

of all countries, in particular developing countries, to ensure the effective and appropriate implementation and compliance, regular assessment and timely review and adjustment of agreements or instruments by the parties concerned;

f) To identify and prevent actual or potential conflicts between environmental and social/economic agreements or instruments with a view to ensuring that such agreements or instruments are mutually reinforcing. Where conflicts arise, they should be appropriately resolved.

III. ACTIVITIES

5. In general, activities and means of implementation should be considered in the light of the above Basis for Action and Objectives based on international consensus, without prejudice to the right of every State to put forward suggestions in this regard.

A. Review and assess international law for sustainable development

6. While ensuring the effective participation of all countries, States could at periodic intervals review and assess both the past performance and effectiveness of existing international agreements or instruments as well as the priorities for future law-making in the field of environment and development. This may include the possibility of elaborating a general convention for the protection of the environment which could introduce procedures for adoption and implementation of international regulations in areas where adequate special provisions and institutions are lacking, such as nuclear safety. In certain cases, attention should be given to the possibility of taking into account varying circumstances through differential obligations or gradual application.

7. As an option for carrying out this task, earlier UNEP practice may be followed whereby legal experts designated by governments could meet at suitable intervals to be decided later with a broader environmental and developmental perspective.

B. Promote effective participation in international law-making

8. In all these activities and others that may be pursued in the future, based on the above Basis for Action and Objectives, the effective participation of all countries, in particular developing countries, should be ensured through appropriate provision of technical assistance and/or financial assistance to cover the necessary travel expenses for this purpose. Developing