



UN SYSTEM ENGAGEMENT WITH NGOs, CIVIL SOCIETY, THE PRIVATE SECTOR, AND OTHER ACTORS



A COMPENDIUM



**UNITED NATIONS
NON-GOVERNMENTAL
LIAISON SERVICE**



**GERMAN FEDERAL MINISTRY
FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION
AND DEVELOPMENT**

2005

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The United Nations Non-Governmental
Liaison Service (NGLS)



GERMAN FEDERAL MINISTRY
FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION
AND DEVELOPMENT



UNITED NATIONS

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PREFACE

By Heidemarie Wieczorek-Zeul

*German Federal Minister for Economic
Cooperation and Development*

The United Nations has a vital role to play in meeting the challenges facing humankind across the globe and developing the international goals that have been set. The United Nations is indispensable for strengthening the structures for building peace and promoting development. We must consolidate the global consensus of the past few years on the need to protect the foundations of human existence in a sustainable way and make real improvements to the conditions in which the poor, in particular, are living and combine it with a consensus on global human security. The institutional reforms this demands and the struggle to achieve the goals of the Millennium Declaration not only form part of the same strategy but are also intimately linked in terms of substance. Winning and keeping prosperity, democracy and security will require a joint effort.

Global human security and development hinge on our strengthening the imperative of collective action and boldly tackling cross-cutting issues. While the division of responsibilities must of course not be diluted, there can be no doubt that the challenges facing humankind cannot be met, or at least not as effectively, by individual governments and the community of States alone, without the active involvement of civil society, non-governmental organizations, the private sector, and other committed players. So their active participation and, where needed, critical dialogue, are welcome.

This *Compendium* makes an important contribution towards explaining the broad system of United Nations Offices, Agencies, Programmes and Funds, and Specialized Agencies as well as UN Treaty Bodies. In addition, it provides information about the opportunities and procedures for the participation of non-governmental players in United Nations processes. In view of the tremendous tasks with which humankind is faced, and in view of the multi-faceted potential offered by a vast variety of good-willed players, I wish this *Compendium* wide circulation. May it help combine the forces needed to make this world a more peaceful place and to strengthen each individual's right to freedom from want, freedom from fear and freedom to live in dignity.

INTRODUCTION

By Tony Hill

*Coordinator
United Nations Non-Governmental Liaison Service*

Over the past fifteen years the UN system's relations with non-governmental and other external actors have undergone a significant change, both broadening to include a wide range of external actors such as NGOs, CSOs, Indigenous Peoples, private sector entities, local authorities and parliamentarians, and deepening in the sense of greater participation of external actors in the various activities of the UN system, including governance in the broadest sense, global policy-setting, dialogues and hearings, implementation of outcomes, monitoring and evaluation.

This publication, the latest in NGLS's series of Guides, Handbooks and Directories on the United Nations system, focuses on how the Offices, Agencies, Programmes, Funds and Conventions of the UN system engage with this much wider array of external actors. With individual entries for many of the individual UN bodies and entities, this *Compendium* seeks to provide information on the kinds of activities that represent this engagement, the policy frameworks which guide this engagement, the coordinates of the offices/staff/focal points that manage this engagement and further sources of online information related to this topic.

This *Compendium* seeks to demystify the way that the UN system works and provides entry points for NGOs, CSOs and others that wish to constructively engage on the issues on the UN system's global agenda. We hope that this will be particularly useful for developing-country NGOs that see at the national level and at first hand, the impact, or not, of international organizations and internationally decided policy frameworks. Since NGLS's outreach capacity will allow the *Compendium* to reach thousands of NGOs across the world, we see this publication, with its wealth of information sources and resources, as part of a response to the challenge recognized by the Secretary-General's Panel of Eminent Persons on UN-Civil Society Relations, of connecting better the global to the regional, national and local levels.

This *Compendium* was compiled in close cooperation with all of the UN entities that figure in it. While not fully comprehensive it does cover the activities of over 30 UN entities. As always, we consider this a work in progress in which subsequent editions will be updated and expanded to provide a more fully comprehensive picture of this very important dimension of the life of the UN system. In the meantime we hope this *Compendium* proves to be a useful resource and tool for those outside and inside the UN system who wish to know more about the UN system's relations with external constituencies. We would welcome any comments, observations and suggestions from those that read, use and become familiar with the content of this volume.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development of Germany for co-sponsoring and co-financing this publication.

PART I

UNITED NATIONS OFFICES

United Nations Secretariat

Structurally, the UN Secretariat is composed of the Office of the Secretary-General and a number of departments and offices. Some of the latter provide various administrative, logistical or internal services, and therefore do not directly engage with civil society or other non-state actors. However, the departments and UN Secretariat offices that work on substantive areas of the UN agenda directly engage with civil society and other non-state actors, frequently on the basis of inter-governmentally agreed set of instructions or frameworks.

The Secretariat deals with the full range of issues addressed by the United Nations. These include peacekeeping, emergency and humanitarian assistance, political affairs, policy coordination and sustainable development, Africa and the least developed countries, energy and environment, social development, status of women, crime, drug abuse, human rights, decolonization, disarmament, exploitation of the deep sea-bed and peaceful uses of outer space. It prepares economic and social information, provides analysis and statistics, and coordinates operational activities. It is also responsible for technical cooperation and public information.

The Secretariat has many different departments responsible for undertaking this wide range of activities, although periodic reorganization has changed department names and rearranged their responsibilities.

The following is an alphabetical listing of a number of these departments and offices.

DEPARTMENT FOR DISARMAMENT AFFAIRS (DDA)

I. Core Areas

The Department for Disarmament Affairs (DDA) assists Member States in promoting, strengthening and consolidating multilaterally negotiated principles and norms in all areas of disarmament: weapons of mass destruction (WMD), in particular nuclear weapons, as well as their delivery systems; global efforts against WMD terrorism; conventional weapons, including small arms and light weapons and landmines. DDA facilitates planning and implementation of practical disarmament measures in the small arms field, and maintains voluntary transparency and confidence-building mechanisms on the trade of conventional arms and national military expenditures. The Department maintains information and education outreach programmes through an active website, print and electronic publications, public presentations and other activities. It carries out an annual fellowship programme for junior diplomats in the disarmament field. The Department implements a gender mainstreaming action plan, which is intended to strengthen, consolidate, inform and guide disarmament work. DDA is headed by Mr. Nobuyasu Abe, Under-Secretary-General for Disarmament Affairs.

Within the mandates given to it by the General Assembly, the Security Council and other organs of the United Nations system, the Department provides substantive, organizational and technical support to the First Committee, the Disarmament Commission and other subsidiary bodies of the General Assembly, the Conference on Disarmament (Geneva) review conferences and other meetings of parties to multilateral disarmament agreements, as well as to expert groups mandated by the General Assembly. Through its regional centres for peace and disarmament (Lima, Lomé and Kathmandu), the Department assists Member States in promoting and implementing regional approaches to disarmament and security.

II. Engagement with External Actors

DDA maintains an active relationship with disarmament implementing organizations such as the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization and the

DDA (continued)

Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons. It acts as the focal point of the Coordinating Action on Small Arms (CASA), which includes UN offices and agencies with programmes in small arms, and cooperates with the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR). DDA also facilitates the participation of civil society in large conferences serviced by the Department, for example, the Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conferences, as well as follow-up to the 2001 Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects. DDA engages civil society organizations in peace education activities on an ongoing basis.

III. Organizational Resources

Focal Point Civil Society

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IV. Information Resources

b The DDA website provides extensive information concerning its programmes and activities in the field of disarmament: (<http://disarmament.un.org>).

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS (DESA)

I. Core Areas

The Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) acts as an interface between global policies in the economic, social and environmental spheres and national action. Its work spans three interlinked areas: (i) compiling, generating and analyzing a wide range of economic, social and environmental information to assist Member States with their review and taking stock of related policy options; (ii) facilitating the intergovernmental negotiations to address ongoing and emerging global challenges; and (iii) advising governments on translating policies into tangible implementation efforts through technical assistance and national capacity-building programmes.

The Department services a number of intergovernmental processes including the Economic and Social Council of the UN and several of its functional commissions working on a range of issues. The Department, led by an Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, Mr. José Antonio Ocampo, houses several divisions including those on sustainable development, social development, advancement of women, financing for development, statistics, population issues and forests.

II. Engagement with External Actors

A large part of the Department's engagement with NGOs is through formal arrangements made under Economic and Social Council Resolution 1996/31 (see Annex I). This resolution provides the framework for obtaining consultative status (accreditation) by NGOs wishing to contribute to the UN's work in the economic and social fields. Certain Divisions of DESA have additional engagement mechanisms for non-state actors, often based on guidance from intergovernmentally agreed plans of action and similar documents.

Descriptions follow for a number of DESA Division and Offices, including: the Division for the Advancement of Women (DAW), the Division for ECOSOC Support and Coordination (DESC); the Division for Social Policy and

DESA (continued)

Development; the Division for Sustainable Development (DSD); the Financing for Development (FFD) Office; the Population Division; the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII); and the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF).

III. Organizational Resources

Address

United Nations
2 UN Plaza
New York, NY 10017
USA

DAW (continued)

IV. Information Resources

- b DAW website: (www.un.org/womenwatch).
- b Online discussions: (www.un.org/womenwatch/forums/review).
- b CSW website: (www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/csw).
- b CEDAW website: (www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/cedaw/index.html).
- b Country information on gender issues: (www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/country).

DIVISION FOR ECOSOC SUPPORT AND COORDINATION (DESC)

I. Core Areas

The Division for ECOSOC Support and Coordination (DESC) functions as the Secretariat of the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations. The Office provides substantive support to the Economic and Social Council including through:

- b `System-wide guidance, including through the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to major UN conferences and summits;
- b `Oversight and coordination of its subsidiary bodies, with a view to achieving improved harmonization of their agendas and work programmes, and on the coordination of the implementation of declarations, strategies and programmes of action in the economic and social fields adopted by major UN conferences and summits;
- b `The General Assembly (GA), including on the follow-up to the Agenda for Development and Second/Third Committees;
- b `The NGOs in consultative status with the Council in the economic and social fields.

Its engagement is primarily with NGOs, through the formal mechanism of consultative status (see Annex I) with the Council. Consultative status is recommended by ECOSOC's Committee on NGOs, comprising 19 Member States, and granted by the Council. The Division is also the home for the Secretariat of the UN Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) Task Force. Mr. Sarbuland Khan serves as Director of DESC.

II. Engagement with External Actors

The NGO Section services the Council's Committee on NGOs by processing accreditation applications made by interested NGOs and by maintaining the database of those already accredited. The Section is also the repository of quadrennial performance reports from accredited NGOs, as required by the accreditation framework. In addition, the NGO Section has launched the United Nations Non-governmental Organizations Informal Regional Network (UN-NGO-IRENE)

DESC (continued)

initiative to facilitate networking among NGOs, and, through its capacity-building outreach programme, strengthen national and regional organizations as effective participants in economic and social development, both operationally and at the policy level.

The Secretary-General launched the Information and Communication Task Force in 2001. The Task Force provides a global forum for integrating information and communication technologies into development efforts. It also promotes multi-stakeholder public-private partnerships as new models of leadership and collaboration for bridging the digital divide. The ICT Task Force itself is a multi-stakeholder partnership involving a number of governments, UN organizations, NGOs, foundations and the private sector.

III. Organizational Resources

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IV. Information Resources

- b¹ DESC website: (www.un.org/esa/coordination/desc.htm).
- b² NGO Section website: (www.un.org/esa/coordination/ngo).
- b³ ICT Task Force website: (www.unicttaskforce.org/welcome).

DIVISION FOR SOCIAL POLICY AND DEVELOPMENT (DSPD)

I. Core Areas

The core issues that structure the work of the Division for Social Policy and Development (DSPD) include: poverty eradication and employment; intergenerational issues focusing on youth, ageing and the family; and inclusive development with an emphasis on disability.

The Division provides substantive and technical servicing to the Commission for Social Development and international conferences such as the World Summit for Social Development (Copenhagen, 1995), the Second World Assembly on Ageing (Madrid, 2002), and the 24th Special Session of the General Assembly (Geneva, 2000). It has also served as the Secretariat of major events and international years relating to social development. These events have attracted civil society actors who continue to be active in monitoring the implementation of related outcomes and programmes of action. The Division also serves the Ad-Hoc Committee on the Drafting of a Convention on the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities and the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII, see next section), both of which involve civil society interest and participation. Mr. Johan Schölvinnck serves as Director of DSPD.

II. Engagement with External Actors

The Division keeps civil society organizations informed of the activities relating to the intergovernmental mandates it serves. Both in the context of intergovernmental meetings and through the year, the Division organizes and coordinates joint meetings, seminars and workshops, as well as some projects with civil society actors.

Formal relationships with civil society are governed by ECOSOC Resolution 1996/31 (see Annex I). The Division has regular consultations, briefings and other informal engagements with NGOs and other actors, through the NGO Committees on Social Development, Ageing, and the Disabled as well as the Youth Caucus.

DSPD (continued)

III. Organizational Resources

The Division has three core staff assigned to engage with non-state actors, but other staff members from sector units (youth, ageing, disability, etc.) interact with non-governmental representatives.

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IV. Information Resources

- b Division for Social Policy and Development website: (www.un.org/esa/socdev).
- b NGO website: (www.un.org/esa/socdev/ngo/index.html).
- b Youth website: (www.un.org/esa/socdev/nyin).
- b Ageing website: (www.un.org/esa/socdev/ageing).
- b Family website: (www.un.org/esa/socdev/family).
- b Disability website: (www.un.org/esa/socdev/enable).

SECRETARIAT OF THE PERMANENT FORUM ON INDIGENOUS ISSUES (UNPFII)

I. Core Areas

The Secretariat of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII), created by ECOSOC Resolution 2000/22 in 2000, is housed in the Division for Social Policy Development. The Permanent Forum is composed of 16 members: eight government and eight indigenous peoples' leaders. The Forum meets annually and has the mandate to provide advice to ECOSOC, promote and coordinate UN system activities, and disseminate information on indigenous issues in the following areas: economic and social development, culture, the environment, education, health and human rights. The Forum is led by a Director, Ms. Elsa Stamatopoulou.

The UNPFII Secretariat services the regular Forum meetings, advocates for indigenous peoples' rights within and outside the UN system, and organizes various meetings and workshops to promote awareness and generate information about the issues relevant to the Permanent Forum.

II. Engagement with External Actors

During the International Conference on Engaging Communities (held in August 2005 and organized by the Government of the State of Queensland, Australia, with the support of the DESA), UNPFII and the Human Rights and Equality Opportunity Commission organized a capacity-building workshop on "Partnership between Indigenous Peoples, Governments and Civil Society."

This workshop discussed the evolution at the international level on engagement of indigenous peoples in governance and development activities, and identified best practices at the national and local level of such engagement. The workshop also sought to raise the awareness of policy makers about the human rights and needs of indigenous communities and the international frameworks that provide the justification for engaging indigenous communities. Examples of effective national and local government-community partnerships were highlighted.

UNPFII (continued)

III. Organizational Resources

The UNPFII Secretariat has a total of seven staff.

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IV. Information Resources

- b UNPFII website: (www.un.org/esa/socdev/unpfii/index.html).
- b UNPFII Quarterly Newsletter *The Message Stick*: (www.un.org/esa/socdev/unpfii/news/quarterlynewsle_home1.htm).
- b International Conference on Engaging Communities: Partnerships between Indigenous Peoples, Governments and Civil Society: (www.unpan.org/engagingcommunities2005_workshop4.asp).

Division for Sustainable Development (DSD)

I. Core Areas

The Division for Sustainable Development (DSD) is the Secretariat of the UN Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) and serves as the UN focal point for implementation of Agenda 21, the outcomes of the UN Conference on Environment and Development (Rio de Janeiro, 1992) as well as the outcomes of subsequent intergovernmental progress review exercises in 1997 (Special Session of the General Assembly, New York) and 2002 (World Summit on Sustainable Development, WSSD, Johannesburg, South Africa). The Division also services the follow up to the Barbados Conference on Small Island Developing States (SIDS, 1994) and the Mauritius International Meeting on SIDS (2005). The Division is headed by Ms. JoAnne DiSano.

II. Engagement with External Actors

Formal relations with non-state actors, such as participation in the CSD's annual or inter-sessional meetings, are governed by ECOSOC resolution 1996/31 (see Annex I). However, this Division has a unique engagement framework with a broad range of non-state actors guided by Agenda 21—a document adopted by Heads of State and Government at the Rio Conference.

Agenda 21 establishes the unique concept of “major groups” for engagement and partnership with a broad range of economic and social actors outside of the governmental and intergovernmental spheres. Major Groups include nine distinct categories of actors, listed in Section III of Agenda 21, as those that must be involved in achieving sustainable development, including (listed alphabetically): business and industry, children and youth, farmers, indigenous people, local authorities, NGOs, scientific and technological communities, trade unions, and women.

The CSD was the first functional commission or UN body to launch a special consultation process with major groups: the multi-stakeholder dialogue segment of the Commission's formal meeting. These segments, running from 1998 to 2002, enabled direct consultation and information sharing opportunities between members

DSD (continued)

of the CSD and the major group communities on agenda items of annual Commission meetings. Subsequent to the Johannesburg Summit in 2002, CSD decided to further integrate participation of major groups in its formal programme. Rather than holding multi-stakeholder dialogues in a separate segment, CSD members and major groups interact and share views throughout the annual two-week session.

Another special engagement mechanism, in terms of implementation efforts, is the sustainable development partnerships. These are voluntary multi-stakeholder initiatives contributing to implementation of intergovernmental commitments in Agenda 21, and its follow-up agreements (the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation). They are a complementary outcome of WSSD and an important addition to CSD's participatory process. The 300 partnerships launched during and since WSSD involve governments, major groups, UN agencies, intergovernmental organizations (IGOs) and other organizations including universities, media and multi-stakeholder networks.

III. Organizational Resources

The Major Groups Programme of the Division is responsible for engagement with all nine major group categories. It has two full-time staff including the focal point, and one half-time staff. As needed, temporary support in the form of consultant(s) are engaged for specific projects or processes.

The Major Groups Programme does not have a separate budget, but has modest access to regular budget resources to support major groups-related work, including those involving research and publications. The Division also receives extra-budgetary funds from donors, mainly to support participation of major groups from developing countries.

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DSD (continued)

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IV. Information Resources

b 'Division for Sustainable Development website:

(www.un.org/esa/sustdev/index.htm).

b 'Major Groups website: (www.un.org/esa/sustdev/mgroups/mgroups.htm).

b 'Sustainable Development Partnerships website:

(www.un.org/esa/sustdev/partnerships/partnerships.htm).

b 'Newsletters: (www.un.org/esa/sustdev/publications/publications.htm).

b 'General e-mail for major group inquiries: [<csdmregister@un.org>](mailto:csdmregister@un.org).

Financing for Development Office (FFD)

I. Core Areas

The Financing for Development (FFD) Office provides UN Secretariat support for the follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development (Monterrey, Mexico, March 2002). Based on the innovative and participatory modalities set at the Monterrey Conference, the FFD office engages with three distinct constituencies known as “non-institutional stakeholders:” civil society, the business sector and parliamentarians. Each of the constituencies has created special coordinating mechanisms: an International Facilitating Group and a Working Group for the civil society component; a Coordinating Committee of Business Interlocutors for the business sector; and an Inter-Parliamentary Task Force created by the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU). The FFD Office is headed by Mr. Oscar de Rojas.

II. Engagement with External Actors

The Multi-stakeholder Engagement and Outreach Branch coordinates the engagement of all stakeholders in the FFD process. The Branch is responsible, among other things, for organizing the biennial UN General Assembly High-level Dialogue on financing for development, the annual Spring Meeting of ECOSOC with the Bretton Woods institutions (BWIs), the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), as well as convening multi-stakeholder consultations on the mobilization of resources for financing development and poverty eradication.

III. Organizational Resources

The FFD Office has a total of three staff working on engagement with non-state actors.

Focal Point Civil Society

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FFD (continued)

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IV. Information Resources

- b 'Financing for Development website: (www.un.org/esa/ffd).
- b 'Non-state Partners' website: (www.un.org/esa/ffd/06independent.htm).

POPULATION DIVISION

I. Core Areas

The Population Division acts as the Secretariat of the UN Commission on Population and Development (CPD). Among its chief tasks, the Division prepares the official demographic estimates and projections for all countries; provides analysis of population trends and their interrelationships with social and economic development as an input to government policy; and contributes to the capacity building of Member States to formulate national population and related policies and programmes. It also monitors progress in the implementation of the recommendations set out in the Programme of Action adopted at the International Conference on Population and Development (Cairo, 1994). The Director of the Division is Ms. Hania Zlotnik.

II. Engagement with External Actors

Formal relationships with civil society, including the participation of accredited NGOs at meetings of the CPD, are handled in collaboration with DESA's NGO Section. The Population Division also invites contributions from civil society organizations and academia to its ad hoc expert meetings.

III. Organizational Resources

The Director of the Division, in collaboration with DESA's NGO section, facilitates civil society participation at the CPD and other meetings.

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POPULATION DIVISION (continued)

IV. Information Resources

b `Population Division website: (www.un.org/esa/population/unpop.htm).

b `World Population Prospects: (<http://esa.un.org/unpp>).

b `E-mail Alerts:

(<http://webapps01.un.org/pd/announcement/displayAnnouncementService.doc>).

b `Population *Newsletter*:

(www.un.org/esa/population/publications/popnews/popnews.htm).

b `United Nations Population Information Network: (www.un.org/popin).

b `Collaborative Network of Population Research Institutes:

(www.demonetasia.org).

SECRETARIAT OF THE UN FORUM ON FORESTS (UNFF)

I. Core Areas

The United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF) was created in 2000 by the Economic and Social Council upon completion of two previous intergovernmental processes that considered how to take forward the Forest Principles adopted by the UN Conference on Environment and Development (Rio de Janeiro, 1992) and Agenda 21 Chapter 11 on Combating Deforestation. The two previous processes were the Inter-governmental Panel on Forests (1995-1997) and the Inter-governmental Forum on Forests (1997-2000), both under the auspices of the UN Commission on Sustainable Development.

The UNFF is an international arrangement on forests created to “*promote the management, conservation and sustainable development of all types of forests and to strengthen long-term political commitment to this end*” (ECOSOC Resolution 2000/35). The Forum promotes the implementation of internationally agreed actions on forests at the national, regional and global levels, while providing a coherent, transparent and participatory global framework for policy implementation, coordination and development. The Secretariat is headed by Mr. Pekka Patosaari.

II. Engagement with External Actors

As an institution that stems from the Rio Conference, UNFF’s engagement modalities are based on the framework provided by Agenda 21 under Section III on Major Groups. The Forum works with the nine major group categories (see section on DSD/DESA above for the full list of the categories). To participate in the Forum’s meetings, organizations that fall under any of the major group categories need to be accredited with ECOSOC or included on the CSD Roster. At UNFF meetings, major group engagement is varied and rich, including multi-stakeholder dialogues and other interactive mechanisms with which the major groups inform the Forum’s debate.

The UNFF Secretariat works closely with representatives of major group networks and organizations who function as focal points to facilitate their participation in the multi-stakeholder dialogues of the UNFF. The focal points are invited and identified by organizations from each major group that have specialized interest and expertise

UNFF (continued)

in forest related issues—such as associations of forest-products related businesses, organizations of young people who are students of forest management, or trade unions from the forest products related sectors.

In addition to this policy engagement, UNFF maintains a close relationship with organizations focused on implementation activities through the Collaborative Partnership Network on Forests. The CPF Network is an informal, voluntary mechanism created around the major implementing agencies and convention Secretariats that are active in forest-related work.

III. Organizational Resources

Address

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USA

The UNFF Secretariat raises extra-budgetary resources to support its engagement with major groups, such as travel funds to support major group participants from developing countries.

Focal Point Major Groups

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IV. Information Resources

- b United Nations Forum on Forests website: (www.un.org/esa/forests).
- b Major groups related website: (www.un.org/esa/forests/participation.html#1).
- b CPF Network: (www.fao.org/forestry/site/2082/en).

DEPARTMENT OF PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS (DPKO)

I. Core Areas

In accordance with the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) is dedicated to assisting Member States and the Secretary-General in their efforts to maintain international peace and security. The Department plans, prepares, manages and directs UN peacekeeping operations so that they can effectively fulfill their mandates under the overall authority of the Security Council and General Assembly, and under the command vested in the Secretary-General. DPKO is currently headed by Mr. Jean-Marie Guéhenno, Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations.

DPKO provides political and executive direction to UN peacekeeping operations, and maintains contact with the Security Council, troop, police and financial contributors, and parties to the conflict in the implementation of Security Council mandates. DPKO strives to provide the best possible and most cost-efficient administrative and logistical support to missions in the field through the timely deployment of quality equipment and services, adequate financial resources and well-trained personnel. The Department works to integrate the efforts of UN, governmental and non-governmental entities in the context of peacekeeping operations. DPKO also provides guidance and support on military, police, mine action, and logistical and administrative issues to other UN political and peace-building missions.

Each peacekeeping operation has a specific set of mandated tasks, but all share certain common aims—to alleviate human suffering, as well as create the conditions and build institutions for self-sustaining peace. The substantial presence of a peacekeeping operation on the ground contributes to this aim by introducing the UN as a third party with a direct impact on the political process. In the exercise of its tasks, DPKO works to minimize the many risks to which peacekeepers may be exposed in the field.

Peacekeeping operations may consist of several aspects, including a military

DPKO (continued)

component, which may or may not be armed, and various civilian components encompassing a broad range of disciplines. Depending on their mandate, peacekeeping missions may be deployed to:

- b` Prevent the outbreak of conflict or the spill-over of conflict across borders;
- b` Stabilize conflict situations after a cease fire, to create an environment for the parties to reach a lasting peace agreement;
- b` Assist in implementing comprehensive peace agreements; and
- b` Lead States or territories through a transition to stable government, based on democratic principles, good governance and economic development.

II. Engagement with External Actors

DPKO often actively engages with civil society organizations in order to effectively implement its mandate. Civil society groups and organizations have a key role to play in promoting peace, stability, democracy and socio-economic development in post-conflict situations where peacekeeping missions operate. The work of CSOs (local and international) can often complement that of a peacekeeping operation and in the case of the local organizations, it is often to the peacekeeping operation's advantage to strengthen the capacity of civil society to enable it to play its role to the fullest extent and engage effectively in governance and socio-economic development. These relationships are premised on mutual objectives, if not overlapping mandates, and are therefore seen to be mutually beneficial.

External actors have played a particularly important role in the multi-dimensional missions of the past decade, which include thematic components such as gender; HIV/AIDS; Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR); judicial affairs; corrections; elections and human rights. The successful execution of these thematic programmes is to a large extent dependant on close collaboration with a broad spectrum of civil society entities. A few examples include:

- b` In the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), the UN Mission in the Democratic Republic of Congo (MONUC) works closely with both international and local NGOs, who are sub-contracted to run reception centres and transit camps for ex-combatants within MONUC's Disarmament, Demobilization,

DPKO (continued)

Repatriation, Resettlement and Reintegration (DDRRR) programme. Representatives from civil society, such as church leaders, businessmen, and local associations, work with MONUC in the gathering of information on foreign and Congolose armed groups in the DRC;

b In Afghanistan, Côte d'Ivoire and Liberia, DPKO's correction officers engage with local NGOs who provide a range of assistance, including the delivery of medical assistance or food to prison inmates or who aim to improve prison conditions;

b The Civil Affairs Section of the United Nations Mission in the Sudan (UNMIS) works with various non-state actors involved in the national reconciliation process to support the participation of civil society in the promotion of sustainable peace and a just implementation of the peace agreements;

b In Eritrea, the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea (UNMEE) HIV/AIDS programme provides HIV/AIDS awareness training to schools and women's groups, amongst other civil society groups. It further works with local NGOs supporting people living with HIV/AIDS; and

b In several missions, Quick Impact Projects are executed by local implementing partners.

In addition to collaboration on the implementation of missions' mandates in these thematic areas, DPKO missions, as well as its Headquarters, involve civil society in policy-developing processes. Examples of such collaboration are:

b In Haiti, the UN Inter-Agency National Plan on Violence Against Women, which included national women's organizations, held a workshop to define a national strategy on preventing violence against women;

b At Headquarters, DPKO collaborates closely with the NGO Working Group on Women, Peace and Security through information sharing, meetings and events to enhance implementation of Security Council Resolution 1325;

b Judicial and Corrections officers work with a range of international NGOs to develop training programmes for DPKO judicial/corrections staff, policy dialogue on rule of law issues and the development of model codes for post-conflict settings; and

b In Sudan, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General has invited CSOs, including academic institutions, to contribute to the development of an implementation plan for the mission's mandated activities.

DPKO (continued)

Focal points for non-state actors in peacekeeping operations tend to vary, depending on the type of work in which the organization in question is involved. Individual missions may have focal points for this purpose—for example, for those working with the media may liaise with the Public Information section, while those in development or relief efforts may work with the relief and reconstruction sections of the mission. The Office of Operations at DPKO Headquarters in New York also has focal points for regional peacekeeping capacity building, primarily in Africa, as well as for regional organizations such as the EU, NATO and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE).

III. Organizational Resources

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DPKO does not have a civil society focal point. Questions related to DPKO's engagement with civil society can be addressed to the Advisors covering specific thematic areas. Currently, most of these (gender, HIV/AIDS, corrections, judicial affairs and DDR) are part of the Peacekeeping Best Practices Unit: (<http://pbpu.unlb.org>).

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL AFFAIRS (DPA)

I. Core Areas

The mission of the Department of Political Affairs (DPA) is to “*provide advice and support on all political matters to the Secretary-General in the exercise of his global responsibility under the Charter relating to the maintenance and restoration of peace and security.*” To carry out its mission, the Department conducts analysis of global political developments, identifies potential or actual conflicts and recommends appropriate actions to the Secretary-General; and assists the Secretary-General in the areas of preventive diplomacy, peacemaking, and peacebuilding. DPA serves as the Secretariat for the following intergovernmental bodies: the UN Security Council and its subsidiary organs; the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People; and the Special Committee of the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

The Department is headed by Mr. Ibrahim A. Gambari, Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs. In total there are about 240 staff working for DPA.

DPA does not have a tradition of extensive engagements with non-state actors. One exception to this has been its Division for Palestinian Rights, which has several decades of history in engagement with NGOs focusing on the question of Palestine.

Division for Palestinian Rights

This Division services the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, and works with the approximately 1,000 NGOs accredited to the Committee and/or on the mailing list of the Division. These diverse NGOs are invited to participate in the various meetings, and receive news and updates from the United Nations on the question of Palestine, as well as information on activities carried out by other NGOs worldwide. The Committee’s programme includes the convening of international meetings and conferences, with the participation of political personalities, representatives of governments and intergovernmental organizations, UN officials, academics, and the media, to

DPA (continued)

which NGOs are also invited. The focus of the meetings is to draw support for the Palestinian national rights and on the Israeli-Palestinian peace process.

Conference on Conflict Prevention

DPA entered into a unique partnership with NGOs involved in conflict prevention that led to the organization of a global conference on the prevention of armed conflict. DPA's co-sponsorship for the July 2005 conference was based on the 2001 report of the Secretary-General on the Prevention of Armed Conflict in which the Secretary-General urged NGOs with an interest in conflict prevention to organize an international conference of local, national and international NGOs on their role in conflict prevention and future interaction with the UN in this field. In response, the European Centre for Conflict Prevention, together with a wide international network of NGOs, set in motion an integrated global programme of research, consultations and discussions that culminated in an international conference held at UN Headquarters in New York in July 2005.

II. Organizational Resources

Focal Point for NGOs

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III. Information Resources

- b DPA website: (www.un.org/Depts/dpa/ngo).
- b Conference website: (www.conflict-prevention.net).

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INFORMATION (DPI)

I. Core Areas

The UN Department of Public Information (UNDPI) is the central source of information about the UN and its work. The Department aims to generate public understanding and support for the principles and work of the Organization, and maintains contacts with a broad range of media partners around the world. Its News and Media Division manages the UN's website; facilitates television coverage; delivers webcastings of official meetings; and coordinates and services the press coverage of meetings and briefings at Headquarters and other UN centres around the world. The Outreach Division publishes the *UN Yearbook* and the quarterly magazine, the *UN Chronicle*; oversees the sales and marketing of many UN publications; the CyberSchoolBus and UN Works information websites; services a public exhibits programme at Headquarters; and manages the UN Dag Hammarskjöld Library. Through its Civil Society Service, UNDPPI coordinates many projects with civil society partners. The Strategic Planning Division disseminates information about UN conferences and the substantive work of Departments, and coordinates the UN Information Centres (UNICs) in the field, which have direct links to governments, NGOs and media at the national level. The Department is headed by Mr. Sashi Tharoor, Under-Secretary-General for Communication and Public Information.

II. Engagement with External Actors

The Civil Society Service of DPI coordinates the outreach to NGOs and civil society organizations interested in supporting and promoting the work of the United Nations. The Service includes an Educational Outreach Section; an NGO Section; a Public Relations Section; and a Group Programmes and Community Liaison Unit. Within UNDPPI, the NGO Section is the primary contact for civil society actors.

The NGO Section liaises with the 1,500 NGOs associated with the Department and provides information services for those in consultative status with ECOSOC (see Annex II for association criteria and procedures). NGOs are encouraged to disseminate information through newsletters, bulletins and pamphlets, radio or television programmes, and through public activities such as conferences, lectures, seminars or

DPI (continued)

workshops. All NGOs can obtain UN public information materials from UNICs around the world.

The DPI/NGO Section at UN Headquarters provides a number of services to its associated organizations. Among others, the NGO Section:

- b Provides ground passes which grant a main and an alternate NGO representative access to all “open” meetings of UN bodies; access to DPI photo, film and audio libraries; to the Dag Hammarskjöld Library; and, as observers to the meetings of some 22 NGO committees organized by the Conference of NGOs in Consultative Status with ECOSOC (CONGO);
- b Coordinates joint DPI/NGO information programmes;
- b Conducts a yearly orientation course for newly accredited NGO representatives;
- b Conducts weekly briefings for the NGO community on a range of global issues with speakers from the UN system, Member State delegates and NGOs;
- b Publishes a bi-annual *Directory of NGOs associated with DPI*;
- b Maintains an NGO Resource Centre offering access to UN documents and videos; and
- b Organizes, in partnership with the NGO/DPI Executive Committee, the Annual DPI/NGO Conference, the main NGO event at Headquarters each year.

III. Organizational Resources

The DPI Civil Society Service has a total of seven staff.

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DPI (continued)

IV. Information Resources

b DPI website: (www.un.org/dpi).

b DPI NGO website: (www.un.org/dpi/ngosection/index.html).

b Interactive Annual DPI/NGO Conference website: (www.undpingoconference.org).

OFFICE FOR THE COORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS (OCHA)

I. Core Areas

The Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) is mandated to mobilize and coordinate effective and principled humanitarian action in partnership with national and international actors in order to alleviate human suffering in disasters and emergencies; advocate for the rights of people in need; promote preparedness and prevention; and facilitate sustainable solutions.

In December 1991, General Assembly Resolution 46/182 strengthened the UN's response to both complex emergencies and natural disasters and created the high level position of Emergency Relief Coordinator (ERC) and the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC),¹ the Consolidated Appeals Process (CAP)² and the Central Emergency Revolving Fund (CERF)³ as key coordination mechanisms and tools of the ERC. OCHA carries out its coordination function primarily through the IASC, which is chaired by the ERC. The IASC ensures inter-agency decision making in response to complex emergencies. These responses include needs assessments, consolidated appeals, field coordination arrangements and the development of humanitarian policies.

The functions of the ERC are focused in three core areas: (i) policy development in support of the Secretary-General, ensuring that all humanitarian issues, including those which fall between gaps in existing mandates of agencies, such as protection and assistance for internally displaced persons (IDPs), are addressed; (ii) advocacy of humanitarian issues with political organs, notably the Security Council; and (iii) coordination of humanitarian emergency response, by ensuring that an appropriate response mechanism is established, through IASC consultations, on the ground. Mr. Jan Egeland took up the post as Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator in September 2003. Headquartered in Geneva, OCHA employs 860 staff members worldwide and had an annual budget of US\$99 million in 2005.

OCHA (continued)

II. Engagement with External Actors

Civil Society

OCHA engages primarily with international NGOs and civil society networks that focus on humanitarian issues. Many of these networks have local chapters or strong ties to locally-based NGOs that serve as important sources of information and expertise to OCHA's work. NGOs work together with OCHA in the three core areas of OCHA activities: policy development, advocacy and coordination. In recent years, partnerships in mobilizing and delivering humanitarian assistance between NGOs and OCHA have grown considerably throughout the world.

Regular meetings in New York and Geneva provide a unique forum for the UN and NGOs to consult around all aspects of inter-agency work and discuss operational and policy issues on current emergencies as well as rehabilitation and recovery projects. The Inter-Agency Standing Committee comprises all major humanitarian actors, including three international NGO consortia: InterAction, the International Council of Voluntary Agencies (ICVA), and the Steering Committee for Humanitarian Response (SCHR). Other NGOs are invited to participate in IASC meetings on an ad hoc basis to share information on their activities. Since February 2002 a monthly NGO-chaired IASC meeting takes place in Geneva. In New York, a similar monthly meeting is held with NGO participants, and co-chaired by an NGO member of InterAction, a coalition of more than 150 humanitarian organizations providing disaster relief and refugee assistance worldwide, and OCHA. The agendas in both locations are developed by the NGO community and strengthen dialogue among the NGO community and the United Nations on core humanitarian operational, policy and advocacy issues.

OCHA has involved NGOs in advocacy work at all stages of disaster reduction including preparedness, prevention and impact mitigation. An example of this type of collaboration is the Sphere Project,⁴ where NGOs have developed a humanitarian charter and have articulated minimum standards and best practices in humanitarian action. Similarly, NGOs have been involved in advocacy campaigns on internally

OCHA (continued)

displaced persons,⁵ and participated in inter-agency missions organized by OCHA to identify problems faced by IDPs and ways to strengthen the international response to internal displacement.

In addition to coordination efforts through the IASC, NGOs contribute to emergency response planning through the International Search and Rescue Advisory Group (INSARAG). The Group invites all countries or organizations with international Urban Search and Rescue Response capacity as well as countries that are prone to earthquakes. To become a member of the INSARAG network, organizations can address a request to the INSARAG Secretariat through their respective governments.

OCHA has also entered into a standby partnership with many NGOs to provide the Office with staff for up to six months to cater for unexpected gaps in OCHA field offices. The partnership works on a cost sharing basis in which the providing organization pays salary and travel-to-country costs and OCHA pays all in-country costs.

Two other areas of OCHA's work also involve NGO participation: the NGO community is represented in the Inter-Agency Advisory Panel to the Military and Civil Defense Unit (MCDU),⁶ as well as of the Consultative Group on the Use of Military and Civil Defense Assets (MCDA). MCDU serves as the UN focal point for governments, international organizations and military and civil defense establishments for the employment of military assets in humanitarian situations and coordinates their mobilization when needed. An increasing number of NGOs participate in the MCDU-run UN Civil Military Coordination (UN-CMCoord) training programme and work with both international and local NGOs during exercises.

OCHA also involves local and international NGOs in the preparation of the Consolidated Appeals Process (CAP), through collaboration with the Common Humanitarian Assistance Programming (CHAP), which is one of CAP's major strategy setting and consensus-building instruments. Partnerships are another means through which OCHA engages with NGOs and civil society groups. The United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security (UNTFHS)⁷ finances projects carried out by non-UN entities to advance the operational impact of the human security concept. The

OCHA (continued)

UNTFHS places priority on promoting multi-sectoral integration, with priority given to countries and regions where the insecurities of people are most critical and pervasive, such as the least developed countries (LDCs) and countries in conflict.

For field operations, OCHA has regularly provided support for NGOs in their relief efforts, including: customs clearances and exemption from import taxes on goods; logistical support for relief delivery; security of NGO humanitarian workers; and access to disaster zones. OCHA has also worked to channel funds provided by donors to local NGOs to implement community assistance and capacity-building projects.

Information sharing is another area through which OCHA has generated partnerships with NGOs. Websites and databases have been created to help monitor relief activities of stakeholders, security concerns, or socio-economic trends in countries affected by humanitarian catastrophes. OCHA has also commissioned NGOs to carry out studies on current challenges faced by humanitarian agencies.

Private Sector

OCHA's engagement with the private sector is multifaceted. OCHA facilitates partnerships between operational agencies and private companies who wish to bring additional resources to complement and integrate existing mechanisms and disaster response tools. To this end, OCHA has developed a website providing orientation to businesses on how to contribute to United Nations emergency relief efforts. OCHA is also active with the Disaster Resource Network,⁸ an initiative of the World Economic Forum, aimed at assisting humanitarian organizations in bringing in expertise and equipment.

Extent of Collaboration

OCHA cooperates with companies such as Ericsson⁹ "first on the ground partnership" which has been operational since mid 2001. Ericsson provides rapid deployment of communications solutions and skills to support them. OCHA has a partnership with PricewaterhouseCoopers, which offers pro bono professional services to assist the UN with its efforts to enhance accountability and

OCHA (continued)

transparency with respect to the use of contributions made under the UN Tsunami Appeal. OCHA also receives private contributions for disaster relief coordination.

Parliamentarians

OCHA takes full advantage of the opportunity provided by Members of Parliaments (MPs) interested in humanitarian action to enhance its outreach towards governments, parliamentary assemblies, and regional and international institutions. Several activities contribute to establishing a strong and fruitful partnership between OCHA and MPs, such as the organization of dedicated briefings and “fact-finding” missions to major crisis zones, including forgotten emergencies. MPs who have shared the plight of victims, upon return to their constituencies, become witnesses and advocates of UN humanitarian action. OCHA also lobbies parliamentarians to ensure better funding for neglected crises.

In 2004 and 2005, OCHA strengthened its working relations with MPs through regular briefings to the European Parliament, the European Parliamentary Assembly (Council of Europe), the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly and members of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), among others. Hearings and briefings have focused on humanitarian crises in Africa and the response to the Indian Ocean Tsunami.

III. Organizational Resources

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OCHA (continued)

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IV. Information Resources

1. Inter-Agency Standing Committee: (www.humanitarianinfo.org/iasc).
2. Consolidated Appeals Process: (www.un.org/depts/ocha/cap) and (<http://ochaonline.un.org/cap2005/>).
3. Central Emergency Revolving Fund: (<http://ochaonline.un.org/webpage.asp?Page=894>).
4. The Sphere Project: (www.sphereproject.org).
5. Unit on Internal Displacement: (www.reliefweb.int/idp).
6. The Military and Civil Defense Unit: (www.reliefweb.int/mcdls).
7. The United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security: (<http://ochaonline.un.org/webpage.asp?MenuID=9672&Page=1503>).
8. Disaster Resource Network: (<http://66.223.23.193/index.html>).
9. UN-OCHA Cooperation with Ericsson: (www.ericsson.com/about/ericssonresponse/partnership/united_nations.shtml).

Additional Resources

- b For more information on OCHA: (www.reliefweb.int) and (<http://ochaonline.un.org>).
- b Advocacy and the Public Information Section: (<http://ochaonline.un.org/webpage.asp>).
- b Information on the Field Coordination Support Section is available online: (<http://ochaonline.un.org/webpage.asp?SiteID=234>).

OFFICE OF THE SPECIAL ADVISOR FOR AFRICA (OSAA)

I. Core Areas

Established in May 2003, the Office of the Special Advisor for Africa (OSAA) promotes international support for peace and development in the continent of Africa through advocacy and facilitation of intergovernmental deliberations on Africa, particularly with the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD). The Office assists the UN Secretary-General to further UN system support for the Continent. South-South Cooperation is among the special focus areas. A recent development in this area is the Asia-Africa cooperation process that held its most recent meeting in 2005 in Indonesia. OSAA also aims to create a similar cooperation process between Africa and Latin America.

II. Engagement with External Actors

OSAA engages with a broad range of African non-governmental and civil society organizations. In addition, the Office works with the African private sector and organizations working on gender issues. Regarding the latter, OSAA provides networking information on its website for UN and non-UN organizations, including NGOs that have expertise on gender issues in the context of Africa.

Civil Society

OSAA's work with African NGOs and CSOs is based on the observation that the legitimacy and sustainability of NEPAD depends on the extent to which the African people are involved in the implementation of the NEPAD programmes. Recognizing this imperative, African governments have made strong commitments to work in partnership with civil society and other partners in NEPAD-related activities. Civil society can engage in NEPAD-related processes at the national, regional and international levels.

At the national level, African CSOs have been engaged in formulating poverty reduction strategies and are now expected to be significantly involved in

OSAA (continued)

monitoring progress in achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). At the regional level, civil society has been engaged with the African Union (AU) as well as in conflict prevention and peacebuilding efforts in Africa.

At the international level, CSO counterparts have been lobbying and advocating on behalf of Africa in such areas as debt relief, increased official development assistance (ODA) and market access for African exports. The United Nations is also increasingly providing an international platform/forum for facilitating the type of government and civil society interaction which would be beneficial to African countries.

OSAA supports the work of civil society organizations in Africa through the publication of a number of reports highlighting their contribution in addressing threats to peace and security and development in Africa. These reports include:

b ` *The emerging Role of NGOs in African Sustainable Development—UN-NADAF 1991-2001* (UNOSCAL 1996);

b ` *Microfinance and Poverty Eradication—Strengthening Africa’s Microfinance Institutions* (UNOSCAL 2000);

b ` *African Civil Society Organizations & Development: Re-Evaluating for the 21st Century* (UNOSCAL 2002);

b ` *Community Realities and Responses to HIV/AIDS in Sub-Saharan Africa* (UNOSAA 2003);

b ` *Assessing the Role of Civil Society in the Prevention of Armed Conflict in Africa* (UNOSAA July 2005); and

b ` *Poverty Eradication, Youth Employment, and HIV In Sub-Saharan Africa—The Introduction and Practices of Entry-Level Microcredit* (July 2005).

OSAA is also working to make African civil society more visible through the annual update of the publication: *Networking—The Directory of African NGOs*. Since the first edition published in 1999, two new editions have been published in CD-ROM and contain 3,867 organizations categorized according to priority issues identified within NEPAD, including microfinance, poverty, HIV/AIDS, youth, women and conflict prevention.

OSAA (continued)

Private Sector

OSAA's work with the private sector focuses on promoting partnerships between African businesses and civil society through NEPAD. Emphasis is placed on public-private collaboration, partnerships between non-governmental actors and the empowerment of the African private sector.

III. Organizational Resources

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IV. Information Resources

b OSAA website: (www.un.org/esa/africa).
b *Civil Society Directory*: (www.unpan.org/NGO-Africa-Directory/index.htm) or
(www.un.org/africa/osaa/ngodirectory/index.htm).

UN FUND FOR INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS (UNFIP)

I. Core Areas

The United Nations Fund for International Partnerships (UNFIP) serves as the operational arm of the Secretary-General in the partnership between the United Nations system and the United Nations Foundation (UNF), a public charity responsible for administering Ted Turner's US\$1 billion contribution in support of UN causes. The Fund was established by the Secretary-General in 1998 and set up as an autonomous trust fund.

UNFIP, led by Executive Director Amir A. Dossal, facilitates innovative partnerships with companies, foundations and civil society organizations to create sustainable livelihoods in developing countries. Engaging partners at various levels, UNFIP mobilizes expertise, technology, delivery systems, funding and other resources in support of the Millennium Development Goals. UNFIP has a total of 16 staff and a budget of US\$2.4 million.

UNFIP efforts focus on four thematic categories:

(i) The Children's Health Programme supports the UN's approach to enhance global public health systems through preventive interventions. The main areas of interest include: eradication of polio and other infectious diseases; prevention of tobacco use; and reduction of child mortality.

(ii) The Women & Population Programme supports UN efforts to improve the quality of sexual and reproductive health. Programme activities also focus on encouraging significant social and economic progress for adolescent girls and women.

(iii) The Environment Programme fosters renewable energy and energy efficiency projects to combat climate change in developing nations and supports long-term initiatives to protect the world's biodiversity.

(iv) The Peace, Security & Human Rights Programme promotes integrated structural approaches to conflict prevention, while also strengthening the United

UNFIP (continued)

Nations' central position in the cause of human rights.

II. Engagement with External Actors

UNFIP only engages indirectly with civil society and the private sector, and proposals are only accepted from the UN system. However, in line with the Secretary-General's approach to engage all actors, UNFIP and UNF are strongly interested in involving civil society and the private sector. They are encouraged to contact appropriate UN agencies, funds and programmes to establish constructive partnerships where possible.

The development of partnerships as a framework for collaboration with civil society and private sector partners is one of the key funding criteria for UNFIP grants. Public-private partnerships and alliances are seen as crucial in addressing global problems.

The Fund promotes new public-private partnerships and alliances worldwide by: identifying and opening avenues of collaboration; assisting in the design and evaluation of projects; providing advice on UN rules, funding modalities, best practices and lessons learned; facilitating networks; and creating an enabling environment for corporate and individual philanthropy. As of 2004 UNFIP has facilitated over 200 project and partnership requests which included 19 UN entities, five academic institutions, 65 companies, 35 foundations, ten governments, and 65 NGOs.

Examples of partnership initiatives which have been supported by UNFIP/UNF include the Equator Initiative¹ and the Cisco Networking Academy Initiative² in the LDCs. The Equator Initiative brings together UN agencies, governments, civil society, businesses and foundations to help build the capacity and raise the profile of local enterprises in the tropics that link economic improvement and job creation with protecting the environment. In cooperation with UNDP and other partners, the Cisco Networking Academy Programme provides students in least developed countries with skills that enable them to design, build and maintain computer networks. Other UNFIP grants which involved external actors are the 1998 UNFPA NGO/Youth Forum and the tobacco-free children and youth project of the World Health Organization (WHO).

UNFIP (continued)

III. Organizational Resources

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IV. Information Resources

1. Equator Initiative: (www.equatorinitiative.org).
2. Cisco Networking Academy Initiative:
(www.cisco.netacad.net/public/digital_divide/ldc/index.html).

Additional Resources

- b `UNFIP website: (www.un.org/unfip).
- b `UNFIP Newsletter: (www.un.org/unfip/2004Website/infonewsletters.htm).
- b `Guidelines on Partnership with the Private Sector:
(www.un.org/unfip/2004Website/docs/Guidelines_on%20UN_Business%20Cooperation.pdf).

UNITED NATIONS GLOBAL COMPACT OFFICE

I. Core Areas

Launched by UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan in 2000, the Global Compact is the world's largest voluntary corporate citizenship initiative. It brings companies together with UN agencies, labour and civil society in support of universal principles in the areas of human rights, labour, environment, and anti-corruption. Over 2,000 companies from more than 80 countries, as well as numerous labour and civil society organizations, are engaged in advancing the ten Global Compact principles, which are derived from the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,¹ the International Labour Organization's Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work,² the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,³ and the United Nations Convention Against Corruption.⁴ Mr. Georg Kell is the Executive Head of the Global Compact.

Global Compact Principles:

Human Rights

Principle 1: Businesses should support and respect the protection of internationally proclaimed human rights; and
Principle 2: make sure that they are not complicit in human rights abuses.

Labour

Principle 3: Businesses should uphold the freedom of association and the effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining;
Principle 4: the elimination of all forms of forced and compulsory labour;
Principle 5: the effective abolition of child labour; and
Principle 6: the elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation.

Environment

Principle 7: Businesses should support a precautionary approach to environmental challenges;
Principle 8: undertake initiatives to promote greater environmental responsibility; and
Principle 9: encourage the development and diffusion of environmentally friendly technologies.

GLOBAL COMPACT (continued)

Anti-Corruption

Principle 10: Businesses should work against all forms of corruption, including extortion and bribery.

II. Engagement with External Actors

The Global Compact is by definition a multi-stakeholder initiative that aims to link business in a constructive dialogue with other actors, such as labour groups, NGOs, governments and UN agencies. As Global Compact partners, these actors support the implementation of the ten principles, provide expertise and guidance on critical issues, and can often play a key role in developing practical tools and training materials.

During its first five years, the Global Compact has increasingly found voice through self-organized country and regional networks, usually driven by the companies' need to translate the Compact's global principles into local action. For example, in 2004-2005, the Global Compact Egypt network held a series of seminars on implementation, while the Global Compact Society India convened a two-day "Global Compact Regional Conclave in South Asia" that focused on the issue of business and poverty. The more than 40 country networks that have been launched thus far have become a driving force behind the Compact.

Extent of Collaboration

In recent years, the Global Compact has launched a variety of initiatives in cooperation with external partners:

b 'The Who Cares Wins Initiative⁵ makes recommendations to the financial sector seeking the commitment of mainstream investment companies to integrate environmental, social and governance factors into their financial analysis and decision-making process. The initiative is supported by CEOs of 20 global companies as well as by the International Finance Corporation (IFC) and the World Bank Group. Other partners include the Swiss Government, the Conference Board, and the United Nations Environment Programme Finance Initiative (UNEP FI).

b 'The Global Compact Policy Dialogue on the Role of the Private Sector in

GLOBAL COMPACT (continued)

Zones of Conflict⁶ aims to demonstrate that while leading companies are embracing the notion that good corporate citizenship extends beyond the company gate, their activities in this area would need supportive public policies. The report *Enabling Economies of Peace: Public Policy for Conflict-Sensitive Business*⁷ (April 2005) identifies a series of public policy options by which governments and international organizations can better assist the private sector to promote effective conflict sensitive business practices and sustainable peace. Additionally, it assesses the achievements and limitations of emerging private sector initiatives, identifies continuing gaps, and surveys the range of opportunities for complementary public policy assistance to companies.

b *Business Contributions to UN Emergency Relief: An Orientation Guide*⁸ was launched in cooperation with the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) at a conference in April 2005. Developed after the December 2004 Southeast Asian Tsunami relief effort, the *Guide* assists businesses in identifying effective ways to support the UN's emergency relief efforts and aims to improve the system of channeling private sector contributions amid global crises.

b The Growing Sustainable Business Initiative (GSB)⁹ is implemented by UNDP and has mobilized companies to invest in less developed countries in order to build key economic, social and environmental pillars. The full integration of the ten principles by participating companies, accompanied by well-selected partnership projects, has proven to be a driving force for local development. GSB projects have been successfully implemented in Madagascar, Tanzania, Kenya and Ethiopia, with further countries expected to launch the initiative in the near future.¹⁰

Private Sector

The Global Compact's participant base is composed of large multinational and domestic companies, in addition to small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) which represent approximately 35% of the total number. The relatively large number of SMEs is especially important given that in many developing countries SMEs provide the lion's share of employment and effectively constitute the greater part of the private sector. Nearly two-thirds of the companies participating

GLOBAL COMPACT (continued)

in the Global Compact are from developing countries.

By joining the Global Compact, companies commit to aligning their business practices with the ten Global Compact principles. The Compact has adopted a “leadership model” of engagement, where senior executives drive corporate engagement, initiated by a CEO letter pledging commitment to the Compact’s principles, and supported—whenever possible—by the board of directors. Once this commitment is made, a company:

- b Sets in motion changes to business operations so that the Global Compact and its principles become part of the company’s strategy, culture and day-to-day operations;
- b Is expected to publicly advocate the Global Compact and its principles via communications vehicles such as press releases, speeches, etc.; and
- b Is expected to publish in its annual financial report or similar document (e.g. sustainability report), a description of the ways in which it is supporting the Global Compact and all ten principles – the *Communications on Progress*.¹¹

The Global Compact Office neither regulates nor monitors a company’s activities. The Compact’s website carries the names of all participating companies and provides links to relevant reports, including the *Communications on Progress*. Participating companies also have the opportunity to contribute to a number of Global Compact activities at the global and local levels, through dialogue, learning activities and partnership projects.

Civil Society

CSOs add critical dimensions to the Compact’s operations. They offer not just their competencies and substantive knowledge, but their problem-solving capacity and outreach. They help provide checks and balances and lend credibility and social legitimacy to the initiative. These characteristics help entrench the Global Compact’s principles in a broader social context.

When participating in dialogue, CSOs add value in the areas of relationship building, information sharing, problem solving and consensus building. As project partners, their practical reach and skills are often crucial to the design and

GLOBAL COMPACT (continued)

implementation of initiatives that give practical meaning to the Compact's principles. These initiatives also help to maximize learning efforts associated with a company's Compact-related activities.

Labour

Internationally recognized labour standards, including the fundamental rights that are part of the Compact's ten principles, are developed in a tripartite process between business, labour and governments. They are also involved in the supervisory procedures of the International Labour Organization to try to ensure that labour standards are implemented at the national level.

The organizational structures of the international trade union movement enable it to participate in the Global Compact in a way that covers engagement on both sectoral and general policy issues. The long trade union traditions of internal democracy, transparency and accountability to members are contributions of this sector to the Global Compact process.

III. Organizational Resources

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The Global Compact office has a staff of 15. Its activities are funded through extra-budgetary contributions from donor governments.

Focal Point

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GLOBAL COMPACT (continued)

IV. Information Resources

1. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights:
(www.un.org/Overview/rights.html).
2. The International Labour Organization's Declaration of Human Rights:
(www.ilo.org/dyn/declaris/DECLARATIONWEB.INDEXPAGE).
3. The Rio Declaration on Environment and Development:
(www.un.org/esa/sustdev/documents/agenda21/index.htm).
4. The United Nations Convention Against Corruption:
(www.unodc.org/unodc/en/crime_convention_corruption.html).
5. *Who Cares Wins: Connecting Financial Markets to a Changing World*:
(www.unglobalcompact.org/irj/servlet/prt/portal/prtroot/com.sapportals.km.docs/ungc_html_content/NewsDocs/WhoCaresWins.pdf).
6. *Policy Dialogue on the Role of the Private Sector in Zones of Conflict*:
(www.unglobalcompact.org/irj/servlet/prt/portal/prtroot/com.sapportals.km.docs/ungc_html_content/Dialogue/PolicyDialogues2002/ZonesOfConflict/MultistakeholderInitiativeinZonesofConflict.pdf).
7. *Enabling Economies of Peace: Public Policy for Conflict-Sensitive Business*:
(www.unglobalcompact.org/content/NewsDocs/enabling_econ.pdf).
8. *Business Contributions to UN Emergency Relief: An Orientation Guide*:
(<http://ochaonline2.un.org/Default.aspx?alias=ochaonline2.un.org/businesscontributions>).
9. Growing Sustainable Business Initiative:
(www.unglobalcompact.org/irj/servlet/prt/portal/prtroot/com.sapportals.km.docs/ungc_html_content/Dialogue/PolicyDialogues2002/SustainableDevelopment/GSB_overview.pdf).
10. Information on GSB Projects: (www.undp.org/business/gsb).
11. Communications on Progress: (www.unglobalcompact.org/Portal/Default.asp?).

PART II

UN AGENCIES, PROGRAMMES AND FUNDS, AND SPECIALIZED AGENCIES

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION (FAO)

I. Core Areas

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) leads international efforts to defeat hunger by helping developing countries and countries in transition to modernize and improve their agriculture, forestry and fisheries practices and to ensure food security for all.

FAO's activities comprise four main areas: (i) providing technical advice and assistance; (ii) collecting, analyzing and disseminating information on food, nutrition, agriculture, fisheries and forestry; (iii) offering independent advice to governments on agricultural policy; and (iv) providing a neutral forum where governments, international organizations and NGOs can meet to discuss food and agricultural issues.

FAO has a wide range of intergovernmental and expert bodies, both global and regional, which deal with various areas of agriculture, fisheries, forestry and food. The Organization holds specialist meetings on major development issues throughout the year, and NGOs are increasingly invited to participate in a wide range of technical areas relevant to their work and experience.

Headquartered in Rome, FAO is headed by a Director-General, Mr. Jacques Diouf, and has 187 member nations plus the European Union. FAO employs more than 3,450 staff members and maintains five regional offices, five sub-regional offices, five liaison offices and over 78 country offices. The budget for 2004-2005 was US\$749.1 million, and covers core technical work, cooperation and partnerships including the Technical Cooperation Programme, information and general policy, direction and administration.

II. Engagement with External Actors

FAO engages with a range of external actors, including: NGOs, civil society organizations, the private sector as well as farmers groups, trade unions and

FAO (continued)

agricultural workers' organizations, and cooperatives, among others. The Organization's engagement with these actors has a long history at all levels, from local and national (through projects and field offices), to the regional (through regional conferences), and the global (through biennial meetings of the FAO Conference as well as a range of specialist meetings to which NGOs are increasingly invited).

Civil Society

The principles underlying FAO's partnerships with NGOs, CSOs and other external actors are based on the *FAO Policy and Strategy for Cooperation with Non-Governmental and Civil Society Organizations*.¹ The document outlines strategies and priorities for action, defines formal status and other forms of collaboration,² and provides the guiding principles as follows:

b 'Congruence with FAO's mandate: Partnership activities must be consistent with FAO's mandate and enhance the effectiveness of its work. FAO will not enter into partnership with organizations whose programmes are judged to be antithetical to FAO's mandate.

b 'Mutual interests and objectives: Partnership activities will focus on areas and on subjects of mutual interest to FAO and NGOs/CSOs.

b 'Transparency: Partnership activities will be fully transparent and information on them will be made publicly available.

b 'Accountability: Partnership activities will be designed and implemented in a manner that ensures clear and agreed responsibilities and accountability by all partners.

FAO works with a broad range of NGOs, which includes: organizations directly representing producers and consumers; southern development NGOs that provide services to rural people; northern development NGOs that support programmes in developing countries and undertake public information at home; advocacy NGOs concerned with influencing public opinion and policies; national, regional and global NGO networks organized formally or informally around specific themes or tasks; trade unions and private sector associations linked to food, agriculture, forestry and fisheries; and professional and academic associations.

A distinction is made between seeking partnership with an NGO on the basis of shared objectives and resources and mutually agreed actions, and subcontracting an NGO to

FAO (continued)

carry out specific services. The latter can be a useful practice in certain situations. However, FAO recognizes the need to promote cooperation based on partnerships as the most effective way of harnessing energies to work together towards common goals.

Extent of Collaboration

The main engagement modalities include: information sharing, collaboration on normative work, partnerships in field programmes,³ as well as seeking complementarities in resource mobilization. The information sharing activities consider NGOs and CSOs as partners as well as a key audience. Field and liaison offices are important communication nodes as NGOs in different regions have different information needs and capacities.

CSOs have played and continue to play an important role in the normative work⁴ of defining, implementing and monitoring international conventions, guidelines and standard setting of FAO and its member governments. Examples of such collaboration include the implementation of the *International Code of Conduct on the Distribution and Use of Pesticides*, the ratification of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, and the adoption of *Voluntary Guidelines to the “Right to Food.”*

For partnerships in field programmes, NGO and CSO involvement begins at the earliest stage of setting overall country policy and programme frameworks so that collaboration in specific programmes and projects can follow more easily. Ensuring early involvement requires more effective sharing of information and capacity building. Innovative approaches have included collaborative work on integrated pest management and the emergence of “Farmers Field Schools” in Asia, Africa and Latin America.⁵ Information sharing mechanisms such as the national UN System Network on Rural Development and Food Security⁶ can facilitate civil society participation in designing strategies and programmes.

*Special Programme for Food Security (SPFS)*⁷

The Special Programme offers opportunities to compare and learn from the experiences of both FAO and CSOs in the field, and to bring constraints perceived by farmers at the local level to the attention of policy-makers at higher levels. In some countries like Senegal, farmers’ organizations have been involved from the

FAO (continued)

earliest identification and planning phases, and CSOs are being subcontracted to implement specific activities. When FAO receives a request from a member country to initiate Special Programme activities, FAO begins discussions with interested development partners—bilateral and multilateral—as well as with NGOs and the private sector, through its representation offices at the country level. Where concrete agreements are reached, joint missions are organized at the formulation stage as well as during the implementation process to monitor progress and ensure the achievement of SPFS objectives.

Private Sector

FAO works with a range of international and national private sector partners from various sectors of agriculture and the food chain.⁸ It actively promotes policies in member countries that foster private investment and private sector growth to enhance access to this sector's broad range of expertise in management, policy, technology, and marketing; project funding; and investment finance.

FAO's policy to attract increased private sector participation in food security and other agricultural development programmes through partnership activities is based on a number of key principles,⁹ including: conformity with FAO's mandate and work programme; mutual interests and objectives; transparency; accountability; endorsement; sustainability; scientific credibility; intellectual property; partnership protocols; and non-exclusivity.

Initial contacts may be made with the Private Sector Unit within the Technical Cooperation Department or relevant technical units. After the collaboration is defined in concrete terms, FAO conducts a review of the proposed collaboration according to the principles and guidelines for private sector collaboration. The partnership is established following a signed agreement between FAO and the partner.

The Procurement Service (AFSP) Administrative Services Division of the Administration and Finance Department maintains a database of over 5,000 potential suppliers/contractors from all over the world. The database classifies suppliers according to specific products or services and is based on the United Nations Common Coding System (UNCCS).¹⁰

FAO (continued)

Extent of Collaboration

Since 2003, the FAO Programme on Assistance to School Milk Promotion¹¹ is partially supported through funds provided by Tetra Pak and DeLaval and will continue through 2008. Activities financed through this programme aim to facilitate the exchange of information and experiences in implementing school milk programmes. As a result of this collaboration, consumption of milk in schools is expected to increase, providing important nutritional benefits as well as an increase in the demand for milk and milk products.

The Access to Global Online Research in Agriculture (AGORA) initiative,¹² which brings together bilateral agencies, UN agencies, private foundations and international scientific publishing houses, provides free access to more than 400 key journals in food, nutrition, agriculture and related biological, environmental and social sciences to professionals in developing countries where resources are not available to purchase subscriptions.

In 2004, with funding from the Carrefour International Foundation, FAO published a *Manual on Good Practices for the Meat Industry*.¹³ The *Manual* aims to implement in a practical way the Codex Alimentarius Code of Practice on Meat Hygiene.

The publication is intended to guide managers of abattoirs and the meat industry in a risk analysis approach and serves as a training manual. It covers topics such as application of risk analysis principles to the meat sector, meat hygiene applying to primary production, transport of animals, handling, stunning, traceability and control of processing operations.

Local Authorities

In promoting the involvement of sub-national and local entities as new partners in rural development and food security, the FAO Decentralized Cooperation Programme (DCP)¹⁴ was formally launched in 2002 to help create networks of local government institutions in developed and developing countries with the aim of combating hunger and malnutrition.

Joint action between local authorities in rich and poor countries helps to promote

FAO (continued)

widespread participation in development, including NGOs, private sector and research organizations, and to make better use of external resources.

Direct city-to-city or region-to-region collaboration is promoted with FAO acting as both a catalyst and a provider of external support and technical guidance. FAO's DCP can help local authorities in both developed and developing countries make better choices, plan and implement projects and coordinate with other activities in the country or across borders. Leadership from local authorities strengthens a public sense of ownership of projects.

FAO/DCP projects can cover many disciplines. At present the focus is on:

- b `Better access to water for domestic use, livestock and small-scale irrigation using locally available technologies;
- b `Improvement of crop productivity in an environmentally sustainable manner;
- b `Support to food production and distribution in urban and peri-urban areas;
- b `Promotion of farmers' associations and cooperatives;
- b `Enhancement of non-farm income-generating activities, such as apiculture and food processing;
- b `Promotion of exchanges among universities, training centres and research institutions in developed and developing countries;
- b `Training and capacity building of local administrations; and
- b `Development of programmes to benefit communities of immigrants in their countries of origin.

III. Organizational Resources

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FAO (continued)

The Resources and Strategic Partnerships Unit (TCDS) is responsible for managing FAO's engagement with NGOs, CSOs, the private sector and other external actors. The Unit works closely with a network of NGO/CSO focal points within FAO's technical divisions and its regional, sub-regional and national offices.

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Decentralized Cooperation Programme

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IV. Information Resources

1. *FAO Policy and Strategy for Cooperation with Non-Governmental and Civil Society Organizations:* (www.fao.org/documents/show_cdr.asp?url_file=/docrep/X2214E/X2214E00.htm).
2. Cooperation with Civil Society: (www.fao.org/tc/NGO/work_with_us_en.asp).

FAO (continued)

3. Database of Projects of FAO Field Programmes: (www.fao.org/tc/tcom/index_en.htm).
4. For information on FAO's normative work and civil society: (www.fao.org/tc/NGO/activities_en.asp).
5. IPM and Farmers Fields Schools: (www.fao.org/tc/NGO/ipm_en.asp).
6. UN System Network on Rural Development and Food Security: (www.rdfs.net/index.htm).
7. The Special Programme for Food Security: (www.fao.org/spfs).
8. FAO Private Sector website: (www.fao.org/tc/private/index_en.asp).
9. *Principles of Partnership*: (www.fao.org/tc/private/principles_en.asp).
10. Suppliers or Contractors who believe they could offer products or services and who wish to be considered for future tenders are encouraged to complete a Supplier Profile Form either for Services, Goods or both, and send to: AFSP-Vendors-list@fao.org.
11. FAO Programme on Assistance to School Milk Promotion: (www.fao.org/tc/private/tetra_en.asp).
12. The Access to Global Online Research in Agriculture Initiative: (www.fao.org/tc/private/agora_en.asp).
13. *Good Practices for the Meat Industry*: (www.fao.org/tc/private/carre_en.asp), (<ftp://ftp.fao.org/docrep/fao/007/y5454e/y5454e00.pdf>) and (www.codexalimentarius.net/web/index_en.jsp).
14. FAO Decentralized Cooperation Programme: (www.fao.org/tc/DCP).

Additional Resources

- b History of FAO engagement with NGOs: (www.fao.org/tc/NGO/history_en.asp).

International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)

I. Core Areas

The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) is mandated to combat hunger and rural poverty in the low-income food-deficit regions of the world and to improve the livelihoods of rural poor people on a sustainable basis.

IFAD engages consistently at the grassroots level with micro-level issues of immediate importance to the livelihood systems of rural poor people, such as access to land and water; sustainable agricultural production, including forests, fisheries and livestock; land and water management and irrigation (mainly small-scale); rural financial services; rural micro-enterprises; storage/processing of agricultural produce; marketing and access to markets; research, extension and training; small-scale rural infrastructure; and, most importantly, capacity building for groups and organizations of poor and marginalized men and women, enabling them to take advantage of all the above. The approach IFAD follows is people-centred and bottom-up, based on the establishment or strengthening of participatory and inclusive community institutions that could decide on the nature of activities and carry out their implementation. IFAD is led by a President, Mr. Lennart Båge, and operates with a staff of over 300.

II. Engagement with External Actors

Article 8 of the Agreement Establishing IFAD requires that the Fund closely cooperates with NGOs, along with intergovernmental organizations, international financial institutions, and governmental agencies concerned with agricultural development. The Agreement stipulates that the Fund “may enter into agreements or establish working arrangements” with its cooperation partners (Article 8, Section 2). In addition to NGOs, the Fund also collaborates with the private sector and indigenous peoples.

IFAD (continued)

Civil Society

IFAD works with a variety of NGOs. At the field level, it works with development NGOs that have the necessary expertise and direct outreach to rural poor populations. It also works with NGOs that may not work directly with the poor but support other grassroots organizations in a variety of ways, such as research, technical assistance, capacity building, information sharing, advocacy and networking. In addition, the Fund works with advocacy NGOs that promote the cause of rural poverty reduction and have influence in the policy-making processes of governments and/or development agencies. Although NGOs are involved in all the activities promoted by IFAD's rural development programmes, their most valued contributions relate to two important issues: empowerment of the rural poor by strengthening their organization capacity and knowledge; and the provision of services.

At the field level, collaboration takes place mainly in the context of project loans and programmes and may cover the whole cycle of project/programme development from identification of needs, formulation, design, implementation, evaluation and impact assessment. Since 1980, the Fund has collaborated with over 1,000 different NGOs, and some 400 NGOs are at present participating in its projects throughout the world. Partner NGOs from the developing countries represent over 80% of the total.

Often IFAD takes the initial step to establish a partnership with an NGO after identifying one or more areas of expertise that the NGO may bring to a rural development initiative. However, NGOs can also initiate partnerships with the Fund. Generally, there are five ways of initiating collaboration in the field: contacting IFAD Headquarters directly; contacting project management units of IFAD-supported projects in the field; contacting government departments and agencies; contacting IFAD partners in the field; or bidding on public tenders for IFAD-supported projects.

NGOs are also eligible for grant financing for the development and implementation of innovative solutions to rural poverty issues, as well as for policy dialogue and advocacy activities.

Beyond field level operations, IFAD has held, since 1990, global consultations

IFAD (continued)

with representatives from northern and southern NGOs to exchange views on avenues of cooperation and ways of strengthening partnerships. The consultations also serve as a forum for policy dialogue, the exchange of operational experiences, knowledge and lessons learned, and suggestions for pilot activities. To date, over 200 NGOs have participated in the consultations. More than 50% of these have worked or are working with IFAD in the field. Similar consultation fora are organized at regional or even country levels, often to discuss the Fund's country and regional strategies and programmes.

Extent of Collaboration

Over recent years, IFAD staff has increasingly recognized the importance of supporting farmers' organizations in development activities, especially in discussing and shaping agricultural and rural development policy. IFAD is currently facilitating the active engagement of farmers' organizations in two regional policy development processes, that of NEPAD (New Partnership for Africa's Development) and MERCOSUR (Mercado Común del Cono Sur).

To pave the way for broader and closer collaboration with rural producers' organizations in policy processes and operations, a farmers' forum has been established as a permanent feature of IFAD's Governing Council. The farmers' forum is guided by the principles of inclusiveness, pluralism, openness and flexibility; it builds on existing forums where possible and avoids duplication in these cases; and it respects existing organizations while creating new spaces where needed. The farmers' forum has been conceived as:

- b An ongoing, bottom-up process spanning IFAD-supported operations on the ground and at a policy level. The forum process will start with national-level consultations that will feed into regional or sub-regional meetings. The latter will then shape the content of, and participation at, the farmers' forum at the IFAD Governing Council;
- b A tripartite process involving farmers' organizations, governments and IFAD;
- b A space for consultation and dialogue focused on rural poverty reduction;
- b An instrument for accountability of development effectiveness, especially in the area of empowerment of rural poor people and their organizations; and
- b An interface between pro-poor rural development interventions and the process of enhancing the capacity of farmers' and rural producers'

IFAD (continued)

organizations (including organizations of artisanal fishers, pastoralists, landless workers and indigenous peoples).

Private Sector

Providing financial services to rural poor people is an important part of IFAD field operations. A partnership between IFAD and a website that compiles performance and outreach data on microfinance institutions (MFIs) offers a way to follow the progress being made by the organization's rural finance partners.

The Microfinance Information eXchange (MIX) Market¹ website contains profiles of hundreds of MFIs, along with data on poverty outreach and financial performance. It serves as a virtual marketplace, where financial institutions, donors and partners can share information and enhance the flow of funds and technical assistance. IFAD launched a pilot initiative to identify MFIs within IFAD projects that could potentially report on the site, and offered training and support so they could deliver the needed financial performance information.

The pilot project was funded through the Initiative for Mainstreaming Innovation and it sensitized country programme managers, programme management units and rural finance partners to the advantages of reporting on the MIX Market. An effort was made to approach a range of projects and different types of MFIs such as NGOs, banks and cooperatives. Regional technical partners helped explain to MFIs that reporting on the MIX could provide the standardized information required by donors. As a result of the pilot initiative, ten MFIs in Burkina Faso, Nicaragua and Uruguay are now reporting on the site and another nine in Colombia, El Salvador, Honduras, Kenya, Nicaragua and Uruguay are expected to do so in the coming months.

Indigenous Peoples

IFAD's special interest in supporting indigenous peoples is based not only on poverty reduction, social justice and humanitarian concerns, but also on the enormous unrealized potential of indigenous peoples.

IFAD (continued)

IFAD's work aims to address issues of major importance to indigenous peoples, such as:

- b 'Secure access to their lands;
- b 'Empowerment through capacity building and genuine participation;
- b 'Recognition and revitalization of indigenous knowledge and culture;
- b 'Promotion of inter-cultural awareness;
- b 'Support to bilingual and cross-cultural education;
- b 'Enhancement of indigenous identity and self-esteem;
- b 'Promotion of women's capacity for autonomous action in the face of constricting social sanctions and structural inequalities; and
- b 'Strengthened institutions and organizations.

Securing land rights has been a central focus of IFAD's work with indigenous peoples. IFAD-supported initiatives have increasingly recognized the importance of helping indigenous peoples to secure collective rights to their ancestral territories and natural resources. Initiatives have included providing funding for establishing legal defence funds for reducing transaction costs of legal cases. For example, in Nepal a project has helped indigenous men and women get information and training on their rights and how to assert them.

By working closely with several indigenous people's communities, IFAD has gained experience in preventing conflicts and supporting peacemaking. This experience includes supporting the involvement of women as peace brokers.

IFAD has also supported the development of pro-indigenous peoples partnerships, both through advocacy campaigns and participation in events highlighting poverty and sustainable development. It established close networks with both the indigenous caucus and like-minded partners at the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD), and helped to establish an informal inter-agency forum in Latin America.

Extent of Collaboration

*The Regional Programme in Support of Indigenous Peoples in the Amazon Basin (PRAIA)*²

The Regional Programme, supported by IFAD, has had a pioneering role in working with indigenous peoples in the region that is now being widely recognized.

IFAD (continued)

The main purpose of the PRAIA has been to support appropriate conditions and opportunities necessary to the survival, the cultural defence and the strengthening of the indigenous peoples of the Amazon basin. To achieve this aim, PRAIA has established the following specific objectives: to strengthen the indigenous organizations through co-financing pilot initiatives, promoting and developing these pilot experiences with the full participation of the indigenous communities and organizations; and to formulate development projects for indigenous communities.

*The International Land Coalition*³

The International Land Coalition, established in 1995 as a result of the Conference on Hunger and Poverty convened by IFAD and the EU in Brussels, is a global alliance of intergovernmental, governmental and civil society organizations. It works together with the rural poor to increase their secure access to natural resources, especially land, and enable them to participate directly in policy and decision-making processes that affect their livelihoods at local, national, regional and international levels.

*IFAD Network*⁴

Established in response to the need for a coordinated international effort on development and knowledge-sharing, this extensive network is composed of Research for Development partners. The networks are facilitated through the Fund's Grant Programme, which supports international, regional and sub-regional institutions and centres of excellence on thematic issues, technology development, and innovative pro-poor activities of operational relevance to IFAD's lending programme.

*Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR)*⁵

IFAD and the CGIAR is an alliance of countries, international and regional organizations, and private foundations supporting 15 international agricultural centres that work with national agricultural research systems and civil society organizations including the private sector. The collaboration arrangement with IFAD aims to supplement the Fund's grant support with an advocacy role at the policy level. The effort has contributed to orienting the CGIAR system and its research agenda towards issues of direct concern to IFAD.

The Global Forum on Agricultural Research (GFAR)

The Global Forum, established in 1996, is an initiative that facilitates cost-effective

IFAD (continued)

partnerships and strategic alliances aiming to reduce poverty, achieve food security, and conserve and manage biodiversity and natural resources. GFAR brings together the key stakeholders in global agricultural research from seven constituencies: developing-country national agricultural research systems (NARS), advanced research institutions (ARIs)/universities, NGOs, farmers' organizations, the private sector, international agricultural research centres (including the CGIAR Centres), and the donor community.

III. Organizational Resources

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IFAD has designated NGO focal points in each of its regional divisions (Western and Central Africa; Eastern and Southern Africa; Asia and the Pacific; Latin America and the Caribbean; and Near East and North Africa) and in its Technical Advisory Division. The primary responsibilities of the NGO focal points are to: address issues relevant to IFAD/NGO cooperation for reference to IFAD management for consideration; advise on the collection and dissemination of relevant NGO experiences; and assist with the organization of the IFAD/NGO Consultations, at national, regional and global levels.

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IFAD (continued)

IV. Information Resources

1. Microfinance Information eXchange (MIX) Market website: (www.mixmarket.org).
2. Regional Programme in Support of Indigenous Peoples in the Amazon Basin (PRAIA): (www.praia-amazonia.org/index.php?f=directorio4&e=1).
3. International Land Coalition: (www.ifad.org/partners/landcoalition.htm).
4. IFAD Network: (www.ifad.org/partners/network/index.htm).
5. Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research: (www.cgiar.org).

Additional Resources

- b NGO Coordination Unit: (www.ifad.org/ngo/contact).
- b IFAD/NGO Consultations: (www.ifad.org/ngo/dialogue/consult.htm).
- b The IFAD/NGO Consultation Steering Committee: (www.ifad.org/ngo/dialogue/steering.htm).
- b IFAD/NGO Extended Cooperation Programme (ECP): (www.ifad.org/ngo/ecp/ecp.htm).
- b *IFAD Update*: (www.ifad.org/newsletter/update/1/2.htm).
- b Formal and Operational Partnership: (www.ifad.org/pub/ngo/ngo.pdf).
- b *Working for Change: Implementing the Beijing Platform for Action: IFAD's Approach*: (www.ifad.org/pub/gender/change/eng.pdf).

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANIZATION (ILO)

I. Core Areas

The International Labour Organization (ILO) is the UN specialized agency promoting the global goal of Decent Work for women and men everywhere. Placing the Decent Work Agenda at the centre of national and international policies is essential in the fight against poverty and in promoting a fair globalization that creates opportunities for all.

“Decent work” is the converging focus of all four of ILO’s strategic objectives at the turn of the century: (i) creating greater opportunities for women and men to secure decent employment and income; (ii) promoting and realizing fundamental principles and rights at work; (iii) enhancing the coverage and effectiveness of social protection for all; and (iv) strengthening tripartism and social dialogue.

The ILO seeks the promotion of social justice and internationally recognized human and labour rights. The Organization formulates international labour standards in the form of Conventions and Recommendations setting minimum standards of basic labour rights: freedom of association, the right to organize, collective bargaining, abolition of forced labour, equality of opportunity and treatment, and other standards regulating conditions across the entire spectrum of work related issues.

The ILO also works with tripartite bodies at the national level dealing with economic and social issues, which are statutorily defined in respective Member States. The Tripartite Consultation (International Labour Standards) Convention (No. 144) was adopted in 1976 to promote partnership with such bodies where they exist for the implementation of international labour standards.

The International Labour Office, the permanent Secretariat of the ILO, is located in Geneva and employs around 1,900 staff, plus some 600 experts serving on technical cooperation programmes. Mr. Juan Somavía has served as Director-General since 1999.

ILO (continued)

II. Engagement with External Actors

The ILO has a unique tripartite structure with workers and employers participating as equal partners with governments in the work of its governing organs. Due to this structure the ILO maintains a multifaceted relationship with the non-governmental sector, which involves the following: the integration of non-governmental social partners in the identity of the Organization itself; according consultative status to international NGOs that meet certain criteria; and collaboration at the operational level with a variety of international, national and local organizations.

Civil Society

There are three different categories of international NGOs in consultative status. The first includes international NGOs with major stakes in a wide range of the ILO's activities that are granted either general or regional consultative status. Standing arrangements have been made for the participation of those enjoying general consultative status in all ILO meetings, and in regional meetings for those with regional consultative status. A second category, the Special List of Non-Governmental International Organizations, was set up by the ILO Governing Body in 1956 with a view to establishing working relations with international NGOs, other than employers' and workers' organizations, which also share the principles and objectives of the ILO Constitution and Declaration of Philadelphia. The participation of NGOs in this category depends on their demonstrated interest in the ILO's programme of meetings and activities. There are currently about 160 NGOs on the Special List, covering a wide variety of fields, such as the promotion of human rights, poverty alleviation, social security, professional rehabilitation, gender issues, youth matters, etc. In a third category, the ILO Governing Body extends invitations to international NGOs which meet certain established criteria to attend different ILO meetings for which they have demonstrated a particular interest.

At the operational level, ILO collaborates with many other civil society organizations. These organizations are involved in ILO technical cooperation activities. To the extent possible, ILO seeks to ensure tripartite involvement, or the involvement of both social partners—Workers and Employers—in the implementation of its activities.

ILO (continued)

ILO's partnership criteria gives preference to those with relevant experience in the geographical area or thematic field for which support is sought, and to those which enjoy the trust of the identified beneficiaries and can relate to other actors, including the government and/or local authorities.

The ILO fully incorporates national non-governmental social partners, workers' associations and employers' associations and recognized international NGOs in all of its formal bodies, such as the International Labour Conference, the Governing Body, regional conferences, meetings, symposia and seminars. All meetings and events are in principle based on the tripartite structure of the Organization, and all stakeholders and partners are included. At the country level, all activities take place in cooperation with all the stakeholders. The ILO has a built-in multi-stakeholder system in which some organizations, such as the workers' associations and the employers' association are part of the national delegations during formal meetings.

Extent of Collaboration

An example of such collaboration is the project on the elimination of child labour in Pakistan. In 1997, the ILO International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC) launched a programme, the Elimination of Child Labour in the Soccer Ball Industry in Sialkot (Pakistan).¹ The project achieved its measurable targets and educated 10,572 students through 255 non-formal education centres, mainstreaming 5,838 of them and providing health cover to 5,408 students.

The project also led to perceptual and behavioural transformation by convincing the people of Sialkot district that children must not be denied their right to be children and their right to education, recreation and health. It changed the way target groups and the general public looked at the issues of child labour and education, and built up social capital to sustain social transformation.

Private Sector

The ILO has been involved from the outset in the establishment of the Global Compact which has included within its principles the four strategic objectives set out above from the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work. Enterprises have a major role to play in the application and promotion of these principles. The ILO is

ILO (continued)

already engaged in developing activities in support of the Global Compact including ILO public-private partnership. It has also set up a database that includes information on all types of voluntary-private initiatives relevant to the world of work and is working with employer and worker organizations worldwide to support their efforts to promote the Global Compact. Business, government and labour also enter into public-private partnerships to achieve the principles in the Tripartite Declaration of Principles Concerning Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy—adopted by the Governing Body of the International Labour Office in 1977 and amended in November 2000. These partnerships provide opportunities for learning, dialogue and reporting on enterprise operations, government policies and workers' activities.

Parliamentarians

In March 1999, the ILO and the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) signed an agreement that aims to strengthen relations between the two organizations by facilitating their effective exercise of mutually complementary activities and allowing them to cooperate more closely in undertaking joint efforts in particular areas of activity.

Indigenous Peoples

The ILO has been working with indigenous and tribal peoples since the 1920s. It is responsible for the only international instruments currently in force that deal exclusively with the rights of these peoples, i.e. The Indigenous and Tribal Populations Convention, 1957 (No. 107) and The Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169). The Organization's work in this area falls mainly into two categories: adoption and supervision of standards, and assistance to indigenous and tribal peoples and to States.

III. Organizational Resources

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ILO (continued)

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ILO's Bureau for External Relations and Partnerships (EXREL) ensures the development and application of the ILO strategy to strengthen ILO linkages with the international community and focuses on developing a network of global partnerships to promote and support the operationalization of Decent Work. The EXREL office has ten staff members.

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IV. Information Resources

1. *Elimination of Child Labour in the Soccer Ball Industry in Sialkot*: (www.ilo.org/public/english/standards/ipecc/publ/download/2004_soccerball_en.pdf).

Additional Resources

- b Information on ILO's tripartite structure: (www.ilo.org/public/english/comp/civil/ngo/relngios.htm).
- b Information on the World Commission on the Social Dimension of Globalization and its report *A Fair Globalization: Creating Opportunities for All*: (www.ilo.org/public/english/fairglobalization/index.htm).
- b Information on the ILO Special List of Non-Governmental International Organizations: (www.ilo.org/public/english/bureau/exrel/civil/ngo/index.htm).
- b Information on ILO's collaboration on the operational level:

ILO (continued)

(www.ilo.org/public/english/comp/civil/ngo/relngrs.htm).

b ' Information on accreditation to the International Labour Conference and other ILO meetings: (www.ilo.org/public/english/comp/civil/ngo/ilcnote.htm).

b ' Information on Engagement with Parliamentarians:

(www.ilo.org/public/english/bureau/exrel/partners/ipu.htm).

b ' Information on Engagement with Indigenous Peoples:

(www.ilo.org/public/english/indigenous).

INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION (ITU)

I. Core Areas

The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) is the United Nations specialized agency for telecommunications. It was established in 1865 as an impartial, international organization within which governments and the private sector could coordinate the operation of telecommunication networks and services, and advance the development of information and communication technology (ICT). Today, ITU is also devoting considerable effort to bridging the digital divide and bringing the benefits of ICT to all. The ITU is mandated by its Constitution to “extend the benefits of the new telecommunication technologies to all the world’s inhabitants.” For the past 140 years, the International Telecommunication Union has worked to harmonize national policies worldwide, bridge technological differences, foster interoperability and to facilitate the availability of information and communication technologies on a global basis.

ITU comprises three core Sectors: Radiocommunication (ITU-R),¹ Telecommunication Standardization (ITU-T),² and Telecommunication Development (ITU-D).³ The activities of these Sectors cover all aspects of telecommunication, from setting the international standards that facilitate interoperability of equipment and systems on a global basis, to building consensus on management and operational procedures for the world’s vast and growing array of wireless services, to implementing programmes designed to improve telecommunication infrastructure and capacity building in the developing world.

The Union is also playing a policy-making role⁴ through the identification and monitoring of the key trends shaping the ICT industry. Information from around the globe is collected and analyzed by ITU experts, with a view to fostering a better understanding of industry developments and helping public and private sector members develop effective strategies that target growth opportunities. The ITU also serves as an impartial international forum for dialogue between government and industry players on technology, policy and economic issues, for the benefit of the global telecommunication community.

ITU (continued)

The ITU's work has helped to build a US\$1 trillion industry built around a seamlessly interconnected global network that integrates a huge range of technologies and forms the foundation of the emerging Information Society. ITU is also responsible for organizing ITU TELECOM, the world's largest and most influential portfolio of telecommunication exhibitions and forums which bring together leading ICT companies, regulators, financiers, analysts and top-level government representatives.

The Organization is led by a Secretary-General, Mr. Yoshio Utsumi, and has over 750 staff members. The budget of ITU for 2004-2005 amounted to over US\$265.2 million.

II. Engagement with External Actors

ITU's membership encompasses telecommunication policy-makers and regulators, network operators, equipment manufacturers, hardware and software developers, regional standard-making organizations and financing institutions. Its activities, policies and strategic direction are determined by governments and shaped by the industry it serves. Membership provides governments and private organizations with an opportunity to make important contributions to the ICT developments now reshaping the world.⁵

As part of its developments efforts, ITU recently launched a new initiative called Connect the World. This new partnership programme is a global multi-stakeholder effort designed to consolidate and scale-up existing development-oriented connectivity projects and stimulate new partnerships to achieve the goal of connecting all communities by 2015. ITU is also the lead organization for the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), held in two Phases: Geneva 2003 and Tunis 2005.

Private Sector

From its earliest days, ITU has worked closely with the private sector to develop and deploy ICT networks that meet the demands of users.

ITU Sector Members⁶

Sector Members in the three ITU Sectors are the driving force behind ITU's leadership in developing the technical standards that assure global interoperability and the equitable

ITU (continued)

use of shared resources like radio frequency spectrum and the satellite orbit. These representatives from the world's leading public and private organizations work cooperatively under the auspices of a wide range of specialized ITU Study Groups, giving of their time and expertise freely for the benefit of the industry as a whole. Sector Members also enjoy access to important ITU conferences and meetings, where top-level decision makers and potential partners engage in discussions that can result in new business opportunities or joint ventures. Sector Members can also be involved in the organization and co-sponsorship of ITU seminars and workshops, providing experts and lecturers, training facilities, and other resources.

ITU Associates⁷

In 1998, the concept of "Associate" was introduced as a way for small entities or organizations to participate in ITU's work. Associates may take part in the process of preparing ITU technical Recommendations within a single ITU Study Group and its subordinate groups, including participation in meetings, submission of contributions, and ability to submit comments before the adoption of Recommendations.

Communication Tools and Resources

In addition to publicly available information on the ITU website, Sector Members and Associates also have access to a large volume of restricted data such as draft documents, statistics, development plans, training modules, etc. In addition, Sector Members receive invitations with related documentation to all ITU events. Sector Members and Associates also benefit from a TIES (Telecom Information Exchange Services) account that allows them to access restricted databases, documents and technical databases.

III. Organizational Resources

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IV. Information Resources

1. ITU-R: (www.itu.int/aboutitu/overview/o-r.html).
2. ITU-T: (www.itu.int/aboutitu/overview/o-s.html).
3. ITU-D: (www.itu.int/aboutitu/overview/o-d.html).
4. ITU's Strategy and Policy Unit: (www.itu.int/osg/spu/about).
5. Information on ITU Membership: (www.itu.int/members).
6. Information on Sector Members: (www.itu.int/members/sectmem/benef.html).
7. Information on Associates: (www.itu.int/members/associates/rights.html).

Additional Resources

- b *Who's Who—The ITU Global Directory*: (www.itu.int/GlobalDirectory/index.html).

OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS (OHCHR)

I. Core Areas

The mission of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) is to protect and promote human rights for all. OHCHR aims to ensure implementation of universally recognized human rights norms, strengthen the United Nations human rights programme, and provide the United Nations treaty monitoring bodies and special mechanisms established by the Commission on Human Rights with the highest support.

The position of High Commissioner for Human Rights was established by the General Assembly in December 1993 following a recommendation contained in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted during the 1993 World Conference on Human Rights. In connection with the programme of reform of the United Nations (A/51/950, para.79), the then United Nations Centre for Human Rights and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights were consolidated into a single unit in 1997, which became known as the OHCHR. Ms. Louise Arbour took office as High Commissioner in 2004.

The Office strives to provide leadership and substantive support in ensuring that human rights principles are integrated throughout the entire UN system. OHCHR seeks to play an active role in removing obstacles and meeting challenges to the full realization of all human rights and in preventing the occurrence or continuation of human rights abuses throughout the world. To achieve this, OHCHR works closely with governments, UN bodies, regional organizations, international and non-governmental organizations and civil society. In May 2005, OHCHR released a Plan of Action—*Implementation and Empowerment*—which presents a strategic vision for the future direction of OHCHR, and is likely to bring about changes in OHCHR's structure and resources.

Currently, OHCHR employs some 580 staff with 310 at its Headquarters in Geneva, and the rest deployed in some 17 country offices and seven regional and sub-regional offices. The total budget of the Office in 2004 was US\$86.4 million (US\$52.6 million

OHCHR (continued)

from voluntary contributions and the remaining US\$33.8 million from the United Nations regular budget).

OHCHR has four main Branches to carry out its task: (i) The *Treaties and Commission Branch* services the Human Rights Treaty Bodies, the Commission on Human Rights and related working groups, the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights and the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture; (ii) The *Research and Right to Development Branch* engages in research and has primary responsibility for the promotion and protection of the right to development; (iii) The *Capacity Building and Field Operations Branch* supports OHCHR's operations in the field, provides technical cooperation and advisory services to governments, National Human Rights Institutions and NGOs; and (iv) The *Special Procedures Branch* supports the activities of the special mechanisms of the Commission on Human Rights (known collectively as the "special procedures"), which track and investigate specific types of systematic human rights violations.

II. Engagement with External Actors

The Office works with a wide range of actors, including NGOs, academic institutions, indigenous people and the private sector, to enhance commitment to human rights as widely as possible.

Civil Society

NGOs are often the conduit for the submission of complaints on alleged human rights violations. NGOs in consultative status with ECOSOC participate as observers in the sessions of the Commission on Human Rights; NGOs contribute to the work of the UN Treaty Bodies and the Special Procedures of the Commission on Human Rights, by submitting information. They can also be beneficiaries of the various funds managed by OHCHR.

Technical Cooperation Programme¹

Strengthening civil society is one of the aims of OHCHR's Technical Cooperation Programme. Projects include assistance to NGOs in the context of its country activities by inviting them to seminars and training courses and supporting projects they have

OHCHR (continued)

developed. NGOs are not only benefactors of technical cooperation projects but are also increasingly involved in their implementation.

*Training Workshops on Follow-up to Treaty Body Recommendations*²

OHCHR organizes workshops and seminars for national actors (National Human Rights Institutions, local media and NGOs), aimed at enhancing their capacities to contribute to the treaty reporting process and follow-up to the recommendations of treaty bodies.

*ACT (Assisting Communities Together)*³

Launched in 1998 as a practical contribution to the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the ACT project makes small grants available for NGOs and local associations carrying out human rights promotional activities in local communities. With its bottom-up approach, the ACT Project aims at empowering people at the local level and strengthening partnerships between the UN and local human rights constituencies.

National Institutions

National Institutions (NIs) are independent national bodies that have legal competence to promote and protect human rights with a mandate and a composition clearly set forth in a constitutional and/or legislative text. Their role includes examining legislation and providing advice and reports to the government, parliament and competent bodies on the national human rights situation, legislation, policies and programmes. NIs can protect human rights by drawing attention to human rights violations, undertaking investigations, developing complaint handling systems and in some instances they provide remedies for such violations. They also promote human rights and fundamental freedoms through research, education and information programmes.

The National Institutions Unit (NI Unit),⁴ which is part of OHCHR's Capacity Building and Field Operations Branch, is tasked to offer governments, UN agencies and civil society best practice advice and support in the establishment of NIs and in building their capacity to further sustainable respect for human rights. The NI Unit also plays an advisory role concerning legislation and project execution. It participates on the national level, as required, in needs assessment, project

OHCHR (continued)

formulation, evaluation and related missions. It also participates in targeted training on follow up to treaty body recommendations offered by OHCHR to NIs, local media and NGOs.

Private Sector

Business and Human Rights

International human rights standards have traditionally been the responsibility of governments, aimed at regulating relations between the State and individuals/groups. However, a key characteristic of globalization is that the actors involved are not only States, but also non-state actors, particularly multinational or transnational corporations.

As the influence and reach of companies has grown, there is a developing consensus that human rights are also applicable to private sector actors. OHCHR's contributions to the evolving issue of business and human rights have been focused on three areas: advocacy by the High Commissioner; active involvement in the United Nations Global Compact; and Secretariat assistance to an initiative of the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights to identify norms applicable to transnational corporations.

This area of engagement also extends to the UN Global Compact process in which OHCHR plays a key role. The High Commissioner has expressed support for the development of minimum human right standards applicable to the business sector, while at the same time advocating the implementation of voluntary initiatives towards corporate social responsibility (CSR).

Indigenous Peoples

OHCHR services and manages various mechanisms and tools aimed at supporting indigenous peoples.

The Working Group on Indigenous Populations

The Working Group on Indigenous Populations, a subsidiary organ of the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, meets annually

OHCHR (continued)

in Geneva, usually during the last week of July. It has a two-fold mandate: to review developments that pertain to the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous peoples; and to give attention to the evolution of international standards concerning indigenous rights. The openness of the Working Group's sessions, which also includes the participation of representatives of governments, indigenous communities and organizations, and UN agencies, has strengthened its position as a focal point of international action on indigenous issues.⁵

*United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations*⁶

The Voluntary Fund, established by General Assembly resolution 40/131 of 13 December 1985, assists representatives of indigenous communities and organizations to participate in the deliberations of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations of the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights by providing them with financial assistance. The Fund is also used to assist representatives of indigenous communities and organizations authorized to participate in the deliberations of the open-ended inter-sessional Working Group on the Draft United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (established by the Commission on Human Rights resolution 1995/32), as well as the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.⁷

*Indigenous Fellowship Programme*⁸

The Office's Indigenous Fellowship Programme gives indigenous women and men the opportunity to gain knowledge in the field of international human rights in general, and on indigenous rights in particular, in order to assist their organizations and communities in protecting and promoting the human rights of their people. It aims to bring benefits at the individual level, at the organization level, but most importantly at the community level.

Parliamentarians

Projects developed in cooperation with national parliaments address ratification of international human rights instruments, the provision of information on comparative national human rights legislation, the role of parliamentary human rights committees and, in general, the role of parliament in promoting and protecting human rights, among others.⁹

OHCHR (continued)

Promoting Human Rights Education¹⁰

OHCHR is working to promote human rights education by: developing human rights education and training materials; supporting national efforts for human rights education, in the context of its Technical Cooperation Programme; and facilitating information sharing, through international and regional seminars and workshops and the development of educational resources.

*Training and Educational Materials*¹¹

The *Guide Series* was launched in 2001 with a *United Nations Guide for Indigenous Peoples*—an information set for indigenous peoples on UN operations and procedures. The second publication in the series is the *United Nations Guide for Minorities*, which consists of 14 pamphlets indicating how minorities can use United Nations human rights procedures and those established by regional mechanisms.

The *Professional Training Series* consists of handbooks and manuals intended to increase awareness of international standards and are directed at target audiences selected for their ability to influence the human rights situation at the national level. Although primarily designed to support the training activities of the Technical Cooperation Programme, these publications also serve as practical tools for organizations that provide human rights education to professional groups. Training packages have been developed for peacekeepers, judges and lawyers, prison officials, primary and secondary schoolteachers, journalists, and national and local NGOs.

The *Series on the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education* (1995-2004) consists of materials aimed at supporting general human rights education efforts by all partners. It includes information on the Decade, a compilation of provisions of international and regional instruments dealing with human rights education, and a practical booklet to support human rights education activities in the school system.

III. Organizational Resources

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OHCHR (continued)

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The work of the UN human rights machinery, and OHCHR in particular, benefits from the inputs and expertise of international, regional and national NGOs. In 2003, to further strengthen and streamline OHCHR's relations with NGOs, the position of an NGO Liaison Officer was created.

The Media Relations Unit and the Communications and NGO Partnerships Unit, both within the External Relations Branch, provide support to realize the advocacy potential of the Office. The two units work to draw the attention of partners, constituencies and the public to human rights issues and to OHCHR's work.

Focal Point Civil Society

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IV. Information Resources

1. Technical Cooperation Programme: (www.ohchr.org/english/countries/coop/approach.htm).
2. Information on the Treaties and Commission Branch: Treaties and Follow-up Unit, OHCHR, United Nations Office at Geneva, 1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland.
3. ACT Project: (www.ohchr.org/english/issues/education/training/act.htm), e-mail: ACTProject@ohchr.org.
4. National Human Rights Institutions: (www.ohchr.org/english/countries/institutions) and (www.nhri.net).
5. Indigenous Issues: (www.ohchr.org/english/issues/indigenous/index.htm).
6. UN Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations: (www.ohchr.org/english/about/funds/indigenous), e-mail: IndigenousFunds@ohchr.org.

OHCHR (continued)

7. Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues: (www.un.org/esa/socdev/pfii).
8. Indigenous Fellowship Programme:
(www.ohchr.org/english/issues/indigenous/fellowship.htm).
9. Information on Parliamentarians:
(www.ohchr.org/english/countries/coop/areas.htm).
10. Human Rights Education: (www.ohchr.org/english/issues/education/training).
11. Training and Educational Materials:
(www.ohchr.org/english/about/publications/training.htm).

Additional Resources

- b Information on the Voluntary Torture Fund:
(www.ohchr.org/english/about/funds/torture).
- b Globalization: Human Rights and Business:
(www.ohchr.org/english/issues/globalization/business/index.htm).
- b Annual Appeal 2005: (www.ohchr.org/english/about/docs/appeal2005.pdf).
- b *The Norms on the Responsibilities of Transnational Corporations and Other Business Enterprises*: (http://ap.ohchr.org/documents/dpage_e.aspx?s=58).
- b Stakeholder submissions to the *Report of the High Commissioner for Human Rights on the Responsibilities of Transnational Corporations and related Business Enterprises with regard to Human Rights*:
(www.ohchr.org/english/issues/globalization/business/contributions.htm).

JOINT UNITED NATIONS PROGRAMME ON HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)

I. Core Areas

The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) comprises ten cosponsoring agencies—the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the International Labour Organization (ILO), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the World Food Programme (WFP), the World Health Organization (WHO), the World Bank, and most recently the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). UNAIDS is the leading advocate for worldwide action against HIV/AIDS. It promotes partnerships among and between a broad range of actors—including other UN agencies, governments, corporations, media, sports and religious organizations, community-based groups, regional and country networks of people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA), and civil society representatives—to mobilize an enhanced response to AIDS.

UNAIDS has its Secretariat in Geneva and is guided by a Programme Coordinating Board (PCB)¹ with representatives of 22 governments from all geographic regions, the ten UNAIDS Cosponsors, and five NGOs, including associations of people living with HIV/AIDS. UNAIDS is headed by an Executive Director, Dr. Peter Piot.

UNAIDS leads, strengthens and supports an expanded response aimed at preventing transmission of HIV, providing care and support, reducing the vulnerability of individuals and communities to HIV/AIDS, and alleviating the impact of the epidemic. UNAIDS supports a more effective global response to AIDS through advocacy for effective action; strategic information; tracking, monitoring and evaluation of the epidemic and of responses to it; civil society engagement and partnerships; and mobilization of resources.

II. Engagement with External Actors

The UN Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS² provides the guiding

UNAIDS (continued)

framework for UNAIDS's action, and calls for the full and active participation of civil society, the business community and the private sector. Since June 2001, UNAIDS has focused on fostering and supporting partnerships at global and regional levels; supporting countries in the development of partnerships involving government, civil society, community-based organizations, the private sector, media and international actors; and promoting best practices to support the dissemination of a broad range of best practices.

Civil Society

The Secretariat engages with NGOs that emerge as a result of the epidemic; interest-based organizations; faith-based organizations; development and humanitarian organizations; and advocacy organizations. UNAIDS helps promote collaboration between different CSOs, for example, between the International Federation of the Red Cross (IFRC) and the Global Network of People Living with HIV/AIDS (GNP+) and the Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA) and the International Community of Women living with HIV/AIDS (ICW). In particular, UNAIDS works with youth organizations, women's groups, community groups, sex workers' organizations, gay men's groups, and networks concerned with reducing harm from injecting drug use.

At the country level, Theme Groups consult with NGOs, groups of people living with HIV and AIDS, and AIDS support organizations, to discuss policy development, promote cooperation and ensure regular interaction.

There are no formal criteria for collaboration, and there is no accreditation process. Generally there is no review process, except with the few organizations that have established a Memorandum of Understanding with UNAIDS, based on their specific projects.

The World AIDS Campaign³ is a global campaign that seeks to encourage nationally driven HIV and AIDS campaigns, uniting them under goals outlined in the Declaration of Commitment. As of 2005, the World AIDS Campaign operates under a governance system led by civil society. An NGO has been created in Amsterdam to support expanded campaign activity including fostering campaigns at the national level that can be more responsive and relevant to local cultures and needs.

UNAIDS (continued)

UNAIDS produces a collection of Best Practice materials⁴ on about 50 themes relevant to HIV/AIDS. These include technical guidance materials and best practice case studies.

UNAIDS also convenes workshops, such as the Theological Workshop Focusing on HIV- and AIDS-related stigma. Recognizing the efforts carried out by religious groups in care and treatment of people living with HIV infection and AIDS, UNAIDS, in December 2003, supported a workshop which brought together 62 leading academic theologians from Christian traditions in Windhoek, Namibia.⁵

Private Sector

In response to the 2001 Declaration of Commitment, UNAIDS has strengthened its work with businesses by promoting their involvement in HIV/AIDS prevention, and is focusing on three main areas for private sector involvement: the workplace; advocacy; and community partnerships. It supports work of the World Economic Forum in the establishment of National Business Coalitions on HIV/AIDS and the Global Business Coalition on HIV/AIDS, as well as several similar entities at the country level to promote the involvement of business in HIV prevention and care. Technical assistance is provided to the private sector in implementing the International Labour Organization code of practice for sound workplace programmes. UNAIDS also encourages the private sector to lend their expertise and resources to country-level projects.⁶

Through its collaboration with a diverse range of private sector actors, UNAIDS aims to catalyze increased private sector engagement, leverage the technical, human, financial and institutional resources of major businesses (e.g. large multinationals and influential media companies), and foster partnerships that help ensure a sustainable response to AIDS.

Businesses are ideally placed to deal with AIDS since they can reach millions of workers through workplace programmes in collaboration with trade unions; support national AIDS campaigns through high-level advocacy; and lobby for greater action and partnerships with government and civil society, including people living with HIV. Relationships are also fostered directly with businesses with the aim of developing examples of business engagement in HIV and AIDS for others to follow.

UNAIDS (continued)

The Partnership Menu⁷ is designed to help the private sector find innovative AIDS partnership opportunities in developing countries. Created by UNAIDS, the World Economic Forum and the United Nations Foundation, the Menus provide the private sector with a list of AIDS projects and partners they can collaborate with at the country level, in areas ranging from youth-friendly health services, to home-based care programmes, to education for orphans.

The World Bank, the World Economic Forum and UNAIDS have prepared the *Guidelines to Building Business Coalitions against HIV/AIDS*⁸ to provide practical and operational guidance to companies and/or leaders in the private sector. It also includes lessons learned and examples to those interested in forming or enhancing the effectiveness of business coalitions on AIDS.

An example of such a business coalition is the Namibian Business Coalition on HIV/AIDS⁹ (NABCOA), launched in June 2003, bringing together the private sector, government representatives, civil society and the UN. The Coalition, which has over 50 members, offers its member companies a number of tools such as a cost-benefit analysis model; a service provider directory; and a toolkit for small and medium-size enterprises. These tools aim to help companies understand the implications of HIV/AIDS in the workplace and implement appropriate policies and programmes.

Other Actors

Launched by UNAIDS in 2004, the Global Coalition on Women and AIDS¹⁰ seeks to highlight the impact of AIDS on women and girls and mobilize actions to enable them to protect themselves from HIV and receive the care and support they need. The Global Coalition is a worldwide alliance of civil society groups, networks of women with HIV and AIDS, governments and UN organizations supported by activists, leaders, community workers and celebrities. Working at global, regional and national levels, the Coalition focuses on preventing new HIV infections, promoting equal access to HIV care and treatment, accelerating microbicides research, protecting women's property and inheritance rights and reducing violence against women.

The UNAIDS report *What Parliamentarians Can Do about HIV/AIDS: Action for*

UNAIDS (continued)

Children and Young People urges parliamentarians to mobilize action, to create a parliamentary focal point for HIV/AIDS, to lobby for HIV/AIDS legislation, and to push for strong health and social services, among others.¹¹

III. Organizational Resources

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The Partnerships Unit is responsible for liaising with civil society, the private sector and all other actors and holds various meetings with civil society organizations to work on specific policies, strategies or results. The Unit works mainly on public inreach, outreach and policy development. Its main goal is to promote cooperation between various entities and organizations in order to respond more effectively to AIDS at all levels. The Unit maps the different constituents and identifies which entities could enhance their work on HIV/AIDS. The Partnerships Unit was established in 1996 and has nine staff members.

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UNAIDS (continued)

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IV. Information Resources

1. Programme Coordinating Board:
(www.unaids.org/Unaids/EN/About+UNAIDS/Governance/programme+coordinating+board.asp).
2. The United Nations Declaration Commitment on HIV/AIDS:
(www.unaids.org/en/events/un+special+session+on+hiv_aids/declaration+of+commitment+on+hiv_aids.asp).
3. World AIDS Campaign: (www.worldaidscampaign.org).
4. UNAIDS Best Practice Collection:
(www.unaids.org/en/resources/publications/best+practice+collection.asp).
5. Theological Workshop Focusing on HIV- and AIDS-related Stigma:
(www.unaids.org/en/in+focus/hiv_aids_human_rights/stigma_discrimination.asp)
and (www.e-alliance.ch/postercd/learning.html).
6. Private Sector Partnerships: (www.unaids.org/partnership).
7. Partnership Menu:
(www.unaids.org/EN/about+unaids/partnerships/partnership+menus.asp).
8. *Guidelines to Building Business Coalitions against HIV/AIDS*:
(www.worldbank.org/afr/aids/ps/Business_Coalition_Guidelines-04.pdf).
9. Namibian Business Coalition on HIV/AIDS:
(www.unaids.org/EN/about+unaids/partnerships/partnership+menus/additional+information.asp).
10. Global Coalition on Women and AIDS: (<http://womenandaids.unaids.org>).
11. *What Parliamentarians Can Do about HIV/AIDS*:
(www.unicef.org/publications/Parliamentarians_AIDS.pdf).

UNAIDS (continued)

Additional Resources

- b `AIDS Epidemic Update 2004: (www.unaids.org/wad2004/report.html).
- b `AIDS in Africa: Three Scenarios to 2025: (www.unaids.org/en/AIDS+in+Africa_Three+scenarios+to+2025.asp).
- b `The Three Ones: Principles for the Coordination of National AIDS Responses: (<http://threeones.unaids.org>).

UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT (UNCTAD)

I. Core Areas

The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) promotes the development-friendly integration of developing countries into the world economy. The Organization aims to help shape current policy debates and thinking on development, with a particular focus on ensuring that domestic policies and international action are mutually supportive in bringing about sustainable development. Established in 1964, UNCTAD is the principal organ of the General Assembly in the field of trade and development.

UNCTAD undertakes its mandate through three key functions: (i) as a forum for intergovernmental deliberations, supported by discussions with experts and exchanges of experience, aimed at consensus building; (ii) undertaking research, policy analysis and data collection; and (iii) providing technical assistance tailored to the specific requirements of developing countries, with special attention to the needs of the least developed countries (LDCs) and of economies in transition. When appropriate, UNCTAD cooperates with other organizations and donor countries in the delivery of technical assistance. It also cooperates with civil society and the business sector.

UNCTAD has 192 Member States. Its annual operational budget is approximately US\$50 million, which is drawn from the United Nations regular budget. Technical cooperation activities, which have developed as a result of UNCTAD's sectoral expertise and are financed from extra-budgetary resources, amount to approximately US\$25 million a year. The Secretary-General of UNCTAD is Mr. Supachai Panitchpakdi who took up office on 1 September 2005. UNCTAD has a staff of about 400.

II. Engagement with External Actors

UNCTAD views NGOs and the private sector as full-fledged partners in its activities, allowing the Organization to have a better understanding of the concerns of members of civil society and to supply a better response to their specific needs and

UNCTAD (continued)

requirements. UNCTAD reaches out to non-governmental stakeholders in various ways, including through the dissemination of its work via a number of informal channels (using the networks of associated institutions and actors) and through informal meetings and dialogue.

Civil Society

UNCTAD cooperates with civil society actors by setting up formal and informal mechanisms for NGO participation and contribution to UNCTAD's activities, including participation in conferences, workshops and seminars, producing co-publications, information-sharing and policy analysis through exchange of ideas and implementation of technical cooperation programmes. The Civil Society Outreach Unit organizes regular consultations, briefings and seminars with civil society organizations. UNCTAD's Trade and Development Board (TDB) has institutionalized hearings with civil society and the private sector since 2004. Such hearings are now convened as part of the annual session of the TDB.

Arrangements for the participation of NGOs concerned with trade and development in the activities of UNCTAD are governed by Rule 77 of the Rules of Procedure of the TDB. This Board establishes relationship arrangements with NGOs for the purpose of enabling UNCTAD, the TDB and its subsidiary bodies to secure information or advice from organizations having special competence on subjects for which relationship arrangements are made, and to enable organizations representing important elements of public opinion to express their views. The TDB distinguishes between NGOs that have a basic interest in most of the activities of the TDB which are placed in the general category, and those having a special competence in specific activities, which are placed in the special category. NGOs in status receive regular notifications of and documentation for conferences and meetings convened by UNCTAD. Their representatives are entitled to participate as observers in the public meetings of the intergovernmental bodies. Such representatives may make oral statements on matters falling within the scope of their activities and may circulate written statements on matters related to agenda items of these meetings.

National NGOs of recognized standing, which are deemed to have a significant

UNCTAD (continued)

contribution to make to the work of UNCTAD, may be entered by the Secretary-General of UNCTAD in a Register established for this purpose after prior consultations with appropriate representatives of the respective Member States concerned. National NGOs receive UNCTAD's documentation.

The *CSO Newsletter*,¹ an electronic information bulletin produced by UNCTAD's Civil Society Outreach Unit, encourages the involvement of civil society actors in UNCTAD's work. It provides information on UNCTAD's activities, meetings, hearings with civil society, new publications and upcoming events of interest to NGOs.

Extent of Collaboration

Partnerships are an important element in the engagement with NGOs. Examples include:

*Advisory Services on Investment and Training (ASIT)*²

ASIT has been providing services to developing countries and countries with economies in transition to increase their capacity to attract and benefit from foreign direct investment (FDI). ASIT activities do include cooperation with the World Association of Investment Promotion Agencies (WAIPA)—an NGO made up of over 170 investment promotion agencies worldwide. The cooperation is in line with the *Partnership for Development Initiative* launched at UNCTAD XI (Sao Paulo, Brazil, June 2004). As part of the Partnership, joint training workshops in best practices for investment promotion and investor targeting are organized with a host country institution within the context of ASIT's ongoing technical cooperation programme. Through WAIPA, but also independently, private companies can participate in ASIT workshops and contribute their expertise and perspective to these events. Some partners have also provided logistical support to conferences and other events organized by ASIT and WAIPA.

*Virtual Institute*³

UNCTAD's Virtual Institute seeks to create a global network of higher learning and research on trade and development issues to equip future generations of decision makers with the capacity to make informed choices about the economic development of their countries. The Institute aims to assist academic institutions

UNCTAD (continued)

around the world that wish to enhance their curricula, knowledge, training skills and research expertise in the areas of trade, investment and development. It provides open access to selected UNCTAD resources (readings and presentations) and pedagogical tools to help interested institutions develop their own high-quality training materials. It also hosts a network of academic institutions committed to sharing material, expertise and experience to enhance their training and research activities.

UNCTAD/UNDP Global Programme on Globalization and Sustainable Human Development⁴

This arrangement provides a forum for close collaboration with governments, NGOs, academic organizations and the private sector to assist governments to create strategies for managing their integration into the world economy, in a manner conducive to sustainable human development.

Private Sector and Civil Society Dialogue Events

A series of discussion fora and workshops involving civil society, private sector and academia are organized to provide a forum for dialogue on investment regimes and international investment issues.⁵ UNCTAD's work programme on international investment agreements (IIAs) has undertaken several capacity-building activities in cooperation with civil society and academic institutions. The training sessions for negotiators of IIAs are organized in cooperation with local universities. In 2004, the joint UNCTAD-CUTS (Consumer Unity and Trust Society of India) project on "Awareness and capacity building for civil society on investment regimes and international investment issues" sought to address the need for involvement and capacity building for civil society in this area.

Training Courses and Seminars on International Trade Issues

UNCTAD provides training courses and seminars on international trade issues for policy makers, government officials, trainers, business people and parliamentarians at the national or the regional level.

Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue on Debt

UNCTAD is a member of the core team guiding the multi-stakeholder consultation process on "sovereign debt for sustained development," led by the UN's Department

UNCTAD (continued)

of Economic and Social Affairs' Financing for Development Office.⁶ The consultations aim to take stock, at both the policy and operational level, of ways in which the challenges to developing and transition economies in the use of sovereign external debt can be mitigated and to elicit views and proposals from the different perspectives of all relevant stakeholder involved in debt issues, including those of civil society.

The debt consultation process has been structured to build an inclusive multi-stakeholder meeting (for governments, international financial institutions, private sector, academics and civil society). A global level meeting was organized in conjunction with UNCTAD's Fifth Inter-Regional Debt Management Conference in June 2005. It served as the third and final round of consultations organized as part of the multi-stakeholder dialogue.

Private Sector

UNCTAD cooperates with the private sector in research and technical cooperation in the areas of international trade, transport, investment, development finance and technology. Private sector representatives participate in seminars, workshops and conferences. For specific operational projects, UNCTAD's divisions and programmes work directly and in partnership with private sector actors.

Extent of Collaboration

The following are a few examples of programmes undertaken by UNCTAD with the private sector:

Commodity Exchange Development Programme

Since the early 1990s, UNCTAD has worked actively with the private sector and governments of many countries to develop commodity exchanges. UNCTAD has undertaken a wide range of activities necessary to enable the successful development of such exchanges, including assistance to the private sector in developing business plans and structuring the necessary partnerships for effective use of commodity exchanges. Several new exchanges have been formed as a result of this work. The two largest, both in India, are each expected to have a turnover of more than US\$100 billion in 2005.

UNCTAD (continued)

African Oil Trade and Finance Programme

Since 1995, UNCTAD has been working with private sector companies and banks involved in this sector, and other stakeholders on the interface between oil and finance, covering issues such as oil trade and project finance, improving the part of oil revenue retained in Africa, and managing budgets in the face of volatile prices. The programme includes analysis, advice, awareness-raising, training, institution-building and match-making activities. The flagship event is the African Oil & Gas Trade and Finance Conference⁷ which attracts many of the continent's key energy sector decision-makers, and is entirely funded through private sector sponsoring.

*BIOTRADE Initiative*⁸

UNCTAD launched the BIOTRADE Initiative in 1996 to foster the development of the sectors for biodiversity products and services and promote simultaneously the sustainable use and conservation of biodiversity resources in developing countries. The BIOTRADE Initiative seeks to respond to a number of issues in an integrated manner: stimulating public and private investment partnerships in biological resource-based products and services while enhancing the capacity of developing countries to enhance its supply capacity; meet domestic and international environmental regulations; and seek greater access to world markets for biodiversity products produced in a sustainable manner in developing countries. The Initiative undertakes economic and market assessment research, promotes training and capacity building, develops alternative partnership arrangements and strategies for biological resource conservation and development, and promotes information dissemination, networking and active private sector involvement.

*TRANSACT*⁹

This initiative provides assistance to governments and the private sector in their negotiations with foreign investors, especially transnational corporations (TNCs).

*Empretec*¹⁰

This integrated capacity-building programme promotes the creation of sustainable small and medium enterprise (SME) support structures to help promising entrepreneurs build innovative and internationally competitive SMEs. Over the years, Empretec has collaborated with many public institutions, bilateral and multilateral donor agencies, private sector organizations and large companies.

UNCTAD (continued)

*Business Linkages Programme*¹¹

Business linkages between large enterprises, such as TNCs and local suppliers, can be a channel for the transfer of technology, knowledge and skills to host economies. UNCTAD is able to provide a combination of advisory and technical assistance services in the field of foreign direct investment and enterprise development.

Indigenous Peoples

UNCTAD convened an Expert Meeting in 2000 to address the protection of knowledge, innovations and practices of local and indigenous communities and to enhance cooperation on research and development on technologies associated with the sustainable use of biological resources. Traditional Knowledge (TK) has been addressed as part of UNCTAD's work in the area of trade and environment. The UNCTAD Secretariat has been working closely with the secretariats of other intergovernmental organizations, in particular the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), and encourages indigenous people to participate in TK-related activities.

Parliamentarians

UNCTAD works with several representative associations of parliamentarians. UNCTAD and the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) have had constant and close interaction for several decades, and there has been growing mutual interest in recent years to build up stronger ties between the two organizations. This culminated in the parliamentary meetings on the occasion of UNCTAD X and UNCTAD XI. Parliamentarians and the IPU Secretariat participate in UNCTAD's events and meetings to exchange views and to discuss issues of mutual concern to both organizations.

III. Organizational Resources

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UNCTAD (continued)

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The Civil Society Outreach Unit is responsible for developing and implementing policies for public outreach and to promote further cooperation with NGOs, academia, parliamentarians, business associations, trade unions and development-oriented religious groups. The CSO Unit has three staff members. The funding of the Unit's activities is derived from the regular budget, and civil society activities are supported through extra-budgetary funds.

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IV. Information Resources

1. *CSO Newsletter*: (www.unctad.org/Templates/Page.asp?intItemID=2648&lang=1).
2. Advisory Services on Investment and Training: (www.unctad.org/Templates/StartPage.asp?intItemID=2552).
3. UNCTAD's Virtual Institute: (<http://vi.unctad.org/SITE/TP/Data.nsf/home-web?OpenFrameset>).
4. Global Programme on Globalization and Sustainable Human Development: (www.unctad-undp.org).
5. International Investment Agreements: (www.unctad.org/ia).
6. Debt Policy and Debt Management: (<http://r0.unctad.org/dmfas>) and (www.un.org/esa/ffd/09multi-stake-consul-flyer-debt.htm).
7. African Oil & Gas Trade and Finance Conference: (www.africa-ogtf.com/index.htm).
8. BIOTRADE Initiative: (www.biotrade.org).
9. TRANSACT: (www.unctad.org/Templates/Page.asp?intItemID=1976&lang=1).
10. Empretec: (www.empretec.net).
11. Business Linkages Programme: (www.unctad.org/Templates/Page.asp?intItemID=2750&lang=1).

UNCTAD (continued)

Additional Resources

- b Information on UNCTAD-Civil Society Dialogue:
(www.unctad.org/en/docs/poissm385.en.pdf).
- b Information on Market Information in the Commodities Area:
(<http://r0.unctad.org/infocomm/anglais/indexen.htm>).
- b *Trade and Development Report*:
(www.unctad.org/Templates/StartPage.asp?intItemID=2504&lang=1).
- b *World Investment Report*:
(www.unctad.org/Templates/Page.asp?intItemID=1465).
- b *Economic Development in Africa Series*:
(www.unctad.org/Templates/Page.asp?intItemID=2863&lang=1).
- b *Least Developed Countries Report*:
(www.unctad.org/Templates/WebFlyer.asp?intItemID=3074&lang=1).

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (UNDP)

I. Core Areas

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is the UN's global development network, connecting countries to knowledge, experience and resources to help people build a better life. The Programme, led by an Administrator, Mr. Kemal Dervis, has a field presence in 166 countries and offices in 134 countries. The priority areas of focus of the Programme include democratic governance, poverty reduction, crisis prevention and recovery, energy and environment, as well as HIV/AIDS. Since the adoption of the Millennium Declaration and launching of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in 2000, key programme areas are approached from the MDG perspective for more coordinated, coherent and focused action at the national level.

The institutional structure of UNDP includes offices for each region of the world (connected to national UN offices in their respective regions), extensive research arms including the offices of the *Human Development Report* and *Development Studies*, and several departments including the Bureau for Resources and Strategic Partnerships (BRSP), the Bureau for Prevention and Recovery, and the Bureau for Development Policy (BDP). The structure also includes United Nations Volunteers (UNV), the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), and a technical cooperation unit.

II. Engagement with External Actors

UNDP has national and international level engagement with a range of civil society organizations as well as private sector actors relevant to its areas of work.

Civil Society

At the international level, the CSO Division,¹ housed in the Bureau for Resources

UNDP (continued)

and Strategic Partnerships, leads the engagement with civil society organizations. In close collaboration with the Bureau for Development Policy and the regional Bureaux, the Division supports strategic processes of civic engagement at local, regional, and global levels. The CSO Division is responsible for strengthening UNDP policies and procedural methods to collaborate more effectively and systematically with CSOs as well as the capacity of UN country offices to work with CSOs.²

CSO engagement is founded on five principles and commitments:

- b Partnership founded on horizontality (equality), trust, inclusion and mutual capability;
- b Recognition of obligations as a duty-bearer;
- b Negotiation and mutual agenda-setting with individual accountability;
- b Desegregation, selection and intellectual differentiation; and
- b Macro-micro coherence and balance: connecting upstream and downstream.

A CSO Advisory Committee,³ composed of 14 CSO leaders, provides a mechanism for mutual agenda-setting, policy debate, individual accountability, and ease of access for exchanges between senior managers and civil society leaders on future directions for UNDP. The committee members are selected based on their expertise on a set of mutually agreed issues including: poverty reduction and sustainable debt; inclusive globalization—democratizing trade and finance; conflict prevention and peacebuilding; human rights and human development; and private sector engagement. There are structured dialogues between the CSO Advisory Committee and the UNDP Executive Board on issues relating to policy options and perspectives on trade, poverty reduction, monitoring the MDGs, human-rights based approaches to development, and gender mainstreaming.

In addition to policy level engagement, UNDP has several funding support arrangements involving CSOs,⁴ including:

- b Thematic Trust Funds: Through the Bureau for Development Policy, these funds cover a range of themes from poverty reduction and HIV/AIDS to governance and energy. Each fund outlines strategic services related to

UNDP (continued)

engaging with CSOs and often includes them as one of the key stakeholders in a multi-partner initiative.

b `Partnership Facility: Through the Bureau for Resources and Strategic Partnerships, this facility provides small grants to UNDP country offices to support innovative partnership initiatives.

b `Small Grants Programme: These grants support community-based initiatives, which in turn have policy impact at the district, regional or national levels. At present, two such mechanisms exist at headquarters: the small grants window of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and the Local Initiative Facility for Urban Environment (LIFE),⁵ which seeks to strengthen community-based organizations, NGOs and local authorities, empower the poor and women, and promote their participation and integration in development and local governance processes.

Extent of Collaboration

A number of special programmes also exist to support and reinforce partnerships with CSOs in specific areas, such as:

b `Capacity 2015⁶: Based on the success of Capacity 21 created to achieve Agenda 21 goals, Capacity 2015 focuses on supporting decentralized initiatives at the community level on MDGs.

b `Human Rights Strengthening Programme (HURIST)⁷: A joint programme between UNDP and the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights to identify best practices and learning opportunities in the development of national capacity for promoting and protecting human rights and in applying a human rights approach to development programming.

b `Africa 2000 Plus Network⁸: Previously the Africa 2000 Network, this programme provides institutional support to foster environmentally sensitive poverty reduction policies that improve livelihoods and resource management of rural communities in Africa.

b `Community Water Initiative⁹: This initiative is a funding mechanism for community-based water supply, sanitation and watershed management.

b `Equator Initiative¹⁰: This initiative aims to reduce poverty through conservation and the sustainable use of biodiversity in the equatorial belt by fostering, supporting and strengthening community partnerships. The initiative promotes and

UNDP (continued)

recognizes the local achievements, fosters South-South capacity development, and shares knowledge through publications and the media.

Private Sector

The Division for Business Partnerships, also in the BRSP, coordinates UNDP's overall relationships with the private sector. It advises UNDP offices and units on cooperating with business, while building and managing relationships and partnerships with businesses and their organizations. The Division also coordinates UNDP's overall participation in the Global Compact.

UNDP collaborates with businesses on development projects that aim for eradication of poverty and sustainable human development. The five main ways such collaboration takes place are:

- b ` Making a monetary or technical contribution to an existing development project or an activity jointly developed by UNDP and the business partner(s);
- b ` Making an in-kind contribution of goods or services to an existing development project or an activity jointly developed by UNDP and the business partner(s);
- b ` Establishing an employee secondment programme to encourage the transfer of skills and knowledge between UNDP and the participating company(ies);
- b ` Assisting with the organization of advocacy and awareness-raising events to promote the purposes and activities of UNDP and the UN; and
- b ` Promoting the Global Compact Principles by incorporating them into both the business culture and business practices of the participating company.

Extent of Collaboration

A number of specific area or issue-based partnership programmes with business exist and they include initiatives such as:

- b ` UNDP's Montreal Protocol Programme: It works closely with large, medium and small-scale enterprises, along with host governments, to phase out ozone depleting substances under the Protocol's requirements.
- b ` Public Private Partnership for the Urban Environment (PPPUE)¹¹: The

UNDP (continued)

partnership brings together governments, private businesses and civil society to pool resources and skills to improve basic services at local and municipal levels.

b 'Growing Sustainable Business (GSB)¹²: Looking beyond social investments and philanthropy, the GSB mechanism is a service offered to companies that seek to develop commercially viable business projects within their core business or value chain with a view to increasing profitability and/or engagement in new markets.

Indigenous Peoples

UNDP's programming also has a focus on indigenous peoples¹³ that is not carried out by a single office but rather managed as a cross-cutting issue throughout programme activities. The engagement with indigenous peoples is extensive, especially at the country level. Since the inauguration of the UN International Year of Indigenous People in 1993, many UNDP small grants, as well as its regional and national programmes, have involved indigenous peoples' communities. These initiatives have focused on poverty eradication, environmental conservation, conflict prevention and resolution, and cultural revitalization.

In addition, UNDP has supported projects under the Indigenous Knowledge Programme in order to promote indigenous knowledge through targeted capacity building and direct support for projects formulated and implemented by Indigenous Peoples' Organizations (IPOs). A recent cross-cutting area gaining attention in the engagement of this sector is the role of indigenous peoples in conflict prevention and peacebuilding.

*A Practice Note on Engagement of UNDP with Indigenous Peoples*¹⁴ provides the framework for engagement. The Note is the result of a series of consultations with IPOs worldwide as well as with UNDP staff. UNDP's efforts in this area emphasize fuller understanding of indigenous peoples' development perspectives, through internal training, sensitization and capacity building for staff, NGOs and local and regional government officials.

Projects that incorporate indigenous peoples fall under the category of small grants programmes, several of which are global in scope. These programmes are designed to promote consensus-building and participatory decision-making processes. They

UNDP (continued)

are formulated and implemented in a decentralized manner; and participatory management structures are an integral component of these kinds of initiatives. IPOs, among others, can seek funding through the Global Environment Facility (GEF) Small Grants Programme, which supports small-scale activities conducted by NGOs and community groups that address environmental problems.

Extent of Collaboration

Examples of specific programmes include:

- b `Indigenous Knowledge Programme: It aims to conserve and promote indigenous knowledge worldwide, through a Steering Committee composed of a General Coordinator and eight Regional Coordinators, each representing local IPOs. This Programme is jointly supported by UNDP, the International Development Research Centre and the Swiss Development Cooperation.
- b `Regional and National Programmes involving Indigenous Peoples: These programmes focus on areas such as improvement of living standards; economic and technological development; preservation of natural resources and environmental conservation; and cultural revitalization.

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IV. Information Resources

1. CSO Division: (www.undp.org/cso).
2. UNDP CSO Policy: (www.undp.org/cso/policies/doc/UNDPCSOPolicy.doc).
3. CSO Advisory Committee: (www.undp.org/cso/partnerships.html).
4. Funding support arrangements: (www.undp.org/cso/areas/funds.html).
5. LIFE: (magnet.undp.org/Docs/LIFE/Default.htm).
6. Capacity 2015: (www.capacity.undp.org).
7. HURIST: (www.undp.org/governance/hurist.html).
8. Africa 2000 Plus Network: (www.undp.org/cso/areas/africa.html).
9. Community Water Initiative: (www.undp.org/water/initiative.html).
10. Equator Initiative: (www.undp.org/equatorinitiative).
11. PPPUE: (www.undp.org/pppue/national).
12. Growing Sustainable Business: (www.undp.org/business/gsb).
13. Indigenous People related information: (www.undp.org/cso/ip.html).
14. *A Practice Note on Engagement of UNDP with Indigenous Peoples*: (www.undp.org/cso/policies/doc/IPPolicyEnglish).

UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME (UNEP)

I. Core Areas

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) provides leadership and encourages partnership in caring for the environment by inspiring, informing and enabling nations and peoples to improve their quality of life without compromising that of future generations. UNEP resulted from the 1972 Stockholm Conference on the Human Environment and its blueprint was the Stockholm Action Plan, which sought to provide coherence and strengthen the varied environmental activities taking place throughout the UN system.

UNEP's work encompasses:

- b `Assessing global, regional and national environmental conditions and trends;
- b `Developing international and national environmental instruments;
- b `Strengthening institutions for the wise management of the environment;
- b `Facilitating the transfer of knowledge and technology for sustainable development; and
- b `Encouraging new partnerships and mind-sets within civil society and business and industry.

To ensure its global effectiveness, UNEP maintains six regional offices, plus a growing network of centres, including the Global Resource Information Database (GRID) centres and the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC). UNEP also has major offices in Geneva and Paris, the latter being where its Division of Technology, Industry and Economics is situated. UNEP also hosts several environmental convention secretariats including the Ozone Secretariat and the Montreal Protocol's Multilateral Fund, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Convention on Migratory Species, and a growing family of chemicals-related agreements, including the Basel Convention on the Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes and the recently negotiated Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs).

UNEP (continued)

The UNEP Secretariat is based in Nairobi and is headed by an Executive Director, Mr. Klaus Töpfer. UNEP employs about 950 staff worldwide and has an annual budget of about US\$65 million. UNEP's activities and programmes are financed by several sources, including funds from the regular budget of the United Nations, voluntary contributions to UNEP's Environment Fund, funds from various trust funds, and counterpart contributions from governments, cooperating agencies or supporting organizations to cover specific services and facilities for a particular project.

II. Engagement with External Actors

Civil Society

In 1999 UNEP created a Civil Society and NGO Unit to help civil society participate in environmental decision making. In 2004 UNEP created the Major Groups and Stakeholder Branch, adopting a strategy¹ based on three pillars: (i) strengthening institutional management, in order to facilitate transparent and meaningful communication between civil society and UNEP; (ii) engagement at the policy level, to take into account civil society expertise and views at the intergovernmental level; and (iii) engagement at the programmatic level, to involve civil society in UNEP's implementation of its work programme.

The Branch focuses its activities on civil society at large, as well as the areas of indigenous peoples and women. In October 2004, UNEP hosted the "Global Women's Assembly on Environment"² in Nairobi, and has since then published the civil society guidebook *Natural Allies: UNEP and Civil Society*.³

*UNEP Governing Council Meetings and NGO Participation*⁴

Under the Rules of Procedure, accredited NGOs can sit as observers and are allowed to make oral statements if they are invited by the chair of the meeting. They are also allowed to provide written statements related to agenda items of the Governing Council and subsidiary bodies. At present, only international NGOs can be accredited and participate in the Governing Council.

*Global Civil Society Forum (GCSF)*⁵

Each year, UNEP hosts the Global Civil Society Forum (GCSF) in advance of its

UNEP (continued)

Governing Council meeting, which is the main entry point for civil society participation at governance level. In addition, each UNEP region holds a Regional Civil Society Forum where civil society gathers and discusses issues pertaining to the Forum.

Extent of Collaboration

*Civic Entrepreneurship: A Civil Society Perspective on Sustainable Development*⁶

This seven-volume series is the result of global dialogue between practitioners of sustainable development on what works and why. It includes more than 100 examples of sustainable development in practice.

*Geneva Environmental Network (GEN)*⁷

GEN is a cooperative partnership between over 40 environment and sustainable development organizations and units based in the International Environment House in the Geneva area, including UN offices and programmes, specialized agencies and NGOs. The partnership, of which UNEP is the Secretariat, aims at improving information dissemination and public outreach, and developing other joint activities.

Business and Industry

In working with business and industry, UNEP encourages companies to improve their environmental performance and display greater responsibility in their interaction with society. To deal with these issues, the Division of Technology, Industry and Economics (DTIE)⁸ was created in 1998, bringing together four existing UNEP offices with the aim of providing integrated responses to industrial and urban issues.

DTIE encourages decision makers in government, local authorities and industry to develop and adopt policies, strategies and practices that are cleaner and safer, use natural resources more efficiently, ensure environmentally sound management of chemicals, reduce pollution and risks for humans and the environment, enable implementation of conventions and international agreements, and incorporate environmental costs.

DTIE holds an annual consultative meeting⁹ with industry associations and related stakeholders (such as labour unions, consumer groups, international NGOs and

UNEP (continued)

intergovernmental agencies). The annual meeting focuses on key issues on the international agenda and new sustainability trends in the business world and provides advice on how DTIE can implement its work programme.

DTIE works with companies, industry associations and labour union bodies in focal areas related to production and consumption patterns, chemicals, ozone, energy, economics, finance and trade. The collaboration takes a variety of forms, such as training, voluntary initiatives, partnerships, sustainability reporting and stakeholder dialogue.

Working to Support Training through a Network of Centres Worldwide

UNEP has developed training materials and manuals targeted at companies of all sizes. An example is the UNEP/ICC/FIDIC Environmental Management Systems (EMS) Training Kit.¹⁰ The Efficient Entrepreneur Calendar and Guidebook of UNEP/Wuppertal Institute¹¹ supports small- and medium-sized enterprises with the introduction of environmental management and reporting. Small entrepreneurs in Africa, Latin America and China are supported through the Rural Energy Enterprise Development (REED) programme.¹² In addition, over 20 National Cleaner Production Centres (NCPCs) in developing and transition economy countries conduct training of trainers. The NCPC network is run jointly by UNEP and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO).¹³

Working with Companies in Voluntary Initiatives

UNEP is among the core agencies of the UN Global Compact, responsible for its three environmental principles. Also relevant to encouraging and promoting corporate responsibility, the Programme is a co-founder of the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI). The Programme has catalyzed or been involved in the creation of a number of sectoral voluntary initiatives with companies and related stakeholders. In addition to the recent additions on the building and construction sector,¹⁴ examples of voluntary initiatives include:

*UNEP Finance Initiative (UNEP FI)*¹⁵

The Finance Initiative has more than 270 banks and insurers from over 50 countries involved in it. Initiated as a means of engaging financial institutions on sustainable development, signatories commit to integrate sustainable development considerations into all aspects of their operations and service. The participating institutions agree to support the precautionary approach to environmental management; recognize that

UNEP (continued)

identifying and quantifying environmental risks should be part of the normal process of risk assessment and management; and pursue best environmental practices. Issues addressed include climate change, investment, sustainability management and reporting, finance and conflict prevention, and water sustainability.

*The Tour Operators Initiative*¹⁶

The Tour Operators Initiative, developed in cooperation with the World Tourism Organization (WTO) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), involves 20 global tour operators. Operators signing the initiative make a commitment to introduce environmental policy and management systems into their operations; monitor and report progress implementing sustainable tourism practices; and promote sustainable tourism to suppliers, contractors and customers.

Supporting Sustainability Reporting and Stakeholder Engagement

The Global Reporting Initiative (GRI)¹⁷ is based on UNEP's belief that company involvement in voluntary action should be accompanied by sustainability reporting. GRI develops and disseminates globally applicable *Sustainability Reporting Guidelines* for voluntary use by organizations to report on the economic, environmental, and social dimensions of their activities, products, and services. The GRI incorporates the active participation of representatives from business, accountancy, investment, environmental, human rights, research, and labour organizations from around the world. It also has a multi-stakeholder participatory governance structure.

UNEP DTIE is also supporting multi-stakeholder partnerships through the Seed Initiative¹⁸ (Supporting Entrepreneurs in Environment and Development), a joint initiative of UNEP, UNDP and the World Conservation Union (IUCN). It aims to support and build the capacity of locally-driven entrepreneurial partnerships to contribute to the delivery of the MDGs and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation.

III. Organizational Resources

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IV. Information Resources

1. Enhancing Civil Society Engagement in the Work of UNEP:
(www.unep.org/DPDL/civil_society/PDF_docs/Enhancing_Civil_Society_Engagement_In_UNEP.pdf).
2. Women and Environment:
(www.unep.org/DPDL/civil_society/Publications/index.asp).
3. *Natural Allies: UNEP and Civil Society*: (www.unep.org/DPDL/civil_society/Publications/index.asp). Chapter 2 outlines civil society participation in UNEP governance.
4. UNEP Governing Council Meetings and NGO Participation:
(www.unep.org/DPDL/civil_society/PDF_docs/Criteria_NGO_accreditation-1.pdf).
5. Global Civil Society Forum:

UNEP (continued)

- (www.unep.org/DPDL/civil_society/GCSF/index.asp).
6. Civic Entrepreneurship: A Civil Society Perspective on Sustainable Development: (www.tellus.org/general/publications.html).
 7. Geneva Environmental Network: (www.environmenthouse.ch/network.html).
 8. Division of Technology, Industry and Economics: (www.unep.fr/en).
 9. Annual Consultative Meeting with Industry Associations and Related Stakeholders: (www.uneptie.org/outreach/business/ind_meeting.htm).
 10. UNEP/ICC/FIDIC Environmental Management Systems Training Kit: (www.uneptie.org/outreach/business/ems.htm).
 11. The Efficient Entrepreneur Calendar and Guidebook of UNEP/Wuppertal Institute: (www.uneptie.org/outreach/business/calendar.htm).
 12. Rural Energy Enterprise Development Programme: (www.uneptie.org/energy/act/re/AREED/index.htm).
 13. National Cleaner Production Centres: (www.uneptie.org/pc/cp).
 14. Building and Construction Sector: (www.unep.or.jp/ietc/sbc/index.asp).
 15. UNEP Finance Initiative: (www.unepfi.org).
 16. Tour Operators Initiative: (www.toinitiative.org).
 17. Global Reporting Initiative: (www.uneptie.org/outreach/reporting/gri.htm) and (www.globalreporting.org/about/brief.asp).
 18. The Seed Initiative: (www.seedinit.org).

Additional Resources

- b Civil Society Participation webpage: (www.unep.org/dpdl/civil_society/Guidelines/index.asp).
- b *Guidelines on Cooperation between the United Nations Environment Programme and Business*: (www.unep.org/GC/GC23/documents/GC23-INF5.pdf).
- b Resources for Business Persons: (www.unep.org/resources/business/Focus_Areas).

UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION (UNESCO)

I. Core Areas

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) is mandated to contribute to peace and security by promoting collaboration among nations through education, science and culture in order to further universal respect for justice, for the rule of law and for the human rights and fundamental freedoms which are affirmed for the peoples of the world, without distinction of race, sex, language or religion, by the Charter of the United Nations.

UNESCO functions as a standard-setter to help forge universal agreements on emerging ethical issues. It also serves as a clearinghouse—for the dissemination and sharing of information and knowledge—while helping Member States to build their human and institutional capacities in diverse fields. UNESCO promotes international cooperation in the fields of education, science, culture and communication.

UNESCO draws upon two types of financial resources. One source comes from the regular budget, which comprises the contributions paid by Member States, calculated according to the economic strength of each country. For the two-year period 2004-2005, the regular budget totalled US\$610 million. Another source of funding are extrabudgetary funds from bilateral government donors, UN funds and programmes, multilateral development banks, and the private sector. Headed by a Director-General, Mr. Koïchiro Matsuura, UNESCO employs around 2,000 staff, two-thirds of which are based at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris.

II. Engagement with External Actors

Civil Society

UNESCO has a flexible and comprehensive notion of civil society. This includes NGOs, professional associations and community groups, youth and women's

UNESCO (continued)

movements and other clusters such as the UNESCO Clubs movement, parliamentarians, cities, mayors, local authorities and the business sector. Such civil society actors can play an effective role in forging innovative alliances with UNESCO with a view to promoting the principles and values enshrined in the Organization's Constitution.

National Commissions for UNESCO constitute a mechanism for establishing outreach to civil society and for mobilizing its potential. Numbering 191, these bodies form a worldwide network mandated to involve all groups in civil society at the national level as the Organization seeks to extend its range of contacts with key social decision makers in diverse domains of action.

Since its founding, UNESCO has sought to collaborate with NGOs, and many activities undertaken worldwide in its fields of competence, i.e. education, science, social and human sciences, culture, communication and information, are carried out in cooperation with a wide range of NGOs. The synergy is vital for the pursuit of UNESCO's mandate and indispensable in the design, implementation and monitoring of a range of UNESCO projects and programmes.

Article XI, paragraph 4 of UNESCO's Constitution defines the basis for cooperation between UNESCO and NGOs as follows: *"The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization may make suitable arrangements for consultation and cooperation with non-governmental international organizations concerned with matters within its competence, and may invite them to undertake specific tasks. Such cooperation may also include appropriate participation by representatives of such organizations on advisory committees set up by the General Conference."*

The current statutory framework for cooperation with NGOs is defined in the "Directives concerning UNESCO's relations with non-governmental organizations"¹ that were approved by UNESCO's General Conference at its 28th session in 1995 and amended in 2001. In accordance with these Directives, UNESCO establishes two forms of statutory relations with international NGOs: formal or operational, depending on the role and structure of the NGOs concerned and the record of their effective cooperation with UNESCO. The Directives stipulate among other things the obligations and advantages granted to such organizations as well as the modalities for modification, termination and suspension of statutory relations with them.

UNESCO (continued)

Complementary to the above statutory framework, UNESCO encourages cooperation on an informal or ad-hoc basis with NGOs for the purpose of the execution of certain specific programme elements. The involvement of NGOs in programme implementation does not therefore necessarily hinge on their statutory relations with the Organization, but rather on their expertise in one or more of UNESCO's fields of competence.

Foundations and similar institutions that are active in UNESCO's fields of competence, and that are self-reliant and non-profit making, can also be admitted to statutory relations in accordance with another set of specific directives applicable to such organizations.

UNESCO conducts its collaboration with NGOs in two complementary ways: bilateral and collective. Bilateral cooperation is essentially thematic and can take various forms: contracts for the execution of "framework agreements" or for the implementation of certain elements of UNESCO's regular programmes, the execution of projects, granting of requests under the Organization's Participation Programme Scheme, etc.

Collective cooperation is sought through various mechanisms, linked to specific priorities, such as thematic collective consultations that are regularly held, bringing together relevant NGOs and UNESCO specialists with a view to contributing to programme implementation. Such collective cooperation mechanisms have proved to be useful in the preparation of and follow-up to major world conferences.

Another major collective consultation mechanism is the NGO International Conference, which meets every two years. It brings together all NGOs in statutory relations with UNESCO and constitutes an enlarged forum for reflection and exchange, enabling UNESCO to gather advice and suggestions from NGOs. The conference also elects an NGO-UNESCO Liaison Committee, which acts as an interface between NGOs and the Organization's governing bodies, and represents the collective voice of the NGO community associated with UNESCO. Based at UNESCO's Headquarters, this Committee ensures permanent coordination and collective cooperation with the Organization, both at the policymaking and programme execution levels.

Another feature of UNESCO's interaction modalities with the NGO community is

UNESCO (continued)

the Executive Board's Committee on NGOs. Set up in 1966, the Committee has subsequently become one of its permanent subsidiary bodies. Composed of 24 Member States, it aims to institutionalize direct dialogue between the Executive Board, the Secretariat and NGOs, and examines all issues related to UNESCO-NGO cooperation, including the establishment or renewal of statutory relations. All NGOs maintaining statutory relations with UNESCO are given the possibility to attend the General Conference. NGOs in formal relations are entitled to make statements during the general debate in plenary sessions, whereas NGOs in operational relations can do so in various programme commissions of the Conference.

Extent of Collaboration

UNESCO Clubs

Since the first UNESCO Club was founded in Japan in 1947, UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations have become valuable partners for the Organization, formed of people of all ages from every kind of social and professional background and origin who share a commitment to UNESCO's ideals. They work as volunteers at the grassroots level to implement these ideals.

Over 4,000 Clubs spread over 100 countries have three main functions: training, information and action. Irrespective of their nature and scope, activities carried out by the Clubs foster the dissemination of UNESCO's principles and objectives in civil society, making it possible to promote UNESCO's values in local communities.

Private Sector

The specific objectives pursued by UNESCO in collaboration with private sector partners include:

- b 'Analyze strategic alliances established in the UN system and other global institutions enabling UNESCO's policy in this area to evolve constantly;
- b 'Organize thematic consultations in order to benefit from the wide-ranging expertise of the private sector;
- b 'Develop a practical partnership system to define the specific roles of current and future partners;

UNESCO (continued)

b Develop further the regulatory and organizational framework for the establishment of partnerships (guidelines, a guide, internal manual for the sectors, field offices, National Commissions and other networks affiliated to UNESCO); and

b Attract other partners, establish new links and mechanisms for cooperation with different types of partners, and implement flagship multi-stakeholder partnerships that can be used as models.

The policy framework for UNESCO's cooperation with the private sector derives from the Guidelines adopted by the United Nations in 2000 (see Annex III), which is underpinned by the Global Compact and its ten principles.

UNESCO works with hundreds of private sector partners: multinational companies, small- and medium-size enterprises (SMEs), private foundations, economic, academic and professional associations, philanthropic bodies and individuals. This cooperation also includes coalitions and federations such as the World Business Council for Sustainable Development, the International Chamber of Commerce, the World Economic Forum, and international business schools.

UNESCO offers a variety of arrangements for partnerships between its global, regional, national and local networks, on the one hand, and private sector entities, both institutional and individual, on the other. A number of provisions govern its relations with the private sector, including:

b Consultation of the National Commission of the Member State concerned;

b Relevance of the partnership to UNESCO's strategic and programme priorities;

b Balance between the substantive contribution made by the partner and what UNESCO offers in return; and

b Implementation of the partnership in keeping with ethical requirements, in particular transparency and accountability.

Extent of Collaboration

There is growing practical collaboration with the business sector beyond donations to UNESCO activities. Recently, institutional partnerships have been established with international commercial groups such as Rhône-Poulenc (now Sanofi-Aventis) for cultural World Heritage preservation and education, L'Oréal for

UNESCO (continued)

“Women in Science,” DaimlerChrysler for intercultural dialogue, Hewlett Packard for “Alleviating Brain Drain,” Suez for water management training, Microsoft for promoting the role of ICTs in education, Intel for ICTs in teacher training, and Samsung for promoting intangible cultural heritage.

The purpose of these partnerships—in a medium-term perspective—is to mobilize the business world, with its expertise and networks, its high-quality services, equipment and considerable financial resources, to assist in the achievement of UNESCO’s objectives. UNESCO is also cooperating with professional and volunteer groups from the private sector, such as Rotary International, Lions Clubs International and the Junior Chamber of Commerce (JAYCEES) to promote the involvement of citizens in UNESCO’s activities.

At the national level, UNESCO facilitates various operations carried out in synergy with governments and NGOs. Special attention is being paid to mobilizing contacts with and support from the private sector at country level. National Commissions for UNESCO are charged with mobilizing local outreach to these diverse private sector partners. Such partnerships, whether international, regional, national or local, can help ensure that commercial investments contribute to the overall goal of sustainable development.

UNESCO and L’Oréal

In May 2005, UNESCO and L’Oréal Professional Products signed an agreement under which they will work together on an HIV/AIDS prevention education programme. Within the framework of the cooperation agreement, UNESCO and L’Oréal will launch a programme “Hairdressers of the World against AIDS,” aimed at raising awareness of HIV/AIDS by offering prevention courses to hairdressers in training. The programme will offer courses adapted to the cultures of the countries concerned. It will be part of the programme already put in place by L’Oréal in Africa, which has already provided for 170,000 training days. The hairdressers serve to further the campaign by relaying their knowledge to clients in their salons.

Global Alliance²

The Global Alliance for Cultural Diversity brokers partnerships between public and private actors to support local cultural industries—such as music, film and publishing—in developing countries. The Alliance works to increase the

UNESCO (continued)

availability of diverse, affordable cultural products worldwide, to prevent piracy and to encourage respect for international copyright regulations.

The current 500 Alliance members come from a wide range of sectors including governments, intergovernmental bodies, professional associations, SMEs, multinational companies and the academic world. Alliance endeavours range from projects, which build on knowledge sharing and transfer between businesses and professionals, to far-reaching projects, which involve the design and introduction of public policy and regulatory frameworks involving wide stakeholder consultations. Ongoing initiatives include the setting up of musicians' cooperatives in Africa, strategies for the book industry in Algeria and the music industry in Jamaica, the development of innovative television programmes for children in the Arab region, and the opening of markets for quality crafts from developing countries in Europe and North America. Within the Alliance, the Creative Cities Network links cities from around the world that seek to unlock the creative, social and economic potential of their local cultural industries.

Parliamentarians

Cooperation with parliamentarians is a major component of UNESCO's partnership policy, enabling the Organization to mobilize a network of national and regional legislators who meet within regional or international forums, and who help to ensure that UNESCO programme objectives are reflected in national legislation.

At the international level, a cooperation agreement was concluded with the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) in 1997, whereby IPU commits its members—145 national parliaments—to work for peace and security, cooperation among the nations and universal respect for justice, human rights and fundamental freedoms. In order to give interaction at national level an institutional framework, a network has been progressively established, starting in June 2003, for cooperation between the national groups of the IPU and National Commissions for UNESCO.

At the regional level cooperation agreements have been concluded between UNESCO and regional parliamentary associations, and regional forums have been set up around specific UNESCO programmes.

UNESCO (continued)

Cities and Local Authorities

UNESCO's Sector for External Relations and Cooperation seeks to develop new forms of partnership with local governments in order to strengthen the political commitment for the Organization's priorities and initiatives. UNESCO supports the action of cities and local authorities in the political, social, economic and cultural fields. This joint action extends to natural and human sciences, culture and heritage, communication and information, and education.

UNESCO encourages cooperation with municipalities, cities, local authorities and associations of cities, all of which increasingly play an important role in sustainable development of communities. The objective is to bring cities together and also connect them with other partners through sponsoring, twinning and networking operations.

Indigenous Peoples

Indigenous Peoples Education

In order to promote multicultural, multiethnic and multilingual basic education tailored to the specific needs of indigenous peoples, UNESCO seeks to: (i) encourage efforts to teach non-indigenous communities about indigenous cultures; (ii) promote mother-tongue literacy and learning in indigenous languages; (iii) develop preventive aspects of education for marginalized and vulnerable indigenous children and youth; (iv) encourage school curricula to embrace such indigenous inputs as culture-specific scientific knowledge, traditional mathematical tools, environmental awareness and linguistic diversity; and (v) develop innovative formal and non-formal learning methods backed by the use of new information and communication technologies.

Integrating Cultural Diversity and Intercultural Dialogue in the Development of Indigenous Communities

UNESCO's support to indigenous peoples include the development of standard-setting instruments in the area of cultural diversity (the UNESCO Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity (2001), and the Preliminary Draft Convention on the Protection of the Diversity of Cultural Contents and Artistic Expressions—presented at the UNESCO General Conference in October 2005).

UNESCO (continued)

Through pilot projects, UNESCO also seeks to develop a number of methodological approaches and tools on cultural resource mapping for the empowerment of indigenous communities. Training and consultation activities are carried out in collaboration with local communities in order to stabilize and revitalize the cultural identities of displaced, fragmented, and stigmatized indigenous communities; to revive intergenerational cooperation and cohesion; and to assist in the transmission of knowledge to future generations.

*The LINKS Project*³

The Local and Indigenous Knowledge System (LINKS) project builds dialogue amongst traditional knowledge holders, natural and social scientists, resource managers and decision makers to enhance biodiversity conservation and secure an active and equitable role for local communities in resource governance. The LINKS project strengthens knowledge transmission between elders and youth, and explores pathways to balance community-based knowledge with global knowledge in formal and non-formal education. Key modalities for LINKS action include:

- b Demonstration projects in collaboration with rural and indigenous communities;
- b Action research on key concerns and issues;
- b Information and communication technologies to record, manage and transmit indigenous knowledge and know-how;
- b Training to build local capacities in relevant multimedia techniques; and
- b International workshops and seminars to promote reflection and dialogue.

*ICTs for Intercultural Dialogue and Diversity: Developing Communication Capacities of Indigenous Peoples*⁴

The project aims to preserve indigenous peoples' cultural resources through access to ICTs and through the development of indigenous content. This includes the fostering of intercultural dialogue between marginalized indigenous peoples and other groups, both in urban and rural settings, through the use of ICTs. This project also seeks to help indigenous peoples acquire greater skill in using ICTs and create new opportunities for income-generating activities. Its goals include: indigenous community leaders trained in ICT use; indigenous cultural content produced for television, radio and new media; awareness raised at the national and international level about indigenous creativity and about the importance of cultural diversity expressed through ICTs.

UNESCO (continued)

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IV. Information Resources

1. Directives concerning UNESCO's relations with NGOs:

([http://portal.unesco.org/en/ev.php-URL_ID=10631
&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html](http://portal.unesco.org/en/ev.php-URL_ID=10631&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html)).

2. The Global Alliance Project: (http://portal.unesco.org/culture/en/ev.php-URL_ID=24468&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html).

3. LINKS Project: ([http://portal.unesco.org/shs/en/ev.php-URL_ID=4943
&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html](http://portal.unesco.org/shs/en/ev.php-URL_ID=4943&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html)).

4. ICTs for Intercultural Dialogue: (http://portal.unesco.org/ci/en/ev.php-URL_ID=14364&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html). See also Information on the Register for Best Practices on Indigenous Knowledge: (www.unesco.org/most/bpikreg.htm).

UNITED NATIONS POPULATION FUND (UNFPA)

I. Core Areas

The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) extends assistance to developing countries, countries with economies in transition and other countries at their request to help them address reproductive health and population issues, and also works to raise awareness of these issues in all countries.

Guided by the principles of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) adopted in Cairo in 1994, UNFPA affirms its commitment to reproductive rights, gender equality and male responsibility, and to the autonomy and empowerment of women everywhere.

UNFPA's mission statement indicates: "UNFPA supports countries in using population data for policies and programmes to reduce poverty and to ensure that every pregnancy is wanted, every birth is safe, every young person is free of HIV/AIDS, and every girl and woman is treated with dignity and respect."

UNFPA's three main areas of work are: to help ensure universal access to reproductive health, including family planning and sexual health, to all couples and individuals on or before the year 2015; to support population and development strategies that enable capacity building in population programming; and to promote gender equality and women's empowerment by bringing gender issues to wider attention, promoting legal and policy reforms and gender-sensitive data collection, and supporting projects that empower women economically and politically.

UNFPA supports programmes that help women, men and young people:

- b Plan their families and avoid unwanted pregnancies;
- b Undergo pregnancy and childbirth safely;
- b Avoid sexually transmitted infections (STIs)—including HIV/AIDS; and
- b Combat violence against women.

UNFPA is headed by an Executive Director, Ms. Thoraya Obaid, and works in 146

UNFPA (continued)

countries, areas and territories through nine Country Services Technical Teams and 112 country offices. Worldwide, UNFPA has 972 staff, and nearly half of the professional staff members are women.

The UNFPA multi-year funding framework (MYFF) 2004-2007 serves as the main policy document of UNFPA as well as its strategic resource and management tool. UNFPA will focus on achieving results in three key areas: reproductive health; population and development; and gender. According to the MYFF, UNFPA will continue to enhance collaboration with its partners, including both programme and donor countries, UN agencies, non-governmental and civil society organizations, parliamentarians and foundations, and will also seek to expand its partnerships with other organizations, including those in the private sector.

II. Engagement with External Actors

Civil Society

UNFPA has been working with civil society groups, especially NGOs, since its inception over 35 years ago, and has accepted hundreds of NGOs as executing agencies for UNFPA-supported projects. The ICPD refers to civil society as non-state institutions, including, among others, NGOs, community groups, professional associations, religious communities, labour and trade unions, political parties, foundations, academic and research institutions, the media, women's, men's and youth groups, as well as individual members of society.

Through its collaboration with NGOs, UNFPA supplements and strengthens national capacity to implement programmes in the sectoral areas within UNFPA's mandate. Such collaboration includes support for joint conferences, workshops or special events on population issues; regular interchange of information; and support for special publications and audiovisual materials aimed at NGO constituencies. Other areas of collaboration include formulation and implementation of national population policies, access to reproductive health including family planning and sexual health, education and communication activities, research and surveys, adaptation and introduction of contraceptive technologies, training activities, technical advisory services and fundraising.

UNFPA (continued)

NGOs seeking assistance must satisfy the Fund that they have substantive knowledge and experience in population activities, and that they have the ability and capacity to execute projects on their own. Preference is given to NGOs that have sustained interest in population-related activities.

Proposals for NGO projects at the national level must be submitted to the UNFPA representative in the country concerned. While processing the proposal, the representative will make sure that the country's government has no objection to the project. In the case of inter-country projects, the request for assistance may be forwarded directly to UNFPA Headquarters in New York. In these cases UNFPA may require that each national project, as a component of the larger programme, be forwarded through the UNFPA representative in the individual country concerned. Strict financial monitoring and project evaluation procedures are also part of all cooperative agreements between UNFPA and NGOs.

Cooperation with NGOs extends beyond the list of NGOs in consultative status with ECOSOC to organizations working at the national and local levels. Any NGO that is to be selected as a direct executing agency, sub-contractee or grantee, must be registered with UNFPA following an assessment of its legal status, financial soundness, and institutional capacity. The criteria for this assessment are set out in the Policies and Procedures Manual, *Additional Guidance Note: Guidelines for UNFPA Collaboration with NGOs and the Guidelines for the Assessment of Potential Executing Agencies*. The responsibility of assessing the eligibility and registering an NGO lies with the relevant representative and heads of headquarters organizational units approving the project, sub-contract or grant.

Partnerships with civil society cover all sectors and a spectrum of activities, including the special needs of the elderly and internal and international migrants; protecting the rights of girls and women; monitoring human rights; increasing access to quality reproductive health information, services and commodities; reducing maternal morbidity and mortality; preventing HIV/AIDS; and monitoring country-level progress in implementing the ICPD goals and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Countries also reported partnerships with NGOs in public information and outreach campaigns.

In the UNFPA 2003 *Global Survey-Investing in People: National Progress in Implementing the ICPD Programme of Action 1994-2004*,¹ 90% of governments in

UNFPA (continued)

all regions reported active partnerships on population and reproductive health. Both governments and NGOs have accepted that NGOs often can reach some groups more easily and carry out certain programmes more effectively than can governments.

One of the most common areas of partnership between governments and civil society is the involvement of NGOs in the design and implementation of population and reproductive health plans and programmes. A commonly cited coordinating mechanism for partnerships in the design of plans and programmes was NGO representation in national population commissions, offices or ministries (39%). In addition to direct representation of NGOs in government advisory bodies, 17% of countries reported that they involve civil society in the formulation of population plans and programmes through national forums and associations for NGOs. Governments also reported involving community-level NGOs in local decision-making bodies (15%).

In some settings requiring flexibility and quicker outreach, NGOs are better placed than governments to promote gender equality, address gender-based violence, encourage male responsibility, provide reproductive health information and services to adolescents, undertake youth development programmes, and reach groups at higher risk of HIV infection.

In Bangladesh, where NGOs and the private sector provide most health care, the government has included NGOs and community-based organizations in a National Advisory Committee for Stakeholder Participation in the Health, Nutrition, and Population Sector to ensure client-focused services, quality care, social and gender equity, and decentralization. The intent is to involve partners in planning as well as implementing policies and programmes.

Investing in People reveals the need to encourage the evolution of these partnerships from a consultative and advisory nature to a more genuine sharing of power and authority in the design, planning and implementation of policies and programmes; reaffirm commitment to even more comprehensive and inclusive partnerships with civil society and, particularly, the private sector; create partnerships that include multi-sectoral approaches and a broader range of partners, as well as cover a larger number of policy and programmatic areas of population, gender and reproductive health issues; and strengthen further cooperation and collaboration among the UN system partners, at both country

UNFPA (continued)

and other levels, to ensure that ICPD goals and issues are well integrated into efforts to attain the MDGs.

Extent of Collaboration

In order to counter the rapidly rising HIV infection rates in Central and Eastern Europe and Central Asia, UNFPA has worked to help build the capacity of national NGOs and government agencies to implement, supervise, monitor and evaluate peer education programmes for young people in the region. The project emphasizes training of trainers along with the development of special education and communication tools.

One of the project's main achievements has been the establishment of the Youth Peer Education Electronic Resource network (Y-PEER),² which has linked close to 1,100 members from 27 countries. The project has two main objectives: to increase the capacity of local and national NGOs to implement peer education programmes with a focus on promoting safe sexual behaviour among adolescents; and to strengthen sexuality education programmes in the region by collaborating with other ongoing initiatives.

Private Sector

UNFPA's 2003 *Global Survey Investing in People* finds that the private sector can play an important role in such areas as reproductive health commodity security, service delivery, social marketing of contraceptives, and the promotion of reproductive health and reproductive rights for young people, women and other groups. *Investing in People* asked responding governments to report on what measures they have taken to include the private sector in population and reproductive health activities. Out of 151 countries, 113 (75%) responded that they have taken actions to involve the private sector. This represents a marked increase from 1998, when 8% of countries responding had involved the private sector. The most reported partnership efforts with the private sector were: provision of contraceptives and reproductive health services (49%); private sector sponsorship of social marketing campaigns and outreach programmes (47%); private sector sponsorship of information, education and communication (IEC) and advocacy activities on reproductive health issues (42%); and private sector representation in

UNFPA (continued)

government coordination bodies for population and reproductive health issues (30%). A number of countries also reported private sector provision of financial assistance for reproductive health activities (12%).

Regionally, Latin America, the Caribbean and the Central Asian Republics reported the highest levels of partnership efforts with the private sector. In almost all regions, however, over three-quarters of responding countries described at least one measure taken to involve the private sector, underscoring the consensus on the private sector's increasing value as a partner in population and reproductive health activities.

The responses from countries to the *Survey* show that private firms are not only involved in social marketing and commodity security efforts, but they are increasingly taking on programme and project financing, service delivery components and advocacy efforts.

Extent of Collaboration

UNFPA has developed partnerships with Virgin Unite—the charitable arm of the Virgin group of companies—and the advertising firm, Rainey Kelly Campbell and Roalfe/Y&R, in its global campaign to end obstetric fistula.

Through “Fistula Fortnight”—a pilot project launched in February 2005 to address the problem of obstetric fistula in Nigeria—Virgin Unite agreed to fly doctors at no cost to Nigeria to treat fistula patients and also provided financial support.⁴ The two-week project was the result of collaboration between UNFPA, the Nigerian Government, Virgin Unite, health professionals and NGOs. Over the course of two weeks, volunteer doctors from the United States and United Kingdom joined forces with Nigerian surgeons to treat 545 women with fistula at four sites in northern Nigeria. They also trained dozens of Nigerian doctors, nurses and social workers in surgery and post-operative care.

Rainey Kelly Campbell and Roalfe/Y&R is creating a campaign in the United Kingdom to raise awareness and funds to prevent and treat fistula, which affects at least two million women and girls in the developing world.⁵ The global Campaign to End Fistula, launched by UNFPA in 2003, involves a wide range of partners and is active in 30 countries.

UNFPA (continued)

Many partners contribute to UNFPA-supported projects. In Angola, contributions from Chevron helped provide war-affected women with reproductive health services. Shell Development Iran contributed funding for a literacy and skills development training project with a microcredit component for women and girls in Khoozestan province, Iran.

Parliamentarians

Elected representatives can play important roles in setting priorities, allocating resources and defining institutional responsibilities with regard to sexual and reproductive health services and reproductive rights. By enacting and improving relevant laws and policies, parliamentarians can help to create an enabling environment for the achievement of the ICPD goals and the MDGs. They can also play a critical role in mobilizing necessary resources.

Parliamentarians' groups in a number of countries have worked to promote implementation of and adequate funding for the ICPD agenda. Within national governments, they have advocated for the promotion of national programmes, policies and laws on various population and reproductive health issues. NGOs and other civil society organizations have worked with these national leaders through the formation of parliamentary groups and committees. Regional and global networks of parliamentarians are also active in advocacy efforts.

For example, in Botswana, NGOs helped establish parliamentary committees on population and development and on HIV/AIDS, which advocated for the creation of new policies on these issues. Many countries, including Algeria and Chad, reported the formation of women's parliamentary groups, which helped promote programmes and policies on issues such as gender-based violence and girls' education. Turkey reported that the Family Planning Association implemented advocacy strategies for parliamentarians, in cooperation with the UNFPA-assisted country programme. Another NGO in Turkey is working on gender and reproductive health issues and is serving as the secretariat of a parliamentary group on population and development issues. The Government of Sierra Leone has established an organization called the Network for Women Ministers and Parliamentarians (NEWMAP), which advocates for reproductive health and the rights of women. In Lithuania, the government has set-up the Parliamentary Group

UNFPA (continued)

on Population and Development, which involves different government officials, institutions and civil society organizations in discussions concerning sexual and reproductive health and rights.

Indigenous Peoples

In Ecuador and in other Latin American countries, UNFPA has been working for more than a decade with indigenous communities. Training on human rights issues and new opportunities for dialogue and reflection on gender equality have helped indigenous women regain pride in their cultural heritage.

UNFPA's Ecuador programme has financed a project in Otavalo to improve the quality and scope of reproductive health care provided to Quechua-speaking communities, in particular. A grant of US\$340,000 over four years allowed the Jambi Huasi health clinic, which was established in 1994, to expand and upgrade its services, initiate an outreach programme, provide reproductive health education and information to women, men and adolescents and introduce a referral system for obstetric complications. Jambi Huasi, which means Health House in English, provides both modern and traditional medical treatment, as well as family planning advice and services.

III. Organizational Resources

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UNFPA (continued)

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IV. Information Resources

1. *2003 Global Survey-Investing in People: National Progress in Implementing the ICPD Programme of Action 1994-2004*: (www.unfpa.org/icpd/10/survey/sec3.htm) and (www.unfpa.org/upload/lib_pub_file/284_filename_globalsurvey.pdf).
2. Youth Peer Education Electronic Resource Network (Y-PEER): (www.youthpeer.org).
3. Campaign to End Fistula: (www.endfistula.org).
4. Fortnight Fistula: (www.endfistula.org/fortnight/index.htm).
5. Young & Rubicam Campaign: (www.endfistula.org/partner_yr.htm).

Additional Resources

b *Programme Planning Resources and Training Materials: A Compendium*: (www.unfpa.org/upload/lib_pub_file/367_filename_compendium.pdf).

UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES (UNHCR)

I. Core Areas

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) is mandated to lead and coordinate international action to protect refugees and resolve refugee problems worldwide. Its primary purpose is to safeguard the rights and wellbeing of refugees. It strives to ensure that everyone can exercise the right to seek asylum and find safe refuge in another State, with the option to return home voluntarily, integrate locally or to resettle in a third country.

UNHCR's operational structure consists of the Department of International Protection, the Department of Operations, the Division of External Relations, the Division of Information Systems and Telecommunications, the Division of Financial and Supply Management, and the Division of Human Resources Management. Operations comprise Europe; the Americas; Africa; Asia and the Pacific; and Central Asia, South West Asia, North Africa and the Middle East.

Led by a High Commissioner, Mr. António Guterres, UNHCR has a staff of more than 6,000 people in more than 116 countries and continues to help some 17 million persons. UNHCR's annual programme budget for 2005 is more than US\$1 billion.

II. Engagement with External Actors

Civil Society

The overall aim of the NGO Liaison Unit¹ is to promote more effective cooperation with NGOs in order to yield tangible results for the protection of people of concern to UNHCR. The Unit serves as a bridge between NGOs and UNHCR at primarily a strategic level, with a focus on operations. While effective cooperation or partnership must be underwritten by performance and

UNHCR (continued)

quality, the Unit aims to ensure that UNHCR's actions are transparent and credible. Since the Unit's creation in 1975, UNHCR has given high priority to its relations with NGOs and considers the NGO community an important partner in the implementation of its assistance programmes and in the promotion of refugee rights.

NGOs that provide support and services to refugees are encouraged to coordinate with UNHCR in order to avoid duplication and to ensure efficient allocation of resources. Their role includes participation in the formulation of programme activities and, increasingly, in related policy discussions. The NGO Unit promotes information exchange and discussions between UNHCR and NGOs through support for NGO observers at the Executive Committee. It also organizes pre-Executive Committee NGO consultations and regular protection and region-specific briefings for NGOs.

UNHCR partners with governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, and UN agencies to protect and assist refugees, leading to durable solutions. Two types of partnerships exist: (i) *Implementing partnerships* are those in which UNHCR provides financial support to an NGO to perform specific services to help refugees and is reflected in a formal project agreement. These partnerships are normally established in the area of operations and NGOs are selected on the basis of basic conditions and specific criteria. (ii) *Operational partnerships* involve the voluntary close coordination between UNHCR and NGOs in such areas as emergency relief and resettlement and do not include financial support by UNHCR. Both these partnerships also work with UNHCR on advocacy activities, promoting refugee rights and State responsibility in refugee protection.

UNHCR gives priority to cooperation with indigenous NGOs or international NGOs with local affiliates since they are generally better acquainted with the local situation. UNHCR favours working with NGOs that have ongoing programmes in the country. One of the basic considerations underlying collaboration with NGOs is complementarity and providing leeway for different forms of cooperation. UNHCR cooperates with over 600 NGOs in protection and assistance programmes. They provide an array of services to refugees, including immediate relief—food, water and shelter—as well as legal

UNHCR (continued)

assistance, education and health care. UNHCR increasingly seeks to work with NGO networks in areas such as training, advocacy or information sharing. Close partnerships have been developed between UNHCR and NGOs in emergency response by providing specialized staff in the areas of community services, field security, telecommunications, and other vital sectors.

During the week prior to the annual session of its Executive Committee (ExCom), UNHCR holds consultations² with NGOs that focus on a broad range of operational issues of refugee protection. NGOs play an important part in UNHCR's governance. As officially recognized observers at UNHCR's ExCom and its Standing Committee meetings, NGOs can make a joint NGO statement per agenda item.

*The Partnership Guides*³ are key operational guidelines and manuals designed to assist partners in refugee and other humanitarian relief operations to work effectively together on the basis of shared standards and objectives.

In the past 12 years, UNHCR has channelled over US\$5 billion through its partners, of which two-thirds of those funds are channelled through partnerships with NGOs. In 2004, the Office signed implementing arrangements with over 600 NGOs totalling some US\$248 million, which represents roughly one-quarter of UNHCR's annual budget.

Private Sector

Efforts to work with the private sector started in the early 1990s, and, in 1999, the Private Sector and Public Affairs Service (PSPA) was created. The PSPA pursues its dual role of generating private sector resources to fund UNHCR's operations and raising the profile of UNHCR as a brand name. The Service focuses on mobilizing financial and other support from the private and corporate sectors. It also seeks to raise the general public's awareness of refugee issues and the work of the Office. The Service is charged with developing and implementing the Office's private sector fund-raising strategy and forging stronger links with corporations, trusts and foundations, in order to

UNHCR (continued)

broaden UNHCR's donor base and promote greater commitment to the cause of refugees.

Income from the private sector has increased from US\$13 million in 2000 to more than US\$26.4 million in 2004, bringing significant additional funding to refugees worldwide. The private sector is now the 10th largest donor to UNHCR's programmes. In addition, in-kind donations represented close to US\$6.7 million. More than half of UNHCR's private sector donations come from private individuals who provide contributions in an emergency or on a regular basis to support UNHCR's refugee programmes.

Many companies have responded to help UNHCR raise funds in times of humanitarian emergencies. When a serious refugee crisis erupts, Crisis Response Partners offer means of support, such as: prominent posting of a UNHCR banner/website link on the company's Internet homepage to attract donor attention to the emergency; launching and appeal to their employees to support UNHCR cause through donations or voluntary fundraising actions; rapidly communicating to customers and suppliers about the emergency and encouraging them to contribute to the cause; financing or arranging for media space gratis for UNHCR fundraising campaigns; and contributing in cash and possibly linking it to a matching gift programme.

The Public Affairs Unit forms an integral part of UNHCR's private sector strategy and focuses on the four UNHCR public awareness pillars that form the core of its activities: World Refugee Day; the Nansen Refugee Award; Youth Outreach; and the Goodwill Ambassador Programmes.

The *Goodwill Ambassador Programme*⁴ involves celebrity advocates to help establish the UN refugee agency's identity and mission for refugees in the public consciousness.

Since 1996, UNHCR has partnered with some leading NGOs (Right to Play, the International Olympic Committee (IOC), the Fédération Internationale de Volleyball) to reach out, through sports, to millions of refugee children in camps and settlements in Africa and Asia. Organizing regular, structured

UNHCR (continued)

recreational activities such as team sports is an important step in rebuilding a destroyed society and can boost the healing process for young refugees, teaching them to play again. The IOC has supported refugees in Sudan and Uganda with supplies of balls, nets and team uniforms for both boys and girls.

UNHCR Corporate Code of Conduct⁵

UNHCR enters into partnership agreements with companies for the purpose of fulfilling its mandate to protect and assist refugees and not for the purpose of entering a commercial relationship with the partner. Partnership is not a means for pure financial or personal gain: All corporate partners acknowledge this principle as key to interpreting their rights and obligations as a partner and as a guide for their conduct in this capacity. UNHCR has an explicit Corporate Code of Conduct. Corporations entering into partnership⁶ with UNHCR agree to this code of conduct, both in principle and practice. This is intended to ensure transparent partnerships that meet the interests of both partners in the spirit of open, honest, professional and enduring relationships. Elements of the Code include: transparency and impartiality, non-exclusivity and non-preferential treatment, and visibility of the UNHCR logo.

Many corporate supporters provide one-time funding to a specific crisis situation or for a region of particular interest to their business priorities. UNHCR is focusing on building partnerships with companies who are interested in engaging on a more substantial basis and looking for a greater impact from their contribution.

Extent of Collaboration

Some examples of UNHCR's engagement with the private sector include:

b In 1999 Microsoft created a mobile refugee registration system when 35 Microsoft employees volunteered to go to Kosovo. This project served as a catalyst for UNHCR to revamp registration processes and create a global registration system (Project Profile). Microsoft has continued to support UNHCR's registration efforts by advising the Profile Team, and provided fifteen employee volunteers to Project Profile for a short field mission to support implementation in 2004-2005. Their in-kind support was valued at US\$325,000

UNHCR (continued)

in 2004. Microsoft is working with UNHCR to create Computer Technology Learning Centres to give refugees access to new sources of learning, distance education and Internet access.

b Before their UNHCR partnership, Nike already worked with refugee children from a reception centre near their headquarters in the Netherlands. The partnership began as a product donation valued at US\$600,000 to two refugee camps in Kenya. To continue this programme, Nike will contribute more than US\$875,000 as well as product donations to boost the programme's effectiveness.

b Nestlé has donated US\$720,000 to the Ethiopia water programme. Without the Nestlé funds, UNHCR's water operations would likely have been cut in half and the assets provided to the local community would have been unmanageable. In addition to funding, Nestlé Waters' research and development facility have carried out water sampling, advised UNHCR on design improvements to the treatment facility and operational management, and are currently working on a protocol for well rehabilitation.

III. Organizational Resources

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The NGO Liaison Unit has four staff members and an operational budget of US\$257,000. The Private Sector and Public Affairs Service has 11 staff members in total, six staff for the Private Sector and five for the Public Affairs Service, with a total operating budget of US\$5 million for supporting activities to raise funds. In 2004 the Service raised a total of US\$26 million.

UNHCR (continued)

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IV. Information Resources

1. NGO Liaison Unit: (www.unhcr.ch/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/partners?id=3bb0773ec).
2. Annual Consultation with NGOs:
(www.unhcr.ch/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/partners?id=3fb0b31f7).
3. *Partnership Guide*: (www.unhcr.ch/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/partners?id=3bdeb7123).
4. Goodwill Ambassador Programme:
(www.unhcr.ch/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/help?id=3f8d07664).
5. Corporate Code of Conduct:
(www.unhcr.ch/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/partners?id=3d904d954).
6. Corporate Partnership Programme:
(www.unhcr.ch/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/partners?id=3d8f1be44).

Additional Resources

- b `NGO Partnerships in Refugee Protection': (www.unhcr.ch/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/partners/opendoc.pdf?tbl=PARTNERS&id=41c162d04).
- b `Other publications available on the UNHCR website include: *Partnership in*

UNHCR (continued)

Resettlement; Protecting Refugees: A Field Guide for NGOs; Partnerships: An Operations Management Handbook for UNHCR's Partners; and Handbook for Emergencies.

b Information on Teaching Material: (www.unhcr.ch/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/help?id=4072c8174).

UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN’S FUND (UNICEF)

I. Core Areas

The United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) was created in 1946 to provide aid to European children affected by World War II. In 1953 it became a permanent part of the UN, and the UN General Assembly extended UNICEF’s mandate indefinitely.

Milestones in the history of the UNICEF include the adoption of the Declaration of the Rights of the Child (1959) and the Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989). The latter entered into force in September 1990 and became the most widely accepted human rights treaty in the history of the UN. UNICEF is led by an Executive Director, Ms. Ann M. Veneman.

The 1990 World Summit for Children in New York set ten-year goals for children’s health, nutrition and education. The General Assembly Special Session on Children, convened in New York in 2002, reviewed progress made since the World Summit for Children and reaffirmed global commitment to children’s rights. It was the first Session devoted exclusively to children and also the first to include them as official delegates. The goals of the “World Fit for Children” Plan of Action agreed upon during the Special Session include protection against abuse, exploitation and violence, and the promotion of healthy lives for children.

Today UNICEF’s work covers a wide range of child-related issues. Priorities include immunization, education, early childhood development, child protection, and HIV/AIDS.

II. Engagement with External Actors

To achieve its goals, UNICEF seeks engagement and partnerships with many different actors, including eminent and ordinary individuals, civil society

UNICEF (continued)

organizations, voluntary agencies, philanthropic foundations, trade unions, faith-based organizations, academic and research institutions, and children and young people.

Civil Society

Civil society organizations are closely involved in the work of UNICEF at the country level, but they are also consulted in the formulation of policy at headquarters. Currently, UNICEF has formal agreements with hundreds of NGOs and individual leaders in 160 countries around the world, ranging from large networks, such as the Save the Children Alliance, to village water communities.

UNICEF enters into various kinds of formal agreements depending on the nature of the collaboration. For instance, at the country level, it may sign a Project Cooperation Agreement with a community-based NGO. At the regional level, it may sign a Joint Programme of Work with an inter-faith network of organizations and individuals. At the global level, it negotiates Memoranda of Understandings with worldwide actors, like the World Organization of the Scouting Movement or the International Pediatrics Association.

Each of these types of agreements has a set of criteria by which UNICEF identifies suitable partners. In all cases, the organizations must be child-rights oriented and fiscally sound. In some cases further strengthening those very capacities is the objective of the collaboration.

In order to be in consultative status with UNICEF, an organization must first be in consultative status with ECOSOC. The NGO Committee on UNICEF, with a membership of more than 80 organizations, is a long-standing partner of UNICEF, and for over 50 years, it has helped to cultivate and strengthen partnerships with NGOs.¹ The Committee participates in the meetings of the UNICEF Executive Board. Its roles and objectives are outlined in a Memorandum of Understanding with UNICEF. The Standing Group of the National Committees for UNICEF has welcomed the cooperation with the NGO Committee to promote the Convention on the Rights of the Child in

UNICEF (continued)

industrialized countries and has encouraged a continued tripartite relationship among the NGO Committee, the UNICEF Office of Public Partnerships (OPP) and the Standing Group.

NGO participation during the 2002 Special Session on Children was unprecedented in a number of ways. First, in record attendance for a child rights event, more than 1,700 NGO representatives from 117 countries and from 700 NGOs took part. This was a vast improvement over the number of NGOs attending the first, second and third Preparatory Committee meetings to the Special Session. Second, the NGO contingent included not only those accredited by the ECOSOC, but also representatives of NGOs who are partners with UNICEF at the global and national level.

Another highlight of NGO activity was the involvement of some 250 children and young people who served as NGO delegates to the Children's Forum and the Special Session. A large number of NGOs had been involved in the Special Session since its inception, participating in both national and regional consultations and other events that took place prior to the Session. NGO views strongly influenced the outcome document, which was carefully crafted to take account of the contributions of NGOs at the national, regional and international levels.

Private Sector

UNICEF maintains a number of partnerships with the private sector to immunize, feed and educate children across the world. UNICEF has forged alliances with the business community for more than fifty years in order to help improve children's lives in a principled and effective manner that is beneficial to everyone. Alliances are made with those in the business community whose behaviour demonstrates a willingness to exercise corporate social responsibility and a commitment to UNICEF's mandate and core values.

The business community can provide support, directly and indirectly, to UNICEF's work through programmatic alliances, advocacy, fundraising support, or in-kind contributions. Ways to collaborate include innovative partnerships; strategic

UNICEF (continued)

philanthropic initiatives; global, regional and local cause-marketing initiatives; and employee-driven programmes. Corporations can also provide research and development assistance; technical knowledge; access to logistic networks; and extensive communications channels. UNICEF's *Guidelines and Manual for Working with the Business Community*² outline its guiding principles and eligibility criteria.

Extent of Collaboration

Below are examples of private sector collaboration undertaken by UNICEF.

Change for Good^{®3}

This initiative is a partnership between UNICEF and several international airline carriers, including oneworld alliance airlines, designed to convert travellers' unused foreign currency into materials and services for the world's neediest children, and to communicate UNICEF's message to a target audience. Since 1991, the campaign has raised over US\$53 million in over 50 countries.

Check Out for Children^{™4}

Launched in Europe in 1995, Check Out for Children[™] encourages guests of Starwood Hotels and Resorts Worldwide to make a US\$1 donation to UNICEF as they check out. Since its launch nearly ten years ago, the initiative has raised more than US\$11 million. The money raised is used to support UNICEF's immunization work; for each US\$1 million raised, more than 55,000 children can be immunized against the six major childhood diseases. Following the programme's success in Europe, Check Out for Children[™] was launched in Starwood Hotel & Resorts Asia Pacific in 1996, and hotels in Africa, the Middle East and Latin America joined the programme in 1997.

H&M

In July 2004, UNICEF announced a partnership with the global fashion company H&M to provide funds for girls' education programmes worldwide and HIV/AIDS prevention programmes in Cambodia. H&M will support UNICEF's global initiative for accelerating girls' education. In addition, thousands of adolescents in Cambodia will receive HIV/AIDS awareness training, a toll-free hotline for HIV/AIDS counselling and information will be established, 75 youth club associations will be started, and 2,500 teachers will receive HIV/AIDS prevention training.

UNICEF (continued)

*IKEA*⁵

In 2003, IKEA introduced the “Brum” Teddy Bear project whereby two euros from the sale of each bear in 22 countries are donated to UNICEF’s “Right to Play” projects in Angola and Uganda. Already, more than 500,000 bears have been sold, generating over one million euros. The funding has enabled UNICEF to work with the Angolan Education Ministry to set up outreach centres targeting the 1.3 million children who do not attend school as well as some 80,000 street children. In Uganda, the funding has helped train youth peer educators to teach at-risk adolescents about the dangers posed by HIV/AIDS. IKEA also supports UNICEF programmes through in-kind assistance, including tables for use in schools and health centres in Liberia and Burundi.

III. Organizational Resources

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Focal Point

Mr. Peter Crowley
Director
Office of Public Partnerships
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Fax: +1.212.303 7992
E-mail: pcrowley@unicef.org

Estimated appropriations for the Office of Public Partnerships for the biennium 2004-2005 amount to US\$2,098,200.

UNICEF (continued)

IV. Information Resources

1. Information on partnerships: (www.unicef.org/about/index_3374.html).
2. *Guidelines and Manual for Working with the Business Community*: ([www.unicef.org/videoaudio/PDFs/Summaryguidelines\(1\).doc](http://www.unicef.org/videoaudio/PDFs/Summaryguidelines(1).doc)).
3. Change for Good®: (www.unicef.org/corporate_partners/index_25030.html).
4. Check Out for Children™: (www.unicef.org/corporate_partners/index_25074.html).
5. IKEA Partnership: (www.unicef.org/corporate_partners/index_25092.html).

Additional Resources

b A list of UNICEF's corporate partnerships is available online: (international partners: www.unicef.org/corporate_partners/index_24650.html) and (national partners: www.unicef.org/corporate_partners/index_24651.html).

b A list of UNICEF corporate partners who have contributed US\$100,000 or over is available online: (www.unicef.org/corporate_partners/index_25124.html).

UNITED NATIONS INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION (UNIDO)

I. Core Areas

The United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), founded in 1966 with the mandate to act as the central coordinating body for industrial activities within the UN system and to promote industrial development, focuses its efforts on relieving poverty by fostering productivity growth. It helps developing countries and countries with economies in transition in their fight against marginalization by mobilizing knowledge, skills, information and technology to promote productive employment, competitive economy and sound environment.

UNIDO has eight service modules: industrial governance and statistics; investment and technology promotion; industrial competitiveness and trade; private sector development; agro-industries; sustainable energy and climate change; the Montreal Protocol; and environmental management. These activities can be clustered around UNIDO's two key areas of comparative advantage: technology diffusion and capacity building for market access and development.

Headquartered in Vienna, UNIDO also includes 29 country and regional offices, 14 investment and technology promotion offices and a number of offices related to specific aspects of its work. Mr. Carlos Magariños is the current Director-General of UNIDO, which employs 646 staff members worldwide. The estimated volume of UNIDO operations for the biennium 2004-2005 is approximately US\$450 million. The value of UNIDO's ongoing technical cooperation programmes and projects totalled US\$392.6 million as of 31 December 2004.

II. Engagement with External Actors

Civil Society

UNIDO cooperates with CSOs within the fields of agro-industry, cluster development, rural and women entrepreneurs, productive work for youth, micro-,

UNIDO (continued)

small- and medium-sized enterprise (MSME) development, investment promotion and transfer of technology, quality and standardization, renewable energy and environment. UNIDO aims to further increase its cooperation with CSOs as they represent and provide services to individuals as well as to all types of enterprises, ranging from the macro- to the micro-level, both in the formal and informal sectors.

UNIDO's mandate to cooperate with CSOs is enshrined in Article 2 (p) of its Constitution, which states that UNIDO shall encourage and promote the establishment and strengthening of industrial, business and professional associations and similar organizations, which would contribute to the full utilization of the internal resources of the developing countries with a view to developing their national industries. UNIDO General Conference resolutions GC.6/Res.16 and GC.7/Res.10 additionally emphasize cooperation with CSOs and urge further mobilization of funds to cover related activities.

At present 135 CSOs, mostly international, have consultative status with UNIDO, which entitles them to participate in the deliberations of the Industrial Development Board and the General Conference.¹ Consultative status is granted by the Industrial Development Board in accordance with the guidelines adopted by the Board.

In the field of technical cooperation, UNIDO cooperates mainly with national CSOs that do not have consultative status. The selection criteria are based on questionnaires on support institutions, which help assess the capacity of potential counterparts and their needs.

UNIDO works with two types of organizations: membership-based or self-help CSOs and third-party oriented CSOs. These include: industry and business organizations, chambers of commerce and industry, professional associations, technology associations, cooperatives, specialized CSOs (environment, women, information, standardization), trade and consumer unions, development CSOs, foundations, research and development institutions, universities and public interest organizations.

Through its networking services, the Resource Centre collects and disseminates specialized information related to CSOs, thereby becoming a virtual marketplace with concrete business/technology opportunities tailored to CSOs and their members; and an online knowledge base for the sharing of experiences and good

UNIDO (continued)

practices between CSOs, their partners and affiliates.

Extent of Collaboration

*The CSO/NGO Resource Centre*²

The CSO/NGO Resource Centre, launched in December 2003, is an Internet platform that aims to encourage the development of a worldwide community of interlinked CSOs to provide specific networking services for CSOs. The Resource Centre seeks to contribute to UNIDO's global forum function by allowing all participants to interact directly and to exchange views, suggestions and opinions online.

*West Africa Regional Programme (PREPAO)*³

With the pilot phase of the West Africa Regional Programme (PREPAO) (Programme Régional pour les Pays de l'Afrique de l'Ouest) in Guinea, Mali and Senegal, UNIDO launched a new approach to fighting poverty by providing technical, managerial and market support in particular to micro but also small agro-industrial production units through their collective organization in local CSOs.

PREPAO aims to strengthen institutional capacities of local CSOs in food processing for micro- and small-scale enterprises (MSSEs) run by women entrepreneurs, in both the formal and informal sectors. It backs up women's entrepreneurship directly at the basis in the agro-business through small concrete projects under the auspices of the CSOs. Emphasis is placed on the provision of technologies, access to information, and upgrading of capabilities in order to meet the market requirements, therefore leading to income generation and employment opportunities.

The pilot phase revealed the extent of difficulties faced by the CSOs and MSSEs, and helped define the necessary actions to increase their capacities and capabilities. Initial progress was made in the processing and marketing of agro-alimentary products.

During the main phase the focus is put on both the technical and training level, but also on creating an enabling environment for the organizations of the private sector and civil society. These "home-grown" institutions have the capability to provide the bridge between formal and informal sector, which is a prerequisite for

UNIDO (continued)

economic development, and to improving the living conditions of the rural poor.

*Rural and Women Entrepreneurship*⁴

UNIDO offers specialized services for supporting governments and other stakeholders to improve the regulatory environment at local level for initiatives taken by and on behalf of rural and women entrepreneurs. UNIDO also promotes affordable and effective business development services by strengthening the capacity of both public and private providers to develop the entrepreneurial, managerial and technical skills of rural and women entrepreneurs, which helps improve their competitiveness and facilitates their access to finance. The services also help build the capacities of rural and women entrepreneurs as well as civil society organizations to strengthen their policy advocacy roles and collective self-help initiatives.

A number of projects have been undertaken, including food-processing programmes in Mexico, Tanzania, and Viet Nam; and manufacturing textiles and related products in Kenya, among others. These projects are often replicated in other areas in the countries.

Private Sector

*UNIDO Business Partnership Programme for Industrial Development*⁵

UNIDO has developed a multi-stakeholder partnership approach, the Business Partnership Programme, that has been applied in different sectors (e.g. automotive components, textiles, food-processing) and countries, which helps SMEs to benefit from the technological and managerial expertise of large corporations to improve their productivity and international competitiveness.

The Business Partnership Programme offers a systematic and generic approach to the enhancement of an industry sector in a given country, focusing on the:

1. Assessment of the industry sector in a country, determining the partner institution and selecting the target companies;
2. Definition of scope of work in the programme through an established public-private partnership with regard to the economic, environmental and social performance of SMEs;
3. Development of the programme services for SMEs with national and/or

UNIDO (continued)

international business partners, e.g. multinational corporations;

4. Development of a quantitative and comprehensive assessment and monitoring system for SMEs in the sector concerned; and

5. Provision of practical services for SMEs in a sustainable way, allowing partner institutions to generate income by providing commercially viable services for SMEs and thereby operating independently after a period of 3-5 years.

Based on the Partnership Programme methodology, UNIDO has launched a corporate social responsibility (CSR) capacity-building initiative in order to promote the CSR agenda in developing countries. The programme focuses on establishing a platform that can provide practical services in relation to the implementation of CSR concepts at the policy, institutional and company level in order for SMEs to comply with the increasingly stringent monitoring and reporting requirements.

*Investment and Technology Promotion Offices (ITPOs)*⁶

These Promotion Offices foster industrial partnerships and provide services necessary to promote investment and technology transfer. ITPO staff maintain active links with the business community and development agencies in the host countries as well as extensive databanks of companies interested in industrial partnerships in developing countries and countries in transition.

*UNIDO Exchange*⁷

Since 2001, UNIDO Exchange has been providing online access to UNIDO expertise and linkages between its members, including a database featuring technical barriers to trade; online interactive UNIDO tools and methods for business/technology development and the environment; and access to other UNIDO activities and service modules. UNIDO Exchange operates a website serving as a virtual marketplace for investment, environmental and technological opportunities, and provides specialized information and expertise. Membership ranges from private enterprises and entities affiliated to UNIDO (such as the ITPOs) to government departments and specialized media, and members are able to interact through the network's forums. Its free SHARE software ensures efficient communication.

*Subcontracting and Partnership Exchanges: SPX - Supply Chain Development Programme*⁸

Because developing countries and countries in transition do not always have sufficient technological and institutional capacities, UNIDO has established

UNIDO (continued)

subcontracting and partnership exchanges (SPXs), which serve as centres for technical information and matchmaking, and clearinghouses for partnership enquiries. An SPX may also be instrumental in providing or identifying technical support, advice on standards and marketing, access to credit, legal advice and training. In the past 20 years, some 65 SPXs have been established of which 56 are still operating on a self-financing basis. In 2005, new SPXs have been established in Accra (Ghana), Beijing and Chongqing (China) and Doha (Qatar).

*SME Cluster Promotion*⁹

UNIDO has developed an SME cluster/network approach for local private sector development. The approach has proven effective for poverty alleviation, when targeted at rural and/or handicraft producers, and for productivity enhancement and export promotion, especially when targeted at more growth-oriented larger SMEs. In implementing this service UNIDO, has established partnerships with the International Labour Organization, the International Trade Centre, the World Bank, donor countries and research institutions.

*Sustainable Business Information Networks*¹⁰

UNIDO's Business Information Networks (BIN) provide all types of information and knowledge required to make business thrive and grow: market intelligence, technology sources, investment partners, environmental regulations, etc. Increasingly, they also provide training in the use of information and communication technologies. A BIN is established as an SME with shareholders, which include public and private sector service providers. It operates from the outset on a commercial basis, providing all services against a fee.

Extent of Collaboration

Eco-Efficiency for SMEs in the Manufacturing Industry

BASF, the German chemical corporation, the National Cleaner Production Centre (NCPC) in Morocco, and UNIDO have developed a service to promote sustainable development of SMEs in the dyeing industry in Morocco and elsewhere. In Morocco, UNIDO and BASF brought together their expertise in the dyeing industry while the NCPC enabled access to target companies and ensured wide dissemination of the methodology and training to a large number of them. An eco-efficiency management tool was customized by the NCPC so as to meet the requirements of a large number of manufacturing SMEs in

UNIDO (continued)

Morocco, not only in the dyeing industry. NCPC staff were trained on the application of the eco-efficiency manager and the related improvements at the company level.

The Women Entrepreneurship Development (WED) Programme in Central Viet Nam—Phase 1

With the objectives of building national capacities to provide training and support activities for entrepreneurship development for women in food processing in three provinces in the central region of Viet Nam, the project, from January 2002 to December 2005, identified the training needs of women entrepreneurs (WE); adapted and developed training guides and handbooks for trainers and WE on food technology, marketing and finance management; set up and trained trainers to provide training for WE; built capacity for women's unions to provide further support to WE through linking WE to credit sources or other institutions, organizing and managing self-help groups of WE; leased-purchased machines and equipment to groups of WE for better productivity, quality of product and to help reduce heavy labour for women.

The project helped revive two traditional villages. Among 577 women entrepreneurs trained, 72% reported increased sales and 67% increased profit, through better packaging, improved product quality, shelf life, hygiene and safety. The project also helped contribute to gender equality.

III. Organizational Resources

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UNIDO (continued)

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IV. Information Resources

1. Consultative Status and Other Forms of Cooperation: (http://exchange.unido.org/cso_consultative.asp?lan=en).
2. CSO/NGO Resource Centre: (<http://exchange.unido.org/cso>).
3. West Africa Regional Programme PREPAO: (http://exchange.unido.org/cso_prepao.asp).
4. Rural and Women Entrepreneurship: (www.unido.org/doc/28974).
5. Business Partnership Programme: (www.unido.org/business-partnerships) and (www.unido.org/doc/29118).
6. Investment and Technology Promotion Offices: (www.unido.org/doc/100401.htmls).
7. UNIDO Exchange: (<http://exchange.unido.org>) and (<http://exchange.unido.org/cso>).
8. Subcontracting and Partnership Exchanges (SPX): (www.unido.org/doc/371431.htmls).
9. SME Cluster Promotion: (www.unido.org/doc/331101.htmls).

UNIDO (continued)

10. Sustainable Business Information Networks: (www.unido.org/file-storage/download/?file%5fid=19901).

Additional Resources

b UNIDO's Policy Framework for UNIDO's Partnerships with CSOs:
(<http://exchange.unido.org/pdf/cso/cso-partnerships.pdf>).

b Information on UNIDO projects involving CSOs:
(http://exchange.unido.org/cso_projects.asp).

b International Directory of SPXs: (www.unido.org/en/doc/4576).

b UNIDO's Corporate Strategy: *Productivity Enhancement for Social Advance*:
(www.unido.org/file-storage/download/?file_id=13135).

b *UNIDO Business Partnerships for Industrial Development Partnership Guide*:
(www.unido.org/userfiles/BethkeK/BPGuide.pdf).

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT FUND FOR WOMEN (UNIFEM)

I. Core Areas

The United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), established in 1976, works to help improve the living standards of women in developing countries and to address their concerns. UNIFEM provides financial and technical assistance to innovative approaches aimed at fostering women's empowerment and gender equality. Currently, the Fund has activities in more than 100 countries.

UNIFEM focuses its activities on four strategic areas: (i) reducing feminized poverty; (ii) ending violence against women; (iii) reversing the spread of HIV/AIDS among women and girls; and (iv) achieving gender equality in democratic governance in times of peace as well as war.

UNIFEM strives to link the needs and concerns of women to critical issues on national, regional and global agendas. UNIFEM also helps make the voices of women heard at the United Nations—to highlight critical issues and advocate for the implementation of existing commitments made to women.

The Organization relies on voluntary financial contributions for all its work. Funding comes from contributions by governments, foundations, corporations, organizations and individuals. UNIFEM has 15 regional offices and two country programme offices. In 2004, contributions to UNIFEM from governments and other donors amounted to US\$49.15 million. Ms. Noeleen Heyzer is the current Executive Director of UNIFEM.

II. Engagement with External Actors

UNIFEM works with governments, the UN, women's organizations, NGOs and the private sector to advance gender equality, empower women and girls economically, foster women's roles in governance, ensure that adolescent girls and women have the knowledge and means to prevent HIV infection, and eliminate the injustices stemming from political, economic and social inequalities.

UNIFEM (continued)

Civil Society

From its inception, UNIFEM has worked in close collaboration with NGOs at the local, regional, and international level and throughout recent years has strengthened its relations with civil society. NGOs are an important mechanism for diagnosing and alleviating problems at the grassroots level, information sharing, networking and advocacy. Often NGOs are partners in its development work, implementing or executing projects supported by UNIFEM funding; they may also be beneficiaries of UNIFEM programmes and initiatives. The Fund devotes a significant percentage of its resources to encouraging local NGOs.

UNIFEM has no set mechanism for in-house coordination and cooperation with NGOs because it works with NGOs at different levels and in many different capacities. NGO activities permeate all areas of UNIFEM's work and strategic planning. Under the overall supervision of the Director, the Communications and Strategic Partnerships Section handles fundraising and outreach. Communicating with NGOs about programming is done under the overall guidance of the deputy director by the chief of the appropriate section.

The NGO Committee on UNIFEM was established to promote the work of UNIFEM. It consists of representatives of 32 NGOs in consultative status with ECOSOC. UNIFEM works with the NGO Committee and its 16 national committees, as well as other NGOs to publicize UNIFEM projects worldwide, help raise monetary resources, and promote UNIFEM's visibility.

UNIFEM's mandate focuses on two areas of activities: serving as a catalyst, with the goal of ensuring women's involvement with mainstream activities, and supporting activities to benefit women that are in line with national and regional development priorities. UNIFEM has pursued a range of strategies for mainstreaming women in development:

- b joint programming with other UN agencies, national governments, financial institutions, regional entities, and international NGOs;
- b integrating the micro experience of localized projects with macro policies and programmes by publicizing field-level innovations that are effective with women and advocating the broader adoption and application of these innovations by mainstream agencies;
- b advocating to secure political and financial support for gender equality and

UNIFEM (continued)

women's rights;

b 'aligning with the national and regional priorities of other UN agencies, governments, and NGOs, and adding the perspective of gender analysis;

b 'aligning with others around critical global issues, in some cases by funding and placing a special adviser on women within another agency or project so that women's concerns are fully integrated, at an early stage, into recommendations and programmes;

b 'advocating the placement of senior women in positions where critical decisions are being made and ensuring that there is a critical mass of women together on committees, caucus groups, and decision-making fora;

b 'providing a platform where previously voiceless people can be heard by positioning women as decision makers, sponsoring women experts to attend international meetings and conferences, and publishing the voices of women;

b 'expanding the data about women through improving systems for collecting and reporting it as well as publishing and disseminating it;

b 'advocating for women and women's issues by providing information, skills training, and other forms of support to help women advocate for themselves; and

b 'training people at all levels in gender analysis so as to expand the numbers of women's allies and build the capacities of local people to understand the importance of gender in development programming.

Most of the Fund's projects and programmes follow an integrated model and thus involve UNIFEM working with NGOs in more than one of these ways.

Increasingly, NGOs are the executing agencies for projects managed by UNIFEM: CSOs are responsible for progress reporting, financial management, and operational matters. The degree of their involvement in the day-to-day operations varies. These activities may be partially or totally taken over by implementing agencies working under the NGO executors, and the implementors may themselves be NGOs. As executing agencies, NGOs work throughout the project cycle and participate in project meetings, performing community analyses, project design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation.

In order to advance women and women's issues in the context of public policy debate and promote women's voice and visibility within the UN system and in society at large, UNIFEM assists NGOs to prepare for and participate in national and

UNIFEM (continued)

international fora. It also conducts training workshops for women to hone their negotiating, advocacy, and leadership skills on drafting resolutions, consensus building, negotiating with government representatives, and influencing the outcome of conferences; fosters coalition building; and publishes a variety of materials, such as books, occasional papers and training manuals.

Private Sector

UNIFEM collaborates with the private sector in a number of areas, such as ending violence against women, expanding economic opportunities, and promoting women's full participation and realization of their human rights. Below are examples of such collaboration.

Extent of Collaboration

*Calvert Women's Principles*¹

A partnership between UNIFEM and Calvert—the largest family of socially responsible mutual funds in the United States—is advancing the first comprehensive code of corporate conduct focusing on gender equality and women's empowerment. Unleashing women's economic capacity is essential to alleviate poverty, spur equality, and achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

The seven Women's Principles, originated by Calvert in consultation with UNIFEM and many others from the worlds of labour, business, human rights, and women's advocacy, cover such issues as: wages and benefits; health, safety and violence; discrimination in the workplace; civic and community engagement; management and governance; hiring, promotion and professional development; business and supply chain practices; and monitoring and reporting.

The Women's Principles, jointly launched by Calvert and UNIFEM in June 2005, offer strategic entry points to engage the private sector and others to achieve women's equality.

Companies can use them as a set of goals they can aspire to and measure their progress against, or add them to their internal compliance standards;

UNIFEM (continued)

Investors can use them as tools to assess corporate performance on gender.

Governments and *international organizations* can integrate them into regulations and negotiations with companies already operating in their country, or planning to locate there.

Civil society, labour groups, women's and human rights organizations can use them to monitor company behavior toward women and the workplace.

The Principles are:

1. Disclosure, Implementation and Monitoring: Corporations will promote and strive to attain gender equality in their operations and in their business and stakeholder relationships by adopting and implementing proactive policies that are publicly disclosed, monitored and enforced.
2. Employment and Income: Corporations will promote and strive to attain gender equality by adopting and implementing wage, income, hiring, promotion and other employment policies that eliminate gender discrimination in all its forms.
3. Health, Safety, and Violence: Corporations will promote and strive to attain gender equality by adopting and implementing policies to secure the health, safety and well-being of women workers.
4. Civic and Community Engagement: Corporations will promote and strive to attain gender equality by adopting and implementing policies to help secure and protect the right of women to fully participate in civic life and to be free from all forms of discrimination and exploitation.
5. Management and Governance: Corporations will promote and strive to attain gender equality by adopting and implementing policies to ensure women's participation in corporate management and governance.
6. Education, Training, and Professional Development: Corporations will promote and strive to attain gender equality by adopting and implementing education, training and professional development policies benefiting women.
7. Business, Supply Chain and Marketing Practices: Corporations will promote and strive to attain gender equality by adopting and implementing proactive, non-discriminatory business, marketing and supply chain policies and practices.

*Cisco Systems*²

UNIFEM's partnership with Cisco Systems and the Government of Jordan,

UNIFEM (continued)

established in 2001, helped shape gender-sensitive training programmes that have increased women's access to job opportunities in the information technology sector. So far, some 1,600 participants, 57% of them women, have been trained in Jordan, and many students have found employment through the programme's job placement activities. In 2004, the initiative was replicated in Lebanon and Morocco. Plans are underway to also include Bahrain, Iraq, Kuwait, Oman and the United Arab Emirates in the regional initiative.

Full Jazz Comunidade

In Brazil, UNIFEM joined forces with the private sector to combat violence against women. In collaboration with Full Jazz Comunidade, a woman owned advertising agency, a nationwide publicity campaign was developed under the slogan "Bem Querer Mulher" (Caring for Women). Donations received from the private sector as a result of the campaign will be used to establish a UNIFEM-managed national trust fund to address violence against women in Brazil.

Indigenous Peoples

In working to support the realization of indigenous women's rights, UNIFEM uses a human-rights based approach which recognizes the need to build the capacity and awareness of the State to uphold these rights, while simultaneously increasing knowledge and capacity among indigenous women themselves.

UNIFEM's most significant work in this area has been in the Andean Region, Mexico and Central America.³ Since 1995, UNIFEM has worked with its partners to utilize local knowledge and systems within indigenous communities, build synergies with decision-makers, human rights activists and women's groups, and foster leadership among indigenous women. A key focus in current programming priorities is to support increased inter-agency cooperation among UN Country Teams in addressing issues facing indigenous women.

In order to promote knowledge-sharing, capacity building, raise social awareness around indigenous issues, and increase economic security, UNIFEM works in partnership with fair trade organizations, governments and UN agencies to promote greater recognition of women's contribution to their families' livelihoods. In Peru, in cooperation with the Manuela Ramos

UNIFEM (continued)

Movement, indigenous women received training and skills-building in the areas of business management, marketing and crafts production. More than 600 workshops took place, benefiting more than 2,000 women, and a series of craft trade shows were also organized. In Mexico, a project with indigenous communities in Oaxaca focused on building women's networks to enable them to better control local economic resources and support environmental protection. Oaxaca women expanded their skills, actively sharing knowledge learned with neighbouring communities.

A Regional Conference of Indigenous Women was held in Mexico City in June 2005 to discuss how UN agencies could better support indigenous women's processes, including proposals to improve communication between their communities and governments, the creation of an exchange programme among indigenous women and UN agencies, participation in UN inter-agency meetings, creation of an indigenous women database, support for training programmes, and the organization of regional meetings around the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) to promote the indigenous communities' experiences and strategies to promote sustainable development.

Multi-stakeholder Processes

In Komi Republic, Russian Federation, UNIFEM assisted the Women's Chamber of Commerce to forge a broad-based alliance between the government, the private sector and civil society to foster development. Using the MDGs as a common platform to determine priority needs, the partnership has already resulted in a survey examining the informal sector and its impact on the status of women. In addition, a law has been drafted to ensure the participation of civil society in developing socio-economic policies and programmes in Komi.

In Nigeria, UNIFEM supported a gender assessment of the National Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy to identify gender gaps. The Ministry of Women Affairs used the evidence to successfully advocate for a strengthened recognition of gender equality commitments. In Mozambique, UNIFEM and UNDP provided assistance for training of trainers in gender-responsive budgeting that led to the formation of the Gender Special Interest Group. Comprised of government, civil society and donors, the group supports

UNIFEM (continued)

mainstreaming of gender in the country's poverty reduction strategy (PRS) and the national budget. UNIFEM supported gender mainstreaming in PRSs in seven countries in 2004.

UNIFEM's Work in ICTs⁴

UNIFEM recognizes the importance of guaranteeing women's active and equal participation in the development of knowledge societies. In the lead-up to the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), the Fund partnered with governments, UN organizations, NGOs and the private sector to facilitate women's participation in developing programmes that demonstrate women's visions of the use of ICTs, encourage their employment in ICT fields and facilitate their access to new technologies.

III. Organizational Resources

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IV. Information Resources

1. Calvert Women's Principles: (www.calvert.com/womensPrinciples.html).
2. UNIFEM and Cisco Systems: (www.cisco.com/global/ME/news/stories/news_st81.shtml?PC=1075_01_0003_10).
3. Report of the Secretary-General on the preliminary review by the Coordinator of the

International Decade of the World's Indigenous People on the activities of the United Nations system in relation to the Decade (E/2004/CRP.12):

(www.ohchr.org/english/issues/indigenous/docs/CRP_12.doc). For information on UNIFEM, see pages 23-29.

4. UNIFEM's work in ICTs: (www.unifem.org/campaigns/wsis/unifems_work.html).

Additional Resources

b 'UNIFEM Annual Report 2004-2005:

(www.unifem.org/resources/item_detail.php?ProductID=45).

b '*Getting it Right, Doing it Right: Gender and Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration*:

(www.unifem.org/attachments/products/Getting_it_Right_Doing_it_Right.pdf).

b 'Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace, and Security:

(<http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N00/720/18/PDF/N0072018.pdf?OpenElement>) and (www.womenwarpeace.org/toolbox/toolbox.htm).

b '*Progress of the World's Women 2005: Women, Work and Poverty*:

(www.unifem.org/resources/item_detail.php?ProductID=48).

UNITED NATIONS HUMAN SETTLEMENTS PROGRAMME (UN-HABITAT)

I. Core Areas

The United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT) promotes socially and environmentally sustainable human settlements development and the achievement of adequate shelter for all. It is the lead agency within the UN system for coordinating activities in the field of cities and other human settlements. As towns and cities grow at unprecedented rates setting the social, political, cultural and environmental trends of the world, sustainable urbanization is one of the most pressing challenges facing the global community in the 21st century. In many cities, especially in developing countries, slum dwellers account for 50% of the population and have little or no access to shelter, water and sanitation.

Established in 1978, the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements evolved into what became known as the UN Commission on Human Settlements. In January 2002, the Commission was elevated to that of a fully-fledged programme of the United Nations. Headquartered in Nairobi, UN-HABITAT is led by an Executive Director, Ms. Anna Tibaijuka, and has a team of some 200 international and local staff with regional offices across the world.

The agency has three main divisions which each oversee a set of programmes: (i) the Shelter and Sustainable Human Settlements Development Division; (ii) the Monitoring and Research Division; and (iii) the Regional and Technical Cooperation Division.

II. Engagement with External Actors

In its work to improve human settlements, reduce poverty and increase safety in towns and cities as well as making them more sustainable and environmentally friendly, UN-HABITAT has found it essential to work with a wide range of partners. UN-HABITAT has long campaigned for closer relationships with civil society,

UN-HABITAT (continued)

parliamentarians, and the private sector around the world and within the UN system. Ranging from NGOs, community-based organizations (CBOs), and women's and youth groups to trade unions, urban professionals, researchers and spiritual organizations, they have innovative ways of helping the poor. Many have developed effective ways of working with their national governments and municipalities.

The Partners and Youth Section is located in the Monitoring and Research Division of UN-HABITAT. It is the focal point for civil society organizations and other Habitat Agenda Partners within UN-HABITAT, and takes on an active role in implementing its youth programmes. Initially called the NGO Unit, it was renamed the Partners and Youth Section in September 2002 to reflect its partnership with local authorities, NGOs and youth groups.

Civil Society

UN-HABITAT's focus on non-governmental partners is twofold: (i) advocating partnerships and broad-based stakeholder participation as an effective means of governance and of improving living conditions for all; and (ii) involving partners in the design and implementation of its work programme. Areas of cooperation include operational activities at all levels, from the local and grassroots to the international.

At the local, grassroots (field) and national levels, UN-HABITAT promotes the participation of CSOs that can provide expertise and local knowledge to the identification, design, implementation, and evaluation processes of the programmes and projects. At the regional level, cooperation includes coordinating and enhancing the flow of communication, exchange of information and data sharing, and facilitating the monitoring and evaluation of projects and programmes that are being implemented. Regional cooperation also promotes the establishment of national and regional networks of civil society organizations and other partners. At the international level, cooperation focuses on policy formulation, pooling of resources, advocacy and awareness raising activities.

The principle of partnership underlines these cooperative arrangements. This principle is acknowledged by intergovernmental decisions including the outcome

UN-HABITAT (continued)

of the Habitat II Conference (Istanbul, Turkey, June 1996): *“Governments as enabling partners should create and strengthen effective partnerships with women, youth, the elderly, persons with disabilities, vulnerable and disadvantaged groups, indigenous people and communities, local authorities, the private sector and non-governmental organizations in each country.”*

The *Policy Statement on Partnership with NGOs and Civil Society Organizations*¹ provides the following criteria for establishment of a partnership between UN-HABITAT and any civil society organization:

- b 'Sharing of resources and responsibilities in the pursuit of a mutually desired benefit/outcome;
- b 'Clear agreements and clear perceptions for the definition of roles and division of responsibilities between the parties concerned;
- b 'Transparent and accountable procedures;
- b 'Provision of advisory functions to each other;
- b 'Effective inter-party and intra-party communication; and
- b 'Establish linkages between different types of entities or organizations.

Formal relations² with civil society organizations are established under the rules of procedure of UN-HABITAT's Governing Council. The rules provide for accreditation upon request to any organization in consultative status with ECOSOC. Those accredited to the Habitat II, or the Istanbul+5 Special Session of the General Assembly held in New York (2001) can also renew their accreditation to attend the sessions of the UN-HABITAT Governing Council, held every two years. Accreditation may also be granted on an ad-hoc basis under special conditions. UN-HABITAT has an NGO database with over 2,000 partners, which it uses to disseminate information and accreditation procedures.

Private Sector

UN-HABITAT has gained valuable experience with private sector companies through the Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI), which donated free specialized computer software, and the German chemical company BASF. BASF and UN-HABITAT started their collaboration in September 2003 in Ludwigshafen (Germany) where they showcased environmental technologies and collaboration

UN-HABITAT (continued)

with the private sector in the development of sustainable cities. In 2004, BASF participated in the World Urban Forum in Barcelona and during a parallel event presented various initiatives that promote public-private partnerships for sustainable urban development and the right to housing worldwide.

Another event at the World Urban Forum, a dialogue—“Urban Services: Getting the Private Sector to Work for the Urban Poor”—sought to address the issue of private-sector participation and its role in providing water and sanitation to the urban poor, and how the private sector could be made to be more responsive to the needs of the poor. Participants included the National Water and Sewerage Corporation, Uganda; Environmental Development Action in the Third World (ENDA), WaterAid and local authorities from France and Brazil. The signing of an agreement of cooperation in 2004 with the Global Housing Foundation marked another step in engaging the private sector in upgrading slums.

Parliamentarians

Parliamentarians are important partners in the field of human settlements because they are in a position to influence the formulation and revision of public policies, the enactment of laws and regulations and strengthen the capacity of public institutions at the national and local levels.

The Global Parliamentarians on Habitat, the only international parliamentarian group with activities directly related to human settlements, holds a Global Forum every two years to follow-up on the agreements and commitments undertaken during the Second Conference of the United Nations on Human Settlements. Their IV Global Forum, held in Berlin in May 2003, committed parliamentarians to:

- a) Promote, disseminate and assess the application of the Habitat Programme at the global, regional, national and local levels;
- b) Evaluate the current situation of legislation on human settlements, urban development and housing at the global and regional levels;
- c) Foster the introduction and amendment of national legislation on human settlements, urban development and housing as well as to promote the establishment of national and regional groups of Parliamentarians on Habitat in

UN-HABITAT (continued)

coordination with the Global Group;

d) Intensify communication and support among members of parliament so as to share and exchange experience and knowledge in these areas;

e) Promote the constitution of national and regional groups of Parliamentarians on Habitat in coordination with the Global Group;

f) Promote the implementation and enforcement of national legislation focused on good governance for sustainable cities; and

g) Promote the dissemination of all information to civil society in general.

Local Authorities

*United Nations Advisory Committee of Local Authorities (UNACLA)*³

UNACLA, a formal advisory body of local authorities, was established in 2000 to strengthen dialogue between national governments and local authorities on the implementation of the Habitat Agenda. UNACLA also works closely with governments as well as other bodies in the UN system and membership includes leading local government representatives selected from all regions to ensure geographical balance.

*United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG)*⁴

UN-HABITAT continues to strengthen its partnership with local authorities and is the UN system focal point for cities and local authorities. As such, it works closely with the UCLG, established in 2004. A Cooperation Agreement was signed at the September 2004 Barcelona conference, entitled “Local Governments, Partners for Development.” The agreement aims to expand collaboration between UN-HABITAT and UCLG through the Global Campaign on Urban Governance; the Global Observatory of Local Democracy and Decentralization; the Urban Millennium Partnership—Localizing the Millennium Development Goals; the international dialogue on Decentralization; and on UNACLA itself.

Multi-stakeholder Processes

*The Global Campaign for Secure Tenure*⁵ promotes adequate shelter for all by recommending sustainable housing and land policy, particularly for women. It

UN-HABITAT (continued)

helps forge strategies for slum upgrading and the prevention of evictions and promotes best practices.

*The Land and Tenure Section*⁶ targets those most at risk in towns and cities. Women are the worst affected in forced evictions, resettlement schemes, slum clearance, domestic violence, civil conflict, discriminatory inheritance laws and practices, development projects, and globalization policies. Rape is often used to forcibly remove women from their homes before and during forced evictions. UN-HABITAT's Land and Tenure Section is the agency's point of reference for land management and tenure systems, policies and legislation that help achieve adequate shelter, security of tenure and equal access to economic resources for all, with a specific focus on gender equality. The main focus areas and mandate are implementation of land, housing and property rights, particularly secure tenure for women.

*The Housing Rights and Policy Section*⁷ works to ensure a rights-based approach to housing policies. In April 2002, UN-HABITAT and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) launched the United Nations Housing Rights Programme (UNHRP). Its development objective is to help governments, local authorities, and other stakeholders implement their Habitat Agenda commitments to ensure the full realization of the right to adequate housing as provided for in international instruments.

In the course of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People (1995-2004), the international community took a number of steps towards addressing the disadvantages of indigenous peoples and contributing to improvements in their living conditions. The report *Indigenous People's Rights to Adequate Housing—A Global Overview*⁸ is a preliminary effort to identify whether, and to what extent, indigenous people enjoy the right to adequate housing in different regions of the world.

*Water, Sanitation and Infrastructure*⁹

UN-HABITAT's Water, Sanitation and Infrastructure Branch works with governments, local authorities and other partners to build capacity for effective and efficient provision and delivery of water, sanitation and infrastructure. It runs two major regional programmes, Water for African Cities and Water for Asian Cities.

*The Global Campaign on Urban Governance*¹⁰

The Campaign aims to increase the capacity of local governments and other

UN-HABITAT (continued)

stakeholders to practise good urban governance, promote transparency, and fight crime and corruption, by focusing attention on the needs of the excluded urban poor. It promotes the involvement of women in decision making at all levels.

*Cities Alliance*¹¹

Other strategic advocacy includes a joint UN-HABITAT/World Bank slum upgrading initiative called the Cities Alliance, which promotes effective housing development policies and helps develop and campaign for housing rights. It also promotes sustainable cities and urban environmental planning and management, post-conflict land management and reconstruction in countries devastated by war or natural disasters.

*Urban Management Programme*¹²

The Urban Management Programme is an initiative of United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), UN-HABITAT, the World Bank and various bilateral donors designed to develop and apply urban management in Environmental Management Information in the fields of participatory urban governance, urban poverty alleviation and environmental management, and the dissemination of this information at the local, national and regional levels. It also helps cities devise local policy and management practices to combat HIV/AIDS.

*Training and Capacity Building*¹³

UN-HABITAT's Training and Capacity Building Branch is working at national and local levels to strengthen capacity building through high-level policy dialogues, seminars, consultations and expert workshops held regularly to encourage and support local governments and communities. The Branch concentrates on improving the knowledge, skills and attitudes of local government officials and civil society partners, and on strengthening effectiveness, inclusiveness and transparency to implement the MDG Goal 7, Target 11, for slum dwellers at the local level.

*Urban Economy and Finance Branch*¹⁴

UN-HABITAT's Urban Economy and Finance Branch provides an analytical focus on the urban economy, its relationship with the national and global economy. It runs four special programmes: the Municipal Finance Programme; the Urban-Rural

UN-HABITAT (continued)

Linkages; the Housing Finance Programme; and the Urban Economic Development and Employment Programme.

*Gender Mainstreaming Unit*¹⁵

UN-HABITAT's Gender Mainstreaming Unit strives to broaden gender equality and women's rights into supporting and strengthening gender awareness and by striving to ensure more accountable, participatory and empowering urban development practices through a gender sensitive approach.

III. Organizational Resources

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UN-HABITAT (continued)

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IV. Information Resources

1. *Policy Statement on Partnerships with NGOs and Civil Society Organizations:* (www.unhabitat.org/ngo/documents/cso_policy.doc).
2. Information on accreditation: (www.unhabitat.org/ngo/accreditation.asp).
3. UN Advisory Committee on Local Authorities (UNACLA): (www.unhabitat.org/unacla/default.asp).
4. United Cities and Local Governments: (www.cities-localgovernments.org/uclg).
5. The Global Campaign for Secure Tenure: (www.unhabitat.org/campaigns/tenure/partners.asp).
6. The Land and Tenure Section: (www.unhabitat.org/programmes/landtenure/default.asp).
7. The Housing Rights and Policy Section: (www.unhabitat.org/programmes/housingrights).
8. *Indigenous Peoples' Rights to Adequate Housing—A Global Overview:* (www.unhabitat.org/programmes/housingpolicy/documents/HS-734.pdf). Other reports are also available on this URL.
9. Water, Sanitation and Infrastructure Branch: (http://hq.unhabitat.org/cdrom/unhabitat_cdrom/html/programmes_waterindex.html).
10. Global Campaign on Urban Governance: (www.unhabitat.org/campaigns/governance).
11. Cities Alliance: (www.fukuoka.unhabitat.org/programe/prog06_e.html).
12. Urban Management Programme: (www.unhabitat.org/programmes/ump).
13. Training and Capacity Building Branch: (www.unhabitat.org/programmes/tcbb).
14. Urban Economy and Finance Branch: (http://hq.unhabitat.org/cdrom/unhabitat_cdrom/html/structure_rmc_uf.html).
15. Gender Policy Unit: (www.unhabitat.org/programmes/genderpolicy/default.asp).

UN-HABITAT (continued)

Additional Resources

- b 'Best Practices and Local Leadership:
(www.unhabitat.org/programmes/bestpractices).
- b 'Global Urban Observatory: (www.unhabitat.org/programmes/guo).
- b 'Guide for Parliamentarians for Implementing the Habitat Agenda:
(www.unchs.org/unchs/english/hagenda/parl.htm).
- b 'Rules of Procedures of the UNACLA:
(www.unhabitat.org/unacla/rules_of_procedure.asp).
- b 'Global Urban Observatory Databases:
(www.unchs.org/programmes/guo/guo_databases.asp).
- b 'World Urban Forum: (www.unhabitat.org/wuf/2004/default.asp).
- b 'Media centre: (www.unhabitat.org/mediacentre/contacts.asp).

UNITED NATIONS OFFICE ON DRUGS AND CRIME (UNODC)

I. Core Areas

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) is mandated to assist Member States in their struggle against illicit drugs, crime and terrorism. UNODC was established in November 1997 to enable the Organization to focus on and enhance its capacity to address the interrelated issues of drug control, crime prevention and international terrorism in all its forms.

The three pillars of UNODC's work programme are: (i) research and analytical work to increase knowledge and understanding of drugs and crime issues and expand the evidence-base for policy and operational decisions; (ii) normative work to assist States in the ratification and implementation of the international treaties, the development of domestic legislation on drugs, crime and terrorism, and the provision of secretariat and substantive services to the treaty-based and governing bodies; and (iii) field-based technical cooperation projects to enhance the capacity of Member States to counteract illicit drugs, crime and terrorism.

Mr. Antonio Maria Costa currently serves as the Executive Director of UNODC. Headquartered in Vienna, UNODC has 21 field offices as well as a liaison office in New York and approximately 500 staff members worldwide. UNODC relies on voluntary contributions, mainly from governments, for 90% of its budget and receives funding from two sources: in the 2004-2005 biennium approximately 10% of this was from the regular budget of the United Nations, and the remainder was from voluntary contributions. UNODC's consolidated budget for 2004-2005 was about US\$225 million.

II. Engagement with External Actors

Civil Society

UNODC has worked closely with NGOs since its inception.¹ Recognizing the

UNODC (continued)

powerful influence that NGOs and other aspects of civil society exert on public attitudes and social values, UNODC field offices cooperate with more than 1,600 NGOs working around the world to counter drug abuse.

UNODC's interactions with NGOs are guided by mandates from the international community. The 20th Special Session of the General Assembly on the World Drug Problem, held in October 1998, adopted the *Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction*.² In conjunction with the adoption of these principles, NGOs have been called upon to contribute to the goal of building a society free of drug abuse, emphasizing and facilitating healthy and innovative alternatives to illicit drug consumption, especially among youth.

Recognizing that a community-wide participatory and partnership approach is crucial to the accurate assessment of complex problems, the identification of viable solutions and the formulation and implementation of appropriate policies and programmes, the *Guidelines* also outline steps for forging partnerships with a number of actors, including governments, NGOs, parents, teachers, health professionals, youth and community organizations, employers' and workers' organizations and the private sector so that efforts are comprehensive, multifaceted, coordinated and integrated with social and public policies that influence the overall health and social and economic wellbeing of people.

UNODC acknowledges that the active involvement of civil society in countering the global drug abuse and crime problem is essential, and encourages the participation of NGOs in its full range of activities at the international, regional and national levels. Specialized NGOs aid UNODC in executing projects in all parts of the world and are especially involved in alternative development programmes in countries where illicit drug crops are cultivated. NGOs have assisted UNODC in a number of ways, ranging from the formulation, planning, coordination and execution of technical assistance projects and proposals; the organization of expert group meetings, conferences and training seminars; and their involvement in preparing, translating and producing manuals, training material and other publications. Advocacy activities and projects for the annual celebration of the International Day against Drug Abuse (26 June) and the newly established International Anti-Corruption Day (9 December) also require close collaboration between NGOs and UNODC.

Finally, NGOs in consultative status with ECOSOC are systematically invited as

UNODC (continued)

observers to participate in the regular meetings of UNODC's Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND) and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice. Over the years, NGOs have provided valuable contributions in the elaboration of major documents and subsequent UN decisions related to drug control.

UNODC has compiled an electronic NGO database of over 1,600 NGOs engaged in activities related to crime prevention and drug control. This database includes inputs from UNODC's 20 field offices, where NGOs actively participate in operational projects. The NGOs listed in the database benefit from UNODC's continuing advocacy efforts in crime prevention and drug control.

UNODC periodically publishes a worldwide directory of NGO organizations working in drug demand reduction.³ *The Directory of Non-Governmental Organizations Working in Drug Demand Reduction* serves as a tool to support the capacity building of NGOs and to enhance their networking and provides information on over 700 NGOs.

United Nations Vienna Civil Society Award⁴

In 1999, UNODC, the Austrian Federal Government and the City of Vienna established in the United Nations Vienna Civil Society Award to honour individuals and/or organizations who have made outstanding contributions to the fight against drug abuse, crime and terrorism. Over the last four years, the award has recognized winners from around the world.

The Global Youth Network Project⁵

The Project, run by UNODC to increase youth involvement with the international community in developing drug abuse prevention policies and programmes, has three main objectives: (i) increase communication between youth groups and UNODC; (ii) collect and disseminate information on good practices; and (iii) build the capacity of youth groups across the world to successfully conceptualize and implement drug abuse prevention projects. Although the Global Youth Network Project has now officially come to an end, a measure of its success is the fact that there are now six regional successor groups in South Asia, Southeast Asia and the Pacific, Central America, Latin America, East Africa and Central and Eastern Europe. These networks are quasi independent and aim to raise funds from local and private sector sources in order to provide support to drug abuse prevention activities.

UNODC (continued)

Global Programme against Corruption⁶

The Global Programme against Corruption works to strengthen anti-corruption measures by:

- b `Assessing existing institutions, strategies, policies, measures and tools against corruption;
- b `Assisting in the drafting and revising of relevant legislation and strengthening the rule of law;
- b `Providing advice on establishing and strengthening anti-corruption bodies;
- b `Developing preventive measures (such as public awareness campaigns and codes of conduct);
- b `Promoting integrity in the public and private sectors through the provision of technical assistance in civil service reforms, development and enforcement of codes and standards of conduct for public officials;
- b `Providing advisory services and capacity building for the prevention corruption and illegal transfer of funds; and
- b `Supporting civil society and NGOs in the fight against corruption.

Private Sector

UNODC follows the rules and regulations pertaining to the United Nations when it comes to engage with the private sector, in particular, applying the Secretary-General's *Guidelines on Cooperation Between the UN and the Business Community* (see Annex III) when building partnerships with the business community.

Extent of Collaboration

Collaboration is limited to specific projects often initiated at the field level. Below are a few examples:

- b `In Colombia, UNODC teamed up with the government and the supermarket giant Carrefour to wean farmers from illicit crops by assuring them of income from legal activities. Carrefour gives free space in its supermarkets to the produce from such projects and even buys the products at a loss during market downturns.

UNODC (continued)

b In Central Asia, UNODC has projects with the Aga Khan Foundation. This partnership brings additional resources and experience for the establishment of a regional coordination mechanism for law enforcement.

b In 2004, the Secretary-General's Global Compact initiative added a 10th principle on the fight against corruption. UNODC was assigned the role of guardian of this principle in order to engage the private sector in promoting ratification and implementation of the Convention against Corruption (see the Global Compact entry, page 47).

III. Organizational Resources

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UNODC (continued)

IV. Information Resources

1. Information on NGOs and civil society:
(www.unodc.org/unodc/en/ngos_and_civil_society.html).
2. *Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction*:
(www.unodc.org/pdf/resolution_1998-09-08_1.pdf).
3. *The UNODC Directory of NGOs*: (www.unodc.org/pdf/ngo_directory.pdf).
4. UN Vienna Civil Society Award:
(www.unodc.org/unodc/ngos_and_civil_society_award.html).
5. Global Youth Network: (www.unodc.org/youthnet/youthnet_about_us.html).
6. Global Programme against Corruption:
(www.unodc.org/unodc/en/corruption.html).

Additional Resources

- b *World Drug Report*: (www.unodc.org/unodc/en/world_drug_report.html).
- b *UNODC's Quarterly Update*: (www.unodc.org/newsletter/index.html).

WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME (WFP)

I. Core Areas

The World Food Programme (WFP) is mandated to combat hunger, promote economic and social development and provide relief assistance in emergencies throughout the world. Each year, WFP feeds an average of 90 million people, including 56 million hungry children, in more than 80 countries. Hunger afflicts one of every seven people on earth.

Headquartered in Rome with offices in 80 countries, WFP is headed by an Executive Director, currently Mr. James T. Morris. WFP's Secretariat has five departments at Headquarters (Operations, Administration, Fundraising and Communications, Policy and External Affairs and the Office of the Executive Director) and maintains six regional offices to supervise the Programme's extensive field activities. WFP's activities are carried out by nearly 11,000 long- and short-term staff members worldwide, with 90% based in the field offices.

II. Engagement with External Actors

WFP General Rule III-1 states that: "*WFP shall, whenever possible, associate its assistance with material, financial and technical assistance provided through other multilateral programmes and shall seek similar cooperation with bilateral programmes and non-governmental partners.*"

Civil Society

WFP is supporting efforts to strengthen civil society and further promote its role in food security as NGOs play a key role in both humanitarian emergencies and sustainable development.¹ The ability to collaborate effectively with NGOs greatly enhances WFP's efforts to achieve its mandate.

WFP (continued)

Over the past years WFP has greatly increased its relationship with NGOs. In 2004, WFP recorded collaboration with nearly 2,000 NGOs (including 225 international NGOs) in 72 of the Programme's country offices: an increase of about 66% over the past seven years. Slightly over 50% of WFP's food aid was handled by NGOs in 2004.

Since 2002, partnerships in general, but more specifically with NGOs, have been increasing, and WFP's first management priority in the current and upcoming Strategic Plan for 2004-2007 is the "Strengthening of Partnerships."² An NGO Strategic Partnership was launched in 2004, which aims to explore options for new kinds of relationships with NGOs that will leverage mutual strengths and complementarities. Issues that can help determine the relationships include the sharing of operational costs, the expansion of WFP's donor base and the adequate use of food aid.

Selecting appropriate partners is done through a joint assessment exercise carried out with potential partners to look at the strengths and weaknesses of each organization and to determine the value added of partnering for interested parties. A set of generic selection criteria³ requires that the potential partners have the following attributes:

- b ` Demonstrated transparency and accountability; credibility and demonstrated local acceptance (track record); financial stability and capacity; and its legal status;
- b ` Demonstrated a commitment to shared vision and goals, values and interests; the value added of partnerships and the potential for complementarities; and gender policies;
- b ` Organizational capacity (to carry out the partnership, including roles, responsibilities, relationships, leadership, structures and systems);
- b ` Staff members (with necessary skills, experience, attitudes and behaviours);
- b ` Capacity to implement activities in the field (including area of coverage, legitimacy and systems of accountability);
- b ` Capacity for creating an enabling environment for programming (flexibility); and
- b ` An existing scope of activities that could be supported with WFP food assistance.

Country offices can further refine these criteria based upon country-specific circumstances.

WFP (continued)

The type of partners chosen by WFP depends on the timing and nature of the food aid operation. Projects requiring rapid and logistically heavy emergency interventions or significant technical capacity are often managed by international NGOs, while national NGOs are well prepared to implement activities that require strong participatory involvement with communities, such as income-generating activities and rural development.

Partnerships can take several forms. The most frequent relates to situations where the NGO is the implementing partner and carries out a specific activity on behalf of WFP (such as transport, storage, distribution or monitoring). This often implies large resource transfers. Although WFP reimburses the costs incurred by NGOs for the food component of a project, it expects, in the spirit of the “partnership principle,” that its partner also provides some inputs or resources to the operation.

Other types of partnership include situations where there is not a large transfer of resources, but where both organizations bring complementary inputs, equipment or non-food items that complement the food aid intervention.

There are also types of collaboration that revolve around information sharing and advocacy work.

As a way to enhance the sharing of information, WFP produces a newsletter (*NGO Update*) three times a year specifically to inform non-governmental partners of developments and activities at WFP, including issues such as WFP policies on nutrition, cost-sharing arrangements with NGOs, and other points of interest.

Private Sector

WFP depends entirely on voluntary contributions and receives most of its funding from governments. However, it has been building innovative public-private partnerships to align the core strengths of the Programme with the expertise and strategic objectives of some of the world’s largest corporations.⁴ The agency receives both funding and expertise from private companies active in areas such as transport, food, information and communications technology, logistics, finance and human resources. Companies such as Benetton, TNT, Cargill, Ericsson, the International Rugby Board, International Paper and the

WFP (continued)

Boston Consulting Group, among others, have partnered with WFP to extend its reach to feed more of the world's poor.

Extent of Collaboration

In December 2002, TNT, a global provider of mail, express and logistics services, and WFP launched a multi-million dollar partnership—Moving the World—to help fight hunger. Under the partnership, TNT commits to sharing its staff, skills and resources in transportation and logistics to generate cash and in-kind donations. Specifically, TNT has helped WFP through airlifts to emergencies in Iraq, Liberia, Sudan and Haiti, air operations training and customs expertise, the redesign of the UN Humanitarian Response Depots and the implementation of WFP's fleet management systems.

WFP's partnership with the Boston Consulting Group (BCG, a US-based international management and strategy consulting firm) started in April 2003 with an in-kind contribution of pro-bono consultancy. At the end of 2003, BCG committed to providing WFP with additional support for 2004 and 2005, including a Business Process Review Implementation project and Donation Forecasting.

Several information products support WFP's extensive procurement activities. Doing Business with WFP⁵ informs potential suppliers of the screening process conducted by the Programme's Food Procurement Service. The Registered Supplier Roster helps the Goods and Services Procurement Branch to select and identify firms.

WFP also maintains a roster of potential and capable vendors. The vendor registrations to WFP are submitted online through the UN's Global Marketplace (UNGM).⁶

WFP criteria for vendor registration and qualification include:

- b `Legal qualification to enter into a contract;
- b `Food commodities: cereals, pulses, edible oil and/or processed commodities (such as wheat flour, blended foods and high-energy biscuits) must be part of the core business of the potential WFP supplier;
- b `Products/services offered are of interest to WFP projects and programmes and/or the company holds the necessary professional and technical competence;
- b `Ability to provide installation, training and after-sales services and/or

WFP (continued)

- maintenance in countries where the products will be used;
- b `Readiness to dispatch company staff to project sites (for non-food items and services);
- b `Ability to provide technical manuals, instruction booklets and spare parts lists in the required language(s);
- b `Company has a minimum of three years' experience as an established business;
- b `A copy of the financial report or equivalent for the last three years has been deposited with WFP;
- b `Company accepts WFP's general terms and conditions, including its payment terms;
- b `At least three trade references have been given to WFP; and
- b `The UNGM registration has been completed in full and all necessary documents have been completed and returned to WFP.

III. Organizational Resources

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WFP (continued)

IV. Information Resources

1. WFP NGO webpage:
(www.wfp.org/aboutwfp/partners/ngo.asp?section=1&sub_section=4).
2. Strategic Plan 2004-2007: (www.wfp.org/policies/Strategies/index.asp?section=6&sub_section=2#).
3. Partnership Selection Criteria: (www.wfp.org/index.asp?section=6).
4. WFP Corporate webpage:
(www.wfp.org/aboutwfp/partners/corporate_partners.asp?section=1&sub_section=4).
5. Doing Business with WFP:
(www.wfp.org/operations/procurement/Business_WFP_Food.pdf) or
(www.wfp.org/operations/procurement/Business_WFP_Goods_Services.pdf).
6. An application can be submitted online to the UN's Global Marketplace:
(www.ungm.org).

Additional Resources

- b Information on private sector engagement: (www.wfp.org/index.asp?section=1-check).
- b For information on the non-food procurement branch:
(www.wfp.org/operations/procurement/Business_WFP_Goods_Services.pdf).
- b More information on the TPG partnership:
(www2.tpg.com/wfp/tpgwfppartnership-introduction.phtml).
- b More information on the BCG partnership: (www.bcg.com/home.jsp).

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION (WHO)

I. Core Areas

The World Health Organization (WHO) aims for the attainment by all peoples of the highest possible level of health. The Organization's Constitution defines health as a state of complete physical, mental and social wellbeing and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity.

In support of its objective, WHO has a wide range of functions, including acting as the directing and coordinating authority on international health work; establishing and maintaining effective collaboration with the UN specialized agencies, governmental health administrations, professional groups and other organizations as may be deemed appropriate; assisting governments to strengthen their health services; furnishing appropriate technical assistance and, in emergencies, necessary aid; and proposing conventions, agreements and regulations, as well as making recommendations with respect to international health matters. The Organization also promotes improved teaching and training standards in the health, medical and related professions, and develops international standards for food, biological, pharmaceutical and similar products.

The Secretariat consists of some 3,800 health and other experts and support staff working at its Headquarters in Geneva, in the six regional offices, and in country offices. Dr. LEE Jong-wook serves as the current Director-General. WHO's regular budget is supplied by assessed contributions on Member States and Associate Members. In addition, WHO receives voluntary contributions from Member States and other sources. The budget from both assessed and voluntary contributions for the biennium 2006-2007 is US\$3.3 billion.

II. Engagement with External Actors

Civil Society

The policy for WHO's relations with NGOs, including civil society organizations,

WHO (continued)

is set out in Resolution WHA40.25, known as the *Principles Governing Relations between WHO and Nongovernmental Organizations*.¹ “The objectives of WHO’s collaboration with NGOs and CSOs are to promote the policies, strategies and programmes derived from the decisions of the Organization’s governing bodies; to collaborate with regard to various WHO programmes in jointly agreed activities to implement these strategies; and to play an appropriate role in ensuring the harmonizing of inter-sectoral interests among the various sectoral bodies concerned in a country, regional or global setting.”

The *Principles* provide for two types of relations, formal and informal, and set out the types of relations at the global level and their development; criteria for the admission of NGOs into official relations with WHO; the procedure for admitting NGOs into official relations with WHO; relations with NGOs at the regional and national levels; privileges conferred on NGOs by relationship with WHO; and responsibilities of NGOs in their relationship with WHO.

Informal relations: The majority of WHO’s relations are informal. Information exchange and participation in each other’s meetings, in particular, are without time limit and without written agreement. However, such relations also permit agreements for collaboration on specific activities.

Official relations: The Executive Board can decide whether or not an NGO is admitted into official relations with WHO. Applications from NGOs are reviewed in order to determine whether they meet the criteria for admission set out in the *Principles*; one of the most important being that applicants should be international either in membership and/or in scope of activities. The basis of an official relationship is a mutually agreed three-year work plan and activities are reviewed by the Board on a triennial basis, with the Board deciding whether or not to maintain an NGO in official relations.

The range of NGOs in official relations is wide, including medical and public health professions, science or disease specialists, patient and consumer organizations, women and youth organizations, development organizations, as well as service providers and trade associations. NGOs in official relations are able to participate in WHO’s governing bodies meetings, without the right of vote, and are entitled to make a statement.

WHO (continued)

The Civil Society Initiative² fosters relations, where appropriate, between WHO and non-governmental and civil society organizations and is responsible for the administration of formal relations between such organizations and WHO. Relations are developed at the technical level, not with the Initiative. In the case of NGOs that have formal relations with WHO, each NGO is required to appoint a focal point(s), likewise for WHO. Thus, for the 184 NGOs in official relations with WHO, there are almost 300 focal points and their counterparts in WHO, known as Designated Technical Officers, number almost 90. With the exception of administrative departments, most of the Secretariat maintains either formal or ad-hoc informal links with NGOs and CSOs.

Extent of Collaboration

NGOs and CSOs contribute to the policy and standard setting work of the Organization, as well as collaborating on mutually agreed activities. The majority of such activities either take one of the following forms, or, resources permitting, combine several forms: advisory, advocacy, coordination and service provision, data collection and health-information management, emergency and humanitarian action, financial, human resources development, WHO participation in NGO/CSO meetings, professional, publications/media, scientific review and clinical support, research, standard-setting and development of nomenclature.

As a general rule, one-to-one collaborative activities tend towards projects that are one-off events, for example, joint training workshops or an international conference co-sponsored by WHO. Nonetheless, the effect of such relations can be far reaching. In the case of advocacy work, where NGOs disseminate information about the policies or activities of WHO, NGOs with members in a large number of countries can have an important impact on and contribute to informed debate at the national level. Collaboration with highly specialized NGOs is more likely to draw on their knowledge, for example, they may review scientific literature for WHO, or provide data, or pursue research activities. Their collaboration may also contribute to WHO's role in standard setting.

Improved health status of individuals may be realized when collaborative activities bring together a range of organizations and entities. For example, the International Coordinating Group (ICG) on Vaccine Provision for Epidemic Meningitis Control was

WHO (continued)

established in 1997 to coordinate the best use of the limited amount of vaccines available, to ensure that it was used where it was needed most, and to avoid wastage. The Group has among its members several NGOs, research institutions, and governmental health authorities. To date, 9.6 million doses of meningococcal vaccine have been channelled through the ICG mechanism and up to 20 million doses have been provided by individual members, ensuring concerted action at the country level.

Another successful “networked” solution to delivering a public health benefit of major proportions concerns the elimination of iodine deficiency disorders (IDD). IDD affects over 740 million people, 13% of the world’s population, and 30% of the remainder are at risk. Since the 1980s, WHO has been working to achieve the elimination of IDD through the main strategy of universal salt iodization with the support of several NGOs. The number of countries where iodine deficiency is a public health problem was reduced to 54 in 2003, from 110 in 1993.

In addition to individual and/or networked activities, a number of partnerships, or initiatives, have been developed that provide for the participation of other bodies, including non-governmental and civil society organizations. Such participation is another way NGOs and CSOs may link forces with WHO.

Private Sector

WHO is conscious of the potential of collaboration with the private sector at global, regional and country levels. Such collaboration enables WHO to reach wider audiences and to have a more significant impact on global public health through scientific research on improved health interventions as well as through facilitating access to health care, vaccines and drugs. Formal or informal public-private health partnerships have been established around a range of advocacy, service and in-kind or financial support activities. Examples include the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization, the Polio Eradication Initiative, Vision 20/20, the Global Vitamin A Alliance and the Global Programme to Eliminate Lymphatic Filariasis. Guidelines have been developed for the Organization’s work with the private sector to achieve health outcomes, which also address issues such as safeguarding of WHO norms and standards for public health and potential conflicts of interest.³

WHO (continued)

Other Actors

The Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) has observer status with the World Health Assembly. The department of Ethics, Trade, Human Rights and Health Law pursues WHO's work to improve the health of indigenous populations.

III. Organizational Resources

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At the headquarter level, a unit is in place and includes two full time staff under the direction of the Director for Government, Civil Society and Private Sector Relations. Counterparts at each WHO Regional Office serve in the same capacity. The WHO country offices may also work with national NGOs.

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WHO (continued)

IV. Information Resources

1. *Principles Governing Relations between WHO and Non-governmental Organizations*: (www.who.int/civilsociety/relations/principles/en/print.htm).
2. *Civil Society Initiative*: (www.who.int/civilsociety/en).
3. *Guidelines on Working with the Private Sector to Achieve Health Outcomes*: (www.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/EB107/ee20.pdf).

Additional Resources

- b Information on partnerships: (www.who.int/civilsociety/partnerships/en).
- b *WHO and Civil Society: Linking for Better Health*: (www.who.int/civilsociety/documents/en/CSICaseStudyE.pdf).
- b Information on the Study of WHO's Official Relations with NGOs: (www.who.int/civilsociety/documents/en/study.pdf).
- b Understanding Civil Society Issues for WHO: (www.who.int/civilsociety/documents/en/understanding_en.pdf).
- b *Strategic Alliances—The Role of Civil Society in Health*: (www.who.int/civilsociety/documents/en/alliances_en.pdf).
- b *Indigenous Peoples and Substance Use Project: A Guide to Action Demands*: (www.who.int/substance_abuse/publications/vulnerable_pop/en).
- b Health and Human Rights of Indigenous Populations: (www.who.int/hhr/activities/indigenous/en).
- b *Newsletter for Indigenous People*: (www.paho.org/English/AD/THS/IndigN-MAIN.htm).

WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION (WIPO)

I. Core Areas

The World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) is dedicated to helping to ensure that the rights of creators and owners of intellectual property (IP) are protected worldwide and that inventors and authors are, thus, recognized and rewarded for their ingenuity. The intellectual property system offers a number of safeguards and incentives that act as a spur to human creativity, extending the boundaries of science and technology and enriching the world of literature and the arts. By providing a stable environment for the marketing of intellectual property products, it also help to promote international trade.

WIPO undertakes activities in three main areas, namely (i) the progressive development of international intellectual property law; (ii) assistance to developing countries to build intellectual property capacity at national and regional levels and encourage more effective use of IP as tool for economic development; and (iii) services to industry and the private sector to facilitate the process of obtaining intellectual property protection in multiple countries.

WIPO works in close cooperation with its 182 Member States to promote intellectual property around the globe and to ensure that all members are in a position to reap the benefits of an effective and affordable system of IP protection to promote wealth creation and economic development.

The emergence of the knowledge economy means that IP issues are critical to national, regional and international policy-making in most areas of economic endeavour. WIPO has made the demystification of intellectual property one of its key priorities in line with its commitment to building consensus and inclusive dialogue with all stakeholders. The Organization's long-term objective is to establish an IP culture built on a broad-based understanding of IP and respect for IP rights. While WIPO's outreach efforts continue to target government leaders and policy makers, creators and entrepreneurs, the Organization is also working to reach out to the public and educate them about the importance and

WIPO (continued)

value of individual creativity and innovation and to enlist their participation in the creation of an IP culture that promotes appreciation and respect for such efforts.

Led by a Director-General, Mr. Kamil Idris, WIPO has a staff of some 950 from 89 countries.

II. Engagement with External Actors

WIPO has established liaison offices in Brussels, New York, Washington D.C. and Singapore as strategic channels through which to strengthen contacts with the international IP community, industry leaders, NGOs, and civil society. These offices develop mutually beneficial working relations and coordinate closely with organizations that lie outside of WIPO's traditional scope of consultation and cooperation, but are now emerging as valuable new partners for WIPO.

Activities typically involve briefing representatives of industry, business and professional associations, civil society and NGOs, including workshops, symposia and seminars on IP in general, specific aspects of IP of direct concern to them, and on WIPO's role in the promotion and protection of IP.

Civil Society

Since its beginning, WIPO has cooperated with NGOs working in the field of intellectual property. Over 180 NGOs (both national and international) currently have observer status at WIPO meetings.¹ These include a wide range of groups from industry and civil society. The procedure for obtaining observer status involves submitting a written request to the WIPO Secretariat. NGOs with observer status are automatically invited to participate in all WIPO meetings, including technical meetings which deal with issues of substantive intellectual property law, such as the Standing Committee on the Law of Patents (SCP) and the Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights (SCCR). NGOs play an increasingly active and important role in debates surrounding the setting of intellectual property standards at the international level.

WIPO (continued)

Private Sector

WIPO is unique within the UN system insofar as it provides a number of fee-paying services to industry and the private sector. This enables the Organization to generate a significant proportion of its income and further results in close links with industry and the private sector who are the main users of these services. These include the Patent Cooperation Treaty which facilitates the process of obtaining patent protection in over 125 countries;³ the Madrid System for the International Registration of Trademarks;³ the Hague System for the International Registration of Industrial Designs;⁴ and the alternative dispute resolution mechanisms, and arbitration and mediation services offered by the WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Center.⁵ Given the territorial nature of intellectual property rights (IP rights have legal effect only in the country or region in which they are granted), these services provide a cost-effective and efficient option for inventors and businesses who are seeking IP protection in multiple countries.

Extent of Collaboration

*Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) Programme*⁶

One of the key messages of WIPO is that intellectual property is a strategic tool to promote economic, social and cultural development. In an attempt to encourage broader and more effective use of the system, the Organization has in recent years initiated a number of new programmes to raise awareness about the strategic value of IP among groups that have not optimally embraced the system. WIPO's work with SMEs is one such programme.

It is designed to improve the awareness and understanding among governmental, private and civil society institutions worldwide enabling them to formulate and implement policies, programmes and strategies to enhance the strategic use of IP assets by innovators and SMEs.

The programme compiles and disseminates guidelines, best practice models and case studies for inventors, creators, academia, entrepreneurs and SMEs through various media, papers, CD-ROMs and the Internet. For example, in 2004, the first two short guides in the *Intellectual Property for Business Series* namely, "Making a Mark" on trademarks and "Looking Good" on industrial designs were customized and/or translated

WIPO (continued)

in more than 50 countries across the globe. The programme also assists SME associations, innovation centre networks, business incubators, universities, R&D institutions, professional associations, and chambers of commerce in providing IP-related support services to their members and constituencies. Training programmes for key partner institutions and business service providers on IP are also organized.

The SME programme maintains an international network of partners that includes a range of national SME support and finance institutions worldwide, UN organizations, national and regional IP offices, and copyright administrations/organizations.

Indigenous Peoples

The role of IP systems in relation to traditional knowledge (TK), and how to preserve, protect and equitably make use of TK, is receiving growing attention in a range of international policy discussions. These address matters as diverse as food and agriculture; the environment, notably the conservation of biological diversity, health, including traditional medicines; human rights and indigenous issues; and aspects of trade and economic development.

While the policy issues concerning TK are broad and diverse, the IP issues break down into two key themes:

b¹ Defensive protection of TK, or measures which ensure that IP rights over TK are not given to parties other than the customary TK holders. These measures have included the amendment of WIPO-administered patent systems (the International Patent Classification system and the Patent Cooperation Treaty Minimum Documentation). Some countries and communities are also developing TK databases that may be used as evidence of prior art to defeat a claim to a patent on such TK; and

b² Positive protection of TK, or the creation of positive rights in TK that empower TK holders to protect and promote their TK. In some countries, *sui generis* legislation has been developed specifically to address the positive protection of TK. Providers and users may also enter into contractual agreements and/or use existing IP systems of protection.

WIPO's work on TK, genetic resources and traditional cultural expressions (TCEs)

WIPO (continued)

is founded on extensive consultation with representatives of indigenous peoples and local communities and other NGOs. Work in this area began in 1998. The first step was to listen first hand to the needs and expectations of some 3,000 representatives of 60 TK-holding communities around the world whose insights and perspectives continue to guide WIPO's work.⁷

Many events organized by WIPO in this area involve representatives of indigenous peoples and local communities and other stakeholders. Since the WIPO Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore (IGC) was first convened in 2001, special attention has been paid to enhancing the participation of indigenous peoples and local communities in its work. Over 110 NGOs have been especially accredited to the IGC. Many of these represent indigenous communities and other holders of TK and TCEs. Other steps have included the convening of an indigenous consultative forum, tailored NGO briefings, consultations on IGC materials under development, as well as the creation of a dedicated webpage for accredited observers to post their perspectives, comments, technical papers, national experiences and similar documents on issues under discussion by the IGC.⁸

Working in cooperation with other international organizations and in dialogue with NGOs, WIPO, in the context of the IGC, provides a forum for international policy debate concerning the interplay between IP and traditional knowledge, genetic resources, traditional cultural expressions (folklore). WIPO's work in this area ranges from the international dimension of TK and cooperation with other international agencies to capacity building and pooling of practical experience in this complex area.⁹

III. Organizational Resources

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WIPO (continued)

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IV. Information Resources

1. Further information on how to apply for observer status: (www.wipo.int/about-wipo/en/members/admission/index.html).
2. Information on the Patent Cooperation Treaty: (www.wipo.int/pct/en/basic_facts/basic_facts.pdf).
3. Madrid System for the International Registration of Trademarks: (www.wipo.int/madrid/en).
4. Hague System for the International Registration of Industrial Designs: (www.wipo.int/hague/en).
5. WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Center: (<http://arbiter.wipo.int/center>).
6. SME Programme: (www.wipo.int/sme/en). Subscription to a monthly e-newsletter that provides practical information on IP for SMEs is available on this website.
7. A comprehensive report of these consultations with indigenous people is available online: (www.wipo.int/tk/en/tk/ffm/report/index.html).
8. IGC website: (www.wipo.int/tk/en/igc/ngo/observers.html).
9. Information Booklet on Intellectual Property and Traditional Knowledge (WIPO Publication 920): (www.wipo.int/tk/en/tk/index.html).

Additional Resources

- b Information on the WIPO Worldwide Academy: (www.wipo.int/academy/en).

WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION (WMO)

I. Core Areas

The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) is the scientific voice for meteorology, including climatology, operational hydrology, and related geophysical sciences. Its precursor was the International Meteorological Organization (IMO), originally created as an NGO in 1873 in Vienna.

As defined by its Convention, WMO facilitates worldwide cooperation in the establishment of network of stations and centres to provide meteorological and related services and observations; promotes the establishment and maintenance of systems for the rapid exchange of meteorological and related information; promotes standardization of meteorological and related observations and ensures the uniform publication of observations and statistics; furthers the application of meteorology to aviation, shipping, water problems, agriculture and other human activities; promotes activities in operational hydrology; and encourages research and training in meteorology and related fields.

Headquartered in Geneva, WMO is led by a Secretary-General, Mr. Michel Jarraud. The Organization's Regular Budget for the period 2004-2007 amounts to US\$204.7 million. The estimated extra-budgetary resources that are expected to be available over the same period, for specific components of programmes such as technical cooperation, education and training, improvements of the World Weather Watch, and some urgent environmental and climatological monitoring, research and cooperative work, amount to approximately US\$114.5 million.

II. Engagement with External Actors

WMO views cooperation with other intergovernmental organizations including those of the UN system, and various non-state parties, NGOs, including civil society and the private sector, academia and media as being essential for the fulfilment of the mandates of the Organization. Article 26 of its Convention governs the relationship of the WMO with all international organizations other than the United Nations.

WMO (continued)

In this context, WMO maintains and seeks to expand working relations with many international organizations, both governmental and non-governmental. Amongst these organizations, there are scientific and technical organizations, including the International Council for Science (ICSU), and those of the UN system, funding agencies and the relevant United Nations bodies, such as the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) and the Chief Executives Board on Coordination, (CEB) as well as its subsidiary organs. The overall cooperation could be broadly divided into the following categories:

Consultative Status: According to the procedures established, those non-governmental international organizations interested in the work of WMO could be granted consultative status subject to the approval of the Executive Council, such as the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and the International Association of Broadcast Meteorology (IABM). Those organizations granted Consultative Status with the Organization are invited to meetings of WMO constituent bodies as observers. Seventeen NGOs have been granted consultative status with WMO.

Memoranda of Understanding (MoU): In addition to Agreements, Working Arrangements and Consultative Status, the Secretary-General, on behalf of the Organization, signs MoUs or relevant cooperation documents on specific or broader cooperation, with international organizations including NGOs at sub-regional, regional and global levels.

Extent of Collaboration

Such Memoranda of Understanding could be multi-organizational such as that between WMO, the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC)/UNESCO, UNEP and the International Council for Science for the Global Climate Observing System (GCOS). Memoranda of Understanding could also be with non-governmental and intergovernmental organizations, such as that between WMO and UNEP on the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). The Secretary-General also signs Memoranda of Understanding which are known by various names. A few examples of those signed in 2001 include the Agreement on Cooperation with the Agency Air Safety in Africa and Madagascar (ASECNA), Memorandum of Understanding with the Mekong River Commission (MRC), Agreement on Cooperation with the International Organization of the Francophonie (OIF), and Agreement with the International

WMO (continued)

Research Centre on El Niño. A number of Memoranda of Understanding are under preparation, such as cooperation with the European Commission.

In addition, WMO also collaborates without a formal agreement with a number of organizations or bodies on specific projects or relevant matters, such as the International Research Institute for Climate Prediction, the Global Water Partnership, the World Water Council and river basin authorities. WMO also cooperates actively with the Secretariats of the Conventions such as the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD). WMO also maintains close cooperation with national meteorological, hydrological societies, such as the American Meteorological Society and the European Meteorological Society.

III. Organizational Resources

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The Cabinet and External Relations Office is responsible for maintaining liaison with and assisting in the coordination of WMO's activities related to regional and international intergovernmental organizations and NGOs.

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WORLD BANK

I. Core Areas

The World Bank Group assists developing countries to reduce poverty by helping them raise their levels of productivity and income, by providing loans and grants to low and middle income countries, as well as policy advice, technical assistance and knowledge-sharing services.

The Bank's mandate includes a group of five closely associated institutions—the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), the International Development Association (IDA), the International Finance Corporation (IFC), the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA) and the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID). Each institution plays a distinct role in the Bank's mission: the IBRD and the IDA provide loans and grants to low and middle income countries; the IFC promotes economic development through the private sector; MIGA helps promote foreign direct investment by providing guarantees to investors against non-commercial risks; and the ICSID offers international facilities for conciliation and arbitration of investment disputes to help build mutual confidence between States and foreign investors.

The modus operandi of the Bank is set in a comprehensive development framework (CDF) that guides each country's development programme through Country Assistance Strategies (CAS). These strategies usually cover a three-year period and outline the Bank's lending and non-lending programme in each country. In the case of poorest countries, the CAS is conditional on the drafting by recipient governments of Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSPs). The latter is a national plan for macroeconomic, structural and social policies and programmes over a three year, or longer period, to promote broad-based growth and reduce poverty, as well as identify the associated external financing needs and the major sources of financing. PRSPs are prepared through a participatory process involving domestic stakeholders and external development partners, including the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

WORLD BANK (continued)

The Bank's guiding framework for assistance applies also to particular sectors. The sector strategies help shape the Bank's approach and activities in a given sector or thematic area. Sector strategies have been developed for the following areas: anti-corruption; education; governance and public sector reform; health, nutrition and population, including an HIV/AIDS programme for Africa; mining; urban and local government; and water resources management. New sector strategies are being developed in rural development, gender, environment, forests, information and communications technologies, and private sector development.

II. Engagement with External Actors

The World Bank Group engages with a wide variety of stakeholders, including CSOs, parliamentarians and the private sector.

Civil Society

While the Bank does not have a formal set of criteria for NGOs with which it chooses to engage, competence (proven track record), local knowledge, community ties, governance (sound internal management, fiscal accountability and transparency), legal status, and institutional capacity are among the qualities it seeks from its non-governmental partners.

In 2005, the Bank staff completed an assessment and strategy paper on its civil society engagement work entitled *Issues and Options for Improving Engagement Between the World Bank and CSOs*.¹ The paper analyzes the evolving nature and characteristics of global civil society, highlights trends in Bank–civil society relations, and recommends ways the Bank can improve its civil society outreach and engagement efforts. It recommended a ten-point plan including actions such as: establishing a Bank-wide advisory service/focal point for consultations and an institutional framework for consultation management and feedback; piloting a new Bank-wide monitoring and evaluation system for civic engagement; conducting a review of Bank funds available for civil society engagement in operations and policy dialogue; instituting integrated learning programme for Bank staff and member governments on how to engage CSOs more effectively, as well as capacity

WORLD BANK (continued)

building for CSOs on how to work effectively with the Bank and its member governments; and developing tools for analytical mapping of civil society to assist country and task teams in determining the relevant CSOs to engage on a given issue, project or strategy.

The World Bank engages CSOs in three ways.

b *Facilitating* dialogue and partnership between civil society and governments by providing resources, training, technical support, and often playing a convening role. That type of engagement can be best seen in the process of formulation of the country poverty reduction strategies (PRSPs);

b *Consulting* with CSOs on issues, policies and programmes by listening to their perspectives and inviting suggestions. These interactions vary from consultations on global policies such as social safeguards and adjustment lending, to discussions on local Bank-financed projects; and,

b *Partnering* directly with CSOs through contracting technical assistance and training services, funding civil society initiatives, and managing joint programmes. There are many examples of active partnerships in the areas of forest conservation, AIDS vaccines, rural poverty, micro-credit, and Internet development.

In terms of policy dialogue and consultations, the Bank engages with CSOs around the world on its policies, programmes, reports and projects in a diversity of issue areas such as forest management, information disclosure, structural adjustment, and rural development. PRSPs, the expansion of debt relief (Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative - HIPC), and the *World Development Report* (WDR), as well as the evaluations carried out by the independent Operations and Evaluation Department are among processes that have benefited from this consultative approach. At the country level, the Bank is increasingly consulting with a broad spectrum of CSOs on country assistance strategies, sector studies, and individual project designs. Often these dialogues involve a number of stakeholders in addition to civil society, including governments, professional associations, universities, and other donor agencies.

Research and training activities of the Bank increasingly involve CSOs. The Economic and Sector Work (ESW), poverty and social impact assessments (PSIAs), and national environmental action plans are examples of this type of engagement. Universities, research centres, and NGOs often bring the academic

WORLD BANK (continued)

rigor, local knowledge, participatory methodology skills, and independence needed to complement the research capability provided by the Bank and governments. Civil society researchers are often hired as consultants to carry out social analysis, environmental impact analysis, stakeholder analysis, and project evaluations.

CSOs are hired by government agencies and Bank offices at the country level to provide training and technical assistance within Bank-financed projects and are invited to assist with monitoring and evaluating projects by participating in project supervision missions, carrying out social impact analysis, and attending project review workshops. Another area of growing collaboration is staff exchanges between the bank and CSOs, which promote inter-institutional understanding, new perspectives, and improved staff capacity.

Partnerships with CSOs are an important channel of delivery of social services and implementation in World Bank-funded Projects. CSOs are involved in delivering a wide range of basic services in such areas as AIDS prevention, managing village water systems, operating day care centres, supporting small enterprise development, and environmental park management. Civil society involvement in service provision complements and improves government action. In this light, the Bank is attempting to simplify its contracting and procurement procedures in order to facilitate civil society involvement in Bank operations.

The Bank has also funding mechanisms to provide grants to civil society. Grants are provided both indirectly, via government-run Community-Driven Development and Social Funds, or directly, through World Bank-managed grant programmes and trust funds. These grants cover a variety of areas—such as environment, micro-credit, post-conflict reconstruction, information technology, human rights, civic engagement, and innovative practices—and support CSOs at the global, regional and country levels. These grants are often managed in partnership with other donor agencies.

More recently, a number of Bank-managed trust funds have begun to earmark funds for CSOs. In order to gain access to these funds, CSOs generally must partner with a government agency and/or a World Bank unit and jointly submit a proposal to the trust fund office. Funds can then be channelled to CSOs or managed directly by them.

The Bank partnerships involve governments and donor agencies such as other

WORLD BANK (continued)

development banks, UN agencies, and non-governmental funding agencies.

Extent of Collaboration

b *Bank-Civil Society Pesticides Partnership in Africa*: The Africa Stockpiles Programme was launched in 2002 to clean up and safely dispose of all obsolete pesticide stocks from Africa and avoid future accumulation. Housed in the World Bank, the programme brings together the skills, expertise, and resources of a diverse group of stakeholders, including the Pesticide Action Network, the World Wildlife Fund, several African governments, and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

b *Preserving the Amazon Rainforest*: A new programme called “Protected Amazonian Areas” was recently launched by the Brazilian Government. It sets aside an area twice as large as the United Kingdom, is valued at US\$395 million, and will support Brazilian environmental CSOs and forest community groups in undertaking environmental assessments, managing parks, and monitoring compliance. The partnership is carried out by the Ministry of the Environment, the World Wildlife Fund, and the Bank, and is part of the larger World Bank/World Wildlife Fund Forest Alliance, which is working with governments, the private sector, and civil society to create 50 million hectares of new forest conservation areas and protect an additional 250 million hectares of the world’s productive forests.

b *Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization*: The Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization is a public health initiative aimed at immunizing the world’s children against vaccine-preventable disease and widening disparities in vaccine access among industrial and developing countries. Partners include the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the Rockefeller Foundation, the International Federation of Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Associations, several governments, UNICEF, the World Health Organization, and the World Bank. The global fund received an initial US\$750 million grant and has supported vaccination programmes in more than 25 countries.

b Examples of CSO grant programmes:

◆ *Small Grants Programme (SmGP)* supports civic engagement activities by local CSOs in some 65 countries by enhancing dialogue, and

WORLD BANK (continued)

strengthening relations between CSOs and governments. During 2004 the SmGP funded approximately 500 CSO projects in 68 countries, for a total of US\$2.4 million.

◆ *Consultative Group to Assist the Poorest (CGAP)*, which supports the scaling-up and consolidation of local successful micro-enterprise initiatives. In 2003, CGAP disbursed US\$9.8 million to 33 projects.

◆ *Information for Development (InfoDev)* supports civil society knowledge management, information technology and Internet initiatives around the world. In 2003, the programme disbursed US\$3.3 million (average grant size of US\$125,000).

Specific Constituencies: Children & Youth, Disabled Persons and Faith-based Groups

The Bank also outreaches to specific constituencies, including children and youth, disabled persons and faith-based groups. The Bank has taken several steps during the past three years to reach out more effectively to children and youth groups, as well as address youth issues and has drafted a children and youth strategy to guide the Bank's work in this area by defining the Bank's role and niche in youth issues, identifying priorities for the Bank's actions, and incorporating youth perspectives into other Bank policies, studies, and programmes. The Bank's Disability Unit has launched several policy dialogue and learning programme events involving representatives from government, disabled persons organizations, other CSOs, and donor agencies. In September 2000, the Bank established a work unit to reach out to the world's major religions to promote dialogue and collaboration on issues of ethics and faith as they relate to poverty alleviation and social development. The Development Dialogue on Values and Ethics Unit has carried out a series of activities with global faith-based and interfaith organizations to promote greater dialogue, joint action, and exploration of a more comprehensive vision of development and poverty alleviation.

Private Sector

Project financing and partnerships in developing countries, as well as technical assistance, are the main activities involving engagement with the private sector and the Bank, handled largely through the IFC and MIGA.

A core part of the IFC's mandate is to promote the development of small and

WORLD BANK (continued)

medium enterprises (SMEs) in developing countries. It links SMEs to investment opportunities through its ten Project Development Facilities across the world. In addition, its Private Sector Development–Gender Initiative considers gender dimensions of public policy for private sector development and develops practical initiatives to support women entrepreneurs. In order to be eligible for IFC funding, private sector partners must meet a series of criteria, including environmental and social standards.

In partnership with IFC and MIGA, the Bank’s Enterprise Outreach Services (EOS) Division has developed a network of liaison officers based in business intermediary organizations—the Private Sector Liaison Officers (PSLOs) Network—that fosters trade and investment in developing countries. Through this network, the EOS organizes investment forums in Europe and field missions in developing countries, as well as dialogues for consultation and partnerships on global issues such as, HIV/AIDS, trade, and investment climate. Another key initiative through which the Bank engages with the private sector is the Carbon Finance Business. Through this initiative, public-private partnerships are generated to catalyze private sector investments to address the impacts of climate change.

Parliamentarians

To engage elected representatives and parliaments in its programmes and policies, the World Bank supported the creation of the Parliamentary Network on the World Bank (PNoWB) in 2000—a non-profit association that gathers together over 140 parliamentarians from 60 countries. The PNoWB’s initiatives include a “Parliamentarians’ Implementation Watch” to monitor and promote action to meet the Millennium Development Goals, a programme of field visits, and the creation of a special committee on HIV/AIDS. Its annual meeting has become a major platform for interaction among parliamentarians on development issues, as well as between them and the Bank.

Indigenous Peoples

As of August 2003, 227 of the Bank’s active projects portfolio involved indigenous peoples’ issues, with another 80 in the pipeline. In Africa, the Bank is promoting

WORLD BANK (continued)

awareness of indigenous knowledge systems and institutions, particularly in relation to natural resource management and biodiversity conservation. Some 56 projects in Asia and the Pacific involve indigenous peoples in forestry management, education, community development, conservation and natural resources management. Indigenous peoples are involved in 110 projects in the Latin America and the Caribbean region, in areas such as natural resource management, land regularization, and community-based development. In addition, the Bank's Small Grants Programme provides support to indigenous CSOs in Colombia, Brazil, Peru and Russia. In 2003, the Bank launched a *Global Fund for Indigenous Peoples*, established to provide grants to support local sustainable and replicable development efforts by indigenous groups. The fund is managed by a board of directors, half of which is composed of indigenous leaders selected by their organizations. The fund is supporting a capacity-building programme through the Fondo Indigena to strengthen indigenous organizations in Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela.

Labour Unions

World Bank dialogue with labour involves several major international federations—the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU) and the World Confederation of Labour (WCL)—as well as the Trade Union Advisory Committee to the OECD (TUAC) and several global union federations organized by sector, such as Public Service International. In addition, the Bank regularly consults with the union movement on major studies and publications such as the *World Development Report*. In 2000, the Bank and the IMF decided to jointly establish a platform for ongoing dialogue with the ICFTU and WCL focusing on the following activities: senior leadership meetings every two years in Washington D.C.; technical level meetings on policy issues of mutual interest, such as pension policies, PRSP and privatization; and staff secondments.

III. Organizational Resources

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WORLD BANK (continued)

USA

Website: www.worldbank.org

The Bank has 120 staff throughout the institution that work on engagement with external actors. At the global level, the *Civil Society Team* provides institutional coordination by formulating institutional strategy, providing advice to senior management, undertaking research and dissemination, and reaching out to CSOs at the global level. A *Civil Society Group* brings together more than 30 staff in Washington in various units, with a focus on either geographic regions, funding mechanisms, or specific constituencies. At the country level, there are *Civil Society Country Staff* working in 70 World Bank offices worldwide carrying out a variety of activities, including social analysis, liaising with local civil society, managing outreach programmes, and working to involve CSOs in World Bank-financed projects.

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IV. Information Resources

1. Civil Society website:

(<http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/TOPICS/CSO/0,,pagePK:220469~theSitePK:228717,00.html>).

2. Improving World Bank Civil Society Engagement (April 2005):

(<http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/TOPICS/CSO/0,,contentMDK:20413156~pagePK:220503~piPK:220476~theSitePK:228717,00.html>).

3. *Civil Society Engagement Newsletter*:

(<http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/TOPICS/CSO/0,,contentMDK:20110693~pagePK:220503~piPK:220476~theSitePK:228717,00.html>).

4. Resources for Mobilizing Funding for Development:

(www.gysd.net/involve/resources.pdf).

5. *Consultant Guidelines*:

(<http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTPROCUREMENT/Resources/Consultant-May-2004.pdf>).

WORLD BANK (continued)

6. *Procurement Guidelines:*

(<http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTPROCUREMENT/Resources/Procurement-May-2004.pdf>).

7. Private Sector Development: (<http://rru.worldbank.org>).

8. International Finance Corporation: (www.ifc.org) and for IFC Criteria:

(<http://www2.ifc.org/proserv/apply/application/application.html>).

9. World Bank and Indigenous Peoples:

(<http://lnweb18.worldbank.org/ESSD/sdvext.nsf/63ByDocName/IndigenousPeoples>).

10. World Bank and Parliamentarians:

(<http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/EXTABOUTUS/PARTNERS/EXTPARLIAMENTARIANS/0,,menuPK:64165869~pagePK:64165874~piPK:64165885~theSitePK:464534,00.html>).

**UN TREATY BODIES:
RIO CONVENTIONS**

Samples of UN-Treaty Bodies:

The Rio Conventions

The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (UNCBD) and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), also known as the Rio Conventions, were one of the key outcomes of the 1992 Earth Summit. These Treaty-bodies provide a framework to assist countries in implementing Agenda 21 and the Rio principles, and highlight the role that non-governmental actors would play in that process. While each instrument does stand on its own, with its own defined objectives and commitments, there are also linkages and inherent relationships between all of them.

SECRETARIAT OF THE UN FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE (UNFCCC)

I. Core Areas

The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) was opened for signature at the UN Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil) on 4 June 1992, and came into force on 21 March 1994. The Convention sets the framework for intergovernmental efforts to tackle the challenge posed by climate change. It recognizes that the climate system is a shared resource whose stability can be affected by industrial and other emissions of carbon dioxide and other heat-trapping gases. Under the Convention, governments gather and share information on greenhouse gas emissions, national policies and best practices, launch national strategies for addressing greenhouse emissions, and cooperate in preparing for adaptation to the impacts of climate change. Today 189 countries are Parties to the Convention.

Governments took a further step in this area five years later, on 11 December 1997, in adopting the landmark Kyoto Protocol. The Protocol built on the Framework Convention, and broke new ground with its legally binding constraints on greenhouse gas emissions and innovative mechanisms aimed at cutting the cost of curbing emissions. The Kyoto Protocol entered into force on 16 February 2005. As of 29 April 2005, 150 States and regional economic integration organizations have deposited instruments of ratification, accession, approval or acceptance.

II. Engagement with External Actors

Article 7, paragraph 6, of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, is the basis of engagement with non-governmental actors. The Article indicates that *“any body or agency, whether national or international, governmental or non-governmental, which is qualified in matters covered by the Convention, and which has informed the Secretariat of its wish to be represented at a session of the Conference of the Parties as an observer, may be so admitted unless at least one*

UNFCCC (continued)

third of the Parties present object. The admission and participation of observers shall be subject to the rules of procedure adopted by the Conference of Parties.”

Non-governmental organizations are formally admitted by the Conference of the Parties after the successful completion of the admission process. Admission to the UNFCCC is open-ended.

The Convention’s Article 6 provides Parties with additional direction to engagement with external actors at the national level through provision of education, training and public awareness needed to understand and deal with climate change. As a key element in the implementation of the Convention it is particularly relevant to civil society in terms of information and outreach activities.

UNFCCC, as an instrument that emerged from the Rio Summit, has an approach similar to that of the Commission on Sustainable Development, in terms of engagement with non-governmental actors. Rather than CSD’s “major groups” concept, a “constituency” system, or loose groupings made up of similar interest organizations, has evolved.

Observer organizations decide which constituency is appropriate to assist them in their participation. The constituencies include the following categories: business and industry NGOs (BINGO), environmental NGOs (ENGO), local government and municipal authorities (LGMA), indigenous people’s organizations (IPO), and research and independent NGOs (RINGO). Each constituency has focal points to facilitate interaction and cooperation with the Secretariat. The constituency groups also serve as self-selecting nodes to assist balanced representation for participation in workshops or other limited access meetings. Although these constituencies are very broad in their membership, some organizations such as faith groups, trade unions and parliamentarians remain outside these groupings. UNFCCC has developed a “code of conduct” for non-governmental observers. The code provides general guidelines on etiquette, safety and participation in meetings. The Secretariat is not an implementing organization and has no projects where partnerships could occur. Side events and exhibits play an important role in the interaction between Parties to the Convention and the observer community during meetings of the Convention bodies.

UNFCCC (continued)

III. Organizational Resources

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IV. Information Resources

b UNFCCC main website: (<http://unfccc.int/2860.php>).

b Convention documentation website:

(<http://unfccc.int/documentation/items/2643.php>).

b Information for NGOs:

(http://unfccc.int/parties_and_observers/ngo/items/2370.php).

b Convention Text:

(http://unfccc.int/essential_background/convention/background/items/2853.php).

b Protocol Text:

(http://unfccc.int/essential_background/kyoto_protocol/background/items/1351.php).

b *Guidelines for the participation of representatives of non-governmental organizations at meetings of the bodies of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change:*

(http://unfccc.int/files/parties_and_observers/ngo/application/pdf/coc_guide.pdf).

SECRETARIAT OF THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION (UNCCD)

I. Core Areas

The United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) was adopted on 17 June 1994, and opened for signature on 14 October 1994. It entered into force on 26 December 1996. Today 191 countries are Parties to the Convention. The Convention was drafted by an Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee, created by the UN General Assembly in response to the request made by the UN Conference on Environment and Development (Rio de Janeiro, 1992) to that effect. UNCCD is led by an Executive Director, Mr. Arba Diallo.

The Secretariat of UNCCD services the Conference of the Parties (COP)—the Convention’s governing body and meetings of its subsidiary bodies such as the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention (CRIC) and the Committee on Science and Technology (CST). Since 2001, COP sessions are held biennially, while the CRIC is held annually. A key implementation instrument of the UNCCD is the National Action Programmes (NAP), developed using a participatory (bottom-up) approach involving local communities to create practical steps and measures to be taken to combat desertification in specific ecosystems.

II. Engagement with External Actors

The UNCCD Secretariat maintains contacts with a range of non-governmental actors as well as parliamentarians who participate in the regular meetings of the COP and its subsidiary bodies and who are also engaged in national and regional implementation efforts.

Article 22, paragraph 7 of the UNCCD provides the framework for engagement with non-governmental actors: *“United Nations, its specialized agencies and any State member thereof or observers thereto not Party to the Convention may be represented at sessions of the Conference of the Parties as observers. Any body or agency, whether national or international, governmental or non-governmental,*

UNCCD (continued)

which is qualified in matters covered by the Convention, and which has informed the Permanent Secretariat of its wish to be represented at a session of the Conference of the parties as an observer, may be so admitted unless at least one third of the Parties present object.” This framework is operationalized in Articles 6 and 7 of the Rules of Procedure (ICCD/COP(1)/11/Add.1).

Civil Society

The Convention promotes participation of non-governmental actors in efforts to advance implementation at all levels including through partnerships. It particularly emphasizes the importance of the important role women and youth play in this process. NGOs are seen as key cooperating partners, serving as an important interface with the marginalized populations and communities most threatened by desertification. The NGO community is therefore seen as an integral part of the official programme of work of the Conference of Parties.

There are currently 728 NGOs accredited with UNCCD. This group of organizations consists of NGOs, foundations, research institutes, grassroots organizations and trade unions.

Prior to the COP sessions, a two-day NGO preparatory meeting is organized to further discuss the NGO position during the Conference and prepare joint statements to be delivered. Furthermore, the COP has decided to include in each sessions of its plenary two half-day Open Dialogue Sessions organized by NGOs and devoted to direct, interactive dialogue with the Parties to the Convention. During the COP meetings, participating NGOs prepare the ECO Bulletin, organize side events and exhibitions, and hold daily contact and coordination meetings.

Building upon the experience acquired in previous reporting exercises in 2004, the Convention Secretariat has asked NGOs to contribute to the national reports to be submitted to the CRIC, encouraging them to contact their Government Focal Points for the Convention, and to make their contributions directly to their national CCD Focal Points.

The UNCCD Secretariat maintains a listserv for accredited NGOs. The listserv disseminates information and facilitates open debate on the implementation of the

UNCCD (continued)

Convention. NGOs also have created an active network—International NGO Network on Desertification or RIOD—which has regional and sub-regional focal points throughout the world and helps coordinate the non-governmental activities around the Convention process.

Parliamentarians

During each COP session, the UNCCD Secretariat—in cooperation with the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) and the country hosting the session—organizes Round Tables with Parliamentarians. The first of these took place in 1998 in Dakar (Senegal). They have since become a platform for an exchange of views and interaction between parliamentarians on desertification, in particular, and sustainable development, in general.

The roundtables normally produce a declaration adopted by the participating parliamentarians; the resulting document is integrated in the final report of the COP. The declaration commits members of parliaments to undertake concrete actions aimed at enhancing measures and strategies against desertification and for sustainable development. As a result of the Parliamentary Declaration of 2003, a Parliamentary Network for UNCCD (PNoUNCCD) was created to exchange information, facilitate interaction among parliamentarians and increase parliamentary involvement in combating desertification, soil erosion and land degradation.

III. Organizational Resources

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UNCCD (continued)

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IV. Information Resources

b UNCCD website: (www.unccd.int).

b National Action Programmes: (www.unccd.int/actionprogrammes/menu.php).

SECRETARIAT OF THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

I. Core Areas

The Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), which entered into force in December 1993, has three objectives: (i) the conservation of biological diversity; (ii) the sustainable use of its components; and (iii) the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources.

The Convention provides for a Conference of the Parties (COP), a Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) and a Secretariat. Four open-ended working groups have been established by the Conference of the Parties: the Working Group on the Implementation of Article 8 (j) and Related Provisions; the Ad Hoc Open-Ended Working Group on Access and Benefit Sharing; the Working Group on Review of Implementation of the Convention; and the Working Group on Protected Areas. The Secretariat services the COP and its subsidiary bodies, performs functions assigned to it by the COP relating to the implementation of decisions and coordinates with other international bodies and processes. As of January 2006, Mr. Ahmed Djoghlafl replaces Mr. Hamdallah Zedan as the Executive Director of the CBD.

The COP has initiated work on seven thematic work programmes: addressing marine and coastal biodiversity; island biodiversity; the biodiversity of inland waters; agricultural biodiversity; forest biodiversity; dry and sub-humid lands; and mountain biodiversity. Work has also been undertaken on the following cross-cutting issues: public education and awareness; access to genetic resources and benefit-sharing; traditional knowledge; biological diversity and tourism; incentive measures; liability and redress; sustainable use of biodiversity; technology transfer and cooperation; climate change and biological diversity; alien species; ecosystem approach; the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation; the 2010 biodiversity target; and the Global Taxonomy Initiative.

The Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, another feature of the CBD, entered into force in 2003. The Protocol sets out a comprehensive regulatory system for

UNCBD (continued)

ensuring the safe transfer, handling and use of living modified organisms (LMOs), with a specific focus on regulating movements of these organisms across national borders. The Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol (COP-MOP), is the governing body of the Protocol. Its primary role is to review as well as to promote implementation of the Protocol.

II. Engagement with External Actors

The practice of the Convention and of its Cartagena Protocol is that stakeholders (including international organizations, NGOs, indigenous and local community representatives and the private sector) are allowed to participate in the work of the Conference of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies, as well as in the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol (COP-MOP). The rules of procedure of the Conference of the Parties provide that stakeholders qualified in the fields relating to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity may be represented as observers unless at least one-third of the Parties present at the meeting object. Furthermore, they may participate in the proceedings without the right to vote. In order to be able to participate they must register with the Secretariat.

Stakeholders are also allowed to participate in the aforementioned Working Groups as observers. They enjoy full participation in the discussions in expert groups, liaison groups and informal advisory committees. In the Working Group on traditional knowledge, representatives of indigenous and local communities have enjoyed full participation, including in the conduct of the meetings and in decision making.

A number of decisions and activities under the Convention require that Parties interact with stakeholders, including, in particular, indigenous and local communities.

Besides NGOs, indigenous peoples and local communities, there are other constituencies that are engaged in some of the activities of the CBD. The private sector is active in a number of areas, including, but not restricted to, access to genetic resources and benefit-sharing.

UNCBD (continued)

Furthermore, in the implementation of decisions of the COP and SBSTTA, stakeholders are allowed to participate fully in the work of the many experts, technical and liaison groups that have been established.

The other way civil society can participate in the work of the Convention is through electronic communication tools (discussion fora, listservs, and feedback forms). Forums are established whenever needed on specific topics. The electronic forum on Task Forces on indicators for assessing progress towards and communicating the 2010 biodiversity target is an example of this.

III. Organizational Resources

Stakeholders qualified in the fields relating to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity wishing to participate in any of the meetings within the framework of the Convention on Biological Diversity should contact the Secretariat.

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IV. Information Resources

- b `Convention on Biological Diversity: (www.biodiv.org).
- b `Convention on Biological Diversity meeting page: (www.biodiv.org/meetings).
- b `Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety: (www.biodiv.org/biosafety/default2.aspx).
- b `Biosafety Clearing-House Central Portal: (<http://bch.biodiv.org>).
- b `Discussion Forums: (www.biodiv.org/forums.shtml).

**UNITED NATIONS
NON-GOVERNMENTAL
LIAISON SERVICE**

UNITED NATIONS NON-GOVERNMENTAL LIAISON SERVICE (NGLS)

NGLS Mission Statement:

“The Non-Governmental Liaison Service (NGLS) promotes dynamic partnerships between the United Nations and non-governmental organizations. By providing information, advice, expertise and support services, UN-NGLS is part of the UN’s effort to strengthen dialogue and win public support for economic and social development.”

2005 marks NGLS’s 30th anniversary. During its three decades as part of the UN system’s machinery for engaging with NGOs and Civil Society, NGLS has played a pioneering role on the UN system-civil society interface, facilitating a number of innovations to UN system policies and practices towards its non-governmental constituencies. With its unique mandate and institutional set-up as an inter-agency UN programme, NGLS has been involved in UN-NGO engagement across the entire UN system, providing NGLS with valuable experience, perspectives and knowledge which it uses in turn to inform and advise the UN system and NGOs. In 1982 the UN General Assembly recognized and endorsed the role and work of NGLS for the first time.

Over the decade of the 1990s, NGLS played an active role in support of the NGO dimension of the series of UN World Conferences through information and communication outreach work, facilitating the participation of NGOs in general, and funding the participation of developing country NGOs in the conference processes and their follow-up. NGLS worked closely with conference secretariats, supporting and complementing their own efforts and capacity. In addition, NGLS continued to develop its information outreach to NGOs and the international community, and to provide support in the form of advice, guidance and strategic information to its sponsoring UN agencies with regard to developing and strengthening their own relations with NGOs. Following the 1992 Rio Conference, the UN General Assembly, in 1993, again recognized the value of NGLS’s work. In 1998, an Independent Strategic

NGLS (continued)

Review involving hundreds of UN staff and NGOs concluded that NGLS should be better funded to do more of the work it was doing.

Core Activities and Services of NGLS

- b 'Information and Communication Outreach to the international community and to global civil society.
- b 'Supporting the UN system in developing productive relationships and partnerships with NGOs and civil society.
- b 'Supporting the work of NGOs/civil society that seek to constructively engage with the UN system.

Since 2000, NGLS has accelerated its pace in providing services for both the UN system and its civil society constituents by providing substantial input to all of the major UN events involving NGOs and civil society organizations. During these processes NGLS has organized and conducted briefing and orientation sessions and workshops. On numerous occasions, NGLS has co-hosted NGO consultations with a number of UN agencies, programmes and funds to raise awareness around substantive themes under discussion, and to provide an exchange of views. NGLS often produces reports of these meetings. For NGO newcomers, specific events are held, including regular briefings on intergovernmental preparations at the global level and where NGOs fit in such a process. NGLS continues to support the work of the conference secretariats in a number of planning and logistical tasks, and facilitates accreditation and problems related to visas. NGLS often liaises with NGO networks in preparation for parallel NGO forums.

NGLS provided considerable support of all kinds to the Secretary-General's Panel of Eminent Persons on United Nations–Civil Society Relations from 2003–2004, including arranging and chairing meetings between Panel members and/or Secretariat staff, and NGOs, providing inputs into the Panel's work, and executing considerable outreach work (including the dissemination of a hard

NGLS (continued)

copy questionnaire to 7,000 NGOs). Following the June 2004 release of the Panel's report, *We the Peoples: Civil Society, the United Nations and Global Governance*, NGLS organized and co-organized three consultations on issues arising in follow-up to the report and closely monitored the GA discussions in October 2004 on follow-up to the Panel's recommendations. On an informal basis, NGLS has been widely solicited by both governments and NGOs to provide its views, advice and guidance on follow-up to the report. Paragraphs 152 and 153 of the report positively recognize and endorse the unique role and work of NGLS.

NGLS has been active in other processes, including the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) Campaign(s) and the Millennium Summit+5 process, and has produced regular in-depth articles and other information products on the MDGs and maintains a leading MDG portal on its website.

NGLS played a key role during the lead-up to the Millennium+5 Summit, more formally known as the 2005 UN World Summit, particularly with regard to support and facilitation of the unprecedented informal interactive Hearings of the General Assembly with representatives of NGOs, CSOs and the private sector held from 23-24 June 2005 in New York. NGLS worked with the General Assembly President's Civil Society and Private Sector Task Force to put forth recommendations on the format, criteria and modalities for these Hearings and provided facilitation services.

NGLS provided NGOs with the opportunity to comment on the Secretary-General's report, *In Larger Freedom* (A/50/2005), which provided the themes for discussion at the Hearings and the subsequent World Summit, and compiled a report of NGO commentaries and made it available at the Hearings. NGLS also created a websection on the Hearings and made available all of the NGO comments. A second websection was created in advance of the Summit (held from 14-16 September 2005) to collect and make available NGO views, statements and documents relating to the Millennium+5 Summit.

Communications and information outreach remain core NGLS activities and

NGLS (continued)

NGLS has significantly expanded its work in this area. Work on the NGLS website has also quickened pace as new major sections to it have been created (MDGs, WSIS, UN Reform and the 2005 World Summit, also known as the Millennium Summit+5) and others are planned for the future.

NGLS's flagship bi-monthly newsletter, the *Go Between*, is disseminated to some 7,500 NGOs around the world and to over 1,000 staff of the UN system, governments and bilateral agencies. The *Roundup* series enables NGLS to report in more depth on issues and activities on the UN agenda.

Beginning in February 2004, NGLS began producing and disseminating a bi-monthly electronic news bulletin entitled the *Civil Society Observer*. The e-bulletin is a package of selected articles, reports and other documents and contains four sections: In the Press; Trends and Debates; CSOs and the Multilateral System; and CSO Research. It is sent to a listserv that has grown to over 10,000 names.

NGLS regularly produces a number of *Guides*, *Handbooks* and *Directories* on the UN system targeted to the NGO community and others wishing to constructively engage with the United Nations. In July 2005, NGLS produced, in its *Development Dossier* series, a publication entitled *Designing a Peacebuilding Infrastructure: Taking a Systems Approach to the Prevention of Deadly Conflict*. Work is almost complete on a *Development Dossier* on the organizational accountability of NGOs and the way it has been conceptualized and applied in various policy arenas. It also addresses the issue of NGO engagement in global governance.

UN System Engagement with NGOs, Civil Society, the Private Sector and Other Actors: A Compendium seeks to provide information on how the offices, agencies, programmes, funds and conventions of the UN system engage with a broad range of external actors.

Over the years, NGLS has often been invited to speak at or chair NGO events of different kinds based on its experience and expertise of the UN system, UN/Civil Society relations, and related issues.

NGLS (continued)

NGLS is an active member of several UN bodies such as the United Nations Communications Group (UNCG), and organizes an annual meeting of NGO Focal Points of international and regional intergovernmental organizations. NGLS also organizes regular meetings and briefings in Geneva involving UN sponsors, permanent missions and NGOs on a wide range of topics and is often called upon to provide advice and guidance to the Secretary-General's office, as was the case with the June 2005 informal Civil Society Hearings.

NGLS has a combined staff of 10 to 12 in its Geneva and New York offices and an annual budget of around US\$ 1 million.

UN-NGLS's work is financed on a voluntary basis by UN offices, agencies, programmes and funds, including UNCTAD, UN/DESA, FAO, IFAD, ILO, OHCHR, UNAIDS, UNHCR, UN-HABITAT, UNEP, UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA, UN/DPI, UNESCO, World Bank, WFP, and WHO.

NGLS publications are available on the NGLS website (www.un-ngls.org).

PART III

ANNEXES

Annex I

Excerpt from ECOSOC Resolution 1996/31 on Consultative relationship between the United Nations and non-governmental organizations

PART I:

PRINCIPLES TO BE APPLIED IN THE ESTABLISHMENT OF CONSULTATIVE RELATIONS

The following principles shall be applied in establishing consultative relations with non-governmental organizations:

1. The organization shall be concerned with matters falling within the competence of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies.
2. The aims and purposes of the organization shall be in conformity with the spirit, purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations.
3. The organization shall undertake to support the work of the United Nations and to promote knowledge of its principles and activities, in accordance with its own aims and purposes and the nature and scope of its competence and activities.
4. Except where expressly stated otherwise, the term “organization” shall refer to non-governmental organizations at the national, sub-regional, regional or international levels.
5. Consultative relationships may be established with international, regional, sub-regional and national organizations, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and the principles and criteria established under the present resolution. The Committee, in considering applications for consultative status, should ensure, to the extent possible, participation of non-governmental organizations from all regions,

and particularly from developing countries, in order to help achieve a just, balanced, effective and genuine involvement of non-governmental organizations from all regions and areas of the world. The Committee shall also pay particular attention to non-governmental organizations that have special expertise or experience upon which the Council may wish to draw.

6. Greater participation of non-governmental organizations from developing countries in international conferences convened by the United Nations should be encouraged.

7. Greater involvement of non-governmental organizations from countries with economies in transition should be encouraged.

8. Regional, sub-regional and national organizations, including those affiliated to an international organization already in status, may be admitted provided that they can demonstrate that their programme of work is of direct relevance to the aims and purposes of the United Nations and, in the case of national organizations, after consultation with the Member State concerned. The views expressed by the Member State, if any, shall be communicated to the non-governmental organization concerned, which shall have the opportunity to respond to those views through the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations.

9. The organization shall be of recognized standing within the particular field of its competence or of a representative character. Where there exist a number of organizations with similar objectives, interests and basic views in a given field, they may, for the purposes of consultation with the Council, form a joint committee or other body authorized to carry on such consultation for the group as a whole.

10. The organization shall have an established headquarters, with an executive officer. It shall have a democratically adopted constitution, a copy of which shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations, and which shall provide for the determination of policy by a conference, congress or other representative body, and for an executive organ responsible to the policy-making body.

11. The organization shall have authority to speak for its members through its authorized representatives. Evidence of this authority shall be presented, if requested.

12. The organization shall have a representative structure and possess appropriate mechanisms of accountability to its members, who shall exercise effective control over its policies and actions through the exercise of voting rights or other appropriate democratic and transparent decision-making processes. Any such organization that is not established by a governmental entity or intergovernmental

agreement shall be considered a non-governmental organization for the purpose of these arrangements, including organizations that accept members designated by governmental authorities, provided that such membership does not interfere with the free expression of views of the organization.

13. The basic resources of the organization shall be derived in the main part from contributions of the national affiliates or other components or from individual members. Where voluntary contributions have been received, their amounts and donors shall be faithfully revealed to the Council Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations. Where, however, the above criterion is not fulfilled and an organization is financed from other sources, it must explain to the satisfaction of the Committee its reasons for not meeting the requirements laid down in this paragraph. Any financial contribution or other support, direct or indirect, from a Government to the organization shall be openly declared to the Committee through the Secretary-General and fully recorded in the financial and other records of the organization and shall be devoted to purposes in accordance with the aims of the United Nations.

14. In considering the establishment of consultative relations with a non-governmental organization, the Council will take into account whether the field of activity of the organization is wholly or mainly within the field of a specialized agency, and whether or not it could be admitted when it has, or may have, a consultative arrangement with a specialized agency.

15. The granting, suspension and withdrawal of consultative status, as well as the interpretation of norms and decisions relating to this matter, are the prerogative of Member States exercised through the Economic and Social Council and its Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations. A non-governmental organization applying for general or special consultative status or a listing on the Roster shall have the opportunity to respond to any objections being raised in the Committee before the Committee takes its decision.

16. The provisions of the present resolution shall apply to the United Nations regional commissions and their subsidiary bodies *mutatis mutandis*.

17. In recognizing the evolving relationship between the United Nations and non-governmental organizations, the Economic and Social Council, in consultation with the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations, will consider reviewing the consultative arrangements as and when necessary to facilitate, in the most effective manner possible, the contributions of non-governmental organizations to the work of the United Nations.

Part II:

PRINCIPLES GOVERNING THE NATURE OF THE CONSULTATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

18. A clear distinction is drawn in the Charter of the United Nations between participation without vote in the deliberations of the Council and the arrangements for consultation. Under Articles 69 and 70, participation is provided for only in the case of States not members of the Council, and of specialized agencies. Article 71, applying to non-governmental organizations, provides for suitable arrangements for consultation. This distinction, deliberately made in the Charter, is fundamental and the arrangements for consultation should not be such as to accord to non-governmental organizations the same rights of participation as are accorded to States not members of the Council and to the specialized agencies brought into relationship with the United Nations.

19. The arrangements should not be such as to overburden the Council or transform it from a body for coordination of policy and action, as contemplated in the Charter, into a general forum for discussion.

20. Decisions on arrangements for consultation should be guided by the principle that consultative arrangements are to be made, on the one hand, for the purpose of enabling the Council or one of its bodies to secure expert information or advice from organizations having special competence in the subjects for which consultative arrangements are made, and, on the other hand, to enable international, regional, subregional and national organizations that represent important elements of public opinion to express their views. Therefore, the arrangements for consultation made with each organization should relate to the subjects for which that organization has a special competence or in which it has a special interest. The organizations given consultative status should be limited to those whose activities in fields set out in paragraph 1 above qualify them to make a significant contribution to the work of the Council and should, in sum, as far as possible reflect in a balanced way the major viewpoints or interests in these fields in all areas and regions of the world.

Part III:

ESTABLISHMENT OF CONSULTATIVE RELATIONSHIPS

21. In establishing consultative relationships with each organization, regard shall be had to the nature and scope of its activities and to the assistance it may be expected to give to the Council or its subsidiary bodies in carrying out the functions set out in Chapters IX and X of the Charter of the United Nations.

22. Organizations that are concerned with most of the activities of the Council and its subsidiary bodies and can demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Council that they have substantive and sustained contributions to make to the achievement of the objectives of the United Nations in fields set out in paragraph 1 above, and are closely involved with the economic and social life of the peoples of the areas they represent and whose membership, which should be considerable, is broadly representative of major segments of society in a large number of countries in different regions of the world shall be known as organizations in general consultative status.

23. Organizations that have a special competence in, and are concerned specifically with, only a few of the fields of activity covered by the Council and its subsidiary bodies, and that are known within the fields for which they have or seek consultative status shall be known as organizations in special consultative status.

24. Other organizations that do not have general or special consultative status but that the Council, or the Secretary-General of the United Nations in consultation with the Council or its Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations, considers can make occasional and useful contributions to the work of the Council or its subsidiary bodies or other United Nations bodies within their competence shall be included in a list (to be known as the Roster). This list may also include organizations in consultative status or a similar relationship with a specialized agency or a United Nations body. These organizations shall be available for consultation at the request of the Council or its subsidiary bodies. The fact that an organization is on the Roster shall not in itself be regarded as a qualification for general or special consultative status should an organization seek such status.

25. Organizations to be accorded special consultative status because of their interest in the field of human rights should pursue the goals of promotion and protection of human rights in accordance with the spirit of the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action.

26. Major organizations one of whose primary purposes is to promote the aims, objectives and purposes of the United Nations and a furtherance of the understanding of its work may be accorded consultative status.

Part IV:

SUSPENSION AND WITHDRAWAL OF CONSULTATIVE STATUS

55. Organizations granted consultative status by the Council and those on the Roster shall conform at all times to the principles governing the establishment and nature of

their consultative relations with the Council. In periodically reviewing the activities of non-governmental organizations on the basis of the reports submitted under paragraph 61 (c) below and other relevant information, the Council Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations shall determine the extent to which the organizations have complied with the principles governing consultative status and have contributed to the work of the Council, and may recommend to the Council suspension of or exclusion from consultative status of organizations that have not met the requirements for consultative status as set forth in the present resolution.

56. In cases where the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations has decided to recommend that the general or special consultative status of a non-governmental organization or its listing on the Roster be suspended or withdrawn, the non-governmental organization concerned shall be given written reasons for that decision and shall have an opportunity to present its response for appropriate consideration by the Committee as expeditiously as possible.

57. The consultative status of non-governmental organizations with the Economic and Social Council and the listing of those on the Roster shall be suspended up to three years or withdrawn in the following cases:

(a) If an organization, either directly or through its affiliates or representatives acting on its behalf, clearly abuses its status by engaging in a pattern of acts contrary to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations including unsubstantiated or politically motivated acts against Member States of the United Nations incompatible with those purposes and principles;

(b) If there exists substantiated evidence of influence from proceeds resulting from internationally recognized criminal activities such as the illicit drugs trade, money-laundering or the illegal arms trade;

(c) If, within the preceding three years, an organization did not make any positive or effective contribution to the work of the United Nations and, in particular, of the Council or its commissions or other subsidiary organs.

58. The consultative status of organizations in general consultative status and special consultative status and the listing of those on the Roster shall be suspended or withdrawn by the decision of the Economic and Social Council on the recommendation of its Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations.

59. An organization whose consultative status or whose listing on the Roster is withdrawn may be entitled to reapply for consultative status or for inclusion on the Roster not sooner than three years after the effective date of such withdrawal.

(See www.un.org/documents/ecosoc/res/1996/eres1996-31.htm for full text.)

Annex II

Description of the DPI Accreditation Process and Criteria

NGOs that are committed and have the means to conduct effective information programmes with their constituents and to a broader audience about UN activities may apply for association with DPI.

- b The NGO must support and respect the principles of the UN Charter and have a clear mission statement that is consistent with those principles;
- b The NGO must be recognized nationally or internationally;
- b The NGO should operate solely on a non-for-profit basis and have tax-exempt status;
- b The NGO must have the commitment and the means to conduct effective information programmes, with its constituents and to a broader audience (about UN activities);
- b The NGO should have an established record of continuity of work for a minimum of three years and should show promise of sustained activity in the future;
- b The NGO should have a satisfactory record of collaboration with UN Information Centres/Services or other parts of the UN system prior to association;
- b The NGO should provide an audited annual financial statement, conducted by a qualified, independent accountant;
- b The NGO should have statutes/by-laws providing for a transparent process of making decisions, elections of officers and members of the Board of Directors.

Associated NGOs are expected to devote a portion of their information programmes to promoting knowledge of the principles and activities of the UN. In addition, an evaluation and review process was in place in 2002 wherein NGOs associated with DPI are expected to keep the DPI/NGO Section abreast of their activities by providing a short summary of their UN-related activities and samples of their information materials every four years relating to the work of the UN. The information materials are also made available for perusal at the DPI/NGO Resource Centre.

Annex III

Guidelines on Cooperation between the United Nations and the Business Community

Irrespective of the situation-specific nature of cooperative arrangements, they should be guided by the following general principles:

b ` Advance UN goals: The objective needs to be articulated clearly and must advance UN goals as laid out in the Charter.

b ` Clear delineation of responsibilities and roles: The arrangement must be based on a clear understanding of respective roles and expectations, with accountability and a clear division of responsibilities.

b ` Maintain integrity and independence: Arrangements should not diminish the UN's integrity, independence and impartiality.

b ` No unfair advantage: Every member of the business community should have the opportunity to propose cooperative arrangements, within the parameters of these guidelines. Cooperation should not imply endorsement or preference of a particular business entity or its products or services.

b ` Transparency: Cooperation with the business community sector must be transparent. Information on the nature and scope of cooperative arrangements should be available within the Organization and to the public at large.

Modalities for entering into partnerships with the business community, which are distinct from procurement activities, require flexibility in order to reflect the particular purposes and objectives of the partnerships.

b ` Direct contribution by the business partner: The modality for direct contribution for specific purposes would be made under a trust fund or special account agreement with the partner. The agreement would be subject to the applicable Financial Regulations and Rules, i.e., the purposes of the

contribution would have to be consistent with the policies, aims and activities of the UN and that generally, the contribution would not entail any financial liabilities to the UN.

b `Indirect contribution by the business partner through the establishment of a charitable organization or foundation: Under this modality, a relationship agreement would be established between the UN and the charitable organization or foundation, laying out the terms of the relationship, including the issues related to the use of the name and emblem, liability, settlement of disputes and the privileges and immunities of the UN.

b `Partnership in technical assistance projects: This modality would involve either two direct bilateral agreements with the business partner and with the government of the country in which the assistance would be carried out, or a tripartite agreement among the business partner, the UN and the government.

b `Partnership in promoting the purposes and activities of the UN: This modality, whereby the business partner provides a forum to disseminate information about the UN, would involve direct agreements with the business partner, setting out the terms and conditions of the arrangement, including the UN's control of the information to be disseminated, the issues related to the use of the name and emblem, liability, settlement of disputes and the privileges and immunities of the UN.

b `Partnership in cooperative projects: This modality, whereby the UN and a business partner jointly develop a product or service, consistent with and in furtherance of the aims, policies and activities of the UN, would involve agreements with the business partner, setting out the terms and conditions of the arrangement, including the contributions each party could make to the development of the product service, the use of the name and emblem, liability, settlement of disputes and the privileges and immunities of the UN.

More information is available online: (www.un.org/partners/business).

ACRONYMS

AU	African Union
BWI	Bretton Woods Institutions
CAP	Consolidated Appeal Process
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CBO	Community Based Organization
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
CGIAR	Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research
CHAP	Common Humanitarian Action Plan
COP	Conference of Parties
CPD	Commission on Population and Development
CSD	Commission on Sustainable Development
CSO	Civil Society Organization
CSR	Corporate Social Responsibility
CSW	Commission on the Status of Women
DAW	Division for the Advancement of Women
DDA	Department for Disarmament Affairs
DDR	Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration
DDRR	Disarmament, Demobilization, Repatriation and Reintegration
DESA	Department of Economic and Social Affairs
DESC	Division for ECOSOC Support and Coordination
DPA	Department of Political Affairs
DPI	Department of Public Information
DPKO	Department of Peacekeeping Operations
DSD	Division for Sustainable Development
DSPD	Division for Social Policy and Development
ECOSOC	Economic and Social Council
ERC	Emergency Relief Coordinator
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FDI	Foreign Direct Investment
FFD	Financing for Development
GA	General Assembly
GCSF	Global Civil Society Forum
GEF	Global Environment Facility

ACRONYMS (continued)

GEN	Geneva Environment Network
GFAR	Global Forum on Agricultural Research
GRI	Global Reporting Initiative
GSB	Growing Sustainable Business Initiative
HIPC	Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative
HURIST	Human Rights Strengthening Programme
IASC	Inter-Agency Standing Committee
ICFTU	International Confederation of Free Trade Unions
ICPD	International Conference on Population and Development
ICT	Information Communication Technology
ICVA	International Council of Voluntary Agencies
IDP	Internally Displaced Person
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IFC	International Finance Corporation
IFI	International Financial Institution
IGO	Inter-governmental Organization
IIA	International Investment Agreement
ILO	International Labour Organization
IMF	International Monetary Fund
IP	Intellectual Property
IPO	Indigenous Peoples Organization
IPU	Inter-Parliamentary Union
ITU	International Telecommunication Union
LDC	Least Developed Country
LIFE	Local Initiative for Urban Life
LINKS	Local and Indigenous Knowledge System Project
MCDA	Military and Civil Defense Assets
MCDU	Military and Civil Defense Unit
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
MERCOSUR	Mercado Común del Cono Sur
MFI	Microfinance Institution
MIGA	Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency
MIX	Microfinance Information eXchange
MP	Member of Parliament
MSME	Micro-, Small- and Medium-Sized Enterprise
MSSE	Micro- and Small-Scale Enterprise

ACRONYMS (continued)

NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Organisation
NEPAD	New Partnership for Africa's Development
NGLS	Non-Governmental Liaison Service of the United Nations
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NI	National Institution
OCHA	Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
ODA	Official Development Assistance
OHCHR	Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
OSAA	Office of the Special Advisor for Africa
OSCE	Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
PPPUE	Public Private Partnership for the Urban Environment
PRAIA	Regional Programme in Support of Indigenous Peoples in the Amazon Basin
PREPAO	West Africa Regional Programme
PRSPs	Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers
SCHR	Steering Committee for Humanitarian Response
SMEs	Small- and Medium-sized Enterprises
SPFS	Special Programme for Food Security
TCE	Traditional Cultural Expression
TK	Traditional Knowledge
TNCs	Transnational Corporations
UNACLA	United Nations Advisory Committee of Local Authorities
UCLG	United Cities and Local Government
UNAIDS	Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
UNCCD	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
UNCED	United Nations Conference on Environment and Development
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNEP-DTIE	UNEP Division of Technology, Industry, and Economics
UNEP-FI	UNEP Finance Initiative
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNF	United Nations Foundation
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNFF	United Nations Forum on Forests
UNFIP	United Nations Fund for International Partnerships
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund

ACRONYMS (continued)

UNGM	United Nations Global Marketplace
UNHRP	United Nations Housing Rights Programme
UNICEF	United Nations Children’s Fund
UNICs	United Nations Information Centres
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
UNIFEM	United Nations Development Fund for Women
UN-HABITAT	United Nations Human Settlements Programme
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UNPFII	United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues
UNTFHS	United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security
WCL	World Confederation of Labour
WFP	World Food Programme
WHO	World Health Organization
WIPO	World Intellectual Property Organization
WMO	World Meteorological Organization
WSIS	World Summit on the Information Society
WSSD	World Summit on Sustainable Development
WTO	World Trade Organization

The United Nations Non-Governmental Liaison Service (NGLS) is an inter-agency programme of the UN system that facilitates dialogue and fosters cooperation between the UN system and the NGO community worldwide on global development issues. NGLS has offices in Geneva and New York.

The work of NGLS is currently supported by:

- b United Nations Department for Economic and Social Affairs (UN/DESA)
- b United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)
- b Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
- b International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)
- b International Labour Office (ILO)
- b Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)
- b Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
- b United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT)
- b United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
- b United Nations Department of Public Information (UN/DPI)
- b United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- b United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
- b United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
- b United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
- b World Bank
- b World Food Programme (WFP)
- b World Health Organization (WHO)

NGLS also receives financial support for specific activities from Governments, which latterly include Canada, Germany and Switzerland.

For further information on NGLS's activities, please contact:

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- b Website (<www.un-npls.org>)

UNITED NATIONS NON-GOVERNMENTAL LIAISON SERVICE (NGLS)

The United Nations Non-Governmental Liaison Service (NGLS), established in 1975, is a jointly-financed interagency programme of the UN system. NGLS programme activities deal with the full UN sustainable development, human rights and humanitarian agendas and operate across the entire UN system of agencies, programmes, funds and departments concerned with these issues. NGLS works with national and regional NGOs from developing and industrialized countries and international NGOs.

The information produced by NGLS both in published form and electronically combines public information on UN and NGO events and issues, practical “how to” guides to the UN system for NGOs, and substantive analysis of issues on the international agenda. NGLS’s publications (electronic and print) are distributed to almost 10,000 NGOs worldwide, around 50% based in developing countries, and to over 1,000 development professionals in the UN system, governments and bilateral agencies. All NGLS’s publications are also available on its website (www.un-ngls.org). As part of its outreach activities, NGLS also disseminates information on a range of activities on the UN agenda to NGO electronic mail networks and listservs. NGLS also provides advice, guidance and support to the organizations of the UN system as they seek to develop constructive working relationships with the non-governmental community.



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