



General Assembly

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PREPARATORY COMMITTEE FOR THE UNITED NATIONS  
CONFERENCE ON ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT  
Second session  
Geneva 18 March-5 (or 12) April 1991  
Working Group III  
Agenda item 4

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE WORKING GROUP

Rapporteur: Mr. John Sloan (Canada)

Draft report

I

ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

1. Working Group III held \_\_\_ meetings, (1st to \_\_\_), from 2 to \_\_\_ April 1991.
2. At its 1st meeting, on 2 April, the Working Group elected, by acclamation, three Vice-Chairmen and a Rapporteur. As a result, the officers for the first session were:  

<u>Chairman</u> :	Bedrich Moldan (Czechoslovakia)
<u>Vice-Chairmen</u> :	Oswaldo de Rivero (Peru)
	Reynaldo Arcilla (Philippines)
	Albert Muchanga (Zambia)
<u>Rapporteur</u> :	John Sloan (Canada)
3. The Working Group considered its agenda and organization of work at its 1st and 2nd meetings, on 2 April. It had before it the following documents:
  - (a) Provisional agenda (A/CONF.151/PC/WG.III/1);
  - (b) Report of the Secretary-General of the Conference on the Working Group on legal, institutional and all related matters (A/CONF.151/PC/L.31).
4. At its 1st meeting, on 2 April, the Working Group heard statements by the representatives of Tunisia, Ghana (on behalf of the States Members of the

United Nations that are members of the Group of 77), Benin, India, the Netherlands (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Communities), Austria, Peru, New Zealand, Mexico, Australia, Kenya, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Myanmar, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Brazil, Nepal, the Philippines, the United Kingdom, Sweden, Italy and Hungary.

5. At its 2nd meeting, on 2 April, the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development made a statement.

6. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Tunisia, Austria, Benin, China, Hungary, Canada, the Netherlands (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Communities) and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

7. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Ghana (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77) proposed to revise the provisional agenda for the session by deleting items 2, 3 and 4 and inserting the following item: "Start of the preliminary exchange of views on all matters pertaining to the terms of reference of Working Group III, as adopted, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 44/228". A footnote appended to the item was also proposed, as follows: "The preliminary views may be taken into consideration in the elaboration of the report(s) that the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development will prepare for the purpose of the next sessions of the Preparatory Committee when all delegations and interested groups, should they wish to do so, have presented their views".

8. At the same meeting, the Working Group adopted its provisional agenda, which was issued in document A/CONF.151/PC/WG.III/3, as follows:

1. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
2. Start of the preliminary exchange of views on all matters pertaining to the terms of reference of Working Group III, as adopted, in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 44/228. \*/
3. Provisional agenda for the second session of the Working Group.
4. Adoption of the report of the Working Group on its first session.

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\*/ The preliminary views may be taken into consideration in the elaboration of the report(s) that the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development will prepare for the purpose of the next sessions of the Preparatory Committee when all delegations and interested groups, should they wish to do so, have presented their views.

II

START OF THE PRELIMINARY EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON ALL  
MATTERS PERTAINING TO THE TERMS OF REFERENCE OF  
WORKING GROUP III, AS ADOPTED, IN ACCORDANCE WITH  
THE PROVISIONS OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 44/228

9. The Working Group considered agenda item 2 at its 3rd to 4th meetings, on 3 April. It had before it the following documents:

(a) Progress report of the Secretary-General of the Conference on institutions (A/CONF.151/PC/36);

(b) Letter dated 19 March 1991 from the Head of the delegation of Austria to the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development at its second session addressed to the Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (A/CONF.151/PC/L.29);

(c) Note by the secretariat on legal issues for Working Group III (A/CONF.151/PC/WG.III/2);

(d) Letter dated 26 March 1991 from the Head of the delegation of Austria to the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development at its second session addressed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (A/CONF.151/PC/WG.III/L.1).

10. At its 3rd and 4th meetings, on 3 April, the Working Group heard statements by the representatives of Mexico, Austria, Brazil, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Finland, the United States of America, Barbados, Sweden, Japan, Argentina, Australia, Czechoslovakia, Malta, Malaysia, Norway, Venezuela, Canada, Chile, India, New Zealand, Yugoslavia and Mauritius.

11. The representative of the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations made a statement.

12. The representative of the Asian-African Legal Consultative Committee made a statement.

13. Representatives of the following non-governmental organizations also made statements: Baha'i International Community, World Citizens Assembly and the International Union of Legal Authorities.

14. The Chairman made a concluding statement.

15. The Working Group thus concluded its consideration of item 2 of its agenda.

III

PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE SECOND SESSION OF THE WORKING GROUP

16. At its 4th meeting, on 3 April, the Working Group began its consideration of item 3.

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