

**General Assembly**

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**Commission on Sustainable Development
acting as the preparatory committee for the
World Summit on Sustainable Development****Third session**

25 March-5 April 2002

Item 2 of the provisional agenda*

**Consideration of the Chairman's paper transmitted
from the second session of the Commission acting as
the preparatory committee, together with other
relevant inputs to the preparatory process**

**Letter dated 15 March 2002 from the Permanent Representative of
Cape Verde addressed to the Secretary-General**

I have the honour to inform you that the Government of the Republic of Cape Verde has just hosted in Praia, from 7 to 8 March 2002, a ministerial forum on the implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa, in the context of the preparatory process for the World Summit on Sustainable Development, to be held in Johannesburg from 26 August to 4 September 2002.

The forum, which was attended by delegates from both developing and developed country parties to the Convention, adopted the Ministerial Message from Praia, a copy of which is attached (see annex I), together with a copy of the conclusions and recommendations of the technical segment of the forum (see annex II).

The forum mandated to H.E. Mr. Pedro Verona Rodrigues Pires, President of the Republic of Cape Verde, to convey the said message to the Summit and its preparatory process for consideration.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annexes circulated as a document of the Summit and its remaining two preparatory sessions.

(Signed) Luis da **Fonseca**
Ambassador

* A/CONF.199/PC/1.