

living marine resources. In doing so, we envisage the development of strategies, action plans or frameworks which build on existing guidelines and agreements at the regional and global levels. These would include strengthening regional seas programs and agreements. Most importantly, we must develop measures which give full effect to the principles of the Law of the Sea Convention.

We are not out to re-invent the wheel, but rather to ensure that there are four wheels, working together, to make the necessary progress. We must also ensure that the destination is clear, through the articulation of specific objectives and timeframes. It is in the area of concrete targets and timetables where existing guidelines and agreements are noticeably lacking and must be taken further.

For UNCED, this points to working together to develop a global strategy and action plan for integrated oceans management. The results of the Halifax meeting on land-based sources of marine pollution would be an important component. Progress in articulating an integrated approach to coastal zone management is another. The conservation and protection of living marine resources is a third key area.

We have also been considering what the follow-up mechanism for Agenda 21 goals and objectives will be. At UNCED we could consider follow-on work through a mechanism such as a global oceans conference.

To conclude, it should be our objective at this PrepCom to define the linkages among ocean issues, to clarify their relationships to economic development objectives, to consider ways to improve the linkages and cooperation among international institutions active in this area, and identify objectives and goals worthy of further consideration, along the lines of the document prepared by the Secretariat. This could lead, at PrepCom IV, to the consideration of a comprehensive set of principles on all aspects of oceans and specific recommendations for action (an "Agenda 21" for oceans). At UNCED, we could consider adopting a declaration, global strategy and action plan for integrated oceans management.

Thank you.