

IV

Basic orientation of the United Nations
Environment Programme for 1982-1992

7. Considers that, on the basis of the new perceptions described in section II, UNEP, which is the global environmental organization at Government level, in keeping with its mandate and with the support of organizations of the United Nations system, should focus its attention on three major areas and should:

(a) Stimulate, co-ordinate and catalyze monitoring and assessment of environmental problems of world-wide concern and initiate and co-ordinate international co-operation in dealing with such problems;

(b) Promote and co-ordinate appropriate policies and programmes for rational resource and environmental management as an integral part of economic and social development with particular attention to the needs of developing countries;

(c) Promote, co-ordinate and direct activities in the fields of information, education, training and national institution-building especially for developing countries, as well as the further development of environmental law and guidelines and methodologies of environmental management and where supplementary funds are available, assist in the implementation of these activities;

8. Further considers that with these three over-all basic orientations in mind, UNEP's objectives should be:

(a) In the area of environmental assessment;

(i) To improve early warning indicators of significant environmental changes;

(ii) To improve the planning and co-ordination of monitoring at the global and regional levels;

(iii) To produce concrete assessment statements for important environmental problems and their human health, social and economic implications;

(iv) To establish better links between the Global Environmental Monitoring System, the International Referral System for sources of environmental information (INFOTERRA), the International Register of Potentially Toxic Chemicals and national and international data centres;