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THE PROPOSED PROGRAMME

Note by the Executive Director

Corrigendum

The following changes should be made in the section on "International Environmental Law":

Paragraph 209: Amend the beginning of the second sentence to read "Indeed, in addition to the development of effective national law, effective international action..."

Paragraph 210: Replace the full stop at the end of the first sentence by a comma, and add "as stated in Governing Council decision 8 (II)." In the last sentence, delete the word "and" after "importance", and add a comma after "understanding".

Paragraphs 211-213: Replace the sections on "Objectives" and "Strategy" by the following:

Objectives

211. In fulfilment of UNEP's role in relation to international environmental law, the programme is designed to contribute towards the development and codification of new rules of international law to meet new requirements generated by environmental concerns and by the international strategy in the field of the environment based particularly on the Stockholm Declaration. In particular, the objectives are:

- (a) To develop and elaborate the Principles of the Stockholm Declaration;
- (b) To contribute towards the development and harmonization of environmental law on the national and regional levels;
- (c) To promote the protection of international commons and the regulations of their use from the environmental point of view;
- (d) To work towards establishment of guidelines and procedures for the avoidance and settlement of environmental disputes.

Strategy

212. The development of international environmental law calls for simultaneous and co-ordinated action on a variety of fronts and at different levels over an extended period of time. It requires close collaboration between Governments and intergovernmental bodies. It calls for participation of organizations and bodies within the United Nations family, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, universities, research institutes, national and international societies of international law and individual experts.

213. Among the broad lines of action proposed for this comprehensive effort are the following:

(a) Systematic collection of data and information with the aim of creating a base for action and to permit the formulation and promotion of general principles, legal rules and guidelines;

(b) Development of the principle of state responsibility for environmental damage as contained in Principle 22 of the Stockholm Declaration;

(c) Elaboration and development of the other principles introduced in the Stockholm Declaration and in decisions of the Governing Council with regard to environmental law relating to specific issues such as transfer of costs and shared natural resources;

(d) Promotion of international agreements or conventions to deal with global environmental concerns such as weather and climate modification and ocean areas beyond national jurisdiction;

(e) Promotion of international agreements and conventions to deal with specific environmental problems in given geographical contexts such as international water systems, enclosed and semi-enclosed seas, and trans-frontier pollution;

(f) Efforts to encourage international organizations and fora to take the environmental law aspect into account in their work;

(g) Efforts to encourage universities and other research institutions to include environmental law in their curricula and work;

(h) Promotion of comparative studies of national environmental protection laws as a means of generating ideas and rules for wider application by countries in their national contexts, as well as for adaptation to the needs of the international community;

(i) Provision of technical assistance to developing countries for the development of their environmental legislation, taking into account the programmes of other organizations within the United Nations system.