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REPORT OF THE IIPC TO THE GOVERNING COUNCIL ON ITS WORK

I. INTRODUCTION

1. Governing Council decision 11/3 of 23 May 1983 decided to establish an open-ended intergovernmental inter-sessional preparatory committee to assist it in carrying out its mandate in regard to the Environmental Perspective and affirmed that the Environmental Perspective should be prepared by the Governing Council through its intergovernmental inter-sessional preparatory committee and transmitted to the General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council by the Governing Council.
2. General Assembly resolution 38/161 of 19 December 1983:
 - (a) Approved the decision of the Governing Council to establish, in order to assist it in fulfilling its mandate in regard to the Environmental Perspective and to report to it in that respect, an intergovernmental inter-sessional preparatory committee to articulate to the Special Commission, later known as the World Commission on Environment and Development, at an early stage in its work the Governing Council's expectations on the matters it hoped would receive consideration by the Commission;
 - (b) Noted that the Commission, at a preliminary stage of formulation of its conclusions, on matters within the mandate and purview of the United Nations Environment Programme, should make them known to the Committee, with a view to giving consideration to any views thereon;
 - (c) Noted that the cost of the intergovernmental inter-sessional preparatory committee would not result in any net increase in the regular budget of the United Nations;
 - (d) Suggested that the Special Commission should, inter alia, receive the views of Governments, principally through the Governing Council and its intergovernmental inter-sessional preparatory committee;

(e) Decided that on matters within the mandate and purview of the United Nations Environment Programme, the report of the Special Commission should, in the first instance, be considered by the Governing Council of the Programme, for transmission to the General Assembly together with its comments and for use as basic material in the preparation, for adoption by the General Assembly, of the Environmental Perspective.

3. Governing Council decision 12/1 decided upon the membership of the open-ended Intergovernmental Inter-sessional Preparatory Committee (IIPC), which was slightly amended later by decision 13/4, and considered that the relationship of the IIPC with the World Commission on Environment and Development (WCED), entailed the IIPC, inter alia, to: consider the final report of the Commission, prepare comments on it and drawing on its recommendations, propose an Environmental Perspective for transmission by the Governing Council to the General Assembly.

4. Governing Council decision 13/4 (Parts A and B):

(a) Invited Governments to make written contributions to assist the process of preparing the Environmental Perspective;

(b) Invited the IIPC and the WCED to continue their co-operation until their respective responsibilities are fulfilled;

(c) Invited the WCED to make known to the IIPC its conclusions, at a preliminary stage of formulation, with a view to giving consideration to the views of the IIPC;

(d) Expressed the hope that the WCED's report would be available at an early stage to allow the IIPC to make best use of it as basic material for the preparation of the Environmental Perspective.

II. DIALOGUE BETWEEN THE IIPC AND THE WCED

5. The IIPC conducted its work following the guidance and directives of the Governing Council and the General Assembly and ensured that the linked process involving a commission of independent eminent persons and an intergovernmental committee in the preparation of the Perspective was followed as closely as possible. Towards this end, it:

(a) Brought to the attention of the WCED and made available to it decisions of the Governing Council and UNEP documents;

(b) Transmitted to the WCED at an early stage of its work the Governing Council's expectations on the matters it hoped that the WCED would take into account in its work, as well as comments of the Governing Council on the WCED's "Mandate for Change" document;

(c) Transmitted to the WCED copies of written contributions received from Governments in the process of preparing the Environmental Perspective;

(d) Transmitted to the WCED reports of all sessions of the IIPC;

(e) Transmitted to the WCED drafts of the Environmental Perspective prepared by the IIPC;

(f) Held consultations with the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary-General, and members of the WCED in conjunction with the IIPC's consultative and some regular sessions;

(g) Held consultations with the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and members of the WCED in conjunction with the WCED's sessions in Jakarta, Ottawa and Tokyo, as well as a special consultation between the IIPC's Chairman and the WCED's Chairman in Oslo, prior to the finalization of the WCED's report;

(h) Made available to the WCED, in response to its request, a paper on the subject of "Institutional Arrangements for International Environmental Cooperation";

(i) Provided to the WCED its views on the reports of expert panels convened by the WCED on "Food Security", "Energy", "Industry" and "Environmental Law".

(j) Drew upon the WCED's report as envisaged by the General Assembly resolution 38/161 to develop the Environmental Perspective to the Year 2000 and Beyond, and also drew upon the WCED's "Mandate for Change" document which reflected the WCED's approach to preparing its report, as well as expert panel reports which the WCED made available to the IIPC in lieu of the WCED's "preliminary conclusions".

6. As a result of the dialogue between the WCED and IIPC as indicated in para. 5 above, the conceptual approach to deal with environmental issues as reflected in the two documents is broadly similar. Similarly, the recommendations contained in the WCED's report and in the draft of the Environmental Perspective submitted by the IIPC to Governing Council for its considerations are also, in general, mutually supportive.

III. PROCESS OF PREPARING ENVIRONMENTAL PERSPECTIVE

7. The IIPC was guided by Governing Council decision 9/3 which endorsed the view of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination that the Environmental Perspective should attempt to define shared perceptions of long-term environmental issues and the appropriate efforts needed to deal with problems of protecting and enhancing the environment, help define long-term agenda for action during the coming decades and set aspirational goals for the world community. In addition, it was guided by the directive of the General Assembly 38/161 and the Governing Council decision 11/3 which indicated that the report of the Commission was to be used as basic material in the preparation of the Environmental Perspective. Despite the fact that the Commission's report could be available to the Committee only by mid-March 1987, the Committee made every effort to draw upon it appropriately, within the time available to it, in order to present to the Governing Council, for its consideration at its fourteenth session, the draft Environmental Perspective.

8. Since the WCED could not agree on its conclusions before the end of February 1987, it could not make available to the IIPC its "preliminary conclusions" with a view to obtaining IIPC's views thereon. The dialogue between the IIPC and the WCED, as stated in Section II above, however, helped the process of preparation of the Environmental Perspective.

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Annex I

SESSIONS OF THE IIPC

	<u>Venue</u>	<u>Dates</u>
First session	Nairobi	28-29 May 1984
Second session	Nairobi	22-23 May 1985
Third session	Nairobi	2-3 December 1985
Fourth session	Nairobi	20 February 1986
Consultative Session with WCED	Nairobi	7 March 1986
Fifth session	Nairobi	19 June 1986
Consultative Session with WCED	Nairobi	22 September 1986
Sixth session	Nairobi	15 January 1987
Seventh session	Nairobi	24-27 March 1987
Eighth session	Nairobi	27-30 April 1987

CONSULTATIONS OF IIPC WITH WCED AT WCED MEETINGS

<u>Venue</u>	<u>Dates</u>
Jakarta, Indonesia	27-29 March 1985
Ottawa, Canada	24 May 1986
Oslo, Norway	27-28 January 1987
Tokyo, Japan	25-27 February 1987
