

trate the degree to which the momentum towards the creation of new institutional machinery in the environmental field has developed.

Clearly, UNEP occupies a special and central role among the existing multilateral institutions dealing with environmental issues and there appears to be wide consensus on the need to strengthen it and provide it with much greater support, a stronger mandate, and an enhanced status with the UN system.

Some suggest that it should be a specialized agency. Others argue that this would be moving in the wrong direction by sectoralizing the environment at a time when what is needed is greater coordination and integration with the agencies responsible for other sectors, the policies and activities of which impact the environment. This would suggest strengthening UNEP as part of the central structure of the UN system - perhaps also of the Bretton Woods institutions - rather than as a separate agency. The question of how the Fund of UNEP might be more closely related to UNDP to support national requirements needs to be considered. How this relates to additional funds to reduce global risks, whether centralized as in the GEF, or distributed among separate treaties, also needs study. But whatever may be done in this respect, the amount of funding required to ensure full participation by developing countries in international agreements and programs should be greatly increased.

The foregoing comments have focussed primarily on institutional and funding needs at the global level, with particular reference to the UN system. But all international environmental cooperation has its roots in the national institutions and programs of participating countries, whether governmental or non-governmental in character. The roles of scientific, technical and research organizations and of private industry are of special and growing importance. A wide variety of regional organizations can also be called on to contribute to international cooperation in respect of environment and environment-related development issues. All these activities should take place within the broad framework of global cooperation established by the UN, whether or not they are under direct UN control or supervision. The scope of work now taking place under the authority of the UNCED preparations process will show the practicality of this approach if governments choose to institutionalize it in 1992.

## 11. PREPARING THE 1992 CONFERENCE