

A third point is the striking lack of discussion on mechanisms for implementing the actions which are proposed. Paragraph 8 states that the elaboration of such mechanisms will be identified by the Dublin conference, yet Decision 2/20 of the second PrepCom specifically requested that the main elements of an action plan, including an implementation plan, be identified as a basis for Agenda 21. Mr. Chairman, I will come back to this crucial point later.

Fourth, we are pleased to see that document PC/42/ADD.7 makes reference in several areas to the role of women in water resources management. However, we feel that this matter could be afforded more emphasis as the participation of women in water management policy-making and decision-making, at the community level as well as at the national, regional and global levels, is essential.

A fifth observation is that there appears to be some overlap regarding the structure of the Dublin Conference as described in document PC/73, particularly with regard to two of the six themes to be discussed in the Conference Working Groups. The two themes in question are described in paragraph 30 -- "environmentally sound water management" -- and paragraph 32 -- "integrated water resources management". The distinction between these two themes is unclear, and we suggest they be combined into one theme to be called "Integrated Water Resources Management".

Finally, there appears to be confusion between the content of documents PC/73 and PC/42/ADD.7. Not all of the themes identified in one correspond to those listed in the other, creating further uncertainty about the Working Group themes of the Dublin Conference. We suggest that the contents of the papers, and of the Dublin Conference working group themes, be harmonised as follows:

- water resources assessment;
- water & sustainable agricultural development;
- capacity building for water management;
- management of water resources for urban use;
- protection of water quality;
- integrated water resources management.

We raise these points, Mr. Chairman, because we believe it is essential that no uncertainty exist about the structure of the Dublin Conference and the issues it is to address. Furthermore, it is equally important that the PrepCom process and the planning process for the Dublin conference be consistent with one another, given the crucial role of the Dublin Conference in developing the freshwater issue at UNCED in June 1992.

I would like to turn now, Mr. Chairman, to the Dublin conference and to the point made earlier about the absence of discussion on implementation mechanisms. Canada believes the Mar del Plata Action Plan remains an appropriate substantive document