

9. At the 6th meeting, on 19 August, the representative of the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development made an introductory statement. Statements were made by the representatives of Sweden, United Republic of Tanzania, Peru, Mali, New Zealand, the United States of America, Brazil, Mexico, Tunisia, Austria, Malaysia, Burkina Faso, Kenya, Viet Nam and the Netherlands (on behalf of the European Community and its member States). Statements were also made by the representatives of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources and Baha'i International Community, non-governmental organizations accredited to the Preparatory Committee in accordance with its decision 2/2.

10. At the 7th meeting, on 19 August, statements were made by the representatives of Italy, Kiribati, Egypt, Romania, Australia, Singapore, the Philippines, China, Chile, Indonesia, Nigeria, Poland, Germany, India, Kuwait, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Zimbabwe, Canada, the Sudan, Peru, the United States of America and Mexico. The representative of the International Committee of the Red Cross made a statement. Statements were also made by the representatives of Greenpeace International, Four Directions Council and Consortium for Action to Protect the Earth (CAPE '92), non-governmental organizations accredited to the Preparatory Committee in accordance with its decision 2/2. The representative of the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations also made a statement.

11. The Chairman's summary of the discussion was subsequently issued in document A/CONF.151/PC/WG.III/L.9 and Corr.1.

12. At the 15th meeting, on 29 August, the Chairman introduced a draft decision, contained in document A/CONF.151/PC/WG.III/L.15, entitled "Survey of existing agreements and instruments, and criteria for evaluation", which he had submitted on the basis of informal consultations, and orally revised it as follows:

(a) In paragraph (b), the words "Agrees on" were replaced by the word "Welcomes";

(b) In paragraph (c), the words "agreed criteria" were replaced by the words "proposed criteria" and the phrase "and in cooperation with the international secretariats or depositaries concerned, as applicable" was added at the end of the paragraph.

13. At the same meeting, the Working Group approved the draft decision, as orally revised, and recommended it to the Preparatory Committee for adoption (see para. 44 below, draft decision I).

IV. PRINCIPLES ON GENERAL RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS

14. The Working Group considered the question of principles on general rights and obligations (agenda item 4) at its 8th to 10th, 14th and 16th meetings, on 20, 21, 27 and 30 August.