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In preparation for the Conference, meetings are also being held regionally. The first took place in Bergen, Norway, in May 1990 for European countries. This was followed by a gathering in Bangkok, Thailand, in October 1990 for Asia and the Pacific. A meeting will take place in Mexico City in March 1991 for Latin America and the Caribbean. Others, with time and place still to be finalized, will take place in Africa and Western Asia.

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Developing Country Participation

Developing countries have an important stake in the Summit: their participation in the Conference and its preparations is critical for its success. They fully share the hazards resulting from global environmental damage, although the problem has been caused mostly by the activities of industrialized countries which have also gained most of the economic benefits.

The co-operation of developing countries is essential if the integrity of the environment is to be secured. Such co-operation can be expected only if the development of these countries is given new impetus and direction.

Supplementary funding and technology must be made available to developing countries to enable them to integrate environmental concerns into development programmes, and make the transition to sustainable development. Agreement on this will be the most important challenge confronting the 1992 Conference.

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For information on UNCED contact:

Secretariat United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED)

Case postale 80, Conches
Switzerland
Tel: 41-22-789-1676
Fax: 41-22-789-3536

UNCED New York Office
Room S-3060, United Nations
New York, New York 10017, USA
Tel: 212-963-5959
Fax: 212-963-1010

Department of Public Information
Room S-1040, United Nations
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Fax: 212-963-4556



IN OUR HANDS

EARTH SUMMIT

**United Nations
Conference on
Environment and
Development**

**Rio de Janeiro
Brazil
1-12 June 1992**



UNITED NATIONS

EARTH SUMMIT

United Nations Conference on Environment and Development

The first-ever “Earth Summit”—the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED)—will take place in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 1 to 12 June 1992.

“The primary goal of the Summit will be to lay the foundation for a global partnership between developing and more industrialized countries, based on mutual need and common interests, to ensure the future of the planet,” states Maurice Strong, Secretary-General of the Conference. “We need to find a viable and equitable balance between environment and development.”

A highlight of the Conference will be the observance of World Environment Day on 5 June 1992, the twentieth anniversary of the opening of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, held in Stockholm, Sweden, in 1972.

In Stockholm, environment was placed on the world agenda. The Brazil Summit will ensure that the issue becomes central to policy-making and implementation in almost every sector of economic life. It will seek agreement on concrete measures to reconcile economic activities with the need to protect the planet and ensure a sustainable future for all people.

The General Assembly has decided that Member States should be represented at the Conference by Heads of State or Government. It is expected to be the largest summit meeting to date. International organizations, non-governmental groups and private-sector interests will also take part in an unprecedented attempt to mobilize people to set a new and more hopeful course for the future of humanity.

Background

The relationship between economic development and environmental impact was recognized at the Stockholm Conference. It was also the focus of *Our Common Future*, the 1987 report of the United Nations World Commission on Environment and Development.

However, between 1972 and 1987, too little was done to integrate, in practical terms, concerns for development and the environment in economic planning and decision-making. Progress was made in specific instances but overall the environment of the planet deteriorated. Ozone depletion, global warming and other major environmental problems grew more serious.

In December 1989, the United Nations called for a conference that would take steps to reverse trends and establish the basis for a sustainable way of life on the planet as we move into the twenty-first century.

The Issues at Stake

In an effort to maintain the quality of the environment and achieve environmentally sound, sustainable development in all countries, the Conference will address:

- ▶ protection of the atmosphere (climate change, depletion of the ozone layer, transboundary air-pollution);
- ▶ protection of land resources (combating deforestation, soil loss, desertification and drought);
- ▶ conservation of biological diversity;
- ▶ protection of freshwater resources;
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- ▶ environmentally sound management of biotechnology and hazardous wastes (including toxic chemicals);
- ▶ prevention of illegal traffic in toxic products and wastes;
- ▶ improvement in the quality of life and human health;

- ▶ improvement in living and working conditions of the poor by eradicating poverty and stopping environmental degradation.

The Conference will look at underlying patterns of development which cause stress to the environment. Poverty in developing countries, levels of economic growth, unsustainable patterns of consumption, demographic pressures and the impact of the international economy are development issues that will be addressed.

Earth Summit Objectives

The Conference is expected to produce:

- ▶ an Earth Charter that will embody basic principles which must govern the economic and environmental behaviour of peoples and nations to ensure “our common future”;
- ▶ Agenda 21, a blueprint for action in all major areas affecting the relationship between the environment and the economy. It will focus on the period up to the year 2000 and extend into the twenty-first century;
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4/10/91



THE
INTERPARLIAMENTARY
CONFERENCE ON THE
GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT

After
the
prepar.

Stephanie Caswell
(Bill Norwell → PNG desk)
PNG

forests in UNCED
also of agreement on what needs
to be discarded -- no agreement
on this
U.S. - wanted framework
Convention by 1992
Canada & Sweden - used to
support us, not
non-binding agreement of
principles by 1992.
Canada, Nordic, South supported
U.S., but there thought with



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Brazil will want a framework
Convention → not by 1992.

Swedish - against here first
against separate from Climate.

? - how much from fast.

Q77 won't be pushed into a Convention
by 1992.

Biodiversity

1st neg session end of Feb. in
Norwich - V slow → 11 day only.

only discussed

heredity, funds, access to genetic

resources.

full access to raw genetic resources.
→ U.S. agrees to collect & allows



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access to raw matl.

but what developed countries
want to have is access to
refined org.

U.S. opposes fee for collecting
raw matl.

talk to Wayne Denny at USDA-
Intl. 245-5823 or Jed
Cohen USAID. 875-4219

Brazil will try to get a commitment
in the spirit of principles → a
firm commitment to negotiate
a convention -- need to attract
heads of state.



unep

*With the compliments
of
Joan Martin-Brown
Special Advisor
to the Executive Director
Chief, Washington Office*

United Nations Environment Programme
1889 F Street, N.W. Ground Floor • Washington, D.C. 20006
Telephone: (202) 289-8456 • Fax: (202) 289-4267

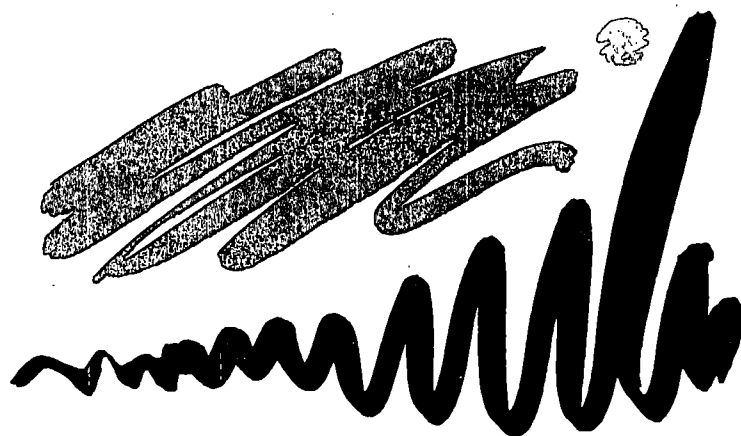
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UNEP PROFILE



U.N. CONF.
ON ENVIR. &
DEV.



INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL BUREAU

Board Members

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Chairman - USX

Vice-Chairman:

Alex Krauer
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Robert O. Anderson
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Stephan Schmidheiny
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Helmut Sihler
Chairman - Henkel
Chairman - ICC
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Walter Wenger

Director:
Albert E. Fry

A Specialized Division
of the
International Chamber
of Commerce



NEWSLETTER

Nº 25

September 1990

U.N. CONFERENCE ON ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

The Brazilian government, which will host the 1992 United Nations Conference, has now announced the official site for the meeting. The Conference, now identified as "ECO'92", will be held in **Rio de Janeiro**. The conference is scheduled for June 1st to 12th, 1992.

Related meetings are scheduled for other Brazilian cities:

- . Heads of State and Governments - **MANAUS**
- . Interparliamentary Meeting - **BRASILIA**
- . Environmental Technology Exhibit - **SAO PAULO**
- . Science-Technology Seminar - **CURITIBA**

STEPHAN SCHMIDHEINY - BUSINESS ADVISOR TO UNCED

Dr. Stephan Schmidheiny, the Chairman of UNOTEC, has been designated as the Principle Business Advisor to Maurice Strong, the Secretary General of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development. Dr. Schmidheiny will call upon a group of 40 leaders from business and industry to form a Business Council on Sustainable Development. This group will represent all regions and a broad range of business sectors. The Council will provide advice and guidance to the UNCED secretariat on initiatives and activities undertaken by business and industry in respect of the preparatory process for the 1992 Conference, including:

- programmes developed by the International Chamber of Commerce and other business organisations and bodies;
- programmes developed by the World Economic Forum and its Industry Fora;
- programmes developed by individual corporations and business leaders.

GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT INITIATIVE (GEMI)

Twenty two major corporations in the United States have banded together in an industry initiative to foster environmental excellence within the business community. The goals of GEMI are:

- to stimulate, assemble, and promote worldwide critical thinking on environmental management;
- to improve the environmental performance of business worldwide through example and leadership;

CONTRIBUTORS TO IEB: Air Products, Alcan, Allied-Signal, Aristech, Asea-Brown Boveri, AT & T, Bosch, Bonnard & Gardel, British Coal, Browning-Ferris Industries, Ciba-Geigy, Cobrasma-FIESP, Digital Equipment, Dow, Du Pont, Eskom, Ford, Henkel, International Business Machines, ITRI, Monsanto, Procter and Gamble, Scott Paper, 3-M, Unilever, Unotec, USX, Waste Management International, Westinghouse.

- to promote a worldwide business ethic for environmental management and sustainable development ;
- to enhance the dialogue between business and its interested publics such as non-governmental organisations, governments, and academia ;
- to forge partnerships around the world to encourage similar efforts in other countries.

It is envisioned that environmentally progressive companies will initiate parallel programs in Europe, Asia and elsewhere. For further information write to :

Mr. George Carpenter
GEMI
1828 L Street, NW - Suite 711
WASHINGTON, DC 20036 (USA)
Tel. (202) 296-7449
Fax (202) 296-7442

CLEANER PRODUCTION INFORMATION CLEARINGHOUSE

The Industry and Environment Office of UNEP has established a system for disseminating information on cleaner production, waste reduction and pollution prevention. One component of the clearinghouse is now a computerised system which has links with U.S. E.P.A.'s Pollution Prevention Information Clearinghouse (PPIC) and Pollution Prevention Information Exchange System (PIES). This system will be connected in Paris, France to Transpac, the French packet switching network. This connection will allow users to enter the system through a local telephone call to the packet switching network in 65 countries. For a list of networks that can access Transpac from your country, please contact :

UNEP
Industry & Environment Office
Tour Mirabeau
39-43, quai André-Citroën
F-75739 PARIS Cedex 15 (France)

Users in North America can access PPIC information by phone :

RECRA/Superfund Hotline	(800) 424-9436
Small Business Ombudsman (SBO) Hotline	(800) 368-5888
PPIC Technical Assistance	(703) 821-4800

IEB BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

The next IEB Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for Paris on the afternoon of 19 November 1990.

REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER

The Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe was officially opened in Budapest on 6 September 1990. Senior officials from the United States, Canada, the European Commission, and other west European countries joined with officials from Hungary, Poland and Czechoslovakia in participating at the opening ceremonies. Mr. Barber Conable, President of the World Bank, participated in the Reception and Dinner. For further information, contact :

Dr. Peter Hardi
Executive Director
Miklos Ter 1
H-1035 BUDAPEST (Hungary)
Tel. 168-6284
Fax 188-4105



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CLEARING HOUSE ACTIVITIES

No. 6

September 1990

WASTE REDUCTION

One firm in the United States is providing a Reader Service which identifies common problems which routinely face business managers seeking to reduce waste and improve environmental performance. The Reader Service lists general questions and answers. IEB, with permission from ETUS, Inc. is reproducing some of this information which may be of interest to business managers

Question : Everyone gives us a different idea on how to pretreat cyanide waste streams. The problem is that they aren't consistent. What is the practical method for Cyanide Destruction?

Answer :

The presence of cyanide in industrial wastewaters complexes the metals and inhibits their removal by conventional chemical precipitation. To destroy the cyanide a two-step procedure is required. Step one oxidizes the cyanide to cyanate. Step two oxidizes the cyanate to carbon dioxide and nitrogen.

Step 1:

1. Adjust and maintain the pH of the wastewater at 10-11 under electrode control with liquid sodium hydroxide.
2. Add sodium hypochlorite under ORP electrode control until +300 millivolts is achieved and maintained for 30 minutes while mixing.

Step 2 :

1. Reduce and maintain the pH at 8.0 under electrode control using dilute sulfuric acid.
2. Add sodium hypochlorite under ORP electrode control until +700 millivolts is achieved and maintained for 45 minutes while mixing.

Question : We have a problem with "floating floc" which occasionally overflows our clarifier causing compliance problems.

Answer :

As precipitation of dissolved substances occurs, the insoluble particles formed are small and un-settleable. In conventional treatment systems utilizing gravity solids separation, flocculating agents are added to coagulate and agglomerate these particles into larger more settleable particles. Sedimentation or settling of these larger particles will occur provided a sufficient density difference exists between the suspended matter and the liquid. Wastewater streams which contain dissolved gases or compounds (example: peroxides) will, upon pH adjustment, release gas bubbles into the waste stream. This action causes the particles to remain in suspension and drives them to the top - commonly referred to as "floating floc". To resolve this problem a reducer such as metabisulfite is added to the stream. Metabisulfite chemically combines with the gas molecules to form soluble salts and allows the suspended particles to settle. Floating floc can also be caused by the overdosing of anionic flocculant.

Question : After trying everything from soup to nuts to treat hexavalent chromium wastewater, we would like to know the accepted and effective method.

Answer:

Hexavalent chromium cannot be removed from process wastewaters by conventional chemical precipitation. It must be reduced to its trivalent state. The steps required are as follows.

1. Adjust and maintain the wastewater pH at 2.5 - 2.8. Be certain the wastewater contains no cyanide.
2. Add bisulfite reductant under ORP electrode control until +280 millivolts is attained and held for 15 minutes.

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International Chamber
of Commerce



CONTRIBUTORS TO IEB: Air Products, Alcan, Allied-Signal, Aristech, Asea-Brown Boveri, AT & T, Bosch, Bonnard & Gardel, British Coal, Browning-Ferris Industries, Ciba-Geigy, Cobrasma-FIESP, Digital Equipment, Dow, Du Pont, Eskom, Ford, Henkel, International Business Machines, ITRI, Monsanto, Procter and Gamble, Rhône-Poulenc, Scott Paper, 3-M, Unilever, Unotec, USX, Waste Management International, Westinghouse.

3. Adjust the pH to 8.0 with liquid sodium hydroxide. This will precipitate the trivalent chromium.
4. Remove the precipitate by clarification or filtration.

The clear liquid will be void of chromium provided there are no chelating or sequestering agents which are specific to chromium.

Note: Trace (<2 ppm) Hexavalent Chromium can be effectively removed in the normal wastewater treatment process when a powerful chelate-breaker precipitant is used.

Question : We need to reduce the volume of sludge generated in our wastewater treatment operation. We use lime for pH adjustment, Ferrous Sulfate to treat chelated metals, plus several polymers. Can you help?

Answer :

Lime is an effective low cost way to adjust pH. However, each pound of Lime creates another pound of sludge. This is due to the fact that about a third of the lime doesn't dissolve and with normal moisture, you end up with a pound of sludge. Sodium Hydroxide (Caustic Soda) should be used instead of lime for pH adjustment. Secondly, Ferrous Sulfate will create from five to ten pounds of sludge for each pound of ferrous salts. Ferrous hydroxide sludge is also very difficult to dewater. To treat chelated metals, use a safe no sludge product such as a polythiocarbonate precipitant.

Question : We use a sodium dimethyldithiocarbamate (DTC) solution to precipitate chelated and complexed metals from our wastewater stream. It works great, but somebody told us its toxic. Is it, and if so, what can we use instead?

Answer :

DTC is sold by many companies under numerous trade names. It is sometimes difficult to determine if you are using DTC or not - check the Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) very carefully. If you have a doubt, FAX it to us and we will research. DTC is indeed toxic - primarily to municipal waste treatment "friendly" bacteria and also to fish. DTC is, after all, a common microbiocide for cooling tower treatment. A typical 40% solution will test as follows :

COD 440,000 mg/l

Fish Toxicity: Trout <0.10 mg/l

Sunfish <0.18 mg/l

For a safe substitute, ask your supplier for a polythiocarbonate type product. It's safe and effective.

Question : We have a waste stream that has a mix of metals including Copper, Zinc and Cadmium. When we adjust the pH to 8 for Copper removal, we still have high levels of Cadmium. If we raise the pH to 10 to precipitate the Cadmium, our Copper and Zinc levels go up. Help!

Answer :

Unfortunately, the hydroxide precipitation of metals via pH adjustment has a built-in problem. Copper, for example, will precipitate best at pH 8, but will start going back into solution if the pH is raised to 10 to remove the Cadmium. The same is true for Zinc, Lead and other toxic metals. The simple fact is that hydroxide precipitates are soluble at any pH other than their specific number. The solution is easy. Pick the pH where the maximum volume of the mixed metals precipitate (usually pH 8.5), then use a chemical precipitant to bring down the balance of metals. The chemical precipitant will also insolubilize any chelated metals that are present. There are a variety of good chemical precipitants on the market. They all have application in one circumstance or another. The best are the polythiocarbonates.

Question : We want to get away from chlorinated solvents for degreasing and deoiling but the aqueous type of cleaners don't work as fast, any suggestions?

Answer :

Once you make the decision to change (sooner or later everyone must) it is necessary to consider a combination of equipment and aqueous cleaner to achieve the same speed as solvents. Typically new equipment is required and it must have three stages - clean, rinse, dry. In the cleaning stage, ultrasonic agitation or strong pump agitation is required. The cleaner should be heated to 140°F or higher. The rinse stage likewise requires heating and agitation. The water used for diluting the cleaner and for rinsing should be deionized. With this combination of aqueous cleaner and equipment, you should be able to clean better and at least as fast as chlorinated solvents. As a note, make sure the aqueous cleaner you use contains no solvents whatsoever. Many of the products on the market contain terpenes or butyls. Their use simply solves one problem and creates another.

Question : We use an ORP electrode to control the dosing of chemical precipitant to my wastewater stream. At times it seems to go "crazy" and gives faulty readings to the metering pump controller. I've had the electrode checked out and it seems to be OK. What gives?

Answer :

An ORP electrode works great for measuring the oxidation/reduction potential of a solution for chromium reduction or cyanide oxidation. However, an ORP electrode is subject to interferences by certain wastewater constituents such as oxidizers and reducers. Therefore, even though the electrode is OK - it will cause the controller of the dosing pump to under/over dose the treatment chemicals. Although you didn't state what precipitant you use, a chemical precipitant specific electrode is more accurate and stable than an ORP electrode when adding precipitants. It is less subject to interferences. However, all electrodes require regular cleaning and periodic maintenance. Electrode maintenance kits are available - so ask your supplier.

Question : We buy a lot of different chemicals/polymers, etc. for wastewater treatment but we never know exactly how much to dose. At present, we add a little of this and a little of that, there must be a better way.

Answer :

Wastewater treatment includes both neutralization and precipitation. The manufacturers of chemicals can offer general guidelines - based on "typical" wastewaters. However, buffering agents and complexing agents in process wastewaters (along with accidental spills) can greatly effect the amount of chemicals required for treatment. To take the guess work out of dosing, electrode monitoring is recommended. Control systems are available which incorporate electrodes for monitoring the wastewater and controllers for activating dosing pumps for chemical addition. Ask your chemical supplier for such a system. It will pay for itself by reducing chemical usage to exactly what you need.

**These questions and answers were prepared as a service to industry by ETUS, Inc.,
Sanford, Florida USA. Fax your question to the Waste Reduction Fax Line (407) 321-3098 - (c) 1990, ETUS, Inc.**

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... continued from page 1

Clearinghouse.

Contact: Stephen Greene, ICOLP, Corporate Environmental Manager, Digital Equipment Corp., 150 Coulter Drive, Concord, MA 01742-2190, United States.

3M's pollution prevention

The goal of 3M's pollution reduction initiative is a 90 percent reduction in all its manufacturing emissions by the year 2000. In addition to an \$150 million investment in additional pollution control equipment, 3M is accelerating scientific research to eliminate sources of pollution in 3M manufacturing processes and placing greater emphasis on recovery and recycling of waste materials.

Contact: Environmental Engineering and Pollution Control Department, 3M, P.O. Box 33331, Bldg. 21-2W, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55133, United States.

General Motors goes electric

General Motors is to produce a sophisticated electric car, the Impact, that can run for 192 km before the batteries need recharging. The company is also developing batteries that can be recharged in as little as 10 seconds, compared to the several hours required to charge conventional batteries.

Dow Chemical's waste reduction programme

The Waste Reduction Always Pays programme (WRAP) has two objectives: to provide a database for tracking purposes; and to provide a compendium of proposed or implemented projects that reduce waste. As an example of a WRAP success story, a herbicide plant reduced solvent loss by approximately 92 percent through a variety of cost-efficient modifications to the system.

Contact: Dow Chemical Company, Environmental Quality Department, 2030 Willard H. Dow Center, Midland, MI 48674, United States.

Nissan recycling CFCs

Nissan recently announced that it will distribute CFC recycling and reclamation equipment to all its 185 dealers in Canada. Contact: Nissan Canada, 5290 Orbitor Drive, Mississauga, Ontario, L4W 4Z5, Canada.

CONFERENCE UPDATE

Seminar on the Promotion of Cleaner Production, Canterbury, United Kingdom, 17-20 September 1990
UNEP/IEO is launching its programme on cleaner

production at a Seminar on the Promotion of Cleaner Production, hosted by the British Government. Over 150 senior officials from government, industry, academia and environmental organizations will meet to discuss ways to promote cleaner production.

The meeting will be opened by Lord Strathclyde the British House of Lords Environment Minister, and by William Mansfield III, the Deputy Executive Director of UNEP. The Honourable Lone Dubkjaer, Minister of Environment for Denmark, will present a government perspective on cleaner production, and J. Hugh Faulkner, former Secretary General of the International Chamber of Commerce, will present an industry perspective. An environmental organization's view will be given by a representative of the Environment Liaison Centre International, and a UN agency perspective will be given by Sergio Trindade, Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Science and Technology Development.

A primary objective of the Cleaner Production programme is to link existing databases and sources of information on cleaner technologies, and to this end representatives of networks in India, Europe and the United States will present their activities. Examples of methods used by government and industry to promote cleaner production will be given by leading authorities from the Netherlands, the United Kingdom and the United States. A panel of experts from Canada, the Federal Republic of Germany and Italy will discuss the design and labelling of environmentally friendlier products. Participants will address policy and strategy issues, information harmonization and technology transfer to developing countries in working sessions. The progress of the UNEP/IEO Cleaner Production industrial working groups (textiles, tanning, electroplating and solvents) will be presented in separate working sessions.

Participants at the seminar are expected to advise UNEP on the orientation they think the Cleaner Production programme should adopt, and consider how they can contribute and link their own activities to the international Cleaner Production Network.



Cleantech 1990, Bangkok, Thailand, 10 October 1990

Manufacturers and suppliers of clean technologies will be interacting with high-level decision makers of Asia and the Pacific region at the Cleantech 1990 exhibition. New technologies which safeguard the environment—the tools to meet the challenge of the 1990s—will be exhibited in Bangkok. The exhibition is organized by the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the UN Development Programme, and the Asian Development Bank in cooperation with UNEP and the Royal Thai Government.

Contact: Dr K. F. Jalal, Director, Division of Industry, Human Settlements and Environment, UNESCAP, Rajdamnern Avenue, Bangkok 10200, Thailand.

International Ecological Congress 'Environment for the 21st Century', Brno, Czechoslovakia, 23-25 October 1990

Clean technologies in industry will be discussed in a waste management section of the International Ecological Congress 'Environment for the 21st Century' held in Brno in October.

The Congress is jointly organized by the Czechoslovakia State Commission for Scientific and Technical Development and Investments, the Federal Ministry of Foreign Trade, the Federal Ministry of Metallurgy, Mechanical and Electrical Engineering and the Czechoslovak Committee for Environment from the Czechoslovak Scientific and Technical Society. An International Exhibition of Techniques for the Creation and Protection of the Environment will be held in parallel with the Congress.

Contact: Congress Secretariat, House of Technology of the CSVTS, Ing. Pavla Vojtasova, Ing. Petr Krabicka, POB 88, Vystaviste 1, 656 88 Brno, Czechoslovakia.



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CLEANER PRODUCTION

No 2 August 1990

LOGO
COMPETITION
RESULTS NEXT
ISSUE

The newsletter of the UNEP/IEO network dedicated to reducing industrial pollution and waste

GUEST EDITORIAL

By formulating the concept of sustainable development, the Brundtland report alerted the world's authorities to the risks unregulated economic growth could hold for future generations. Developed countries have set a bad example. Today they are trying to correct their ecological deficit. Developing countries should not make the same errors. They should not sacrifice future generations on the altar of short-term enrichment.

This is even more critical now, since the stakes have become global. We only have

to look at the ease with which technology and capital can be passed from one continent to another to appreciate the global nature of the problem. Uncontrolled and unmanaged, technology could evolve without regard to environmental considerations. The Montreal Protocol, the Basel Convention and many other actions and initiatives reveal a growing international awareness of the fact that we are a global community sharing one earth.

I am, therefore, very pleased to be

associated with UNEP's initiative to establish an increasingly necessary Cleaner Production Network.

As UNEP's Industry and Environment Office is based in Paris, we hope that the Cleaner Production Network will benefit from the international culture of our capital. After all, integrating environmental considerations into human activities is first and foremost a cultural issue.

Brice Lalonde.

Minister for the Environment, France

NEWS FROM INDUSTRY



Minimizing petroleum waste

The International Petroleum Industry Environmental Conservation Association (IPIECA) is to create a petroleum waste minimization group to collect information on the petroleum industry's waste minimization programmes and share this world-wide through the International Cleaner Production Information Clearing House (ICPIC) of the UNEP/IEO Cleaner Production Network. Contact: John Lemlin, Executive Secretary, IPIECA, Monmouth House, 87-93 Westbourne Grove, London W2 4UL, United Kingdom.

As well as dealing with minimizing waste, the guidelines also emphasise reducing emissions into soil, water and the atmosphere. This is to be achieved through good operating practices, clean technology and input material changes

Contact: CEFIC Technical Department, Avenue Louise 250/71, B-1050 Brussels, Belgium.

ICOLP action for ozone

The Industry Cooperative for Ozone Layer Protection (ICOLP) is composed of companies and organizations interested in ozone layer protection and the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Members encourage the prompt replacement of CFCs by safe and environmentally acceptable substitutes or technologies. Members will soon make available non-proprietary, CFC-alternative information through technology transfer workshops, an electronic database and guidebooks published jointly with the EPA.

The ICOLP database will be linked to the UNEP International Cleaner Production Information

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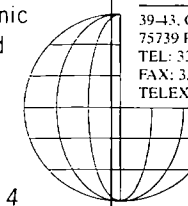
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The Editor welcomes all news on cleaner production from readers.
Please send to UNEP/IEO.



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AWARDS

For the third consecutive year, the Commission of the European Communities, in cooperation with UNEP/IEO, held the European Better Environment Awards for Industry. All member states participate by organizing national awards and submitting entries for the European awards. The Clean Technology Award and the Eco-Product Award are aimed directly at promoting cleaner production.



The Clean Technology Award went to the low waste gas-phase process for production of high-density and linear low-density polythene developed by BP Chemicals SNC (France). The new process reduces the discharge of chemicals, principally alcohol, from catalyst recovery. There is a 99 percent reduction in COD in the effluent and a 96 percent reduction in hydrocarbon emissions. Solid waste is reduced by 70 percent and electricity consumption by 50 percent.

Contact BP Chemicals SNC, Etablissement de Lavera, BP N°6, F-13117, Lavera, France.



The Eco-Product Award went to the Société Claude Blaizat (France) for its Zeroll Refrigeration System. Zeroll is a mobile refrigerating unit, one cubic metre in capacity. It can be used for portable ice boxes, refrigerators, refrigerated container trucks and goods trains, and air conditioning systems. The system does not use CFCs, has minimal energy consumption, creates no noise or atmospheric pollution and the aluminium casing may be recycled.

Contact: Société Claude Blaizat, 20 rue des Bluets, F-75011 Paris, France.

Highly recommended was the Vh-Tric-o-steam, a textile machine for continuous reactive dyeing of tubular knitted cotton fabric, developed and patented by Vald.-Henriksen A/S. Water consumption is 17 percent of that for batch dyeing and there is a concomitant reduction in the use of salt and energy. The natural oils and waxes of the cotton are not washed out, making the liquid waste less polluting. Lower operating costs, reduction in the use of chemicals and reduced energy costs are other benefits.

Contact Vald.Henriksen A/S, Sydmarken 44, DK-2860 Søborg, Denmark.

Volkswagen AG's smoothly turbo-charged engine was also **highly recommended**. The environmental benefits are a reduction

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NEWS FROM GOVERNMENTS

US EPA developments

To widen its pollution prevention efforts, the US EPA Pollution Prevention Office will be developing several environmentally friendly locales within a small urban com-



munity, a federal facility and a university setting. These can serve as models for a wider audience on how economic and environmental considerations can be integrated into daily life.

Contact: Jerry Kotas, Director, Pollution Prevention Office, US EPA, 401 M Street SW (PM-219), Washington, DC 20460, United States.

Canadian environmental choice

Babies' cloth nappies, re-refined oil, fencing from recycled plastic, water-based paints, cellulose insulation and recycled paper were the first products to receive the new Canadian Ecologo for environmentally friendlier products. A good environmental choice is defined by the programme as any product which is made, used or disposed of in a way that causes significantly less harm to the environment than other similar products. A brief statement of the reason why a product has been certified with the Ecologo appears on the package label.

Contact: Charles Dickson, Environmental Choice, 107 Sparks Street, 2nd Floor, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0H3, Canada.



Report and directory of environmental labelling

A number of reports on environmental labelling schemes have now been published. Among these are: *Final Report of the Green Spot Advisory Panel* (Australia); *Environmental Labelling in the EFTA-Countries*; and *La certification des ecoproduits* (France). In addition, the OECD is compiling a report and directory on environmental labelling programmes.

Contact: The Ministry for Planning and Environment, Oldfleet Buildings, 477 Collins Street, Melbourne 3000, Australia; Thomas Lindhqvist, TEM University of Lund, Åsumsgatan 38, S-275 37 Sjöbo, Sweden; and Observatoire des technologies stratégiques, Ministère de l'industrie et de l'aménagement du territoire, Direction générale de l'industrie, Service de l'innovation et du développement industriel et technologique, 32 rue Guersant, 75833 Paris Cedex 17, France.

OECD technology programme

A three-year programme on technology and environment has been established by the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). These subjects were identified by OECD Ministers in a communiqué of 1 June 1990 as critical in the development of a stronger OECD environmental programme.

In particular, the programme will examine the barriers to the use of environmentally beneficial technologies, and identify mechanisms to encourage their use.

Contact Rebecca Hanmer, Project Manager, Programme on Technology and Environment, Pollution Control Division, Environment Directorate, OECD, 2 rue André Pascal, 75116 Paris, France.

NEWS FROM NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Advertising code of conduct for eco-products

The French advertising standards agency has drawn up 14 conduct rules concerning the advertisement of products as environmentally friendly to prevent misleading claims to the public.

Contact: Lucien Bouys, Director, Bureau de vérification de la publicité (BVP), 5 rue Jean Mermoz, 75008 Paris, France.

Greenpeace contact list

Greenpeace has compiled a clean production contact list to make it extremely difficult for industry and policy makers to resist taking steps to develop clean production policies and programmes.

Contact: Greenpeace International, Keizersgracht 176, 1016 DW Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

NEWS FROM UNEP/IEO CLEANER PRODUCTION WORKING GROUPS

Harmonization of information working group

The working group on the harmonization of information met at UNEP/IEO offices in Paris for two days in April. Myles Morse of EPA chaired the meeting, and 16 participants from 9 countries discussed a case study format which could be used to provide basic information on different cleaner technologies. This harmonized format will be entered into the International Cleaner Production Information Clearinghouse (ICPIC) computer system so that users can easily search for information on cleaner technologies in different industrial sectors and find out who to contact for more detailed information.

The format, which has since been finalized, provides a basic description of the cleaner production technology or process; the name and location of the company or organization which developed it; investment, operational, maintenance and other costs, and payback time; waste, feedstock, water and energy reductions and other benefits; constraints or problems; waste and emissions; who to contact for more information; and an evaluation of the case study itself.

This case study format will be used by UNEP/IEO industrial working groups and other organizations which are preparing case studies of cleaner technologies for input into ICPIC and world-wide dissemination. The format is available to anybody who requests it from UNEP/IEO.

During the meeting the EPA also presented a draft ICPIC user's guide and a draft brochure which it has been developing with UNEP/IEO and which will soon be distributed.

Contact: Anh Tuan Vu, Associate Information Officer, UNEP/IEO, 39-43 Quai André Citroën, 75739 Paris Cedex 15, France.

Industrial working groups

The four industrial working groups on textiles, tanning, solvents and electroplating will be reporting on their activities in September at the Seminar on the Promotion of Cleaner Production in Canterbury, United Kingdom. The groups' progress in identifying experts world-wide, drafting abstracts or case studies, and preparing a bibliography of the most pertinent and rele-

vant reports, articles and publications in the field of clean technologies in their industrial sector will be reported to the seminar.

Working group on government policies and strategies

A meeting of the working group on government policies and strategies to promote cleaner production methods was held on 13 June 1990 in Washington. The group agreed to focus its efforts on five topics: facility planning/pollution prevention opportunity assessments (audits); data collection to measure progress and to target activities; environmental product labelling; evaluation of the effectiveness of technical assistance in pollution prevention in the private sector; and integrated multi-media permitting.

Contact: Jerry Kotas, Director, Pollution Prevention Office, US EPA, 401 M Street SW, Washington DC 20460, United States.

New activities

Within the Cleaner Production Network, new activities are taking place in the fields of pulp and paper, aquaculture, biotechnology and education on cleaner production. The addresses to contact for anyone wishing to participate are given below.

Pulp and paper: Dr Alan Johansson, Technical Research Center of Finland, Biologinkuja 7, SF-02150 Espoo 15, Finland.

Aquaculture: Ole Jorgen Hanssen, Stiftelsen Ostfoldforskning, Postboks 276, N 1601, Fredrikstad, Norway.

Biotechnology: Han Brezet, Advisory Council for Research on Nature and Environment, Postboks 5306, 2280 HH Rijswijk, The Netherlands.

Education on cleaner production: Dr Don Huisingh, Erasmus University, Erasmus Centre for Environmental Studies, P.O. Box 1738, Burgemeester Oudlaan 50, 3000 DR Rotterdam, The Netherlands.

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in emissions of unburnt hydrocarbons, carbon monoxide, NO_x, particulates and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons. It uses 30 percent less fuel and emits 20 percent less CO₂ than the spark ignition engine.

Contact: Volkswagen AG, D-3810 Wolfsburg 1, Federal Republic of Germany.

For more information about these awards contact: European Awards Coordination, Commission of the European Communities, Directorate-General for Environment, Nuclear Safety and Civil Protection (DG XI/C/4), 200 rue de la Loi, B-1049, Bruxelles, Belgium, or UNEP/IEO.

UNEP/IEO wishes to extend the better environmental awards to industry in other countries and regions of the world. Write to UNEP/IEO for more information.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Protection of the North Sea: time for clean production

A study on problems and opportunities for improving the quality of the water in the North Sea by stimulating clean production. Erasmus Centre for Environmental Studies, P.O. Box 1738, 3000 DR Rotterdam, The Netherlands.

CFC Alternatives

Proceedings of the October 1989 international conference on CFC halon alternatives, co-sponsored by US EPA, Environment Canada, the Alliance for Responsible CFC Policy and the National Institute for Emerging Technology.

Technology and the Environment: facing the future

Developed from an international symposium on non-waste technology, in Finland. The Finnish Academies of Technology, Kansakoulukatu 10 A8, SF-00100 Helsinki, Finland.

'A Waste Minimization Law with Deadlines' Peter Matonis, in *Hazardous Waste Management*, Vol. 8, No. 1, January 1990.

'Principles of Ecological Design' in *Innovation*, Summer 1990

The Journal of the Industrial Designers Society of America, 1142-E Walker Road, Great Falls, VA 22066, United States.

'Design for the Entire Life Cycle: a new paradigm?'

C. Overby, in *ASEE Annual Conference Proceedings*, 1990.

E & D FILE 1992

No. 5

November 1990



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THE UNCED AGENDA - AND HOW TO RAISE THE MISSING ISSUES

Environmental degradation is clearly related to many other problems that face humanity today. Indeed, how can developing countries take environmental issues on board when they are locked into a competitive international economic system, whose rules are not usually set by them, or necessarily fair? How can the poor all over the world avoid environmentally harmful activities when this is the only way they can feed themselves? How can decisions be made that do not destroy people's living environments if those very people are not part of the decision-making process? How can we expect to reduce pressure on natural resources when people in industrialised countries are not prepared to forego some of the unnecessary luxuries they enjoy?

In order to get to the roots of environmental destruction, therefore, it is necessary to take into account a wider range of issues than those commonly regarded as "development" or "environment", and certainly than those included so far on the official agenda of the UN Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED). A large number of NGOs are already working on issues that are linked in some way to the environment or to the causes of environmental destruction. Many will want these issues to be raised in UNCED or its preparatory process.

Some governments would like UNCED to remain a purely technical conference, leaving "people-related" and "development" issues until another time, once the purely environmental urgencies have been addressed. Others would prefer only to discuss the unjust international economic order and not talk about internal policies affecting their people or their environment. For this reason, the official agenda is a delicate balance of acceptable issues, and many other important questions (such as popular participation, indigenous peoples' rights, population, women, energy, the international trading system, to mention but a few) may not be adequately discussed without some prompting.

The question is how to put these on to the agenda of UNCED. This may not be an easy task, but is an important one for ensuring that certain issues are discussed, even if they do not become negotiating issues in their own right.

UNCED - the official agenda

Resolution 44/228, by which the UN General Assembly decided that UNCED would take place, sets out a number of "environmental issues ... of major concern in maintaining the quality of the Earth's environment and especially in achieving environmentally sound and sustainable development in all countries...", which UNCED will address.

The agenda of UNCED is based on General Assembly resolution 44/228. The Report of the Secretary-General of UNCED to the August 1990 session of the Preparatory Committee presents the issues set out in the resolution. The report is available as UN document A/CONF.151/PC.5.

Another document prepared for the Nairobi session of the Preparatory Committee is the Overview of System-wide Activities relevant to General Assembly resolution 44/228 (UN document A/CONF.151/PC.6).

E & D File 1992, no. 6 will take a closer look at the "official agenda" of UNCED, and provide an overview of some of the main agencies working on issues on the official agenda.

Major environmental issues

Most of the issues listed as "major environmental issues" in the Secretary-General's report (see below), have been allocated to one of the two Working Groups that have been set up so

far to assist the Preparatory Committee (see *E & D File 1992*, no. 2).

The establishment of a third Working Group, to deal with legal and institutional matters, is pending. To resolve differences of opinion between delegations, the Preparatory Committee asked its Chair, Ambassador Tommy Koh (Singapore), to meet with those concerned in order to reach an agreement which would enable it to be set up by the next meeting of the Preparatory Committee, scheduled to take place in March 1991 in Geneva.

The report of the August 1990 session of the Preparatory Committee has been issued as UN document A/45/46. It contains the texts of the decisions taken by the Preparatory Committee, including the content of the studies that were requested.

The "major environmental issues" and the groups to which they have been allocated are as follows:

Working Group I

Chair: Bo Kjellen (Sweden)

- Protection of the atmosphere by combating climate change, depletion of the ozone layer and transboundary air pollution;
- Protection and management of land resources; by combating deforestation, desertification and land degradation;
- Conservation of biological diversity;
- Environmentally sound management of biotechnology;

Working Group II

Chair: Dr. Bukar Shaib (Nigeria)

- Protection of the oceans and of coastal areas, rational use of living resources;
- Protection of the supply and quality of freshwater resources;
- Environmentally sound management of particularly hazardous wastes
- Environmentally sound management of toxic chemicals (II);
- Improvement of the living and working environment of the poor, protection of human health conditions and improvement of the quality of life.

Cross-sectoral issues

The Secretary-General's report and the overview identify a number of "cross-sectoral" or "cross-cutting" issues, which are relevant to more than one of the issues mentioned above. In practice, this means that under each agenda item, all the cross-sectoral issues will be taken into account. Thus, when discussing hazardous waste, for instance, financial issues will be looked at, as well as legal aspects and technology transfer issues.

The cross-sectoral issues identified in the General Assembly resolution and described in the Secretary-General's report are listed and summarised below:

- Financial issues: These fall into two categories: funds needed for international programmes and activities of an explicitly environmental nature; and those required to enable developing countries to meet the additional costs of incorporating environmental dimensions into their development programmes;
- Technology transfer: The importance of technology transfer in promoting sustainable development requires action on two emerging fronts: increasing internationalisation of research; and improving universal access to environmental technologies that serve public interests. Barriers that impede or prevent transfer of these need to be lowered or eliminated;
- Legal aspects: These fall into four main categories: formulation of general principles, adoption of sectoral legal instruments, legal-institutional innovation and legal support measures for specific activities.
- Institutions: Three main issues may come up: review of the mandates of the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) and of the environment-related activities of other governmental agencies and organizations; integration of environmental dimensions into the mandates of organizations concerned with development; institutional means of dealing with links between environment and related economic, social, humanitarian and security concerns (e.g. possibly establishing a form of "environmental security council", using the UN Trusteeship and Security Councils);
- Economic instruments: These include: appropriate pricing policies; systems of evaluating environmental assets (e.g. natural resource accounting) and alternative measures of national economic

performance; fiscal incentives and penalties; corporate accounting systems which internalise environmental costs; tradeable permits for polluting emissions or for use of common goods;

- Supporting measures: A number of measures can be used to integrate the environmental dimension into the development process, including: information on which to base decisions (e.g. environmental monitoring and assessment); ways of considering the environmental dimension in the process of development (e.g. land use planning, environmental impact and risk assessment); education, training and promotion of public awareness and participation.

- * The two documents also point out that "developmental driving forces" (such as population, energy, transport and industrialisation) underlie the approach to the sectoral as well as the cross-sectoral issues. "Development driving forces" mean the requirements for "development" that also have - possibly negative - effects on the environment.

UN documents can be obtained from: Service de distribution et de vente, Palais des Nations, CH-1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland, or from Mr. Santillana, Office 314B, United Nations, UN Plaza, New York, NY 10017, USA. Indicate your address and the reference of the document you need.

Where to put other issues

The Secretary-General of UNCED has pointed out that the list above is not exhaustive as neither the questions of the "global commons" nor of environmental refugees are included. This might reassure those who, having looked at the list of issues that UNCED will consider, feel that there are some important gaps. Indeed, popular participation, Third World debt, commodity prices, trade, women, North-South compensation for global warming, energy consumption and many more are not specifically mentioned. Many NGOs are probably wondering how these can be raised.

- * The backbone of the agenda has been defined by resolution 44/228. This was the result of tough negotiations at the General Assembly and is consequently a delicate balance which most countries will seek to avoid upsetting. It will, therefore, be necessary to a certain extent to work within that framework. It may be possible to have certain sub-items inserted

within the list of major issues. This, however, would not only require strong, concerted NGO action but also political support.

An easier place to raise questions that have not been explicitly mentioned in the official agenda so far is in the discussions under "cross-sectoral issues", which are more flexible than the other agenda items. These issues are relevant to all aspects of environmental degradation, and it would therefore make sense to raise underlying questions under this heading.

Forthcoming sheets in this series will take particular issues and look at where the main work on these subjects in relation to the environment is taking place, what different political positions are and how they are likely to evolve in the lead-up to 1992.

It is important that NGOs express their views on the important items that are not specifically mentioned in the agenda of the conference

It is easy to fall into the trap of defining one's work around institutional constraints. NGOs can play the important role of raising other important and relevant issues. Thus, they will be shaping their work around the real world rather than around the UN's agenda.

In addition, raising such issues can help bring together NGOs from South and North; networks working on women's issues, for instance, can develop coalitions or international strategies for raising questions relating to women, development and the environment.

Advocacy for inclusion of new items can take place through lobbying governments. It is also worth letting the Secretariat of UNCED know your views. For further information on this, see E & D File 1990, nos. 2, 3 and 7.

Another possibility for direct NGO input to UNCED is to send in information relevant to studies that the Secretariat is preparing in response to requests from the Preparatory Committee. Four of these studies, commissioned by the August 1990 session of the Preparatory Committee, concern different aspects of technology transfer, financial issues and new and renewable sources of energy.

Other studies relate to the relationship between economic policy and environmental policy;

economic and environmental indicators; harmonising developmental objectives with sustainability and environmental considerations in international economic discussions without adding new forms of conditionality or unjustified barriers to trade; environmental education and public awareness programmes.

The next sessions of the Preparatory Committee will take place in Geneva (18 March-5 April 1991 and 11-12 August 1991) and in New York (Spring 1992).

- * Finally, a Preparatory Committee decision entitled "Environment and Development" requests that a report be prepared on the relationship between environment and development, taking into account points such as the relationship between poverty and environmental degradation, between the economic problems facing developing countries (e.g. debt, inappropriate patterns of growth, unfavorable terms of trade) and the environment, between economic and social conditions and protection of the environment, and between environment, development and market mechanisms.

It is likely that these studies will not be undertaken by the Secretariat, but commissioned from agencies with the relevant expertise.

A proposed structure for the UNCED agenda

In his introductory statement to the Nairobi session of the Preparatory Committee, Maurice Strong, Secretary-General of UNCED, suggested a six-point structure for the agenda of the Rio Conference. In his view, UNCED should:

- provide a forum for *conventions* to be signed on such subjects as climate change and biodiversity. These conventions would be negotiated *outside* the UNCED framework and action at the Conference would depend on the results of the negotiations;

- discuss and agree an *Earth Charter*, which would set out the basic principles of conduct of peoples and nations towards each other and the Earth to ensure our common future;
- agree an agenda for action, *Agenda 21*, to provide concrete measures for implementation of the principles agreed in the Earth Charter in the period following the conference and leading into the 21st Century;
- agree measures to finance the work programme defined in Agenda 21, in particular the *additional resources* required by developing countries to integrate the environmental dimension into their own development policies, as well as new costs incurred by complying with international legal environmental instruments;

"The most important decisions to be taken by the 1992 Conference will be in the areas of development and economic policies and decision-making. For it is largely through changes in economic life and behaviour in all countries and in the international economy that most principal environmental risks must be addressed. Virtually all environmental impacts are the result of development or its failures, and it is only through responsible management of the development process that these impacts can be kept within acceptable limits."

*Maurice Strong
Nairobi, August 1990*

- agree measures to ensure that all countries, particularly developing countries, have access to *environmentally sound technologies* on an equitable and affordable basis, as well as the capacity to make effective use of them;
- agree measures to *strengthen existing institutions*, in particular the environment capacities of development institutions.

E & D File 1992 has been compiled by Caroline Dommen for the United Nations Non-Governmental Liaison Service (NGLS) and is published by the NGLS Office in Geneva. For more information or additional copies write to: NGLS, Palais des Nations, CH-1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland, or NGLS, Two United Nations Plaza, Room DC2-1103, New York, NY 10017, USA.

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E & D FILE 1992

No. 6

November 1990



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UNRAVELLING THE OFFICIAL AGENDA OF UNCED

The items on the official agenda of the 1992 UN Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) are set out in General Assembly resolution 44/228, and outlined in detail in the *Report of the Secretary-General* of the Conference to the August 1990 session of the Preparatory Committee (UN document A/CONF.151/PC.5) and in the *Overview of System-wide Activities Relevant to UNCED* (A/CONF.151/PC.6).

(Further discussion on the politics of the UNCED agenda is given in *E & D File 1992*, no. 5.)

UN documents can be obtained from:

- *Service de distribution et de vente, Palais des Nations, CH-1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland;*
- *Mr. Santillana, Office 314B, United Nations, UN Plaza, New York, NY 10017, USA.*

Indicate your address and the reference of the document you need.

This sheet provides a summary of some of the main items described in the two documents referred to above, which were based on the list of "major environmental issues" set out in resolution 44/228 for consideration by UNCED.

(For a full list of the major environmental issues see *E & D File 1992*, no. 5, or the documents themselves.)

Although the activities described below are those that take place at international level, this should not, as the Secretary-General of UNCED points out in his report, mislead people into thinking that one should concentrate only on working at that level; quite the contrary, national-level work is still one of the keys to international change.

1. Protection of the atmosphere by combating climate change

Issues include: Should priority be given to seeking agreements on a framework convention or on a programme for research/monitoring and technology transfer (while working on a convention)? Should agreements be constrained by uncertainties as to knowledge of causes and effects of climate change? There is a need to focus on measures to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases and to prepare for potential consequences of climate change - measures which would also be justifiable on other grounds (e.g. greater efficiency in energy use, more effective planning in the development of low-lying coastal area defences).

The main agencies and bodies working on climate change are: WMO, UNEP, the International Council of Scientific Unions (ICSU) and a Task Force of the UN Administrative Committee on Coordination (ACC). The main forum for discussion is the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change set up by WMO and UNEP. (A future issue of *E & D File 1992* will cover the outcome of the Second World Climate Conference, held in Geneva in November 1990.)

Most of the UN system agencies referred to in this sheet are described in NGLS' United Nations Development Education Directory. Most readers should already have received the 1989 edition of the Directory. If you have not received a copy, one can be obtained from NGLS in Geneva or New York. NGLS will also be pleased to supply the addresses of the other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations cited.

The UNCED Secretariat suggests that UNCED must decide to increase scientific research, improve the monitoring system, increase support to developing countries and increase transfer

of technology. UNCED should also adopt a convention (currently being developed under the aegis of UNEP and WMO). This convention was to be discussed in Geneva in September 1990 and will be discussed in the USA in February 1991.

2. Protection of the atmosphere by combating depletion of the ozone layer

Issues include: Agreement on financial assistance and technology transfer is essential for broadened participation in the Montreal Protocol; technology transfer, including intellectual property rights and ways of involving industry. These issues are being considered under the Montreal Protocol process, but if they cannot be solved there, UNCED will need to look at them.

Current actors: UNEP (Montreal Protocol - UNEP and UNDP are studying its implementation costs); WMO (Global Atmosphere Watch); UNEP, UNDP and UNIDO (transfer of technology to developing countries).

Secretariat suggestions for UNCED: Seek ways of monitoring compliance with existing conventions; consider economic incentives for technology transfer; devise methods to recycle or destroy existing chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs); stimulate training in new technologies and expand public education and information activities.

3. Protection of the atmosphere by combating transboundary air pollution

Issues include: Facilitating new regional agreements may be preferable to "globalising" existing ones; as well as seeking technologies for air pollution abatement, it is urgent to focus on new strategies for energy efficiency and rational energy use, and to eliminate perverse economic incentives and subsidies for fossil fuels.

Current actors: WMO, IAEA, EEC, IMO and OECD are all active in research and monitoring. Standard setting has been undertaken by UN/ECE, ICAO and EEC. NGO networks carry out public information and policy advocacy work.

Secretariat suggestions for UNCED: Broadening participation in existing legal instruments or promoting new regional agreements beyond Europe and North America; improving harmonisation of technical emission standards; assisting international exchange of control technologies; promoting energy efficiency and rational energy use.

4. Protection and management of land resources by combating deforestation

Issues include: the question of common property resources, the rights of indigenous and other peoples which depend on the forest, questions of ownership and tenure. Multiple use of the forest is an important factor in its protection.

Current actors: The Tropical Forest Action Plan (TFAP) of FAO, UNDP and the World Bank coordinates tropical forest work; it "mobilises financial resources, integrates woodlands with other land uses, improves the economy and local employment". This programme has, however, been strongly criticised by some NGOs. UNEP, UNDP, the World Bank, FAO, IFAD, Unesco and UNIDO carry out research, training, conservation and demonstration projects; ITTO programmes aim to improve forest harvesting practices and trade; UN/ECE and FAO monitor and assess forest decline due to air pollution in temperate regions.

Suggested action: Improve the TFAP and provide more funds for it; improve strategies for sustainable use of forests; ensure livelihood of forest inhabitants; remove incentives for deforestation; provide additional funding for conservation of critical forest ecosystems (through large-scale debt-for-nature swaps and other means).

5. Combating soil loss and desertification and drought

Issues include: both high input and low input agricultural systems have negative environmental and social effects and are uneconomic in the long term; a major problem in dealing with desertification and land degradation is the lack of priority accorded by governments to the issue, lack of support at the local level and fragmentation of activities.

Current activities include: Information systems (UNSO, NGOs) and monitoring activities (GEMS), the UN Plan of Action to Combat Desertification (PACD). Activities directed toward rural development include the ACC Task Force on Rural Development, various regional programmes (FAO), and the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR). Scientific studies on an integrated ecosystems approach include work by Unesco's Man and the Biosphere Programme (MAB).

Secretariat suggestions for UNCED: Enhance capacity for research and monitoring; expand early warning systems for drought; strengthen the implementation of PACD and other strate-

gies; support action at the national level; improve agricultural systems.

6. Conservation of biological diversity

Issues include: Pressure on biological diversity stems in part from population growth and increasing consumption of resources which conservation strategies need to take into account. The world will need biodiversity as an essential resource to adapt to possible changes in climate. All plans for conserving biodiversity must pay heed to the potential impact of climate change.

Current actors: Biological diversity conservation is the aim of a number of international conventions (on wetlands, whaling or migratory species). WRI, IUCN, UNEP and Unesco are developing a new strategy for the conservation of biological diversity; UNEP, FAO, IUCN and Unesco are working on a Convention on the Conservation of Biological Diversity; among international NGO networks involved are RAFI and GRAIN.

Suggested action includes: Improve support and harmonisation of existing instruments and work; develop funding mechanisms for conservation and use of biological diversity; develop a legal instrument on biological diversity.

7. Protection of the oceans, seas and coastal areas, and of their living resources

Issues include: the destruction of valuable sites and the pollution of seas from an increase in human population and economic activities of offshore oil exploitation, deforestation, unsustainable fishing in coastal areas and open seas; incomplete coverage, particularly in developing countries, of existing international agreements (e.g. on the protection of wetlands). Such deterioration hits the poorest of the poor, e.g. through over-exploitation of fisheries stocks and the destruction of nurseries.

Current actors: UNEP, Unesco (Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission), WMO, UNEP, FAO, IMO and IAEA are all involved in research, monitoring and positive action at all levels, including through coordinating mechanisms. The 1982 UN Conference on the Law of the Sea provides a comprehensive legal framework.

Options for Conference action include: accelerate work on monitoring assessment, including on impact of climate change; recommendations on global-scale issues; encourage ratification and adoption of existing treaties (e.g. of the

1972 London Dumping Convention) and negotiation of new agreements on new problems.

8. Protection of the supply and quality of freshwater resources

Issues include: The goals of the Mar del Plata Action Plan (MPAP) and the International Decade for Water Supply and Sanitation, 1981-1990 (IDWSS) have not been fully realised; water demand, supply and quality have to be considered together and be integrated into development strategies; population growth and the subsequent increase of water demand have to be considered; better efficiency of water use should be encouraged.

Current actors: Unesco, WHO, WMO, UNEP, FAO, the World Bank and UNDP are implementing the MPAP. WHO, UNDP and the World Bank have just reviewed and evaluated IDWSS at an international meeting in New Delhi. (An international NGO meeting on water took place in Montreal in June 1990 and forwarded a charter to the New Delhi meeting.) An international conference - "Water and Environment" - will be held in Dublin from 26-31 January next. Different legal standards are being developed by the International Law Commission and through bilateral arrangements.

Options for Conference action: Consider coordination of cross-sectoral issues for the implementation of MPAP; review IDWSSD and recommend ways to achieve further results; coordinate the agenda of the "Water and Environment" conference in terms of cross-sectoral objectives.

9. Environmentally sound management of hazardous wastes

Issues include: Information on the generation of waste and monitoring and control of trans-frontier movement of waste (including through the use of new satellite technologies) is insufficient, as is appropriate waste-management legislation; new economic instruments and incentives are needed; new technologies for the management and treatment of hazardous waste need to be developed.

Current actors: UNEP works on implementation of the Basel Convention for control of transboundary movements of hazardous wastes and their disposal; OECD has programmes on reducing hazardous waste and is developing a code of conduct. UNIDO, UNEP and UNECE are working on the promotion of clean technologies and recycling. ILO is preparing a convention to protect workers from hazardous substances.

Suggestions for Conference action: Strengthen existing conventions; establish effective monitoring and promote clean technology.

10. Improvement of the living and working environment of the poor

Issues include: The major challenge is to harmonise the needs of the poor with the long-term requirements of a sustainable world; improved livelihoods and access to resources while protecting the environment are major goals; coordination within the UN system needs to be strengthened, as do national policies and actions; NGOs could be involved in implementing more effective community-level projects.

Current actors: The UN Centre for Human Settlements (UNCHS, Habitat), UNDP, the World Bank, WHO, ECE, MAB (Unesco) and the Habitat International Coalition - an NGO network - work on the living environment and ILO, FAO, IFAD, WFP, UNEP and WHO on the working environment.

Suggestions for conference action: Improve coordination of work in the UN system on the eradication of poverty and improvement of the living and working environment; raise support for implementation and increased funding of all programmes; involve NGOs in implementation of programmes; increase funding for their work.

11. Protection of human health conditions and improvement of the quality of life

Issues include: The major gap in this area is the insufficient integration, nationally and internationally, between health and development, and environment policies, institutions

and activities. There is insufficient information, monitoring, assessment and evaluation of impacts of development actions and hazards on health.

Current actors: WHO has produced a report on health and sustainable development and has a Commission on Health and Environment; UNDP produces the *Human Development Report*; major forthcoming activities include an International Conference on Health Promotion in June 1991 and an International Conference on Nutrition in 1992/3; information gathering and monitoring includes GEMS health-related monitoring (UNEP, WHO, Unesco, FAO, WMO); work on additives and chemicals is carried out by WHO, FAO, UNEP, IFAD, IAEA, UNDP.

Secretariat suggestions for UNCED include: Develop a comprehensive policy framework and strategy for health, environment and development; incorporate activities into a comprehensive framework; strengthen and expand monitoring of environmental conditions important to health; worldwide harmonisation of health-related standards.

*

The above gives an idea of what the "official" plans and desires for the outcome of UNCED are. The preparatory process is well under way and many governments have begun to set their agendas for the outcome of the conference. Nevertheless, one should not see the official agenda as carved in stone; by raising their concerns, lobbying governments and contacting the conference secretariat, NGOs can still have an influence on the issues raised, the discussions and the outcome of the conference.

(More details on this are contained in *E & D File 1992*, nos. 5 and 7.)

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UNCED - HOW TO PARTICIPATE

As preparations for the UN Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) advance, more and more NGOs are becoming interested and would like to make some input into the process, but are unclear about how to do so. This sheet will outline some of the main avenues open to NGOs, divided into three categories: national; international (through participation in NGO meetings/networks); international (input into the governmental process).

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ACCESS TO THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL PROCESS

At the UN General Assembly in December 1989, and at the organisational session of the Preparatory Committee in March 1990, discussions about NGO participation in the preparatory process for UNCED were difficult. (See *E & D File 1992*, nos. 3 & 4). It was expected that the question would be resolved at the first (August 1990) session of the Preparatory Committee. However, the Committee did not succeed in reaching full agreement. Indeed, Tunisia and, to a lesser extent, Mauritania, questioned whether the Preparatory Committee could change the original General Assembly resolution. It appears that they feared domination of Northern NGOs over their less well-resourced Southern counterparts.

The Preparatory Committee defined its policy as being "to encourage an equitable representation of NGOs from developed and developing

countries and from all regions and also to ensure a fair balance between NGOs with an environmental focus and those with a development focus. The Preparatory Committee would encourage the participation of scientific and other organizations". It further determined that, for the purpose of its first session only, and without prejudice to any decision to be taken by the General Assembly at its 45th session, the following rules would apply:

"(a) NGOs shall not have any negotiating role in the work of the Preparatory Committee;

"(b) Relevant NGOs may, at their own expense, make written presentations in the preparatory process through the Secretariat in the official languages of the United Nations as they deem appropriate. Those written presentations will not be issued as official documents except in accordance with United Nations rules of procedure;

"(c) Relevant NGOs in-consultative status with the Economic and Social Council may be given an opportunity to briefly address plenary meetings of the Preparatory Committee and meetings of the Working Groups. Other relevant NGOs may also ask to speak briefly in such meetings. If the number of such requests is too large, the Preparatory Committee shall request the NGOs to form themselves into constituencies and each constituency to speak through one spokesman. Any oral intervention by an NGO would, in accordance with normal UN practice, be at the discretion of the Chairman and with the consent of the Preparatory Committee or the Working Group, as the case may be."

The final decision on NGO participation will be taken by the General Assembly in late 1990 and reported in one of the next issues of *E & D File 1992*.

Despite the fact that no final decision was taken by the Preparatory Committee, it is worth noting that the overall attitude towards NGOs is more positive. The Brazilian Ambassador said that his Government welcomed all NGOs to UNCED and that, to a large degree, "it is their conference". He added that his government's policy towards NGOs is open, not restrictive. The Group of 77 (which speaks on behalf of over 100 developing countries) stated that it is favourable to broad NGO participation, not restricted to NGOs in consultative status with the UN. All other delegations who spoke on this at Nairobi (including Australia, Canada, China, France, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Sweden, UK, USA and USSR) believed that participation in the preparatory process should be open to all NGOs with the relevant competence, whether or not they are in consultative status.

The Secretariat of UNCED has consistently advocated the widest possible NGO involvement. Its proposals for NGO participation were submitted to the Preparatory Committee in UN document A/CONF.151/PC.9. Except for the question of NGO involvement in the UNCED process at the intergovernmental level, all of the Secretariat's suggestions concerning national-, regional- and global-level participation were endorsed by the Preparatory Committee as proposed.

At the national level, emphasis is placed on the *creation of public awareness* of the Conference, *gathering people's views and experiences on environment and development* matters, facilitating the *preparation of national reports* and participating in *national advisory committees*, if these are established.

At the regional level, NGOs "may be invited to contribute to preparations for the regional conferences on environment and development"; this may include participating in preparatory committees, consultations, hearings, preparing papers and being non-voting participants at the regional conferences. NGOs are also encouraged to carry out "appropriate regional activities *additional* to the official process".

At the global level, NGOs are invited to provide information and counsel on matters of special relevance to the NGO community, to the Preparatory Committee, its Working Groups and the Conference Secretariat.

Observers expect that the General Assembly will follow the rules the Preparatory Committee adopted for its August 1990 session.

NGO WORK AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL

Although it is important for national and international NGOs to make the input they can into an international conference, it must be borne in mind that in order to be effective, international work can only be a complement to working nationally. Lobbying governments on issues they are discussing at UNCED would be one important aspect of national work (see also *E & D File 1992*, no. 3); raising with governments more general environment/development issues that affect different countries would be another.

In the context of UNCED, there is a specific activity to which NGOs have been asked to contribute. This is the *preparation of national reports*. Each state has been asked to prepare a national report which would contain information on issues raised at the national level and its policies and activities. All national reports must be transmitted to the Conference Secretariat by end-July 1991 at the latest.

National reports should provide basic information on the existing situation in the country from the perspective of the interactions between the development process and the environment, focussing primarily on the policy implications and on the strategic actions that are being carried out and/or planned. States have been asked to identify ways of addressing resource and environmental problems and the way in which local environment and development issues affect, and are affected by, international conditions. Finally, States are asked to say how the international community can best address environment and development issues of direct concern to the country.

Each country will adopt its own procedures for the preparation of national reports, but all are strongly encouraged to include NGOs in their preparation. The secretariat's suggestion is that a working group be set up to prepare the report. This working group could include representatives of different government agencies, of the NGO community at large, and experts in key disciplines such as natural or social sciences.

PARTICIPATION IN NGO NETWORKS

Many NGOs have started many different types of activities in relation to UNCED. It is impossible to keep track of them all. Neverthe-

less, some of those that have a coordinating role are listed below.

Centre for Our Common Future

Palais Wilson, 52 rue des Paquis, CH-1201 Geneva, Switzerland. Tel. (41 22) 732.71.17. Fax (41 22) 734 0797.

The Centre for Our Common Future was established in 1988 to stimulate and organise follow-up activities to the report of the World Commission on Environment and Development, *Our Common Future*. When UNCED was announced it took on the role of focal point for information and networking activities in relation to UNCED. The Centre has "working partners" from all over the world - currently these constitute a network of over 150 organizations.

The Centre for Our Common Future is organising a series of ECO '92 Public Forums between now and 1992, in order to add an avenue of input into the preparatory process for the non-governmental sectors. The series began in Nairobi in August, around the UNCED Preparatory Committee session; the second forum was held in New Delhi in September; the next is due to take place in Bangkok in February 1991.

The Centre has two publications: the *Brundtland Bulletin* and *Network 92*. The former, launched in 1988, provides information on different activities (NGO, UN, etc.) in relation to environment and development, while the latter is more specifically focussed towards UNCED. The first issue of *Network 92* came out in 1990 and will appear monthly through 1992 to stimulate information-sharing on the UNCED process.

International Facilitating Committee (IFC)

c/o Centre for Our Common Future (address above).

In June 1990, the Centre hosted a meeting of 86 environment and development NGOs. This meeting decided to set up an NGO "international facilitating committee" (IFC). The IFC has a triple mandate: to assist NGOs and networks (the independent sectors) to define their roles vis-à-vis UNCED; to promote fair and effective participation in UNCED on behalf of the independent sectors; and to provide a forum for dialogue amongst the independent sectors. The IFC has met twice (in Nairobi in August and in Geneva in November 1990). It will play a role in bringing together, before and at the Conference itself, the various independent sectors.

Conference of NGOs in Consultative Status with the UN Economic and Social Council (CONGO)

P.O. Box 50, CH-1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland. Tel. (41 22) 733.07.30.

The role of CONGO is to bring together organizations working in all different fields and in consultative status with ECOSOC, in order to strengthen their relationship with the UN and enhance their contributions to its work.

CONGO has set up a Planning Committee to facilitate and stimulate NGO input into UNCED. It also seeks to ensure that the relationship between development and environment will become more visible at UNCED and in the preparatory process. CONGO participates in the work of the IFC (see above).

At its 19 November 1990 meeting, the CONGO Planning Committee decided to concentrate on: (a) NGO participation in the sessions of the Preparatory Committee; (b) organising an NGO newspaper for UNCED; and (c) encouraging NGO involvement in the 1992 process.

Environmental Liaison Centre International (ELCI)

P.O. Box 72 461, Nairobi, Kenya. Tel. (254 2) 562015. Fax (254 2) 56175.

ELCI was established in 1974 to strengthen links between different NGOs working on sustainable development and between environmental NGOs and UNEP in Nairobi. It also seeks to strengthen the capacity of Southern NGOs and community groups and to promote NGO advocacy roles through other organs of the UN system.

ELCI's work plan in relation to UNCED involves contacting NGO coalitions and grassroots groups in order to develop a list of focal organizations in each country, working to enhance cooperation between NGOs and community coalitions and networks and facilitating participation of NGOs and other groups in consultations on people's participation in environmentally sound development, at regional, national and local levels.

ELCI will be the main sponsor of a major international meeting - planned for some 1000 participants from environment and development NGOs - in Paris from 17-20 December 1991. To organise this, ELCI has set up an international steering committee which will hold its first meeting in Cairo this month. Funds will come from the French Government. A national organising committee of French environment and development NGOs is being formed. ELCI sees the Paris meeting as the

culmination of national and regional events and the time to finalise a "Brazil Document 1992" combining inputs relating to UNCED issues and others not on the official agenda.

To receive electronic mail from ELCI, send it a brief message with your account name at gnl:elcidwr.

Brazilian NGO activities

UNCED will take place in Rio from 1-12 June 1992, with a parallel NGO event at the same time. Brazilian NGOs have been active in preparation for the two events. A Preparatory Forum of Brazilian NGOs for UNCED has now been created. It met in June and in August 1990. A Provisional National Coordinating Committee of 11 environment and development NGOs has been elected. The secretariat of which can be contacted through:

- SOS Mata Atlântica, Rua Manoel da Nobrega 456, 04001-Sao Paulo/SP, Brazil. Tel. (55-11) 887.1195. Fax 885.1680;
- CEDI-Centro Ecum. Doc. e Informacao, Av. Higienopolis 983, 01238 Sao Paulo/SP, Brazil. Tel. (55-11) 825.5544. Fax. 825.7861. Email ax:cedi / geo2:cedi.

North American NGO activities

Numerous activities have already take place in Canada and the United States.

In Canada, an Interagency Task Force of NGOs has been founded by the Canadian Council for International Cooperation (CCIC), the Canadian Environment Network (CEN), the United Nations Association of Canada (UNAC) and four indigenous organizations. Together these include members from the development, environment, women's, trade union, peace, youth, religious and indigenous peoples communities. Contact:

- CCIC, 1 Nicholas St., Suite 300, Ottawa, Ont. K1N 7B7 Canada;
- CEN, P.O. Box 1289, Station B, Ottawa, Ont. K1P 5R3 Canada;

- UNAC, 63 Sparks St., Suite 308, Ottawa, Ont. K1P 5A6 Canada.
- Four indigenous groups: c/o Debra Wright, Native Council of Canada, 384 Bank Street, Ottawa, Ont. K2P 1Y4, Canada.

In the United States, US NGOs successfully organised a national citizens' consultation on UNCED to establish a national alliance or coalition for UNCED. The major organisers for this, which are active in their own right, are:

- Council of Washington Representatives on the UN, 1010 Vermont Ave., NW (# 904), Washington DC 20005, USA;
- Friends Committee on National Legislation, 245 Second Street, NE, Washington, DC 20005, USA;
- Global Tomorrow Coalition, 1325 G St. (# 915), Washington DC 20005-3104, USA;
- InterAction, 1818 H St. NW (#1100), Washington DC 20006, USA.

Information Networks

Considerable UNCED-related information is being compiled and is available for reference.

Foundations for a Sustainable Common Future (801 Homestead St. Baltimore, MD 21218-3536. tel : (1 301) 243 2131) are developing a comprehensive database of organizations, people and projects interested in participating in preparations for 1992.

The UNCED Secretariat is also using electronic networks to disseminate information on UNCED. All the official conference documents are available on-line through TCN and the APC network (EcoNet, GreenNet, etc.). The mailbox at TCN is UNCED. At APC, the access code is EN:UNCED and a menu of options, including a bulletin board is available.

The Association of Progressive Communications (APC) network is currently hosting an electronic conference covering UNCED. If you are on one of the APC nodes, you can share you views through this conference. It is currently on GreenNet and IGC and if it is not being carried by your node, you can send a request to your node system operator.

E & D File 1992 has been compiled by Caroline Dommen for the United Nations Non-Governmental Liaison Service (NGLS) and is published by the NGLS Office in Geneva. For more information or additional copies write to: NGLS, Palais des Nations, CH-1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland, or NGLS, Two United Nations Plaza, Room DC2-1103, New York NY 10017, USA.

The views expressed in this series are those of the author. They do not necessarily coincide with those of NGLS or any other part of the UN system.



Consortium for **A**ction to **P**rotect the **E**arth
Working together for U.S. leadership at the United Nations Conference on
Environment and Development, Brazil, 1992

March 7, 1991

The Honorable Albert Gore
U.S. Senate
Washington D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Gore,

Please find enclosed for your information a copy of the letter that CAPE '92, a consortium of six environmental organizations, has sent to Secretary Baker concerning funding of preparations for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED).

The letter has been prompted by the present sequestration of funds at the State Department. We have taken this opportunity to make a recommendation concerning the funding of preparations for FY92, which we are sharing with you.

We look forward to working with you toward constructive contributions by the U.S. to UNCED.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Frances Spivy Weber".

Frances Spivy Weber
Director, International Program
National Audubon Society
for CAPE '92

enclosures



C onsortium for A ction to P rotect the E arth

Working together for U.S. leadership at the United Nations Conference on
Environment and Development, Brazil, 1992

March 6, 1991

The Honorable James Baker
Secretary of State
Department of State
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Secretary Baker,

CAPE '92, a consortium of the Environmental Defense Fund, Friends of the Earth, Audubon, National Wildlife Federation, Natural Resources Defense Council and Sierra Club, is concerned that preparations for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) are being held up by the present sequestration of new programs and review of operations for the entire Department of State. If this is not promptly reversed, the U.S. will lose the opportunity to constructively influence the outcome of the biggest environmental meeting probably ever held.

I would like to say on behalf of my colleagues from CAPE '92 that it is a pleasure to work with Assistant Secretary Bohlen and his team from the State Department and with representatives from other agencies preparing for the Conference. It is unfortunate, however, that the very limited funds that have been allocated to carry out the formidable task of preparing carefully and innovatively for the international negotiations leading up to the Conference are presently in jeopardy.

While the scope of the UNCED is daunting, international interest to move forward on global environmental issues is strong. Other positive factors are that the United Nations is reasserting a measure of authority and effectiveness, a trend that should be encouraged, and that the UNCED itself is being steered with skill and determination by Secretary-General Maurice Strong. Were the U.S. to back up its leadership to the UNCED negotiations with adequate funding, as it did for the 1972 Stockholm Conference on the Environment, the outcome may prove to be one of the more

constructive in the history of UN Conferences and one necessary to sustain the earth upon which we all ultimately depend for our livelihood.

The present post-war period presents an opportunity for the State Department to reevaluate its priorities. It is our conviction that this examination will lead to the realization of UNCED's importance on the current diplomatic agenda and for years to come.

The six environment groups in CAPE '92 therefore strongly urge the State Department to allocate as a minimum for FY'91 the \$350,000 recommended by Congress to the programs involved in preparations for UNCED. We would further request that \$500,000 be allocated to such programs for FY92.

Sincerely,



Frances Spivy-Weber
Director, International Program
Audubon

for:

Brent Blackwelder, Vice-President for Policy, Friends of the Earth

Lynn Greenwalt, Vice-President for International Affairs,
National Wildlife Federation

Scott Hajost, Senior Attorney, Environmental Defense Fund

Jacob Scherr, Director, International Program,
Natural Resources Defense Council

Larry Williams, Director, International Program, Sierra Club

cc: Robert Zoellick, Counsel to the Secretary of State
E.U. Curtis Bohlen, Assistant Secretary of State,
Oceans & International Environmental & Scientific Affairs

House Committees on Appropriations, Foreign Affairs
Senate Committees on Appropriations, Foreign Relations



C onsortium for A ction to P rotect the E arth

Working together for U.S. leadership at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Brazil, 1992

What is CAPE '92?

In preparation for the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), the **Environmental Defense Fund, Friends of the Earth, National Audubon Society, National Wildlife Federation, Natural Resources Defense Council and Sierra Club** are pooling their expertise and efforts to contribute as fully as possible toward productive actions from the Conference. UNCED puts a challenge before all nations: to recognize the need for fundamental changes in national and international economic behavior in order to meet human wants while preserving the earth; UNCED furthermore provides the forum where agreements are hammered out and global goals are set for the next century.

As a consortium (CAPE '92) these six groups contribute to the UNCED preparations through input into the United Nations' process and through the U.S. Administration and Congress. At the national level, CAPE '92 works toward constructive contributions by the U.S. to forward-looking international agreements. It hopes to see our nation address the need for new policies and provide leadership in the wise management of our earth's resources.

CAPE '92 has identified the following areas to which priority attention will be given:

- a global climate change convention;
- agreements on the protection of all forests, whether tropical, temperate, or boreal; of oceans; and of biodiversity;
- proposals for the enhancement of international institutions able to act on environment and development issues;
- development of a charter of earth ethics;
- consideration of population pressures.

Other UNCED issues that CAPE '92 will address include the management of wastes; trade and technology transfer; and guidelines on biotechnology.

Influencing U.S. policy on these issues will not only ensure progress on international agreements but will have constructive repercussions on U.S. domestic policy: Progress on a climate change treaty will lead to improvement of the U.S. national energy policy; an agreement on forests will cause the U.S. to address forest management reform and protection of its remaining primary forests; agreements on the preservation of biodiversity will reinforce the protection of endangered species in the U.S.

CAPE '92 activities complement those undertaken by other research institutes and advocacy groups concerned with the issues on the UNCED agenda, such as the U.S. Citizens' Network on UNCED, the Global Tomorrow Coalition and the World Resources Institute.

1/1/80
case
Briefing
on 1992



THE
INTERPARLIAMENTARY
CONFERENCE ON THE
GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT

Bolton → goal: no decision-making
scheme & coord of fed agencies & ^{environmental} ~~environmental~~

Nancy Alexander → Citizens Network on
UNCED
Coordinated an NGO consultation

on Oct 21

Working Citizens - ① Organize to report (COG)
② " " decision-
makers
"Citizens Network" ③ " directly to
UNCED
④ " to US Congress
↳ still coordinated

G. 7 - Houston - Brazil not there but
many decisions

2 problems face US - ① move beyond
obstructionism.
US goes to UNCED - free market
will solve our problems ② Communism



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INTERPARLIAMENTARY
CONFERENCE ON THE
GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT

US is looked in approach & attitude
not for strictly bound technology.

US played a ⊕ role in Nairobi prep
on re: NGO participation.

John McDermott

8 recommendations re: process

- need H71/admin to be
involved early.

? * July - US national report by
1991 CBQ done

Cony Garroble

+ regional/public works. CBQ
doesn't
plan to

- oversight

- direct contact to national report
x talk to CBQ.



THE
INTERPARLIAMENTARY
CONFERENCE ON THE
GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT

Susan Fletcher -

Congressional Club.

head of US deleg. in '72 = Russell
Train -
Comm. of CEEQ.

Howard Baker - vacated -
Arg. / reviewing docs.

* Hearings
May '72 - Foreign Relns

Jt. Colloquium - House & Senate
Science.
* Report.

update on prep / issues & problems /
update on formalization of
US. position.

maybe follow up w/ a Summary
Report.



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CONFERENCE ON THE
GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT

Maurice Strong - initiator process for
industry.

{ oceans, forests, tech transfer
Some of the issues to be addressed.

development banks involvement.

- Jane Pratt - will set up
a new branch @ World Bank
for UNCED

Green Fund (Global Env't Facility)

→ thought will be in WB's
network for aid to Sr. countries

→ US opposed to this as is N.A. →
WB's development ~~bank~~ model --
not right place. —

Bohlen agrees this is a problem -
have a p.p. for "green" in W.B.)
what about all other p.p.??

*but there will be a Green Fund
as a result of '92.

Waters of America mty - focused
almost exclusively on environment - not
on development

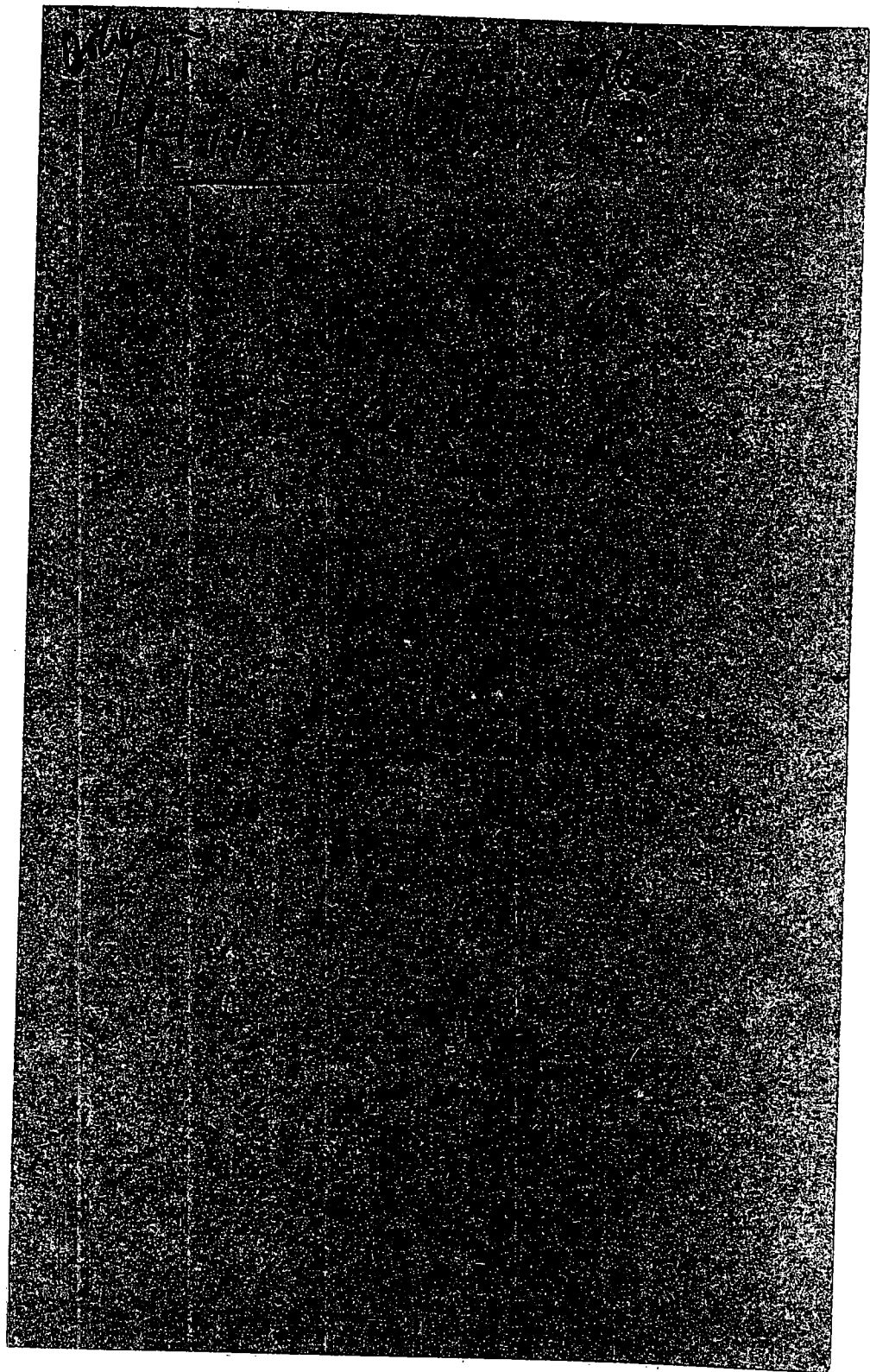
Mr. A. - we have development g.p.
in mty.

X2 from C&Q → making a national report
- will do a series of colloquia

Susan Drake - 1^o focus = sustainability.
= met present generation's needs w/o
jeopardizing those of future generations.

Bohlen - hopes to set up a Secretariat in
next 2 months

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PRESERVATION



11-1990



THE
INTERPARLIAMENTARY
CONFERENCE ON THE
GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT

our history on

1992 UNCED

① lots of contact of Strong

② Mrs to —

③ Contact of Bohlen &

approp in State Dept
appears for & will for
organizing of 1992.

* had an initial contact
from CEQ, but no follow-up.

* Maurice Strong → head of
UN Secretariat on UNCED

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~~Chenue~~ ~~George~~ - State - UNCED. 647-2418
Mark Williams - head of policy

BLM / Interior David Williams
Coordinate interagency position
papers
oceans/wastes
climate change / land issues
- biodiversity
- biotech.

Bernardo Zentile → UNEP's
own report re: forests

Salma - head of FAO → TFAP
friend of the world

ITTO - cooperate & work with in
there.

ITTA agent '92 overhaul

Brazil, Malaysia, Swiss Union, Japan,
U.S., Indonesia
Australians & Swedes - pre-mtg. end of Feb.



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Meeting of statisticians
New Orleans Jan
Global Warming
wants to meet w/
Katie -

Dr. H. Jean Thiebaut
Mon - morning
wants to meet on Monday
Call Taylor Tzickert
703-532-0374

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OECD ^{envt} mtg. / Paris (cancelled).

Some E funds considered
annual. - & Paris

We want syndicate

Biological Diversity Convention
- entirely full in UNCED
Tolbo.

Nairobi end of Feb. = 1st
round.

18th March -> 5th or 12th of April.

possible 3rd working group
legal prompts. -- but

Can't



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CONFERENCE ON THE
GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT

Dream

226-3434

Rob McLeod

→ can afford to do it.

Feb 7th, 19th, 20th or

21st

Breakfast

Institute / Globe??

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PRESERVATION

tel com
of G-7
JLH



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GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT

Swedish - will host mtg

Stephanie Kowell

re Forest Convention.
G-7 '89 - Paris.
G-7 '90 - committed to forest
(Houston) convention = strategy.
(any for them to say)

Universality - Toller wants;
otherwise joining slow

FAO -- wld like to lead
TFAP → is getting updated

AGENDA/SCHEDULE FOR PREPCOM 2

GENEVA: STARTS MARCH 18 - SCHEDULED THROUGH APRIL 5

WEEK 1 (March 18-22)WEEK 2 (March 25-28)WEEK 3 (Apr. 2-5)

MONDAY

PLENARY

Meeting
of Bureau-----
3pm - OPENING

- I - Mtg of Bureau
- Climate Change
- II - Mtg of Bureau
- Wastes

PLENARY

Agenda & Org.

- I - Soil Loss
- II - Oceans: Regional
seas & coast areas

- I - Soil Loss
- II - Informal Consult

BREAK

(day after
Easter)**PHOTOCOPY
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TUESDAY

- I - Climate Change
- Deforestation
- II - Wastes

- I - Deforestation
- II - Informal Consult

- I - Informal Consult
- II - Oceans: living
resources

- I - Informal Consult
- II - Informal Consult

PLENARY
Activities of
Conf. SecretariatActivities of
intergovt'l bodies

WEDNESDAY

- I - Deforestation
- II - Toxic Chemicals

- I - Informal Consult
- II - Informal Consult

- I - Informal Consult
- II - Freshwater

- I - Informal Consult
- II - Informal Consult

PLENARY: Cross-
sectoral issues

Continued

THURSDAY

- I - Biodiversity
- II - Prevent illegal
int. traffic

- I - Biodiversity
- I - Biotechnology

I & II - Provisional
agenda for PrepCom 3
Adoption of Report of
Working GroupI & II - Adopt report
of Working GroupPLENARY: Cross-
sectoral issuesInformal
Consultations

FRIDAY

- I - Informal Consult
- II - Oceans: Marine
Pollution

- I - Informal Consult
- II - Informal Consult

BREAK
(Good Friday)PLENARY: Report of
Working GroupsArrangements and
agenda - PrepCom 3
Adopt Report of
Prep. Committee

The Fourth Week (April 8 - 12) is optional, but is possible for extension of the Plenary Session and likely for Working Group III.



United States Department of State

Bureau of Oceans and International
Environmental and Scientific Affairs

Washington, D.C. 20520

PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATIONRAPIDFAX

CANON FAX-620

Date: 3/5/91

Time: _____

FROM:Name: David WilliamsTEL. No. 647-3367Office Symbol/Number OES/EHCFax No. 647-5947Document Description: agendaPages to Follow: 1*****
*****TO:Name: KATIETel. No.: 224-4283Office Symbol/Number SEN GOREFax No.: 224-0580*****
*****MESSAGE

This is summary agenda for RepCom 2.
US delegation will be at Hotel L'Auteuil
33 Rue de Lausanne.

**PARLIAMENTARIANS FOR GLOBAL ACTION
GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME**

**THE NEED FOR PARLIAMENTARY PARTICIPATION IN THE
PREPARATION OF NATIONAL REPORTS FOR THE 1992
UN CONFERENCE ON ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT (UNCED)**

Briefing Kit 1990/9

December 1990

Contacts:

Dr. Kennedy Graham
Secretary-General
Mr. Stuart Chuzmir
Programme Coordinator

Parliamentarians for Global Action
211 East 43rd St, Suite 1604
New York, NY 10017
Telephone: (212) 687-7755
Telefax: (212) 687-8409



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Ref: 242/0356e

11 December 1990

To members and contacts
of Parliamentarians for Global
Action interested in global
environment issues:

Dear Colleague,

With this letter you are receiving a copy of Parliamentarians for Global Action's briefing kit on parliamentary involvement in the development of national reports for the 1992 UN Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED). It is a feature of our Global Environment Programme.

The briefing kit contains information on the preparatory process for UNCED and the role of national reports. Suggested parliamentary questions are included following the background material. The object of the kit is to promote action by our members to ensure substantive parliamentary input into the national reports submitted by their governments to the UNCED Secretariat.

We hope this material will be of assistance to you in your efforts to achieve government action on global environment problems. If you would like further information,, please contact Stuart Chuzmir, Global Action's Environment Programme Coordinator.

Yours faithfully,

Stuart F. Chuzmir
Environment Programme
Coordinator

Dr. Kennedy Graham
Secretary-General

11 December 1990

BACKGROUND BRIEFING 1990/9

THE NEED FOR PARLIAMENTARY PARTICIPATION IN THE PREPARATION OF NATIONAL REPORTS FOR THE 1992 UN CONFERENCE ON ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT (UNCED)

The UN Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), to be held in Brazil in June 1992, aims to establish a global plan for ensuring environmental protection and sustainable development. It falls on the 20th anniversary of the pivotal Stockholm UN Conference on the Human Environment and offers a special opportunity to achieve a concrete action agenda on these environment and development issues for the end of this century and beyond. The preparatory process, now in motion, will determine in large part whether UNCED will be a success. UNCED Secretary-General Maurice Strong has noted that "...the importance of '92 is to translate the heightened public awareness of the issues and the heightened political interest in them into the kind of commitments to continued and future action that really will determine the future of our planet."

National Reports

Preparatory efforts on the national level focus on the development and submission of national reports by participating countries, for which the UNCED Preparatory Committee has approved guidelines. "The main purpose of national reports," according to the Committee, "is to present the national perspectives and experience of Member States, together with information on policies, activities and issues at the national level which will assist the Conference in meeting its objectives as established in General Assembly Resolution 44/228." (A number of key objectives outlined in 44/228 are addressed in Global Action's Bellagio Statement of June 1990). The national reports represent a key input channel to the Conference for citizen's groups and other interested parties. Parliamentarians, the people's elected representatives, should, therefore, play a major role in their preparation.

Parliamentarian Action

Global Action's Harvard Workshop Statement of 1 December 1990 reads in part: "We urge governments to submit their national environment reports to their parliaments before submitting them to the 1992 UN Conference on Environment and Development."

Pursuant to the Harvard Workshop call, we invite Global Action members to take immediate action to:

- a) seek assurances that their governments will provide for substantive parliamentary input into their national reports, and
- b) make arrangements for formal parliamentary debate and discussion on the development of the national reports.

Many non-governmental organisations are coordinating efforts to access the UNCED preparatory process through national reports. They can be tapped as an important source of information and ideas.

Holding hearings and debates on the national plan to be embodied in these reports will ensure parliamentary accountability for the UNCED process. Time is of the essence, however, as the guidelines for the preparation of national reports contain a suggested deadline for submission of July 1991, preferring that they be made available to the Secretariat as early as possible during the first quarter of 1991 to allow incorporation into the preparatory process in a timely manner.

Guidelines for National Reports

On 31 August 1990, the UNCED Preparatory Committee recommended the revised guidelines suggested by Secretary-General Strong as a broad framework for countries to follow in preparing national reports. The Committee noted that the Conference, in cooperation with UNDP and other multilateral and bilateral donors, will endeavour to address developing country requests for technical assistance in preparing national reports.

Under the guidelines, the reports should provide basic information on the existing situation regarding the interaction between environmental and developmental goals, noting strategic actions underway or planned and their policy implications. Key procedures for addressing resource and environmental problems through legislation, policies, accounting and other means are to be identified. Information on the interplay of national and regional/global environmental and developmental issues is requested, as well as background on problems since 1972 and progress made in addressing them.

While each country could adopt its own procedures for preparing reports, the guidelines suggest the establishment of a special committee or working group for the purpose. Potential participants in this entity are noted. The utilisation of certain existing reports as a reference source is recommended.

Additionally, the guidelines include a draft outline for national reports, with suggestions on format and the kinds of information to be included.

Sharing Parliamentary Experiences

Global Action seeks to facilitate the sharing of experiences among parliamentarians regarding parliamentary involvement in national report development. We urge members to inform the New York office of current or impending action on their part in this area, or to indicate any interest they have in knowing of the experiences of others which they might care to emulate.

Parliamentary Questions

Global Action members are encouraged to focus attention on the issues raised in this paper through, among other things, parliamentary questions to their governments. Suggested questions follow.

BACKGROUND BRIEFING 1990/9

THE NEED FOR PARLIAMENTARY PARTICIPATION IN THE PREPARATION OF NATIONAL REPORTS FOR THE 1992 UN CONFERENCE ON ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT (UNCED)

SUGGESTED PARLIAMENTARY QUESTIONS

1. Mr. Speaker, the UN Conference on Environment and Development, which will take place in Brazil in 1992, will be a unique opportunity to achieve a concrete global action agenda on environment and development issues well into the next century.

Substantive preparatory efforts on the national level are vital to the success of this conference. Countries have been asked to submit detailed national reports to the Conference Secretariat on the state of their environment and development issues, as well as the national strategies envisaged to deal with them. These reports are called for during early 1991, with a suggested deadline of July 1991.

Given the urgency of environment and development issues on the national, regional and global levels, as well as the importance of the 1992 Conference, will the Government explain its plans for the development of a national report, including the current status of any such efforts and the contemplated submission date?

2. Mr. Speaker, the national reports to be submitted under the preparatory process for the 1992 UN Conference on Environment and Development represent a highly visible statement of our national plan for addressing environment and development issues and a clear indication of the intended extent of our participation in the 1992 process.

The national report, in focusing on particular issues, policies and strategies, constitutes a political statement as well as background information for the benefit of the UNCED Secretariat. As such, it should reflect in-depth parliamentary input derived from intensive discussion and debate of its content.

Will the Government make a commitment at this time to take full account of parliamentary input in preparing the national report and to submit the report for parliamentary review before submitting it to the UNCED Secretariat?

PARLIAMENTARIANS FOR GLOBAL ACTION
BRIEFING KIT QUESTIONNAIRE

Dear Member,

We would appreciate your filling in the information requested in this questionnaire, as applicable, and returning the form to the Parliamentarians for Global Action Secretariat in New York, Attn: Stuart Chuzmir.

This feedback from our members is valuable to us, both in our assessment of the effectiveness of our service to you, and in our representations to supporting foundations.

Thank you.

NAME: _____

COUNTRY: _____

BRIEFING KIT #: _____

SUBJECT: _____

Use made of briefing kit:

(X)

Raised suggested question in Parliament

Undertook legislative effort based on
issues raised in kit

Raised issues with member(s) of Government

Discussed issues with colleagues

Drafted press release or article

Usefully increased my personal
knowledge of the subject

Other (explain below)

Please provide further details regarding item(s) marked above:

Comments (on value of briefing kit to you, suggestions, requests
for further information on the subject, etc.):

PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION

January __, 1991

The Honorable James Baker
Secretary of State
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Mr. Secretary:

We write to you today about the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED). Although this event will not take place until some 17 months from now, we think it none too soon to make known to you and your colleagues several of our initial thoughts on U.S. participation in this important conference.

The undersigned senators participated in the Interparliamentary Conference on the Global Environment held in Washington this spring -- and attended by over 140 parliamentarians from over 40 countries. Each of us co-chaired, along, with parliamentarians from other lands, a working group on a sector dealing with our global environment -- covering such issues as climate change, ozone depletion, sustainable development, pollution, deforestation and desertification, oceans and water resources, and biological diversity.

The Brazil conference is viewed by many of its participants as an opportunity to create a global blueprint for the environment. From our participation in our own conference in May and from our Senate vantage point in formulating legislation affecting both domestic and international environmental issues, we have concluded that such a blueprint is, indeed, necessary.

We are certainly aware that our national priorities should include timely measures not only to protect our fragile ecosystems, but also to protect the livelihoods of our workers and (to carefully) husband financial resources before we enter into costly efforts to restructure our economy to deal with the dual threat of global climate change and unstable fossil fuel supplies. We believe it possible to come up with a balanced position that will not cast the U.S. role in 1992 as primarily one of "loss minimization," -- as appeared to be the case in U.S. participation in several recent international meetings on the global environment.



We want to work with you as your Department and other concerned Executive Branch agencies formulate the U.S. positions on these vital issues for UNCED. We are prepared to put some of our own time and that of our staffs into this effort, throughout the process, and not just at the conclusion.

We enclose the final legislative strategy papers from the Interparliamentary Conference, which we trust may will be of some use to you, in that they incorporate the thoughts of many key elected representatives on a wide range of environmental matters of deep concern to inhabitants of their respective countries -- and some of the legislative solutions proposed for these concerns.

We urge you to:

- o give appropriate consideration to the actions proposed in these legislative strategies;

o respond to our offer to participate in your development of U.S. positions for the 1992 Conference in Brazil;

o reserve adequate funds and staff to set up an effective secretariat in the Department to assist in U.S. preparations for the 1992 Conference. Fully acknowledging the serious budget difficulties faced by yours and the other involved agencies, we will do all in our power to assure that adequate resources are available to allow for a creditable U.S. role in the 1992 Conference.

Sincerely,

PHOTOCOPY
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Al Gore, John Chafee, et al.

PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION

FAX

UNITED STATES SENATOR • MINNESOTA

RUDY BOSCHWITZ



FAX TO: (HEALTHY) KATY MCGINTY

OFFICE: SEN. GORE

PHONE: 224-0586

DATE: 12/14/90 TIME: 11:21

PAGE 1 OF 3

SUBJECT: letter to state Secy. Baker

FROM: JERRY KAMENS

PER DISCUSSION



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20500

Michael R. Deland
Chairman

(202) 395-5080

January 11, 1991

PROCEDURES FOR PREPARING NATIONAL REPORT

Introduction

CEQ has the lead responsibility for managing the process of preparing the U.S. national report to be submitted in July 1990 to the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development. The preparation of the national report is an important component of the multi-stage efforts of the U.S. Government and nongovernmental community to prepare for UNCED '92.

The national report has two main objectives: 1) to review what has happened in the U.S. during the last twenty years with regard to the issues identified by the General Assembly as the focus of UNCED 92, and 2) to identify the issues in each area that need to be addressed in developing US policy for the conference. After the report is submitted to the UNCED secretariat in July 1991, and during the 11 months remaining until the conference, the national report will serve to promote a public exchange on what the US policy should be for addressing the issues identified in the report. In this period, CEQ is planning to organize a number of public hearings on the issues identified in the report. Viewed from a domestic perspective, the national report will provide an opportunity to frame the issues that need be addressed and to prompt national debate on what policies should be considered in the UNCED context.

CEQ will also be working with members of Congress and their staffs to inform them of progress being made in the preparation of the national report and to involve them in the process.

Keeping this framework in mind, the following describes how the national report will be prepared.

Preparation of national report

An outline for the national report is attached herewith. This outline is based primarily on the guidelines for the national report which were adopted at the first session of the UNCED PrepComm (Nairobi, August 1990). On the basis of comments received from other Government agencies, this outline may be revised.

The principle goal of the national report is to serve as a vehicle for stimulating thinking and an exchange of ideas within and between the Government and the nongovernmental communities on the issues identified by the General Assembly. The ideas which are generated by this process should contribute to the development of U.S. policy for the conference.

General Assembly Resolution 44/228 identified the following substantive areas to be addressed by UNCED:

1. Protection of the atmosphere by combating climate change, depletion of the ozone layer and transboundary air pollution;
2. Protection of the quality and supply of freshwater resources;
3. Protection of the oceans and all kinds of seas, including enclosed and semi-enclosed seas, and of coastal areas and the protection, rational use and development of their living resources;
4. ~~Protection and management of land resources by, inter alia~~, combating deforestation, desertification and drought;
5. Conservation of biological diversity;
6. Environmentally sound management of biotechnology;
7. Environmentally sound management of wastes, particularly hazardous wastes, and of toxic chemicals, as well as prevention of illegal international traffic in toxic and dangerous products and wastes;
8. Improvement of the living and working environment of the poor in urban slums and rural areas, through eradicating poverty, inter alia, by implementing integrated rural and urban development programs, as well as taking other appropriate measures at all levels necessary to stem the degradation of the environment;
9. Protection of human health conditions and improvement of the quality of life.

In addition to the substantive areas identified above, there are a number of cross-cutting issues that the Conference will be addressing. These include trade, environmental education, environmental emergencies, transfer of technology, financing, and restructuring of the international system to respond to the environmental challenges of the 90's and beyond.

The outline foresees the national report containing a chapter on each of the substantive issues identified in the General Assembly resolution.

Each chapter will have two goals: (1) a review of where the United States as a nation has been in the past twenty years together with a realistic assessment of where we are today on that issue; and (2) a section which discusses issues and priority areas of concern which need to be taken into account in developing U.S. policy on these matters.

The first part of each section, the retrospective, will be prepared by one Government agency assuming a lead role for that section. Other agencies will be involved through submission of information and/or drafting of text, as appropriate.

Once the retrospective part of the sections are prepared, they will be circulated among the agencies and to nongovernmental interest groups. Comments received will be incorporated, and the revised texts will serve as the main document for prompting discussions at a series of four or five roundtables to be convened by CEQ (with joint sponsorship of others). The roundtables will be asked both to comment on the prepared texts and to use the information therein as a basis for identifying issues and priority areas which need to be addressed by the U.S. and other governments.

The roundtables will consist of 15 to 20 participants. It is estimated that half a day will be spent commenting on the retrospectives, and a day and a half will be spent identifying and discussing priority issues in each substantive area. Each roundtable will be requested to adopt an outline or list of priority issues. Where consensus cannot be reached, then points of divergence should be identified and options can be presented.

Choosing the individuals to invite to the roundtable will be an important task. Bearing in mind the UNCED and USG desire to include as many nongovernmental organizations and interest groups as possible in the process, we will need to have a broad range of groups "represented" through participation in the roundtables. It would be best if the individuals to be invited were to be identified by the NGO's and interest groups themselves. To this end, in January, CEQ will convene a meeting of NGO's to inform them how we propose to proceed, to seek their assistance in identifying participants, and to provide an opportunity for discussing any points about the process which the NGO's might want to raise.

In order to insure broad representation at a high level, each roundtable will be chaired by the Chairman of CEQ. There will also be 3 Vice-Chairmen for each roundtable: one vice-chairman will be from another Government agency, and two vice-chairmen will be from the non-governmental community.

Taken together, the 12 vice-chairmen will comprise a steering committee that may assist CEQ both in organizing the roundtables, public hearings and in reviewing the draft national report.

While each of the first three or four roundtables is likely to have a different set of participants, it is foreseen that CEQ will draw upon participants in the earlier groups for participation in the final roundtable.

The following calendar is a tentative schedule of meetings and deadlines for preparing a national report by the end of July 1991.

December 19, 1990 Meeting of agency focal points

The purpose of the meeting is for the agency focal points to review and revise the draft outline of the national report, and to identify which agency or agencies is to be responsible for preparing each section of the report.

January 18, 1991 Meeting with major groups in the nongovernmental community to enlist their cooperation

March 1, 1991 Submission of each agency draft of the "retrospective" part of its section, i.e., the review and analysis of the past twenty years.

March 1991 Compilation by CEQ of the various sections, Circulation of drafts among the agencies and NGO's for comment.

April 1991 Revision of sections on the basis of comments received

April-June Roundtables

April 22-23, 1991 Tentative Location: San Francisco

Issues:

- Importance of natural resources to national development
- Protection of land resources
- Biological diversity
- Biotechnology

May 9-10, 1991 Tentative Location: Baltimore

Issues:

- Waste and toxic chemicals
- Environmental emergencies
- Living Conditions of Poor
- Human Health

May 17-18, 1991 ABA meeting on environmental law (discussions are to be undertaken to see whether this group could be used to review the environmental law and environmental impact assessment sections of the report)

June 13-14, 1991 Tentative Location: Colorado

Issues:

Atmosphere (including energy)
Freshwater
Oceans

June 27-28, 1991 Tentative Location: Wind Point, Wisconsin

Issues:

Economics and Environment
Population
Environmental Education

May-June 1991, Period after each roundtable.

Revision of sections by lead authors to incorporate issues identified at roundtables.

July 8, 1991 Circulation of final draft report, including results of the roundtables, to Steering Committee, agency focal points and NGO's

July 19, 1991 Deadline for submission of final comments

July 31, 1991 Submission of final text to UNCED secretariat

Involvement of NGO's

As discussed above, NGO involvement will be key in the two stages of preparations for UNCED.

Stage 1 - Preparation of National Report

1. Meeting in January
2. Solicitation of NGO comments on draft text of national report
3. Participation through representation in roundtables

Stage 2 - period from August 1991 to June 1992

NGO collaboration will be sought in organizing three to four public hearings to discuss the issues identified in the national report and possible approaches, actions, and recommendations concerning those issues.

It should also be recalled that a number of NGO's are independently convening meetings to consider issues that should be raised at UNCED. CEQ is planning to take advantage of those meetings to circulate the national report and to seek the comments of the meetings on the issues raised in the report.

Congressional relations

CEQ will keep Members of Congress and their staffs informed of the progress being made in preparing the national report.

January 11, 1991

REVISED DRAFT OUTLINE FOR NATIONAL REPORT

I. Development trends since 1972 to be described in terms of:

- A. Economic Growth
- B. Demographic development
- C. Resource use and conservation
- D. Equitable distribution of income and wealth

Sectors that may be addressed include mining, energy, transportation, housing and infrastructure, industry, health and social services, agriculture, parks and tourism, forestry and fisheries (statistics to be covered in tables, charts, graphs, etc.).

Page length: 5

Chapter team: Commerce, lead, with CEA, DOE, DOI, HHS, USDA:
data to be submitted by other agencies as appropriate

II. Description of the basic environmental and natural resource endowment of the US

A. Introduction

B. Extent and use of:

- 1. Air
- 2. Water
- 3. Croplands
- 4. Pasture
- 5. Forests
- 6. Wetlands
- 7. Fisheries
- 8. Coastal resources
- 9. Plants and wildlife
- 10. Minerals
- 11. Energy

Page length: 25

Chapter team: CEQ to convene working group, lead to be decided, group to include DOE, DOI, NASA, NOAA, USDA

III. Key Environmental and Natural Resource Issues (as identified in para. 12 of GA Res 44/228)

- A. Atmosphere (including Energy)
- B. Freshwater
- C. Oceans
- D. Protection of land resources - deforestation, soil erosion, desertification and drought
- E. Biological diversity
- F. Biotechnology
- G. Wastes
- H. Toxic chemicals
- I. Improvement of the living and working environment of the poor in urban and rural areas
- J. Protection of human health conditions and improvement of the quality of life

For each substantive area, authors should address:

- 1. present conditions and trends
- 2. major problems and their causes
- 3. relative importance or degree of urgency
- 4. level of risk
- 5. degree of irreversibility
- 6. impact and economic significance
- 7. distributional effects

Page Length: 40

Chapter team: EPA lead, with DOE, DOI, HHS, NOAA, Smithsonian, USDA

IV. Environmental emergencies or catastrophes

- A. What has occurred in last twenty years?
- B. What means have been established to anticipate, prevent and deal with them?

Page Length: 5

Chapter team: EPA lead, with Coast Guard, DOI, FEMA, NOAA

V. Environmental Law and National Institutions for Dealing with Environmental Issues

Page Length: 10

Chapter team: DOJ lead, with CEQ, DOI, EPA

VI. Environmental Impact Assessment

Page Length: 10

Chapter team: CEQ, DOI, with EPA for risk analysis, if appropriate

VII. Environmental Education

Page Length: 10

Chapter team: EPA lead, with NSF, Smithsonian, DOI

VIII. Population, (including immigration)

Page Length: 5

Chapter team: State, with AID, DOC, DOJ

IX. Economics and Environment

A. General Principles and Policies

B. Trade

C. Transfer of Technology

1. Technological innovations and technology transfer; access to information, technology, training
2. Intellectual Property Rights

D. Financing

1. National finances expended on environmental and development activities described in the report
2. Financial assistance (World Bank, regional banks, bilateral donors, businesses, private foundations)

Page Length: 15

Chapter teams: CEQ lead, AID, CEA, DOC, DOI, EPA, Treasury, USTR

For each chapter IV to IX, authors should address: What has occurred in the last twenty years? What were the strengths of that action? What were the gaps, deficiencies, weaknesses? What impacts did U.S. actions in this area have outside the U.S.? What lessons could usefully be adopted by other countries?

X. Procedures Followed in Preparing National Reports

Page Length: 2

Chapter team: CEQ

MEETING OF NGOs TO DISCUSS PREPARATION OF U.S. NATIONAL REPORT
FOR UNCED '92

January 18, 1991, 2 p.m.

DRAFT AGENDA

1. Welcome and introduction
2. Participation of NGOs at UNCED Preparatory Committee Meetings and at UNCED '92
3. Plans for preparation of National Report and holding of public hearings
4. Question and answer period

Robert Palmer - Organizers Network.

Ray Bolter - got upgr. p.
Secretariat - learned @ WQ.
Dave Williams.

Clears - under - organ committee set up
first - small & informal mtg in Geneva during. coll-gp. (March).
then mtg in Thailand in April.
embodied final convention by June '92.

development -

population - Somy has added to his secretariat someone to deal w/.

energy - too little attention - U.S. will push to see it front & center in March

advisory committee on UNCED. to brief Bob
won't be set up by March; wants NGO

112 reports -- available

45 proposals for March mtg. -- will make them avail

2-3 NGO reps on delegations to Geneva ← development
and work communities to be repd.
population

* Rotate Representatives.

all NGOs will be able to participate - UN ok'd.
participation in Brazil - Brazil does want NGO representatives will have particip

Walter DeLard - Habitat Reports.

Alicia Blum Gidycz of John DeLard - working on full-time

procedures for prep'n of a report.

Reports due in July '91

retrospective of last 20 yrs.
look forward

end Feb - drafts -- Fed by Nov - review & comment.

review & presented at series of 4-5 round tables → Report revised in light of.
→ small -- 15 to 20 people.
specific subjects for each one.
minutes for participants.

that legal aspects will be & will be handled if HSA annual only in
most cases

deland will chair a session; works 3cs - chairs & gvt
& NGO.

then series of public logs -- Not just on the reports

* Reports will NOT be amended in light of logs. } Harnden - US pub 2/91
Patricia - will also publish the logs??

* will be in Econet

* Women's issues will be incorporated.

**LIST OF INVITEES TO NGO MEETING, JAN. 18, 1991
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PHOTOCOPY PRESERVATION

Dec. 4, 1990

MEMORANDUM

TO: Interested Staff

FROM: Gareth Porter, EESI Project Director

RE: Breakfast Meeting of Congressional
Staff Group on UNCED

Friday, Dec. 14, 1990, 8:30 - 10:00 a.m.
Room H-139, U.S. Capitol

The Environmental and Energy Study Institute (EESI) invites you to a breakfast meeting of the Congressional staff group on the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED). The meeting will be held on Friday, Dec. 14, from 8:30 to 10:00 a.m. in Room H-139 of the Capitol.

The purpose of the group is to provide congressional staff a forum in which to exchange information and discuss ways in which Congress can play an active role in influencing U.S. policy toward UNCED.

As promised at the Sept. 18 meeting, EESI is developing an agenda paper, outlining various proposals which Members of Congress might advance during the preparatory meetings leading up to UNCED. This paper, which you will receive in the mail in the next few days, will serve as the basis for discussion at the breakfast meeting.

If you are interested in attending the breakfast, please respond by Wednesday, Dec. 12, to Kyle Lynch at (202) 628-1400.

Joan Z. Bernstein
Lester R. Brown
Carleton D. Burt
John H. Chafee
Gerald Decker
Carol E. Dinkins
Joseph L. Fisher*
Robert Fri
John Heinz
James M. Jeffords
Bruce W. Karrh
C. Payne Lucas
Paul N. McCloskey, Jr.
Bernice K. McIntyre
Barbara A. Mikulski
George G. Montgomery, Jr.
Edmund S. Muskie
Richard L. Ottinger*
Ruth Patrick
John Quarles
Charles S. Robb
Roger W. Sant*
John F. Seiberling
John J. Sheehan
Russell E. Train
Victoria J. Tschinkel
Robert B. Wallace
Donna W. Wise
Larry Young

Executive Director

Ken Murphy

*Executive Committee



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ENVIRONMENTAL AND ENERGY STUDY CONFERENCE

NOTICE

Oct. 22, 1990

The 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development

Thursday, Nov. 1, noon, S-207 Capitol

Members and staff are invited to an update on policy preparations for the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, to be held in Brazil. The briefing will focus on U.S. preparations for the conference and issues facing the Congress.

The 1992 conference is a worldwide government meeting on environmental and development issues and the target for completion of international agreements on climate change and biological diversity. It marks the 20th anniversary of the first U.N. conference on the environment, held in Stockholm, Sweden, which led to the founding of the United Nations Environment Program.

Many see Congress' involvement in the policy preparations as a necessity, particularly as a vehicle for disseminating information through public hearings, stressed a non-governmental organization representative. The administration has encouraged public participation in the planning process. A number of NGO representatives are urging Congress to hold oversight hearings on progress towards 1992 and to introduce resolutions commenting on U.S. objectives. Some members of Congress have begun to take steps towards increasing congressional involvement, according to sources.

An issue for congressional consideration may be the conflict between countries in the northern and southern hemispheres. Because developed nations want Third World countries to follow a path of environmentally sustainable development — development that provides for economic growth while maintaining the natural resource base on which growth depends — developing countries are calling on the developed world to help finance their economic development.

In addition to completion of climate and biodiversity conventions, other U.N. conference goals include issuing a statement of commitment to the global environment and creating an action agenda for the 21st century.

In addition, each country will prepare for the conference a status report on its environment. The Council on Environmental Quality will write the U.S. report with the help of the Agency for International Development, the Environmental Protection Agency and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administra-

AL GORE, BOB WISE, *Co-Chairmen*; JOHN McCAIN, JAN MEYERS, *Co-Vice Chairs*

U.S. CONGRESS 515 HOUSE ANNEX 2 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515 (202) 226-3300

LINDA CARTWRIGHT, *Director*

tion. This interagency task force, coordinated by the State Department, also will attend the preparatory meetings.

The United States also has invited NGOs to help prepare the national report and participate in preparatory meetings. A meeting of the NGO community to discuss the 1992 conference takes place in Washington, D.C., October 21-22.

Panellists: Speaking at the briefing will be E. U. Curtis Bohlen, assistant secretary of state for oceans and international environmental and scientific affairs; Susan Drake, U. N. repre-

sentative for the Environmental Protection Agency; Susan Fletcher, senior policy analyst at the Congressional Research Service; and Nancy Alexander, legislative secretary for the Friends Committee on National Legislation. Alexander is a principal organizer within the U.S. NGO community for 1992 preparations.

The briefing is sponsored by the study conference's International Environment and Development Study Seminar. For more information, contact Dan Riedinger, x63300.

**Proposed Approach to the U.S. National Report
for the UN Conference on Environment and Development**

Timeline and Cost

There is a very short timeline for preparation of the U.S. national report. The Council on Environmental Quality, which is vested with responsibility for producing the report, will gather input from non-governmental organizations until June of 1991, synthesize the findings and produce the report in July 1991. The cost of producing the national report will be taken in part from CEQ's \$2 million budget. In addition, there is a strong likelihood that the CEQ budget will be augmented by resources from foundations to carry out the consultative process. They will be assisted by Time-Mirror of Los Angeles which will publicize their process and by universities which are expected to offer their facilities for NGO consultations on a gratis basis.

Patricia Bliss-Guest (formerly with the UNEP Regional Seas Program) will be the individual at CEQ responsible for carrying out the national report process, the design of which will be approved by Michael Deland and David Struhs.

Disclaimer

The CEQ will publish a disclaimer on the report saying that the government of the United States takes no responsibility for its contents. Thus, there is no assurance that the views espoused in the report will influence the positions of the U.S. delegation. Furthermore, the UN has not specified the use to which national reports will be put in their preparatory process. Thus, it appears that the national report process will occur in a vacuum, until citizens become a political force to be reckoned with.

Importance of the National Report Process.

Given the aforementioned context, one could wonder whether any useful purpose could be served by participating in the national report process. We respond in three ways. First, it is crucial that the U.S. public become aware of the issues and mobilized to effect the political process. The national report preparation process can help accomplish this. Second, U.S. decision-makers are not being held accountable for their actions relative to environment and development. A national report might provide some standards to which U.S. leaders could be held accountable. Finally, IF the CEQ process has integrity, it might produce promising proposals to revamp everything from attitudes and values to the way we do business in the United States.

What follows is a description of the proposed design of the CEQ national report process, a critique and a counter-proposal.

CEQ Proposal.

The CEQ specifically states an aversion to public hearing processes with

Olive Wilson Clerk, General Committee

Mark Hulbert Clerk, Executive Committee

Edward F. Snyder Executive Secretary Emeritus

Joe Volk Executive Secretary

Ruth Flower Legislative Secretary

Nancy C. Alexander Legislative Secretary

Jay C. Fikes Legislative Secretary

Alison D. Oldham Legislative Action Coordinator

David M. Boynton Associate Secretary for Administration

Dennis R. O'Brien Development Secretary

Aline A. Autenrieth Associate Development Secretary

people reading endless submissions into a record.

CEQ still does not want a formal Citizens' Advisory Group to help design and implement a national report process, but it appears illing to work with a voluntary NGO advisory committee with no formal status. They cite only "bureaucratic difficulties and complexities" as the reason.

Instead, CEQ proposes picking one topic (e.g. technology transfer) for each region of the country and assembling experts who are "higher level and more academic" in each region to "move the debate forward." The experts would be chosen to reflect the broad UN definition of "NGO" to include business, labor, youth, science, etc. CEQ places strong importance on the participation of state and local governments in these roundtables. Michael Deland would have preferred something closer to the Canadian National Roundtable as a model to emulate, but lack of time and money preclude that approach.

In terms of content, they anticipate that the national report would report on progress in addressing environment (not necessarily development) challenges in the United States and identify cross-cutting themes and basic values that should guide future U.S. policies and actions on environment and development.

Critique.

We are glad that the CEQ has expressed a willingness to dialogue about the proposed design of the national report process. We have some constructive criticisms of the CEQ proposed and an alternative to offer.

First, we do not believe it is appropriate for the CEQ to seek private sources of funds for conducting the national report process or issue a disclaimer on the national report. One of the purposes of the UN request for national reports, as we understand it, is to solicit views of *member governments* on the issues.

Second, the process CEQ proposes smacks of elitism and runs the risk of eschewing the "common person," whose common sense may embody more wisdom than the expert solutions. Many of us feel that solutions to the social/ecological crisis which confronts us are more likely to be found in transformed socio-economic attitudes and behaviors than in technocratic/expert "fixes." If the CEQ process is exclusive and there is not broad NGO ownership of the report it could create much ill-will.

Third, the CEQ proposal has not been fleshed out enough to be fully evaluated. No one in the NGO community has seen the proposal on paper. It is unclear, for instance, how topics for regional forums would be selected, how participants would be selected, or how the agenda for the forums would be developed.

Fourth, CEQ appears to place no importance on involving Congress in the national report process, though possibilities certainly exist through proposed hearings (by the Joint Economic Committee, the House Foreign Affairs Committee, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, and the Appropriations Subcommittees on Foreign Operations in both Houses).

Fifth, while we believe that the report should establish guidelines for future policies and actions, it should attempt to do more.

Counter-Proposal.

First, we are pleased that CEQ has expressed the wish for a consultative process in designing the national report process "within the limits of time."

Second, we propose that CEQ establish a consultative process for defining the structure and purpose of the national report.

Launching a Citizen - Government Dialogue.

We believe that a citizen-government DIALOGUE would be more useful than CEQ simply compiling the input of selected citizens in a report form. In order to launch the dialogue, we propose that CEQ quickly draft a national report outline that:

- o identifies the significant development and environment challenges that the U.S. faces,
- o reviews what has been accomplished to date to address these challenges and, conversely, what trends exacerbate these challenges,
- o identifies those principles which should guide future policies,
- o develops a menu of suggested actions to respond to each type of challenge, and
- o assesses the pros and cons of each item of the suggested "menu" for action and, from this assessment, prioritizes the actions which might be taken.

We propose that CEQ use already-scheduled NGO Forums (between January and June 1991) to get critiques of the outline and submissions for each section.

As NGOs "fill in the blanks" of the report outline, CEQ would maintain the national report draft on ECONET, so that it would be accessible to those NGOs unable to participate directly in the process.

We further propose that a consultation with NGOs be held in May 1991 to review the status of the U.S. national report and identify further input which needs to be gathered.

The national report should be completed in July 1991. We are proposing that the national report be a basis for NGO forums between July 1991 and the 1992 UN Conference. Over the course of ten months, such NGO forums, presumably with CEQ involvement, could stimulate widespread discussion of the issues of environment and development in the United States. David Struhs seemed receptive to this idea.

Nancy Alexander
10/24/90



THE CENTRE FOR OUR COMMON FUTURE

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THE '92 PROCESS IN SUMMARY

Background

Further to the UN General Assembly's decision (Resolution 44/228) on 22 December 1989 to convene the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) in Brazil in 1992, an UNCED Preparatory Committee (open to all member governments of the United Nations) was established.

Prior to the creation of the PrepCom, on 8 February 1990, UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar had announced the appointment of Maurice Strong of Canada, a former member of the World Commission on Environment and Development, as UNCED's Secretary-General.

The UNCED Secretariat, with a staff of approximately 40, is located in Geneva and has additional small units in New York (headed by Jean-Claude Faby), and Nairobi (headed by Fritz Schlingemann).

The Preparatory Committee held its Organizational Session on 5-16 March 1990 in New York, and at that meeting appointed Ambassador Tommy Koh of Singapore to the post of Chairman of the Preparatory Committee and created a Bureau comprised of 39 governments.

The PrepCom's first substantive session was held in Nairobi from 7-31 August 1990 and three further substantive sessions are scheduled to be held before the main conference: the second in Geneva from 18 March to 5 April 1991, the third in Geneva from 12-30 August 1991 and the fourth in New York in early 1992. Documents approved at these sessions can be obtained directly from the UNCED's offices in Geneva or from the Centre for Our Common Future.

The UNCED '92 Conference (or ECO '92, as it is referred to) will be held on 1-12 June 1992 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil to coincide with World Environment Day, June 5th 1992, and is to be at the highest possible level of participation. Parallel meeting(s) of the 'Independent Sectors' (see page 3) will be held in Rio at the same time as the Conference. In conjunction with the main conference, a series of events will take place in cities throughout Brazil during 1992. An official ceremony for heads of state and government will be held in Manaus, a technology exhibition of environmental protection equipment and products will be staged in Sao Paulo, an interparliamentary meeting will be organized in Brasilia and a science and technology seminar will be held in Curitiba.

In parallel with the extensive preparations within the UN system for this major conference, the 'Independent Sectors' also plan a wide range of preparatory, participatory and follow-up activities.

The UNCED Preparatory Committee and its Work

Two open-ended Working Groups were established at the PrepCom's March meeting. They will help with the task of providing overall guidance to the wider preparatory process. The aim of the preparatory process is to arrive in 1992 at 'specific agreements and commitments by Governments and international organizations for defined activities on environment and development, specifying targets and timetables and providing the basis for concrete action plans'. The issues to be dealt with by the Working Groups are, respectively:

Working Group 1. Protection of the atmosphere by combating climate change, depletion of the ozone layer, and transboundary pollution; protection and management of land resources by, inter alia, combating deforestation, desertification and drought; conservation of biological diversity; environmentally sound management of biotechnology.

Working Group 2. Protection of the oceans and all kinds of seas, including enclosed and semi-enclosed seas, and of coastal areas, and the protection, rational use and development of their living resources; protection of the quality and supply of freshwater resources; environmentally sound management of wastes, particularly hazardous wastes, and of toxic chemicals, as well as prevention of illegal international traffic in toxic and dangerous products and wastes.

A third working group to deal with legal, institutional and related matters is to be set up later.

In fulfilling their mandates, each of the Working Groups has been asked to ensure that they use an integrated approach to the environment and development issues they will be considering. To achieve this, they have been directed to take into account, among other things, patterns of consumption and production, access to and transfers of technology, financial resource requirements, the eradication of poverty and the improvement of quality of life.

A voluntary fund has been established by the governments of the United Nations to help the least developed countries participate in the preparatory process.

Regional preparatory conferences for ECO '92 are to be held and their results integrated into the preparatory process.

National preparatory processes are also to be held in all countries and the Preparatory Committee has adopted guidelines for these processes as well as for the contributions of the UN system as a whole to the '92 process.

Guidelines for the preparation of national reports called for by the Preparatory Committee and for the participation of 'non-governmental' organizations were agreed at the PrepCom's meeting in Nairobi.

UNCED Secretary-General Calls for Specific Actions

The UNCED Secretary-General in his remarks to the opening of the first meeting of the Preparatory Committee told it that it will have to determine specific actions it expects the '92 conference to take in respect of each agenda item - 'a formidable work load', he remarked, including:

- Completion of legal agreements on conventions already made or under negotiation, as with protection of the atmosphere and biological diversity;
- Agreements on measures to extend and/or accelerate implementation of existing plans and programmes such as the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification, and monitoring and assessment programmes, as for example UNEP's Earthwatch;
- Agreement on new measures which require priority action;
- Agreements on the central issues of financing, technology transfer and institutions;
- Agreement on priorities, timetables, modalities and assignment of responsibilities which will set the agenda for the continuing work programmes of the international community beyond 1992.

Regional Conferences

An important aspect of the overall preparatory process for the '92 Conference will be the regional meetings. The African Regional Conference on Environment and Sustainable Development, sponsored by UNEP and the UN Economic Commission for Africa took place in Kampala on 12-16 June 1989 and a further meeting for that region is being planned. Following the UN Economic Commission for Europe regional conference - 'Action for a Common Future' - in Bergen, on 8-16 May 1990, a regional conference of the UN Economic Commission for Asia and the Pacific will take place in Bangkok from 10 to 16 October 1990. A further meeting for this region is planned for February 1991. The UN Economic Commission for Latin American and the Caribbean is planning a meeting for that region in early 1991 and a regional conference is planned by the UN Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia for the second quarter of 1991.

A full report on the preparations at the regional level was presented to the Preparatory Committee at its meeting in Nairobi.

The 'Independent Sectors'

This term refers to all sectors of human activity which are independent of governments. It includes, in addition to 'non-governmental organizations (NGOs) having consultative status with the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), all environment and development NGOs, business and industry, trade unions, professional associations, scientific and academic institutions, women's organizations, youth groups, religious and spiritual groups, indigenous peoples' organizations and other citizen's groups reaching significant sections of the population.

Why are the Independent Sectors Involved?

In its resolution of December 1989 convening the UNCED, the General Assembly invited all states to 'promote international cooperation and broad-based national preparatory processes involving the scientific community, industry, trade unions and concerned NGOs'. Relevant NGOs in consultative status with ECOSOC were specifically asked to contribute to the conference.

The UNCED Secretary-General has said that the Independent Sectors have 'extensive network and keen interest in a wide range of environmental and development issues, which could enrich and enhance the deliberations of the conference and its preparatory process' and could serve as 'an important channel to disseminate its results, as well as to promote the integration of environment and development policies at the national and international levels'.

Vancouver Meeting - Independent Sectors' Preparations

As the first UNCED Preparatory Committee meeting in March 1990 was drawing to a close, representatives of 115 independent sector organizations from more than 40 countries met in Vancouver (15-18 March 1990) to consider their sector's involvement in the '92 process. Maurice Strong, Gro Harlem Brundtland (attending in her capacity as Chairman of the World Commission on Environment and Development) and Ricardo Luiz Viana de Carvalho from the Brazilian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, all participated. That meeting underscored the importance of a broadly participatory process for '92, involving all sectors of human society and elaborated a set of guiding principles for the independent sectors' involvement in the '92 process.

Nyon Strategy Meeting for UNCED

Convened by the Centre for Our Common Future in Nyon, Switzerland (3-6 June 1990), the Strategy Meeting brought together principal officers of 86 independent sector organizations from 33 countries. The purpose of the Strategy Meeting was to discuss substantive inputs by the independent sectors to the preparatory process of UNCED, as well as the modalities of the independent sectors' participation in that process and in the Conference itself.

That meeting concluded that: All governments are urged to facilitate such a process of involvement by way of broad-based consultations with the independent sectors and their various NGO and sectoral components; the preparatory process of UNCED must be designed to permit active participation of the independent sectors in all of its phases, particularly at the national level and by making contributions on substantive issues being addressed by the Preparatory Committee and its working groups; the independent sectors must initiate, promote and support efforts to bring environment and development issues onto the agenda of all international and global conferences of independent sector organizations with the aim to educate participants in those meetings, and to produce resolutions supporting the goals of the UNCED; representatives of the various components of the independent sectors should be granted observer status to the entire UNCED preparatory process and at the Conference itself; and representatives of the independent sectors should be included in the national delegations to UNCED as full and equal members.

International Facilitating Committee

In order to raise the level of international debate beyond the traditional pursuit of sectoral and national interests, the Nyon meeting decided that an International Facilitating Committee (IFC) be established. Respected individuals selected from each of the independent sectors have now been appointed to the IFC, including representatives from NGOs in consultative status with ECOSOC, environment and development groups, industry, trade unions, women's groups, the media, the scientific and academic communities,

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youth, grassroots groups, indigenous peoples and human rights groups. The IFC has been constituted so as to achieve both geographical and gender balance.

The IFC has a triple mandate:

1. to assist organizations and networks in the independent sectors to define their roles vis-a-vis UNCED, upon request;
2. to provide a forum for dialogue among the independent sectors; and
3. to promote fair and effective participation in UNCED on behalf of the independent sectors.

In carrying out its mandate, the IFC will function in an open and participatory manner and promote existing networks, and coalitions, as well as the facilitation of new networks, in the spirit of partnership.

Specifically, the IFC will be responsible for:

1. *Informing the various independent sectors about (1) UNCED decisions, procedures and guidelines affecting NGOs, (2) major points of interaction with the UNCED process at national, regional, and international levels, and (3) opportunities to make substantive contributions to the UNCED process at all levels;*
2. *Serving as one channel for the flow of information from the independent sectors to the UNCED Secretariat, the PrepCom, its Working Groups and other UNCED structures at different levels, with the understanding that each sector will also have its own channels for communications with governments and delegations;*
3. *Helping each sector to organize itself in relation to the UNCED process;*
4. *Promoting independent work by each sector, in cooperation with existing networks and coalitions;*
5. *Facilitating flows of information and materials among the different independent sectors;*
6. *Facilitating sectoral and intersectoral meetings to promote better understanding of the issues to be dealt with at UNCED;*
7. *Facilitating fund-raising by various organizations/sectors to enable them to make an effective input to UNCED; and*
8. *Promoting cooperation and communication within and among the sectors after 1992.*

A full list of the members of the IFC and information on its activities can be obtained from its Secretariat located at the offices of the Centre for Our Common Future in Geneva.

The Role of the Centre for Our Common Future

Bearing in mind the input of the Vancouver and Nyon meetings, and the priority of UNCED as the benchmark for progress on sustainable development, the Centre

has designed its programmes to focus on opportunities to influence and support UNCED that are consistent with and flow from the Centre's unique multi-sectoral international information and catalytic role.

The three-year programme, 1990-92, for the Centre for Our Common Future includes three new initiatives and the continuation, with new priorities of two efforts, the Brundtland Bulletin and the Centre's Core Programme.

92 Programme:

Eco '92 Public Forums in 10-12 countries to provide an additional avenue for input to the preparatory process for UNCED. The first Public Forum was held in Nairobi on 11 August 1990 to be followed by New Delhi on 19 September 1990 and Bangkok in February 1991.

Network '92 is a monthly review of independent sectors' initiatives relating to UNCED. The first issue came out in August 1990.

Regional Focal Points will be designated to assist in the preparation of the Public Forums and to develop stronger links with the Centre's 150 Working Partners and other relevant organizations so as to ensure their participation in the 1992 process.

Independent sector organizations wishing to become involved in the '92 process should make contact with: THE CENTRE FOR OUR COMMON FUTURE, Palais Wilson, 52 Rue des Paquis, 1201 Geneva, Switzerland (Tel. 41.22.732.71.17, tlx. 27910, fax 41.22.738.50.46

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE ATTENTION...FOR IMMEDIATE ATTENTION...FOR IMMEDIATE ATTENTION...

**CITIZENS ORGANIZE AROUND THE UN CONFERENCE ON ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT,
ASK ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS HOW THEY CAN PLAY A ROLE IN US PREPARATIONS**

Approximately 225 representatives of non-governmental organizations and private citizens participated in the CITIZENS' CONSULTATION ON UNCED (THE UNITED NATIONS 1992 CONFERENCE ON ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT), which was held on Capitol Hill October 21-22. The Consultation launched a "Citizens' Network on UNCED", which was given the mandate to mobilize citizen involvement in the 1992 UN Conference.

Organizations present at the Consultation represented a broad range of environment and development concerns, as well as religious bodies, veterans' and women's concerns, state officials, consumers, and local and international policy planners. With these diverse perspectives, working group sessions examined the relationship between human welfare and development issues to a range of environment issues (land and water resources; climate change, energy and air pollution; trade and toxics; military spending and alternative economics; biotechnology).

Plenary discussions were held with E.U. Curtis "Buff" Bohlen, Head of the U.S. Delegation to the 1992 UN Conference and Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Oceans, the Environment, and Scientific Affairs, and David Struhs, Staff Director, President's Council on Environmental Quality, the agency charged with coordination of the U.S. National Report to UNCED. (Each nation participating in the 1992 UN Conference will submit a national report reviewing its record in addressing environmental and development challenges and identifying approaches to these challenges which will be taken in the future.) Questions on process and content were posed to Bohlen and Struhs, such as:

--"Will the national report go beyond mere description of current policies to address challenges? For example, will it address the on-going U.S. failure to integrate water conservation into agricultural policies?"

--"The Quality of Life Index which is part of the UN Development Program Human Development Report lists the U.S. as 18th or 20th. Given this low rating, will the National Report give attention to the effect of U.S. economic activities on the environment and societal wellbeing in the U.S.?"

--"Will the impact of military spending on development, and related issues such as economic conversion, be part of the agenda?"

--"What mechanisms are in place for non-governmental organizations to give their input?"

Bohlen noted that he was counting on the community of non-governmental organizations concerned with environment and development issues to organize itself and present its views in a more consolidated form. He also cautioned:

"I would also urge you not to spend the year doing it. This clock is moving very rapidly. The more input you can give to me before March, the more beneficial it will be. March will be a key [preparatory] meeting. The sooner you can get constructive proposals into us, the easier it will be for us to feed them into the system."

The Citizens' Network on UNCED is constituting a steering committee and secretariat, seeking funding, and facilitating the input to the UNCED process by issue working groups formed during the Consultation. The Citizens' Network will serve both as a clearinghouse and as a facilitator to mobilize input on substantive issues to the UNCED Secretariat, to those formulating the U.S. negotiating positions, and to the U.S. national report.

For additional information on the outcome of the Consultation or the future efforts of the Citizens' Network, please contact:

Carol Gish or Nancy Alexander, Friends Committee on National Legislation
245 2nd Street NE, Washington DC 20002 (202) 547-6000

G-7
Houston
July, 1990

Prepcom
Nairobi
August, 1990

IMF/World Bank
Annual meeting
Washington, DC
September, 1990

Citizens Alliance on the
UN Conference on Environment
and Development
Washington, DC; Oct, 1990

2nd World Climate Conference
Geneva, November, 1990

IUCN General Assembly
Perth, November, 1990

1st Climate Treaty meeting
Washington, DC
February, 1991

Prepcom
Geneva
March, 1991

The Road to Brazil

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Geneva
September, 1991

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IMF/World Bank
Annual Meeting
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September, 1991

Latin American
Government/
Nongovernment
meeting on 1992
Mexico City
April, 1991

World Women's Conference
Miami, November, 1991

NGO Prepcom
Paris
Dec or January,
1991 - 1992

World Parks Congress
Caracas
February, 1992

Prepcom
New York
March, 1992

UN Conf. on Env
and Development
Rio and other cities, Brazil
June, 1992