

33. Industry also has a central role in confronting the environmental challenges of the 1990s, especially in incorporating environmental concerns into their economic decisions. The OECD will continue to stimulate and support closer cooperation between governments and industry to meet these challenges. Progress is beginning to be made in fields such as waste minimisation, industrial processes that conserve energy and raw materials, the design and marketing of cost-effective 'clean technologies', and the development of an economically viable pollution control and environmental management industry. There will be an expanded effort to analyse the economic dimensions of these activities and trends and promote information exchange on technological innovation and options. The OECD-BIAC Conference on "Environmental Problems and Industrial Policies in the 1990s" planned for October is an example of this. The agricultural sector also has a central role to play in correcting environmental problems, such as soil erosion and water pollution.

34. Close co-operation, involving the IEA and the NEA, on the crucial relationship between environment and energy will continue. Integrated policies which further energy security, environmental protection and economic growth are required. In view of increasing evidence of the risk of global warming and climate change and the necessity to respond to this issue, Ministers call for vigilant, serious and realistic assessment on a global basis of what energy policies can contribute to meeting these challenges, and of their economic and social impacts. Member governments should contribute in their energy policies to the solution of international and domestic environmental problems. As identified by IEA Ministers, they pledge to pursue in their respective energy policies greatly improved energy efficiency and conservation, new technologies and, where national decisions so contemplate, the use of nuclear power with maintained and improved safety in construction, operation and waste disposal. The transport sector also has a particular significance for the environment. The OECD is actively participating in the preparations for an ECMT Ministerial meeting on transport and the environment, which will be held in November 1989.

35. Ministers agree that cooperation with developing countries is essential for the solution of global environmental problems. The OECD will evaluate relevant policy experience in Member countries. On the basis of this information the Organisation will seek to coordinate policies among Member countries with a view to promoting mechanisms for technology transfer to developing countries; the balancing of long-term environmental costs and benefits against near-term economic growth objectives; the design of innovative approaches by development assistance institutions to environmental protection and natural resources management; and the integration of environmental considerations into development programmes, taking into account the legitimate interests and needs of developing countries in sustaining the growth of their economies and the financial and technological requirements to meet environmental challenges. Ministers encourage the development of appropriate environmental appraisal procedures for specific developmental projects and programmes financed directly or indirectly by Member governments. They recognise that public awareness of the environmental impact of potential projects is essential.