



General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/51/718
11 December 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Fifty-first session
Agenda item 17 (c)

ELECTIONS TO FILL VACANCIES IN SUBSIDIARY ORGANS
AND OTHER ELECTIONS

Election of the Executive Director of the
United Nations Environment Programme

Note by the Secretary-General

1. The General Assembly, in section II, paragraph 2, of its resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, decided that the secretariat of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) should be headed by the Executive Director of the Programme, who should be elected by the General Assembly, on the nomination of the Secretary-General, for a term of four years.
2. At its forty-seventh session, the General Assembly adopted decision 47/310 of 8 December 1992, by which it elected, on the recommendation of the Secretary-General, Ms. Elizabeth Dowdeswell as Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme for a four-year term, beginning on 1 January 1993. The term of office of the current Executive Director thus expires on 31 December 1996.
3. Bearing in mind the current process of review of the economic and social sectors of the Organization under the aegis of the General Assembly, and pending the outcome of the nineteenth session of the Governing Council of UNEP, to be held in January 1997, and of the special session of the General Assembly on the review of Agenda 21, in June 1997, the Secretary-General recommends to the General Assembly that the term of office of Ms. Elizabeth Dowdeswell as Executive Director of UNEP be extended for a period of one year beginning on 1 January 1997.
