



**ANNOTATIONS ON THE
CHAIRMAN'S PAPER ARISING
FROM
WSSD PREPCOM 2**

**Submitted to the
Third Session of the Preparatory Committee for the World Summit
on Sustainable Development**

New York, 25th March-5th April, 2002

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Greenpeace would like to offer constructive comments and annotations on the Chairman's paper prepared at the end of the Second Session of the WSSD Preparatory Committee (January-February 2002). Like all participants in the Second Session, we recognise that with its 185 proposals, the Chairman's paper requires efforts to streamline and reduce the number of proposals in it. However, at this stage, we have preferred not to prejudice anyone, and have not deleted or merged any of the proposals we do not disagree with in principle.

We look forward to receiving feedback from stakeholders before and at the Third Session of the Preparatory Committee, including government delegations.

This and other WSSD-related Greenpeace documents can be found at:

www.greenpeace.org/politics/EarthSummit

**12 February 2002
Second Session of the Preparatory Committee for the
World Summit on Sustainable Development
Chairman's Paper**

I. Introduction

1. The United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, which was held in Rio, Brazil in 1992, provided us with the fundamental principles and the program of action for achieving sustainable development. We reaffirm our commitment to the Rio principles and the full implementation of Agenda 21 and the program for the further implementation of Agenda 21 for the achievement of sustainable development and the goals of the UN Millennium Declaration.
2. Enabling national and international environments are critical for achieving sustainable development. National efforts to pursue sustainable development should be supported by an enabling international environment. The international community must lend its

full support to national endeavors. Good governance within each country and at the international level as well as transparency in the financial, monetary and trading systems are essential for sustainable development. Sound economic policies, solid democratic institutions responsive to the needs of the people and improved infrastructure are the basis for sustained economic growth, poverty eradication, and employment creation. Peace, security and stability are essential for achieving sustainable development and ensuring that sustainable development benefits all.

We suggest adding additional wording which stresses the importance of the role played by civil society in efforts to achieve transparency, and the explicit recognition that not all international fora have adequately addressed their failures to be transparent (e.g. the WTO).

While we agree with the comment about peace and security, we find it awkward to say the least, and inconsistent, that disarmament is not addressed anywhere in the text. We recommend that new initiatives on disarmament be undertaken and agreed at the WSSD, in particular in relation to the vertical as well as horizontal proliferation of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction. Many countries have contributed to such proliferation in the post-Rio decade. The United States, for example, continues to reject the ratification of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (one of the few landmark agreements adopted since the Rio Earth Summit), and that country opposes the adoption of a Verification Protocol to the Convention on Biological Weapons. New initiatives should be consistent with the 13 steps agreed at the 2000 Non Proliferation Treaty conference. Finally, it should be noted in the text that governments' prioritisation of military expenditure over that on social and environmental initiatives of far greater benefit to humankind is short-sighted and outdated.

3. It has been widely recognized that despite domestic and international actions, there is still a major gap in the implementation of Agenda 21. Ten years after the Rio Conference, the world is still confronted with the challenges of endemic poverty, unsustainable lifestyles and environmental degradation. This gap can be bridged with renewed political will, practical steps and partnerships to promote sustainable development.

We welcome the explicit recognition that governments have so far failed to achieve the goals to which they committed 10 years ago in Rio. However, it should be stated clearly, up front, that this was largely due to 1) the lack of political will and leadership especially from the G-7 countries, rather than a lack of capacity; and 2) the failure of governments to be consistent: on the one hand they support sustainable development on paper, while on the other hand they continue massive spending on unsustainable development and unsustainable patterns of production and consumption. On the one hand they negotiate treaties, and on the other hand key countries block progress on implementing them, or even fail to ratify them. In addition, the failure of OECD governments to achieve the goal of providing 0.7% of GDP for Official Development Assistance (ODA), a key element of the "Rio bargain," should be mentioned explicitly.

The ‘renewed political will and practical steps’ referred to above will not be realized if the document which follows is not radically streamlined, with priorities for the most essential needs clearly articulated. There has been much talk in the international community of a ‘global deal’ coming out of the WSSD – it is hard to identify the elements of such a deal in the text below. Greenpeace looks forward to stimulating discussions between now and the Fourth Session of the Preparatory Committee about the “global deal”, including issues of global governance. We urge governments to be ambitious, action-oriented and visionary (i.e. to examine where the world community wants to be in 20 years time and beyond, and work backwards to the present).

II. Poverty Eradication

4. Eradicating poverty, hunger and promoting sustainable livelihoods are central to the achievement of sustainable development. Realization of poverty-related goals contained in Agenda 21 and the Millennium Declaration will require actions to:

(a) Initiate a global plan of action with clear, time-bound commitments, resources and monitoring mechanisms to realize the Millennium Declaration target of reducing by half the number of people who are unable to reach or to afford safe drinking water;

(b) Improve access to modern energy services in rural and peri-urban areas through rural electrification and decentralized energy systems by intensifying regional and international co-operation, including in financial and technological assistance, with a view to providing, by 2015, energy services to half of the two billion people who currently have no access to modern energy services,

We strongly support this proposal, provided that it is specified that ‘modern energy services’ refers to clean, affordable, sustainable energy sources (and noting that within the Clean Development Mechanism of the Kyoto Protocol, clean energy excludes nuclear power). In this regard, we would like to propose that Prepcom 3 reverts to the text (with one change as noted below) in one of the earlier drafts that was produced at Prepcom 2, between Week 1 and 2, inter-alia to ***“launch a global alliance on renewable energy and efficient clean conventional energy technologies to provide by 2015 energy services to half of the two billion people, mostly in rural and remote areas in developing countries, who currently have no access to modern energy services.”*** However, while this is a laudable goal, we see no reason to exclude the ‘other’ 1 billion from our aspirations, and would suggest that this text be amended accordingly i.e., by replacing the word ‘half’ with the word ‘all’ in the italicized sentence preceding this one.

(c) Promote sustainable agriculture and rural development to ensure food security, diversification of rural economies, and improved access to markets and market information, as well as provide financial and technological support for rural infrastructure, enterprise development and access to credit for the rural poor.

Greenpeace welcomes this paragraph with the proviso that priority is given to agricultural practices that respect traditional knowledge and the environment. There should also be a commitment to implement the FAO Global Plan of Action for the Conservation and Sustainable Utilization of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture.

(d) Develop multi-stakeholder approaches to public-private cooperation to improve outreach in basic sustainable agricultural techniques and knowledge to farmers with smallholdings and to the rural poor.

(e) Provide funding for integrated rural development plans, programmes and strategies at national and regional levels, with particular emphasis on investment in economic and social infrastructure in rural areas, enterprise development, human resource development, and capacity building for local governance.

(f) Increase food availability in areas where it is produced, thus reducing transport costs and excessive dependence on international markets.

(g) Fully integrate measures to combat desertification fully into poverty eradication policies and programmes.

(h) Promote access by the poor to land, water resources and other agricultural inputs and promote land tenure modifications that recognize and protect indigenous and common property resource management systems.

(i) Promote more comprehensive rural education and extension programmes, directed particularly at the rural poor, with major emphasis on efforts to reduce illiteracy, particularly among women and girls.

(j) Extend secure tenure to the urban poor as means of improving access to shelter and basic social services, creating private capital and increasing employment, credit and income opportunities.

(k) Improve the lives of 100 million poor people living in inadequate human settlements, by 2015, in accordance with the commitments in the Istanbul Declaration and the Habitat Agenda on urban renewal and development.

(l) Strengthen the capacity of health systems to deliver basic health services, with technical assistance to developing countries, and implement the Health for All Strategy.

(m) Make the fight against HIV/AIDS an integral part of all national poverty reduction, sustainable development and economic growth strategies.

Of course Greenpeace welcomes action-oriented commitments aiming at restoring equity, health and eradicating poverty. The fight against HIV/AIDS raises issues of access to medicine in developing countries which have not been entirely resolved by the Agreement adopted in Doha by the Fourth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade

Organisation (WTO). This agreement remains too limited in scope. The WSSD cannot and should not ignore the conflict between the basic right to human health and medicine and the WTO TRIPS agreement. Likewise, the conflict between the Convention on Biological Diversity of 1992 and the WTO TRIPS agreement needs to be addressed and resolved adequately by the WSSD.

III. Changing Unsustainable Patterns of Consumption And Production

5. Sustainable development cannot be achieved without fundamental changes in the way industrial societies produce and consume. To change unsustainable consumption and production patterns, specific measures are needed. Urgent actions are required to:

(a) Adopt policies and measures in developed countries aimed at changing unsustainable patterns of production and consumption via technological and educational policies which, inter alia:

This should not only refer to “developed countries”, but to all countries (including a commitment from OECD countries to provide financial and technical assistance (capacity building) to developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

(i) Raise consumer awareness of the importance of sustainable production and consumption patterns;

This should be strengthened. Production and consumption patterns in developed countries are totally unsustainable and contribute to the impoverishment of other countries, illustrating the inequities of the current globalisation regime.

(ii) Improve the role of the media and other public information tools in promoting sustainable consumption and production;

(iii) Provide incentives to industry to adopt cleaner production processes, with technical assistance for small and medium-sized companies;

Achieving sustainable development will require more than policies and educational reform. Incentives for sustainable development are of course needed, but equally important are disincentives (increasing over time) for unsustainable products and activities in order to create a shift or phase out from unsustainable to sustainable practices. Indeed, fees levied against unsustainable products and practices can be directed to provide incentives for sustainable substitutes. In addition, government procurement policies and practices must set an example by basing procurement contracts on best sustainable products and practices, while also promoting sustainable procurement practices in other public and private entities. Finally, it should also make reference to the need to eliminate persistent toxic chemicals (a need recognised in numerous regional multilateral environmental agreements).

(iv) Encourage publicly-funded research and development institutions to undertake research on sustainable development;

(v) enhance corporate responsibility and accountability.

This should be strengthened to read: “make corporations and governments accountable through increased liability, accountability and transparency”. See our comments in 18 (d) below for specific recommendations on corporate accountability.

(b) Use economic instruments and market incentives, including policies to internalize external costs through fiscal instruments, as well as market mechanisms.

We support this paragraph. Environmental economists have studied and proposed such economic instruments and market incentives. One key element consists in reforming conventional accounting methods of GDPs and growth models that are flawed because they fail to take account of the costs to nature and the environment.

It should also be noted that it is particularly important to internalise external costs when making cost-benefit analyses and assessing the cost of no action. External costs such as health degradation and environmental damage are necessary factors to internalise in economic decision making.

This process must be equitable and take account of the immediate needs of developing countries. Specifically, subsidies should be designed to a) promote technologies and industries that governments have identified as worthy of support to achieve sustainable development; b) protect and support the poor; and c) not enrich the already rich or well-off (which is what most subsidies ironically do at present).

This paragraph should also be more specific as to its implication, e.g. it should be said that this implies that for example any energy project financed by IFIs or International Credit Agencies must consider external costs.

(c) Achieve a four-fold increase in energy and resource efficiency in developed countries by 2012

We support this target.

(d) Eliminate environmentally harmful and trade-distorting subsidies that encourage unsustainable consumption and production patterns.

We support this proposal. However this commitment is not new. The fact that it is necessary to reiterate it again shows that it is time to attach a concrete target date for the completion of this goal. The target date could either be generic, or be a set of sector-specific target dates. In order to avoid “horse-trading”, we would suggest a generic target date, which should be no more than a decade. (See also comments on paragraph 5(n) with

regard to the energy sector.) In line with the Rio agreements of 1992, the time frame should incorporate a recognition of common but differentiated obligations for developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

(e) Establish and support national cleaner production centers to assist enterprises, especially small and medium enterprises, in identifying, acquiring, adapting and integrating technologies that improve productivity, reduce pollution and conserve natural resources.

We do not disagree with this proposal, but we believe that the effectiveness of such centres will largely depend on their modus-operandi. These centres should be independent from industry, and open to environmental NGOs, local and indigenous communities, and other relevant stakeholders. We also suggest re-wording as follows: ‘Establish and support national *clean* (not cleaner) production centres...adapting and integrating technologies *and measures* that improve productivity, reduce *and eliminate* pollution and conserve natural resources’.

(f) Encourage industry and publicly funded research and development institutions to engage in strategic alliances in order to enhance research and development in the area of cleaner production technologies and accelerate the commercialization and diffusion of those technologies.

We urge governments to consider all the possible implications of this proposal. While strategic alliances between industry and publicly funded research and development institutions may be a good thing when the terms of reference and the purpose are well defined and controlled by governments and civil society, they may also create a serious conflict of interest for the publicly funded research and development institutions whose operations may increasingly rely on corporate funding. In any case, the aim should be to identify, research, develop and implement *clean* production, not cleaner production.

(g) Encourage industry to adopt voluntary initiatives, including certification, such as ISO 14000.

Greenpeace is not opposed to voluntary initiatives per se, as long as their goal is to reinforce and augment legally binding agreements existing or in development at the national, regional or international level. We are concerned however that too often industry has launched voluntary agreements to undermine, rather than support, legally binding agreements. This is well documented for example in the fields of chemicals, energy, tobacco consumption, biotechnology, etc. Ultimately, we need monitorable, enforceable measures and timetables.

(h) Promote voluntary eco-design, eco-labelling and other transparent, verifiable, non-misleading and non-discriminatory consumer information tools, ensuring that they are not used as disguised trade barriers.

Again, this is very weak. In addition to such eco-labelling that draws attention to positive aspects of products and goods, WSSD should also support mandatory labelling of goods and products that have characteristics that undermine sustainable development and environmental safety (for example, products containing toxic substances, or genetically modified organisms should be labelled so that consumers can be aware of what they are buying). Mandatory information on the levels of emissions of greenhouse gases (from cars put on the market for example) is another example of a measure that would assist consumers in making a choice between sustainable and unsustainable goods.

(i) Assist small and medium-sized companies in developing countries and economies in transition, through information and training programmes, in grasping the business opportunities arising from increasing consumer awareness of sustainable consumption.

Greenpeace supports this approach, given that – increasingly – environmental aspects are a key factor in competitiveness on the world market.

(j) Develop and disseminate renewable energy technologies to increase the share of renewable energy in energy production and consumption and accelerate the development, diffusion and use of energy-efficient technologies.

Yes, but this should be cross referenced with paragraph 4(b), above (or merged), especially in the light of the lack of a specific target here. This could be combined with (l), below. We suggest adding the sentence, “National Renewable Portfolio Standards have proven to be a valuable tool in demonstrating political will, which, when accompanied by appropriate fiscal and regulatory measures, can help create the markets and industries necessary. The target for OECD countries should be at least 12% by 2010 as per the EU, and could be strengthened to 20% by 2010 or 2015, and at least 5% for all other countries.”

(k) Promote regional, cultural and ethical values in carrying out sustainable development initiatives.

(l) Diversify the energy supply, by developing cleaner and more efficient fossil fuel technologies and innovative technologies, and increase the share of new renewable energy sources to at least 5% of total energy use by 2010 in all countries.

5% is a laudable global goal. But the goal for the OECD should be much higher. For example it would be incomprehensible if it was not consistent with the EU target of 12% by 2010. Greenpeace is of the view that OECD governments should set domestic renewable energy targets of at least 20% within 10 years. It has been documented that this target is realistic both technically and economically. Furthermore, it is necessary if governments in the OECD are willing to meet their Rio commitments regarding tackling climate change.

(m) Encourage the use of natural gas, especially for urban and industrial areas, and the elimination of gas flaring, by intensifying regional and international co-operation.

While natural gas has certain advantages over coal, oil and nuclear power, encouraging the use of natural gas as proposed in this paragraph could severely undermine the implementation of the proposal contained in paragraph 4(b) above, and affect the completion of the target set in paragraph 4(b). We should primarily be encouraging the use of energy efficiency and renewables in the first instance. However, where switching to less carbon-intense fossil fuels is the only practical short term option, this should be encouraged. Gas flaring is just a waste of money.

(n) Adopt policies that reduce market distortions in the energy sector, including restructuring taxation and phasing out harmful subsidies.

Specifically, all governments should commit to phase out within ten years subsidies to conventional energy sources (primarily fossil fuels, but also nuclear), estimated to be at least \$US 250-300 billion annually, with a transition plan to ensure that developing country economies are not damaged. The text could be amended as follows: "...and phasing out harmful subsidies, especially the \$US 250-300 billion in annual subsidies to the fossil fuel and nuclear industries. Governments signatory to the Kyoto Protocol should not that they are already obligated to reduce and eliminate these subsidies."

(o) Promote cooperation between oil-consuming and oil-producing countries to reduce supply and demand instabilities on international markets.

As we move into a 'carbon constrained world' with the ratification and entry into force of the Kyoto Protocol, such measures will no doubt be appropriate in certain circumstances. Co-operation between oil consuming and producing countries should aim primarily at reducing the reliance on oil of both groups, and at facilitating for both groups the transition to a fossil fuel-free future, in the light of the reality created by Climate Change. In other words, the expansion of renewable energy technologies will do more to insure energy consumers against the vagaries of oil prices than agreements between oil producers and consumers.

(p) Assist developing countries that are highly dependent on the export and consumption of fossil fuels in diversifying their economies.

In particular, OECD governments should commit to an immediate target of 20% of their energy sector lending and support via their Export Credit Agencies to renewable energy and energy efficiency development. OECD governments should also ensure that all International Financial Institutions they support commit to an immediate target of 20% energy sector lending for energy efficiency and renewable sources, and a phase out of support for conventional energy sources within 5-10 years.

(q) Promote financial and technological support by the international community to implement the other recommendations and conclusions of CSD-9 on energy and sustainable development.

CSD-9 Recommendations on financing contain many elements which Greenpeace can support (e.g. support for energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies, and related capacity building). There are, however, proposals (including for funding of work to promote “increased development and use of advanced fossil fuel technologies”) which Greenpeace considers would be better directed to efficiency and renewable technologies.

Similarly, while Greenpeace agrees that measures to improve the safety of nuclear energy facilities are required, no funding should be diverted for the promotion of nuclear power. Funding should be confined to safety aspects of installations within the framework of a clear policy decision to shut down all nuclear power stations.

(r) Promote investments in the development of multi-modal mass public transport systems, with technical and financial assistance for developing countries and economies in transition.

We support the comments made by the government of Turkey during Prepcom 2, that we should be promoting mass transportation in both the North and South.

(s) Implement transport strategies that reflect specific national and local conditions so as to improve the efficiency and convenience of transportation as well as improving urban air quality and public health, including through environmentally friendly vehicles and cleaner fuels.

We support this particularly in reference to (r) above. In addition, ‘cleaner’ fuels should be specifically understood to include, as a priority, those which do not contribute to climate change.

(t) Provide international support for small-scale waste recycling initiatives, supporting urban waste management and generating income opportunities.

Greenpeace is concerned that this proposal fails to put the emphasis on waste avoidance and clean production. “Waste management generating income opportunities” can be interpreted in many different ways, including technologies that are increasingly considered obsolete and hazardous, such as waste incineration. We would thus propose that this paragraph be removed or reformulated. If it is reformulated, we recommend wording which opposes recycling of hazardous wastes or toxic substances of any kind. We support waste elimination rather than waste management: eliminating the problem at the source.

(u) Promote the rapid ratification and implementation of international instruments on chemicals, including the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal, the Rotterdam Convention on Prior Informed

Consent Procedures for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade and the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs), as well as related amendments to those instruments.

We support this proposal in principle but believe that this paragraph should support the ratification of these conventions and amendments “by August 2002 at the latest”, and their implementation thereafter. In addition, the scope of existing chemical policy instruments should be broadened to eliminate production and use of other hazardous substances and cap the production of hazardous and other wastes with the aim of their ultimate minimisation/elimination. We also suggest including specific reference to the ratification of the Basel Ban amendment to the Basel Convention in this list (despite the fact that it is covered by the ‘as well as related amendments’ wording) as it was one of the major achievements since Rio.

(v) Promote capacity-building and transfer of technology for developing countries and economies in transition in energy efficiency and energy conservation, and enable them to benefit from the clean development mechanism of the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change while mitigating climate change and promoting sustainable development.

It should be noted that nuclear power is specifically excluded from the Clean Development Mechanism, and with good reason.

IV. Protecting and Managing the Natural Resource Base of Economic and Social Development

6. Human activities are having an increasing impact on the integrity of complex natural ecosystems that provide essential support for human well-being and economic activities. Managing that natural resource base is essential for protecting the land, water and living resources on which human life and development depend, and this requires actions to:

(a) Improve equity and efficiency in the use of water resources with a view to maintaining water for nature and ecosystems and preserving or restoring ecological integrity in fragile environments, and initiate programmes to protect water resources against domestic and industrial pollution;

(b) Provide international support to help developing countries, in particular least developed countries and small island developing States, to develop their own solutions and models, including integrated river basin and watershed management strategies, plans and programmes;

This paragraph should also include international support for “low- and no-water sewage systems in rural communities, the separation of industrial and domestic effluents to encourage adequate re-use of sewage sludge, solar desalination”, among others.

(c) Improve governance and institutional arrangements and the mobilization of financial resources for infrastructure and services, capacity building and sharing technology and knowledge, keeping in view that water infrastructure and services must be pro-poor and gender-sensitive;

Rather than the word “pro-poor”, we would suggest the following formulation: “that water infrastructure and services must be a tool for poverty alleviation, enhance and the quality of life, not impoverish the poor, and be gender-sensitive”.

(d) Promote public information and participation in decision making as prerequisite conditions to the success of small and large water projects, and decentralize decision-making, implementation of projects and operation of services to the lowest level possible, with the watershed as the appropriate reference unit for integrated water resources management.

See our comments on the previous two paragraphs.

(e) Assist developing countries in monitoring and assessing the quantity and quality of water resources, including the development of water resources databases, in particular remote-sensing and satellite data, and link data collection and mapping efforts, including the development and application of relevant indicators.

Such assistance must imperatively include training of local administrators, because experience shows that these tasks can be successfully implemented only if local communities are given a sense of “ownership” and “empowerment”.

(f) Promote programmes for the transfer of technology and capacity-building in the area of non-conventional water resources, including the desalination of seawater and recycling technologies, to countries facing water scarcity conditions.

This paragraph should give priority to solar desalination of seawater, because conventional desalination is extremely energy-intensive, and therefore very costly to local communities, both economically and environmentally. Great improvements have been made since the Rio Earth Summit in the area of solar desalination, and more breakthroughs in this field should be expected and encouraged by governments.

(g) Support activities leading to International Year of Freshwater (2003) and beyond.

Comments in the preceding paragraphs are relevant to the World Water Forum that will take place in Japan in 2003 coinciding with the International Year of Freshwater.

* * *

7. Actions are required to:

(a) Fully implement the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea which sets out the legal framework within which all activities in the oceans and seas must be carried out;

We welcome this paragraph, given the major role of the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), and we call upon the United States to join the rest of the international community and urgently ratify UNCLOS. The fact that United States has not ratified the UNCLOS casts additional doubts as to the ability of that country to act in keeping with good stewardship.

(b) Support financial and technological assistance to advance the specific actions called for in the Montreal Declaration on the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities, as well as the efforts underway for the full implementation of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities;

As an NGO that was involved in the discussions that preceded and led to the adoption of the GPA, and as participants in the Montreal meeting, we support this paragraph.

(c) Encourage the implementation of sustainable fisheries and their related ecosystems as a basis for food security and sustainable livelihoods through relevant agreements, including the Reykjavik Declaration on Responsible Fisheries in the Marine Ecosystem, the 1995 Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, and the relevant Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) international plans of action and technical guidelines;

As an organisation concerned with the conservation of all marine life, we support this proposal, as well as other instruments, measures and moratoria adopted for the conservation and restoration of marine life and ecosystems.

(d) Encourage the ratification and full and effective implementation of the Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks and any regional agreements established in accordance with the Convention on the Law of the Sea, and adherence to and implementation of the Convention on Underwater Cultural Heritage of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization;

We support this paragraph but would invite the Third Session to consider the inclusion of other important agreements that restrict the catch of marine life with a view to their conservation.

(e) Support implementation of the conventions of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) relating to the enhancement of marine safety and the prevention of marine pollution, and finalize and implement the IMO conventions relating to vessel-

based pollution, such as ballast water discharge, harmful anti-foulants and dumping of waste at sea;

This text should refer to “IMO Conventions and Conventions under the auspices of the IMO”. We recommend specific commitment to environmentally sound practices for the dismantling of ships at the end of their lives, and the development of new ships using eco-design concepts and sustainable materials. WSSD should also call on all countries to ratify all MARPOL Annexes. The reference to anti-foulants needs to be updated in the light of the adoption of the ban on TBT last year. The reference to “dumping of waste at sea” should include a specific reference to the need to ratify and implement the 1996 Protocol to the London Convention, 1972 as well as the implementation of the amendments to the annexes of that Convention adopted in 1993, little more than one year after the Rio Earth Summit.

(f) Consider on an urgent basis the endorsement of a comprehensive plan of action to address as a priority illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and over-capacity of fishing vessels, including, in particular, the issue of “flags of convenience” and the elimination of all subsidies that contribute to illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and over-capacity, and increase efforts to implement the 1993 Agreement to Promote Compliance with International Conservation and Management Measures by Fishing Vessels on the High Seas, and the international plans of action concluded within the framework of the 1995 Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries;

We support this. See also our comments in (m) below.

(g) Promote more extensive use of environmental impact assessments and environmental evaluation and reporting techniques for projects that may be potentially harmful to the marine environment and its living resources, in particular dealing with waste management for coastal cities;

We support this, and recommend to add public access to all information and public participation in such evaluation and reporting techniques.

(h) Provide assistance, on an urgent basis to developing countries, in particular the least developed States and small island developing States, to enable them to develop their national regional and sub-regional capacity for the integrated management and sustainable use of fisheries;

We support this proposal.

(i) Promote the development and increased coverage of coastal protected areas to conserve biodiversity;

Increased coverage of coastal protected areas is an important tool. However, for it to be effective and meet its goal, inter-alia the conservation of biodiversity, it must be coupled with decisive action on the prevention of climate change and marine pollution.

(j) Promote the sustainable use and conservation of marine and coastal biodiversity as stipulated in the Jakarta Mandate on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine and Coastal Biological Diversity of the Convention on Biological Diversity, which require urgent financial and technological support;

See comment on the previous paragraph. As an organisation with programmes designed to protect marine and coastal biodiversity, we welcome the work undertaken in the framework of the CBD in the field, and look forward to the effective implementation of the Jakarta Mandate.

(k) Strengthen regional cooperation and encourage better coordination, inter alia, through the regional seas programmes, including raising public awareness of the importance of protection of the ocean environment and meeting social and economic needs and aspirations,

We note that a number of protocols (and amendments to conventions, such as the Barcelona Convention revised in 1995) still require to be ratified. Many of these amendments were adopted with a view to adapting them after Rio to the new sustainable development paradigm. WSSD should thus welcome these new Protocols, and/or their amendments, and/or amendments to Regional Seas Conventions, and urge all the countries bordering these Regional Seas to ratify and implement them.

(l) Strengthen capacities in marine science among all relevant stakeholders, to develop and transfer appropriate marine science and marine technologies concerning living and non-living marine resources.

The development of an appropriate marine science and technology base requires a significantly greater appreciation of the uncertainties inherent in scientific knowledge. Use of marine scientific and technological methods in the context of sustainability requires that a greater weighting be given to gaps in the knowledge base by taking a precautionary approach, as capacity is built and as these methods are developed and refined (see also our comments on 26 below).

(m) Promote more effective co-ordination and co-operation in the area of oceans among United Nations organizations and between the United Nations and other international and regional bodies.

In addition, we note that several important issues which need urgent attention, and action by WSSD, are missing in this section:

- There should be a moratorium on fishing on seamounts, deep-sea ridges, plateaus and other areas of high biodiversity on the high seas.
- The UN General Assembly should establish a conference to negotiate an international agreement for the protection of marine biodiversity on the high seas.

- Genetic Engineering free seas – there should be no intentional or unintentional releases of GMOs into the marine environment.
- There should be an explicit rejection of 'sustainable utilization' or 'management'/culling of whales as competitors to commercial fishing operations.
- The WTO should be called upon to support efforts of regional fisheries management bodies to impose trade restrictions to enhance compliance with multilaterally agreed conservation measures. In addition, fisheries subsidies that lead to environmentally unsound fishing practices should be eliminated.
- Existing environmental and legal concerns regarding seabed mining should be reflected.
- Countries should be urged not to support plans to dump or “sequesterate” CO2 in the marine environment, among other reasons because this would infringe on the principle of intergenerational equity.

* * *

8. Actions are required to:

(a) Promote regional strategies containing medium and long-term actions and early warning systems to mitigate the impacts deriving from the El Nino/La Nina and other cyclical weather phenomena and other hydrological risks;

Reference should be made to the need to further investigate the correlation between the increased frequency of extreme weather patterns, such as the El Niño phenomenon, and human enhanced climate change, and to adopt remedial measures in this area.

(b) Provide funding and technological assistance to assist vulnerable countries in mitigating the impact of climate change, establishing early warning systems, and rehabilitating communities following disasters, in synergy with the objectives of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction;

We support this. See comment on the paragraph above.

(c) Establish a global early warning mechanism as the nucleus for a global early warning network, which should be integrated with national, regional and international mechanisms;

We support this, though question whether it might not be merged with (b) above?

(d) Promote pre-disaster preparedness, mitigation, vulnerability assessment and reduction, adaptation strategies and national capacities, and other measures to reduce human and economic losses.

See comment above.

(e) Encourage international joint observation and research and the dissemination of scientific knowledge for effective disaster mitigation and risk reduction;

We support this, but suggest that the four or five paragraphs above be merged to avoid inconsistencies and repetitions.

(f) Encourage dissemination and use of traditional and indigenous knowledge to mitigate the impact of disasters.

We support this. But everyone should be committed to use, when appropriate, such traditional knowledge (i.e. not only indigenous people), and indigenous people and local communities should be rewarded for their input and contribution.

* * *

9. Actions are required to:

(a) Make every effort to ensure the entry into force of the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in 2002, in accordance with the Millennium Declaration;

We support this wholeheartedly, and urge governments not to condition their ratification process on the ability or willingness of the United States to ratify. The US will be the loser if the Kyoto Protocol enters into force without them joining. And they will then need to join the ranks sooner than later. Waiting for the US to ratify is in no-one's interest, except Exxon perhaps.

(b) Provide assistance to developing countries for the implementation of the Convention on Climate Change and the Kyoto Protocol, taking into account the Marrakech Declaration;

We support this, and trust that the EU and others will act accordingly.

(c) Support climate research programmes and global climate observing systems and build scientific capacities and networks for the exchange of scientific data and information;

We support this as long as such initiatives are not used as an excuse for not, or an alternative to, implementing commitments to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

(d) Develop adaptive strategies and provide financial and technical assistance for the adaptation of developing countries vulnerable to climate change, climate variability and sea-level rise;

Yes, and the rapid establishment and funding of the Technology Transfer and Adaptation

Funds under the Kyoto Protocol. Again, we support this as long as such initiatives are not used as an excuse for not, or an alternative to, implementing commitments to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. They are clearly additional and complementary requirements.

(e) Support the initiative to assess the environmental, social and economic consequences of climate change on the Arctic and, in particular on the indigenous peoples living there.

We support this, and call for a commitment to then make available the necessary assistance to deal with adaptation. Again, we support this as long as such initiatives are not used as an excuse for not, or an alternative to, implementing commitments to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. They are clearly additional and complementary requirements.

* * *

10. Actions are required to:

(a) Enhance regional and sub-regional co-operation to reduce transboundary air pollution and acid rain, and strengthen the capacities of developing countries to measure and assess the impacts of transboundary air pollution;

We support this, but would point out that the best and most effective way to reduce transboundary air pollution is through clean production, and the use of clean, renewable energy sources.

(b) Reinforce the mechanism established in the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer and the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer and provide affordable, accessible, cost-effective, safe and environmentally sound alternatives to ozone-depleting substances to developing countries before 2010 in order to assist those countries in complying with the phase-out schedule under the Montreal Protocol.

Governments should not support funding for HFCs which have a high global warming potential, or new substitutes for some ODSs, such as n-propyl bromide, which are toxic.

We therefore support this paragraph, with the following wording change: ‘...provide affordable, accessible, cost-effective, safe and environmentally sound alternatives to ozone-depleting substances *which do not significantly contribute to global warming or the accumulation of toxins in the biosphere* to developing countries...’

* * *

11. Actions are required to:

(a) Promote the integration of agriculture with other aspects of land management and ecosystem conservation in order to promote both environmental sustainability and agricultural production;

We support this and specifically call on governments to provide international support for in situ biodiversity conservation, improve livelihoods of rural and urban communities in developing countries, and to protect their agricultural biodiversity. Governments, in particular from industrialised countries, should also commit to convert a significant percentage of their production to ecological agriculture over the next ten years, while continuing efforts to reduce and eliminate the use of agricultural chemicals and Genetically Modified Organisms released to the environment.

(b) Promote programmes to enhance productivity of land and water resources in agriculture, forestry, artisanal fisheries, etc., especially through community-based approaches;

Enhanced productivity should not be a goal in and of itself – it must be environmentally sustainable. Otherwise, it could result in biodiversity depletion, soil erosion, toxic and genetic contamination, land conversion, and/or desertification.

(c) Reverse the declining trend in public sector finance for agricultural research and for sustainable agriculture and rural development, in particular through increased external assistance;

This paragraph should be re-worded as follows: “...*for ecological agricultural research and for ecological agriculture and rural sustainable development...*”.

(d) Provide incentives for agricultural enterprises to monitor water use and quality and to improve efficiency and reduce pollution. Since agriculture is the main consumer of water, more efficient use of water in agriculture is of primary importance;

It should be said that the promotion and development of ecological agriculture would be an effective tool to enhance this objective, especially with a view to achieving balanced fertilisation.

(e) Assist governments of developing countries that are undertaking land tenure reform to promote and support land redistribution and land-use reforms, including policy advice, in order to enhance sustainable livelihoods;

We suggest the deletion of the word “advice”.

(f) Encourage well defined and enforceable land rights and legal security of tenure, and ensure equal access to land, water and other natural and biological resources, in particular for women and disadvantaged people living in poverty and indigenous communities;

Add the words “*and their sustainable use*” between “resources,” and “in particular”.

(g) Enhance international co-operation to combat illicit crops, taking into account their negative social, economic and environmental impacts.

While we support this proposal, we would like to suggest that inclusion of the words “*and environmentally harmful*” between the words “illicit” and “crops”.

* * *

12. Actions are required to:

(a) Strengthen the implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa as a global sustainable development convention, and ensure adequate and predictable financial resources and capacity building at national and local levels, particularly for its implementation in Africa, in order to restore land for agriculture and to address poverty resulting from land degradation;

Add the word “*sustainable*” between the words “for” and “agriculture”.

(b) Support the implementation of national action programmes under the Convention, including through decentralized projects at the local level, by providing predictable and stable financial resources;

We share the concerns of developing countries, especially African countries, with the lack of support given to the UNCCD since its adoption.

(c) Integrate measures to combat desertification into land management policies and programmes;

(d) Call on the next Global Environment Facility (GEF) Assembly to declare the GEF a financing mechanism for the implementation of the Conventionl.

Greenpeace would welcome any financial mechanism that would bring effective action at the heart of the UNCCD.

(e) Provide financial and technological support for the development of regional action programmes under the Convention to operate and improve monitoring and early warning related to desertification.

See comment above.

* * *

13. Actions are required to:

(a) Support a mechanism for the sustainable development of mountain ecosystems, taking into account the spirit of the International Year of Mountains 2002, in particular through encouragement of comprehensive management approaches, taking into consideration the fragility of these ecosystems;

Since the Rio Earth Summit, controversies about the use of trucks for the transportation of goods in fragile mountain ecosystems have increased significantly, especially in Europe. WSSD should agree to give priority to transportation by rail, and to minimise the impacts of transportation of goods across mountains.

(b) Promote programmes at the national, regional and international levels to protect all ecosystems, based on an integrated approach to ensure benefit-sharing from the use of biological and genetic resources and traditional knowledge.

We welcome this proposal. In order to be consistent and comprehensive, it should include agreement to resolve the conflict between the CBD and the WTO TRIPS agreement.

* * *

14. Actions are required to promote sustainable tourism development in order to increase benefits from tourism resources for the population in host communities, and maintain the cultural and environmental integrity of the host communities.

This proposal should include a statement of support to local governments considering the adoption of an “eco-tax” on tourism.

* * *

15. Actions are required to:

(a) Support country initiatives to promote and supplement Agenda 21 and to achieve the international target of reversing the current trend in loss of biodiversity at global and national levels by 2015;

Delete the word “country” in line 1.

(b) Encourage, on an urgent basis, the ratification and implementation by all states of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity, and provide support for capacity-building to developing countries in dealing with the challenges and opportunities of genetically modified organisms.

The Cartagena Protocol recognised that concerns over genetically modified crops deserve to give them a special treatment. It is therefore imperative that the Cartagena Protocol enters into force as soon as possible. To date (end of February), only 12 countries have ratified this protocol which requires fifty ratifications to enter into force. At the same time, the biotechnology companies are actively expanding their activities, regardless of additional and new evidence of the impact of their genetically modified crops on biodiversity (for example, the Mexico maize contamination case). The US and others have continued to threaten with WTO sanctions countries trying to restrict or ban

genetically modified crops (i.e. Sri-Lanka, EU). Ratification of the Cartagena Protocol is a protection against such threats.

(c) Encourage, as a priority, the successful conclusion of existing processes under the World Intellectual Property Organization Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore, with the goal of ensuring that benefits derived from the use of genetic materials are equitably shared with indigenous and local communities;

See previous comments on the conflict between the WTO TRIPS agreement and the CBD.

(d) Promote an effective, transparent and predictable framework for access to genetic resources and equitable sharing of benefits from their use.

Idem.

(e) Encourage countries to take the steps required to implement the international Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture.

We support this, and call on governments who have not yet ratified this treaty to do so as soon as possible, prior to the WSSD.

* * *

16. Actions are required to:

(a) Enhance implementation of the proposals for action of the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests and the Intergovernmental Forum on Forests, as included in the plan of action of the United Nations Forum on Forests, and intensify collective efforts by countries for the management, conservation and sustainable development of all types of forests, in particular the rehabilitation and restoration of degraded forests and lands by 2005

We welcomed the Plan of Action of the UNFF, and consider that the ministerial meeting of that body, in March 2002, one month before the meeting of Contracting Parties to the CBD (April in The Hague), will be a test case of its ability to support the proposed action-oriented work programme of the CBD for ancient forests.

(b) Enhance cooperation, coordination, and synergies among international organizations and instruments related to forests, in the framework of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests;

See comment above.

(c) Address, in a holistic manner, the issue of illegal trade in timber, non-timber forest products and genetic resources, including their underlying causes.

The word “**Address**”, on line 1, should be replaced by the word “**Halt**”.

This section is missing several key points which are essential to preserving ancient forests. Namely:

- Governments should allocate the necessary funds for ancient forest conservation and sustainable use under the Convention on Biological Diversity’s Ancient Forest work programme.
- There should be immediate moratoria on logging and other industrial scale projects in all remaining large ancient forest areas and other forest areas with key conservation values, until representative protected area networks have been established in accordance with the Precautionary Principle.
- Governments should commit to the implementation of immediate measures to halt ancient forest degradation and loss, and promote ancient forest conservation and sustainable use.

* * *

17. Actions are required to address all aspects of minerals and mining development, including an integrated approach to adverse economic, social and environment impacts and benefit sharing, ensuring that benefits can be sustained, cleaning and reclaiming land, and promoting participation of local and indigenous communities in decision making on this issue.

Greenpeace shares the concerns expressed by others with regard to the purely voluntary nature of some of the measures currently under consideration for WSSD. We agree that mining is a very important issue, not only because of its physical and social impacts, but also in the light of its influence on consumption patterns. We agree that not enough attention has been paid to the mining industry, and urge governments to identify it as a key industrial sector that needs to be better regulated world-wide.

V. Sustainable Development in a Globalizing World

18. Globalization, if appropriately managed, has the potential to promote sustainable development for all. However, there are increasing concerns that globalization has led to the marginalization of a number of developing countries and increased instability in the international economic and financial system. Promoting sustainable development in a globalizing world requires actions to:

(a) Encourage co-ordinated macroeconomic policy management at both national and international levels, in order to promote sustainable development;

See our comments on paragraph 3 at the beginning of this document with regard for the need to be consistent. In particular, we would welcome specific reference to eliminating

perverse subsidies (for example promoting renewable energy, energy efficiency and other means to reduce and eliminate greenhouse gas emissions, while at the same time putting an end to the subsidising of fossil fuels).

(b) Promote coherence and close co-operation among the United Nations, the Bretton Woods Institutions and the World Trade Organization;

We support this with the proviso that trade rules be considered subordinate to environmental rules. It is the WTO that needs to adapt to environmental rules, and not the reverse.

(c) Promote a universal, rule-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system that benefits all countries in the pursuit of sustainable development;

We agree with this laudable goal, which requires a fundamental transformation of policy and practice within international trade and finance institutions (e.g. WTO, World Bank, IMF). For it to be effective, and not end as mere rhetoric, this paragraph should call for an Intergovernmental Conference under the auspices of the United Nations to reform and transform the WTO, the IMF and the World Bank.

(d) Encourage World Trade Organization (WTO) members to implement the outcome of the Fourth WTO Ministerial Conference, held in Doha, Qatar, from 9 to 14 November 2001, so that world trade supports sustainable development in all countries, including least developed countries, small island developing States, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition, and to keep the needs and interests of developing countries at the heart of the WTO work programme;

Unfortunately, the Doha Declaration failed to clarify the relationship between MEAs and the WTO, and whether it can “support sustainable development in all countries” remains to be seen. The environmental and social impacts of key issues envisaged in the Doha Declaration, such as the liberalisation of services and investments, should be fully assessed before the WTO is allowed to move ahead.

(e) Promote corporate responsibility and accountability through initiatives such as the Global Reporting Initiative and tools such as environmental management accounting and environmental reporting.

Corporate accountability should include the responsibility to disclose to the public all information on products, by-products, discharges, and operations in the interest of the community or public health. Corporations should be held liable for compensation, restitution to impacted communities, clean-up of contaminated sites and damage to the environment, as well as cradle to grave responsibility for manufactured products. They should be required to adhere to the highest standards for protecting human health and the environment including the workplace, and to phase-out hazardous substances or unsustainable activities and replace them with clean technologies and sustainable

substitutes. Bhopal is an acute example of the failure at present to hold corporations accountable.

(f) Fulfil the WTO Doha commitment to initiate negotiations aimed at substantial improvements in market access for agricultural products and reduction with a view to phasing out, all forms of export subsidies, and substantial reductions in trade-distorting domestic support, with special and differential treatment for developing countries as an integral part of the negotiations;

We support this proposal. However this wording is not very different from past statements that have been ignored in practice by the European Union and the United States. The presence of Heads of State and Government in Johannesburg should be an opportunity to raise the profile of the important issues raised in this paragraph. For example, developing countries could ask for the adoption of a feasible time-table for the elimination of export subsidies and trade distorting domestic support. As long as export subsidies and trade distorting domestic support have not been eliminated in OECD countries, there will be no real “free” trade.

(g) Increase technical cooperation and capacity-building to allow developing countries, and in particular the least developed countries, to participate effectively in multilateral trade negotiations, in accordance with the Doha Ministerial Declaration, and implement the New Strategy for WTO technical cooperation for capacity-building, growth and integration;

There are a lot of fora where increased technical co-operation and capacity building are required to allow the full participation of developing countries. While we agree with the call for support in the WTO, this should be extended to other institutions.

(h) Improve preferential market access for least developed countries by working towards the objective of duty-free and quota-free market access for all least developed countries products to the markets of developed countries, with improvements in market access for least developed countries granted on a secure and predictable basis, in accordance with the undertaking contained in the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2000-2010, adopted by the Third United Nations Conference for the Least Developed Countries, held in Brussels from 14 to 20 May 2001, and in the WTO Doha Ministerial Declaration;

Given that this paragraph is a mere reiteration of what is already contained in the Brussels Programme of Action for LDCs and the WTO Doha Declaration, we would suggest that WSSD goes beyond, rather than repeating what has already been agreed in other fora.

(i) Encourage international and regional institutions as well as institutions in source countries to increase their support for private foreign investment in infrastructure development and other priority areas, including projects to bridge the digital divide, and

to reduce the social, economic and environment gap between developed and developing countries and countries with economies in transition. Additional source country measures should also be devised to encourage and facilitate investment flows for promoting sustainable development in developing countries;

The notion that private foreign investment is the solution to address North-South economic, social and environmental divide is flawed. Private foreign investment should be subject to environmental rules, and WSSD should be an opportunity to take action to eliminate and out-law the “double standards” of multinational corporations in the areas of environmental, social and economic welfare. Too often good governance is undermined by the bad practice of transnational corporations.

(j) Provide government incentives to the private sector in developed countries to increase the flow of foreign direct investment to developing countries;

See comment above.

(k) Make FDI more supportive of sustainable development and support developing countries in their efforts to create a domestic environment conducive to attracting foreign capital, by providing a stable investment climate, secure property rights and contract enforcement;

Delete the word “more” on line 1. This proposal needs to be linked to issue of market access for developing countries products.

(l) Eliminate tariffs, as well as tariff peaks, high tariffs, tariff escalation and non-tariff barriers, in particular on products of export interest to developing countries, in order to minimize resource use and maximize returns from value-added manufactured goods.

Tariff and non-tariff barriers are not necessarily a bad thing. It largely depends on how they are defined, administered and controlled.

(m) Strengthen efforts to increase the capacity of developing countries, particularly the least developed countries, to benefit from liberalized trade opportunities through improved productivity and competitiveness and transportation and communication infrastructure;

See our comments above on the need to eliminate trade distorting and environmentally damaging subsidies, which are relevant here.

(n) Assist developing countries and countries with economies in transition in narrowing the digital divide and in harnessing the potential of information and communication technologies for development;

While we are in favour of increased and equitable access to information and information technology, this alone pays little service to sustainable development, as we see for example in Argentina.

(o) Promote public/private partnerships and voluntary initiatives through which economic actors, particularly multinational companies, are encouraged to assume their social, environmental and economic responsibilities.

Public/private partnership must not be allowed to undermine existing or in development legally-binding rules, at the local, national, regional and international levels. Public/private partnership and voluntary initiatives can play a role only if they reinforce the legally-binding framework.

(p) Develop global multilateral guidelines on public access to information and participation in decision-making, drawing on existing experience, including regional initiatives designed to implement Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development.

Since the Rio Earth Summit, Rio Principle 10 was operationalized in the ECE region by the Aarhus Convention. WSSD should agree to initiate a process for applying the “Aarhus model” in other regions, and/or globally.

VI. Health And Sustainable Development

19. Sustainable development cannot be achieved without addressing the causes of ill health and its impact on development. Many health problems are caused or exacerbated by air and water pollution, noise, crowding, inadequate water supplies, poor sanitation, unsafe waste disposal, chemical contamination, poisoning and physical hazards associated with the growth of densely populated cities. HIV/AIDS emerged as a major challenge to sustainable development. Actions are required to:

(a) Integrate health concerns into strategies, policies and programmes for sustainable development;

We support this, and recommend that the full range of health impacts be considered. For example, health impacts are caused by the current reliance on fossil fuels, and ‘traditional’ energy supplies for poor people such as wood and dung. We also suggest adding at the end ‘and integrate (internalise) health costs associated with environmental degradation into economic assessments’.

As we said above, the issue of access to medicines remains largely unresolved despite the WTO agreement adopted in Doha last year. That agreement refers to cases of epidemics, whereas developing countries should be allowed to produce their own generic medicines without having to argue with North American and European firms whether there is an epidemic or not. Finally, not all countries have means to produce their own generic drugs,

and some of the least developed countries are among the nations that are most severely affected by HIV/AIDS.

(b) Strengthen the capacity of health systems to deliver basic health services and to reduce environmental health threats, with financial and technical assistance to developing countries and countries with economies in transition, and implement the Health for All Strategy;

We support this, but suggest that the call to ‘reduce environmental health threats’ be strengthened to say that all people have the right to live in a healthy environment.

(c) Support programmes and initiatives, particularly by the World Health Organization, to promote research and to eradicate threats to health such as malaria, tuberculosis, dengue fever and other endemic, parasitic and infectious diseases in an environmentally sound way;

We welcome this proposal, and suggest that UNEP, environmental NGOs and physicians associations be invited to assist WHO in identifying and promoting environmentally sound ways to eradicate malaria and other parasitic diseases.

(d) Strengthen regional and national programmes, with technical and financial assistance for developing countries, to reduce respiratory diseases and other health impacts of traditional cooking and heating practices;

A commitment to bring clean, renewable energy to 2 billion of the world’s poorest people would also have a positive impact on preventing these illnesses.

(e) Strengthen and support efforts for the phasing out of lead in gasoline, reduction of sulphur and benzene in fuels, and reduction of particulates in vehicle exhaust, including through cleaner fuels, to reduce health impacts, particularly in children;

We support this so long as it is not seen as a substitute for eliminating emissions. With this in mind, add the words “*and alternative*” between the words “**cleaner**” and “**fuels**”, on line 3.

(f) Promote public/private partnerships for the development and dissemination of technologies for safe water, sanitation and waste management for rural and urban areas in developing countries and countries with economies in transition, with international financial and technological support;

Add the words “*(including low- and no-water sewer treatment technologies and the separation of industrial and domestic effluents)*” between the words “management” and “for rural”, on line 2.

(g) Fight HIV/AIDS as an integral part of all national poverty reduction, sustainable

development and economic growth strategies, in accordance with the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS, with a goal of reducing HIV infection rates by 25%, by 2005 in the most affected countries;

See our comments on WTO TRIPS, above.

(h) Fulfil commitments to support the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria;

(i) More fully utilize the workplace as a basis for tackling public health problems such as HIV/AIDS and other communicable diseases by following the International Labour Organization code of practice on HIV/AIDS and the world of work;

(j) Promote health by ensuring access for all to sufficient, safe, culturally acceptable and nutritionally adequate food, and implementing the commitments made at the World Food Summit and the Millennium Summit of the United Nations General Assembly, while applying international food and animal husbandry safety standards and guidelines;

See comments on paragraph 5(h) above. Fundamental to ensuring access to safe food is the mandatory labelling of products which include unhealthy or potentially unhealthy ingredients (GMOs for example). In any case, governments should promote ecological farming practices first and foremost.

(k) Promote the use of plant-based and traditional medicine, in combination with modern medicine, ensuring effective intellectual property rights protection of traditional knowledge;

(l) Develop programmes to measure the effectiveness of health services through health information systems and integrated databases on development hazards, environmental exposures and health, and provide public access to that information to enable local citizens to protect their own health and environment.

We suggest re-wording this paragraph to read: Develop programmes to measure the effectiveness of health services through health information systems and integrated databases on *industrial and chemical* hazards, environmental exposures and health and provide public access to that information to enable local citizens to protect their own health and environment *and to enable government action*.

We also suggest that it be explicitly recognised that an important element of this effort is to require a pollution release and transfer register (PRTR) for information regarding hazardous releases from plants and facilities, together with public-right-to-know legislation.

VII. Sustainable development of small Island developing States

20. Economic and environmental vulnerability is a major contra constarint facing

small island developing States, arising from the interplay of such factors as remoteness, geographical dispersion, marginalization, susceptibility to natural disasters, climate change, ecological fragility, exposure to economic shocks, small internal markets and limited natural resource endowments. Further measures are required to:

(a) Support initiatives to accelerate national and regional implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, with the necessary financial resources, transfer of environmentally sound technologies and assistance for capacity building provided by the international community;

(b) Support relevant regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to address sustainable fisheries management, such as the recently established Caribbean Regional Fisheries Management Programme and the new Convention on the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks of the Western and Central Pacific Ocean;

We support this.

(c) Assist small island developing States and developing coastal states to define and manage in a sustainable manner their Exclusive Economic Zones and the extended continental shelf areas, where appropriate, as well as relevant regional management initiatives;

(d) Support small island developing States in their efforts to adjust to globalization and trade liberalization, including through effective operationalization of special and differential treatment, enhanced market access, trade-related capacity building initiatives, and by removing supply-side constraints;

(e) Accelerate the establishment of a global sustainable energy programme by 2004, including through the United Nations system, that can ensure that adequate, affordable and environmentally safe energy, including renewable energy, is available to promote the sustainable development of small island developing States;

We agree with this, however would ask what other kind of environmentally safe energy BESIDES renewables exists.

(f) Promote initiatives on tourism for sustainable development that will lead to development of community-based initiatives, and build the capacity necessary to protect cultural identity and to effectively conserve and manage natural resources;

(g) Extend the necessary assistance to small island developing States communities that are suffering from the consequences of disasters and other emergencies;

(h) Support the early operationalization of economic and environmental vulnerability indices for the promotion of the sustainable development of small island developing States;

(i) Promote a global initiative to assist vulnerable countries in mobilizing all resources for adaptation to climate change as well as to extreme weather events;

Yes, starting with the mechanisms in the Kyoto Protocol, recognising that they are only a start, and insufficient. Again, we support this as long as such initiatives are not used as an excuse for not, or an alternative to, implementing commitments to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. They are clearly additional and complementary requirements.

(j) Undertake the full and comprehensive review of the Programme of Action at a second global conference in 2004.

VIII. Sustainable development initiatives for Africa

21. Over the last 10 years, sustainable development in Africa has remained elusive. Most countries in the African region continue to be marginalized and negatively impacted by globalisation. Urgent actions are required to:

(a) Promote the establishment of the mechanisms needed for immediate implementation of the New Partnership for Africa's Development in its totality with clear resource commitments, including financing, technology partnerships, and human and institutional capacity-building at regional, sub-regional, national and local levels.

Greenpeace welcomes the WSSD as an important and long overdue opportunity for growth and development in Africa.

The Johannesburg venue constitutes an excellent opportunity to test the political will and commitment of world leaders with regard to Africa. We support African efforts to extract real and positive commitments at WSSD for the continent. We note that these aspirations are encapsulated in NEPAD, and we embrace the hope that civil society within and outside of Africa would be afforded opportunities to constructively contribute to the debate. There are, however, a number of concerns expressed from within sectors of African civil society about the direction taken in NEPAD. Greenpeace notes these concerns and invites the WSSD participants to take these concerns into account in their debates. Examples of statements and concerns expressed from within these sectors in regards to NEPAD can be accessed via the internet, for example:
<http://www.mg.co.za/mg/za/archive/2002mar/features/11mar-bishops.html>
http://www.zmag.org/content/Africa/bond_mbeki-addresses.cfm

Being mindful of these views and concerns expressed, Greenpeace supports the objectives outlined in NEPAD (social, environmental and sustainable development). Greenpeace makes a plea that NEPAD also give priority to renewable energy sources, in the light of their technological, environmental and poverty eradication merits. It should come as no surprise that Greenpeace is of the belief that NEPAD should not be used as a platform to promote dangerous technologies such as nuclear energy which is increasingly

considered as being obsolete and hazardous. We recommend that African leaders should look to the future with a strong emphasis on renewable energy.

We also call upon African governments to use Johannesburg as an opportunity to enhance and encourage African civil society organisations to meaningfully engage with these issues. Public scrutiny by local NGOs will bring more transparency, and therefore more international support for African priority areas.

Some of our comments on NEPAD are equally relevant and applicable to many of the paragraphs in this section, and therefore will not be repeated below.

(b) Support and promote the process of the Tokyo International Conference for African Development;

(c) Support a global initiative to provide technology, financial resources and capacity-building for integration and streamlining of African regional and sub-regional economic communities to enhance further economic co-operation;

(d) Support regional, sub-regional and national initiatives and institutions to promote and achieve sustainable development, peace, security and stability in African countries to enable them to better deal with the displacement of people due to natural disasters, conflicts, etc;

(e) Encourage increased international financial and other support for the struggle against HIV/AIDS and other communicable diseases in Africa. and support North-South and South-South partnerships in this regard;

(f) Promote the restructuring of international aid and establishment of appropriate and effective aid levels to reduce dependency, support primary social development objectives, such as safe drinking water, basic literacy and health care, and reinforce efforts to make African economies more stable and competitive. Strengthen and broaden the implementation of the heavily indebted poor countries (HIPC) initiative for debt cancellation;

(g) Encourage new measures for securing affordable access by African countries to appropriate technologies;

(h) Enhance the industrial productivity and competitiveness of African countries through a combination of appropriate financing and technological support services;

(i) Promote a global initiative to achieve access by 2005 to affordable and diversified energy sources for Africa, especially in rural areas;

Insert the word *'sustainable'* between the words **"affordable"** and **"and"** (lines 1 and 2). and add the words ***"with priority to renewable energy"*** between the words **"Africa,"** and ***"especially"*** (this is important from environmental, productivity, and poverty

eradication perspectives).

(j) Promote an integrated global initiative to bridge the digital divide and reverse the marginalization of Africa by 2005.

(k) Double agricultural productivity in Africa within a reasonable time frame, so as to ensure food security and opportunities for market expansion by setting up effective institutional framework for coordination.

Increasing agricultural productivity is of course a key priority in Africa. We note that if this is to be truly sustainable it should rely on currently available, inexpensive and successful ecological farming methods and modern agro-ecological techniques. Governments should refrain from introducing expensive, risky, proprietary and often chemically-dependent and GE techniques. We also urge governments to ban terminator technology in Africa, as a threat to food security.

Furthermore, we would like to propose to African governments to consider the urgent implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety as a means to increase productivity and competitiveness of African agricultural products (in the light of the increasing demand for GE-free goods in many countries). The adoption of the Cartagena Protocol in Montreal in January 2000 was largely a success of Africa. If all African countries ratified this protocol in time for Johannesburg, there would be a good chance that it enters into force, thereby protecting Africa's biodiversity and export markets from risks entailed by genetic contamination.

(l) Increase financial support by international funding organizations, including GEF, in the agricultural sector, and improve the development and dissemination of agricultural technologies within African countries and the transfer of applied agricultural research at affordable prices;

(m) Promote the development of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises, with a special focus on agro-industry with direct participation of the communities involved, and provide access to domestic, regional and international market, through a combination of appropriate financing and technological support services;

(n) Support the implementation of improved and expanded public transport systems and other infrastructure for African countries.

IX. Means Of implementation

22. Agenda 21 recognized that implementation of the programmes it called for would require a substantially increased effort, both by countries themselves and by the international community, including substantial new and additional financial resources as

well as the transfer of environmentally sound technologies, on concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed, and education, capacity building and development of scientific capabilities. Lack of means of implementation remains a major constraint to the realization of the goals of Agenda 21.

Finance

23. Urgent actions are required to:

(a) Promote the mobilization of new and additional resources for financing sustainable development from all sources and ensure that all funding contributes to economic growth, social development and environmental protection in the context of sustainable development and the implementation of Agenda 21.

We support this but we note with dismay that the Financing for Development process has paid little attention to the recommendations of the international community on sustainable development. The inconsistency of governments on this point damages their credibility and makes a mockery of all the good intentions stated in these preparatory sessions for the Johannesburg Earth Summit.

Indeed, the issue of resources, including financial resources to implement sustainable development is ONLY a question of political will, it is not an issue of physical capability or sufficiently available funds. There are more than adequate resources if the political will exists to identify and implement them. There are many examples of how this could be done. There could be a global agreement to allocate a significant percentage of military expenditure to fighting the common enemy of environmental degradation which in turn leads to global insecurity and conflict (i.e. a preventive measure that costs less than remediation costs). There could be an international tax on, e.g., all international trade at .X% such that no unfair advantage is created and proceeds would go directly into an international fund such as the GEF or similar entity. The so-called Tobin tax on international speculative financial transactions is also an idea that has gained momentum since Rio. And/or it could also take the form of taxing unsustainable practices with the proceeds going directly to the sustainable substitutes – a financing mechanism with built-in substantive disincentives for unsustainable, and incentives for sustainable activities.

The truth is that what is lacking is the political will, not the money.

(b) Urge developed countries that have not done so to make concrete efforts toward the achievement of the target of 0.7% of gross national product (GNP) as official development assistance (ODA) to developing countries by 2010.

The lack of implementation of the 0.7% commitment reiterated in Rio and other fora is a disgrace, and we call on all industrialised countries to act with more decency and meet this and other promises they owe to developing countries.

Having said that, it is also true that developing countries should also implement with more rigour their Earth Summit commitments, including those contained in the Rio Declaration and Agenda 21.

(c) Realize allocation of 0.15-0.20% of GNP as ODA to least developed countries or exercise of individual best efforts to increase developed countries' ODA to least developed countries as reiterated in the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010;

(d) Enhance the absorptive capacity and financial management of recipient countries to utilize aid, in order to promote the use of the most suitable aid delivery instruments, responsive to the needs of developing countries and to the need for resource predictability, including budget support mechanisms, where appropriate, and in a fully consultative manner;

(e) Improve the coordination of assistance of donor countries to developing countries and countries with economies in transition to ensure effective use of limited financial resources, in close cooperation with recipient countries;

(f) Encourage private foundations and civil society institutions through tax incentives to provide assistance to developing countries;

Whereas we do not disagree with this proposal, we warn that it should not be used by industrialised countries governments as an excuse to evade their own commitments and responsibilities. This proposal would also require a transparent agreement on the "rules on the playing field", and encouragement of scrutiny by civil society, because it would encourage industry and corporate donations.

(g) Promote the creation of a trust fund to provide financial resources for the full implementation of Agenda 21 while making full and effective use of existing finance mechanisms;

(h) Improve the lending policies of the international financial institutions as well as their role in the management of volatile short-term capital flows in order to make these coherent and consistent with sustainable development objectives of developing countries;

In particular, International Financial Institutions should commit to an immediate target of 20% energy sector lending for renewable sources, and a phase out of support for conventional energy sources within 5-10 years.

(i) Ensure a successful conclusion of the third replenishment of GEF and make the GEF more responsive to the needs and concerns of developing countries by, inter alia, improving management of funds through more speedy and streamlined procedures.

For example: GEF should ensure speedy funding for the elimination of obsolete POPs stockpiles with alternative destruction technologies that do not generate additional hazards to the environment.

(j) Implement and further deepen and broaden the HIPC initiative, without imposing further burdens, to address debt relief and the sustainable development needs of developing countries including appropriate additional measures to address any fundamental changes in countries' debt sustainability caused by natural catastrophes, severe terms-of-trade shocks or conflict;

(k) Encourage donor countries to take steps to ensure that resources provided for debt relief should not detract from ODA resources intended for developing countries;

(l) Apply innovative mechanisms to comprehensively address debt problems of developing countries including middle income countries and countries with economies in transition, inter alia, through debt-for-sustainable-development swaps;

(m) Speed up concerted action to address effectively the debt problems of least developed countries, middle-income developing countries and countries with economies in transition in a comprehensive, equitable, development-oriented and durable way through various measures, including an international debt-work-out mechanism and a long-term strategy to relieve these countries from debt and aid dependency;

Greenpeace supports the calls for the cancellation of the foreign debts that are mortgaging the present and future of developing countries.

(n) Assist countries with ecosystems of global significance, taking into account the role such ecosystems play in the provision of global ecological services.

Trade

24. Urgent actions are required to:

(a) Enhance market access for developing countries exports', particularly in areas of interest to them;

Add '...while ensuring that investments for such exports are directed to sustainable products and practices thereby ensuring the receptiveness of the global markets.'

(b) Reduce, with a view to eventually phasing out, export subsidies and trade-distorting domestic support measures;

In particular, as noted elsewhere in this document, current subsidies to conventional energy sources, estimated at \$US 250-300 billion annually, distort the energy market. These should be phased-out within 10 years, with a transition plan to ensure that developing country economies are not damaged.

(c) Address the problems of the commodity-dependent countries, including international assistance for economic diversification and sustainable resource management;

(d) Develop supply-side capacity to enhance the gains for developing countries from trade liberalization.

Transfer of Technology

Throughout this section, the concept of clean production, and the transfer of clean technologies must be introduced to ensure that development is not only economically sustainable but environmentally sustainable as well. The environmental ‘pillar’ of sustainability is lacking throughout.

25. Urgent actions are required to:

(a) Promote development, transfer and diffusion of environmentally sound technologies to developing countries and countries with economies in transition, including technical advisory and consultancy services, technology banks, marketing support, legal advice, research and development and laboratory facilities and services, assistance in project formulation and negotiation, and technology sourcing and match-making;

We suggest amending this to read ‘...environmentally sound technologies *and clean products and clean production methods* to developing countries and countries with economies in transition...’ In addition, it should be recognised that the development of sound technologies may work the other way around as well, from developing to industrialised nations.

(b) Promote, in particular at the bilateral and regional levels, initiatives to develop and strengthen net-working of related institutional support structures such as technology and productivity centres, research and development institutions, and national and regional cleaner production centres.

(c) Provide developing countries with access to publicly owned environmentally sound technologies and promote capacity building for absorbing and adapting knowledge and techniques.

We suggest a wording change as follows: ‘...access to publicly owned environmentally sound technologies and clean production ...’

(d) Assist developing countries in creating a domestic environment that is conducive to investment and technology transfer, inter alia, by promoting programmes of assistance to enhance industrial productivity and competitiveness in developing countries and countries with economies in transition;

Wording change, line 2 and 3: “conducive to investment and *clean* technology transfer, inter alia by promoting programmes of assistance to enhance *clean* productivity and competitiveness.

(e) Promote public-private partnerships at the national, regional, sub-regional and global levels geared towards assisting developing countries through the provision of financial and technical assistance for productivity enhancement and ecological management;

Line 3: “technical assistance for *clean and sustainable* productivity”

(f) Promote, in particular at the national, regional and sub-regional levels, processes to provide incentives to companies and trans-national corporations to facilitate access of small and medium-sized enterprises to environmentally sound technologies;

Line 4: environmentally sound technologies *and clean production techniques*.

(g) Establish a mechanism by 2004 for development, transfer and diffusion of environmentally sound technologies to developing countries;

Line 4: environmentally sound technologies *and clean production techniques*.

(h) Promote the creation of a mechanism to deal with patent issues pertaining to the transfer of technologies, in particular biotechnologies, to developing countries, through appropriate forums;

Governments at WSSD should commit to adopt a new instrument to prevent patenting on life and oppose the WTO’s TRIPS approach, and stop forcing biotechnologies and GE crops on small scale farmers through agricultural extension and public research systems.

(i) Promote a patent regime that acknowledges indigenous knowledge and facilitates equitable and fair distribution of benefits, and assist developing countries in building capacity to implement patent laws and regulations;

The first step that Heads of State and Government can take is to reiterate that the WTO rules should be subject to those of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

Science and Education

26. Ugent actions are required to:

(a) Facilitate building greater capacity in science and technology through improved collaboration among research institutions, the private sector and Governments, and facilitate improved collaboration and partnerships between and among scientists, Governments and all stakeholders on research and development and its widespread application;

(b) Promote the use of science and technology for informed policy/decision-making;

(c) Promote and advance formal, non-formal and informal education and public awareness needed to promote to sustainable development, including environment education. Promote and provide assistance, with support of the international community, to national education action plans and programmes that are relevant to local conditions and needs;

The development and refinement of a common philosophy, definition and strategic vision within the scientific community of what constitutes sustainability is an integral part of achieving sustainability on a practical basis. Given that it is important that development is not driven by commercial considerations, scientific activities should be carried out in environments and institutions independent of private sector interests and influences.

Science and technology are key elements of informed policy formulation and decision making processes, but it should be recognised that such processes must additionally incorporate a wide constellation of socio-political and economic elements. Moreover, within the scientific and technological domain, there needs to be explicit recognition of uncertainty and gaps in the information and knowledge base. In practical terms this requires a reversal of the burden of proof such that in any given situation the environment receives the benefit of the doubt. This reversal is a critical element of the Precautionary Approach.

- (d) Promote understanding of the potential of education to promote sustainability, to reduce poverty, to train people for sustainable livelihoods, and to catalyse necessary public support for sustainable development initiatives;
- (e) Promote a significant increase in allocation of ODA to sustainable development education and to sustainable development initiatives;
- (f) Strengthen education, research and developmental institutions in developing countries and countries with economies in transition;
- (g) Support the empowerment of women and girls by improving access to basic and higher education, training and capacity building, with emphasis on the mainstreaming of gender;
- (h) Strengthen networks for sustainable development education at national, regional and international levels with the aim of sharing experiences and know-how to raise awareness for sustainable development stewardship.

Capacity Building

27. Urgent actions are required to:

- (a) Promote partnerships for a global capacity-building initiative, that would be delivered through effective regional and sub-regional institutions, to respond to both immediate and long-term needs of people in developing countries and countries with economies in transition;
- (b) Encourage international support, including mobilization of financial resources, for regional centres of excellence for education and research that would contribute to the development of the knowledge capacity of developing countries and countries with economies in transition;
- (c) Promote programmes for capacity building that are based not only on public investment but also on generating growth within communities and the private sector that relate to job creation and diversification of industries.

Information for decision-making

28. Urgent actions are required to:

- (a) Strengthen national and regional statistical and analytical services and encourage donor support for relevant programmes;
- (b) Encourage national-level indicators of sustainable development in the context of national assessments for monitoring the attainment of sustainable development goals. This activity should also be linked to efforts at sub-regional levels;
- (c) Promote the development and wider use of satellite technology applications, including global mapping and geographic information systems, through international co-operation, to provide vital information on, for example, environmental impacts, land use and land use changes;
- (d) Encourage the development of applications for the atmosphere, oceans, and land components including global mapping and geographic information systems, through international cooperation;
- (e) Support the elaboration of indicators for disaster reduction, with specific emphasis on social, economic and environmental vulnerability to hazards, within the set of sustainable development indicators related to the vulnerability for small island states, and other existing international indicator systems, and launch implementation of those vulnerability indexes.

X. Strengthening governance for sustainable development at the national, regional and international levels

[To be completed during the third session of the Commission acting as the preparatory committee.]

Greenpeace recommends that the following text be included here:

Improve international environmental governance, including mechanisms for the effective implementation of MEAs, financial assistance for capacity building, and consideration of institutional reform.

In addition, we call for recognition that the WTO must be subject to Multilateral Environmental Agreements, and not the reverse.