

recommended by the experts for adoption by the Governing Council at its tenth session in May 1982. Main subject areas include marine pollution from land-based sources, protection of the ozone layer and the transport, handling and disposal of toxic and hazardous waste. Detailed elements of strategy are recommended for each of the priority areas. Nine other subject areas were dealt with in somewhat less detail. This chapter also contains detailed sections on "methods of implementation, review and follow-up", on "general development of environmental law", and on "specific recommendations for initial action". The third chapter of the report contains an account of the proceedings of the Senior Level Meeting.

In February 1980, the UNEP Working Group of Experts on Environmental Law completed its work on liability and compensation, the fourth and final part of its study on the legal aspects of offshore mining and drilling carried out within the limits of national jurisdiction. At its ninth session in May 1981, the UNEP Governing Council requested the executive director of UNEP to circulate the texts of the conclusions reached by the Working Group to all governments for their comments, recommended that governments consider them when drafting legislation or negotiating agreements on this subject, and requested the executive director to report on this subject to the Governing Council at its tenth session.

The UNEP Governing Council also decided at its ninth session to initiate work on a Global framework convention on the protection of the ozone layer. To carry out this task it established an ad hoc working group of legal and technical experts and requested the group to report through UNEP's executive director to the Governing Council at its tenth session on the progress of its work.

Work on a Convention on liability and compensation in connection with the carriage of noxious and hazardous substances by sea continued in the Legal Committee of the Intergovernmental Maritime Consultative Organization, with a view to holding a diplomatic conference to conclude the convention in 1983 or 1984.

On the bilateral side, formal negotiations on a Transboundary air pollution agreement between Canada and the United States opened in Washington on June 23, 1981, pursuant to the Memorandum of Intent on transboundary air pollution signed by the two governments in August 1980. The Memorandum pledged the governments to negotiate an air pollution agreement and established a committee structure to undertake preparatory work to be followed by formal negotiations. Committee reports on atmospheric modelling; impact assessment; emissions, costs and engineering assessment; and strategies development and implementation were submitted to the governments in February 1981. The report of the legal, institutional and drafting work group, which draws together available information on international law and domestic legal matters pertaining to the negotiation of a Transboundary air pollution agreement, was completed in July 1981.

On October 9, 1981 the International Joint Commission issued a "Notice of Minute" indicating that a final disposition of the "Request in