1. Oceans and Seas

1. General considerations

1. The Commission recognizes the fundamental fact that oceans and seas constitute the major part of the planet that supports life, drive the climate and hydrological cycle, and provide the vital resources to be used to ensure well-being for present and future generations and economic prosperity, to eradicate poverty, to ensure food security and to conserve marine biological diversity and its intrinsic value for maintaining the conditions that support life on earth. The Commission also reiterates the following general considerations:

(a) The United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) sets out the overall legal framework within which all activities in this field must be considered;
(b) Chapter 17 of Agenda 21 remains the fundamental programme of action for achieving sustainable development in respect to oceans and seas;
(c) The Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 (General Assembly resolution S-19/2, annex), adopted by the General Assembly at its nineteenth special session (especially its paragraph 36), identifies the needs for urgent action in respect to oceans and seas;

2. The Commission, taking into full account the different situations of various countries, calls upon Governments to strengthen national, regional and international action, as appropriate, to protect the marine environment, and to coordinate coastal area management and stresses that, as in other areas, action should be taken on the basis of the principles set out in the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development.

2. Major challenges at the national, regional and global levels

3. Following the 1998 International Year of the Ocean, the Commission emphasizes the importance of international cooperation, within the framework of UNCLOS and Agenda 21, in ensuring that the oceans and seas remain sustainable through integrated management, and that, while respecting the sovereignty, jurisdiction and sovereign rights of coastal States, and recalcitrant their rights and obligations in relation to the protection of the marine environment, all States can benefit from the sustainable use of the oceans and seas. The Commission further emphasizes the threats to these objectives from overexploitation of marine living resources, including through illegal, unreported or unregulated IUU fishing and through unsustainable or uncontrolled distant water fishing, and from pollution. In this context, the Commission recommends that particular priority be given to:

(a) The conservation, integrated and sustainable management and use of marine living resources, including the ecosystems of which they are a part;
(b) The prevention of pollution and degradation of the marine environment from land-based and other activities;
(c) Better scientific understanding of the oceans and seas and their resources, of the effects of pollution, and of the interaction of the oceans and seas with the world climate system. This will be aimed at, and facilitate, proper assessment of the present and future generation of socio-economic effects, especially from pollution, developing better systems for the sustainable management and use of the resources of the oceans and seas and comprehending and responding to such events as the El Niño phenomenon, and mitigating their impacts;

3. Areas of particular concern

Marine resources

Sustainable fisheries and aquaculture

5. The Commission emphasizes the importance of cooperation, at the regional level, as appropriate, within the relevant legal framework for the conservation and integrated and sustainable management, and use of regional seas. In this context, the Commission supports the need...
Food Summit of 1996. The Commission urges the international community to support coastal and developing States in the development of sustainable fisheries and aquaculture.

10. The Commission encourages all States, when developing policies and programs for the conservation of biological diversity, to consider the conservation of biodiversity as a basis consistent with the conservation of biological diversity, the sustainable management and use of oceans.

23. The Commission calls on RFOs and regional sea organizations to cooperate in more efficient integration of sustainable fisheries management and environmental conservation measures.

24. The Commission notes the importance of protecting ecosystems and the need for further study of approaches in this context.

Marine Non-living Resources

25. The Commission urges support, upon the request of the State concerned, for national efforts to facilitate international cooperation and to develop appropriate policies to facilitate the exploration and exploitation, with the State's consent and in a manner consistent with the sustainability of marine living resources, of non-living marine resources within its exclusive economic zones, or to the outer limits of the continental shelf, wherever applicable.

26. The Commission expresses its grave concern at the slow rate of progress in many aspects of the implementation of the Global Plan of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities (A/51/116, annex I). In this context, the Commission is aware of the recent decision of the UNEP Governing Council on the implementation of the Rome Declaration adopted by the FAO Ministerial Meeting on Fisheries (Rome, 10–11 March 1999) that FAO will give priority to its work to develop a global plan of action to deal effectively with any forms of IUU fishing.

Other marine living resources

21. The Commission endorses the International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI) call to action, its renewed call to action, and its framework for action, and urges implementation of complementary actions by States, intergovernmental organizations, and other bodies (in particular the Convention on Biological Diversity), non-governmental organizations and the private sector. The Commission also calls upon States to establish and manage marine protected areas, along with other appropriate management tools, consistent with the provisions of UNCLOS and other relevant international agreements.

22. The Commission encourages States to establish and manage marine protected areas, along with other appropriate management tools, consistent with the provisions of UNCLOS and other relevant international agreements.
In the context mentioned in paragraph 3(d), to developing countries, including through the various coordination arrangements established by the United Nations and other relevant conventions. In this context, the Commission emphasizes the importance of further development of effective port State control. 

(b) Urges that the export of wastes and other hazardous substances be stopped; the Commission further recommends that States be encouraged to become Parties to, and implement, the 1990 Protocol to the Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter of 1972; 

(c) Reaffirms the concern expressed in paragraphs 129 of its decision 415 for States that have not yet done so to become Parties to, and implement, the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Disposal (1989).

(d) Discussed further the question of the fate of high-seas sister ship, and calls upon its Members to report to its Eleventh Session on progress made in this regard.

(e) Recommends that the international community encourage the implementation of the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on ENSO, in order to contribute to the development of a comprehensive strategy towards the assessment, prediction, mitigation and rehabilitation of the impact of ENSO on the United Nations system.

(f) Recommends that the programme for the development of ENSO forecasts and early warnings be carried out in accordance with relevant international agreements, in particular the International Code of Conduct for Space Operations of 1992.

(g) Welcomes the activities of the International Seabed Authority on a draft mining code, including in the context mentioned in paragraph 3(d); 

(i) Recommends that States should consider ratifying, accepting or approving annex VI to the MARPOL Convention on the control of air pollution from ships. 

(j) Recommends that, in order to reduce the environmental risks and potential damages associated with maritime transport, in particular when transiting areas which are environmentally sensitive, States should fully implement the IMO regulations for the prevention of pollution from ships.

3. The Commission emphasizes the importance of ensuring that ships of all flag States meet international rules and standards as referred to above, and that States take all necessary measures to ensure that such ships do not operate outside the framework of the United Nations, or any relevant conventions.
sored by Brazil and the Netherlands and held at Noordwijk, the Netherlands, in 1997, recommends that:

(a) The primary focus of action on the environmental aspects of offshore oil and gas operations continues to be at the national, sub-regional and regional levels;

(b) In support of such action, there is a need to share information on the development and application of satisfactory environmental management systems, aimed at achieving national, sub-regional and regional environmental goals;

(c) To promote the sharing of that information, to raise awareness and to provide early warning of offshore oil and gas activities and projects posing potential threats to the marine environment, further initiatives should be undertaken, involving Governmental, international organizations, operators and major groups.

International coordination and cooperation

37. The Commission urges relevant institutions, operators and major groups to enhance collaboration with each other, taking into account their respective mandates, with a view to promoting coordinated approaches, avoiding duplication, facilitating effective functioning of existing organizations, and ensuring better access to information and broadening its dissemination.

38. The Commission also notes that oceans and seas present a special case as regards the need for coordination and cooperation. The Commission therefore recommends that, building on existing arrangements, a more integrated approach is required to legal, economic, social and environmental aspects of the oceans and seas, both at intergovernmental and inter-agency levels. To achieve this goal, the Commission:

(a) Invites the Secretary-General to undertake measures aimed at ensuring more effective collaboration amongst relevant parts of the United Nations Secretariat in order to ensure better coordination of the UN work on oceans and seas;

(b) Further requests the Secretary-General to complement his annual reports to the General Assembly with suggestions on initiatives that could be undertaken in order to improve coordination and achieve better integration, and to submit these reports well in advance of the debate in the Assembly;

(c) Invites the Secretary-General, working in cooperation with the executive heads of relevant organizations of the United Nations system, to undertake measures aimed at improving the effectiveness of the work of the ACC Subcommittee on Oceans and Coastal Areas, including through making the work of the Subcommittee more transparent and responsive to member States, for example, by organizing regular briefings on the Subcommittee activities;

(d) Recommends that the General Assembly, bearing in mind the importance of utilizing the existing framework to the maximum extent possible, considers ways and means of enhancing the effectiveness of its annual debate on oceans and the law of the sea.

39. In order to promote improved cooperation and coordination on oceans and seas, and in particular, in the context of paragraph 38(d) above, the Commission recommends that the General Assembly establish an open-ended informal consultative process, or other processes which the GA may decide, under the aegis of the General Assembly with the sole function of facilitating the effective and constructive consideration of matters within the General Assembly’s existing mandate (contained in General Assembly Resolution 49/28 of 1994) on the following basis:

Principles

Because of the complex and interrelated nature of the oceans and seas present a special case as regards the need for international coordination and cooperation:

1. The General Assembly has the appropriate body to provide the coordination that is needed to ensure that an integrated approach is taken to all aspects of oceans issues, at both the intergovernmental and inter-agency levels.

2. This exercise should be carried out in full accordance with UNCLOS taking into account the agreements reached at the Rio Summit, particularly chapter 17 of Agenda 21. It should also take into account the inputs provided by the Commission on Sustainable Development and other UN bodies.

3. To accomplish this goal, the General Assembly needs to give more time for the consideration of the Secretary-General’s report on Oceans and the Law of the sea and for the preparation for the debate on oceans and the law of the sea.

4. The creation of new institutions should be avoided. The General Assembly should work to strengthen the existing structures and mandates of the UN system. This exercise should not lead to the duplication and overlapping of current negotiations and particular debates taking place in specialized fora.

5. The role of the General Assembly is to promote coordination of policies and programmes. It is not intended that the General Assembly should pursue legal or juridical coordination among the different legal instruments. In fulfilling its coordination function, the Assembly should bear in mind the differing characteristics and needs of the different regions of the world.

6. Participation in this exercise by Member States and observers should be as broad as possible.

7. This exercise should be carried out within the annual budgetary resources of the Secretariat.

Practicalities

The informal consultative process referred to above or other processes which the General Assembly may decide would deliberate on the basis of the Secretary-General’s report on Oceans and the Law of the sea. Its role would be to promote a comprehensive discussion of that report and to identify particular emerging issues that would need to be considered by the General Assembly. A general focus should be on identifying areas where coordination and cooperation at the intergovernmental and inter-agency levels are required.

The informal consultative process would provide elements for the consideration of the General Assembly and for possible inclusion in the Assembly’s resolutions under the “Oceans and the law of the sea” agenda item.

The informal consultative process should also take into account the recommendations made by the Commission on Sustainable Development to the General Assembly (through the ECOSOC).

The informal consultative process would take place each year for a week and would promote the participation of the different governmental agencies involved in oceans and marine issues. It would be most important to ensure that appropriate input from representatives of major groups occurs and it is suggested that this may be best achieved by organizing discussion panels.

The General Assembly should consider the optimum timing for the informal consultative process taking into account, inter alia, the desirability of facilitating the participation of experts from capitals and the leaders of small delegations.

The General Assembly would review the effectiveness and utility of the process no later than four years after its establishment.

2. Changing Consumption and Production Patterns

The Commission on Sustainable Development

Reaffirming the Basis for Action as called for in chapter 4 of Agenda 21;

Bearing in mind the Statement of Commitment. Governments face a collective challenge at its nineteenth special session on 27 June 1997;

Taking fully into account that States have common but differentiated responsibilities, as set forth in Principle 7 of the Rio Declaration, and different levels of development as well as national conditions and priorities;

Recognizing that the implementation of sustainable consumption and production approaches suited to country-specific conditions can lead to reduced costs and improved competitiveness as well as reduced environmental impacts;

Decides the following:

1. The principal goals of changing consuming and production patterns should be pursued by all countries, with the developed countries taking the lead, in full accordance with Agenda 21 and paragraph 28 of the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, taking into account the situation of developing countries adversely affected by the process, while ensuring that all countries benefit from the process.

2. Governments face a collective challenge that requires reaffirmed commitments, strengthened cooperation and greater efforts towards sustainable development. Developing countries as defined by Agenda 21 have a role to play in changing unsustainable consumption and production patterns and need to take action to this end. Special attention should be paid to unsustainable consumption patterns among the richer segments in all countries, in particular in developed countries.

3. Developed countries should continue to take the lead in efforts to reverse unsustainable trends in consumption and production, especially those that threaten the global environment. Developing countries’ priorities are to tackle extreme poverty, with international support for achieving poverty reduction targets as agreed in United Nations conferences and summits, and improve standards of living, including meeting basic needs and lessening the burden of external debt, while taking all possible steps to avoid environmental damage and social inequity, for the furtherance of sustainable development. Countries with economies in transition face the challenge of integrating policies to make consumption and production patterns more sustainable into the reform process, for which international support is also needed. Developed countries should therefore fulfill the commitment undertaken to reach the accepted United Nations target of 0.7 per cent of gross national product as soon as possible. This will require a reversal in the current downward trend of overall ODA as a percentage of GNP. Governments should ensure that the basic needs of the people are met.
Priorities for future work
3. The Commission on Sustainable Development reaffirms that poverty eradication and changing unsustainable consumption and production patterns remain the overriding issues of the Commission’s work programme. These two issues are to be integrated, as appropriate, into the future themes of the work programme, in particular addressing youth, through inter alia including the issue of sustainable consumption and production at all levels, as appropriate, and taking into account gender perspectives and the special concerns of older people.

The Commission recommends that governments, in cooperation with relevant international organizations and in partnership with major groups, should:

(a) Further develop and implement policies for promoting cleaner production and consumption patterns, including affordable, more eco-efficient consumption and production, through disincentives for unsustainable practices and incentives for more sustainable practices. A policy mix for this purpose could include regulations, economic and social instruments, procurement policies and other measures, and initiatives to be applied in the light of country-specific conditions;

(b) Under take studies on the role of the financial sector in generating the necessary investment for capacity-building, in particular in small and medium-sized enterprises, including in developing countries and countries with economies in transition;

(c) Undertake public awareness programmes with a focus on consumer education and access to information, in particular addressing youth, through inter alia including the issue of sustainable consumption and production at all levels, as appropriate, and taking into account gender perspectives and the special concerns of older people.

The Commission recommends that governments, in cooperation with relevant international organizations and in partnership with major groups, should:

(a) Develop and implement public awareness programmes with a focus on consumer education and access to information, in particular addressing youth, through inter alia including the issue of sustainable consumption and production at all levels, as appropriate, and taking into account gender perspectives and the special concerns of older people.

(b) Develop and implement public awareness programmes with a focus on consumer education and access to information, in particular addressing youth, through inter alia including the issue of sustainable consumption and production at all levels, as appropriate, and taking into account gender perspectives and the special concerns of older people.

(c) Undertake further analysis of the costs and benefits of demand-side management and, where there is still insufficient information, of supply-side management, including cleaner production and eco-efficiency and assessing the positive and negative impacts on developing and developed countries and countries with economies in transition;

(d) Further develop and implement, as appropriate, cleaner production and eco-efficiency policy approaches, through inter alia, environmental management systems, and integrated product policies, life-cycle management, labelling schemes and performance reporting, and in this context, taking fully into account the national circumstances and needs of the developing countries as well as the relevant ongoing deliberations of the Commission on Technical Barriers to Trade and Environment of the WTO. Best practices and results should be shared within the wider community and used for capacity-building, in particular in small and medium-sized enterprises, including in developing countries and countries with economies in transition;

(e) Engage industries and economic sectors, in both public and private enterprises, with major groups at the national and international levels, as appropriate, in activities relating to sustainable consumption and production with the objective of developing strategies and/or programmes, including targets and time-tables, at the appropriate levels for more sustainable consumption and production, cleaner production and affordable eco-efficiency.

(f) The United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization should, inter alia, through their Cleaner Production Centres, enhance their support to enterprises, in particular small and medium-sized enterprises, in developing countries and countries with economies in transition, especially in the areas of auditing and certification, loan applications and financing, and the marketing of their products on international markets as well as dissemination of information on environmentally sound technology and technical know-how.

9. Recognizing that the implementation of cleaner production approaches and eco-efficiency policy approaches can lead to reduced costs and improved competitiveness, as well as reduced environmental impacts, all countries and regions should be encouraged to implement these approaches as a contribution to the achievement of sustainable production.

Globalization and its impacts on consumption and production patterns
10. Governments, in cooperation with relevant international organizations and in partnership with major groups, should:

(a) Undertake studies of the impacts of globalization, including both positive and negative impacts of trade, investment, mass media, advertising and marketing in all countries, in particular developing countries. The studies should examine ways and means to mitigate negative impacts and use opportunities to promote more sustainable consumption and production patterns and open and non-discriminatory trade;

(b) Undertake studies of the role of the financial sector in promoting sustainable consump-
tion and production, and further encourage voluntary initiatives suited to national conditions towards sustainable development by that sector; (c) Increase their efforts to make policies and standards, laws and regulations, and systems of government, in particular those related to energy, transport, tourism, sanitation, and public health; (b) Increase efforts to address the critical issues of fresh water and sanitation in human settlements in developing countries, through inter alia the transfer of environmentally sound technologies and the provision of financial resources for implementation, as elaborated in Agenda 21, as a priority of the international agenda on sustainable development; (c) Assess and address the impacts of urbanization on economic, environmental and social conditions. In-depth studies on the key determining factors of quality of life should be undertaken and used to strengthen appropriate human settlement development strategies suited to national conditions, in the context of urbanization.

12. Governments at all levels are encouraged to incorporate sustainable consumption and production policies in city planning and management and to report to the review exercise at the tenth session of the Commission.

13. Governments at all levels, the private sector, and other major groups as defined in Agenda 21 are urged to cooperate in developing waste collection systems and disposal facilities, and developing programmes for prevention, minimization and recycling of waste, to safeguard and improve the quality of life in human settlements and coastal countries, especially in developing countries. Dissemination of positive results of the implementation of various policy instruments at the national, regional, and international levels can facilitate the wider application of such policies.

3. Tourism and Sustainable Development

The Commission on Sustainable Development, Recalling the outcome of the eighteenth special session of the General Assembly for the overall review and appraisal of the implementation of Agenda 21, in particular Assembly resolution 52/192, annex, of 28 June 1997, in paragraph 69 of which the Assembly requested the Commission on Sustainable Development to develop an action-oriented international programme of work on sustainable tourism development, to be defined in cooperation with the World Tourism Organization, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Environment Programme, the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity and similar relevant bodies; and stressed that policy development and implementation should take place in cooperation with all interested parties, especially the private sector and local and indigenous communities;

Recalling also that the General Assembly, in its resolution 53/200 of 15 December 1998, proclaimed the year 2002 as the International Year of Ecotourism and in its resolution 53/24 of 10 November 1998 proclaimed 2002 also as the International Year of Mountains;

Noting with appreciation the outcome of the multi-stakeholder dialogue at the current session of the Commission and the progress made so far by major groups in promoting sustainable tourism development, 1. Decides to adopt an international work programme on sustainable tourism development, containing the elements outlined below and to begin its implementation with appropriate means and resources, especially for developing countries, which will be reviewed in 2002 when the ten-year review of progress achieved since the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development will be carried out;

2. Urges Governments:

(a) To advance sustainable tourism development, inter alia, through the development and implementation of policies and national strategies or master plans for sustainable tourism development based on Agenda 21, which will encourage the tourism industry, assist in attracting foreign direct investment and appropriate environmentally sound technologies, and also provide focus and direction for the active participation of major groups, including national tourism councils and, as appropriate, tourism agencies and organizations, and the private sector as well as indigenous and local communities;

(b) To consult, as appropriate, with all major groups and local communities in the tourism development process, including policy formulation, planning, management and sharing of benefits, which could reflect the need to harmonize the relationship among the people, the community and the environment;

(c) To work in partnership with major groups, especially at the local level, to ensure active participation in tourism-related planning and development;

(d) To undertake capacity-building work with indigenous and local communities in order to facilitate their active participation, at all levels of the tourism development process, including transparent decision-making and sharing of benefits, and to create awareness of the social, economic and environmental costs and benefits that they are bearing;

(e) To create the appropriate institutional, legal and economic framework by developing and applying a mix of instruments, as appropriate, such as integrated land-use planning and coastal zone management, economic instruments, social and environmental impact assessment for tourist facilities, including gender aspects, and voluntary initiatives and agreements;

(f) To realize the potential of tourism for eradicating poverty by developing appropriate strategies in cooperation with all major groups, especially indigenous and local communities;

(g) To welcome the major groups’ agreement to promote sustainable tourism development through music, art and drama and to participate in such educational initiatives;

(h) To facilitate destination-specific in-flight educational videos and other materials on sustainable development in relation to tourism and to tourism airline carriers, and to promote such videos on all international and long-haul domestic routes;

(i) To promote a favourable framework for small and medium-sized enterprises, the major engine for job creation in the tourism sector, by reducing administrative burdens, facilitating access to capital and providing training in management and other skills, in recognition of the employment potential of sustainable tourism development;

(j) To take strong and appropriate action, through the development and enforcement of specific legislation, to ensure that tourism development policies are not an excuse for exploitation, abuse, or violation of human and other rights, including freedom of association, freedom of movement, and fundamental and human rights;

(k) To participate in international and regional processes that address issues relevant to sustainable tourism development, to consider the ratification or adoption, and promote the implementation and enforcement, as appropriate, of standards or guidelines relevant to the travel and tourism industry, such as national and international health fields; and to support initiatives, especially through organizations like the International Labour Organization and the World Health Organization, that would make an early and positive contribution to sustainable tourism development;

(l) To support appropriate measures to better inform tourists about cultural, ecological and other values and provide accurate information on the safety of tourist destinations, so as to enable consumers to make informed choices;

3. Calls upon the tourism industry:

(a) To develop environmentally, socially and culturally compatible forms of tourism and to continue the development and implementation of voluntary initiatives in support of sustainable tourism development, bearing in mind that such forms of tourism and initiatives should meet, or preferably exceed, relevant local, national, regional, or international standards;

(b) To further commit itself to the goal of sustainable tourism development by working towards guiding principles and objectives for sustainable tourism development and information
World grain production per person with projections to 2050

Courtesy: People & Planet for tourists on ecological and cultural values in destination regions;
(c) To develop voluntary eco-efficiency and appropriate management systems to save costs and to promote sustainable forms of tourism;
(d) To take effective steps to reduce the volume of waste associated with travel and tourism activities;
(e) To design with nature in collaboration with planning authorities, by using low impact design, materials and technologies, so as not to damage the environmental or cultural assets that tourists seek to experience and that sustain the local community, and to undertake measures to restore tourist destinations with degraded environments;
(f) To distance itself publicly from illegal, abusive or exploitive forms of tourism;
(g) To meet or preferably exceed relevant national or international labour standards;
4. Invites, as appropriate, Governments and major groups, as well as the United Nations system, in close collaboration with the World Tourism Organization, while building on relevant work carried out by the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the International Labour Organization and the United Nations Development Programme and under the Convention on Biological Diversity and other relevant conventions and organizations, and taking note of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, adopted at Barbados in 1994, to consider the following initiatives and to use the Commission on Sustainable Development informed on progress achieved:
(a) To promote sustainable tourism development in order to increase the benefits from tourism resources for the host communities and maintain the cultural and environmental integrity of the host community, to encourage cooperation of major groups at all levels with a view to facilitating Local Agenda 21 initiatives and promoting linkages within the local economy in order that benefits may be more widely shared; to this end, greater efforts should be undertaken for the employment of the local workforce, and the use of local products and skills;
(b) To support national efforts by countries, especially developing countries and countries with economies in transition, and major groups towards sustainable tourism development through relevant capacity-building activities and programmes as well as national and bilateral financial and technical assistance, and appropriate technologies in all aspects of sustainable tourism development, including environmental impact assessment and management and education in the field of tourism;
(c) To encourage more responsible behaviour among tourists with the respect for national laws, cultural values, social norms and tradition as well as by increasing public awareness, in addition to other measures;
(d) To promote the application of integrated planning approaches to tourism development at the local level, including through encouraging the use of Local Agenda 21 as a process for planning, implementing and monitoring sustainable tourism development and recognizing the potential for integration of Local Agenda 21 with Agenda 21 for the Travel and Tourism Industry as well as other such initiatives;
(e) To provide adequate education on research activities, and collect and disseminate information on best practices and technologies, including an appropriate mix of instruments to minimize adverse and possible positive environmental, social and cultural impacts from tourism in developed and developing countries and in countries with economies in transition;
(f) To promote the exchange of information on transportation, accommodation and other services, public awareness-raising programmes and education, and various voluntary initiatives and ways to minimize the effects of natural disasters on tourism. Possible forms of this information exchange should be explored in consultation with relevant partners, utilizing, inter alia, such means as bilateral and multi-lateral arrangements;
(g) To undertake studies on appropriate measures for promoting sustainable tourism development, such as awareness-raising in fragile ecosystems, including in coastal areas, and to develop tools to assist local authorities in determining appropriate management regimes and their capacity for tourism development;
(h) To further develop or support integrated initiatives, preferably through pilot projects, to enhance the diffusion of innovations and to avoid, wherever possible, duplication and waste of resources;
(i) To undertake activities that would be supportive of the preparations for both the International Year of Ecotourism and the International Year of Mountains, as well as activities of the International Coral Reef Initiative;
(j) To clarify further the concepts of sustainable tourism and ecotourism;
(k) To develop indicators for evaluating sustainable tourism development, taking into account the work of the World Tourism Organization and other relevant organizations, as well as the ongoing testing phase of indicators for sustainable development;
(l) To undertake a comprehensive survey and assessment of the results of implementing existing voluntary initiatives and guidelines relating to the economic, sociocultural and environmental sustainability of tourism, to be reported to the Commission on Sustainable Development in order to identify best practices with respect to raising awareness of sustainable tourism development;
(m) To consider establishing a global network, taking into account the work of the World Tourism Organization, regional mechanisms and all major groups, as appropriate, to promote an exchange of information and views on sustainable tourism development, including on ecotourism;
(n) To cooperate with the United Nations Environment Programme in further developing guidelines and principles for sustainable tourism development;
(o) To encourage business and industry to take steps to implement eco-efficient practices in order to reduce environmental impacts associated with travel and tourism activities, in particular the volume of packaging waste, especially in small island developing States.
5. Invites the World Tourism Organization to consider important groups’ participation, and, in particular, to implement the Convention on Biological Diversity in order to address social, economic and environmental issues, and that therefore the further implementation of Chapter 36 of Agenda 21 will be needed in the context of the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity and related instruments, including the International Coral Reef Initiative, the Year of Mountains, as well as activities of the International Year of Ecotourism, the International Year of the Desert, and the International Year of the Mountain.
6. Invites relevant agencies, particularly the International Maritime Organization, to evaluate whether existing regulations on marine pollution and compliance with them are sufficient to provide adequate protection to fragile coastal zones from adverse impacts as a result of tourism activities.
7. Invites the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity to further consider, in the context of the process of the implementation of experiences, existing knowledge and best practice on sustainable tourism development and biological diversity with a view to considering the Convention on Biological Diversity, and related to sustainable tourism development in vulnerable terrestrial, marine and coastal ecosystems, including ecosystems and habitats of international significance, biodiversity and protected areas, including fragile mountain ecosystems; Welcomes the work of major groups, especially the business community, trade and tourism industry associations, non-governmental organizations and other groups involved in travel and tourism, to contribute to sustainable tourism development, including through educational initiatives and action plans; and encourages major groups, particularly those representing tourism industry interests, to cooperate with the United Nations Environment Programme in further developing guidelines and principles for sustainable tourism development, and encourage business and industry to take steps to implement eco-efficient practices in order to reduce environmental impacts associated with travel and tourism activities, in particular the volume of packaging waste, especially in small island developing States.
8. Invites the World Tourism Organization, in consultation with major groups and other relevant international organizations, to jointly facilitate the establishment of an ad hoc informal open-ended working group on tourism to assess financial leakages and determine how to maximize benefits for indigenous and local communities; and to prepare a joint initiative to improve information availability and capacity-building for participation, and address other matters relevant to the implementation of the international work programme on sustainable tourism development.
9. Invites the United Nations Secretariat and the World Tourism Organization, in consultation with major groups and other relevant international organizations, to jointly facilitate the establishment of an ad hoc informal open-ended working group on tourism to assess financial leakages and determine how to maximize benefits for indigenous and local communities; and to prepare a joint initiative to improve information availability and capacity-building for participation, and address other matters relevant to the implementation of the international work programme on sustainable tourism development.
4. Education, Public Awareness and Training
The Commission on Sustainable Development, recalling its Decision 4/11 establishing a Work Programme on Education for Sustainable Development and its Decision 6/3 on the further implementation of this Work Programme; taking note of the report of the Secretary-General; reaffirming that education, public awareness and training are critical for promoting sustainable development and increasing the capacities of address social, economic and environmental issues, and that therefore the further implementation of Chapter 36 of Agenda 21 will...
influence the progress made in the implementation of all the other chapters of Agenda 21; 2.
Recognizing the need to broaden cooperation at the international level, building on past experience, and involving all relevant bodies of the United Nations system, governments and major groups, including non-governmental organizations, business and industry, youth as well as the educational community, taking into account national plans and priorities; 3.
Taking into account the cross-sectoral nature and the importance of education, public awareness and training for sustainable development; Therefore:
1. Calls upon all key actors, notably UN bodies and non-governmental organizations, to intensify their collaborative efforts in the implementation of Agenda 21; 2. Encourages governments, the relevant UN bodies and non-governmental organizations to give priority, as appropriate, to the integration of aspects of sustainable development in their educational policies and to cooperation in the framework of the Work Programme.
3. Requests the Secretary-General to report to CSD-VIII on the progress made in the implementation of the Work Programme and, in this regard, give specific attention to the separate orientation of all the other chapters of Agenda 21; 4. Requests the Secretary-General to report to CSD-VIII on the progress made in the implementation of Agenda 21 at the national level and at the regional level, as appropriate, with the broad involvement of all sectors of society, and invites those Governments that have not yet done so to submit their national reports or relevant information.
5. Information Provided by Governments and Exchange of National Experiences

1. The Commission on Sustainable Development:
(a) Takes note with satisfaction of the Report of the Secretary-General entitled "Oceans and Seas: Trends in National Implementation" as well as the background documents prepared by the National Information Analysis Unit in fulfillment of CSD decision 6/5; (b) Welcomes the continued interest of governments to make voluntary national presentations within the framework of the sessions of the Commission; (c) Stresses the importance of continuing to take full advantage of the information provided by Governments to the Commission, on a voluntary basis, especially in view of the comprehensive review of the implementation of Agenda 21, to take place in 2002; (d) Emphasizes the need to draw more fully on the information contained in those national reports or relevant information for voluntary submission to the Commission; (e) Recognizes that the lack of human, technical or financial resources at national level could be hindering the submission of more voluntary national reports or relevant information; (f) Recognizes further the need to improve the guidelines for the elaboration of national reports to the Commission and to determine the best way to carry on with this exercise after the year 2002, and notes that this issue should be considered as a part of the discussion on information for decision-making which is on the agenda of the Secretary-General on the inter-sessional consultative process convened in Toronto, Canada, in March 1998, involving representatives of industry, trade unions, nongovernmental organizations, international organizations and Governments, aimed at identifying elements of a review of voluntary initiatives and agreements.
2. The Commission:
(a) Encourages Governments to continue providing voluntary national reports or relevant information on the implementation of Agenda 21 at the national level and at the regional level, as appropriate, with the broad involvement of all sectors of society, and invites those Governments that have not yet done so to submit their national reports or relevant information.
(b) Calls upon the international community, in particular the developed countries, to continue supporting the efforts of developing countries for capacity-building, including in the area of elaboration, translation and dissemination of voluntary reports, by providing technical and financial assistance in accordance with the provisions of Agenda 21 and the Programme for its further Implementation.
(c) Requests UNDP to consider assisting developing countries in the elaboration, translation and dissemination of their national reports by, inter alia, allocating funds for these purposes and by including in its current Capitalisation Fund its Decision 6/21 on the National Information website and decision 6/3 of CSD-VI.
3. Requests the Secretary-General to report to CSD-VII on the progress made in the implementation of the Work Programme and, in this regard, give specific attention to the separate orientation of all the other chapters of Agenda 21; 4. Requests the Secretary-General to report to CSD-VIII on the progress made in the implementation of Agenda 21 at the national level and at the regional level, as appropriate, with the broad involvement of all sectors of society, and invites those Governments that have not yet done so to submit their national reports or relevant information.
5. Information Provided by Governments and Exchange of National Experiences

1. The Commission on Sustainable Development: 2. Encourages governments, the relevant UN bodies and non-governmental organizations to give priority, as appropriate, to the integration of aspects of sustainable development in their educational policies and to cooperation in the framework of the Work Programme.
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6. Resolution on Voluntary Initiatives and Agreements

The Commission on Sustainable Development: 1. Encouraging the interactive dialogue that took place between Governments, industry, trade unions, nongovernmental organizations and international organizations in the industry segment organized during its sixth session in 1996 and its decision 6/2 regarding the "potential value of a review of voluntary initiatives and agreements"; 2. Notes that the Commission's initiatives launched in follow-up to its decision 6/2 in 1998; 3. Recognizes that voluntary initiatives and agreements on the environment are an important means for possible reviews, and to make this information widely available, and requests its secretariat to facilitate these efforts, inter alia, through its Internet site; 4. Stresses the need for better understanding and analysis of the impact of voluntary initiatives and agreements on developing countries, and requests all relevant major groups and other stakeholders to report periodically, through the Commission's secretariat, on steps they have taken on progress they have made in assisting developing countries to understand and make use of, as appropriate, the lessons to be learned from the use of voluntary initiatives and agreements; 5. Takes note of the key elements discussed by the various major groups at the Toronto meeting and encourages further dialogue among all relevant major groups and other stakeholders on voluntary initiatives and agreements and information products, for example the toolkit proposed by the International Chamber of Commerce, that may assist countries and interested organizations in understanding the uses and potential value of voluntary initiatives and agreements in the context of sustainable development; 6. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the Commission at its eighth session on the progress and developments in this area. 1

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2. General Assembly resolution 51/19/2.