

RECOMMENDATIONS OF WORKING GROUP III

44. Working Group III recommends to the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development the adoption of the following draft decisions:

DRAFT DECISION I

Survey of existing agreements and instruments,
and criteria for evaluation

The Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development:

(a) Takes note of the report by the secretariat on the survey of existing agreements and instruments, and criteria for evaluation (A/CONF.151/PC/77);

(b) Welcomes the expected outcome of its work on this agenda item, as reflected in annex I;

(c) Requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development to compile the necessary background information in accordance with the proposed criteria for evaluating the effectiveness of existing agreements and instruments (annex II), on the basis of a revised list of such agreements and instruments (annex III) and in cooperation with the international secretariats or depositaries concerned, as applicable.

ANNEX I

Expected outcomes

In accordance with its terms of reference, Working Group III will prepare an annotated list of existing international agreements and international legal instruments in the environmental field, describing their purpose and scope, evaluating their effectiveness, and examining possible areas for the further development of international environmental law, in the light of the need to integrate environment and development, especially taking into account the special needs and concerns of the developing countries.

Possible areas to be examined in the context of Agenda 21 are:

(a) Priorities for future law-making at the appropriate level, incorporating environmental and developmental concerns;

(b) Measures to promote and support the effective participation of developing countries in the negotiation and operation of international agreements or instruments, including technical and financial assistance and other available mechanisms for this purpose;

(c) Measures for effective implementation and compliance, regular assessment and timely review and adjustment of agreements or instruments by the Parties concerned;