Ten-year Review of Progress Achieved in the Implementation of the Outcome of UNCED*

The General Assembly,

Deeply concerned that Agenda 21 and other outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development should constitute the framework within which the other outcomes of the Conference are reviewed, and from within which new challenges and opportunities that have emerged since the Conference are addressed,

Recalling also that Agenda 21 and the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development should not be renegotiated and the outcomes of the Conference should be taken into account, as appropriate, in the work of international organizations and regional commissions and their follow-up activities,

Bearing further in mind that national reports that have been prepared by Governments since 1992 on national implementation of Agenda 21, and to whom major groups have contributed, could provide a fair basis for guiding national preparatory processes,

Reconfirming that Agenda 21 and the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development should be renegotiated and the outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development should not be renegotiated and its preparatory process, should ensure a balance between economic development, social development and protection as these are interdependent and mutually reinforcing components of sustainable development,

5. Stresses the importance of early and effective preparations for the Summit and a comprehensive assessment of progress achieved in the implementation of Agenda 21 and the other outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development to be carried out at the local, national, regional and international levels by Governments and the United Nations system so as to ensure high-quality inputs to the preparatory process, and welcomes the preparatory activities carried out so far;

6. Recognizes the work undertaken at the regional level in close collaboration with the respective regional commissions to implement the action programmes for sustainable development that could provide substantive inputs to the preparatory process and the Summit itself;

Also welcomes the work undertaken by the United Nations Secretariat, in close cooperation with the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Development Programme, the regional commissions and the secretariats of conventions related to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, as well as other relevant organizations, agencies and programmes within and outside the United Nations system and including international and regional financial institutions, including the Global Environment Facility, to support preparatory activities, in particular at the national and regional levels, in a coordinated and mutually reinforcing way;

8. Further welcomes the report of the Global Environment Facility to the General Assembly on its contributions to the implementation of Agenda 21, and notes the assistance provided by the Facility to the national implementation of Agenda 21;

9. Welcomes the decision of the Global Environment Facility at its last meeting, from 1 to 3 November 2000, to request

* Adopted during the 55th Session of the United Nations General Assembly, A/RES/55/199 (20 December 2000) advance,unedited text. See also page 2. A further selection of environmentally related UNGA resolutions is to appear in the next issue.
the Chief Executive Officer to explore the best options for enhancing the support of the Facility in assisting affected countries, especially those in Africa, in implementing the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa taking into account the third replenishment;

10. Also welcomes the initiation of the third replenishment of the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund, and invites all donor countries and other countries in a position to do so to make contributions to the third replenishment and ensure its successful conclusion, and invites the Facility to keep, as a priority, the status of the replenishment negotiations;

11. Invites relevant agencies and bodies established at the financial institutions involved with the implementation of Agenda 21, including the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), the Global Environment Facility and the United Nations Development Programme, as well as conventions related to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, to participate in 10-year review of implementation of Agenda 21, including in the preparation of the global implementation Programme, as well as conventions related to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, to participate in the 10-year review of implementation of Agenda 21, including in the implementation of Agenda 21, at its tenth session and the 2002 summit, in order to reflect their experiences and the lessons learned, and provide ideas and proposals for the way forward for further implementation of Agenda 21 in relevant fields;

12. Encourages effective contributions from and the active participation of all major groups and stakeholders, at all levels, in the implementation of Agenda 21, as well as in the establishment of practical mechanisms for its implementation and engagement of major groups;

13. Decides that the meetings of the tenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development shall be transformed into an open-ended preparatory committee that will provide for the full and effective participation of all States Members of the United Nations and States members of specialized agencies as well as other participants in the Commission on Sustainable Development in accordance with the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council and the supplementary arrangements established by the Council for the Commission on Sustainable Development in its decisions 1993/215 and 1995/201;

14. Invites regional groups to nominate their candidates for the Bureau of the tenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development by the end of 2000 in order that they can be involved in its preparatory processes in advance of the first meeting of the preparatory committee;

15. Decides that the Commission, acting as the preparatory committee, should:

(a) Undertake the comprehensive review and assessment of the implementation of Agenda 21, at its third replenishment, at its fifth session and at its seventh session, in the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development on the basis of the results of national assessments and sub-regional and regional preparatory meetings, the documentation to be prepared by the Secretary-General in collaboration with the task managers and other inputs from relevant international organizations, as well as on the basis of contributions from major groups;

(b) Identify major accomplishments and lessons learned in the implementation of Agenda 21;

(c) Identify major constraints hindering the implementation of Agenda 21 and propose specific time-bound measures to be undertaken, and institutional and financial requirements, and identify the sources of such support or on (d) Address new challenges and opportunities that have emerged since the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development within the framework of Agenda 21;

(e) Address ways of strengthening the implementation and evaluation and define the role and programme of work of the Commission on Sustainable Development;

(f) Consider and decide on accreditation of participation in the preparatory process and the Summit of relevant non-governmental organizations which do not have consultative status with the Economic and Social Council;

(g) Propose a provisional agenda and possible main themes for the Summit based on the outcomes of the preparatory activities at the national, sub-regional, regional and international levels, as well as taking into account the input of major groups;

(h) Propose rules and procedures for participation of representatives of major groups in the Summit, taking into account the rules and procedures applied in the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development;

(i) Undertake any other functions that may be required by the preparatory process;

16. Also decides to hold, as recommended by the Secretary-General, a two-day meeting of the tenth session of the Commission, so that the Commission can thereby start its work as the preparatory committee for the 2002 Summit, and, in this context, invites the Commission to start its organizational work in order to do the following:

(a) Elect, from among all States Members of the Commission, 10 members, with two representatives from each of the geographical groups, one of whom would be elected the Chairperson and others as Vice-Chairpersons, one of whom would also act as the Rapporteur;

(b) Consider progress in preparatory activities at the local, national, sub-regional, regional and international levels, as well as by major groups;

(c) Decide, taking into account the provisions of paragraph 17 below, on the specific modalities of its future preparatory meetings;

(d) Consider a process for setting the agenda and determining possible main themes for the Summit in a timely manner;

17. Further decides that, in 2002, the Commission on Sustainable Development, acting as the preparatory committee for the Summit, shall hold three additional sessions, organized as follows:

(a) At its first and second substantive preparatory sessions, to be held in January and March 2002, respectively, the preparatory committee shall undertake the comprehensive review and assessment of progress achieved in the implementation of Agenda 21 and the Programme for Further Implementation of Agenda 21. At its second substantive session, the preparatory committee shall agree on the text of a document containing the results of the review and assessment, as well as conclusions and recommendations for further action;

(b) Drawing upon the agreed text of such a document, the third and final substantive preparatory session, to be held at the regional and international level, shall prepare a concise and focused document that should emphasize the need for a global partnership to achieve the objectives of sustainable development, reconfirm the need for an integrated and strategically focused approach to implementation of Agenda 21, and address the main challenges and opportunities faced by the international community in this regard.

The document submitted to the preparatory session and adoption at the 2002 Summit should reinvigorate, at the highest political level, the global compact, and provide a North/South partnership and a higher level of international solidarity to the accelerated implementation of Agenda 21 and the programme of action for Further Implementation of Agenda 21.

18. Decides to organize the third and final substantive preparatory session at the ministerial level in Jakarta, in August 2002, and requests with gratitude the generous offer of Indonesia to host it;

19. Stresses that the preparatory meetings and the 2002 Summit itself should be transparent and provide for effective participation and inputs from Governments and regional and international organizations, including financial institutions, and for contributions from and active participation of major groups, as identified in Agenda 21;

20. Welcomes the establishment of a trust fund that is stronger and better placed to mobilize and support the participation of major groups and other countries in a position to do so to support preparations for the 10-year review through voluntary contributions to the trust fund and for further participation of representatives of developing countries in the regional and international preparatory process and the 2002 Summit itself, and encourages voluntary contributions to support the participation of major groups of developing countries in the regional and international preparatory processes and the 2002 Summit itself;

21. Invites the Secretary-General to submit a progress report on the preparation for the 2002 Summit for consideration by the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session, taking into account, in the report, the inputs of respective regional meetings;

22. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session, under the item “Environment and Sustainable Development”, a sub-item entitled “Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21.”