

**Administrative Committee  
on Coordination**ACC/1993/24  
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REPORT ON THE 2ND MEETING OF THE INTER-AGENCY COMMITTEE  
ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

(New York, 8-10 September 1993)

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## INTRODUCTION

1. The Inter-Agency Committee on Sustainable Development (IACSD) held its 2nd meeting at United Nations Headquarters from 8 to 10 September 1993. The list of participants is contained in annex I to the present report. The agenda for the session, as adopted by the Committee, is contained in annex II.
2. The Committee agreed to group together items 2, 4 and 6 and items 3 and 5 for its consideration.

### I. MATTERS BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE ON COORDINATION

#### Matters arising from meetings of the Administrative Committee on Coordination and preparations for the Administrative Committee on Coordination discussions on the follow-up to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development

##### 1. Coordination in the field of ocean affairs

3. Following the decision taken at the 1st meeting of IACSD to consider the most efficient machinery required in the field of ocean affairs, and taking into account the recommendations made by an inter-agency meeting held at the headquarters of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) on 23 and 24 August 1993, IACSD recommends the establishment of an ACC subcommittee on oceans and coastal areas to meet the coordination needs broadly defined in chapter 17 of Agenda 21. The scope, objectives, terms of reference, composition, programme of work, reporting arrangements, frequency of meetings and arrangements for officers and secretariat support for the proposed subcommittee are contained in annex IV to the present report.

4. In view of the fact that the Commission on Sustainable Development will consider the subject of oceans for in-depth review in 1996, IACSD recommends that, as a special measure, the term of office of the first chairman of the subcommittee extend to the end of 1996.

##### 2. New and additional financing requirements of the United Nations system relating to Agenda 21 and Commission on Sustainable Development reporting requirements

5. The attention of ACC is also drawn to the IACSD conclusions contained in paragraphs 9 to 18 and 43 below relating to Agenda 21 financing and reporting requirements of the United Nations system.

## II. DISCUSSIONS HELD BY THE COMMITTEE

- A. Matters arising from meetings of the Economic and Social Council, the Commission on Sustainable Development and other intergovernmental bodies
- B. Allocating and sharing responsibilities for the implementation of Agenda 21 by the United Nations system
- C. Assessing new and existing reporting requirements related to the implementation of Agenda 21 and making recommendations for their streamlining

6. The Committee took note of the allocation of responsibilities to task managers for follow-up to and reporting on the various chapters, issues and programme areas of Agenda 21 as proposed by its Chairman and as contained in the annotated provisional agenda. The list of task managers and cooperating organizations is contained in annex V.

7. The Chairman indicated that the designation of task managers and the allocation of responsibilities should be seen as an evolving process taking into account the availability of expertise and experience in various parts of the system. The Committee agreed that all organizations of the system that have an interest in a given area should be able to contribute fully to the processes of follow-up and reporting on Agenda 21. IACSD would need to be kept informed of the work being undertaken by the task managers. This need could be met by the use of electronic mail and should not entail frequent meetings. It was suggested that, in view of the role of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), in the area of information (chap. 40), ITU and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) could assist in establishing an electronic network among the task managers, other relevant organizations and the Commission on Sustainable Development secretariat. It was also agreed that, as a first step, the names and coordinates of all the focal points with the responsibility of task managers would be circulated to all organizations.

8. Following a discussion on the role and functioning of task managers, and taking into account the principles, guidelines and criteria for the allocation and sharing of responsibilities defined by the ACC Task Force on Environment and Development <sup>1/</sup> and the process of coordination for the follow-up of Agenda 21 agreed upon by the Committee at its first session (see ACC/1993/11, para. 5), the Committee agreed that the task managers would have the following responsibilities and functions.

### Task managers: responsibilities and functions

9. The overall objective is to ensure collaboration and cooperation in the follow-up to Agenda 21, including reporting on its implementation by the United Nations system.

### Responsibilities

10. The designation of a number of organizations or inter-agency mechanisms as task managers, for various chapters, issues and programme areas of Agenda 21, is to facilitate the task assigned to IACSD of coordination by using the comparative advantage and knowledge base of the organizations so designated. The task managers, in collaboration with other relevant organizations, will assist IACSD in ensuring coordinated contributions of the United Nations system for the implementation of Agenda 21 in specific areas in accordance with the multi-year thematic programme of work established by the Commission on Sustainable Development.

### Information exchange

11. The task managers will strengthen and, where necessary, establish a network of collaboration among the relevant organizations and develop a regular flow of information on ongoing and future activities among them, including through E-mail networks.

### Inter-agency consultation

12. In carrying out their task, it is imperative that the task managers and the collaborating organizations maintain intensive consultation and interaction among one another. Frequent inter-agency contacts are the cornerstone of a collaborative/cooperative approach.

### Catalysing joint activities and programmes

13. The task managers have the related responsibility of initiating and playing a catalytic function in joint activities and programmes relating to thematic issues.

### Common strategies

14. The task managers will develop, in collaboration with the concerned organizations and the secretariat of the Commission on Sustainable Development, common strategies for the implementation by the United Nations system of Agenda 21 for their respective areas of competence.

### Reporting

15. The task managers will prepare, in collaboration with concerned organizations, coordinated inputs for the consolidated analytical reports of the Secretary-General which will focus on common United Nations system strategies for the implementation of Agenda 21 and identify areas for further action for consideration by the Commission on Sustainable Development. As such, the inputs of the task manager will have the status of working documents to be used by the secretariat for the preparation of the analytical report of the Secretary-General.

16. The Commission on Sustainable Development has requested the following reports; the reports listed in subparagraphs (b), (c) and (d) in particular would require coordinated inputs from the United Nations system:

(a) Reports from individual organizations of the system on the activities to follow up Agenda 21, focusing on ongoing and future projects and initiatives related to its multi-year thematic programme of work. These reports would be prepared by the secretariats concerned and in most instances would be the same as, or drawn from, those prepared for their governing bodies. They would have to be submitted by the individual agency to the Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development of the United Nations Secretariat and would be made available to the Commission on Sustainable Development as background documents;

(b) Reports requested from the Secretary-General on the sectoral issues to be considered by the Commission in accordance with its multi-year thematic programme of work. In the preparation of these reports, the secretariat of the Commission will utilize information to be provided by Governments in their national reports, results of expert group meetings and information contained in the inputs to be prepared by the task managers on the relevant sectoral issues. Such inputs would be drawn, inter alia, from the reports of individual organizations and would include the decisions of their governing bodies, where available;

(c) A consolidated analytical report to be prepared by the Secretary-General which would synthesize information related to United Nations system activities to implement Agenda 21, outline gaps and assess progress achieved and clarify organizational responsibilities. The report will be prepared by the secretariat of the Commission on Sustainable Development on the basis of the coordinated inputs provided by task managers on the relevant sectoral and cross-sectoral issues, in collaboration with other concerned organizations including financial institutions and the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and on the basis of subparagraph (d) below;

(d) An annual overview report on progress made in the implementation of Agenda 21, focusing on the cross-sectoral components of Agenda 21 and the critical elements of sustainability. These include official development assistance (ODA), external debt, trade, trade and environment, and production and consumption patterns. In addition, issues relating to financing and technology transfers would need to be covered. The report will be prepared by the Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development of the United Nations Secretariat as task manager, taking into account the relevant inputs from processes under way within the United Nations system on the cross-sectoral issues to be considered by the Commission in accordance with its multi-year thematic programme of work. It would also take into account any relevant information contained in the inputs of the task managers given that cross-sectoral trends may be derived from the sum of the sectoral realities.

17. The secretariat of the Commission on Sustainable Development will work closely with the task managers in the preparation of the reports referred to above. A flow chart showing the process for the preparation of these reports is contained in annex VI to the present report.

#### Presentation of reports

18. The presentation of the reports to the relevant sessions of the Commission on Sustainable Development relating to the activities of the United Nations

system as well as the participation of the organizations of the system in the discussions of the Commission should be organized in a manner that brings out the progress made in achieving greater coordination and coherence by the United Nations system in the implementation of Agenda 21. This could best be achieved by organizing panels of small numbers of organizations that would make the presentations, including through the use of modern techniques, and respond to questions. This would also provide a format for a more interesting dialogue between member Governments and the senior representatives of organizations of the system. The member Governments of the Commission would be encouraged to ensure appropriate representation in the Commission, taking into account the issues to be taken up at a given session.

19. In the light of the above, and taking into account the reporting requirements for the second substantive session of the Commission on Sustainable Development, it was agreed that the Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development of the United Nations Secretariat would provide guidelines and a time-frame to task managers and individual organizations on the format, scope, content and length of the reports to be prepared by them for the next session of the Commission. The task managers will then prepare draft outlines of the reports in consultation with their partner organizations, and seek their contributions to the reports. The initial drafts as well as the final reports will be prepared by the task managers in close consultation with the partner organizations and submitted to the Department as working documents for the preparation of the Secretary-General's consolidated analytical report, reports on sectoral issues and possibly the overview report on the cross-sectoral components of Agenda 21.

20. The Committee, noting the various reports requested by the Commission on Sustainable Development, expressed its concern about the considerable workload involved and the risk of duplication, both among those reports and between these reports and those made to the governing bodies of United Nations system organizations.

Review of progress achieved in the follow-up to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development

21. The Committee received brief reports from the various task managers and other organizations on the progress achieved and on the planned activities related to the implementation of Agenda 21 in their respective areas.

22. The representatives of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the World Health Organization (WHO) and the International Labour Organization (ILO) informed the Committee that the International Programme on Chemical Safety (IPCS), established jointly by UNEP, WHO and ILO, was being used as the main mechanism for coordination in the area of toxic chemicals. An operating basis for expanding its Coordinating Committee to include the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and others had been elaborated. An intergovernmental meeting will be held in Stockholm to consider the establishment of an intergovernmental forum in this area. In the context of discussing the basis for a strengthened and expanded IPCS, some 10 inter-agency consultations had taken place to define

the tasks required for the follow-up of chapter 19 of Agenda 21. A comprehensive inventory of the activities being undertaken in the six programme areas of chapter 19 by the United Nations system, OECD and the European Community had been prepared. Work was thus well under way in the follow-up to Agenda 21 and there was a sufficient basis for preparing a substantive report to the Commission on Sustainable Development in this field. The intergovernmental meeting planned for April 1994 could provide supplementary information to the Commission.

23. With regard to hazardous wastes, UNEP indicated that the Basel Convention was the main framework for coordination. Its secretariat had now become operational and was undertaking coordination activities. The International Maritime Organization (IMO) was an important collaborating organization and other organizations could join in developing a cooperative programme for the implementation of Agenda 21 in this field. A timetable had been prepared for the collection of information and the preparation of the first draft of the programme during the last quarter of 1993 and a consultative meeting was planned for early 1994 to finalize the programme.

24. UNEP also reported on the progress made in implementing the UNCED request for an intergovernmental meeting on protection of the marine environment from land-based activities, for which the Governing Council of UNEP, in its decision 17/20 of 21 May 1993, accepted responsibility. A preliminary meeting of experts to assess the effectiveness of regional seas agreements will be held in Nairobi from 6 to 10 December 1993. Negotiations were under way with national partners and regional seas secretariats on the preparation of national surveys, regional overviews, regional control strategies and their estimated costs. A meeting of experts on possible amendments to the Montreal Guidelines is planned for June 1994 and another expert-level meeting will be held in March 1995. Inter-agency participation in this process was encouraged.

25. UNDP briefed the Committee on the developments relating to capacity-building and its Capacity 21 initiative. A number of consultations were being organized in cooperation with concerned specialized agencies to carry out a review of activities of the organizations relating to capacity-building and, if possible, devise a common strategy. A programme of information has also been developed on Capacity 21 priorities and a monograph series on capacity-building needs in various sectors is being developed in collaboration with UNESCO, WHO, the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) and FAO. Some \$40 million had been mobilized and resources from GEF and the Montreal Protocol were also being used for capacity-building. At the field level, collaboration among the various organizations was taking place to assist developing countries to strengthen their coordination mechanisms for capacity-building. The performance of UNDP representatives in the field related to this subject would be measured on the basis of their ability to collaborate with other organizations in the implementation of the Capacity 21 initiative.

26. WHO briefed the Committee on developments in the follow-up to chapter 6 relating to health and emphasized the intersectoral nature of this issue and the broad array of activities being undertaken in this field. The need for networking and developing electronic mail systems to bring together all the work being done for preparing a report to the Commission on Sustainable Development was stressed. Furthermore, the results of a meeting on chapter 6 being



organized by the Government of Denmark would have to be integrated into the work of the system. With regard to sectoral costing of activities under chapter 6, the collaboration of the World Bank would be particularly relevant in the light of the work being done in the preparation of the Bank's World Development Report 1993 - Investing in Health.

27. Briefing the Committee on developments relating to science and education (chaps. 35 and 36), the representative of UNESCO emphasized the strategic nature of these issues, which had an impact on production systems, and on consumption and behaviour patterns. An inter-agency consultation was being organized to launch a new era of cooperation, although considerable work had already been undertaken in the context of the joint UNEP/UNESCO international environmental education programme. The experience gained in that context would be fully brought to bear on education for sustainable development. New educational projects on environment and on population were being developed as a follow-up to chapter 36 in the forthcoming biennium. UNESCO invited the organizations of the system to actively integrate environment and development educational activities in their programmes. In the area of science, UNESCO indicated that a number of other major groups, including the non-governmental organizations, needed to be involved in developing cooperative scientific and research programmes and links needed to be established with UNDP's Capacity 21 initiative to avoid duplication in reporting.

28. Reporting on the cluster of land, including land management, forest and sustainable agriculture and rural development, the representative of FAO indicated that FAO had convened two inter-agency consultations on forestry and on sustainable agriculture and rural development, in March and May 1993 respectively, and their reports had been submitted to IACSD. Non-governmental organizations had also participated in these consultations which served to raise awareness, exchange information on activities and identify areas for closer cooperation. Electronic networks were being set up to maintain closer links among the organizations involved. In the area of water, where FAO was the current Chairman of the ACC Subcommittee on Water Resources, the Committee was informed that the forthcoming meeting of the Subcommittee, to be held in October, would discuss the preparation of the report to the Commission on Sustainable Development and outline an overall strategy for fresh water as a follow-up to Agenda 21.

29. The representative of ILO drew particular attention to the organization's special Interdepartment Project on Environment and the World of Work - included in its regular programme and budget for 1994-1995, which will require close collaboration with others within the United Nations system. The project will focus on a limited number of countries and is aimed at supporting the ILO tripartite constituent's efforts to contribute effectively to national activities to follow up Agenda 21 as regards the ratification and implementation of ILO working environment conventions, the management of toxic chemicals and the employment and social implications of national Agenda 21 strategies, programmes and plans.

30. The World Bank indicated that it had published a report on its activities in the first year following UNCED. Its financial commitments had doubled to \$2 billion to finance activities in the areas of pollution, land and water and strengthening of institutional capacities in developing countries. National

environmental action plans were being instituted in several countries and environmental assessment procedures were being developed and projects redesigned accordingly. Greater attention was being paid to the education of girls and to the question of subsidies as a means of achieving sustainable development. Conceptual and methodological issues were also being addressed. However, the Committee was informed that the Earth Increment for the International Development Association (IDA) had not materialized.

31. The representative of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) informed the Committee that the Fund had prepared a report on the follow-up to UNCED which it intended to submit to its Executive Board before presenting a revised version to the Commission on Sustainable Development. The report, entitled "IFAD follow-up to UNCED Agenda 21: promoting a qualitative shift in lending operational towards sustainable agriculture", outlines an accelerated institutional learning process the Fund has initiated to reflect the principles of sustainable development in its poverty alleviation projects. IFAD also informed the Committee about its initiative to establish a Joint Consultative Group on Policy (JCGP) advisory group on environment and sustainable development to identify leverage points for coordination of JCGP activities in support of Agenda 21 at the country level. The 1st meeting would take place in Washington, D.C. at the beginning of October, immediately preceding the World Bank Conference on Environmentally Sustainable Development.

32. The representative of the Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development of the United Nations Secretariat briefed the Committee on developments in the areas of technology, decision-making structures, major groups, critical elements of sustainability and financing. The Committee was informed of the importance being placed by the Commission on Sustainable Development on the collaboration among intergovernmental bodies on transfer of technology. A working group was being set up with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), a consultative meeting was being organized in cooperation with UNDP and an expert group meeting was being hosted by Norway on environmentally sound technologies.

- D. Matters arising from meetings of the Administrative Committee on Coordination and preparations for the Administrative Committee on Coordination discussions on the follow-up to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development
- E. Monitoring new and additional financing requirements of organizations of the United Nations system related to Agenda 21, taking into account the decisions of their governing bodies

#### Financial requirements and mechanisms

33. An exchange of views took place between funding institutions and specialized agencies regarding their cooperation in implementing Agenda 21, which requires expanded activities and therefore increased funding. The need to render compatible and harmonize strategies and plans at the country level such as national environmental action plans (NEAPs), national sustainable development

strategies, country strategy notes etc. was underlined. The World Bank provided an update on the status of NEAPs, and noted that these were already beginning to provide the basis for environmental investments. Some NEAPs had been discussed at Consultative Group meetings and this trend was expected to continue. The World Bank also noted that commitments of loans and credits for environmental projects amounted to \$2 billion in the 12 months following UNCED - a near doubling over the previous years and a thirtyfold increase over the figure of five years ago. UNDP also briefed the agencies about its intention to carry out a programme to assist countries to harmonize national strategies.

34. The Committee emphasized the need for the organizations of the system to be more involved in the definition and design of strategies, programmes and activities to be implemented at the country level. The particular concerns of small organizations that were not represented at the country level were highlighted in this regard. Increased use of round tables and Consultative Group Meetings by UNDP and the World Bank to better integrate financing of economic development and environmental action plans and strategies was envisaged. UNDP's Capacity 21 could be a useful mechanism for mobilizing inputs of specialized agencies in these forums. Similar processes at the regional level were envisaged. The Committee welcomed the offer by the World Bank and UNDP to prepare an informal background paper concerning the issue of multiple national environment strategies for consideration by IACSD at its 3rd meeting.

35. The representative of UNDP informed the Committee that UNDP would convene an inter-agency consultation on Capacity 21 at FAO headquarters on 4 and 5 October 1993. One part of that meeting would concentrate on the development of guidelines for specific sectors and related agency inputs to country programmes and mechanisms for ensuring national-level coordination. A detailed discussion about the involvement of agencies at the country level in capacity-building for sustainable development was envisaged.

36. UNDP planned to develop a good information system on capacity-building for sustainable development, including an E-mail network and the publication of periodic bulletins, and the convening of twice-yearly meetings for information exchange among United Nations system partners.

37. UNDP/GEF explained that inter-agency coordination within GEF would be based on the "framework for collaboration", now in its third draft, which would be reviewed at the Participants' Meeting in December and would be included in the GEF operational phase beginning in early 1994. Much more substantive involvement of the relevant United Nations agencies is anticipated in the operational phase, compared with the pilot phase of GEF. The secretariat of GEF plans to disseminate information kits to all interested United Nations system agencies. UNDP/GEF was publishing a newsletter on its activities and an operational bulletin on a regular basis. GEF information is also available through ECONET.

38. The representative of UNEP informed the Committee that the management of UNEP was currently engaged in developing policies and strategies to discharge its role and responsibilities in the operational phase of GEF as one of its implementing agencies. UNEP was also reviewing the future role of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel in the operational phase; in doing so, UNEP would seek ways and means of utilizing the technical expertise in the United Nations system.

39. The representative of IFAD stressed the need for an assessment of existing flows to Agenda 21 as well as a concrete indication of the likely magnitude of additional resources that may be available. Only then could credible estimates of financing gaps be calculated by the United Nations system as a whole.

40. The representative of the Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development of the United Nations Secretariat introduced a draft outline of documentation on financial resources and mechanisms to be prepared as an input for the work of the ad hoc working group established by the Commission on Sustainable Development to deal with this issue.

41. It was concluded that an important objective of this exercise would be to provide Governments with information required for addressing shortfalls in financing for Agenda 21 implementation. The report should not duplicate data available through other channels or repeat information on agencies' activities prepared for governing bodies. Instead, gaps in financial resources and innovative modalities for resource mobilization should be identified. Sectoral cost estimates could be reviewed and refined and their comparison with currently available resources in each area would help identify funding shortages. The adequacy of funding to various types of processes and activities should also be assessed. Elements of this documentation dealing with funding for sectoral clusters on the agenda of the Commission in 1994 would be prepared in close collaboration with the task managers responsible for the clusters. IACSD agreed that the Department should organize an informal working party to assist in the preparation of the documentation. A number of organizations indicated their readiness to provide information needed in preparation of this documentation, which has to be completed under stringent time constraints.

42. The Committee noted with appreciation that, in response to the concern expressed in the statement of ACC to the Commission on Sustainable Development at its first session regarding the need for additional funding to meet the new mandates stemming from Agenda 21, the Commission had recognized the important role of entities within the United Nations system and had requested them to provide to the Commission at its second session, through ACC, information regarding financial needs and priorities that are relevant to their respective responsibilities. 2/

43. The Committee stressed once again the need for additional financing to carry out the new mandates emanating from Agenda 21. The reordering of priorities and the reallocation of resources which was already taking place could not meet all the requirements of Agenda 21. While noting that the financing needs of individual organizations would be reviewed by their respective governing bodies in the context of their regular budgets, the Committee considered that, in particular, activities and programmes that involved more than one agency would require additional funding. Such needs could be reported to the Commission on Sustainable Development. In this regard, it was agreed that the Commission should be provided with information on additional funding requirements on a coordinated basis. It was further agreed that the Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development of the United Nations Secretariat would circulate a draft format to all organizations for them to provide information within a defined time-frame and a consolidated report would be prepared for the Commission through IACSD and the first regular session of ACC of 1994.

F. System-wide preparations for intergovernmental meetings in the sustainable development area

44. The Committee was briefed by the Chairman on the preparations under way with regard to the global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, the United Nations Conference on Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks, the negotiating processes for the Convention on Desertification, and the follow-up to the Conventions on Biodiversity and Climate Change. UNEP informed the Committee that its Governing Council had decided to convene an Intergovernmental Meeting on Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities, as called for by UNCED. The meeting would take place in Washington, D.C., in November 1995. The Committee noted that the ad hoc intersecretariat arrangements for system-wide inputs into these processes were generally working well and agreed that it should be kept informed of further developments in this regard, particularly with respect to the use made of these inputs by the intergovernmental bodies concerned.

G. Coordination in the field of ocean affairs

45. The representative of the Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development of the United Nations Secretariat introduced the report of the Inter-Agency Meeting on Ocean Affairs held at UNESCO headquarters on 23 and 24 August 1993. The Committee expressed its appreciation to UNESCO for hosting the meeting and for the excellent arrangements made for it. It welcomed the consensus reached at the meeting on the coordination arrangements in the area of ocean affairs. It noted that the only outstanding issue related to the secretariat arrangements for the proposed subcommittee on oceans and coastal areas.

46. Following a discussion on this matter, the Committee agreed as follows: the secretariat shall assist the subcommittee in preparing and organizing meetings, coordinating the preparation of its reports, following up its recommendations and maintaining links with other relevant organizations and coordination mechanisms. It will fulfil these functions in consultation with the chairman of the subcommittee. While carrying out its tasks, the secretariat shall respect fully the lead functions of several main United Nations actors in the implementation of various programmes and subprogrammes of Agenda 21, chapter 17. The Committee accepted with appreciation the offer of UNESCO to provide, through its Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, the secretariat for the subcommittee. In order to ensure that the scheduling of meetings and the preparation of the programme of work of the subcommittee is adequately coordinated with the other parts of the inter-agency as well as the intergovernmental follow-up to UNCED, the secretariat and a dedicated liaison person in the Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development of the United Nations Secretariat will need to develop a close working relationship.

47. The Committee stressed that the secretariat will require a full-time professional at the P-5 level. It requested that members of the subcommittee be consulted on the terms of reference of the secretariat and on the choice of the full-time secretary. The principle of separation of substantive representation

in the subcommittee from the functions of the secretary shall be observed. The secretary shall, inter alia, discharge on behalf of all members of the subcommittee such duties assigned to him by the subcommittee or devolving upon him in consequence of action taken by the subcommittee.

48. As the preparation for the in-depth review of chapter 17 by the Commission on Sustainable Development at its 1996 session will be one of the main tasks of the subcommittee, IACSD agreed that the adequacy of these secretariat arrangements will be reviewed by the Committee after the 1996 session of the Commission, taking into account the recommendations by the Commission on follow-up in the important domain of oceans and coastal areas.

49. In the light of the above, the Committee decided to recommend to ACC the establishment of an ACC subcommittee on oceans and coastal areas (see paras. 3 and 4 above).

H. Preparations for the twenty-seventh series of Joint Meetings of the Committee for Programme and Coordination and the Administrative Committee on Coordination

50. The Committee reviewed briefly the preliminary draft of the background paper submitted by the Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development of the United Nations Secretariat. It was agreed that the suggested list of issues for discussion at the CPC/ACC Joint Meetings should be revised in the light of comments made by members of the Committee. Further comments, if any, on the draft would be communicated to the Department in the next few days so that the paper could be finalized in time for the CPC/ACC Joint Meetings.

I. Provisional agenda for the 3rd meeting

51. The Committee discussed its future programme of work in the light of the multi-year thematic programme of work of the Commission on Sustainable Development and agreed to the provisional agenda for its 3rd meeting, to be held in March 1994 (see annex III).

52. Members of the Committee stressed the need for adequate preparation of its meetings. It was suggested that at each session the Committee should review progress in the implementation of its decisions and focus its discussion on substantive issues related to the multi-year programme of work of the Commission on Sustainable Development. The representative of IFAD emphasized the need to streamline the coordination process and for speedy transmission of documents for IACSD meetings through fax or E-mail to facilitate result-oriented meetings. IFAD also requested consideration of occasional meetings in Europe, where many IACSD members are based. It was also emphasized that to facilitate the work of the Committee, working documents on each of its agenda items should be prepared and circulated in advance and reports of its subsidiary bodies and ad hoc working groups should be preceded by an executive summary drawing attention to the actions required by the Committee.

J. Other matters

Division of labour and access to resources

53. The representative of the Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development of the United Nations Secretariat briefed the Committee on the background to the request of ACC addressed to the Consultative Committee on Programme and Operational Questions (CCPOQ) to develop, in consultation with IACSD, a methodology for addressing the issue of the division of labour within the United Nations system and related questions of access to resources. CCPOQ was expected to take up this matter at its meeting, which was to be held from 20 to 24 September 1993. The Committee noted that it had devoted considerable attention to this matter in the context of the follow-up to Agenda 21. It had worked out processes for coordination and sharing of responsibilities which were reflected in its reports on the basis of the guidelines and principles identified by the ACC Task Force on Environment and Development. <sup>3/</sup> It was agreed that the relevant parts of its reports on its 1st and 2nd meetings relating to the allocation of responsibilities and financing should be communicated to CCPOQ so that the work done by IACSD could be taken into account in the report to ACC.

54. With respect to "Development Watch" and the recommendations of the Commission on Sustainable Development for the development of this activity in cooperation with Earthwatch, UNEP informed the Committee that an in-depth study of its long-standing Earthwatch activity was being undertaken to refocus its current activities and establish an appropriate structure and framework for its future work in accordance with the requirements of Agenda 21. This review was being undertaken with the technical support and involvement of all partners. A new effort was also being organized to develop environmental and sustainable indicators and a meeting was being planned jointly with the Department for Economic and Social Information and Policy Analysis of the United Nations Secretariat for this purpose from 1 to 3 December 1993. An inter-agency consultation was also being envisaged before the end of the year.

55. The challenge for "Development Watch" will be to select the data and indicators that best measure the status of development in ways that can be compared globally, building on the experience of such measures as the UNDP Human Development Index, but covering more completely the issues raised in Agenda 21. This will be a difficult task requiring reliable and globally comparable data, agreement on standard definitions and methodologies, and definition of a set of indicators for each of the major issues for which Agenda 21 sets goals, paying careful attention to the need for balance. The resulting development indicators will need to be combined with a comparable set of environment indicators to produce indicators of sustainable development. UNEP had just reviewed the present status of work on environment indicators, and was cooperating with the Statistical Division of the United Nations Secretariat to ensure better coordination and rapid progress in this field.

Notes

1/ See report of the ACC Task Force on Environment and Development, chap. 2.

2/ See report of the Commission on Sustainable Development on its first session (E/1993/25/Add.1), para. 37.

3/ See report of the ACC Task Force on Environment and Development, chap. 2.



Annex I

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Chairman: N. Desai (United Nations)

Secretary: S. Khan (United Nations)

United Nations entities and programmes

United Nations	M. Stoby J. P. Levy C. Constantinou L. Flanders T. Hadj-Sadok P. Najlis J. Holst A. Vasilyev H. Morita-Lou
United Nations International Drug Control Programme	S. Bryant
United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)	G. Rao A. Celik
Regional commissions (New York Office)	H. Schmidt
United Nations Conference on Trade and Development	C. Fortin G. Kell
United Nations Environment Programme*	S. M. Osman
United Nations Children's Fund	D. Bajracharya
United Nations Development Programme*	G. Edgren L. Gomez-Echeverri E. Wilkens
United Nations Population Fund	A. Jorgensen-Dahl S. L. N. Rao
World Food Programme	D. Coutts

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\* Core member of the Inter-Agency Committee on Sustainable Development.

Specialized agencies and related organizations

International Labour Organisation\*

I. Chambers  
L. R. Kohler

Food and Agriculture Organization of the  
United Nations\*

P. J. Mahler  
F. H. Weibgen

United Nations Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization\*

G. Glaser  
M. Ashraf

World Health Organization\*

W. Kreisel

World Bank\*

A. Steer

International Monetary Fund

R. Bhatia  
D. Nellor

International Telecommunication Union

J. Ernberg

World Meteorological Organization\*

S. Chacowry

International Maritime Organization

J. Wonham

International Fund for Agricultural Development

A. Kesseba

United Nations Industrial Development  
Organization

A. Tcheknavorian-Asenbaur  
B. Karlsson

\* \* \*

International Atomic Energy Agency\*

M. S. Opelz

General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade

J. Chakarian

Annex II

AGENDA

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Matters arising from meetings of the Economic and Social Council, the Commission on Sustainable Development and other intergovernmental bodies.
3. Matters arising from meetings of the Administrative Committee on Coordination and preparations for the Administrative Committee on Coordination discussions on the follow-up to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development.
4. Allocating and sharing responsibilities for the implementation of Agenda 21 by the United Nations system.
5. Monitoring new and additional financing requirements of organizations of the United Nations system related to Agenda 21, taking into account the decisions of their governing bodies.
6. Assessing new and existing reporting requirements related to the implementation of Agenda 21 and making recommendations for their streamlining.
7. System-wide preparations for intergovernmental meetings in the sustainable development area.
8. Coordination in the field of ocean affairs.
9. Preparations for the twenty-seventh series of Joint Meetings of the Committee for Programme and Coordination and the Administrative Committee on Coordination.
10. Provisional agenda for the 3rd meeting.
11. Other matters.
12. Adoption of the report of the meeting.

Annex III

PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE 3RD MEETING OF THE INTER-AGENCY  
COMMITTEE ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Matters arising from meetings of the Economic and Social Council, the Commission on Sustainable Development and other intergovernmental bodies.
3. Allocating and sharing responsibilities for the implementation of Agenda 21 by the United Nations system:
  - (a) Cross-sectoral clusters;
  - (b) Sectoral clusters:
    - (i) Toxic chemicals;
    - (ii) Hazardous wastes;
    - (iii) Fresh water;
    - (iv) Human settlements;
    - (v) Health.
4. Monitoring new and additional financing requirements of organizations of the United Nations system related to Agenda 21, taking into account the decisions of their governing bodies.
5. Assessing new and existing reporting requirements related to the implementation of Agenda 21 and making recommendations for their streamlining.
6. System-wide preparations for intergovernmental meetings in the sustainable development area.
7. Provisional agenda for the 4th meeting.
8. Other matters.
9. Adoption of the report of the meeting.

Annex IV

ACC SUBCOMMITTEE ON OCEANS AND COASTAL AREAS

A. SCOPE

1. The scope of coordination within the United Nations system in this field has been broadly defined in chapter 17 of Agenda 21 as follows:

(a) Integrated management and sustainable development of coastal areas, including exclusive economic zones;

(b) Marine environmental protection;

(c) Sustainable use and conservation of marine living resources of the high seas;

(d) Sustainable use and conservation of marine living resources under national jurisdiction;

(e) Addressing critical uncertainties for the management of the marine environment and climate change;

(f) Strengthening international, including regional, cooperation and coordination;

(g) Sustainable development of small islands.

2. Elements (a) to (f) provide the framework for the activities of the proposed subcommittee. With regard to element (g), coordination requirements at this stage would relate to points (a) to (f) above. Later needs would be determined in the light of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island States to be held in April 1994.

B. OBJECTIVES

3. The objectives of cooperation and coordination, as stated in chapter 17 of Agenda 21, are:

(a) To integrate relevant sectoral activities addressing environment and development in marine and coastal areas at the national, subregional, regional and global levels, as appropriate;

(b) To promote effective information exchange and, where appropriate, institutional linkages between bilateral and multilateral national, regional, subregional and interregional institutions dealing with environment and development in marine and coastal areas;

(c) To promote within the United Nations system regular intergovernmental review and consideration of environment and development issues with respect to marine and coastal areas;

(d) To promote the effective operation of coordinating mechanisms for the components of the United Nations system dealing with issues of environment and development in marine and coastal areas, as well as links with relevant international development bodies.

#### C. TERMS OF REFERENCE

4. Bearing in mind the requirements contained in paragraph 17.118 of chapter 17 of Agenda 21, the subcommittee shall:

(a) Monitor and review progress in the implementation of chapter 17 (a)-(f) and related matters of (g) of Agenda 21 and report thereon to IACSD;

(b) Prepare proposals to IACSD and other relevant bodies to enhance the effectiveness of cooperation and coordination, and facilitate such in the implementation of chapter 17 of Agenda 21, including financial means;

(c) Consider and give effect to the possibilities and means of joint activities and programming for the implementation of chapter 17 of Agenda 21;

(d) Identify the needs for and facilitate the coordination of activities of the United Nations system relating to chapter 17 of Agenda 21;

(e) Interact with joint scientific advisory bodies such as the Joint Group of Experts on the Scientific Aspects of Marine Pollution (GESAMP) which may provide the scientific basis for policy recommendations;

(f) Enhance exchange of information, including information on relevant intergovernmental agreements and decisions, existing and proposed programmes, operational activities, and cooperative and coordinating arrangements; and promote, where appropriate, harmonized and shared information systems;

(g) Assist in the preparation of system-wide reports, as required, on developments with respect to oceans and coastal area issues and the implementation of Agenda 21 as regards the protection of the oceans, all kinds of seas, including enclosed and semi-enclosed seas, and coastal areas and the protection, rational use and development of their living resources, and related capacity-building.

5. In carrying out its responsibilities, the subcommittee shall take fully into account the competence and mandates of the relevant organizations and take advantage of existing collaborative and coordination arrangements among them to enhance the efficiency and cost-effectiveness of its work. Proposals and recommendations for implementation by the participating organizations will be subject to their usual administrative and constitutional processes.

#### D. COMPOSITION AND PARTICIPATION

6. The subcommittee shall be composed of the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system and multilateral development finance institutions with substantial programmes in marine and coastal affairs.

7. The subcommittee may arrange special meetings at which other organizations, including non-governmental organizations and intergovernmental organizations that have a major interest in specific issues related to marine and coastal affairs could participate when those issues are considered by the subcommittee.

#### E. PROGRAMME OF WORK AND REPORTING ARRANGEMENTS

8. The subcommittee shall prepare its programme of work under the guidance of the Inter-Agency Committee on Sustainable Development, taking into account the multi-year programme of work of the Commission on Sustainable Development and its reporting requirements. The work programme would also need to take into account the new and emerging issues that require the attention of the Commission in this field.

9. The subcommittee shall develop and implement its programme of work by identifying organizations with major activities and interest in specific issues relating to marine and coastal affairs as "task managers" which would be responsible for developing cooperative arrangements for joint programmes and projects and providing coordinated inputs for the reports of the subcommittee. The secretariat of the subcommittee (see para. 15 below) shall act as the focal point in this process.

10. The subcommittee may utilize ad hoc working groups, task forces or working parties to develop proposals and documentation for its subsequent consideration.

11. The subcommittee shall report to the Inter-Agency Committee on Sustainable Development.

#### F. MEETINGS

12. The subcommittee shall normally meet once a year and may hold special sessions when required. Taking account of the fact that the Commission for Sustainable Development is expected to review the marine and coastal issues at its session in 1996 and the inputs of the United Nations system would need to be prepared in a coherent and timely manner, the 1st meeting of the subcommittee will need to be held in 1994.

13. The meetings of the subcommittee shall normally be held at the headquarters of member organizations on a rotating basis.

#### G. OFFICERS

14. In order to ensure continuity as well as rotation, the chairman of the subcommittee shall be elected normally for a non-renewable term of two years. a/

#### H. SECRETARIAT

15. The secretariat shall assist the subcommittee in preparing and organizing meetings, coordinating the preparation of its reports, following up its recommendations and maintaining links with other relevant organizations and coordination mechanisms. It will fulfil these functions in consultation with the chairman of the subcommittee. While carrying out its tasks the secretariat shall respect fully the lead functions of several main United Nations actors in the implementation of various programmes and subprogrammes of Agenda 21, chapter 17. UNESCO shall provide, through its IOC, the secretariat for the subcommittee. In order to ensure that the scheduling of meetings and the preparation of the programme of work of the subcommittee is adequately consolidated with the other parts of the inter-agency as well as the intergovernmental follow-up to UNCED, the secretariat and a dedicated liaison person in the Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development of the United Nations Secretariat will develop a close working relationship.

16. The secretariat will require a full-time professional at the P-5 level. The principle of the separation of substantive representation in the subcommittee from the functions of the secretary shall be observed. The secretary shall, inter alia, discharge on behalf of all members of the subcommittee such duties assigned to him by the subcommittee or devolving upon him in consequence of action taken by the subcommittee.

#### Notes

a/ The suggestion was made that the subcommittee may consider having a vice-chairman.



Annex V

TASK MANAGERS AND COOPERATING ORGANIZATIONS

A. Critical elements of sustainability

Task manager: Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development of the United Nations Secretariat (UNDPCSD)

Other relevant organizations: World Bank, IMF, GATT, UNCTAD, FAO, WHO, ILO, UNESCO, IFAD, UNIDO, UNDP, UNICEF, UNEP, UNCHS (Habitat), UNFPA, WFP, regional commissions, UNDESIPA.

B. Financial resources and mechanisms

Task manager: UNDP

Other relevant organizations: World Bank, IMF, UNCTAD, ILO, FAO, WHO, UNESCO, IFAD, UNIDO, UNDP, UNICEF, UNEP, UNCHS (Habitat), UNFPA, WFP, ITU, regional commissions, UNDESIPA.

C. Education, science, transfer of environmentally sound technologies, cooperation and capacity-building

1. Education and science

Task manager: UNESCO

Other relevant organizations: World Bank, UNCTAD, FAO, ILO, WHO, IFAD, UNIDO, UNDP, UNICEF, UNEP, UNCHS (Habitat), UNU, UNFPA, WFP, ITU, regional commissions, UNDP.

2. Transfer of environmentally sound technologies

Task manager: UNDP

Other relevant organizations: World Bank, UNCTAD, FAO, ILO, WHO, IFAD, UNIDO, UNDP, UNEP, UNCHS (Habitat), WFP, IAEA, ITU, ICAO, WIPO, UNESCO, regional commissions.

3. Cooperation and capacity-building

Task manager: UNDP

Other relevant organizations: World Bank, IMF, ILO, FAO, UNESCO, ICAO, WHO, UPU, ITU, WMO, IMO, WIPO, IFAD, UNIDO, IAEA, GATT, WTO, UNCTAD, UNICEF, UNEP, UNFPA, WFP, UNCHS (Habitat), UNDRR, UNHCR, UNDCP, INSTRAW, UNITAR, regional commissions, UNDP.

D. Decision-making structures

Task manager: UNDP/PCSD

Other relevant organizations: UNDP, World Bank, IMF, ILO, FAO, UNESCO, IFAD, UNIDO, GATT, UNCTAD, UNICEF, UNEP, ITU, IAEA, regional commissions.

E. Roles of major groups

Task manager: UNDP/PCSD

Other relevant organizations: FAO, ILO, IFAD, UNIDO, UNICEF, UNEP, UNFPA, UNCHS (Habitat), WFP, INSTRAW, UNIFEM, UNESCO, UNDP, UN/ECE.

F. Health, human settlements and freshwater

1. Health

Task manager: WHO

Other relevant organizations: UNICEF, UNCHS (Habitat), World Bank, FAO, UNDP, UNEP, UNFPA, ITU, ILO, IAEA, UNESCO, UNDP/PCSD.

2. Human settlements

Task manager: UNCHS (Habitat)

Other relevant organizations: WHO, UNICEF, World Bank, FAO, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNDP, ITU, ILO, UN/ECE, UNDP/PCSD.

3. Freshwater

Task manager: ACC Subcommittee on Water Resources

Other relevant organizations: FAO, UNCHS (Habitat), WMO, UNICEF, World Bank, UNDP, UNESCO, UNEP, IAEA, UN/ECE, UNDP/PCSD.

G. Toxic chemicals and hazardous wastes

1. Toxic chemicals

Task manager: UNEP

Other relevant organizations: WHO, FAO, ILO, UNIDO, UNDP, World Bank, GATT, IAEA, UN/ECE, UNDP/PCSD.

## 2. Hazardous wastes

Task manager: UNEP

Other relevant organizations: WHO, ILO, UNIDO, IAEA, UNDP, World Bank, UNESCO, IMO, UNDPSCD.

### H. Land, fragile ecosystems, forests and sustainable agriculture and rural development

Task manager: FAO

Other relevant organizations: ILO, UNESCO, WHO, World Bank, WMO, WIPO, IFAD, UNIDO, IAEA, GATT, UNCTAD, UNDP, UNEP, UNICEF, UNFPA, WFP, UNCHS (Habitat), UNDPSCD.

### I. World climate programme and drought monitoring

Task manager: WMO

Other relevant organizations: ILO, FAO, UNESCO, ICAO, WHO, World Bank, ITU, IMO, WIPO, IFAD, UNIDO, UNCTAD, UNDP, UNEP, UNICEF, UNFPA, WFP, UNCHS (Habitat), IAEA, UNDPSCD.

### J. Environmental law, ozone and transboundary atmospheric pollution, desertification, biodiversity and Earthwatch

Task manager: UNEP

Other relevant organizations: ILO, FAO, UNESCO, WHO, World Bank, ICAO, ITU, WMO, IMO, WIPO, IFAD, UNIDO, IAEA, GATT, UNCTAD, UNDP, UNEP, UNICEF, UNFPA, WFP, UN/ECE, UNDPSCD, UNDESIPA.

### K. Biotechnology

Task manager: UNIDO

Other relevant organizations: ILO, FAO, UNESCO, WHO, World Bank, WMO, IMO, WIPO, IFAD, IAEA, GATT, UNCTAD, UNDP, UNEP, UNICEF, UNFPA, WFP, UNDPSCD.