

32. We underline the importance of meeting the commitments we made at the 1992 Rio Earth Summit and subsequently, and the need to review and strengthen them, where appropriate. Climate change remains of major global importance. We will work with others to:

- fulfil our existing obligations under the Climate Change Convention, and our commitments to meet the agreed ambitious timetable and objectives to follow up the Berlin Conference of the Parties;
- implement the medium term work program adopted pursuant to the Convention on Biological Diversity;
- conclude successfully the work of the CSD intergovernmental panel on forests, and promote a successful UN Conference on Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks and international consensus at the next CSD session on action to deal with the problems of the world's oceans.

33. We encourage a clearer delineation of the mandates of the CSD and UNEP. CSD should be the global forum for identifying and agreeing upon long term strategic goals for sustainable development. UNEP should act as an international environmental voice and catalyst; it should focus on monitoring, assessment, and the development of international environmental law.

Preventing and Responding to Crises

34. Disasters and other crises complicate the development challenge and have exposed gaps in our institutional machinery. To help prevent and mitigate emerging crises, including those with human rights and refugee dimensions, we will ask:

- the UN Secretary General to explore means to improve the analysis and utilization of disaster and conflict-related early warning information, particularly through the High Commissioners on Human Rights and Refugees;
- the Bretton Woods institutions and the U.N. to establish a new coordination procedure, supported as necessary by existing resources, to facilitate a smooth transition from the emergency to the rehabilitation phase of a crisis, and to cooperate more effectively with donor countries;
- the bodies involved in the provision of humanitarian assistance to cooperate more closely with the Department of Humanitarian Affairs in its assigned coordination role.

Reinforcing Coherence, Effectiveness and Efficiency of Institutions

35. To fulfil their missions effectively into the future, multilateral institutions must continue to undertake reforms and to improve coordination and reduce overlap. The international financial institutions have shown flexibility in