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**Policy issues: State of the environment** 

**Outcome of the World Summit on Sustainable Development** 

# BACKGROUND PAPER FOR THE MINISTERIAL-LEVEL CONSULTATIONS

# Discussion paper presented by the Executive Director

# Addendum

The living natural resource base to fight poverty: United Nations Environment Programme's contribution to the biodiversity commitments of the World Summit on Sustainable Development

The present document is a background paper intended to stimulate discussion and identify questions of concern to Governments to be addressed by ministers and heads of delegation during their ministerial-level consultations at the twenty-second session of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

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# **Executive summary**

- 1. Poverty and the need for its eradication has been at the centre stage of many declarations and decadal programmes of action, including Agenda 21<sup>1</sup>, adopted by the international community aimed at the promotion of sustainable development through, inter alia, poverty eradication. In the Malmö Ministerial Declaration<sup>2</sup>, the millennium development goals<sup>3</sup> and the outcome of the World Summit on Sustainable Development<sup>4</sup>, the international community has, once again, renewed its resolve to mitigate the impacts of and eradicate poverty. The present discussion paper for the ministerial segment of the twenty-second session of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum, provides a basis for examining the future contributions of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in the global quest for solutions to the challenges posed by poverty. The issues are raised largely in the context of the World Summit and its outcome relating to poverty.
- 2. The publication of the third Global Environment Outlook report was timed to contribute to the World Summit negotiations. The information it provided informed and inspired the discussion in a variety of areas, including poverty eradication. The report reveals the critical trends during the last three decades, both about the environment, and about the impact that environmental change has had on people. It reaffirms that sustainable development rests on three pillars society, economy and environment. The environment pillar provides the physical resources and ecosystem services on which humankind depends. Growing evidence that many aspects of the environment are still deteriorating led the report to conclude that people are becoming increasingly vulnerable to environmental change. This concern for human vulnerability, best manifested in conditions of poverty, is at the core of UNEP's work programme for the next biennium.

# I. PRESENT PROBLEMS AND CHALLENGES

- 3. The third Global Environment Outlook report and other UNEP assessments provide a comprehensive picture of the state of the environment as it has evolved over the past 30 years. Many of the documented changes are evident in the living natural resource base, one of the primary foundations for sustainable development. This intricate mix comprises all living organisms, the systems they inhabit and the complex interactions between the various species and their respective habitats. Such biodiversity encapsulates the vast variability within and among the living organisms and the ecosystems in which they live. In its entirety, it is the foundation upon which human civilization has been built.
- 4. In addition to its intrinsic value, the living resource base provides many of the renewable goods and services that underpin sustainable development. The abundance or scarcity of these goods and services is an important factor in poverty alleviation, especially in societies which do not depend on a secondary or tertiary industrial base. In addition, the biological environment provides services and products of high, if not always recognized, economic value.
- 5. This "web of life" supports the ecosystem functions essential for all life on Earth, including human beings. It provides fresh water, conserves soils and helps stabilize climates. It also provides food, medicines and materials for industry. Living natural resources are at the heart of many cultural values.
- 6. Biological diversity is important for humans for the choices that it offers, from the perspective of both present benefits and future options, associated with variety and the capacity for organisms to adapt. It provides the potential for ecological resilience, and inherent capacity to mutate and adapt in a changing environment. Ecological resilience is increasingly important to cope with fast global environmental change. The question is whether ecosystems are able to deal with the rapidity and accumulating pressure from human activities. As the living natural resource base is degraded and options for change are diminished, communities and human society itself become more and more vulnerable.
- 7. The third Global Environment Outlook report and other UNEP assessments confirm significant changes in conditions in both the human and the environmental dimension over the past 30 years. In a period of accelerated population increase, natural resources have been heavily used to meet a multiplicity of human

needs. In many areas, the state of the environment is more fragile and degraded than in 1972. The report reflects the emergence of four major divides facing the world, posing a potentially serious threat to the realization of sustainable development:

- (a) The environmental divide characterized by stable or improved environmental conditions in some regions and degraded environments in others, mostly located in developing countries;
- (b) The policy divide characterized by strong environment and development policy and implementation experiences in some regions, while others struggle in both areas;
- (c) The vulnerability gap found both within a single society, between countries and across regions, putting the disadvantaged more at risk from environmental change and disasters;
- (d) The lifestyle divide with one side of the lifestyle divide characterized by excesses of consumption and the other by extreme poverty.
- 8. These four gaps constitute serious constraints to sustainable development. The alleviation of poverty, in particular, is dependent on resolving these differences in concert with the reduction of excessive consumption of the more affluent, improving governance, providing adequate funding, and eliminating debt. The third Global Environment Outlook assessment identified the following major findings relating to the state of the environment, all of which affect the maintenance of the living natural resources base:
- (a) <u>Land</u>. The growing global population has been the main driving force, putting pressure on land resources. There are 2,220 million more mouths to feed than in 1972. Around 2 billion hectares of soil, an area bigger than the United States of America and Mexico combined, is now classed as degraded. The contributing factors to land and soil degradation are overgrazing (35 per cent); deforestation (30 per cent); agricultural practices (27 per cent); over-exploitation of vegetation (7 per cent); and industrial activities (1 per cent);
- (b) <u>Freshwater</u>. Around half of the world's rivers are seriously depleted and polluted. About 60 per cent of the world's largest 227 rivers have been strongly or moderately fragmented by dams and other engineering works. There have been significant benefits from such water management works, including increased food production and hydroelectricity. Conversely, large wetlands and other ecosystems have been irreversibly damaged. Around 1.1 billion people still lack access to safe drinking water and 2.4 billion need improved sanitation, mainly in Africa and Asia.
- (c) <u>Forests and biodiversity</u>. Forests, which cover around a third of the Earth's land surface, or 3,866 million hectares, have declined by 2.4 per cent since 1990. The biggest losses have been in Africa, where 52.6 million hectares or 0.7 per cent of its forest cover has disappeared in the past decade. Mangrove forests natural sea defenses, nursery grounds for fish and prime nesting and resting sites for migratory birds are threatened by over-harvesting for timber and fuel wood, tourism and coastal developments. Up to 50 per cent of recent mangrove destruction has been the result of clearing for shrimp farms. The loss and, perhaps more seriously, the fragmentation of habitats such as forests, wetlands and mangrove swamps have increased the pressures on the world's wildlife, plants and functionality of the living systems. Twelve per cent or 1,183 bird species and nearly a quarter or 1,130 mammal species are currently regarded as globally threatened. About 24 per cent of mammals including the great apes are similarly threatened.
- (d) <u>Coastal and marine areas</u>. Globally, sewage is the largest source of contamination by volume with discharges from developing countries on the rise as a result of rapid urbanization, population growth and a lack of capacity, planning and financing for sewerage systems and water treatment plants. The global economic impact of marine contamination, in terms of human disease and ill health, may be running at nearly \$13 billion. Other threats to the oceans and large inland water bodies include climate change, oil spills, discharges of heavy metals, persistent organic pollutants and litter. Sedimentation, as a result of coastal developments, agriculture and deforestation, has become a major global threat to coral reefs particularly in the Caribbean, Indian Ocean and South and South-east Asia. Roughly one third of the world's

coral reef systems are estimated as functionally destroyed or highly degraded. Twenty per cent of the world's most productive eco-systems – mangroves – and freshwater fish species have become extinct, threatened or endangered in recent decades. Some 75 per cent of the major marine fish stocks are either depleted from over-fishing or are being fished at their biological limit.

- (e) Atmosphere. Concentrations of carbon dioxide, the main gas linked with global warming, currently stand at 370 parts per million or 30 per cent higher than in 1750. Concentrations of other greenhouse gases, such as methane and halocarbons, have also risen. Depletion of the ozone layer, which protects life from damaging ultraviolet light, has now reached record levels. In September 2000, the ozone hole over Antarctica covered more than 28 million square kilometres. Production of the main chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), substances found to be destroying the ozone layer, peaked in 1988, a year after the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer was adopted. Scientific studies now show that the total amount of ozone depleting chemicals in the lower atmosphere is declining, albeit slowly.
- 9. Living natural resources are the biological underpinnings of economic growth and the potential for prosperity. If the living natural resource base is eroded, prospects for achieving sustainable development are reduced and human security comes under threat. Degradation or depletion of the living resource base has particularly serious implications for the poor. They are often directly affected by changes in their natural resource base. Therefore management of living natural resources has important implications for poverty alleviation.

# A. Global biodiversity

10. Global biodiversity is being lost at a rate many times greater than would be expected by comparison with natural extinction rates. The combined effect of land conversion, climate change, pollution, unsustainable harvesting of natural resources and the introduction of exotic species, is difficult for ecosystems to resist. The degradation of natural resources such as land, fresh and marine waters, forest and biodiversity threatens the livelihood of many people, but especially the poor. When the functional services of ecosystems such as nutrient cycling, decomposition, and natural filtering of air and water are impaired or overburdened, human well-being can be jeopardized by, for example, contaminated water supplies.

# B. Food security

11. Human society is highly dependent on genetic resources, including those from wild and semi-domesticated sources, for the productivity of its agriculture, livestock and fisheries. These resources provide communities with adaptive capacity, so varieties of species can be created that best cope with changing local conditions. The rural poor depend most on the living natural resources in their immediate surroundings for their survival. A variety of food sources supports better nutrition and therefore improved health. In addition, living natural resources offer alternative food products during periods of scarcity.

# C. Health improvements

12. The living natural resource base includes a wealth of invaluable raw materials that underpin medicinal and health care systems, for both the informal sector which meets the needs of 60 per cent of the world's people, and the formal sector which derives a majority of the world's modern drugs from biodiversity. Poor people are more dependent on the informal health sector than wealthy people and therefore suffer most from the disappearance of species as a result of habitat destruction or other forms of environmental degradation. Poor people also suffer most from scarce or polluted water and air pollution, and diseases associated with disrupted ecosystems.

# D. Income generation

13. Poor people depend heavily on the use of living natural resources for their income (for example, agriculture, fisheries and tourism). Poor people tend to depend most on the direct use of living natural

resources for their livelihoods, and are therefore the first to suffer when their resources are degraded or lost. Biodiversity offers great potential for marketing unique products many of which are extremely valuable. However, the benefits, including those from ecotourism, only accrue to the poor erratically or infrequently, if at all.

#### E. Decreased vulnerability

- 14. Living natural resources form an important source of alternative food, fuel and other resources in times of scarcity. Poor people are most often exposed to and least prepared to cope with unpredicted events such as natural disasters, fluctuation in the access to food and other resources, or environmental shocks. Ecosystem degradation exacerbates the frequency and impact of droughts, floods, landslides, forest fires and other natural hazards, and can intensify competition and the potential conflict over access to shared resources such as food and water.
- 15. The gradual erosion of genetic diversity, the loss of local populations, and the fragmentation of existing species has a direct impact on the livelihoods of the world's rural poor and the disadvantaged. It is the loss of species populations, along with direct physical modifications of the landscape, that contribute most to ecosystem degradation and the vicious circle of poverty, from which no region is immune. Loss of biological diversity goes hand in hand with loss of cultural diversity. Every time a culture or language dies, a large part of our overall science and knowledge base also disappears (for example the knowledge of medicinal or other useful plants). It is therefore a global responsibility to address the emerging concerns in living natural resources. The question of access to and benefit-sharing of genetic resources and indigenous knowledge is an important outcome of the World Summit on Sustainable Development.

#### II. ROLE AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF UNEP

- 16. The Malmö Ministerial Declaration adopted by UNEP's Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum in May 2000 requested the World Summit on Sustainable Development to address the major challenges to sustainable development, and in particular the pervasive effects of the burden of poverty on a large proportion of the Earth's inhabitants, counterposed against excessive and wasteful consumption and inefficient resource use that perpetuates the vicious circle of environmental degradation and increasing poverty.
- 17. Extreme poverty is an affront to our common humanity. It also makes many other problems worse. For example, poor countries especially those with significant inequality between ethnic and religious communities are far more likely to be embroiled in conflicts than rich ones. While most of these conflicts are internal, they sometimes create spillover problems for neighbouring countries or generate a need for humanitarian assistance. Poor countries also often lack the capacity and resources to implement environmentally sound policies.
- 18. The Governing Council, in its decision 21/15 of 9 February 2001, requested the Executive Director of UNEP "to develop and promote understanding of the linkages between poverty and the environment, means of making people's livelihoods more productive and environmentally sustainable, and appropriate policy options for Governments, a significant priority which should be to assist Governments in integrating environment in central social and economic processes, including the poverty reduction strategies and the comprehensive development frameworks." The efforts being undertaken are highlighted in document UNEP/GC.22/INF/30. UNEP's contributions to poverty eradication initiatives include the following:
- (a) Capacity-building and technical assistance, in particular with respect to institutional strengthening in developing countries, remain an important component of the work of UNEP. UNEP provides national Governments with advice on policy, law, technology and cleaner production, and in key areas of institution-building and environmental management. UNEP is also playing an important role in the ongoing capacity-building assessment being carried out by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) through its implementing agencies. It plans to further enhance its activities to ensure that environmental policy works

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for sustainable development at the national level, strengthening its partnership with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and other field-oriented/operational agencies in coordinating activities of a strategic and catalytic nature;

- (b) UNEP, through its International Environmental Technology Centre, its OzonAction Programme and Sustainable Alternatives Network seeks to provide technological solutions. The Sustainable Alternatives Network is designed to foster the rapid dissemination and acquisition of cleaner technology alternatives;
- (c) There is an intimate link between the health of our planet and human health. The degradation and depletion of water, air, land, marine and biological resources all have a profound impact on human health, as can changes in the atmosphere and climate and the unsafe use and management of chemicals. The link between poverty, health and the environment is nowhere closer than with regard to water issues. Water is the key to sustainable development and good health. Water sustains people's livelihoods and welfare, and enables them to work for economic and social development. For its part, UNEP is working to address these problems through integrated water management. UNEP's water policy provides a strategic direction for its work in this area. Capacity-building, technology transfer, development of sustainable policies for water management, and raising of finance for water management projects are some of the very concrete steps that are being taken;
- (d) Furthermore, the regional seas programme and the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities provide concrete measures to address the interface between freshwater, coastal area management and the marine environment. The Global Programme of Action, the regional seas programme and the Global International Waters Assessment are the basis for a concentrated and coordinated assessment leading to targeted action for the sustainable use of oceans and coastal areas:
- (e) Dangerous chemicals are also eroding the health of the world's most vulnerable citizens and exacting a heavy toll on the environment. UNEP has been active in this field to promote the environmentally sound management of such chemicals, including work with the World Health Organization (WHO) to reduce reliance on dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane (DDT). The Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum has endorsed a new strategy for the management of chemicals, which addresses 18 key areas and aims to build bridges between the various chemicals agreements and conventions. UNEP is also undertaking an initiative aimed at contributing to the phasing out of lead in gasoline and responding to the request that it carry out a global assessment of mercury;
- (f) Energy and energy efficiency should be addressed in the context of all dimensions of sustainable development. It is crucial in both rural and urban areas. Some 2 billion people lack the energy they need to heat and light homes, pump water and keep medicines refrigerated: without energy the poor of the world do not have the means necessary to move forward. Renewable energy, at an affordable price, is essential for economic development;
- (g) UNEP's Solar and Wind Energy Resource Assessment project, funded by GEF, can help in this regard. Projects also need to be sustainable and managed over the long term, while in the short term greater attention should be given to increasing energy efficiency. The African Rural Energy Enterprise Development initiative and its counterpart, the Brazil Rural Energy Enterprise Development programme, both financed in part by the United Nations Foundation, seek to develop new sustainable energy enterprises that use clean, efficient and renewable energy technologies to meet the energy needs of under-served populations, thereby reducing the environmental and health consequences of existing energy use patterns;
- (h) UNEP is active in providing capacity-building in this field, particularly through its network of sustainable energy centres. Through enhanced partnerships with other United Nations organizations and the involvement of the private sector, UNEP is working to strengthen this network. Agreements reached in Bonn, Germany, and Marrakech, Morocco, last year as part of measures to fight global warming have added new impetus to the development of renewable energy sources and energy efficiency.

# III. POVERTY RELATED OUTCOME OF THE WORLD SUMMIT ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

19. In many respects, the historic gathering of heads of State and Government and representatives of various stakeholders, could be described as the "world summit on poverty eradication". A careful analysis will indicate that the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development, the Plan of Implementation as well as the targets and goals adopted by the Summit represent a renewed concern about the failure to halt and reverse the growing poverty which continues to adversely affect the quality of life of half of humanity. The World Summit on Sustainable Development reaffirmed that sustainable development should be at the centre stage of the global agenda and hence the need for renewed commitment to combating poverty and protecting the natural resource base/environment. The Summit also underscored the interlinkages between poverty, the environment and the management of natural resources. In addition to the Summit's call for the establishment of a world solidarity fund, the Summit agreed to a number of commitments, targets and timeframes relevant to poverty, which were reflected in its outcome and which include the following:

# (a) Poverty eradication

- Halve, by the year 2015, the proportion of the world's people whose income is less than \$1 a day and the proportion of people who suffer from hunger (reaffirmation of millennium development goals).
- By 2020, achieve a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers, as proposed in the "Cities Without Slums" initiative (reaffirmation of millennium development goal).
- Establish a world solidarity fund to eradicate poverty and to promote social and human development in the developing countries.

# (b) Water and sanitation

• Halve, by the year 2015, the proportion of people without access to safe drinking water (reaffirmation of millennium development goal). Halve, by the year 2015, the proportion of people who do not have access to basic sanitation.

# (c) Sustainable production and consumption

• Encourage and promote the development of a 10-year framework of programmes to accelerate the shift towards sustainable consumption and production.

# (d) Energy

# (i) Renewable energy

- Diversify energy supply and substantially increase the global share of renewable energy sources in order to increase its contribution to total energy supply.
- Improve access to reliable, affordable, economically viable, socially acceptable and environmentally sound energy services and resources, sufficient to achieve the millennium development goals, including the goal of halving the proportion of people in poverty by 2015.

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# (ii) Energy markets

- Remove market distortions, including the restructuring of taxes and the phasing out of harmful subsidies.
- Support efforts to improve the functioning, transparency and information about energy markets with respect to both supply and demand, with the aim of achieving greater stability and to ensure consumer access to energy services.

# (iii) Energy efficiency

Establish domestic programmes for energy efficiency with the support of the
international community. Accelerate the development and dissemination of energy
efficiency and energy conservation technologies, including the promotion of research
and development.

# (e) Chemicals

- Aim, by 2020, to use and produce chemicals in ways that do not lead to significant adverse effects on human health and the environment.
- Renew the commitment to the sound management of chemicals and of hazardous wastes throughout their life cycle.

# (f) Management of the natural resource base

- (i) Water
- Develop integrated water resources management and water efficiency plans by 2005.

# (ii) Oceans and fisheries

- Encourage the application by 2010 of the ecosystem approach for the sustainable development of the oceans.
- On an urgent basis and where possible by 2015, maintain or restore depleted fish stocks to levels that can produce the maximum sustainable yield.
- Develop and facilitate the use of diverse approaches and tools, including the ecosystem
  approach, the elimination of destructive fishing practices and the establishment of marine
  protected areas consistent with international law and based on scientific information,
  including representative networks by 2012.

# (iii) Atmosphere

• Improve access by developing countries to alternatives to ozone-depleting substances by 2010, and assist them in complying with the phase-out schedule under the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer.

# (iv) Biodiversity

• Achieve by 2010 a significant reduction in the current rate of loss of biological diversity.

# (v) Forests

Accelerate implementation of the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests/Intergovernmental
Forum on Forests proposals for action by countries and by the Collaborative Partnership
on Forests, and intensify efforts on reporting to the United Nations Forum on Forests, to
contribute to an assessment of progress in 2005.

# (g) Corporate responsibility

Actively promote corporate responsibility and accountability, including through the full
development and effective implementation of intergovernmental agreements and measures,
international initiatives and public-private partnerships, and appropriate national regulations.

# (h) Health

- Enhance health education with the objective of achieving improved health literacy on a global basis by 2010.
- Reduce, by 2015, mortality rates for infants and children under 5 by two thirds, and maternal mortality rates by three quarters, of the prevailing rate in 2000 (reaffirmation of millennium development goal).
- Reduce human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) prevalence among young men and women aged 15 to 24 by 25 per cent in the most affected countries by 2005 and globally by 2010, as well as combat malaria, tuberculosis and other diseases (reaffirmation of General Assembly resolution).
- (i) Sustainable development of small island developing States
- Undertake initiatives by 2004 aimed at implementing the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities to reduce, prevent and control waste and pollution and their health-related impacts.
- Support the availability of adequate, affordable and environmentally sound energy services for the sustainable development of small island developing States, including through strengthening efforts on energy supply and services by 2004.
- (j) Sustainable development for Africa
- Support Africa's efforts to implement objectives of the New Partnership for Africa's Development on energy, which seek to secure access for at least 35 per cent of the African population within 20 years, especially in rural areas.
- 20. The World Summit on Sustainable Development, including its preparatory processes, generated a number of positive signals. The Doha Ministerial Declaration adopted at the fourth World Trade Organization Ministerial Conference<sup>5</sup> has given rise to the hope that there could be a meaningful integration of environmental and social concerns into the trade regime. The International Conference on Financing for Development (Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002) signalled a renewed commitment to confronting the causes of poverty. The subject of corporate accountability was at the centre of discussions at the World Summit, where a number of initiatives (referred to as type two partnership initiatives) were announced.

# IV. RESPONSE OF UNEP TO THE OUTCOME OF THE WORLD SUMMIT ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

21. UNEP has assessed the implications, for its work, of the outcome of the World Summit on Sustainable Development. The work programme for the biennium 2004-2005 provides specific provisions for UNEP's contributions to the implementation of the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development; the Plan of Implementation; and the other outcomes of the Summit, including the United Nations Secretary-General's WEHAB (water and sanitation, energy, health, agriculture and biodiversity) agenda and the type two partnership initiatives. The Governments of Norway and the Netherlands have provided UNEP with technical and financial assistance for the development of a robust programme to promote poverty and environment linkages.

# V. QUESTIONS AND ISSUES FOR DISCUSSIONS BY MINISTERS

- 22. The following questions and issues might serve as a basis for the discussion of the Ministers:
  - (a) How can the natural resource base be fully utilized in the fight against poverty?
- (b) How can the existing and emerging regional intergovernmental programmes and mechanisms be used to enhance the implementation of the new UNEP guidelines on poverty and the environment?
- (c) What role can UNEP play in the development of national, subregional and regional strategies and/or plans for poverty eradication which will incorporate the World Summit targets and the millennium development goals, taking into account the Doha Ministerial Declaration on trade and environment, the Cartegena recommendations on international environmental governance and the goals of the Malmo Ministerial Declaration?
- (d) How can UNEP use the United Nations Secretary-General's WEHAB agenda in promoting sustainable livelihoods? There is a strong expectation in the international community for the United Nations system to build on the World Summit momentum through visible, concrete, coherent and well-coordinated follow-up activities. The five priority areas of the WEHAB agenda (water and sanitation, energy, health, agriculture and biodiversity/ecosystems management) are particularly relevant to poverty eradication measures. The WEHAB agenda provides a comprehensive basis for integrating the intergovernmentally agreed goals/targets, including the millennium development goals and most of the targets in the World Summit Plan of Implementation. The Ministers may wish to consider endorsing the development of a UNEP WEHAB framework for poverty eradication.

#### VI. RECOMMENDATIONS

23. The decisions taken at the twenty-second session of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum will, to a large extent, determine the nature, scope and extent of UNEP's contributions to the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, particularly those aspects relating to poverty eradication. Of utmost importance is the need for the Governing Council to reaffirm its full support, including political support, to the renewed efforts of the secretariat to contribute to the United Nations system-wide efforts to eradicate the environmental causes of poverty. The Ministers may wish to consider how UNEP can strengthen its policies and programmes relating to land use, freshwater, coastal and marine issues, energy, atmosphere, biodiversity and natural resources management.

- <sup>2</sup> Governing Council decision SS.VI/1, annex.
- <sup>3</sup> See General Assembly resolution 55/2.
- See Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August 4 September 2002, (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1).
- World Trade Organization document WT/MIN(01)/DEC/1.

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Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992 United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: Resolution adopted by the Conference, resolution 1, annex II.