

34. Coastal states should establish in regional and national action plans, [reduction programmes for inputs from land-based activities] into the marine environment, [in order to achieve] [acceptable quality of the marine environment] together with target dates and financial mechanisms. While obvious global priorities exist both national and regional differences in terms of knowledge, viewpoints, infrastructure and technology, require different emphasis throughout the world. Countries should adopt precautionary approaches to development and management. Such approaches could involve a reduction of [effluents and] emissions, through, inter alia, improved housekeeping practices, greater treatment and recycling, and the introduction of cleaner production technologies. In both developed and developing countries, priorities should include appropriate sewage and industrial effluents treatment and disposal, synthetic organic compounds, and non-point runoffs. As well, priority attention should be given to pollution from land-based sources which reach the oceans via the atmosphere. (39)

35. As concerns sewage, priority actions in this area include:

- (a) Building sewage treatment facilities [and safeguarding the maintenance and operation of treatment plants] [in accordance with national policies, capacities and international cooperation available].
- (b) Entry of non-domestic effluent to sewers containing contaminants (such as heavy metals) should be strictly controlled so as not to preclude productive uses of sewage and not exclude the possibility of environmentally sound co-treatments of domestic and compatible industrial effluents.
- (c) Municipal sewage [and industrial effluents] discharged to rivers, estuaries and the sea should, as a minimum, be subject to primary treatment.
- (d) Coastal outfalls should be located so as to avoid exposing shell fisheries, water intakes and bathing areas to pathogens. (40)
- (e) Cooperation in the development of minimum sewage effluent guidelines and water quality criteria for municipal [and industrial] wastes.
- [(f) Settlement plans should be formulated or reviewed taking into account sewage concerns including resettlement of heavily populated coastal and riverbank areas.]
- [(g) The establishment of regulatory and monitoring programmes to control effluent discharge, using appropriate risk and environmental impact assessments.]

[36. As concerns wastes, the main elements to be considered by coastal countries are:]

- (a) Regulatory and monitoring programmes to control effluent discharge, using appropriate risk and environmental impact assessments.
- (b) New ["prior informed consent" policy] [prior notification and consultation] initiatives at national and regional levels for controlling the input of non-point source pollutants, including sediments, which requires broad changes in sewage and waste management, shifts in agricultural practices, and environmentally compatible approaches to mining, construction and transportation practices.
- (c) A review and control regime of loads (fluxes) of nitrogen and phosphorus entering the marine environment. (41) Taking into account different national capacities.