

Protection of the Atmosphere and that negotiation of protocols on priority issues should proceed simultaneously with the development of any such convention. Along with the development of a climate change convention, work on principles for a framework convention on protection of the atmosphere should proceed. The Meeting of Experts expressed the wish that its recommendations for, and observations on, the content of an international agreement or agreements be forwarded as soon as possible for consideration by international fora and meetings competent to carry matters forward in this important area of environmental concern.

A. The following elements should be addressed in any framework "umbrella" convention on protection of the atmosphere:

1. Atmosphere

The following two variants are proposed for the definition of atmosphere:

"Atmosphere" means the resource constituted by the global mass of air surrounding the earth.

"Atmosphere" means all or part of the collection of gases which lie within the limits of the troposphere and stratosphere as defined by the WMO international standard atmosphere.

2. Atmospheric interference

"Atmospheric interference" means any change in the physical or chemical condition of the atmosphere resulting directly or indirectly from human activities and producing effects of such a nature as to appreciably endanger human health, harm living resources, ecosystems and material property, impair amenities or interfere with other legitimate uses of the environment;

"International atmospheric interference" means any atmospheric interference of which not both the origin and the effects are wholly located within the area under the national jurisdiction of one State.

Note: The notion of "atmospheric interference" was found useful as a key to the obligations of the Convention. It should include both the elements of appreciable danger and appreciable harm (or any other adjective such as "significant", "substantial", etc.) depending on the degree of tolerance to harm [threshold] that may be adopted.