

AND INFLUENCE. ONLY WHEN ALL OF THEM SHARE OUR ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS AND SENSITIVITIES; ONLY WHEN THE APPROPRIATE ENVIRONMENTAL CRITERIA ARE INCORPORATED INTO THEIR PLANNING AND DECISION-MAKING AT THE EARLIEST STAGE; ONLY WHEN THEY ACCEPT THE FACT THAT WE CANNOT GO ON TREATING THE ENVIRONMENT AS A LIMITLESS RECEPTACLE AND A FREE RESOURCE - ONLY THEN WILL WE START TO RECORD SOLID ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE STATE OF THE WORLD ENVIRONMENT,

TO ADDRESS OUR COLLECTIVE ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS WILL REQUIRE DETERMINATION AND RESOURCES. EVEN MORE, IT WILL REQUIRE MUTUAL CARE AND RESPECT: IT WILL REQUIRE NEW FORMS AND MECHANISMS OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION: TO BUILD ON THE ECE CONVENTION ON LONG RANGE TRANSPORT OF AIR POLLUTANTS, ON THE NEW LAW OF THE SEA, ON THE MONTEVIDEO MEETING ON ENVIRONMENTAL LAW AND ON A UNEP THAT TRULY BECOMES THE ENVIRONMENTAL CONSCIENCE OF THE WHOLE UN SYSTEM.

AS WE MEET TODAY, THE CONCERNS OF OUR GOVERNMENTS AND OUR PEOPLES FOR GENUINE, SUSTAINED ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ARE EVERY BIT AS IMPORTANT AS THEY WERE WHEN MAURICE STRONG HIGHLIGHTED THEM IN 1972. INDEED, THE CURRENT DIFFICULT ECONOMIC CIRCUMSTANCES HAVE MADE THAT PREOCCUPATION EVEN MORE PRESSING AND PERVASIVE. BUT TODAY, WE KNOW THAT IT IS A FUNDAMENTAL CONDITION OF OUR DEVELOPMENT THAT WE CONSERVE AND MANAGE OUR RESOURCES CAREFULLY; THAT WE MUST NOT DESTROY THE VERY BASE ON WHICH LIES OUR FUTURE PROSPERITY; THAT