

(c) Involve non-governmental organizations in national mechanisms or procedures established to carry out Agenda 21, making the best use of their particular capacities, especially in the fields of education, poverty alleviation and environmental protection and rehabilitation;

(d) Take into account the findings of non-governmental monitoring and review mechanisms in the design and evaluation of policies concerning the implementation of Agenda 21 at all levels;

(e) Review government education systems to identify ways to include and expand the involvement of non-governmental organizations in the field of formal and informal education and of public awareness;

(f) Make available and accessible to non-governmental organizations the data and information necessary for their effective contribution to research and to the design, implementation and evaluation of programmes.

[Means of implementation]

(a) Financing and cost evaluation

58. Depending on the outcome of review processes and the evolution of views as to how best to build partnership and dialogue between official organizations and groups of non-governmental organizations, relatively limited, but unpredictable, costs will be involved at the international and national levels in enhancing consultative procedures and mechanisms. Non-governmental organizations will also require additional funding in support of their establishment of, improvement of or contributions to Agenda 21 monitoring systems. These costs will be significant but cannot be reliably estimated on the basis of existing information.

(b) Capacity-building

59. The organizations of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental organizations and forums will need to provide increased financial and administrative support for non-governmental organizations and their self-organized networks contributing to the monitoring and evaluation of Agenda 21 programmes, and provide training for non-governmental organizations (and assist them to develop their own training programmes) at the international and regional levels to enhance their partnership role in programme design and implementation. (See Agenda 21, chap. IV, sect. 5 on capacity-building.)

60. Governments will need to promulgate any legislative measures necessary to enable the establishment by non-governmental organizations of consultative groups, and to ensure [the right of non-governmental organizations to protect the public interest through legal action] access by non-governmental organizations with a recognized legal interest to judicial and administrative procedures (USA).]