilitate the distribution of resources necessary to meet global commitments. Successful subregional sustainable development initiatives have already been undertaken in biodiversity conservation and the purchase of carbon credits.

- Regionalization is a relatively new concept in Western Asia. The priority concern and prerequisite for sustainable development is the issue of peace, security and conflict resolution. Despite positive efforts, regional progress has been hindered by the absence of peace, increasing foreign debt and the limited capacity of academic and research centres. However, significant steps have been taken in the direction of regional cooperation and coordination in information- and data-sharing and water management. Meaningful efforts for future regional cooperation are anticipated in areas involving capacity-building; water and soil resources for agriculture; marine pollution in the Mediterranean; coral reef protection in the Gulf States; comparative studies of regional laws and regulatory schemes; joint information and data systems, including satellite mapping; and eliminating weapons of mass destruction.

"8. The overall follow-up to the Summit at the regional level should focus on, inter alia, transboundary issues and externalities, regional advocacy and information-sharing, promoting and monitoring regional sustainable development-related strategies, advocacy, awareness-raising and capacity-building."

Chapter IV
General debate

A. General statements by non-State entities

1. At its 1st plenary meeting, on 26 August, in accordance with decision 2002/PC/6 of the Commission on Sustainable Development acting as the preparatory committee for the World Summit on Sustainable Development (see A/CONF.199/4, chap. X), the Summit approved the organization of work as set out in document A/CONF.199/3 and decided that the general statements by non-State entities under agenda item 9 would be heard, on 29 and 30 August 2002. Accordingly, the Summit heard general statements by non-State entities at its 9th, 10th and 11th meetings, on 29 and 30 August 2002.

2. At its 9th meeting, on 29 August, the Summit began its consideration of item 9 by hearing general statements by non-State entities.

3. Statements were made by the representative of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the President of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme, the Director-General of the World Health Organization, the Chairman of Business Action for Sustainable Development, the Director-General of the International Labour Organization, the Executive Director of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, the Secretary-General of the World Meteorological Organization, the Chairman of the Global Environment Facility, the Vice-President of the International Committee of the Red Cross, the Vice-President of the World Bank, the Secretary-General of the World Tourism Organization, the Executive Director of the Third World Academy of Sciences, the Chairman of the Commission of the African Union, the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States of the United Nations Secretariat, the representative of the Secretary-General of the International Organization of la Francophonie, the representative of the Norwegian National Union Centre, the Director-General of the Council of Europe, the Director of the Marine Environment Division of the International Maritime Organization, the President of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, the Chairman of the United Nations Advisory Committee of Local Authorities, the Director-General of the International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology, the Director-General of the Organiztion of the Petroleum Exporting Countries Fund for International Development, the President of the International Association of Economic and Social Councils and Similar Institutions, the President of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, the President of the Indigenous Environment Network, the Representative of the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group, the Assistant Legal Counsel of the Permanent Court of Arbitration, the Representative of the International Hydrographic Organization, the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Europe, the representative of Women in Europe for a Common Future and the Director-General of the South Asia Cooperative Environment Programme.

4. At its 10th meeting, on 30 August, statements were made by the Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund, the President of the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, the Executive Director of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, the President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, the President of the Dutch Farmers' Association, the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Executive Secretary of the Convention to Combat Desertification, the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the representative of the Youth Association for Habitat and Agenda 21 Turkey, the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, the Executive Secretary of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa, the Executive Secretary of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, the representative of Environmental Alert, the Executive Director of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, the Acting Director of the Environment Directorate of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development, the representative of the Foundation to Promote Indigenous Knowledge, the Deputy Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund, the Regional Director of the Eastern and Southern African Office of the International Civil Aviation Organization, the Director-General of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research, the Executive Director of the European Trade Unions Confederation, the Secretary-General of the Nordic Council of Ministers, the Director-General of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources, the Acting Secretary of State of the Estado Libre de Puerto Rico, the Chairperson of the Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission, the representative of the Commonwealth of Independent States, the representative of the Permanent Commission of the South Pacific, the Minister of State for External Affairs of the United States Virgin Islands, the Executive Secretary of the Secretariat of the Basel Convention, the representative of the Mines Ministries of the Americas Conference and the Assistant Director-General for Natural Sciences of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.

5. At its 11th meeting, on 30 August, statements were made by the Director-General of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the Deputy Director-General of the International Organization for Migration, the Deputy Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency, the Rector of the United Nations University, the Executive Director of Wise Integrated Social and Environmental Activities, the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the Vice-President of the African Development Bank, the representative of the Secretary-General of the Commonwealth Secretariat, the representative of the Mexican Youth Council for Sustainable Development, the Secretary-General of the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries, the Director of the Environment Department of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the Assistant Director for Environment of the Association of South-East Asian Nations, the Director of the Department of Environment and Sustainable Development of the League of Arab States, the Director of the Wiltern Labor and Community Strategy Center, the Executive Director of the United Nations Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention, the Executive Director of the International Energy Agency, the Manager of the Department of Sustainable

Development of the Inter-American Development Bank, the Chairman of EsKOM, the Acting Secretary-General of the International Organization for Standardization, the representative of the Sovereign Military Order of Malta, the Director of Cabinet of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, the Managing Director of the Common Fund for Commodities, the President of the World Federation of Engineering Organizations, the Director of Documentation and Communication of Partners in Population and Development, the Deputy Secretary-General of the Pacific Islands Forum, the representative of the Secretary-General's Panel for the World Summit on Sustainable Development, the representative of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees-South Africa, the Chief Executive Officer of the Kenya National Farmers' Union, the Chairperson of the Committee on Earth Observation Satellites of the European Space Agency, the Special Rapporteur on adequate housing of the Commission on Human Rights, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor of the Pacific Centre for Environmental and Sustainable Development, the Deputy Executive Secretary of the Convention on Migratory Species, the Deputy Director-General of the Asian Development Bank, the Director for Africa of the Centre for Applied Bioscience International, the President of the World Association of Cities and Local Authorities Coordination and the President of the Organisation africaine du bois.

B. General statements by high-level officials

6. At its 1st plenary meeting, on 26 August, in accordance with the recommendation of the Commission on Sustainable Development acting as the preparatory committee for the World Summit on Sustainable Development (see A/CONF.199/4, chap. X, decision 2002/PC/6), the Summit approved the organization of work as set out in document A/CONF.199/3 and decided that the general debate of high-level officials, under agenda item 9, would take place from 2 to 4 September 2002. Accordingly, the Summit held its general debate at its 12th to 16th meetings, from 2 to 4 September.

7. At the 12th meeting, on 2 September, Thabo Mbeki, President of South Africa and President of the Summit, opened the general debate and delivered an address.

8. At the same meeting, Kofi Annan, Secretary-General of the United Nations, addressed the Summit.

9. Also at the 12th meeting, Han Seung-soo, President of the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session, addressed the Summit.

10. At the same meeting, Analiz Vergara (Ecuador), Justin Friesen (Canada), Liao Mingyu (China), Tiyiselani Manganyi (South Africa) and Julius Ndlovena (South Africa) also made presentations and delivered a message on behalf of the children of the world.

11. Also at the 12th meeting, statements were made by Megawati Soekarnoputri, President of Indonesia; Hugo Chávez, President of Venezuela (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China); Anders Fogh Rasmussen, Prime Minister of Denmark (on behalf of the European Union); Kessai H. Note, President of the Marshall Islands; Romano Prodi, President of the Commission of the European Community; Bharrat Jagdeo, President of Guyana; Gerhard Schroeder, Chancellor of Germany; Sam Nujoma, President of Namibia; Pakalitha B. Mosisili, Prime Minister of Lesotho;

Tony Blair, Prime Minister of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland; Jean Chrétien, Prime Minister of Canada; Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, President of Uganda; Ahmet Necdet Sezer, President of Turkey; José Manuel Durão Barroso, Prime Minister of Portugal; Abdelaziz Bouteflika, President of Algeria; Jacques Chirac, President of France; Fernando Henrique Cardoso, President of Brazil; Andranik Margaryan, Prime Minister of Armenia; Daniel Toroitich arap Moi, President of Kenya; Ahmed Mohamed Ag Hamani, Prime Minister of Mali; King Mohammed VI, Head of State of Morocco; Levy Patrick Mwanawasa, President of Zambia; Domitien Ndayizeye, Vice-President of Burundi; Seretse Khama Ian Khama, Vice-President of Botswana; Francisco Santos Calderón, Vice-President of Colombia; and José Guillermo Justiniano Sandoval, Head of the Economic and Social Ministerial Council and Minister of Sustainable Development and Planning of Bolivia.

12. At the 13th meeting, on 2 September, statements were made by Georgi Parvanov, President of Bulgaria; Helen Clark, Prime Minister of New Zealand; Abdoulaye Wade, President of Senegal; Mr. Stjepan Mesi, President of Croatia; Denis Sassou Nguesso, President of the Congo; Silvio Berlusconi, Prime Minister of Italy; Tarja Halonen, President of Finland; Junichiro Koizumi, Prime Minister of Japan; Guy Verhofstadt, Prime Minister of Belgium; David Oddsson, Prime Minister of Iceland; Vojislav Koštunica, President of Yugoslavia; Saufatu Sopoanga, Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs, Immigration and Labour of Tuvalu; Abel Pacheco de la Espriella, President of Costa Rica; El Hadj Omar Bongo, President of Gabon; Boris Trajkovski, President of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia; King Mswati III, Head of State of Swaziland; Koffi Sama, Prime Minister of Togo; Bakili Muluzi, President of Malawi; Olusegun Obasanjo, President of Nigeria; Robert G. Mugabe, President of Zimbabwe; Ion Iliescu, President of Romania; Massoumeh Ebtekar, Vice-President of the Islamic Republic of Iran; Alberto Díaz Lobo, Vice-President of Honduras; Alhaji Aliu Mahama, Vice-President of Ghana; Prince Albert, Crown Prince of Monaco; Datuk Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, Deputy Prime Minister of Malaysia; Rialuth Serge Vohor, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs, External Trade and Telecommunications of Vanuatu; Tariq Aziz, Vice Prime Minister of Iraq; Somsavat Lengsavad, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Lao People's Democratic Republic; Alois Ospelt, Minister for Environment, Agriculture and Forestry of Liechtenstein; Jawad Salem Al-Orayyed, Minister of State for Municipal and Environmental Affairs of Bahrain; Joseph Deiss, Federal Councillor and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Switzerland; Vasso Papandreou, Minister of Environment of Greece; Mohammed A. Al-Jarallah, Minister of Health of Kuwait; El-Tigni Adam El-Tahir, Minister of Environment and Physical Development of the Sudan; Bassam Awadullah, Minister of Planning of Jordan; Sheikh Abdullah bin Mohammed bin Saud Al-Thani, Head of the Amiri Diwan of Qatar; Choi Sung-hong, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade of the Republic of Korea; Salif Diallo, Minister of State, Minister of Agriculture, Water and Fishing Resources of Burkina Faso; Allan Wagner Tizón, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Peru; Carlos Cat, Minister for Social Housing, Territory Planning and Environmental Affairs of Uruguay; Michel Moussa, Minister of the Environment of Lebanon; Frederick A. Mitchell, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Public Service of the Bahamas; Rabbie L. Namaliu, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Immigration of Papua New Guinea; Janez Kopa, Minister of Environment, Spatial Planning and Energy of Slovenia; and Archbishop Renato Raffaele Martino, Head of the delegation of the Holy See.

13. At the 14th meeting, on 3 September, statements were made by Leo A. Falcam, President of the Federated States of Micronesia; Natsagiyn Bagabandi, President of Mongolia; Nursultan Nazarbayev, President of Kazakhstan; Jan Peter Balkenende, Prime Minister of the Netherlands; Zhu Rongji, Premier of the State Council of China; Aleksander Kwasniewski, President of Poland; Maumoon Abdul Gayoom, President of Maldives; Leonid Danilovich Kuchma, President of Ukraine; Mathieu Kérékou, President of Benin (on behalf of the least developed countries); Lyonpo Kinzang Dorji, Prime Minister of Bhutan; Göran Persson, Prime Minister of Sweden; Mikhail M. Kasyanov, Chairman of the Government of the Russian Federation; Fatos Nano, Prime Minister of Albania; Jean-Bertrand Aristide, President of Haiti; Laisenia Qarase, Prime Minister of Fiji; Bernard Makuza, Prime Minister of Rwanda; Pedro Verona Rodrigues Pires, President of Cape Verde; Isaias Afwerki, President of Eritrea; Vicente Fox, President of Mexico; Joaquim Alberto Chissano, President of Mozambique; Maaouya Ould Sid'Ahmed Taya, President of Mauritania; Gustavo Noboa Bejarano, Constitutional President of Ecuador; José Rizo Castellón, Vice-President of Nicaragua; Arturo Vallarino, Vice-President of Panama; Juan Carlos Maqueda, Vice-President of Argentina; Charles Goerens, Minister of Environment, Minister for Cooperation and Humanitarian Action of Luxembourg; Shahida Jamil, Minister for Environment, Local Government and Rural Development of Pakistan; Shivaji Rukman Senanayaka, Minister of Environment and Natural Resources of Sri Lanka; Irakli Menagarishvili, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Georgia; Sayyid Assaad bin Tariq Al-Said, representative of the Sultan of Oman; Denis Kalume Numbi, Minister of Planning and Reconstruction of the Democratic Republic of the Congo; Timothy Harris, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Education of Saint Kitts and Nevis; Abdallah Abdillahi Miguil, Minister of Housing, Urbanization, Environment and Country Planning of Djibouti; and Abbas Yusuf, Head of the delegation of Somalia.

14. At the 15th meeting, on 3 September, statements were made by Tuilaepa Sailele Malielegaoi, Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Samoa; Teburoro Tito, President of Kiribati; Kjell Magne Bondevik, Prime Minister of Norway; Benjamin William Mkapa, President of the United Republic of Tanzania; Bertie Ahern, Prime Minister of Ireland; Dragan Mikerević, Prime Minister of Bosnia and Herzegovina; Affi N'Guessan, Prime Minister of Côte d'Ivoire; Anerood Jugnauth, Prime Minister of Mauritius; Teodoro Obiang Nguema Mbasogo, President of Equatorial Guinea; Marc Ravalomanana, President of Madagascar; Lamine Sidimé, Prime Minister of Guinea; Pierre Charles, Prime Minister of Dominica; Girma Wolde Giorgis, President of Ethiopia; Yang Hyong Sop, Vice President of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea; Sheikh Hamad bin Mohammad Al-Sharqi, Member of the Supreme Council of the United Arab Emirates and Ruler of the Emirate of Fujeira; Osmonakun Ibraimov, Vice President of Kyrgyzstan; Katalin Szili, President of the Parliament of Hungary; Shimon Peres, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Israel; Lawrence Gonzi, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Social Policy of Malta; James Cecil Cocker, Deputy Prime Minister of Tonga; Pham Gia Khiem, Deputy Prime Minister of Viet Nam; John Briceño, Deputy Prime Minister of Belize; Princess Chulabhorn Mahidol, Princess of Thailand; Snyder Rini, Deputy Prime Minister of Solomon Islands; Costas Themistocleous, Minister of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment of Cyprus; María Eugenia Brizuela de Ávila, Minister for Foreign Affairs of El Salvador; Arunas Kundrotas, Minister of Environment of Lithuania; H. Elizabeth

Thompson, Minister of Physical Development and Environment of Barbados; Soledad Alvear Valenzuela, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Chile; Abdurrahman Mohamed Shalghem, Minister, Secretary of the General People's Committee for Foreign Liaison and International Cooperation of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya; Lim Swee Say, Minister for the Environment of Singapore; Luis Alberto Meyer, Minister and Executive Secretary of Planning of Paraguay; Win Aung, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Chairman of the National Commission for Environmental Affairs of Myanmar; Bobson Sesay, Minister of Lands, Country Planning, Forestry and the Environment of Sierra Leone; Clifford P. Marica, Minister of Labour, Technological Development and Environment of Suriname; Felipe Pérez Roque, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Cuba; Rennie Dumas, Minister of State, Office of the Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago; M. Saifur Rahman, Minister of Finance and Planning of Bangladesh; Benita Ferrero-Waldner, Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs of Austria; Carlos Cáceres Ruiz, Minister of the Environment and Natural Resources of Guatemala; Osama Jaafar Faquih, Minister of Commerce of Saudi Arabia; Adnan Khuzam, Minister of State for Environmental Affairs of the Syrian Arab Republic; Laszlo Miklos, Minister of Environment of Slovakia; Abdulmalik A. Al-Iryani, Minister of Tourism and Environment of Yemen; Vilayat Mukhtar ogly Guliyev, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Azerbaijan; Faiza Abou El Naga, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs of Egypt; Prem Lal Singh, Minister for Population and Environment of Nepal; Djimrangar Dadnadji, Minister of Planning, Development and Cooperation of Chad; Heherson Alvarez, Secretary of the Environment and Natural Resources of the Philippines.

15. At the 16th meeting, on 4 September, statements were made by Azali Assoumani, President of the Comoros; Fradique Bandeira Melo de Menezes, President of Sao Tome and Principe; Tommy E. Remengesau, Jr., President of Palau; Robert Woonton, Prime Minister of the Cook Islands; Alamara Intchia Nhassé, Prime Minister of Guinea-Bissau; Hedayat Amin Arsala, Vice-President of Afghanistan; Sar Kheng, Deputy Prime Minister of Cambodia; Kozidavlat Koimdodov, Deputy Prime Minister of Tajikistan; Petr Mares, Deputy Prime Minister of the Czech Republic; Vladimir Drazhin, Deputy Prime Minister of Belarus; Toke Talagi, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of the Environment of Niue; Liina Tönisson, Minister of Transport and Communications of Estonia; Yashwant Sinha, Minister for External Affairs of India; A. J. Nicholson, Minister of Justice and Attorney-General of Jamaica; Rafael F. de Moya Pons, Minister of Natural Resources and the Environment of the Dominican Republic; Yousef Abu-Safieh, Minister for the Environment of Palestine; Douglas Slater, Minister for Health and the Environment of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines; Colin Powell, Secretary of State of the United States of America; João Bernardo de Miranda, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Angola; Mohamed Ennabli, Minister of Environment and Land Management of Tunisia; Gheorghe Duca, Minister of Ecology, Construction and Territorial Development of the Republic of Moldova; Clarkson O. Tanyi-Mbianyor, Minister of Environment and Forestry of Cameroon; Jaume Matas, Minister for Environment of Spain; Ronnie Jumeau, Minister for Environment of Seychelles; Aïchatou Mindaoudou, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Niger; Olga Adellach, Minister of Agriculture and Environment of Andorra; Julian R. Hunte, Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Trade of Saint Lucia; David Kemp, Minister for the Environment and Heritage of Australia; Vladimirs Makarovs, Minister of Environmental Protection and Regional Development of Latvia; Agba Otikpo Mezode, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Central African Republic;

Clarice Modeste-Curwen, Minister for Health and the Environment of Grenada; Baboucarr-Blaise Ismaila Jagne, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs of the Gambia; José Luis Guterres, Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste.

Chapter V
Multi-stakeholder event

1. At its 1st plenary meeting, on 26 August 2002, in accordance with the recommendation of the Commission on Sustainable Development acting as the preparatory committee for the World Summit on Sustainable Development (see A/CONF.199/4, chap. X, decision 2002/PC/6). The Summit approved the organization of work as set out in document A/CONF.199/3 and decided that the short multi-stakeholder event under agenda item 10, involving the highest level of representation from both major groups and Governments, would take place on Wednesday, 4 September 2002, after the conclusion of the general debate in the plenary and before the adoption of the final documents and the closure of the Summit. The objective of the event was to provide a forum for all major groups to renew their commitment to sustainable development and to the implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the Summit.

2. At its 17th plenary meeting, on 4 September 2002, the Summit considered the item and heard statements by the following representatives of major groups: The Secretary-General of Youth for Sustainable Development Assembly (Youth); the co-Chair of the Indigenous Peoples' Caucus (indigenous people); the Third World Network (non-governmental organizations); the President of the Federation of Latin American Cities and Association of Municipalities (local authorities); the General Secretary of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (trade unions); the Chairman of Business Action for Sustainable Development (business and industry); the President of the International Council for Science (scientific communities); the President of the International Federation of Agricultural Producers (farmers); and the Executive Director of Red Thread (women).

3. At the same meeting, the President of the Summit made a statement.

4. Also at the same meeting, Denmark (on behalf of the European Union) made a statement.

Chapter VI
Round tables

1. In accordance with decision 2002/PC/6 of its preparatory committee, the Summit held four round-table discussions on the theme "Making it happen!", under agenda item 11, from 2 to 4 September 2002. For its consideration of the item, the Summit had before it a note by the Secretariat transmitting a discussion paper for the round tables prepared by the President of the Summit (A/CONF.199/L.5). An account of the round tables is set out below.

Round table 1

2. On 2 September 2002, the Chairman of round table 1, Aleksander Kwasniewski, President of Poland, opened the round table and made a statement.

3. Statements were made by the representatives of Ukraine, Austria, Mauritius, Indonesia, Saudi Arabia, Uganda, Thailand, Pakistan, Peru, Mali, El Salvador, Algeria, Egypt, Viet Nam, Norway, Latvia, Tonga and the Cook Islands.

4. The observer of Palestine made a statement.

5. The representative of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean made a statement.

6. The representative of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification also made a statement.

7. Representatives of the following major groups made statements: the World Federation of Engineering Organisations; Development Alternatives with Women for a New Era, Poland; the International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations; the International Chamber of Commerce; the Chamber of Agriculture of Mali; the Trade Union Congress, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (who also spoke on behalf of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions); the South African Local Government Association; Environmental Network International; and Capacity Global.

8. The summary prepared by the Chairman, an advance version of which was circulated in an informal paper, read as follows:

> "1. In his introduction the Chairman cited commitments made in Rio and Monterrey, as well as at the Millennium Summit and the World Summit for Children. He noted that although each contributed new elements, more stimuli were needed from the World Summit on Sustainable Development to respond to major problems such as poverty, famine, hunger, environmental degradation and unsustainable patterns of production and consumption. The Chairman noted that participants expressed confidence that the Plan of Implementation to be adopted at the Summit would provide some answers on how to implement solutions to those problems.

“**Leading to renewed and stronger commitment to global solidarity**

“2. Security, stability, peace and respect for human rights, as well as good governance, are basic requirements for sustainable development. Justice for the world’s poor must be ensured so that poverty can be eradicated. Accountable and rights-based partnerships should be developed without dismantling the social base of sustainable development. New partnerships at the global and regional levels, alliances between civil society and Governments and the strong engagement of local communities provide hope for progress. However, renewed and stronger commitment to global solidarity must be grounded in the political will of Governments. A strong Plan of Implementation and partnership initiatives must be complementary.

“**Mobilizing resources to support Millennium development goals and Summit priorities**

“3. The percentage of gross national product set aside for official development assistance has declined in the past 10 years, and a number of participants concurred that agreed official development assistance targets must not only be met, but also increased, to ensure adequate resources for developing countries in addressing poverty eradication. While noting that official development assistance should not constitute an unsustainable form of charity, several participants stressed that developed countries should instead redirect resources and establish venture capital funds in the poorest countries to stimulate investment in the South. Water and sanitation, energy, health, agriculture and biodiversity (WEHAB) issues could guide the prioritization of official development assistance resources.

“4. Clear goals, accountability, peer review, trust in partnerships and addressing corruption in both the private sector and Government were emphasized as keys to success in attracting investment for poverty reduction. The private sector can be a positive agent for change, but it needs reassurance that legal and political frameworks will promote stability for investments, as well as support from the public sector.

“5. Globalization must be codified, and the multilateral trade system must be fair and equitable for all. The removal of trade barriers by developed countries and substantial trade liberalization are essential to provide developing countries and countries with economies in transition with new trade opportunities. However, in the view of some, trade liberalization has too often been proposed as the solution for sustainable development, with the debate turning to those who control trade liberalization and with little discussion of the rights of local communities.

“6. Several participants stressed that countries with economies in transition should be involved in development and integration into global economic systems. Additionally, funds must be earmarked to create jobs in rural areas, financially viable projects need to be developed and access to credit needs to be facilitated.

“7. Mobilization of resources is not about only financial and technical resources, but also human resources. The World Summit on Sustainable Development should offer solutions for mobilizing human resources. Several

participants stressed job creation for income generation to reduce poverty, while another noted that expanding employment must be linked to improving the quality of employment, including good health and safety standards. Gender equality was stressed, and in particular women's rights. A number of participants stressed the importance of an educated and empowered citizenship.

"8. Sustainable development initiatives should take into account the specific social and economic conditions and cultural identities of indigenous people. Many stressed that programmes should be implemented on the basis of consultations with local communities, including women, youth and indigenous people. Recognition of land rights and the right to self-determination, and a rights-based approach to addressing poverty that would contribute to improving policies at the national level, are essential for strengthening local and indigenous communities.

"**Improving coherence and consistency in national and international institutions and their capacity to integrate the three components of sustainable development**

"9. Progress since Rio includes improvements in legal systems and sustainable development implementation at the regional level and by civil society. Institution-building is progressing in many parts of the world. A number of participants stressed the need to mainstream environmental considerations into the economic agenda through Government ministers of finance, trade, industry, mining, and agriculture. This should be the major task of the next decade. National sustainable development strategies provide a means for national integration and cooperation. It was emphasized that an integrated network of institutions at all levels is essential for coherent and consistent implementation of sustainable development policies.

"10. Regional sustainable development strategies are useful for regional-level cooperation and integration. The European Union water initiative, the Alpine Convention, the New Partnership for Africa's Development, and a framework for regional ocean initiatives were cited as examples of integrated regional initiatives. It was noted that a system of development banks is well established and is effectively assisting in implementing agreements in the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean region.

"11. Several participants emphasized the vulnerability of local communities to the climate-change phenomenon, especially in the form of natural disasters, and the very great potential for severe economic and social consequences. They maintained that the international community is obliged to assist in reducing this vulnerability through support for regional actions, and internationally through the ratification of the Kyoto Protocol.

"12. In terms of institutional improvements, some participants noted the multiplicity and hierarchy of international agencies, and one suggested that the Economic and Social Council be used as a forum to ensure coherence and coordination of policies of the United Nations system related to sustainable development. The Commission on Sustainable Development should follow up the Summit and partnership initiatives. With respect to the national level,

many agreed that national Governments should give more recognition to local governments.

“**Promoting cooperation in the five priority areas of water and sanitation, energy, health, agriculture and biodiversity**

“13. The need for affordable and accessible water and sanitation projects was highlighted. On biodiversity, it was stressed that special ecological networks were needed and that options for balancing biodiversity and energy needs should be developed. Sustainable development concerns agriculture producers directly, and several participants noted that destruction of agricultural lands in areas of conflict has caused production to drop because of wasted water resources. Support was expressed for activities on water access, access to renewable energy and assistance in resource-efficient energy consumption. Several participants called for urgent, equitable and fair solutions to agricultural subsidies. Others noted that unsustainable patterns of production and consumption must be changed.

“**Bringing scientific knowledge to bear on decision-making and ensuring affordable access to critical technology and scientific knowledge**

“14. Decision-making must be based on sound scientific analysis. Several participants highlighted a lack of reliable data, especially at the regional level. With regard to the WEHAB areas, sufficient knowledge and technology are available, but not readily accessible. Modern technology for shifting to sustainable development processes is costly and those with low purchasing power have less opportunity to acquire and benefit from new information and technologies. Capacity-building is needed to apply available scientific knowledge and corresponding know-how. Several participants noted that a considerable body of technology and corresponding knowledge is available in the public sector in developing countries, which could be made available to developing countries at affordable prices.

“**Recommendations from participants**

“15. Recommendations included the following:

- Fulfil official development assistance commitments and facilitate foreign direct investment flows to developing countries. Official development assistance should particularly target the least developed countries that have limited access to foreign direct investment
- Develop financially viable projects and access to credits, regional and global cooperation, peace and security, capacity-building and economic stability
- Create markets for environmental services with strong support from the private sector
- Increase Global Environment Facility funding and make procedures simpler and more transparent
- Ratify the Kyoto Protocol so that it can enter into force as soon as possible

- Recognize the right to self-determination and land rights of indigenous communities."

Round table 2

9. On 3 September 2002, the Chairperson of round table 2, Massoumeh Ebtekar, Vice-President and Head of the Department of Environment of the Islamic Republic of Iran, opened the round table and made a statement.

10. Statements were made by the representatives of Venezuela, China, Mongolia, Japan, India, Brazil, Maldives, Hungary, Armenia, Malaysia, Slovakia, the Central African Republic, Yugoslavia, Gabon, Ghana, New Zealand, Cuba, Kiribati, Namibia, Nepal and Finland.

11. The Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs responded to points raised during the discussion.

12. Statements were made by the representatives of the World Health Organization and the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia.

13. The representative of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change made a statement.

14. The representative of the International Council for Science also made a statement.

15. The Chairperson made concluding remarks.

16. The summary prepared by the Chairperson, an advance version of which was circulated in an informal paper, read as follows:

"1. The Chairman noted that participants addressed the problems of poverty, indebtedness, lack of necessary resources, lack of health-care services, sanitation and fresh water supply, trade-related issues, including subsidies, tariffs and primary goods prices, the digital divide and impacts on the environment.

"2. Global warming was considered by a number of participants to be of major concern, especially for small island developing States and other vulnerable countries. Participants from small island developing States expressed anxiety about rising sea levels in parts of their countries that are no more than one or two metres above sea level. Other countries discussed increasingly harsh weather conditions that have had deleterious effects on their farming and livestock, which is especially important for countries that rely heavily on such means. It was suggested that capacity-building for local people could be an important tool to help adjust to changing conditions.

"**Leading to renewed and stronger commitment to global solidarity**

"3. In assessing implementation from a broad perspective, the importance of political will was frequently stressed. Public opinion and awareness were seen as a strong motivating factor for the creation and maintenance of such resolve. It was emphasized that the implementation of sustainable development goals hinges on the application of the principle of common but differentiated responsibility.

"4. A number of participants pointed out that peace and security are essential preconditions for economic growth and development as well as protection of the environment. Sustainable development is impossible in regions and countries marked by conflicts, upheavals and wars.

"**Mobilizing resources to support Millennium development goals and Summit priorities**

"*Human resource development*

"5. During the round-table discussion, a number of participants highlighted the importance of education and health as key elements for sustainable development and, in particular, poverty eradication. Participants stressed human resource development as essential for creating a foundation for future economic growth, as well as social development and environmental protection. Among the priorities, universal primary education, especially for girls, was highlighted. The link between health and education was also explored, and the provision of potable water and proper sanitation and the eradication of disease were seen as essential for creating conditions supportive of development.

"6. Capacity-building was discussed as a cornerstone for human resource development as well as other aspects of sustainable development. One participant stated that in his country the cultivation of culture and creation of an identity were seen as integral to the assurance of a sense of human dignity. This sense of belonging to a community is important for maintaining a healthy and sustainable society.

"*Financial resources*

"7. There was a special, strong emphasis placed on the need for financing and the mobilization of new and additional resources to facilitate the implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg agreements and commitments. A number of participants expressed concern over the difficulty of finding donors for project proposals. Too much of the money allocated for projects is absorbed in the process of project approval and administration. This arrangement should be improved to ensure that a larger portion of the funding is devoted to the projects themselves.

"8. The clean development mechanism was identified as a new source of financing aimed at combating climate change. The mechanism is transparent and involves all relevant stakeholders, including the private sector.

"9. A proposal to establish an international humanitarian fund to meet the goals of poverty eradication, health care, sanitation and education for the poor received broad support. This would be funded by a percentage of external debt repaid by the developing countries, a percentage of money seized from illicit drug trafficking profits and from overseas deposits of funds gained through corruption, and the taxation of major financial transactions. There was also a suggestion to consider the possibility of global taxation for the development of global public goods.

"10. It was repeatedly emphasized that developed countries should honour their commitments to contribute 0.7 per cent of their gross national product to

developing countries as official development assistance. Domestic savings and private investment were cited as other important sources of finance.

"11. The Marshall Plan of the post-Second World War era was identified as a possible model for providing assistance for sustainable development.

"12. The heavy debt burden carried by many developing countries was identified as a major impediment to mobilizing domestic resources for sustainable development. Many suggested the cancellation or restructuring of debt. Capping debt service at no more than 10 per cent of budgetary resources was also proposed.

"13. Trade and foreign direct investment were cited among the important means of mobilizing financial resources. Therefore, calls were made for the removal of market-distorting subsidies and trade barriers. There were also calls for greater market access for developing countries.

"14. The instability of financial markets was identified as a major obstacle to development. Several participants expressed concern over the inability of vulnerable economies to weather the wide fluctuations in the market as well as the string of recent crises. It was pointed out that the existing international financial institutions do not currently have the capacity to adequately address these issues. There is thus a need to strengthen and reform these institutions.

"**Improving coherence and consistency in national and international institutions and their capacity to integrate the three components of sustainable development**

"15. The significance of a balanced and holistic approach to the three pillars of sustainable development was highlighted. It was pointed out that an integrated approach, while not a novel idea, needs further development. There is currently no internationally agreed tool for using an integrated approach in policy and programme planning and development. Efforts should be undertaken to address this shortcoming.

"16. The importance of collaboration and coordination among the international and regional organizations and other actors in the realization of sustainable development was highlighted. At the national level, there is a need for better coordination among ministries.

"17. The New Partnership for Africa's Development was mentioned as a potentially successful partnership, and there was a general call for greater cooperation and partnership among countries. Information and experience should be shared among developing countries as well as between developed and developing countries.

"**Promoting cooperation in the five priority areas of water and sanitation, energy, health, agriculture and biodiversity**

"18. Human resource development is an important part of addressing issues related to water, energy, health, agriculture and biodiversity. Access to energy for the poor was cited as a principal requirement for sustainable development. Problems of ensuring safety in power generation, especially when working with nuclear energy, were addressed. It was stated that developing countries

need greater financial and technical assistance to meet these concerns as well as to develop alternative energy sources. Concerns were expressed over the existing unsustainable patterns of consumption, which have an impact on natural resources.

“**Bringing scientific knowledge to bear on decision-making and ensuring affordable access to critical technology and scientific knowledge**

“19. Participants underscored the importance of national capacity-building in science and technology in developing countries and international cooperation to facilitate access for developing countries to technology and corresponding knowledge.

“20. The importance of equitable sharing of the benefits of economic growth and development as well as scientific and technical progress was emphasized. Some participants noted that intellectual property rights systems should ensure that the benefits of the use of genetic resources and traditional knowledge are more equitably shared with the country of origin.

“21. A greater degree of technology transfer is required, and there is a need to narrow the digital divide. Centres of excellence and institutions of higher learning should be established to build capacity for technological development at the national level. Such technology should be appropriate to national situations and circumstances. For example, information and communication technologies are currently a strong engine of growth around the world, but the developing countries are being left behind.

“22. Although the goal for developing countries is to reach a level of development comparable to that of the industrialized countries, it is important to facilitate transfers of technology to developing countries to enable them to develop while avoiding environmental degradation.

“23. The incorporation of sound science into policy and decision-making was stated as a necessary requirement for addressing the WEHAB issues. Technology cannot be effectively used to achieve sustainable development unless there is a strong link between the scientific community and policy makers. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change was given as an example of success in this regard.

“**Recommendations from participants**

“24. Recommendations included the following:

- Establish an International Humanitarian Fund to meet the goals of poverty eradication, health care, sanitation and education for the poor
- Create a system of peer review among countries to ensure commitment and the long-term implementation of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation. This would require an institutional follow-up mechanism for such a review, and the United Nations was recognized as a possible forum
- Invest in education as a key element for poverty eradication and sustainable development

- Increase levels of consumption among some sectors of society in order to alleviate poverty while at the same time curbing high levels of consumption in developed countries, to attain a sustainable global rate of consumption
- Cap the servicing of the external debt at 10 per cent of national budgetary resources for highly indebted developing countries
- Develop science and technology to address matters of recycling and cleaner technology
- Consider the possibility of global taxation for the development of public services."

Round table 3

17. On 3 September 2002, the Chairman of round table 3, Göran Persson, Prime Minister of Sweden, opened the round table and made a statement.

18. Statements were made by the representatives of Ireland, Mozambique, Israel, the Sudan, the United States of America, Tunisia, Luxembourg, Guatemala, Argentina, the Netherlands, Swaziland, the Niger, Mauritania and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

19. Statements were made by the representatives of the following major groups: the Ikono-Ini Youth Consultative Assembly; Comisiones Obreras, Spain; EsKOM/Business Action for Sustainable Development; the Swedish Farmers' Association; and the International Council for Science.

20. The summary prepared by the Chairman, an advance version of which was circulated in an informal paper, read as follows:

"**Leading to renewed and stronger commitment to global solidarity**

"1. Lack of political will was identified as a principal cause of slow progress in the implementation of Agenda 21. A renewal of commitment to the integration of environmental, economic and social pillars of sustainable development through a global coalition of Governments, international organizations and civil society needs to be carried out through increased partnerships and cooperation among relevant sectors. Overall, the discussion reflected agreement that an inclusive approach involving consultation with local communities and stakeholders should provide the basis for continued efforts to define and implement concrete actions.

"2. Some participants highlighted links among environment, trade, peace accords, military arms reduction, the implementation of the Monterrey agreement and developing the values of democracy within a sustainable development framework. They supported adherence to the principles of freedom, equality, tolerance and respect for nature, and proposed international networks for science that reach across political, religious and social boundaries as a basis for global solidarity.

"3. Sustainable development could be achieved through a sustainable development coalition given the common but differentiated responsibilities of

nations. This requires mobilization to involve everyone in understanding and implementing sustainable development. The Commission on Sustainable Development should be strengthened to follow up implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development.

"**Mobilizing resources to support Millennium development goals and Summit priorities**

"4. Sustainable development depends on the ability of countries to mobilize domestic and international financial resources. The commitment of several countries at the Monterrey Conference to increase their levels of official development assistance over a period of time is a concrete step towards resource mobilization for poverty reduction. Participants said that foreign direct investment and official development assistance should be complementary and suggested debt cancellation for the poorest countries, and noted the agreement of those countries to raise their official development assistance to 1 per cent of gross national product. The contribution of trade, as discussed at Doha, was mentioned as one of the most significant resources for sustainable development.

"5. Several participants stressed the importance of eliminating unsustainable and trade-distorting subsidies, including harmful agricultural subsidies. It was noted that the $1 billion per day spent in developed countries on agricultural subsidies exacerbated extreme poverty in developing countries by depriving small farmers of export opportunities and of sustainable livelihoods, while increasing overall disparities in wealth between the North and the South. While there was general agreement that world leaders should take action to eliminate harmful agricultural subsidies, most also recognized that this would be a challenging task. One participant said that it is possible to gradually reduce trade-distorting subsidies in a way that is also fair to developed-country farmers.

"6. The HIV/AIDS pandemic and hunger in Africa require more creative ways of mobilizing resources. Increased support from the Global Environment Facility and the World Bank should be given to educational and research institutions, the Global AIDS and Health Fund could be complemented by a global fund for poverty alleviation, and an international solidarity fund could mobilize action through civil society — for example, in the aftermath of natural disasters in developing countries that require relief assistance.

"7. There was general agreement that Governments must increase support to institutions that can build basic human resource capacity and allow community-based organizations to contribute to sustainable development. The private sector, for its part, should stimulate community action through the planning of social and economic development efforts. Small farmers need to acquire education and the means to build capacities to participate in markets. International institutions should provide continuing support for these efforts.

"8. It was proposed that care should be taken not to impose a donor-driven agenda in implementation and to avoid the creation of new bureaucracies. Recognizing that States represent national interests and private organizations answer primarily to their shareholders, there was support for the creation of a global non-governmental organizations that could pragmatically address

poverty, health, education and other issues on a voluntary basis, with contributions from the private sector, including resources, technology and support for free and fair trade.

"Mobilizing resources to support Millennium development goals and Summit priorities

"9. Ensuring a coherent and coordinated follow-up to Doha, Monterrey and Johannesburg commitments was considered important, and several participants called on the United Nations to avoid duplication, promote coherence within the United Nations system and establish clear links between the Plan of Implementation and partnership initiatives. Additionally, United Nations bodies should focus on action-oriented and locally embedded strategies that add value.

"10. Consulting local communities has proved vital to the development of regional and national poverty reduction strategies. Lack of resources is a problem, but development banks have the potential to assist in the education and technology sectors, and industry can accommodate many stakeholders in consultation processes. Environmental action plans, economic development, health, agriculture, and energy efficiency can be implemented with funds from the private sector, loans from development banks and increased levels of employment. Strengthening regional cooperation for implementation is essential in this regard.

"11. Regarding the national level, it was proposed to create a mechanism to ensure continuity so that a change in national Government does not affect the implementation of international agreements and commitments. Good governance should provide a framework, and partnerships should be supported so their impacts are felt in a context of cooperation and coherent effort. The elaboration of national sustainable development strategies and poverty reduction strategies could be complemented by permanent mechanisms for implementation. Real progress will be seen over time, as stronger links are forged among sectors.

"Promoting cooperation in the five priority areas of water and sanitation, energy, health, agriculture and biodiversity

"12. Partnerships provide a new foundation for sustainable development. One of the basic sustainable development commitments is to strengthen dialogue and empower civil society. An understanding of cultural diversity is also fundamental for making sustainable development happen in a way that is not only effective, but also appropriate for those who stand to benefit. Partnerships need to incorporate a cultural understanding of communities and their value systems in order to successfully meet targets related to energy, biodiversity, clean water and sanitation.

"13. Investments in initiatives for children's health, including work with reporting and developing indicators on children's health, water and sanitation, and air pollution, were seen as important. Clear actions to deliver water and sanitation to the rural poor should involve investment in rural infrastructure and engage non-governmental organizations, empower women and youth and

monitor implementation. The belief that water is an unlimited resource must end.

"14. Participants from African countries highlighted problems of drought, desertification and health. The problem of desertification in the Sahel region requires substantial funds to maintain roads, wells and the social infrastructure and living conditions of rural and urban communities. In that region, the inclusion of farmers and trade unions in efforts to address the WEHAB areas was mentioned as an example of dealing with such challenges in an inclusive manner, illustrating the relationship between implementing sustainable development and ensuring decent working conditions.

"**Bringing scientific knowledge to bear on decision-making and ensuring affordable access to critical technology and scientific knowledge**

"15. The Millennium Declaration addresses universal education and notes the need to increase enrolment rates. The problem of brain drain was highlighted, and proposals were heard regarding the introduction of new technologies into development programmes and the integration of relevant sectors for information sharing. Official development assistance should be used for optimum benefit in developing countries.

"16. Investments in science and technology are necessary to increase the scientific and technological knowledge base in developing countries. Investment in educational programmes is crucial to reverse the decline in science and technology research in developing countries. Networks and institutions are in place, but they need to be utilized to make science relevant to the integration of the three pillars of sustainable development. One participant called for triangular cooperation among finance providers, developing countries that have made advances in developing technology, and recipient countries involved in South-South technology transfer.

"**Recommendations from participants**

"17. Recommendations included the following:

- Establish a global fund for poverty alleviation, similar to the Global AIDS and Health Fund
- Create a mechanism to ensure continuity so that a change in national Government does not alter prior international agreements and commitments
- Invest in science and technology to increase the scientific and technological knowledge base in developing countries
- Promote coherence within the United Nations and establish clear links between the Plan of Implementation and partnership initiatives
- Consider the possibility of creating a global non-governmental organization that could pragmatically address poverty, health, education and other issues."

Round table 4

21. On 4 September 2002, the Chairman of round table 4, Bharrat Jagdeo, President of Guyana, opened the round table and made a statement.

22. Statements were made by the representatives of Morocco, Belize, Cape Verde, Paraguay, Canada, Switzerland, Solomon Islands, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, the Gambia, Iraq and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

23. Statements were made by the representatives of the following specialized agencies, organizations, funds and programmes: the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Human Settlements Programme.

24. Statements were made by the observers for the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development and the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme.

25. Representatives of the following major groups also made statements: the Royal Dutch/Shell Group of Companies and the World Business Council for Sustainable Development; the International Federation of Agricultural Producers; the Third World Academy of Sciences; the Women's Network for Sustainability; the Asamblea Nacional de los Pueblos Indígenas por la Autonomía; the World Association of Cities and Local Authorities; the Global Ecovillage Network; and the National Youth Commission of South Africa.

26. The Chairman made concluding remarks.

27. The summary prepared by the Chairman, an advance version of which was circulated in an informal paper, read as follows:

"**Leading to renewed and stronger commitment to global solidarity**

"1. Participants expressed the importance of multi-stakeholder processes. One participant described the process of developing a matrix to set priorities to reshape national policies, involving all stakeholders. The Plan of Implementation needs to be carried out in both developed and developing countries and can be an important tool in formulating a new rationale for tackling global issues, creating alliances and gaining public support. The Summit has underscored the importance of a multilateral approach, and will provide new impetus to engage major groups, as well as the media, continuously for the cause of implementation.

"2. Systemic approaches at the local level should prioritize renewable energy, water supply and sanitation, social family support schemes, cultural diversity, reciprocity and cooperation. One participant supported a new paradigm of social development based on empowering local communities, economic justice and ecological compassion. Another proposed national, regional and global youth councils.

"**Mobilizing resources to support Millennium development goals and Summit priorities**

"3. The discussion on mobilizing financial resources revolved around issues of meeting official development assistance targets, national budgets tied to

servicing foreign debt, the potential of foreign direct investment for implementing sustainable development initiatives and creating an investment-friendly environment, and the need for international cooperation on the problems of smuggling and tax evasion.

"4. Perceptions of mismanagement of official development assistance were also discussed. Several participants felt that the view that official development assistance is wasted needs to be changed through evidence of effective use. Others responded that up to 70 per cent of official development assistance funds identified for specific countries do not actually end up being spent in those countries. Rather than relying on official development assistance, an investment-friendly climate should be fostered. Small-country participants felt that their voice was not heard by the international financial institutions, and that the response to the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) Initiative was very slow. They called on those institutions to accelerate the process. However, some participants noted that small countries are at a disadvantage in attracting foreign direct investment because they lack economies of scale. Trade barriers can sometimes negate official development assistance applications. Some measures, including a 0.5 per cent tax on regional trade to generate funds to improve infrastructure and a Tobin tax on international financial transactions, were suggested.

"5. The recognition that business can and should be part of the solution is a positive outcome of the Summit, as was discussed in detail by a number of participants. Some shortcomings of non-governmental organizations, such as difficulty in obtaining long-term funding, were noted. Regarding forestry, for example, the private sector can more effectively address reforestation by working with small farmers, and through land and forest stewardship, providing incentives for conservation. Companies are potential partners not just for funding but also as a means for implementing environmental projects.

"6. Many private companies want to demonstrate that they have become environmentally and socially responsible. They face questions about legitimacy and are increasingly keen to establish links to environmental activity, and developing countries should try to take advantage of this. Businesses are acknowledging that trust and responsibility are essential to credible efforts in meaningful partnership, such as the Global Compact Initiative. The representative of the business community noted that sustainability for business is an opportunity; responsibility is the standard by which countries will be judged; accountability is an obligation they must assume; and partnership is the pathway that they will pursue in the future.

"7. Capacity-building should begin at the local level and be augmented by Governments and non-governmental organizations, using education as a means to further development. Education and capacity-building should be linked through work carried out in the field that allows for a practical transfer of human resources and skills. Education was suggested as a sixth priority to add to WEHAB. Education should be specifically targeted at women and girls.

"8. There is a need to create small- and medium-scale entrepreneurs and jobs, especially in least developed countries, in such areas as renewable energy supply at the local level. Investments in the maintenance of small-scale water and energy systems can create jobs and contribute towards alleviating poverty.

Resource mobilization for cities is needed to improve housing conditions and address rapid urbanization.

“9. Several participants noted that in spite of their efforts in training skilled people, many young and educated people left their countries in search of better jobs. Some compensation should be given when international firms actively recruit their skilled people.

“10. Pro-poor budgeting for women is needed to harness their intelligence and abilities. Partnership initiatives should also bear in mind the rights of local and indigenous communities to be consulted, recognizing their rights to self-determination and prior informed consent.

“**Improving coherence and consistency in national and international institutions and their capacity to integrate the three components of sustainable development**

“11. At the international level, United Nations agencies and programmes should streamline a process whereby country reports can be submitted using only one format, to avoid duplication. One participant noted that the United Nations Development Group works to facilitate better coordination at the country level among the United Nations agencies, funds and programmes. He also stated that better coordination with OECD, the World Bank and others outside the system should be improved.

“12. Many discussed the effects of desertification and drought in connection with action on water management. Desertification would be best addressed through the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, which contains provisions that link combating desertification with sustainable development. Several called for coordinated implementation of the Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Convention to Combat Desertification.

“13. Cooperation at the regional and national levels is necessary, but international coordination is also required to avoid overlap and wasting resources. One participant noted that the World Urban Forum could serve to stimulate links among all levels for local action. Regional integration can be a catalyst for sustainable development.

“14. Some called for a forum for the poorest small countries to have a voice in promoting broad-based partnerships in international institutions. One participant highlighted regional efforts on behalf of small island developing States, but noted that policy statements emanating from Rio and the Barbados Programme of Action need to be translated into action. A mechanism for advancing the cause of small island developing States in multilateral institutions, including contingent lines of credit for small, disaster-prone States, was suggested. Bodies that promote regional cooperation should link up with international initiatives and promote South-South cooperation through research centres of excellence that work in WEHAB areas, so as to exchange ideas and knowledge and support capacity-building in developing countries.

“15. There is a need to use technology and institutional mechanisms to foster a multiplier effect. Ministries of planning should be strengthened to better articulate the integration of sectoral issues. Centres for monitoring water and

the environment can measure degradation of soil and watersheds and prevent desertification before it is too late.

“**Promoting cooperation in the five priority areas of water and sanitation, energy, health, agriculture and biodiversity**

“16. Regional and global cooperation in the WEHAB areas needs to be promoted to meet the targets for water and sanitation. Coordination for regional implementation or consultations on education in the WEHAB areas should occur regularly to ensure continuous follow-up. The application of science and technology is key to the establishment of water treatment systems in rural areas.

“17. Several participants noted that the draft plan of implementation contains a number of agricultural and sustainable development provisions that can inject dynamism into future action. The capacities of farm organizations should be built at the national level, and poverty in rural areas must be addressed in part through land ownership and water resources. Aid organizations working with farmer organizations through farmer-to-farmer exchanges have a greater potential to spread financial and technical assistance.

“18. One participant recommended that biodiversity become an asset for mega-biodiverse countries so that it can be valued more accurately. Indigenous communities felt that their stewardship of biodiversity should be recognized as a contribution to the wealth of the world.

“**Bringing scientific knowledge to bear on decision-making and ensuring affordable access to critical technology and scientific knowledge**

“19. One participant stressed that political decisions must be based on sound science. Another pointed out that because humankind is destined to make decisions with incomplete scientific knowledge, precaution is a necessary element of decision-making. Another noted that Governments should seek independent and objective scientific advice, that scientists must be recognized as important advisers to Governments and that the opinions provided should be respected.

“20. Safe drinking water technologies should be widely diffused by working with business communities to distribute, upgrade and maintain them.

“**Recommendations from participants**

“21. Recommendations included the following:

- Promote broad-based participation, through coordination with United Nations bodies, with education as the top priority
- Pursue regional integration, through specific projects in each country to avoid working in isolation in addressing sustainable development
- Achieve a response from the international financial institutions to the needs of small countries and accelerate the response to the HIPC Initiative

- Develop small- and medium-scale entrepreneurship, especially in least developed countries, as a means of creating jobs and contributing towards poverty alleviation
- Encourage aid organizations to work more closely with farmer organizations to facilitate the spread of financial and technical assistance through farmer-to-farmer exchanges
- Base decision-making on sound science, while applying the precautionary approach where information is lacking. Governments should seek out independent, objective scientific advice."

Chapter VII
Report of the Main Committee

1. At its 1st plenary meeting, on 26 August 2002, the World Summit on Sustainable Development decided to allocate agenda item 12, "Draft plan of implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development" to the Main Committee, which was to submit its recommendations to the Summit.

A. Organization of work

2. The Main Committee held two meetings, on 26 August and 3 September 2002. It also held a number of informal meetings.

3. The Main Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Note by the Secretariat on organizational and procedural matters (A/CONF.199/3);

(b) Draft plan of implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (A/CONF.199/L.1);

(c) Report of the Main Committee (A/CONF.199/L.3);

(d) Extract from the future draft report of the Main Committee containing the revised draft plan of implementation of the Summit (A/CONF.199/CRP.7).

4. The Chairman of the Main Committee was Emil Salim (Indonesia), who was elected by acclamation at the 1st plenary meeting of the Summit, on 26 August.

5. At the Committee's 1st meeting, Dumisani Shadrack Kumalo, Chairman of the informal consultations, addressed the Committee concerning the status of negotiations on the draft plan of implementation.

6. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Argentina and Australia.

7. At the 2nd meeting, on 3 September, Nkosazana Clarice Dlamini Zuma, Minister for Foreign Affairs of South Africa and ex officio Vice-President of the Summit, made a statement.

8. At the same meeting, the representatives of Malta, Argentina, Chile and Hungary made statements.

9. Also at the same meeting, the Secretary-General of the Summit made a statement.

B. Action taken by the Main Committee

Draft plan of implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development

10. At its 2nd meeting, the Main Committee had before it the revised draft plan of implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (A/CONF.199/CRP.7; subsequently issued and transmitted to the plenary as A/CONF.199/L.3/Add.1-13), which was submitted on the basis of informal consultations.

11. At the same meeting, the ex officio Vice-President of the Summit reported on the outcome of informal consultations held on the draft plan of implementation.

12. Also at the same meeting, the representative of the United States of America made a statement.

13. At the same meeting, the Assistant Director of the Division for Sustainable Development, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, made a statement.

14. At the same meeting, a senior official of the Division of Sustainable Development read out corrections to the revised draft plan of implementation.

15. Also at the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Turkey, Tunisia, Australia, Ecuador, Brazil, Denmark, New Zealand, Mexico, Argentina, Norway, Switzerland, the United States of America, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Republic of Korea, the Holy See, Malta and Guyana.

16. At the same meeting, the Assistant Director of the Division for Sustainable Development made a second statement.

17. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Ethiopia made a statement and the representative of Norway made a second statement. The representative of Norway requested that its statement be included in the report of the Main Committee. The statement read as follows:

> "I have a concern to raise in connection with the statement made on behalf of the contact group led by Ambassador John Ashe, making a reference to the opinion held by the contact group concerning negotiations in relation to paragraph 49 of the draft plan of implementation of the Summit, on corporate responsibility and accountability.
>
> "Norway would like to express the following:
>
> (a) Informal contact groups do not exist under United Nations procedures, and thus should not be referred to in the formal record of this conference.
>
> (b) We hold that statements of interpretation related to negotiated paragraphs should be made by countries or formal bodies of the United Nations.
>
> (c) We therefore question the making of a statement on behalf of the contact group."

18. At the same meeting, the representative of Antigua and Barbuda made a statement.

19. At the same meeting, on the proposal of the Chairman, the Committee approved the text of the draft plan of implementation as contained in document A/CONF.199/CRP.7, as amended and orally corrected (subsequently issued and transmitted to plenary as A/CONF.199/L.3/Add.1-13 and Add.1-13/Corr.1 and 2), and recommended it for adoption by the Summit (for the text, see chap. I, resolution 2, annex).

20. Also at the same meeting, the Main Committee adopted its draft report (A/CONF.199/L.3).

Chapter VIII
Adoption of the Political Declaration

1. At its 17th plenary meeting, on 4 September 2002, under agenda item 13, the Summit considered the draft political declaration as contained in document A/CONF.199/L.6/Rev.2 and Corr.1, entitled "The Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development". The President of the Summit, Thabo Mbeki, President of South Africa, made some remarks and introduced the draft political declaration.

2. At the same meeting, on the recommendation of the President of the Summit, the Summit unanimously adopted the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development and recommended it for endorsement by the General Assembly (for the text, see chap. I, resolution 1, annex).

Chapter IX

Adoption of the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development

1. At its 17th plenary meeting, on 4 September 2002, the Summit considered the draft plan of implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (agenda item 12), contained in the report of the Main Committee (A/CONF.199/L.3 and Add.1-13 and Add.1-13/Corr.1 and 2).

2. The Chairman of the Main Committee made a statement in which he introduced the draft report and recommended its adoption by the Summit. The Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development was adopted by the Summit.

3. At the same meeting, the representative of Venezuela, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution (A/CONF.199/L.7) whereby the Summit would adopt the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and recommend it to the General Assembly for endorsement. The Summit then adopted the draft resolution (for the final text, see chap. I, resolution 2, annex).

4. After the adoption of the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, statements were made by the representatives of Switzerland, the Holy See, Venezuela (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China), Mexico, Tunisia, Denmark (on behalf of the European Union), Argentina, Saint Lucia, Brazil, Australia, Turkey, Samoa (on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States), Ecuador, Peru, Norway, France, Uganda, Chile, Malta (also on behalf of Hungary), Tuvalu, India, El Salvador and the United States of America.

Interpretive statements on the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development

5. The representatives of a number of countries submitted statements that they requested the secretariat of the Summit to place on record. Those statements are set out below.

6. The representative of Argentina submitted the following written statement:

> The Argentine delegation wishes to make the following interpretive statements:
>
> The Argentine energy policy is to diversify energy sources, giving preference to renewable energy sources. As a result, the energy production profile in Argentina has always had a sizeable component of renewable energy sources.
>
> Legislation has, accordingly, been adopted to promote wind and solar energy, with a view especially to the enormous potential of Argentine Patagonia.
>
> In keeping with this position, Argentina has endorsed the Latin American and Caribbean Initiative on Sustainable Development, which establishes renewable energy goals.

In addition, Argentina endorses the declaration on renewable energy introduced by the European Union at this Summit.

It is the understanding of the Argentine Republic that the provisions of the Plan of Implementation are inspired by a respect for human life and human dignity (principle 1 of the Rio Declaration) and that therefore nothing in the Plan can be interpreted as justifying any action that directly or indirectly jeopardizes the inviolability and sacredness of human life from the moment of conception.

The Argentine Republic interprets the reference in paragraph 31 (e) of the Plan of Implementation to the allocation of share of fishery resources for straddling stocks and highly migratory fish stocks to mean only the allocation of share of the fishery resources on the high seas.

7. The representative of Australia submitted the following written statement:

Australia joins the general agreement on the Political Declaration and Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development on the basis of the following understanding:

Paragraph 44 (o) of the Plan of Implementation is an invitation to the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity to consider how to promote and safeguard the outcomes of its decision VI/24, adopted at its sixth meeting, held in The Hague from 7 to 19 April 2002.

In respect of paragraph 106 (d) of the Plan of Implementation, assistance in accessing technologies, knowledge and know-how means providing information on what is available, and the conditions of access to Australia's publicly owned technology would need to be negotiated between the participating institutions. Technologies, knowledge and know-how held by Australian universities are not "publicly owned", since while much university research is publicly funded, such funds are explicitly provided without claim by the funding bodies on the subsequent intellectual property.

The Political Declaration and Plan of Implementation are without prejudice to Australia's international rights and obligations, including those under the World Trade Organization Agreement, or the interpretation of those rights and obligations.

8. The representative of Brazil submitted the following written statement:

Brazil wishes to emphasize that it joins the consensus on the Plan of Implementation. The Plan could be better, but it was the agreement that was possible after very intensive, protracted and delicate negotiations. Notwithstanding these conditions, no one can deny that progress has been made in several areas, such as sanitation, chemicals, fisheries, means of implementation and governance. We also note the establishment of the solidarity fund for poverty eradication and the decision to negotiate an international instrument on sharing benefits of the use of biodiversity. This is a major step, and we are initiating a second generation of international agreements based on those adopted in Rio in 1992, such as the Convention on Biological Diversity.

Brazil has adhered to the consensus on the paragraphs on energy included in the draft implementation plan adopted by this conference, after realizing that, unfortunately, such consensus was the minimum common denominator possible today.

As the President of Brazil, Fernando Henrique Cardoso, stated on Monday in the plenary, and as the Minister of Environment stressed in the debate held in the contact group that discussed the issue of energy, we came to Johannesburg determined to promote and have recognized by this conference a target of having renewable energy sources provide 10 per cent of total energy consumed by 2010.

This target has already been agreed by the Latin American and Caribbean countries and is one of the central elements of the Latin American and Caribbean Initiative, adopted by the Ministers of Environment of our region. Our public policies and private sector are geared to that goal.

The results we collectively achieved fell short of our expectations. However, as we compare the text agreed in the Plan of Implementation with the texts agreed in Agenda 21 and at the ninth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development, we can see a step forward. We all agreed to substantially increase the global share of renewable energy sources and to regularly evaluate progress towards this end. The concept of establishing targets has been clearly included in the international agenda on sustainable development.

We will continue to strive for the promotion of renewable energy worldwide. We are prepared to cooperate with Africa and Europe, regions that also have established targets for increasing the share of renewable energy in their total energy supply. We intend to look for arrangements that promote and effectively implement such targets. We believe that the issue of renewable energy must become a central concern of the Commission on Sustainable Development, as the body to be entrusted with the follow-up of Agenda 21 and the outcome of the World Summit on Sustainable Development.

In this context, Brazil supports the declaration made by the European Union.

9. The representative of Denmark submitted the following written statement:

It is the understanding of the European Union that the consideration of the possible relationship between human rights and the environment referred to in paragraph 169 of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation should take into account the ongoing work in this area by the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Commission on Human Rights and other governmental and non-governmental bodies.

10. The representative of Ecuador submitted the following written statement:

With reference to paragraph 40 (n) of the Plan of Implementation, the delegation of Ecuador wishes to state the following:

We underscore the importance of paragraph 40 (n), which advocates enhanced international cooperation to combat the illicit cultivation of narcotic

plants, taking into account their negative social, economic and environmental impacts.

We consider the eradication of illicit crops absolutely necessary and appropriate. However, we emphasize that the eradication procedures must be carried out by environment-friendly means that do not harm human health, and in such a way as to minimize the negative social and environmental impact locally.

My delegation maintains that paragraph 40 (n) must be implemented in accordance with the principles of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, especially principle 2, which establishes that States have the right to exploit their own resources pursuant to their own environmental and developmental policies, and the responsibility to ensure that activities within their jurisdiction or under their control do not cause damage to the environment of other States or of areas beyond the limits of national jurisdiction.

Ecuador is not faced with the problem of illicit cultivation of narcotic plants and is living in an environment of domestic peace.

11. The representative of the Holy See submitted the following written statement:

The Holy See, in conformity with its nature and its particular mission, is pleased to join the consensus on the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and expresses its thanks to the people and the Government of the Republic of South Africa and everyone involved in the work that has brought us to the closure of the Summit.

The Holy See reaffirms its position that any discussion on development must centre on human dignity and renews its commitment to the Rio Principles, the first of which states that "Human beings are at the centre of concerns for sustainable development. They are entitled to a healthy and productive life in harmony with nature."

The Holy See only regrets that this first principle did not find its way into the chapeau of each and every section of the document, as a reminder to guide our work here and in every area of sustainable development.

My delegation is pleased to state that it joins the consensus for adoption without reservation. At the same time, the Holy See reaffirms all of the reservations that it expressed at the conclusion of the various other United Nations conferences and summits, as well as at the special sessions of the General Assembly for the review of those meetings.

12. The representative of India submitted the following written statement:

At the closing plenary meeting of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, on 4 September 2002, India made an interpretive statement on paragraph 20 (e) of the Plan of Implementation.

The representative of India stated that India had a comprehensive approach to energy supply, accorded high priority to renewable energy and was one of the few countries that had a separate Ministry to deal with renewable energy. A country of India's size and diversity, however, needs to rely on diverse energy sources, and in that context fossil fuel and nuclear energy

technologies are equally important. Energy technologies referred to in paragraph 20 (e), in India's interpretation, include nuclear energy.

13. The representative of New Zealand submitted the following written statement:

New Zealand's support for paragraphs 20 (e) and 20 (s) of the Plan of Implementation is given on the understanding that references to energy technologies in these two paragraphs are not interpreted so as to include nuclear energy technologies.

14. The representative of Norway submitted the following written statement:

Norway strongly supports the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation. Unfortunately, the wording of paragraph 20 (e), committing us to developing more advanced, efficient and affordable fossil fuel and renewable technologies, may be misinterpreted. Norway agrees to paragraph 20 (e) with the clear understanding that its provisions do not include nuclear power.

15. The representative of Peru submitted the following written statement:

The delegation of Peru thanks the Government and people of South Africa for their generous hospitality and for their important contribution to the outcome of this Summit.

The delegation of Peru took part in the adoption by consensus of the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit. However, it shares the concern expressed by the President of Venezuela on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement and China; it endorses the statement of the Holy See; and it concurs with the reservations expressed by the delegation of Mexico with regard to vulnerability to climate change, equitable access to the benefits of the development of genetic resources and a respect for traditional knowledge in the matter, and the crucial role of women, especially indigenous women, in sustainable development.

In that connection, the delegation of Peru reaffirms its position that the international community must act more forcefully to deal with certain specific consequences of climate change such as the El Niño phenomenon, which regularly affects Peru and the countries of the Pacific Basin with greater intensity and frequency; or the alarming pace of the progressive melting of the glaciers of the Andes range, which is jeopardizing our country's water supply and hydroelectric energy and also the sustainability not only of the Andes ecosystem but of the Amazon jungle itself.

Peru urges the international community to give effect as soon as possible to the Kyoto Protocol, including the implementation of the clean development mechanism, and the development of the market for carbon.

Peru is pleased, furthermore, to be a member of the Group of Like-Minded Megadiverse Countries, together with 14 others in that category, and reaffirms its interest in the early start of negotiations, within the framework of the Convention on Biological Diversity, on an international regime stipulating that the countries of origin must have a fair and equitable share in the benefits arising out of access to genetic resources, and also recognizing the rights of indigenous populations based on their traditional knowledge.

Lastly, the delegation of Peru states that it will act to meet the regional goal for Latin America set out by the delegation of Brazil, according to which at least 10 per cent of energy will, by the year 2010, be derived from renewable and cleaner sources; it also endorses the declaration by the European Union on the matter. It regrets, however, that it has not been possible during this World Summit to agree on a similar goal shared by the entire international community.

16. The representative of Switzerland submitted the following written statement:

Although Switzerland is satisfied that a compromise has been reached on the introductory part of paragraph 54 of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, we would like to reaffirm very clearly our commitment to the resolutions adopted at the Cairo and Beijing Conferences, in particular those relating to preventive and reproductive health. The Swiss Government considers the results of those Conferences to be essential and will continue working to ensure that those achievements are maintained.

With regard to the question of precaution, Switzerland is pleased to note that no country has questioned the increasing importance attached to the concept of precaution since Rio and that that concept has been applied at the international level in several important areas such as chemicals and biosafety. Accordingly, the reaffirmation of principle 15 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development in the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development cannot be regarded as a rejection of that importance but rather as a recognition that principle 15 constitutes the basis for the incorporation of the precautionary principle into international law.

17. The representative of Tunisia submitted the following written statement:

Tunisia expresses its great satisfaction at the adoption by the World Summit on Sustainable Development of paragraph 7 (b) of the Plan of Implementation, on the establishment of a world solidarity fund, and firmly believes that this decision constitutes an important breakthrough and a valuable tool in the hands of the international community to fight poverty.

Tunisia calls upon the international community and all stakeholders, including Governments, to participate in the setting up of this fund, as mentioned in that paragraph.

Tunisia invites all countries to work together in order to finalize during the fifty-seventh session of the General Assembly the modalities for the operationalization of the world solidarity fund and the mobilization of required resources.

18. The representative of Turkey submitted the following written statement:

The approval by Turkey of the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development neither prejudices nor affects the position of Turkey concerning the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.

19. The representative of Tuvalu submitted the following written statement:

Tuvalu welcomes, with some reservations, the Plan of Implementation. We share the view of other delegations that have expressed disappointment

over the fact that the Plan of Implementation does not contain targets and time frames regarding renewable energy. We share the interpretation stated by Norway that any reference to energy in paragraph 20 does not refer to nuclear power.

We share the views expressed by Saint Lucia with respect to the World Trade Organization (WTO). Tuvalu is a party to the WTO Agreement, and as such we wish to place on record that any reference to WTO in the Plan of Implementation does not imply any obligation upon the Government of Tuvalu.

20. The representative of the United States of America submitted the following written statement:

Principle 7 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development

As the United States of America stated for the record at the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, the United States understands and accepts that principle 7 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development highlights the special leadership role of developed countries, based on their industrial development, experience with environmental protection policies and actions, and wealth, technical expertise and capabilities. The United States does not accept any interpretation of principle 7 that would imply a recognition or acceptance by the United States of any international obligations or liabilities, or any diminution of the responsibilities of developing countries under international law.

The phrase “common but differentiated responsibilities” is contained in the second sentence of Rio principle 7, which provides that “in view of the different contributions to global environmental degradation, States have common but differentiated responsibilities”. The United States interprets references to common but differentiated responsibilities in the Plan of Implementation in this manner.

Corporate responsibility

During the conference, the Chairman of the Main Committee stated that it was “the collective understanding” of the contact group on means of implementation that paragraph 49 of the Plan of Implementation, regarding corporate responsibility and accountability, refers to existing intergovernmental agreements and international initiatives, and that this understanding should be reflected in the final report of the conference. The United States associates itself with this statement and notes that this understanding is of critical importance to the proper understanding and implementation of paragraph 49.

Biological diversity

While joining the consensus on the Plan of Implementation, the United States reserves its position with respect to paragraph 44 (o). This paragraph envisages the negotiation “within the framework of the Convention on Biological Diversity, bearing in mind the Bonn Guidelines, an international regime to promote and safeguard the fair and equitable sharing of benefits

arising out of the utilization of genetic resources". In the context of the final negotiations on this paragraph, the words "legally binding" were deleted before the word "regime" at the request of numerous delegations. In the light of this negotiating history, the United States understands that the undertaking envisaged in this paragraph would not entail the development of a legally binding instrument. The United States further considers that this paragraph constitutes an invitation for States to explore non-binding tools to better implement the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Bonn Guidelines, the latter of which were adopted in April of this year. It is the view of the United States that any initiatives in this area must fully accord access to genetic resources and respect rights and obligations under international law.

Health

The United States understands that no language in the Plan of Implementation, including references to health, "reproductive and sexual health", "basic health services" and "health-care services", or references to rights or freedoms, can in any way be interpreted as including or promoting abortion or the use of abortifacients. Similarly, the United States does not consider any reference in the document to United Nations conferences or summits, including the World Summit for Children, the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, the International Conference on Population and Development, the World Summit for Social Development, and the Fourth World Conference on Women, and their follow-ups, to constitute an endorsement or promotion of abortion. The United States does, however, support the treatment of injuries or illnesses caused by illegal or legal abortion, including, for example, compassionate post-abortion care.

Official development assistance

The United States reaffirms that it does not accept international aid targets based on percentages of donor gross national product. The United States does believe that aid should be increased to those developing countries making a demonstrated commitment to governing justly, investing in their own people, and promoting enterprise and entrepreneurship.

Nature of the Plan of Implementation and the Johannesburg Declaration

The United States highlights the importance of the Plan of Implementation and the Johannesburg Declaration and notes that, like other such declarations and related documents, these documents adopted at this conference contain important political goals and coordinated plans of action, but do not create legally binding obligations on States under international law.

Chapter X

Report of the Credentials Committee

1. At its 1st plenary meeting, on 26 August 2002, the Summit, in accordance with rule 4 of its rules of procedure, appointed a Credentials Committee having the same composition as that of the Credentials Committee of the General Assembly of the United Nations at its fifty-sixth session, namely, China, Denmark, Jamaica, Lesotho, the Russian Federation, Senegal, Singapore, the United States of America and Uruguay.

2. The Credentials Committee held one meeting, on 29 August 2002.

3. María Gabriela Chifflet (Uruguay) was unanimously elected Chairperson.

4. The Committee had before it a memorandum by the Secretary-General of the Summit dated 29 August 2002 on the credentials of representatives of States and of the European Community to the Summit. A representative of the Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat made a statement relating to the memorandum by the Secretary-General of the Summit, in which, inter alia, he updated the memorandum to indicate credentials and communications received subsequent to its preparation.

5. As noted in paragraph 1 of the memorandum and in the statement relating thereto, formal credentials of representatives to the Summit, in the form required by rule 3 of the rules of procedure of the Summit, had been received, as at the time of the meeting of the Credentials Committee, from the following 77 States and the European Community: Albania, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Belgium, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, China, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, the Dominican Republic, Eritrea, Fiji, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, the Holy See, Hungary, Iceland, Israel, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kiribati, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, the Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, Romania, the Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Sweden, the Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, the United Arab Emirates, the United States of America, Uruguay and Viet Nam.

6. As noted in paragraph 2 of the memorandum and in the statement relating thereto, information concerning the appointment of the representatives of States to the Summit had been communicated to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, as at the time of the meeting of the Credentials Committee, by means of a cable or a telefax from the head of State or Government or the Minister for Foreign Affairs, or by means of a letter or note verbale from the mission concerned, by the following 112 States: Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Armenia, Austria, the Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, the Central African Republic, Chile, Colombia, the Comoros, the Congo, the Cook Islands, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, the Czech Republic, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Ethiopia, France, Gabon, the Gambia, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea,

Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liberia, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malawi, Mali, Malta, the Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Micronesia (Federated States of), Morocco, Mozambique, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niue, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Qatar, the Republic of Moldova, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, the Sudan, Swaziland, Switzerland, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tunisia, Tuvalu, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United Republic of Tanzania, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

7. As noted in paragraph 3 of the memorandum and in the statement relating thereto, the following State participating in the Summit had not, as at the time of the meeting of the Credentials Committee, communicated to the Secretary-General any information regarding its representatives to the Summit: Chad.

8. The Committee decided to accept the credentials of the representatives of all States listed in the above-mentioned memorandum and the statement relating thereto and the European Community, on the understanding that formal credentials for representatives of the States referred to in paragraphs 6 and 7 above would be communicated to the Secretary-General as soon as possible.

9. The Committee adopted the following draft resolution without a vote:

> "*The Credentials Committee*,
>
> "*Having examined* the credentials of the representatives to the World Summit on Sustainable Development referred to in the memorandum of the Secretary-General of the Summit dated 29 August 2002,
>
> "*Accepts* the credentials of the representatives of the States and of the European Community referred to in the above-mentioned memorandum."

10. The Committee decided, without a vote, to recommend to the Summit the adoption of a draft resolution approving the report of the Committee.

Action taken by the Summit

11. At its 17th plenary meeting, on 4 September 2002, the Summit considered the report of the Credentials Committee (A/CONF.199/15).

12. The Summit adopted the draft resolution recommended by the Committee in its report (for the text, see chap. I, resolution 4).

Chapter XI
Adoption of the report of the Summit

1. At its 17th plenary meeting, on 4 September 2002, the Rapporteur-General, María Cecilia Rozas (Peru), introduced the draft report of the Summit (A/CONF.199/L.2 and Add.1-4).

2. At the same meeting, the Summit adopted the draft report and authorized the Rapporteur-General to finalize the report, in conformity with the practice of the United Nations, with a view to its submission to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session.

Chapter XII
Closure of the Summit

1. At the 17th plenary meeting, on 4 September 2002, the representative of Venezuela, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution expressing the Summit's gratitude to the host country (A/CONF.199/L.8).

2. At the same meeting, the Summit adopted the draft resolution (for text, see chap. I, resolution 3).

3. Also at the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Denmark (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union), Canada, Japan and the United States of America.

4. At the same meeting, the observer of Palestine made a statement on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members the Arab Group.

5. Also at the same meeting, the President of the Summit made a statement, as well as an announcement related to document A/CONF.199/CRP.6/Rev.1.

6. At the same meeting, the Secretary-General of the Summit made a statement.

7. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Venezuela, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, made a statement.

8. At the same meeting, the President of the Summit made a statement and declared closed the Summit.

Notes

[1] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 19* (A/56/19), chap. VIII, sect. B, decision 2001/PC/3; A/CONF.199/PC/14, para. 13; and A/CONF.199/4, para. 24.

Annex I

List of documents

Symbol	*Agenda item*	*Title or description*
A/CONF.199/1	4	Provisional agenda
A/CONF.199/2 and Corr.1	3	Provisional rules of procedure
A/CONF.199/3	6	Organizational and procedural matters
A/CONF.199/4		Report of the Commission on Sustainable Development acting as the preparatory committee for the World Summit on Sustainable Development on its fourth session
A/CONF.199/5	9	Letter dated 28 March 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Jordan to the United Nations addressed to the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs
A/CONF.199/6	9	Letter dated 17 July 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Canada to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General
A/CONF.199/7	9	Letter dated 24 July 2002 from the Chargé d'affaires of the Permanent Mission of Peru to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General of the World Summit on Sustainable Development
A/CONF.199/8	9	Letter dated 6 August 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to the United Nations and the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Netherlands to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General
A/CONF.199/9	9	Letter dated 5 August 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Oman to the United Nations as Chairman of the Arab Group addressed to the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs
A/CONF.199/10 and Corr.1	9	Letter dated 12 August 2002 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Greece to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General
A/CONF.199/11	9	Letter dated 13 August 2002 from the Secretary-General of the Association of South-East Asian Nations addressed to the Secretary-General of the World Summit on Sustainable Development
A/CONF.199/12	9	Letter dated 16 August 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Luxembourg to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Symbol	*Agenda item*	*Title or description*
A/CONF.199/13	4	Participation of intergovernmental organizations in the work of the World Summit on Sustainable Development: note by the Secretariat.
A/CONF.199/14	9	Letter dated 22 August 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Jordan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General
A/CONF.199/15	7 (b)	Report of the Credentials Committee
A/CONF.199/16 and Add.1-3	8	Summaries of the partnership events
A/CONF.199/17 and Add.1	11	Summaries of the round tables
A/CONF.199/18	9	Letter dated 4 September 2002 from the Chairman of the Fourth Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Alliance of Small Island States to the Secretary-General of the World Summit on Sustainable Development
A/CONF.199/19	12	Letter dated 4 September 2002 from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark, on behalf of the Member States that are members of the European Union, addressed to the President of the World Summit on Sustainable Development
A/CONF.199/L.1	12	Draft plan of implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development
A/CONF.199/L.2 and Add.1-4	14	Draft report of the Summit
A/CONF.199/L.3 and Add.1-13 and Add.1-13/Corr.1 and 2	12 and 13	Draft report of the Main Committee
A/CONF.199/L.4	8	Water, energy, health, agriculture and biodiversity: synthesis of the framework paper of the Working Group on WEHAB
A/CONF.199/L.5	11	Discussion paper for round tables
A/CONF.199/L.6 and Rev.1 and 2 and Rev.2/Corr.1	13	Draft political declaration
A/CONF.199/L.7	12	Draft resolution submitted by Venezuela on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, entitled “Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development”
A/CONF.199/L.8	14	Draft resolution submitted by Venezuela on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, entitled “Expression of thanks to the people and Government of South Africa”
A/CONF.199/CRP.1	12	Comments on the draft plan of implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development: note by the Secretariat

Symbol	*Agenda item*	*Title or description*
A/CONF.199/CRP.2		Programme of meetings and activities
A/CONF.199/CRP.3	8	Plenary meeting on cross-sectoral areas: issues for consideration
A/CONF.199/CRP.4	8	List of partnerships/initiatives on cross-sectoral areas
A/CONF.199/CRP.5 and Add.1	8	Type-2 partnership initiatives
A/CONF.199/CRP.6 and Rev.1		Status of treaty event
A/CONF.199/CRP.7	12	Extract from the future draft report of the Main Committee containing the revised draft plan of implementation of the Summit
Background paper No. 1		Co-Chair final conference statement: Sixth International Conference on Environmental Compliance and Enforcement
Background paper No. 2		Montevideo Declaration: Report of the Environmental Committee of the Latin American Parliament to the World Summit on Sustainable Development
Background paper No. 3		Communication and sustainable development: identifying local capacity-building priorities and available support
Background paper No. 4		Declaration of the 16th Annual Meeting of the Society for Conservation Biology
Background paper No. 5		General framework of the Islamic agenda for sustainable development: Islamic Declaration on Sustainable Development
Background paper No. 6		Sustainable development at the heart of the Commonwealth
Background paper No. 7		Statement of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination
Background paper No. 8		Statement on libraries and sustainable development
Background paper No. 9		Small States and sustainable development: bridging the gap
A/CONF.199/INF/1		Information for participants
A/CONF.199/INF/2 (Parts I and II)		List of participants

Annex II

Opening statements

Statement by Kofi Annan, Secretary-General of the United Nations

Not far from this conference room, in Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe, 13 million people are threatened with famine. If any reminder were needed of what happens when we fail to plan for and protect the long-term future of our planet, it can be heard in the cries for help of those 13 million souls.

And if there is one word that should be on everyone's lips at this Summit, one concept that embodies everything we hope to achieve here in Johannesburg, it is responsibility. Responsibility for each other — but especially the poor, the vulnerable, and the oppressed — as fellow members of a single human family. Responsibility for our planet, whose bounty is the very basis for human well-being and progress. And most of all, responsibility for the future — for our children, and their children.

Over the past decade, at conferences and summit meetings such as this one, the world has drawn up a far-reaching blueprint for a stable, prosperous twenty-first century. This Summit, like its landmark predecessors in Stockholm and Rio de Janeiro, focuses on a key component of that blueprint: the relationship between human beings and the natural environment.

We look to the environment for the food and fuel, and the medicines and materials, that our societies depend on. We look to it as a realm of beauty, and of spiritual sustenance.

But let us not be deceived, when looking at a clear blue sky, into thinking that all is well. All is not well. Science tells us that if we do not take the right action now, climate change will bring havoc, even within our lifetime. Let us not be fooled, when gazing at a vista of open land, into thinking that the desert is not advancing, or that toxic chemicals are not poisoning the soil. And when looking at a sparkling lake or ocean, let us not forget the water pollution and depleted fisheries beneath the surface.

Let there be no more disguising the perilous state of the earth, or pretending that conservation is too expensive, when we know that the cost of failure to act is far greater. Let us stop being economically defensive, and start being politically courageous.

And let us face an uncomfortable truth: the model of development we are accustomed to has been fruitful for the few, but flawed for the many. A path to prosperity that ravages the environment and leaves a majority of humankind behind in squalor will soon prove to be a dead-end road for everyone. Unsustainable practices are woven deeply into the fabric of modern life. Some say we should rip up that fabric. I say we can and must weave in new strands of knowledge and cooperation.

We have already taken tentative steps in this direction. Here in Johannesburg, we must do more. The focus from now on must be on implementing the many agreements that have been reached. That includes the Millennium development

goals. Sustainability is one of those goals. But it is also a prerequisite for reaching all of the others.

Action starts with Governments. The richest countries must lead the way. They have the wealth. They have the technology. And they contribute disproportionately to global environmental problems.

But Governments cannot do it alone. Civil society groups have a critical role, as partners, advocates and watchdogs. So do commercial enterprises. Without the private sector, sustainable development will remain only a distant dream. We are not asking corporations to do something different from their normal business: we are asking them to do their normal business differently.

Sustainable development need not wait for tomorrow's technological breakthroughs. The policies, the science and the green technologies at our disposal today can begin to do the job. With concerted action in five areas — water, energy, health, agriculture and biodiversity — progress could be far quicker than is commonly believed.

It is said that to everything there is a season. The world today needs to usher in a season of transformation, a season of stewardship. Let it be a season in which we make a long-overdue investment in the survival and security of future generations.

In closing, I would like to thank President Mbeki, his Government and the people of South Africa for opening their hearts and homes to the world. I hope that this Summit, in turn, marks the opening of a new chapter for us all — a chapter of responsibility, partnership and implementation.

Statement by Thabo Mbeki, President of South Africa and President of the World Summit on Sustainable Development

On behalf of our people and the peoples of Africa as a whole, I would like to thank you most sincerely for the honour you have extended to us by electing us President of the World Summit on Sustainable Development. We will strive to discharge the responsibilities that attach to this high post, and we count on your support and cooperation in this regard.

I am privileged to join Nitin Desai in warmly welcoming you all to Johannesburg, to South Africa and to Africa. I trust that you will have a happy and productive stay in this city of gold, which for more than a century has been home to people drawn from many parts of Africa and the rest of the world.

In the last 30 years, the torch of sustainable development has travelled from Europe to the Americas, and through Asia and it now burns in Africa. After a protracted journey, it has arrived in the continent that is the cradle of humanity.

The fact that we have convened at this cradle of humanity emphasizes the obligation we all face to respond with all seriousness and urgency and to adopt a meaningful Johannesburg plan of implementation, in the interests of all humanity and our common planet.

I am convinced that it is our shared view that we should approach our work over the next few days in this spirit. I am also certain that we share the view that poverty, underdevelopment, inequality within and among countries and the

worsening global ecological crisis sum up the dark shadow under which most of the world lives.

I am also certain that we are of one mind that the imperative of human solidarity, as well as actual experience, demand that we strive together for a shared prosperity. A global human society based on poverty for many and prosperity for a few, characterized by islands of wealth surrounded by a sea of poverty, is unsustainable.

All of us understand that the goal of shared prosperity is achievable because, for the first time in human history, human society possesses the capacity, the knowledge and the resources to eradicate poverty and underdevelopment. To use these possibilities successfully requires that we also agree to the concept of common but differentiated responsibility.

All of us also understand and accept the positions agreed in Stockholm and Rio de Janeiro regarding the need for all of us to act together to protect the global environment. All of us agree that unsustainable patterns of production and consumption are creating an environmental disaster that threatens both life in general and human life in particular.

The 1992 Earth Summit at Rio produced several landmark agreements aimed at halting and reversing environmental destruction, poverty and inequality. Agenda 21 placed the appropriate framework for sustainable development at the centre of the challenges facing humanity. In accepting Agenda 21, we agreed to integrate social and economic development with environmental protection, in a manner that would ensure the sustainability of our planet and the prosperity of all humanity.

Those important decisions were reinforced by the conclusions reached at a series of international conferences covering such important issues as gender equality, social development and population, children's rights, world trade, food security, health, habitat, racism and racial discrimination, financing for development, and the environment.

The United Nations Millennium Summit stands out among these global gatherings because its outcome, the Millennium Declaration, constitutes a united pledge made by the world's political leaders at the highest level. These leaders committed themselves to meet the Millennium development goals, which must inform the outcome of this Summit.

Apart from the details of the agreements arrived at in the context of the global negotiations of the last decade, the recognition has grown that, indeed, the world has become a global village. The survival of everybody in this village demands that we develop a universal consensus to act together to ensure that there is no longer any river that divides our common habitat into poor and wealthy parts.

This indicates that the noble concept of human solidarity has once again regained currency as a driving force in the reconstruction and development of our common world. This confirms our collective capacity to overcome cynicism, to outgrow market fundamentalism, to accept the imperative of people-centred development. Among other achievements, the Earth Charter represents this healthy development.

We can therefore make bold to say that there exists a detailed global agenda for sustainable development that provides the solid base from which the

Johannesburg World Summit on Sustainable Development must proceed. Regional initiatives, such as the New Partnership for Africa's Development, provide us with the framework and the institutions to translate the global agenda into reality.

Sadly, we have not made much progress in realizing the grand vision contained in Agenda 21 and other international agreements. It is no secret that the global community has not yet demonstrated the will to implement the decisions it has freely adopted.

The tragic result of this is an avoidable increase in human misery and ecological degradation, including the growth of the gap between North and South. It is as though we were determined to regress to the most primitive condition of existence in the animal world, a world of the survival of the fittest. It is as though we had decided to spurn what the human intellect tells us — that a world of the survival of the fittest only presages the destruction of all humanity.

As we deliberate and work on a way forward, we need to take stock of the inertia of the past decade and agree on very clear and practical measures that will help us to deal decisively with all the challenges that we face. This is the central task of this Summit.

We do not have a new agenda to discover. We have no obligation to relearn what we already know about the parlous state of human society and the environment. There is no need for us to reopen battles that have been fought and resolved.

There is every need for us to demonstrate to the billions of people whom we lead that we are committed to the vision and practice of human solidarity, that we do not accept that human society should be constructed on the basis of the savage principle of the survival of the fittest.

The Summit meets under the theme "People, planet and prosperity", its focus is on the improvement of people's lives everywhere, through sustainable development. What is required of us is that we agree on the practical measures that will help humanity to achieve these results. The Johannesburg plan of implementation that we must discuss and negotiate must be a real plan of implementation, a credible and meaningful global plan of action for the realization of the goals that humanity has already set itself.

Similarly, the political declaration of the Summit must constitute an honest pledge by the world's Governments to implement the programme contained in the plan of implementation. Work is proceeding to construct this declaration, which cannot be finalized outside of the context of the plan of implementation. The necessary consultations will take place to ensure that it is truly owned by all of us and constitutes a genuine commitment to act.

The Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 (General Assembly resolution S-19/2, annex) states in paragraph 23, "Democracy, respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development, transparent and accountable governance in all sectors of society, as well as effective participation by civil society, are also an essential part of the necessary foundations for the realization of social and people-centred sustainable development." Accordingly, our proceedings must take into account the effective participation of

civil society both in deciding what is to be done and in implementing what has been agreed.

This World Summit comes after a long and intensive process of global interaction. In this regard, I am privileged to thank the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Kofi Annan, the Secretary-General of the Summit Nitin Desai, and his team, the Bureau of the Summit preparatory process, President Megawati Soekarnoputri, the Government of Indonesia, Emil Salim, and many others for the sterling work they have done to bring us to where we are.

The peoples of the world expect that this World Summit will live up to its promise of being a fitting culmination to a decade of hope by adopting a practical programme for the translation of the dream of sustainable development into reality and bringing into being a new global society that is caring and humane. We will realize this if we have agents of change in our global village. These are men and women who will get down to the serious work of the achievement of the agreed goals. This requires brave, bold, conscientious and principled people. I believe that I am addressing that group of people now.

I wish you success in your critically important deliberations.

Statement by Nitin Desai, Secretary-General of the World Summit on Sustainable Development

I should begin with a word of thanks to you, Mr. President, and through you, to the people of South Africa, the people of the province of Gauteng, and the people of Johannesburg who have worked so hard to make these extraordinarily wonderful arrangements for our meetings here. I also wish to take this opportunity to thank, through you, all of the members of your team — Minister Dlamini Zuma, Minister Valli Moosa, and all of the officials in their ministries and in other ministries who, over the past year and a half, have been working so hard to ensure that this Summit will be a great success.

In many ways, this Summit is the last in a great cycle of global conferences that the United Nations began in the 1990s. The cycle began with the World Summit for Children and the Rio Earth Summit, and continued with a series of conferences that have addressed all major dimensions of economic and social development. Taken together, these conferences have defined for us, for the world, not just a framework for development policy and development cooperation, but also a comprehensive vision of what human progress is all about. Of all these conferences, perhaps Rio was the most ambitious, with the most wide-ranging agenda. Its outcomes included Agenda 21, the Rio Declaration, the Statement of Principles on Forests and the launch of a number of major conventions, which, together, have put before the world a truly ambitious agenda, combining the social, economic and environmental dimensions of development, and focusing on the challenges facing us in three key areas: eradicating poverty; moving us to a pattern of consumption and production that is ecologically more sustainable; and allowing us to handle critical ecosystems such as forests and oceans in a more holistic and integrated way.

Many assessments have been made in preparation for this conference on how much progress has been made in meeting the Rio challenges. They have been the subject of many reports and extensive discussions over the past year. We know that there have been some successes — that there is heightened awareness, and that there

have been many concrete achievements, particularly in communities that have established local Agenda 21s. Non-governmental organizations have managed to do some very creative things, especially at the local level. But, in spite of improvements in social conditions and progress in enacting environmental legislation, overall, the record card is very poor. Extreme poverty and avoidable diseases persist, and the deterioration of soil, water, oceans and forests continues. Risks accumulate, as in the case of global climate change, as well as in other areas. But rather than dwelling on the problems, what we must ask ourselves is why they persist. The purpose of this Summit is to tackle what has stood in the way of our making progress, and what we can do in order to get action, to get results.

One basic factor here is that the world has been changing rapidly in this decade. We now talk every day, everywhere, of globalization — a word we hardly used in Rio. And, certainly, the fact that economic development is now increasingly driven by trade and financial liberalization has, in some ways, made it more difficult to pursue some of the social and environmental objectives that were set at the great cycle of the United Nations conferences beginning with the Rio Conference. And, as you have said, Mr. President, globalization has not led to greater equity. It has, in many ways, widened the divide between the rich and the poor, both between and within countries.

And these are not the only changes that should concern us. In Rio we hardly talked about the AIDS pandemic. In countries that are seriously affected by HIV/AIDS, it is simply not possible to think of implementing the objectives of United Nations conferences unless we directly address this pandemic and find ways of containing it and reversing it.

There are other changes of a different nature that have taken place over this decade, and that present us with a widely different set of circumstances than those that prevailed at the time of Rio. One example: this has been the decade of information technology, and many countries have prospered because of it. Today we take it for granted in many parts of the world. I sometimes have to remind people that when we did the Rio Conference, there was no World Wide Web. The Internet was there, but not the World Wide Web. And yet we have not adequately connected the potential of information technology with the agenda for sustainable development.

So one reason why we have not fully succeeded in implementing what we agreed in Rio is that we have not been able to adapt the means of implementation of the Rio agenda, and of the agendas of the conferences that followed it, to the major changes that have taken place over this decade. But there are other equally fundamental reasons.

The Rio agreements presumed an improvement in the macroeconomic climate for development. This decade has not witnessed that. This has been a decade of declining official development assistance. And the measures that have the potential to result in improvements in market access and debt relief have come only at the end of the decade and are still quite modest. We must therefore accept that the expectations we had in Rio regarding an improvement in macroeconomic prospects for developing countries have not, by and large, been fulfilled. This is certainly a very important reason why we have not made the progress we had sought. It is not, however, only the absence of adequate macroeconomic support that can explain why

we have not had the types of results that we ought to have had on the ground in relation to poverty, the environment and risk management.

A basic constraint is that we have not yet truly grasped what it means to bring these things together. Many people ask me, “Why is the Summit’s agenda so broad? Why do you cover so many things?” The reason is that we have, so far, been working along sectoral lines; and that simply does not work. I could provide many illustrations, but let me give only one very telling example: getting girls into school, girls’ education. In many parts of the world, one of the most useful things you can do to this end is to improve water supply. Quite simply, if you improve water supply, you reduce the time the girls take to go to collect water for their houses, and that improves their school attendance. Now, imagine an education department going to a finance minister and saying that, for the education programme, they need money for water supply. Of course, if the finance minister were as bold and as far-sighted as yours he would probably say “Yes”. But I suspect that a lot of other finance ministers would not be so happy to do that. This is only one example. What we need to do is to connect. But we do not have in place the processes that will allow us to do so, at the national level or the global level.

Another factor is that Rio was a grand vision, a road map. But a road map is not quite enough for starting to travel. You also need a route plan. You need to say, “I am going to start here and end there, and these are the resources I am going to use.” What is needed is a medium-term framework.

I believe that we now have a framework available to us for our work in Johannesburg that addresses some of these barriers.

On the macroeconomic side, we have seen important, positive developments in the agreements reached for the Doha round. We have the advantage of the Monterrey Conference on Financing for Development, where substantial commitments were made for additional development assistance. We have the recent agreements reached on the replenishment of the Global Environment Facility. And the Millennium Summit has given us a comprehensive set of medium-term goals for the year 2015, focusing on issues of poverty, education, health and sustainable development. As I said earlier, we have many, many wonderful examples of local success. We must bring these things together in order to scale up these successes, so that what is happening in a few places can happen much more widely. If we connect the medium-term framework that we all accepted at the Millennium Summit with the larger vision of sustainable development, if we use the opportunities that a successful implementation of Doha and Monterrey can provide on the finance side, then, I think, we can show results. This is what our work so far has been oriented towards: a plan of implementation focused on targets, timetables, goals and activities that can lead to concrete results.

It is important that we focus here on key, current challenges in the areas of water and sanitation, energy, health, agriculture and biodiversity, in ways that will give us a sense of concrete commitment, that will give us something both achievable and monitorable. In addition, we need to connect what Governments are going to agree on with what can be done by scaling up the wonderful initiatives that have come at the local level and from non-governmental organizations and, in many cases, the business sector. This is where the notion of partnerships comes in. Partnerships basically serve to connect the dynamism that we see at the local level with the commitments that Governments need to make. We need both. Not one or

the other — both. Partnerships without the commitments of Governments will not work. The commitments of Governments are important. But partnerships add credibility to the commitments and enhance our capacity to implement them in practice.

These partnerships will also mark a new stage in the involvement of civil society in the United Nations. Rio marked a critical phase of the engagement of civil society with the United Nations in advocacy and policy development; let us see to it that this Summit marks the stage at which we complete this engagement not just in the processes of advocacy and policy development, but also in the process of actual implementation. That is why at this Summit what is important is not only what takes place in Sandton but also what takes place in the many other venues in this city where members of civil society are meeting.

But let us bear in mind that this is a medium-term framework. I keep reminding people that when you halve the number of people who do not have access to safe water by 2015, that is only halfway to sustainability. When you bring half of the poor people over the poverty line, that is only halfway to sustainability. We still have a long way to go.

We are focusing on the medium term because we want action. But it is in the nature of the agenda of sustainable development that we should not lose sight of the long term — not only in our thoughts but also in our decisions. When we ask people to focus not only on 2015 but also on 2050, sometimes they say, “Isn’t that rather far away?” But we should bear in mind that more than half of the people who will be alive in 2050 are already born, so focusing not just on 2015 but also on 2050 is not merely theoretical. We are talking about the lives of more than half of the people who are already here in the world: our children, our grandchildren. There are many areas of sustainable consumption, energy and ecosystem management where we must operate within a longer-term framework.

Above all, there must be a sense of urgency, the realization that we don’t have time to lose. Every year, 3 million people die because of air pollution and 5 million because of water-borne diseases. If these were a single disease — if they had one name — would we not treat it as an emergency? But we do not, and we let it continue. If we can bring together this sense of urgency, precision in the medium-term framework for action, partnerships and a vision that can guide us towards longer-term sustainability, then, I believe, we will be able to show results. And when we meet 10 years from now, perhaps again in Johannesburg, we will be able to talk not about what we have not achieved, but about what we have achieved and what more we can achieve.

Let me conclude, Mr. President, by recalling something you said yesterday. You described the world, as it is now, in terms of a form of “global apartheid”, a phrase that has resonated with many people: a world divided between the rich and the poor; between those who have access to safe water and those who do not; between the billions of people who have access to energy and the billions who do not. And you correctly asked that we attack this form of apartheid with the same vigour that the world mustered to fight the apartheid that existed in your wonderful country only a short while ago.

And how was that done, Mr. President? Two things were important. First, the rest of the world did not say, “This is their problem”; it said, “It is also our

problem." Second, it exercised solidarity and accepted responsibility in supporting you in your fight to change that system. That is the same sense of solidarity and responsibility that we need today in addressing the issues underlying this global apartheid.

I thank you once again, Mr. President, and look forward to an outcome that will mark a turning point in the struggle to ensure that this global apartheid between the rich and the poor characterizing today's world will finally be eliminated.

Statement by Klaus Töpfer, Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme

The World Summit on Sustainable Development in the city of Johannesburg represents a defining moment in the efforts of the international community to put our planet on a sustainable path for the future. It is a defining moment for many reasons, but above all, as we were earlier reminded, 10 years ago, when we met in Rio to embark on our journey as an international community on the path of sustainable development, South Africa was not among us. At that time the vision of a free South Africa was still a dream. Ten years later, we are meeting to chart a new course under the leadership of a freely elected South African President, in this great country that has emerged as a strong and vibrant member of the international community.

Mr. President, you have called the victory over apartheid and the emergence of a free, democratic and inclusive South Africa a "triumph of the human spirit", and indeed it is. The eyes of the world are upon us here, waiting for signs that we are able to bridge our differences, that we are able to find the political will to achieve a meaningful agreement. The transformation of our societies to achieve sustainability will be that very triumph of the human spirit that must be our beacon.

Since Rio we have achieved much. New international legal instruments have been developed. Awareness has increased, and progress has been made at the national and international levels in confronting environmental challenges and achieving sustainability. At the same time, new scientific evidence of the planetary dimensions of global environment change has raised the need for a quantum increase in our efforts. We have all agreed that this is the Summit of implementation, the Summit of accountability and of partnership. We have all agreed that concrete implementation must be the focus of our work. The time has come to translate our political commitment into action. Implementation must be our target to fight poverty, for responsible prosperity for all human beings.

The United Nations Environmental Programme *Global Environment Outlook*, compiled through the work of several hundred scientists around the world, singled out the root causes of global environmental degradation. These are embedded in social and economic problems such as pervasive poverty, unsustainable patterns of consumption and production and vast and increasing inequities in the distribution of wealth. Our world is characterized by divided and dysfunctional cities, dwindling water supplies, potential conflict over scarce resources and the accelerating loss of the environmental capital that underpins life on Earth. We suffer from problems of planetary dimensions. They require global responses. Investing in sustainable development will be investing in the future security of us all.

Just as unsustainable patterns of development result in environmental degradation, the severest impacts of negative environmental trends are felt by the poor, those most poorly equipped to deal with them and who often have the least responsibility for causing them. We recognize the integral relationship between environment and development. Therefore, we have undertaken our preparation for the Summit under the clear theme "Environment for development". In this regard, we must recognize that the international system still has a long way to go in integrating the three pillars of sustainable development throughout its activities. We must especially give attention to the social dimension and the role of women in society. A society that is unable to live in the expectation of basic social services, employment and health cannot be a sustainable society. We must continue to pursue the advances we have already made in including civil society organizations at all levels in our future work. We must challenge the private sector to transform itself. And we must find ways to use science and technology in more creative ways.

Recently we have witnessed extreme and increasingly frequent weather events, such as the drought afflicting southern Africa and resulting in the worst food crisis in a decade, which threatens 13 million poor people. The recent floods in Europe and Asia have devastated the lives of hundreds of thousands. More than ever before, this brings the need for a global response into perspective. We cannot afford to fail those millions of victims of unsustainable patterns of development. We cannot afford to leave this great Summit with the feeling that our differences did not allow us to confront this great challenge of our times. It is the responsibility of each and every one of us here to work under your leadership, Mr. President. In two weeks' time, we must leave this city and country of beauty and hospitality with an outcome worthy of the triumph of the human spirit achieved by the people of South Africa. This is the opportunity for us to prove that the reinvigoration of international solidarity and partnership that we all talk of is not merely a pious wish. That will be our thanks for the great hospitality and friendship we received in this city and at this Summit.

South Africa realized its dream of freedom. We must realize the dream of environmentally, socially and economically sustainable development, of responsible prosperity for all. We all attach the greatest importance to the success of this Summit. Let us pledge to provide our total support to you, Mr. President, to the Secretary-General of the Summit, my friend and colleague Nitin Desai, to the host country and to the Summit itself to achieve that success.

Statement by Han Seung-soo, President of the General Assembly of the United Nations

I am very pleased and honoured to address this historic World Summit on Sustainable Development. On behalf of the United Nations General Assembly, I would like to express my profound gratitude to the Government and the people of South Africa for hosting this meeting. I hope that under your able leadership, Mr. President, this Summit will produce fruitful results, achieving another important milestone in our common endeavours to achieve well-being and prosperity for all humankind.

Ten years ago the international community wholeheartedly welcomed the adoption of the Rio principles and Agenda 21 at the Rio Summit, which provided the road map for achieving sustainable development. Today we gather here in

Johannesburg to reaffirm our commitments made in Rio and to take further steps to ensure their implementation. Despite the notable progress during the last 10 years, we have to admit that we are still far short of realizing what we agreed to achieve.

In some cases, on the contrary, the situation has even deteriorated. The number of people living in extreme poverty has increased over the last decade. Environmental degradation continues to pose serious and alarming threats to the safety of our planet. I believe that as important as promoting sustainable development is discovering how to stop the reversal of the process of development, which one might term “de-development”. There could be several different causes of “de-development”, but whatever they are, we should closely cooperate at the global level to halt it.

In this context, the five areas — water, energy, health, agriculture and biodiversity — suggested by Secretary-General Kofi Annan as areas where progress should be made at this Summit merit the full support and active cooperation of all of us. There are also some other formidable challenges in the field of development that need to be addressed at the global level.

The eradication of poverty is at the forefront of our efforts to achieve sustainable development. No less important is the protection of our environment. Over the last two years, the United Nations particularly has made serious efforts to provide necessary impetus in these areas.

The historic Millennium Summit was instrumental in bringing greater focus and attention to a number of international development goals. It is satisfying to note that the momentum generated by the Millennium Summit significantly contributed to the successes of major efforts of the international community, particularly the Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization, held in Doha last November, and the International Conference on Financing for Development, held in Monterrey, Mexico, in March this year.

The World Summit on Sustainable Development now provides us with a timely opportunity to explore ways to build on the progress to be made in implementing the Doha Development Agenda and the Monterrey Consensus. This Summit is also important for ensuring the active involvement of all stakeholders and actors, including not only States but also non-governmental organizations, in the implementation process through true partnership.

I sincerely hope that the plan of implementation that we adopt will be concrete and practicable, with a suitable time frame and a set of means to facilitate implementation. With regard to the follow-up of this Summit, I, speaking on behalf of the United Nations General Assembly, earnestly believe that the United Nations system has a critical role to play.

I also consider that there is an urgent need to integrate follow-up actions to the Millennium Declaration, the Doha Development Agenda, the Monterrey Consensus and the outcome of this meeting. The General Assembly would provide a most appropriate forum for this purpose. I strongly propose to use the high-level dialogue of the General Assembly for deliberating on effective ways and means to achieve the various international development goals and sustainable development in a more mutually reinforcing manner.

The world is facing immense and daunting challenges. We are trying to set ambitious goals. Therefore, it is only fitting that we should cooperate, combining our efforts to determine how we will achieve those goals. The plan of implementation should guide us towards making a sustainable global community a reality.

Let me stress that the tasks before us are not just for us but for future generations. Let us work together to preserve our home, the Earth. And let us forge a global partnership to bring sustainable development forward.

Annex III

Parallel and associated activities

1. The World Summit on Sustainable Development was characterized by a high level of participation by major groups, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 55/199, which encouraged effective contributions from, and the active participation of, all major groups, as identified in Agenda 21. The resolution also requested the Commission on Sustainable Development, acting as the preparatory committee for the Summit, to accredit non-governmental organizations not already in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council to the Summit process. Accordingly, 737 new organizations were accredited to the Summit (in addition to more than 2,500 organizations accredited with the Economic and Social Council and on the Commission on Sustainable Development list). Overall, 8,046 representatives of major groups attended the official segment of the Summit. Major groups were actively involved in official Summit events, including the multi-stakeholder event (4 September); the high-level round tables (2-4 September); and the thematic plenary meetings (26-28 August). More than 220 partnership initiatives were launched at the Summit, many of which involved major groups (for a full list of partnerships see http://www.johannesburgsummit.org/html/sustainable_dev/partnership_initiatives.html) . Major groups also organized themselves into approximately 40 geographical and issue-based caucuses. Eight to ten caucus meetings were held daily.

2. In addition, more than 150 parallel events, several of which were organized by civil society organizations and major groups, were held in conjunction with the Summit. A Civil Society Global Forum, organized by the South African Civil Society Secretariat, was held from 19 August to 4 September at the Expo Centre in Nasrec. This Forum included a “women’s tent”, and was attended by more than 25,000 people. Outcomes included a Civil Society Declaration and Programme of Action (see http://www.worldsummit.org.za). Major groups were also involved in a number of other parallel events, including “Lekgotla: a business day”, hosted by Business Action for Sustainable Development on 1 September. It brought world business leaders together with other major groups and government officials to discuss initiatives and partnerships for sustainable development (see http://www.basd-action.net/activities/business.shtml). A local government event, “Local action moves the world”, organized by the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives and other partners, was held from 27 to 30 August. The outcome was a local government declaration to the Summit (see http://www.iclei.org/lgs/). The “Ubuntu village” event featured the International Best Practices Exhibition. It served as a central venue for people from diverse backgrounds to interact and to share their unique cultural heritages and show their impacts on sustainable development, through entertainment and exhibition activities (see www.joburgsummit2002.com). Several water-related events, including conferences, workshops, press conferences, side events and exhibitions, were held from 28 August to 3 September at the Water Dome. The event entitled “No water, no future” aimed to increase awareness of water as a key issue in sustainable development (see www.waterdome.net).

3. The Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation for Sustainable Development was held from 26 August to 3 September. Major groups that were organizing partners included the International Council for Science, the Third World Academy of Sciences and the World Federation of Engineering

Organizations. The Forum provided a platform for highlighting the critical contributions of science, technology and innovation to sustainable development (see http://www.scienceforum.co.za/). The Indigenous Peoples' International Summit on Sustainable Development was held at Kimberley, South Africa, from 20 to 23 August. Outcomes include the Kimberley Declaration of 28 August 2002 (see http:www.tebtebba.org/tebtebba_files/wssd/indexa.html). The International Youth Summit and African Youth Summit were hosted by the South African Youth Council from 15 to 19 August and from 19 to 23 August, respectively, at Mogwase in the North West Province of South Africa (for more information, contact philmusekwa@union.org.za).

4. A total of 48 side events were held at Sandton Convention Centre during the Summit. All side events took place in the margins of the official meetings, during lunchtime and evening breaks.

5. The side events were balanced in terms of organizers and sponsors (Governments, intergovernmental organizations, major groups); geography; and coverage of the main Summit themes (including water and sanitation, energy, health, agriculture and biodiversity). Practically all side events during the second week of the Summit involved heads of State or Government as participants.

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