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PREPARATORY COMMITTEE FOR THE
UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE
ON THE HUMAN ENVIRONMENT
Fourth session
New York, 6-10 March 1972

REPORT OF THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE C.
ITS FOURTH SESSION

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1. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

A. Opening of the session

1. The fourth session of the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment was opened by its Chairman, Keith Johnson (Jamaica), at United Nations Headquarters on 6 March 1972. The Chairman of the Committee and the Secretary-General of the Conference made opening statements on that occasion, in which they reviewed the progress of work since the previous session of the Preparatory Committee. 1/

B. Officers

2. The officers of the Committee, re-elected at its second session on the understanding that they would continue in office until the time of the Conference, were:

Chairman: Keith Johnson (Jamaica)

Vice-Chairmen: Fereydoun Hoveyda (Iran)

Ratislav Lacko (Czechoslovakia)

Vernon Johnson Mwaanga (Zambia)

Rapporteur: Ove F. Heyman (Sweden)

C. Adoption of the agenda

3. The provisional agenda for the fourth session (A/CONF/48.PC/14), was approved by the Preparatory Committee. The agenda, as adopted, is contained in annex I to the present report.

D. Organization of work

4. The Preparatory Committee agreed that it would endeavour to complete the work of its fourth session by 10 March 1972, that is, one week earlier than originally scheduled.

E. Attendance

5. The following States members of the Preparatory Committee were represented at the fourth session: Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Egypt,

1/ The substance of the opening statements is reflected in the relevant sections of the present report.

France, Ghana, India, Iran, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Mexico, Netherlands, Nigeria, Singapore, Sweden, Togo, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Yugoslavia and Zambia.

6. The following States Members of the United Nations were represented by observers: Algeria, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Burundi, Cameroon, Ceylon, China, Colombia, Denmark, Ecuador, Fiji, Finland, Iceland, Indonesia, Israel, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Khmer Republic, Liberia, Malawi, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Turkey, Uruguay and Venezuela.

7. Representatives of the Secretary-General from the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, the Economic Commission for Latin America, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, and representatives of the following United Nations bodies, the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, took part in the session.

8. The following specialized agencies were represented: International Labour Organisation, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, International Civil Aviation Organization, World Health Organization, International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, World Meteorological Organization and Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization. The International Atomic Energy Agency and the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade were also represented as was the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission.

9. Observers from the following intergovernmental organizations attended the session: African Development Bank, European Economic Community, Inter-American Development Bank, Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development and Organization of American States.

10. Observers from the following non-governmental organizations were also in attendance: All-India Women's Conference, Eastern Regional Organization for Public Administration, Inter-American Planning Society, International Conference of Catholic Charities, International Co-operative Alliance, International Council of Jewish women, International Council of Scientific Unions, International Federation for Housing and Planning, International Federation of Business and Professional Women, International Federation of University Women, International Humanistic and Ethical Union, International Institute of Administrative Sciences, International Organization of Consumer's Unions, International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources, International Union of Local Authorities, Pan-Pacific and South-East Asia Women's Association, World Alliance of Young Men's Christian Associations, World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts, World Federation of United Nations Associations, World Society of Ekistics, and World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations. Observers from the International Youth Conference on the Human Environment also attended.

F. Adoption of the report and closure of the session

11. The Preparatory Committee adopted the present report at the eighth and ninth meetings of its fourth session on 10 March 1972.

12. The fourth session of the Preparatory Committee was declared closed by the Chairman at its ninth meeting.

II. PROGRESS ON CONTINUING ACTIVITIES

A. Exchange of information

13. The Preparatory Committee expressed its agreement with the work which the Conference secretariat had undertaken on the subject of exchange of information pursuant to the recommendations of the Committee at its third session. The Committee welcomed the secretariat's proposal for the establishment of a modest international referral service for the exchange of environmental information along the lines indicated in paragraphs 28 to 41 of the report of the Secretary-General to the Preparatory Committee at its fourth session (A/CONF.48/PC/15) and recommended that work should proceed along those lines. Members expressed the view that the proposal was a realistic one and that the results would be economical and productive. It was stated that the main function of the service would be to put users of information in touch with appropriate sources and that the service should not become an information-producing agency.

14. One representative said that the proposed referral service would constitute the apex of a structure which would comprise several substructures at the regional and national levels. He stated, however, that it was important that the various elements in the structure should not duplicate the activities of the international referral service.

15. Another representative suggested that one of the functions of the service would be to identify gaps in existing information systems and to propose ways of filling them. He further suggested that work on the organization of the referral service should begin immediately after the Conference on the basis of the recommendations on the subject which it was expected the Conference would adopt.

16. A number of representatives stressed the importance of the exchange of environmental information for developing countries. They pointed out that developing countries would need help in defining their requirements for such information before they could make good use of the service. They recommended therefore that due importance should be attached to the provision of assistance to developing countries in the formulation of requests for information and in the interpretation of information received, as provided for in the secretariat's proposal.

17. Some other representatives stated that there were still some technical questions to be resolved before the proposed referral service could be put into operation and that further work was therefore necessary. One of these representatives suggested that it might be desirable to convene a meeting of experts to settle such technical problems.

18. In reply to a question, the Secretary-General of the Conference informed the Committee that the Conference secretariat would continue its work on the proposals with a view to elaborating them to a stage at which they would be ready for implementation.

B. Possible draft conventions

19. In conjunction with the review of progress on the preparation of draft conventions on conservation and ocean dumping, a number of delegations expressed their views on the general question whether it would be appropriate for conventions to be presented for adoption by the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment. Some of the delegations expressed the view that it was not only desirable but also feasible that preparatory work on certain conventions be completed before the Conference so that they could be considered and adopted by it. Some other delegations expressed doubts in that respect; they felt that the adoption of conventions by the Conference was not essential to its success and indeed might endanger the consensus which it was hoped to achieve on all the substantive issues before the Conference. They believed that it would not be prudent to depart from the normal procedures for preparing conventions for the sole purpose of completing those preparations in time for the Conference.

Conservation

20. The representative of the Secretary-General of the Conference informed the Committee of the latest state of preparations of the draft conventions on conservation and referred to the information and suggestions contained in paragraphs 43 to 61 of the Secretary-General's report (A/CONF.48/PC/15). The representative of UNESCO also made a statement in that connexion confirming the common approach of UNESCO and the Conference secretariat.

21. With respect to work on a draft convention on the export, import and transit of certain species of wild animals and plants, the representative of the United States of America, in reply to a question, explained that his Government had been obliged to postpone the intergovernmental meeting which it had hoped to convene in April 1972 to review work on a draft convention and the various comments and alternative drafts which had been proposed. He stated that it was the intention of his Government to circulate soon a draft prepared by his Government on the basis of the draft prepared by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (A/CONF.48/PC/15, para. 46) for study by other interested Governments and to discuss it with them at a meeting which could be convened after the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment. He hoped, however, that the Conference would be able to endorse the principles underlying a draft convention. The observer for Kenya informed the Committee that his Government was elaborating a draft convention on the subject, which should be given careful consideration along with other draft proposals.

22. With regard to the Convention on Conservation of Wetlands of International Importance (A/CONF.48/PC/15, para. 45), the Committee was informed that the text was being transmitted by the Government of Iran to the Director-General of UNESCO so that that organization might take the necessary steps to act as the depositary of the convention.

23. Support was forthcoming for the proposal in the report of the Secretary-General (A/CONF.48/PC/15, paras. 49-54 and 60) that there should be a single convention on the conservation of the world heritage under the auspices of UNESCO, with

provision being made for the association in the implementation of the convention of specialized non-governmental organizations such as IUCN and the International Council of Monuments and Sites. Members also agreed with the course of action in respect of the draft convention on the conservation of certain islands for science outlined in the Secretary-General's report (A/CONF.48/PC/15, paras 55-58 and 61).

24. Members of the Committee expressed the hope that the various draft conventions on conservation could be completed and brought into force as soon as possible, though they recognized that it did not seem feasible, for reasons specific to each case, that any of the draft conventions currently under review could be adopted by the time of the Conference. It was felt, however, that the Conference could encourage the continuation and completion of work on those drafts.

Ocean dumping

25. The Preparatory Committee took note of the results of the second session of the Intergovernmental Working Group on Marine Pollution 2/ and of the fact that the conclusions of that session had been duly reflected in the preparation of the Conference document on subject area III which had just been issued (A/CONF.48/8). The Committee discussed in particular the prospects for the preparation of an international convention on ocean dumping.

26. Members agreed that immediate steps should be encouraged to stop marine pollution resulting from the deliberate dumping of wastes at sea, since, although that source of pollution was relatively minor compared to land-based sources, it was a significant source that could be more easily controlled. There was general agreement, therefore, that work on an international anti-dumping convention should proceed expeditiously, due account being taken of the several views expressed on the substance of the question.

27. One representative said that such a convention should provide the general framework for regional and local arrangements to control ocean dumping, adapted to the specific circumstances of each case, and would also encourage the adoption of such arrangements. As an illustration of the potential of such arrangements, the representative of Norway described the provisions of the Convention for the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping from Ships and Aircraft, which was signed at Oslo by 12 European Governments on 15 February 1972. The Convention was designed to cover the seas in the north-east Atlantic area. It shall enter into force upon ratification by seven signatory Governments. It was the hope of the signatories to that Convention that it would help to pave the way for a global agreement on ocean dumping that could be endorsed at the Stockholm Conference.

28. Several other delegates shared the hope that it would be possible for an international ocean dumping convention to be adopted at Stockholm. Others,

2/ For the report on that session see A/CONF.48/IWGMP.II/5.

however, expressed doubts that that could be so, on the grounds both of their opinion that much more substantive discussion was needed and of their general reservations described earlier in this report (see paragraph 19 above).

29. Several questions were asked concerning the meeting to be convened by the Government of Iceland at Reykjavik on 10 April 1972, to which all interested States Members of the United Nations had been invited for the purpose of preparing a draft convention on ocean dumping. The representative of the Secretary-General of the Conference informed the Committee that the Reykjavik meeting was not a meeting of the Intergovernmental Working Group on Marine Pollution but was being held in response to the wish expressed by that Working Group at its second session that Governments should consult further on ocean dumping in the hope that agreement on concrete global action might be reached before the Conference (see A/CONF.48/IWGMP.II/5, para. 19). The representative of Iceland further informed the Committee that the object of the Reykjavik meeting was to prepare draft articles of a global convention on ocean dumping, which could be submitted to the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment for consideration and appropriate action. He said that other questions, such as the comprehensive approach to preservation of the marine environment, were not on the agenda for the meeting. He appealed for the fullest possible participation in the meeting by interested States, especially by developing countries.

30. One delegate stated that his country would participate in the Reykjavik meeting and expressed the hope that the meeting would be sufficiently representative of the differing geographical groups and varying environmental and economic interests involved in the problem of ocean dumping to produce in the time available a well-considered, effective and viable global "umbrella" convention. He wondered whether it was possible that the Stockholm Conference could do more than endorse some of the basic draft articles, such as the provision of enforcement which would eventually go into such a convention for the protection of the marine environment from that source of pollution and to convey those draft articles to appropriate organs of the United Nations system, whether the United Nations conference on the law of the sea or the IMCO conference on marine pollution, both to be held in 1973. In that respect, he believed that the Reykjavik meeting offered a valuable opportunity to produce a timely convention, or at least, to consider draft articles for an ocean dumping convention which could enable the Stockholm Conference to make an essential contribution to resolving the problem of ocean dumping.

31. Some delegates were of the opinion that, without prejudice to the consideration of the subject of ocean dumping at the Conference on the law of the sea, efforts should continue to achieve the adoption of an international convention on ocean dumping at the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, not the least in view of the urgency of the problem and as it seemed uncertain when the conference on the law of the sea would take place. Other delegates were of the opinion that a convention on the subject should be considered primarily at the conference on the law of the sea.

C. Report on the state of the human environment

32. The Preparatory Committee took note of the information provided in paragraphs 68 to 71 of document A/CONF.48/PC/15 concerning the preparation of the report on the state of the human environment. Some members of the Committee expressed the wish that advance copies of the report be made available to Governments as soon as possible before the report was released to the public. They pointed out that, while the report was not an official Conference document and did not seek the endorsement of the Conference, it was inevitable that it would be linked with the Conference in the public view and in information media, so that it would be desirable for Governments to be able to study the report in advance of publication and to be ready to answer questions concerning it when it was published.

33. In reply, the Secretary-General of the Conference assured the Preparatory Committee that advance copies of the report, which was not a document prepared by the secretariat, would be made available to Governments as soon as possible.

34. In connexion with another question raised, he stated that the report did not seek to promote certain points of view against others but to present a balanced picture, taking account of conflicting views where they existed.

D. Participation of developing countries

35. In his opening statement, the Secretary-General of the Conference drew attention to the growing interest and attention which the Conference had been engendering and which he considered had reached the level of a truly global dialogue. He laid special emphasis on the increasing rate of activity in developing countries in preparation for the Conference. ^{3/} In a later statement, the representative of the Secretary-General of the Conference described in more detail recent activities in developing countries in connexion with the Conference. He pointed to the importance of the regional approach to environmental problems and cited some examples of activities at the regional level.

36. In that connexion, the representative of an African developing country informed the Preparatory Committee that the Organization for African Unity had recently adopted unanimously a resolution on environmental questions which called for active participation by African countries in the preparations for the Conference and in the Conference itself. This resolution, which endorsed the conclusions and recommendations of the Addis Ababa regional seminar on environment, confirmed the conviction of African countries that the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment would be of great benefit to all humanity.

37. The same representative called for the strengthening of the activities of the United Nations regional economic commissions in the field of the environment.

^{3/} Information concerning the participation of Governments in the preparatory process of the Conference was circulated to participants in the Committee.

38. A number of delegates from developing countries informed the Committee of legislative, institutional and other measures recently taken by their Governments to promote action on environmental matters and to advance their preparations for the Conference. They called for technical co-operation aimed at providing developing countries with the expertise necessary to undertake environmental actions. The importance of respecting national sovereignty in any programmes of international co-operation in the environmental field was mentioned by some of those delegates. Some representatives reiterated the view expressed at previous sessions of the Preparatory Committee to the effect that environmental problems in developing countries could only be solved through the process of a more rapid development of those countries.

39. The Preparatory Committee agreed that it was essential that Governments of developing countries be well represented at Stockholm. It was pointed out that some of those countries might find it difficult for various reasons to send adequate delegations to Stockholm and the secretariat was asked whether it could do anything to promote the participation of developing countries in the Conference. In reply, the representative of the Secretary-General of the Conference said that the Conference secretariat would endeavour, within the means available to it, to facilitate the participation of experts in delegations of developing countries.

40. One member suggested that it was also important to ensure the attendance at Stockholm of journalists from developing countries.

41. In general, the Preparatory Committee expressed its satisfaction with the ever-increasing involvement of developing countries in the Conference process and called for continuing efforts to ensure that that momentum be maintained.

E. Public information

42. A number of representatives reiterated the remarks they had made at the third session of the Preparatory Committee concerning the public information activities of the Conference secretariat (A/CONF.48/PC/13, chap. IX).

43. One delegate recalled that he had asked that attention be given by the secretariat to the briefing of specialized audiences, in particular writers, editors and journalists. He suggested that the Conference secretariat consider organization an in-depth briefing at Stockholm for accredited correspondents during the week preceding the Conference.

44. Another delegate expressed his concern that the special message which should be conveyed by the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment was not being adequately reflected in the treatment of environmental matters in the information media, though he pointed out that his concern was based on observation of the media in Western Europe. He asked whether there was sufficient planning and co-ordination of the secretariat's information activities. In commenting on that statement, the representative of the Secretary-General of the Conference remarked that, within the resources available, the secretariat had sought, in accordance with the wishes of

the Preparatory Committee, to concentrate its public information activities on the developing countries, and that that might account for a certain lack of coverage in other areas of the world.

45. The same delegate suggested that the Conference secretariat should distribute to the information media, in the shortest possible time, a list of the various information activities which were planned in connexion with the Conference.

F. Other matters

46. The Secretary-General of the Conference, in his opening statement, expressed his regret that political difficulties related to the criteria adopted by the General Assembly for the participation of States in the Conference (General Assembly resolution 2850 (XXVI), para. 3) had led certain Governments to decide to abstain from further participation in the preparatory process of the Conference. He expressed the hope that a way would be found to achieve at the Conference the kind of universality of participation essential to effective global environmental action.

47. Several representatives also referred to those political difficulties and joined in the hope that they would be resolved by the parties concerned in the interest of the success of the Conference.

III. INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONAL IMPLICATIONS OF RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION BY THE CONFERENCE, INCLUDING FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

48. The Preparatory Committee considered item 4 of its agenda on the basis of the report of the Secretary-General to the Committee (A/CONF.48/PC/15) and the Conference document on international organizational implications of action proposals (A/CONF.48/11). 4/ The Committee also had before it a concise summary of the consolidated document, prepared by the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination (ACC), on the United Nations system and the human environment (A/CONF.48/PC/15/Add.2). 5/

49. In his opening statement to the Committee, the Secretary-General of the Conference strongly emphasized his feeling that Governments were convinced that it was indispensable for an action-oriented conference not only to make recommendations for action but also to address itself to the question of providing the means to implement those actions. He believed that consideration should be given to the provision of adequate organizational and financial means for such implementation.

50. On the subject of organizational means, the Secretary-General of the Conference reiterated the views expressed in the above-mentioned Conference document (A/CONF.48/11) on the need for an intergovernmental body, a supporting secretariat unit and arrangements for access to scientific and technical expertise.

51. Turning to the question of financial means, he stated that studies were under way, and would be submitted by the time of the Conference, to assemble preliminary estimates based on the best available information on costs with regard to proposals for action at the international level. He considered that it was clear, even before an estimation of the total costs of the proposed action plan, that those costs would exceed the sums of money likely to be available and that it would therefore be necessary to establish a means for Governments to decide on priorities for action on a continuing basis.

52. The Secretary-General of the Conference emphasized the need for a fund for international environmental activities, as outlined in chapter IV of the Conference document (A/CONF.48/11). He considered that the fund should be justified and utilized on environmental criteria and would be additional to funds already allocated for development assistance. He said that such a fund need not be a large one and could become of the order of 30 to 40 million dollars a year, the greater part of which would have to be contributed by industrialized countries. He further stated that the fund could be administered by the proposed environmental secretariat unit under the policy guidance of the intergovernmental body.

4/ Made available to the Preparatory Committee under cover of A/CONF.48/PC/15/Add.1.

5/ Annexes to the summary were available only to the participants at the meeting.

53. On the separate and most important question of additional costs of development projects, he said that, in accordance with paragraph 9 of General Assembly resolution 2849 (XXVI), the Secretary-General would submit to the Conference a report on a scheme of voluntary contributions which would provide additional financing by the developed for the developing countries for environmental purposes, beyond the resources already contemplated in the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade.

54. The representative of the World Meteorological Organization introduced the concise summary of the consolidated document prepared by ACC. He said that the consolidated document, which would be submitted to the Conference under the symbol A/CONF.48/12, and the summary of it (A/CONF.48/PC/15/Add.2) had been approved by ACC in October 1971. He mentioned that annex II to the consolidated document would not be issued with it but would be available in the Conference library. In drawing attention to the conclusions in paragraph 21 of the ACC summary, he expressed the view that existing mechanisms could well be adapted for the co-ordination of the activities of the United Nations system in the field of the human environment.

55. At the outset of the discussion of this topic in the Committee, a document was circulated at the request of the delegation of the United States containing a draft resolution on funding and institutional arrangements for consideration by the Committee. The document also included a brief statement on the uses to which an environmental fund could be put. At the request of the delegation of the United States, the Preparatory Committee agreed that the document would be reproduced in an annex to the report of the Committee for the record (see annex III to the present report).

56. Most representatives took part in the discussion of the international organizational implications of action proposals and expressed a variety of opinions on different aspects of the subject.

57. Most delegations agreed on the need to provide continuing institutional and financial means by which to put into effect those recommendations for environmental action at the international level which would be adopted by the Conference. Most delegations also agreed that the United Nations should be the principal organ for international environmental co-operation.

58. It was further agreed that institutional arrangements in the field of the human environment should be essentially flexible and evolutionary so as to permit their adaptation to changing needs and circumstances. It was felt that such institutional arrangements should take into account, as fully as possible, the potential of the organizations of the United Nations system and should make maximum use of existing machinery and resources within and outside the system. It was considered, therefore, that the highest priority should be attached to the need for co-ordination and rationalization of continuing and planned international environmental activities. The view was expressed, however, that given the multidisciplinary nature of environmental problems and the primarily sectoral structure of the United Nations system, it would be essential to go beyond

traditional methods of co-ordination. One representative favoured the concept of a "lead agency", that is an agency with responsibility for a particular sector of the environment which would be assigned responsibility for co-ordinating the over-all international programme in that sector.

59. Members of the Committee stressed the need to take into account the regional nature of many environmental problems and of the measures needed to deal with them. It was felt that regional arrangements should be adapted to suit specific needs and interests of each region. Reference was also made to the need for the establishment or strengthening of national machinery for the co-ordination of environmental action and to the special efforts required to that end in developing countries.

60. There was general consensus on the need to establish, within the United Nations, an intergovernmental body to provide broad and continuing policy direction for international co-operation in the field of the human environment. A principal task of the intergovernmental body would be to review the environmental activities of the United Nations system and of other international organizations which perform functions in that field with a view to achieving well co-ordinated and concerted action. It was also felt that it would be of particular importance to ensure that the institutional arrangements establishing the intergovernmental body would be such as to enable Governments to agree on the periodic assessment of new issues and problems requiring multilateral co-operation and to take necessary initiatives. It was generally agreed that the above need did not require the establishment of a new specialized agency.

61. In connexion with the location of the intergovernmental body within the Organization, two main alternatives were advocated. Several representatives suggested that the intergovernmental body on the human environment should be established as a subsidiary organ of the Economic and Social Council. It was stated in that context that the problems of the human environment fell within the competence of the Council and that the Council would thus be in a position to deal with the interrelated issues of environment, development and science and technology in a proper perspective. It was also pointed out that the Council was in the process of being enlarged and strengthened. Reference was also made to the over-all responsibilities for co-ordination that the Council is required to exercise under the Charter. Several other representatives felt that the intergovernmental body should be set up as a subsidiary organ of the General Assembly as a means of enabling the Assembly, and thus the whole membership of the Organization, to consider environmental problems in a broader context. Those representatives considered that provision should be made for the report of the intergovernmental body on the human environment to be submitted to the Assembly through the Economic and Social Council. One representative suggested that the latter formula might be considered as an interim solution and thus be reviewed before 1975 in the light of experience gained after the first few years and of the capacity of the Economic and Social Council at that time to undertake further important tasks in addition to those recently given to it.

62. Regarding the number of members of the intergovernmental body, suggestions ranged from a body of the size of the Preparatory Committee to one of the size of the recently created standing committees of the Economic and Social Council. 6/ It was agreed that the membership of the body should be based on equitable geographical distribution. One representative suggested in addition that the membership should be environmentally balanced.

63. There was consensus in the Committee that it would be premature to define at that stage the precise functions and terms of reference of the intergovernmental body as such functions would emerge from the recommendations of the Conference for action at the international level. The Committee agreed that, subject to certain clarifications at the Conference, the functions outlined in chapter II of the Secretary-General's report (A/CONF.48/11) would provide the Conference with a general basis for the elaboration of the mandate of the intergovernmental body. Several delegations emphasized that it would be particularly important for the Conference to define the role of the intergovernmental body in connexion with the environmental implications of development. Some delegations said that the proposed function of prevention and settlement of disputes was one which offered interesting possibilities. Others believed that it would not be advisable or feasible to consider assigning such functions to the proposed institutional machinery.

64. There was agreement among delegations that arrangements should be made for the establishment of a secretariat unit to provide substantive and logistical support to the intergovernmental body on the human environment. It was emphasized that the core staff should be few in number but that the capacity of the secretariat should be commensurate with the requirements of international environmental co-operation. The secretariat would be responsible for ensuring implementation of decisions adopted at the intergovernmental level regarding international environmental activities but it should not assume an operational role in respect of such implementation. Some delegations suggested that the basic costs of the core staff should be borne by the proposed environmental fund; several others considered that those costs should be met from the regular budget of the United Nations so as to ensure the continuity of United Nations concern in the environmental field.

65. Several delegations were of the opinion that the executive head of the secretariat should have the rank of Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations. The proposal submitted by the delegation of the United States of America envisaged the creation of the post of Administrator of United Nations Environment Programmes. One representative stated that consideration should be given to the creation of a post similar to that of the High Commissioner for Refugees, who is elected by the General Assembly on the nomination of the Secretary-General. It was felt that,

6/ Committee on Science and Technology and Committee on Review and Appraisal.

as in the case of the mandate of the intergovernmental body, responsibilities and title of the executive head and other related administrative provisions should be decided upon at the Conference in the light of its substantive recommendations.

66. The proposal submitted by the delegation of the United States of America envisaged the establishment of an environmental co-ordinating board to ensure maximum efficiency in the administrative co-ordination of United Nations environmental programmes. Such a board would comprise senior executive officers in charge of environmental programmes of the organizations of the United Nations system. That suggestion was supported by some delegations. Other delegations, while stressing the need for effective co-ordination, felt that the need could best be met by adopting existing interagency mechanisms and procedures.

67. It was generally agreed that it was important for the intergovernmental body and its secretariat to secure easy and efficient access to scientific and technical expertise within and outside the United Nations system and that arrangements should be made within the proposed institutional machinery to ensure two-way communication between it and the scientific and technical community.

68. There was widespread support within the Committee for the establishment of a United Nations voluntary fund which, in the view of some delegations, would cover those costs of international co-operation in the field of human environment which would be in excess of currently budgeted expenses for environmental programmes of the organizations of the United Nations system. In that connexion, many delegations expressed appreciation of the initiative taken by the President of the United States of America for the establishment of such a fund and of his intention to recommend to Congress that the United States commit itself to provide its fair share of the fund and hoped that the proposal would receive wide support. Many delegates stated that they were not in a position to comment at that stage on the detailed arrangements for the establishment of such a fund contained in the United States proposal. Some delegates stated that, in the absence of costed action proposals, they were not able to take a position on the establishment of a fund.

69. A number of representatives advanced the view that the executive head of the environment secretariat should be responsible for the administration of the fund and that the intergovernmental body on the human environment should exercise over-all policy guidance and supervision regarding the operation of such a fund. Other delegates emphasized in that respect that the head of the environment secretariat should administer the fund by delegation of authority of the intergovernmental body, to which he would be responsible in that regard. Several delegates stressed that the operations of the fund, and indeed the future budgetary policies of the various organizations of the United Nations system, should be such as to meet the principle of additionality endorsed by the General Assembly. Some representatives stressed in that connexion that, beyond a possible fund to finance new programmes of the United Nations system in the domain of the environment, additional resources would be needed for direct assistance to cover environmental expenses incurred in development projects of developing countries. Some delegates emphasized, moreover, that it would be essential to ensure not only the full application of the principle of additionality but also that the implementation of

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environmental programmes would not have a negative effect on the budgets of the organizations of the United Nations system which were devoted to other activities. Other representatives pointed out that, while the proposed fund was not designed to cover the additional cost of development projects as such, it would facilitate the full participation of all countries in international environmental programmes.

70. Two delegates considered that in the current trend of discussion of organizational implications there was the risk that the formulation of conclusions on the form of such machinery would precede decisions on its functions. They believed that further consideration should be given to the various possible institutional alternatives and that it should not necessarily be limited to the alternatives outlined in the Conference document on the subject.

71. Two other delegates were of the opinion that, in addition to the establishment of an intergovernmental body, the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment might be convened every fourth or fifth year. Such a conference would serve to formulate and determine a long-term environmental policy.

72. Some delegates, referring to the annex to the Conference document (A/CONF.48/11) entitled "Organization to deal with marine pollution: a special problem", expressed the view that consideration of the problems of the marine environment should not be separated from that of other environmental questions and that the necessary action relating to human environment should be taken within environmental machinery proposed to be established within the United Nations.

73. In commenting on the section of the Conference document which outlined the functions which were to be carried out at the international level (see A/CONF.48/PC/15, paras. 23-42), one representative pointed out that the description of the information exchange function in the more recent document (see A/CONF.48/11, chap. II, section A (iv)), which had obtained the agreement of the Preparatory Committee, was an improvement upon that contained in the Conference document. The representative of the Secretary-General of the Conference stated that the remarks of the representative would be conveyed to the Conference.

74. The Committee was of the view that the specific recommendations flowing from the considerations outlined above could only be tentative at that stage and that concrete recommendations could be finalized only by the Conference. It was suggested that Governments might wish to consult further in the intervening period.

75. The Secretary-General of the Conference informed the Committee that, without prejudice to any consultations which Governments might wish to conduct in New York or elsewhere, he would make himself available in Geneva on 3 and 4 May 1972 for consultations on the institutional and funding questions with all interested Governments eligible to participate in the Conference. He hoped that that would facilitate consultations among those Governments.

76. Statements were made, at the invitation of the Chairman and with the approval of the Preparatory Committee, by the Chairman of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission and by the representative of the International Council of Scientific Unions.

IV. DECLARATION ON THE HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

77. The Preparatory Committee had before it the report of the Intergovernmental Working Group on the Declaration on the Human Environment at its second session (A/CONF.48/PC/16). The report was introduced by the Chairman of the Intergovernmental Working Group who explained that the draft prepared by the Group was based on the recognition of the rights of individuals to an adequate environment, the responsibility of States for damage to the environment of other States, or of areas beyond the limits of national jurisdiction resulting from activities within their own jurisdiction, and the particular interests of developing countries. The Preparatory Committee expressed warm appreciation of the work undertaken by the Chairman and members of the Intergovernmental Working Group.

78. It was generally recognized that the draft contained in annex III of the report of the Group represented a realistic attempt to reconcile different views and interests. It was understood that a text elaborated in that way could not be stylistically perfect nor completely satisfactory to all Governments in respect of each of its substantive elements. It was also recognized, however, that while the text was open to improvement, great care should be taken not to destroy the delicate balance on which it rested.

79. One delegate referred to the contrast between the inspirational tone of the preamble and the prosaic nature of the principles and suggested that the drafting of the latter might be brought closer to the former. Other delegates requested that the Secretariat pay close attention to the quality of the translations of the text; one specifically asked for the French translation to be improved.

80. Some representatives referred to the need for improvement in the substance of the draft declaration and some of those made observations on specific points in it. It was generally agreed that it would not be desirable to have a substantive discussion of those points at the current session of the Preparatory Committee, and that all delegations could if they wished make drafting suggestions or interpretative statements at the Conference on the subject of the draft declaration or propose substantive amendments. One delegation reserved its position and noted in respect of paragraph 21 of the draft principles that in its view armaments matters could not be addressed solely in terms of environmental implications since they were inherently related to questions of international peace and security. With respect to paragraph 9 of the draft principles, several delegations reiterated their positions with regard to aid flows.

81. One delegate expressed the view that it was appropriate that the Conference secretariat should have suggested the provision of facilities for a working group on the Declaration, which could meet at Stockholm during the Conference and which could, if necessary, consider editorial suggestions and any proposed substantive changes. He pointed out that the Conference would provide the first opportunity for the delegations of many countries to comment on the draft Declaration and said therefore that it was the view of his delegation that the meetings of the Working Group should be open to all participants in the Conference.

82. It was stressed in that connexion that such a group should work in the same spirit of compromise and consensus that had characterized the activities of the Intergovernmental Working Group on the Declaration.

83. In the light of the above, the Preparatory Committee agreed to ask the Secretary-General of the Conference to forward the draft preamble and principles of the Declaration on the Human Environment, as contained in annex III to the report of the Intergovernmental Working Group on the Declaration at its second session (A/CONF.48/PC/16), to the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment for its consideration and appropriate action. It was understood that the agreement to forward the text to the Conference did not imply any expression of approval or disapproval thereof on the part of the Preparatory Committee.

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V. CONFERENCE ARRANGEMENTS

84. The Preparatory Committee considered the arrangements for the Conference on the basis of the information and suggestions contained in the following:

(a) Chapter V of the report of the Secretary-General (A/CONF.48/PC/15), which dealt with such matters as the Conference documentation, invitations to the Conference, composition of delegations, the proposed pre-Conference meeting, seating arrangements at the Conference, the allocation of agenda items to the Main Committees and arrangements for the Environment Forum;

(b) A paper entitled "Conference arrangements" ^{7/} which contained suggestions concerning a tentative schedule of meetings of the Conference and a draft outline of the report of the Conference;

(c) An introductory statement by the representative of the Secretary-General of the Conference which supplemented the information in the above-mentioned documents.

85. In his statement, the representative of the Secretary-General of the Conference recalled that it was widely accepted that the Conference should be held at the ministerial level and said that indications of probable attendance by senior Cabinet Ministers had been received.

86. Concerning the pre-Conference meeting proposed to start on 31 May 1972 (A/CONF.48/PC/15, para. 112), he suggested that it could provide the opportunity for a sort of "dress rehearsal" of the Conference and could conclude, say, on Saturday, 3 June with a private meeting of senior experts at which views could be exchanged and preliminary consultations undertaken on the major substantive issues facing the Conference.

87. Regarding the schedule of meetings of the Conference, he suggested that it might be necessary to set a time-limit of 15 to 20 minutes on statements by government representatives in the General discussion in plenary, with a rather shorter time for statements by other participants and observers. He also considered that it would be advisable to draw up a list of speakers for the general discussion in advance of the Conference and to close the list on the opening day. He indicated that the Conference secretariat would shortly be writing to Governments in that connexion. He emphasized that, since the general discussion at the plenary meetings would run parallel with the proceedings of the Main Committees, delegations should be ready to take action at the Committee meetings even before they had made their policy statements at the plenary meetings.

88. On another point, the representative of the Secretary-General of the Conference said that, while the process of intensive consultation undertaken by the secretariat

^{7/} Available only to participants at the meeting.

in preparing its recommendations to the Conference made it unlikely that Governments would come forward with major new proposals at Stockholm, it nevertheless remained the prerogative of Governments to do so and provision should be made for such proposals. It was the hope of the secretariat that Governments would submit their proposals, as far as possible, by 31 May 1972.

89. Turning to the outline of the draft report of the Conference, he explained that the Conference secretariat envisaged an action-oriented report in keeping with the character of the Conference. Such a report would concentrate on the decisions of the Conference as opposed to its proceedings. The report would contain a brief account of the main trends of the general discussion in plenary but would not attempt to summarize discussion in the Main Committees which would, in any case, be reflected in the recommendations approved by the Committees.

90. In reply to a question, the representative of the Secretary-General of the Conference explained that the secretariat's suggestion concerning the provision at the Conference of facilities for a working group on the draft Declaration on the Human Environment did not imply any judgement by the secretariat on the need to reconsider the substance of the draft Declaration. 8/

91. The Preparatory Committee was in general accord with the various suggestions put forward by the Conference secretariat concerning the arrangements for the Conference. 9/

92. Members of the Committee expressed their appreciation of the secretariat's efforts in producing a set of action-oriented official Conference documents well in advance of the Conference and in limiting the volume of that documentation.

93. The question was raised in the Committee whether it would be appropriate for the Conference to adopt resolutions. Several delegates expressed their views on the question. It was considered that the question should be viewed in the context of the need to facilitate the agreed objective that the Conference should proceed to its decisions by consensus and not by voting. It was also stated that the action-oriented character of the Conference require its decisions to be expressed in as precise and concise a form as possible. It was therefore agreed, without precluding the possibility of the Conference adopting resolutions if it so desired, that it might be more expeditious for the Conference to work on the basis of precisely drafted recommendations of an operative character for inclusion in its action plan, rather than to seek to draft formal resolutions with their tendency to lengthy preambles.

94. The Secretary-General of the Swedish Preparatory Committee for the Conference informed the Committee that practical preparations for the Conference were proceeding on schedule and referred to an information brochure which had been circulated. He briefly reviewed the preparations and said that full information on

8/ See also paragraphs 81-82 above.

9/ The suggestions will be fully reflected in the annotations to the provisional agenda for the Conference (A/CONF.48/2).

Conference arrangements and facilities would be included in a more comprehensive booklet for delegates which was due to be issued towards the end of April 1972. He referred to the fact that application forms for hotel accommodation were being circulated to Governments and other participants and that they should be completed and returned as soon as possible.

95. On the question of seating arrangements at the Conference, he stated that while the arrangements described in document A/CONF.48/PC/15 provided for 15 permanent seats for each Government delegation, there would, in fact, be a certain margin of flexibility in the allocation of seats. He said that non-governmental organizations invited to send observers to the Conference would be allocated two seats in the various premises.

96. Finally, he informed the Preparatory Committee that a meeting of diplomats from embassies in Stockholm would be held on 23 March 1972 in order to ensure that those embassies were fully aware of arrangements being made for the Conference.

97. At the end of the discussion on Conference arrangements, it was suggested that, following United Nations practice, lots should be drawn to decide which delegation was to be given the first seat in the plenary hall at Stockholm. The suggestion was approved and Maldives was drawn from among the States eligible to participate in the Conference. The delegation of Maldives will, therefore, be allocated the position at the extreme left 10/ of the front row of seats in the Conference hall. The seating order of other delegations will follow in the English alphabetical order of names. The same seating arrangements will be applied at the meetings of the Main Committees.

10/ The left of the hall as seen when one is facing the podium.

VI. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Glossary

98. The representative of the Secretary-General of the Conference informed the Preparatory Committee that, pursuant to a suggestion made at the second session of the Committee (see A/CONF.48/PC/9, para. 121), the Conference secretariat had arranged for the preparation of a multilingual glossary of environmental terms. The glossary, which had been prepared in English, French, Russian and Spanish, had been drawn up by a consultant, in close co-operation with experts in specialized agencies. For the time being, the glossary was available only in very limited quantities but it was hoped that ways would be found to disseminate it widely so as to harmonize the usage of environmental terms. The representative of the Secretary-General of the Conference said that the Conference secretariat would welcome any comments which Governments might wish to make on the glossary.

B. Survey of environmental legislation

99. He also informed the Preparatory Committee that the survey of national environmental legislation, which had been drawn to the attention of the Committee at its third session (see A/CONF.48/PC/13, paras. 205-207), had progressed further with the help of a consultant. Inquiries concerning such legislation had been addressed to 136 countries, and information had been received from 119 of them. He said that the Conference secretariat hoped to be able to send copies of the compilation of replies to Governments and eventually to have the survey published in a number of languages, although the secretariat could not undertake this out of its own resources.

C. Post-Stockholm activities

100. In reply to questions raised earlier in the session, the Secretary-General of the Conference provided the Preparatory Committee with some information concerning the budgetary situation of the Conference secretariat. He said that the allocation of funds to the secretariat from the regular United Nations budget for 1972, after a reduction of \$50,000 made as part of the economy programme instituted by the Secretary-General, amounted to \$976,000. ^{11/} He estimated that the balance remaining available after 30 June 1972 would amount to some \$75,000, whereas the estimated requirement, if the secretariat were to continue its activities after the Conference in such a way as to maintain the momentum which had been built up, was of the order of \$310,000. Those activities would include further work on the proposed international referral service for the exchange of environmental information and studies on monitoring systems and

^{11/} This amount includes a transfer of \$28,000 from 1971 to 1972 for the reproduction of documents.

marine pollution. The Secretary-General of the Conference said that there was no prospect of meeting the shortfall of \$235,000 from normal budgetary sources and that, if the necessary funds could not be made available from other sources, the result would be a serious impairment of the secretariat's ability to follow up the recommendations of the Conference in the period between 1 July and 31 December 1972.

101. The Secretary-General of the Conference also referred to the need for funds to be made available to the secretariat in order to facilitate the participation of developing countries in various meetings related to the Conference. He said that indications of possible contributions towards the amount required, which was around \$210,000, had been received by the secretariat but that much of it still remained uncovered.

102. He also mentioned that it was only through the generous support of the Government of the Netherlands that the secretariat had been able to maintain its programme of information activities, in particular those relating to the theme of development and environment. He stressed that those activities should not be allowed to lapse after the Conference.

103. Following the statement by the Secretary-General of the Conference, one representative asked that more detailed financial information be made available informally to interested Governments. The Secretary-General of the Conference indicated that that could be done.

Annex I

AGENDA OF THE FOURTH SESSION OF THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE

1. Organizational matters:
 - (a) Opening of the session
 - (b) Adoption of the agenda
 - (c) Organization of the work of the session
2. Draft Declaration on the Human Environment
3. Progress report on other continuing activities:
 - (a) Exchange of information
 - (b) Possible draft conventions
 - (c) Report on the state of the human environment
 - (d) Participation of developing countries
 - (e) Public information
4. International organizational implications of recommendations for action by the Conference, including financial implications
5. Conference arrangements
6. Other business
7. Adoption of the report of the Preparatory Committee on its fourth session

Annex II

LIST OF DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED TO THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE
AT ITS FOURTH SESSION

- A/CONF.48/PC/14 Provisional agenda
- A/CONF.48/PC/15 Report of the Secretary-General
- A/CONF.48/PC/Add.1 International organizational implications of recommendations
for action by the Conference, including financial implications
(cover note for Conference document A/CONF.48/11)
- A/CONF.48/PC/Add.2 Summary of the consolidated document on the United Nations
system and the human environment, prepared by the
Administrative Committee on Co-ordination
- A/CONF.48/PC/16 Report of the Intergovernmental Working Group on the
Declaration on the Human Environment on its second
session

* * *

The following conference room papers were circulated only to participants at the meeting:

- A/CONF.48/PC(IV)/CRP.1 Summarized statements on the work of the various
bodies and organizations of the United Nations
system in relation to the human environment
(annex to A/CONF.48/PC/15/Add.2)
- A/CONF.48/PC(IV)/CRP.2 Conference arrangements
- A/CONF.48/PC(IV)/CRP.3 Participation in the preparatory process of the
Conference
- A/CONF.48/PC(IV)/CRP.4 Draft resolution proposed by the United States
of America for the Stockholm Conference a/
- A/CONF.48/PC(IV)/CRP.5 Draft report on the fourth session
and Add.1-2,3(A)-(C)
and 4

a/ Reproduced in annex III to the present report.

Annex III

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONAL IMPLICATIONS OF ACTION PROPOSALS:
DRAFT RESOLUTION FOR THE CONFERENCE PROPOSED BY THE DELEGATION
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, TOGETHER WITH A STATEMENT ON
THE POTENTIAL UTILIZATION OF A UNITED NATIONS FUND FOR THE
ENVIRONMENT a/

A. Draft resolution

The United Nations Conference on the Human Environment,

Convinced of the need for prompt and adequate implementation of action proposals to safeguard the human environment and enhance it for the benefit of the present and future generations,

Recognizing the capacity of the United Nations system to deal with environmental problems of a global nature and significance,

Recognizing further that in the first instance action to ameliorate environmental problems and to enhance the environment within the limits of national jurisdiction is the responsibility of national Governments and appropriate national, regional and local authorities,

Bearing in mind that international co-operative programmes in the environment field must be undertaken with due regard for national sovereignty in conformity with the principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Desirous that international action on a regional and global scale be undertaken as expeditiously as possible, utilizing appropriate multilateral and bilateral mechanisms and organizations,

Noting and recognizing the interest, ongoing work and capacity of international intergovernmental organizations not in the United Nations family, non-governmental organizations and private scientific and professional organizations in the environment field,

Mindful of the sectoral interests and responsibilities of individual bodies within the United Nations system, particularly the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency,

1. Recommends that the post of Administrator of United Nations Environment Programmes be created to co-ordinate and direct environmental programmes undertaken within the United Nations system, and that the Administrator be appointed by the Secretary-General of the United Nations and confirmed by the General Assembly;

a/ Reproduced for the record; see paragraph 55 of the present report.

2. Recommends further that the Administrator be charged with the following responsibilities, in addition to those enumerated below:

(a) To monitor the implementation and effectiveness of United Nations environmental programmes recommended by this Conference and appropriate intergovernmental organs of the United Nations in the future;

(b) To report to the appropriate intergovernmental bodies periodically on such programmes;

(c) To initiate and provide for medium- and long-range planning for United Nations programmes in the environment field;

(d) To advise, when appropriate, intergovernmental bodies of the United Nations system on the planning and implementation of environmental programmes;

(e) To maintain a small permanent staff for the foregoing purposes, and that the salaries and operating expenses for the Administrator and his staff be borne by the voluntary fund for the environment; b/

3. Recommends that, in order to provide for the additional financing required for the implementation of programmes undertaken under the authority of the Administrator of United Nations Environment Programmes, a voluntary fund be created in accordance with existing United Nations financial procedures, to be administered by the Administrator;

4. Recommends further that the fund be used, inter alia, for the support of international programmes in the fields of monitoring, marine pollution, pollution control, conservation, human settlements, information exchange, public education and training and research on scientific and technical problems relating to the environment and that appropriate reports on the administration of the fund be submitted periodically to the Economic and Social Council's Commission for the Environment; c/

5. Recommends further that the Administrator, in the exercise of his authority over the fund, be empowered to enter into the necessary administrative and financial arrangements for the execution of projects by, inter alia, United Nations bodies, specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency, and appropriate non-governmental organizations and bodies, which may or may not be associated with the United Nations;

6. Recommends that, in order to provide for maximum efficient administrative co-ordination of United Nations environmental programmes, an Environmental Co-ordinating Board be established, comprised of senior executive officers in

b/ Referred to in paragraph 3 below.

c/ Referred to in paragraph 8 below.

charge of environmental programmes of the specialized agencies, the International Atomic Energy Agency, and other United Nations bodies such as the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and the regional economic commissions;

7. Recommends further that the Environmental Co-ordinating Board meet periodically under the chairmanship of the Administrator for the purpose of ensuring co-operation and co-ordination among all bodies concerned in the execution of United Nations environment programmes;

8. Recommends that, for the purpose of providing intergovernmental guidance regarding the execution of environmental programmes within the United Nations system, a Commission for the Environment of the Economic and Social Council be established, to be composed of 27 States Members of the United Nations elected for four-year terms on the basis of equitable geographical distribution;

9. Recommends further that the Commission be given the following responsibilities:

(a) To receive and review the periodic reports of the Administrator for United Nations Environment Programmes on the implementation of environment programmes in the United Nations system and on the operation of the fund for the environment;

(b) To make recommendations to the Economic and Social Council and through it to the General Assembly regarding the substantive content and execution of United Nations environment programmes, including the formulation of new programmes which go beyond the recommendations of this Conference;

(c) To ensure that there shall be appropriate and adequate consideration of emerging environmental problems, together with the requisite scientific, technological and practical means to ameliorate their effects, with a view to determining the feasibility of, and recommending, specific international co-operative activities;

(d) To consider matters concerning United Nations environmental programmes referred to it by the Economic and Social Council and any related matters referred to it by other bodies in the United Nations system, including the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency.

B. Potential utilization of the United Nations Fund
for the Environment

The following is in response to requests for further information on the United States proposal for a fund for the environment. A principal concern was the basis for a \$100 million five-year total and the kinds of programmes that might be supported.

The \$100 million total was based on estimates of start-up costs of the kinds of programmes the United States of America would consider appropriate for priority support (outlined below). It is sufficient to support a meaningful beginning for coping with problems of the global environment and to facilitate effective action and co-ordination of programmes, but it will also necessitate careful selection of priorities and efficient administration. The Conference secretariat, in a very preliminary consideration of the problem, has independently estimated the required support to be of this magnitude.

The United States substantive priorities were developed early in the Conference preparations. Actions associated with them would be, in the United States view, the kinds of projects eligible for Fund support. They encompass the topics contained in the following paragraphs.

Marine pollution - arrangement for and negotiation of international agreements concerned with conservation of marine environments, i.e., ocean dumping convention, studies and co-operative research leading to marine pollution abatement and control.

Monitoring - global systems to assess (a) the impact of environmental degradation on human health and (b) conditions and trends in the oceans, in the atmosphere, and in terrestrial environments. Although different techniques and equipment generally will be used in each of the above areas, emphasis would be placed on efficient utilization of existing systems supplemented by additional locations as needed to obtain adequate global data.

Pollution control - development and adoption of international pollution criteria and recommended standards. Co-operative research on technology and economics of air and water pollution control, and recycling of resources. Arrangements for regional pollution control agreements.

Conservation - development of factors to be considered in development projects. Arrangements and agreements to conserve and exchange plant and animal genetic stock; and to preserve natural and cultural sites, endangered species, and related proposals. Establishment or strengthening of regional programmes and co-operative research on management of natural resources. Research on ecosystems and man's impact upon them.

Human settlements - development of co-operative programmes of research, training, and information exchange concerned with urban, land, and resource planning and management; social indicators, pollution control and housing construction.

Information exchange - establishment of an environmental information referral system concerned with the exchange of national experience.

Support for public education and training programmes, including development of teaching materials, pilot education programmes, teacher education; training programmes in such areas as ecosystem management, forestry, soils, land planning and waste management.

Support for obtaining studies and advice from non-governmental sources with particular competences located both within and outside the United Nations system.
