for the protection of the environment that take into account the different situations and capabilities of countries [, thus avoiding the possible use of unilaterally set environmental standards as barriers to trade] [in order to establish a framework for coexistence between environmental measures and international trade rules, and thus aiming at preventing the use of environmental measures for protectionist purposes];

(e) To ensure the effective and appropriate implementation [and compliance], and to facilitate timely review and adjustment of agreements or instruments by the parties concerned taking into account the special needs and concerns of all countries, in particular developing countries;

(f) To improve the effectiveness of institutions, mechanisms and procedures for the administration of agreements and instruments;

(g) To identify and prevent actual or potential conflicts, particularly 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;

(h) To establish and strengthen mechanisms to identify, prevent and settle international disputes in the field of the environment, duly taking into account existing bilateral and multilateral agreements for the settlement of such disputes.)

III. ACTIVITIES

4. Activities and means of implementation should be considered in the light of the above basis for action and objectives, without prejudice to the right of every State to put forward suggestions in this regard, in the General Assembly of the United Nations. These suggestions should be reproduced in a separate compilation on sustainable development, for further consideration by the General Assembly.

A. <u>Review, assessment and fields of action in international law for sustainable development</u>

5. While ensuring the effective participation of all countries concerned, Parties should 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 an examination of the possibility of elaborating general rights and obligations of States, as appropriate, in the field of the environment, as provided by General Assembly resolution 44/228, para. 50 (b).] In certain cases, attention should be given to the possibility of taking into account varying circumstances through