

- scientific information, including public and private research, emission data needed for research, scientific results and assessment of these results with recommendations for future research;
- Technical information, including availability and cost of chemical substitutes and alternative technologies to reduce emissions, and limitations and risks involved;
- Socio-economic and commercial information, including production, use patterns and imports/exports and costs, risks and benefits of human activities as well as of regulatory actions being considered;
- Legal information, including national law and administrative measures, international agreements including bilateral, and methods and terms of licensing and availability of relevant patents.³⁷

Provision of far more specific information is required under other treaties including the Protocol to the 1979 Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution Concerning the Control of Emissions of Nitrogen Oxides or Their Transboundary Fluxes in which Article 8 and the Technical Annexes set very demanding requirements.

5. RECENT VIEWS ON UNEP FUNCTIONS

The Assembly's Perspective to the Year 2000. In 1972 the Assembly foresaw the goal of the UN Environment Program largely in terms of measures designed "to safeguard and enhance the environment for the benefit of present and future generations of man." Fifteen years later it adopted the "Environmental Perspective to the Year 2000 and Beyond" as "a broad framework to guide national action and international co-operation on policies and programmes aimed at achieving environmentally sound development" with the following "aspirational goals":

- The achievement over time of such a balance between population and environmental capacities as would make possible sustainable development, keeping in view the links among population levels, consumption patterns, poverty and the natural resource base;
- achievement of food security without resource depletion or environmental degradation, and restoration of the resource base where environmental damage has been occurring;
- provision of sufficient energy at reasonable cost, notably by increasing access to energy substantially in the developing countries, to meet current and expanding needs in ways which minimize environmental degradation and risks, conserve non-renewable sources of energy, and realize the full potential of renewable sources of energy;
- sustained improvements in levels of living in all countries, especially the developing countries, through industrial development that prevents or minimizes environmental damage and risks;