



## General Assembly

Distr.  
GENERAL

A/CONF.151/PC/77  
26 June 1991

Original: ENGLISH

---

PREPARATORY COMMITTEE FOR THE UNITED NATIONS  
CONFERENCE ON ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT  
Third session  
Geneva, 12 August - 4 September 1991  
Working Group III  
Item 3 of the provisional agenda

### SURVEY OF EXISTING AGREEMENTS AND INSTRUMENTS, AND CRITERIA FOR EVALUATION

Note by the Secretariat

1. According to the terms of reference adopted by the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development at its second session (A/46/48, Part I, decision 2/3), Working Group III is expected to prepare an annotated list of existing international agreements and international legal instruments in the environmental field, describing their purpose and scope, evaluating their effectiveness, and examining possible areas for the further development of international environmental law, in the light of the need to integrate environment and development, especially taking into account the special needs and concerns of the developing countries.
2. In order to facilitate discussion in the Working Group, the present note contains a draft list of existing international agreements and international legal instruments to be evaluated for this purpose, together with draft criteria for their evaluation in view of the further development of environmental law.