

- (ii) The Global Atmospheric Research Programme has continued and international studies of climatic change and variability and of the applications of climate knowledge to human activity have been incorporated in the World Climate Programme;
 - (iii) The International Referral System for sources of environmental information is functioning (as INFOTERRA) but has not adequately realized its objectives, in particular because the growth of user demand has been slow;
 - (iv) The International Register of Potentially Toxic Chemicals has started to prove itself as an important centre for information on toxic chemicals;
 - (v) The International Programme on Chemical Safety is providing toxicological assessments for an increasing number of substances, together with accelerated manpower development, guidelines for emergency response to chemical accidents and technical co-operation relating to control of toxic chemicals;
 - (vi) Assessments of the environmental impacts of various sources of energy have been published;
 - (vii) A major report entitled "The World Environment 1972-1982" has been published in conjunction with the session of a special character;
- (b) In the area of environmental management:
- (i) There has been progress in the formulation of regional environmental programmes, and Governments have concluded a number of important global and regional agreements as well as drawn up principles and guidelines, although in some cases there have been delays in their implementation or observance;
 - (ii) Worldwide efforts have expanded to combat desertification, to improve water supply and management, and to improve human settlements, although progress to implement the comprehensive United Nations action plans developed in each of these areas has remained slow;
 - (iii) Progress has been made in the implementation of international scientific programmes relating to the human environment, particularly the Programme on Man and the Biosphere and the International Hydrological Programme;