



# **Commission on Sustainable Development**

**Report on the Second Session**

**(16-27 May 1994)**

**Economic and Social Council**

**Official Records, 1994**

**Supplement No. 13**

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## NOTE

Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of capital letters combined with figures. Mention of such a symbol indicates a reference to a United Nations document.

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## Chapter VII

### OTHER MATTERS

1. At the 5th meeting, on 25 May 1994, the Chairman introduced a draft decision (E/CN.17/1994/L.9) entitled "Matters related to the inter-sessional work of the Commission".

2. At the 10th meeting, on 27 May, the Under-Secretary for External Affairs of Mexico made a statement.

3. At the same meeting, after a statement by the representative of Morocco, the Commission adopted the draft decision (see chap. I, sect. F).

## Chapter VIII

### HIGH-LEVEL MEETING

1. The Commission considered item 8 of its agenda at the 6th to 10th meetings, on 25, 26 and 27 May 1994. It had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on policy issues that may be addressed at the high-level meeting of the Commission on Sustainable Development (E/CN.17/1994/8);

(b) Report of the High-level Advisory Board on Sustainable Development on its second session (E/CN.17/1994/13);

(c) Letter dated 4 May 1994 from the Permanent Representative of Malaysia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Intergovernmental Working Group on Global Forests, held at Kuala Lumpur from 18 to 21 April 1994.

2. At the 6th meeting, on 25 May, the Secretary-General addressed the Commission.

3. At the same meeting, statements were made by the Minister for Environment and Forests of India; the Permanent Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations; the Minister of Environment and the Amazon of Brazil; the Under-Secretary of Environment, Town Planning and Public Works of Greece; the Commissioner for the Environment of the European Commission; the Minister of the Environment, Human Settlements and Urbanism of Benin; the Secretary of State for the Environment of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland; the Minister of Science, Technology and Environment of Malaysia; the Minister of the Environment of Colombia; the Minister for Development Cooperation of the Netherlands; the Minister for the Environment, Sport and Territories of Australia; and the Minister of the Environment of Italy.

4. At the 7th meeting, on 26 May, the Commission heard statements by the Parliamentary Vice-Minister for the Environment of Japan; the Minister of Environment and Parliamentary Affairs of Sri Lanka; the Deputy Minister of Environment of the Czech Republic; the Federal Minister for the Environment, Youth and Family of Austria; the Permanent Secretary, National Action Plan, and Special Representative of the Prime Minister of Pakistan; the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for the Environment and Deputy Prime Minister of Canada; the Deputy Minister for Environment, Natural Resources and Forestry of Poland; the Minister of Environment of France; the Minister for the Environment of Barbados; the Minister of the Environment and Natural Resources of Sweden; the Minister of Environment of the Republic of Korea; the Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations; and the Minister of Health and Environment of the Bahamas.

5. At the same meeting, statements were made by the Deputy Secretary-General of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development, as well as by the representative of the International Organization of Consumers Unions on behalf of a group of non-governmental organizations.

6. At the 8th meeting, on 26 May, the Commission heard statements by the Deputy Administrator, National Environment Protection Agency of China; the

Minister of the Environment of Norway; the Secretary for Socio-Economic Planning and Chairman, Philippines Council for Sustainable Development; the Minister of Environment of Indonesia; the representative of Egypt; the Minister for the Environment of Singapore; the representative of the Russian Federation; the Deputy Chief of Staff to the Minister of Environment of Belgium; the Secretary-General of the Ministry of the Environment of Iceland; the Under-Secretary to the Minister of Housing, Physical Planning and Environment of Uruguay; the Deputy Minister of the Environment of Bulgaria; and the Director, Ministry of Environment of the United Republic of Tanzania.

7. At the 9th meeting, on 27 May, the Commission heard statements by the Director-General, Foreign Ministry of Hungary; the Director-General of International Relations, Ministry of the Environment of Venezuela; the Minister for the Environment of Denmark; the Minister of Primary Industries of Malaysia; the Minister of Environment of France; the Minister for the Environment and Deputy Prime Minister of Canada; the Minister for Environment and Forests of India; the Minister of Environment and Tourism of Namibia; the representative of Greece (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union); the Minister for Water, Forests and the Environment of Gabon; the Minister of Sustainable Development and the Environment of Bolivia; the Minister of Environment and the Amazon of Brazil; the Secretary of State for the Environment of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland; the Counsellor of the Department of State of the United States of America; the representative of Finland; the Minister of Housing, Physical Planning and Environment of the Netherlands; the Permanent Representative of Belarus to the United Nations; the Minister of the Environment and Natural Resources of Sweden; the Permanent Representative of Cuba to the United Nations; the Director, Federal Office of Environment, Forests and Landscape of Switzerland; the Parliamentary Vice-Minister for the Environment of Japan; the representative of New Zealand; the Minister of the Environment of Colombia; and the Deputy Administrator, National Environment Protection Agency of China.

8. At the same meeting, statements were made by the Commissioner for the Environment of the European Community, the representatives of two non-governmental organizations and the Under-Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development.

9. At the 10th meeting, on 27 May, the Chairman read out his summary of the high-level meeting (see chap. II above).

10. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Brazil, India, Bolivia, Greece (on behalf of the European Union), Colombia, Barbados, Venezuela, Algeria (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77), Malaysia, Australia, Ecuador, Peru, the United States of America and Norway (also on behalf of Denmark, Finland, Iceland and Sweden). Upon the request of the representative of Brazil, the following statement is included in the report:

"With respect to your (the Chairman's) summary, in the section on forests, this delegation wants to reiterate the Brazilian position, stated earlier in the plenary by our Minister of the Environment, to the effect that we understand the Commission on Sustainable Development to be the central body responsible for conducting and monitoring all aspects, and I stress all aspects, of implementing Rio decisions on the issue. We note in this respect that the proposals which have been put forward in the Chairman's summary perhaps extend too much the range of alternatives of



negotiation, with unpredictable results for the coordinating role of this Commission.

"In our view, therefore, the Chairman's summary has not entirely reflected the decision of this Commission to assign to the Inter-sessional Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Sectoral Issues the role of setting the guidelines and elements of coordination for the various initiatives that are sprouting in connection with an acknowledged international interest with regard to the issue of forests.

"We also would like to express our disappointment over the fact that the Inter-sessional Working Group that we have just established by consensus is not being given the proper opportunity to perform its functions, which would require it to meet beforehand, in the month of September or so, in order to coordinate the process which is now being characterized by a multiplicity of initiatives."

11. At the same meeting, a statement was made on behalf of the non-governmental organizations. The Chairman also made a statement.

12. Also at the same meeting, the Commission agreed to include the Chairman's summary in the report of the Commission.

## Chapter IX

### PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE THIRD SESSION OF THE COMMISSION

At the 10th meeting, on 27 May 1994, the Commission considered the provisional agenda for its third session, and recommended that the Economic and Social Council approve the provisional agenda (see chap. I, sect. E).

## Chapter X

### ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON ITS SECOND SESSION

1. At the 10th meeting, on 27 May 1994, the Rapporteur introduced the draft report of the Commission on its second session (E/CN.17/1994/L.1-11 and four additional papers in English only, including the Chairman's summary).
2. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted the report.
3. After the adoption of the report, the Under-Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development made a statement.

