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GLOBAL MINISTERIAL ENVIRONMENT FORUM

COORDINATION AND COOPERATION WITHIN AND OUTSIDE THE UNITED NATIONS,
INCLUDING NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

GOVERNANCE OF THE UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

FOLLOW -UP OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTIONS

LINKAGES AMONG AND SUPPORT TO ENVIRONMENTAL AND
ENVIRONMENT-RELATED CONVENTIONS

Report of the Executive Director

Addendum

Regional seas conventions and action plans

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I. THE ON-GOING STRENGTHENING OF REGIONAL SEAS CONVENTIONS AND ACTION PLANS

A. Background

1. The present report, prepared in pursuance of Governing Council decision 20/19 A, describes progress by the United Nations Environment Programme in the strengthening of the regional seas programme as its central mechanism for implementation of its activities relevant to Chapter 17 of Agenda 21.

Decision 20/19 A also stresses, *inter alia*: promoting the formulation, adoption and implementation of appropriate technical, institutional, administrative and legal measures contributing to improved protection of the marine and coastal environment; the need to consider expanding the regional seas programme to geographical areas not currently covered; the enhancing of linkages and coordination with the secretariats of regional agreements and organizations not under the auspices of UNEP; the enhancing of collaboration with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and other organizations with regard to the environmental aspects of sustainable fisheries; strengthening and expanding research, monitoring, observation and assessment activities, particularly in addressing critical uncertainties related to climate change as it may affect the sustainable management of the marine environment, including closer cooperation with the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO); promoting integrated management and sustainable development of coastal areas and associated river basins; and support to the International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI). Other decisions closely linked to decision 20/19 A include decision 20/18 B (Strengthening the role of the United Nations Environment Programme in promoting collaboration among multilateral environmental conventions and in providing programmatic support to multilateral environmental conventions), 20/19 B (Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-Based Activities), 20/19 D (Small island developing States), 20/20 (Establishment of a regional seas programme for the East Central Pacific), 20/21 (Coral reefs), 20/27 (Support to Africa) and 20/28 (Promoting interlinkages among global environmental issues and human needs).

2. Details of the support to regional seas programmes in follow-up to the above decisions is provided in document UNEP/GC.21/INF.6. This support has been focused largely on (a) land-based sources of pollution, (b) integrated coastal areas management, (c) coral reefs and (d) the development or revision of regional seas conventions and protocols. At the same time, attention has been given to the regional priorities of the respective regional seas conventions and action plans. Resources have been assigned for strengthening the regional coordinating units (RCUs) of the Abidjan Convention for Cooperation in the Protection and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment the West and Central African Region (WACAF/RCU), the Nairobi Convention for the marine and coastal environment of East Africa (EAF/RCU), the Cartagena Convention for the Wider Caribbean (CAR/RCU), the East Asian Seas Action Plan (EAS/RCU) and the Northwest Pacific Action Plan (NOWPAP). Incremental funding from the Global Environment Facility (GEF) has been mobilized for activities in the Wider Caribbean, the Mediterranean Sea, the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden, East Africa, West and Central Africa, the East Asian Action Plan (South China Sea) and the Arctic. Additional project proposals are being prepared for the NOWPAP and South Pacific regions for consideration by GEF. Substantial funds have also been mobilized from the United Nations Foundation (UNF) for the International Coral Reef Action Network (ICRAN), with the start-up and action phases focusing on the Wider Caribbean, East Africa, the East Asian Seas and the South Pacific.

3. The work of UNEP in support of the regional seas programmes and action plans is refined through an intensive consultative process. The primary mechanism for these consultations is the annual Global Meeting of Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans. Since the twentieth session of the Governing Council, two such meetings have been held. These meetings have five objectives: (a) to promote the vitalization of the regional seas programmes, (b) to strengthen the linkages between the regional seas conventions and action plans and global environment conventions and related agreements; (c) to strengthen the linkages between the regional seas programmes and the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities (GPA) through agreed concrete actions, (d) to increase horizontal collaboration among regional seas conventions and action plans in addressing more effectively the protection and sustainable use of the marine environment and (e) to channel more effectively UNEP programmatic

support to the regional seas programmes, particularly in areas complementary to the UNEP programme of work. The Second Global Meeting, held in The Hague from 5 to 8 July 1999, through its recommendations, produced the blueprint for UNEP programmatic support to the revitalization of the regional seas programmes. The final report of the Hague meeting can be accessed through the UNEP regional seas website (www.unep.ch/seas).

4. The Third Global Meeting of Regional Seas Convention and Action Plans was held in Monaco from 6 to 10 November 2000. The meeting was attended by the Directors or Bureau Members of the world's 17 regional seas programmes, as well as the Directors and representatives of the secretariats of eight multilateral environmental agreements, making it the largest meeting ever of multilateral environmental agreements. While a major focus of the Hague meeting had been the linkages with the biodiversity-related conventions and international agreements (the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), the International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI) and the Marine Mammal Action Plan), the Monaco meeting broadened the attention to also include the chemicals-related conventions (the International Maritime Organization Marine Pollution Conventions, the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal, the Rotterdam Convention on Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade, and the development of an international legally binding instrument on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs). Other agenda items included (a) a review of the status of the implementation of the recommendations of the Hague meeting, (b) innovative financing options for regional seas programmes, (c) the 2001 GPA Intergovernmental Review Process and Meeting, (d) the joint UNEP/FAO initiative on cooperation between regional seas programmes and regional fisheries bodies through the ecosystem-based management approach for fisheries, (e) the International Coral Reef Action Network (ICRAN) and (f) strengthening cooperation between the Convention on Biological Diversity and the regional seas programmes in the conservation and sustainable use of marine and coastal biodiversity.

**B. Recommendations of the Third Global Meeting of Regional Seas
Conventions and Action Plans to the twenty-first session
of the Governing Council of UNEP**

5. The recommendations of the Second Global Meeting had served as a blueprint for programming UNEP support to the regional seas programmes for the period 1999 to 2001. The Third Meeting was requested by the Executive Director to build on those recommendations, and it was hoped that the recommendations made with regard to the items on the meeting's agenda would serve as elements for the proposed actions on oceans and coastal areas to be presented to the Governing Council of UNEP at its twenty-first session, in February 2001.

6. The Third Global Meeting also requested that UNEP bring to the attention of the next meeting of the Governing Council the concern over the declining support being allocated to the regional seas programmes, despite the expressed recognition of past Governing Councils (decisions 20/19 A and 19/14 B) that the revitalization of the regional seas conventions and action plans is a UNEP priority. To this end, Governments are urged to increase their contributions to the Environment Fund.

7. The final report, of the Monaco meeting, including recommendations on specific agenda items, is contained in document UNEP/GC.21/INF.14. The recommendations of that meeting are reflected below under suggested actions by the Governing Council.

II. THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NORTHWEST PACIFIC ACTION PLAN (NOWPAP)

8. In pursuance of Governing Council decision 20/19 A, progress has been made to date in strengthening the implementation of the Action Plan for the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Northwest Pacific Region (NOWPAP). The Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme at its fifteenth session, held in Nairobi from 15-26 May 1989, in its decision 15/1, annex, approved the preparation of a new regional seas action plan for the Northwest Pacific.

Since its adoption at the First Intergovernmental Meeting (Seoul, Republic of Korea, 4 September 1994), UNEP has served as the interim secretariat of NOWPAP and as convener of its intergovernmental meetings.

9. While there has been progress in the implementation of the programme of work of NOWPAP, the member States recognize that the establishment of a permanent RCU is a prerequisite for accelerating the implementation of NOWPAP. This was further underlined by major decisions taken at the Fifth and Sixth Intergovernmental Meetings (Inch'on, Republic of Korea, 29-30 March 2000 and Tokyo, 5-6 December 2000, respectively) to intensify and expand the activities and programme budget of NOWPAP for the 2000-2001 biennium, including the establishment of a priority project on land-based sources of pollution.

10. In its Resolution 2, the Fourth Intergovernmental Meeting (Beijing, 6-7 April 1999), had decided on the establishment of an RCU and had requested UNEP to prepare a draft procedure for its establishment. The draft procedure was adopted in Resolution 2 of the Fifth Intergovernmental Meeting and interested Governments were requested to present their offers to host the RCU to UNEP within five months. Resolution 2 of that meeting also calls for the submission of a draft decision to the twenty-first session of the Governing Council of UNEP for the establishment of a UNEP-administered RCU as the permanent NOWPAP secretariat. In the period leading to the establishment of the RCU, UNEP will continue to serve as the interim secretariat.

11. Since the inception of NOWPAP, UNEP has also administered the NOWPAP Trust Fund for the implementation of the Action Plan. Resolution 3 of the Fifth Intergovernmental Meeting requests the Governing Council of UNEP at its twenty-first session to extend the duration of the Trust Fund through 2003.

12. In Resolution 2 of the Sixth Intergovernmental Meeting, the member States agree in principle to establish a single NOWPAP RCU in Toyama, Japan and Pusan, the Republic of Korea through a co-hosting arrangement, subject to confirmation by member States of a detailed plan, including modalities for co-hosting, which will be based on consultations with all member States and with UNEP. The resolution also reiterates that a draft decision for the establishment of the RCU will be presented to the Twenty-First Session of the Governing Council.

III. SUGGESTED ACTION BY THE GOVERNING COUNCIL

A. Further development and strengthening of regional seas programmes: promoting the conservation and sustainable use of the marine and coastal environment, building partnerships and establishing linkages with multilateral environmental agreements

13. The Governing Council may wish to adopt a decision along the following lines:

The Governing Council,

Recalling decisions 20/19 A of 5 February 1999 and 19/14 B of 7 February 1997,

Recalling also that paragraph 74 (b) of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land Based Activities, adopted at Washington, D.C. on 3 November 1995, requests the United Nations Environment Programme, in its capacity as secretariat, to revitalize the Regional Seas Programme to promote and facilitate the implementation of the Global Programme of Action at the regional level,

Noting the importance that the Global Meetings of Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans have taken as a consultative mechanism for the vitalization of regional seas programmes, including the strengthening of partnerships with international organizations dedicated to marine and coastal issues and the establishment of programmatic linkages with global environmental conventions and related agreements,

Having considered the outcome of the Third Global Meeting of Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans, held in Monaco from 6 to 10 November 2000, described in document UNEP/GC.21/INF.14,

1. Expresses its appreciation to the representatives of the secretariats of regional seas conventions and action plans and global environmental conventions and related international agreements for their participation and their contributions to the successful outcome of the Fourth Global Meeting;
2. Expresses also its appreciation to the International Atomic Energy Association (IAEA), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the International Maritime Organization (IMO), the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (IOC/UNESCO), the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN/DESA), the World Conservation Union (IUCN) and the Advisory Committee for the Protection of the Sea (ACOPS) for their contributions to the meeting;
3. Expresses its gratitude to the Government of the Principality of Monaco for the generous financial support provided to the Fourth Global Meeting;
4. Requests the Executive Director to continue to use global meetings of regional seas conventions and action plans as a primary consultative mechanism for the work of the United Nations Environment Programme in the further strengthening of regional seas programmes and for building synergies and collaboration among environmental agreements;
5. Welcomes the proposal that representatives of the shipping industry, the chemical industry and the tourism industry be invited to the Fourth Global Meeting to discuss possible roles and collaboration in support of regional seas programmes.

1. The continued vitalization of regional seas programmes

Having considered the work of the United Nations Environment Programme in support of regional seas conventions and action plans, described in documents UNEP/GC.21/INF/6 and UNEP/GC.21/INF/14,

1. Takes note with appreciation the action taken by the Executive Director to support the revitalization of regional seas programmes through the provision of strategic programmatic support and the facilitation of collaborative arrangements with global environmental conventions and related agreements;
2. Requests the Executive Director to continue to give priority to the vitalization of the regional seas conventions and action plans as its central mechanism for implementation of its activities relevant to Chapter 17 of Agenda 21, taking into account the recommendations of the Fourth Global Meeting of Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans, focusing on priority issues such as land-based sources of pollution, integrated coastal areas management, coral reefs and the development or revision of regional seas conventions and protocols;
3. Requests the Executive Director to support the preparation of a strategic approach to financing regional seas programmes and to assist them in the mobilization of resources, taking into account the wide range of funding sources available, including, but not limited to, the Global Environment Facility (GEF), bilateral and multilateral donors, private industry and non-governmental organizations.

2. Horizontal cooperation among regional seas conventions and action plans

Recognizing the value of the sharing of experiences and information exchange among regional seas programmes,

Recognizing also the important technical assistance and advisory services that can be provided by the more experienced and developed regional seas programmes to those that are less developed,

Welcoming the twinning arrangements between the Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission and the United Nations Environment Programme as the secretariat of the Convention for the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Eastern African Region (Nairobi Convention), signed in Malmö, Sweden on 30 May 2000, and between the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden Environment Programme and the Regional Organization for the Protection of the Marine Environment (ROPME), as well as the Memorandum of Understanding for closer cooperation between the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden Environment Programme and the Regional Organization for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Council of Arab Ministers Responsible for the Environment and UNEP (May 2000),

1. Requests the Executive Director to support the implementation of these twinning arrangements and to continue to facilitate the negotiation of new arrangements for horizontal cooperation among regional seas programmes;
2. Urges the Governments that are Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic and Abidjan Convention for Cooperation in the Protection and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the West and Central African Region to support the on-going negotiation of a twinning arrangement.

3. Collaboration with global environmental conventions and related international agreements

Recalling decision 20/18 B on strengthening the role of UNEP in promoting collaboration among multilateral environmental conventions, decision 20/28 on promoting interlinkages among global environmental issues and human needs and decision 20/19 B on the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of marine Environment from Land-based Activities,

Considering decision V/3 of the Fifth Meeting of the Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in May 2000 on joint programming of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the regional seas conventions and action plans,

Taking into account the Strategic Action Plan adopted by the Eleventh Meeting of the Conference of Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora in April 2000, which calls for closer collaboration with regional seas programmes,

1. Welcomes the action taken by the Executive Director in promoting synergies among regional seas conventions and action plans, including new twinning arrangements, and with global environmental conventions and related agreements;
2. Welcomes the cooperation of the regional seas conventions and action plans in the regional preparatory process for the first intergovernmental review meeting on implementation of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities (Montreal, November 2001), including the preparation of the one-day session on the regional seas programmes at that meeting;
3. Emphasizes that municipal wastewater, as appropriate, is a priority of the regional seas programmes in preparing their work programmes on land-based sources of pollution, as well as the need to address:
 - (a) Tourism, as appropriate, as a major economic activity linked to, among others, sewage and physical alteration and destruction of habitats;
 - (b) Agriculture and its effects on the coastal and marine environment, including eutrophication and pesticides reaching the ocean;
4. Welcomes the reinitiation of collaboration between the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal and the regional seas programmes, including the work of the Convention's regional training centres, and the offer of the Basel Secretariat to assist regional seas conventions in the development of protocols on transboundary movement of hazardous wastes;
5. Invites the Rotterdam Convention on Prior Informed Consent Procedures for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade and the future Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPS) and the regional seas programmes to work closely together in the implementation of capacity building and information exchange activities to assist countries in meeting their obligations under the two chemicals-related conventions;
6. Invites the regional seas programmes, the Rotterdam Convention and the future Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants to collaborate on mutually supportive activities, such as the development and application of harmonized customs codes;
7. Requests the Executive Director to prepare an inventory of the work in chemicals undertaken by the regional seas programmes as an information base for collaborating on mutually supportive activities with the Rotterdam Convention and the future Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants;

8. Encourages the Convention on Biological Diversity and the regional seas programmes to further their collaboration in the conservation and sustainable use of marine and coastal biodiversity, including (a) the elaboration of modalities for cooperation and (b) a commitment to identify common elements between the respective regional activities and the marine and coastal programme of work of the Convention on Biological Diversity, with a view to harmonizing work plans, bearing in mind that one issue common to all regional seas programmes and the Convention on Biological Diversity is the application of the ecosystem approach to their programmes of work;
9. Requests the Executive Director to support cooperative initiatives aimed at the harmonization of work plans of the regional seas conventions and the Convention on Biological Diversity and, where appropriate, to support the development of harmonized national reporting consistent with the guidelines approved by the respective Conference of Parties;
10. Requests the Executive Director to facilitate cooperative arrangements between CITES and the regional seas programmes, including regional dialogue on problematic issues of common concern and through the facilitation of information to regional seas programmes on activities to be undertaken by the Convention on International Trade in Engangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) within their respective regions;
11. Invites the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals to involve the relevant regional seas programmes at an early stage in developing and implementing the Convention on Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS) regional agreements affecting marine species such as sea turtles, albatrosses, sharks, whales and marine mammals;
12. Requests the Executive Director to continue with the restructuring of UNEP's Marine Mammal Action Plan through a greater coordinated effort among the regional seas programmes, the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals, the Convention on International Trade in Engangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), the Convention on Biological Diversity and relevant partner organizations, including the World Conservation Union (IUCN).

4. Partnerships with international organizations

Taking into account that the Seventh Session of the Commission for Sustainable Development in April 1999 proposed a United Nations consultative process on oceans to provide an integrated review of economic, social, environment and legal dimensions of developments affecting oceans and seas and that this consultative process was subsequently established by the United Nations General Assembly in its decision 54/33 of 24 November 1999.

Bearing in mind that, following the first meeting of the consultative process from 30 May to 2 June 2000, the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session adopted resolution 55/7 of 30 October 2000, calling for the strengthening of regional cooperation in specific areas, including fisheries management organizations and arrangements, integrated management and sustainable development of coastal and marine areas and capacity building, among others, and, in paragraph 42, for more effective collaboration and coordination between the relevant parts of the United Nations Secretariat and the United Nations as a whole,

Recognizing that the Administrative Committee on Coordination, Subcommittee on Oceans and Coastal Areas (ACC/SOCA), of which UNEP is a member, is promoting enhanced interagency coordination within the United Nations system of activities aimed at implementing Chapter 17 of Agenda 21,

Taking into account the recommendations of the Third Global Meeting of Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans proposing renewed cooperation between UNEP and FAO, IOC/UNESCO, IMO and IAEA in supporting the implementation of the regional seas programmes,

1. Requests the Executive Director to promote a more active involvement of the regional seas conventions and action plans in the United Nations Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and Law of the Sea and in the regional and subregional preparatory activities being organized for the 2002 review of the United Nations Conference of Environment and Development (UNCED) and in their follow-up;
2. Requests the Executive Director, in conjunction with FAO, to follow-up on the endorsement of the Third Global Meeting of the joint UNEP/FAO paper entitled "Ecosystem-based Management of Fisheries: Opportunities and Challenges for Coordination between Marine Regional Fisheries Bodies and Regional Seas Conventions", including support to the following actions for enhancing cooperation: 1/
 - (a) The formalization of the observer status of the regional seas conventions and action plans at the meetings of the governing bodies of regional fisheries bodies (RFBs) and their technical subsidiary organs, and vice versa;
 - (b) Exchange data and information available at the levels of RFBs and regional seas conventions and action plans that may be of mutual interest;
 - (c) The organization of joint technical meetings on subjects of mutual interest; and
 - (d) The design and implementation of joint programmes between RFBs and regional seas conventions and action plans, taking fully into account the respective mandates, objectives and scope of the regional seas programmes and RFBs;
3. Welcomes the joint UNEP/FAO initiative on enhanced cooperation between RFBs and regional seas conventions and action plans on issues relevant to ecosystem-based management of fisheries as a considerable contribution towards the implementation of global conventions and programmes, such as the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Global Programme of Action, as well as the Conference on Responsible Fisheries in the Ecosystem, scheduled to be held in (Reykjavik, Iceland, from 24 to 28 September 2001);
4. Requests the Executive Director to support the establishment of a joint IMO/UNEP forum on emergency response to marine pollution with a view to exchanging experiences and discussing issues of common concern among the regional seas conventions and action plans;
5. Requests the Executive Director to follow-up on the recommendation that UNEP work closely with the Coastal Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS), directed by IOC/UNESCO, through a cooperative arrangement to ensure that the scientific and technical needs of regional seas programmes are fully taken into account in the development, management and implementation of the Coastal GOOS in particular, as well as the overall work of the Global Ocean Observing System, including the need to implement supportive capacity building activities in regional seas programmes as required;
6. Invites IOC/UNESCO, through its GOOS programme, given the complimentary scientific work that it is undertaking, to participate in the UNEP/FAO initiative on the ecosystem-based management of fisheries;
7. Requests the Executive Director, within available resources, to work with the Marine Environment Studies Laboratory of IAEA in supporting marine pollution sampling, monitoring and assessment activities in developing countries and countries with economies in transition that are member States of regional seas programmes;

^{1/} Following the Third Global Meeting, the paper was revised and will be presented to the forthcoming meeting of regional fisheries bodies organized by FAO in February 2001 for consideration and endorsement.

8. Requests the Executive Director to continue strengthening partnerships with the members of the ACC Subcommittee on Oceans and Coastal Areas in support of the implementation of regional seas programmes, including relevant programmes such as the Global International Water Assessment and the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities.

B. The implementation of the Northwest Pacific Action Plan

14. The Governing Council may wish to adopt a decision along the following lines:

Recalling its decision 20/19 A, in which the Governing Council stressed the need for the United Nations Environment Programme to strengthen the regional seas programme as the central mechanism for implementation of its activities relevant to chapter 17 of Agenda 21,

Taking into account the resolutions of the Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Intergovernmental Meetings of the Action Plan for the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Northwest Pacific Region (NOWPAP) concerning the establishment of the Regional Coordinating Unit (RCU) for NOWPAP,

Mindful of the Programme of Work adopted at the Fifth Intergovernmental Meeting (Inch'on, Republic of Korea, 29-30 March 2000), and the decision of the Sixth Intergovernmental Meeting (Tokyo, 5-6 December 2000) in its Resolution 1 to incorporate into the Action Plan a priority programme element on land-based sources of pollution, including participation in the preparatory process leading to the First Intergovernmental Review Meeting on the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-Based Sources of Pollution,

1. Welcomes the decision of the Sixth Intergovernmental Meeting to establish a Regional Coordinating Unit for NOWPAP to be administered by UNEP and co-hosted by Toyama, Japan, and Pusan, Republic of Korea;
2. Notes with satisfaction the progress achieved in the implementation of the NOWPAP programme of work, including the establishment of a priority project on land-based sources of pollution, including participation in the preparatory process leading to the First Intergovernmental Review Meeting on the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-Based Sources of Pollution;
3. Notes with appreciation the support provided by the United Nations Environment Programme to the implementation of the Northwest Pacific Action Plan;
4. Requests the Executive Director to establish the NOWPAP Regional Coordinating Unit as a UNEP-administered secretariat of the Northwest Pacific Action Plan;
5. Further requests the Executive Director to enter into negotiations with Japan and the Republic of Korea for the host country agreements for co-hosting a single RCU in the terms agreed to by the member States at the Sixth Intergovernmental Meeting and in accordance with United Nations rules and regulations.
6. Approves the extension of the duration of the NOWPAP Trust Fund through 2003.
