

Briefing Paper

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**World Summit on
Sustainable Development
(Johannesburg) –
An assessment for IISD**

Dr. Peter Doran

This briefing paper has been prepared for the International Institute for Sustainable Development. The paper includes sections on: World Summit outcomes and commitments; background; the actors; an assessment of the political significance of the Summit; comments on policy developments of interest to the IISD; and conclusions.

SUMMARY OF KEY POINTS

- This briefing on the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) (26 August to 4 September 2002) has been prepared for the International Institute for Sustainable Development.
- The WSSD produced three types of outcomes: a. a political declaration now known as the 'Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development'; the 'Johannesburg Plan of Implementation', a 65-page document restating existing targets e.g. Millennium Declaration Goals and a limited number of new commitments; and 'Type II' commitments by governments and other stakeholders, including business and non governmental organisations.
- Following decisions made at the Summit, the UN Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) will enjoy an enhanced role in respect of reviewing and monitoring progress in the implementation of Agenda 21 and fostering coherence of implementation, initiatives and partnerships. The UNDP will continue to monitor implementation of the Millennium Development Goals.
- **The last 'Earth Summit'?**: The World Summit on Sustainable Development was a bitter disappointment for many in the NGO and media communities. There was a strong sense that expectations could not be matched by what the multilateral system could deliver in Johannesburg.
- **Doha Declaration** (paras 31, 32 and 33): The highly contentious question of the relationship between WTO rules and Multilateral Environmental Agreements (e.g. the Kyoto Protocol) will be one of the early indicators of the degree to which the WTO is capable of accommodating a shift towards meaningful integration of the environmental and social pillars into the trade regime.
- The International **Conference on Financing for Development** represents a key 'confidence building' block in the new architecture for advancing sustainable development.
- **Corporate accountability**: One of the most talked about paragraphs in the globalisation chapter was the text on corporate responsibility and accountability. The text is viewed as a possible stepping-stone for civil society to press its case for an international regulatory framework for corporations - many of which now far surpass the power and influence of Member States of the United Nations. Some NGOs sense that the timing for such an initiative is just right.
- The launch of the Doha round of trade negotiations may signal the start of a new era in sustainable development discourse, as the WTO begins to grapple with the relationship (and hierarchy) of trade and environment regimes. The Doha debates may represent a turning point in the institutionalisation of sustainable development; the development will be closely shadowed by NGOs and the so called 'anti-globalisation movement'.
- Shortcomings in the multilateral system's treatment of sustainable development reflect continuing resistance at government level when it comes to integrating the social, environmental and economic dimensions across government departments.
- The Johannesburg Summit was a turning point for the prospects of Entry into Force of the Kyoto Protocol, following an indication by the Russian Federation and Canada that ratification could follow soon.

- The Johannesburg Plan of Implementation encourages further work on the development of indicators of sustainable development at the national level, including work on gender.
- The Johannesburg Summit agreed that it is necessary to implement natural resource strategies, which should include targets adopted at the national and, where appropriate, regional levels to protect ecosystems and achieve integrated management of land, water and living resources.
- There is considerable scope for the development of the environmental security research theme in the work of the IISD, as 'sustainable development' comes to be viewed increasingly as the potential bearer of an alternative security paradigm. To develop this research programme, the philosophical roots of the dominant Western security paradigm in modernity must be explored *inter alia* within the context of the need for a post-Statist conception of security
- GEF replenishment: On 7 August 2002 donor countries pledged nearly US3 billion for new GEF activities through 2006, the highest ever replenishment of the Facility.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

This briefing on the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) (26 August to 4 September 2002) has been prepared for the International Institute for Sustainable Development. The paper focuses on:

- The key issues and outcomes/commitments of the WSSD
- The main actors
- A political analysis and conclusions

The analysis and conclusions have been written with the IISD's key policy interests and 'Strategic Priorities 2000-2005' in mind¹. A detailed summary of the commitments from Johannesburg is set out in Annex I. The IISD advances policy recommendations on:

- International trade and investment
- Economic policy
- Climate Change
- Measurement and indicators of sustainable development, and
- Natural resource management

In some sections the paragraph numbers (#) from the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation are provided at the end of cited paragraphs.

THE SUMMIT OUTCOMES

The WSSD produced three types of outcomes: a. a political declaration now known as the 'Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development'; the 'Johannesburg Plan of Implementation', a 65-page document restating existing targets e.g. Millennium Declaration Goals and a limited number of new commitments; and 'Type II' non-negotiated, partnership commitments by governments and other stakeholders, including business and non governmental organisations.

- **Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development:** One hundred Heads of State and Government who attended the WSSD agreed the political declaration. Delays in completing negotiations on the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation left little time for full and effective consultations on the content of the declaration. A few notable references include the following:
 - Recognition that the deep fault line that divides human society between rich and poor poses a major threat to global security and stability;
 - Recognition that globalisation has added a new dimension to the challenges of sustainable development, with the benefits and costs of globalisation unevenly distributed;
 - Recognition that a lack of action to fundamentally change the lives of those who suffer the consequences of global disparities may lead the poor of the world to lose confidence in democratic systems;

¹ See www.iisd.org/about/

- A call on developed countries that have not done so to make concrete efforts towards the internationally agreed ODA targets (0.7% of GNP for ODA);
 - Support for the emergence of stronger regional groupings and alliances, such as the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) to promote sustainable development;
 - Recognition of the private sector's duty to contribute to the evolution of equitable and sustainable communities and societies; and the need for private sector corporations to enforce corporate accountability within a transparent and stable regulatory environment;
 - Recognition of the need for strengthened and improved governance at all levels, for the effective implementation of Agenda 21, the Millennium Development Goals and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;
 - Recognition of the need for more effective, democratic and accountable international and multilateral institutions;
 - A commitment to monitor progress at regular intervals towards the achievement of sustainable development goals and objectives;
- The **Johannesburg Plan of Implementation**, negotiated by governments, sets out in more detail the action that needs to be taken in specific areas, including gaps in implementation of Agenda 21 but also introducing new action themes such as globalisation and corporate accountability. The main commitments agreed in the Plan of Implementation are:
 - Halving the number of people lacking access to basic sanitation by 2015;
 - Minimising the harmful effects on health and the environment from the production and use of chemicals by 2020;
 - Halting the decline in fish stocks and restoring them to sustainable levels by 2015;
 - Reducing the loss of biodiversity by 2010;
 - Increasing 'substantially' the use of renewable energies in global energy consumption; and
 - Setting up a ten-year framework for programmes on sustainable consumption and production.
- **Type II Commitments by governments and other stakeholders** to a broad range of partnership activities and initiatives that will implement sustainable development at the national, regional and international level. Over 220 partnerships (with US\$235 million in resources) were identified in advance of the Summit and around 60 partnerships were announced during the Summit, including major initiatives by the US, Japan, UK, Germany, France and the EU. For example, the European Union announced its 'Water for Life' initiative that will seek to engage partners to meet goals for water and sanitation, primarily in Africa and Central Asia. During a press conference on 3 September, the President of the European Commission, Romano Prodi,

conceded, however, that the US\$1.4 billion allocation for water and sanitation schemes was not 'new money'. He added that the European Union intended to increase its allocation of funds towards these areas. One partnership initiative drew more attention than most, when Greenpeace teamed up with the business and industry lobby group, the World Business Council for Sustainable Development, to call on the public and private sectors to step up action to combat climate change risks.

The return of the partnership debate – first launched at UNCED in 1992 – has provided the private sector with an opportunity to present itself as part of the solution to the problem of implementation. In the run up to the Summit, industry lobby groups such as the International Chamber of Commerce and Business Action for Sustainable Development, with the support of the United States, urged the adoption of public-private partnerships between UN agencies, governments, companies and NGOs². This development is essentially recognition of the facts on the ground for many organisations already engaged in joint implementation approaches with the participation of the private sector, NGOs and governments at national and local level. However, the debate also taps into concerns linked to the debate on globalisation, corporate accountability and governance. Tariq Banuri³ has described the growing importance of global public policy networks (GPPN) that have emerged over the last decade in response to widening gaps in policy making created by globalisation, trade liberalisation and the information revolution. He believes that such networks can contribute to thinking about gaps which have opened up in areas such as policy delivery and ethics.

CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Governments agreed at the Summit to actively promote corporate responsibility and accountability, based on the Rio Principles, and to support continuous improvement in corporate practices in all countries.

MONITORING OUTCOMES

Following decisions taken at the Summit, the UN Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) will enjoy an enhanced role in reviewing and monitoring progress in the implementation of Agenda 21 and fostering coherence of implementation, initiatives and partnerships. The UNDP will continue to monitor implementation of the Millennium Development Goals. Jeffrey Sachs, the Special Adviser to the UN Secretary-General on the Implementation of the Goals, told a press conference in Johannesburg⁴ that the international community was seriously off track in addressing hunger, disease, and environmental degradation for dozens of countries.

On the CSD's role, the Plan of Implementation states:

Although the role, functions and mandate of the Commission as set out in relevant parts of Agenda 21 and adopted in General Assembly resolution 47/191 continue to be relevant, the Commission needs to be strengthened, taking into account the role

² Charles Secrett 2002, 'The Politics of Radical Partnerships: Sustainable Development, Rights and Responsibilities', in Words into Action, IIED, pp.37-47.

³ Quoted in the ENB's brief analysis of the seventh special session of the UNEP Governing Council (GC) and the third session of the Global Ministerial Environment Forum (GMEF-3) meeting held in Cartagena in February 2002.

⁴ 29 August 2002 at the WSSD

*of relevant institutions and organizations. An enhanced role of the Commission should include reviewing and monitoring progress in the implementation of Agenda 21 and fostering coherence of implementation, initiatives and partnerships.*⁵ (#127)

Governments agreed at the Summit to enhance partnerships between governmental and non-governmental actors, including major groups and volunteer organisations, on programmes and activities for the achievement of sustainable development at all levels. The Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) will serve as a focal point for the discussion of partnerships that promote sustainable development, including sharing lessons learned, progress made and best practices. In addition, the regional commissions of the United Nations, in collaboration with other regional and sub-regional bodies, were given a mandate to promote multi-stakeholder participation and encourage partnerships to support the implementation of Agenda 21 at the regional and sub-regional levels.

2.0 BACKGROUND TO THE WORLD SUMMIT FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The first 'Earth Summit' or United Nations Conference on Environment and Development took place in 1992 in Rio de Janeiro. The Summit helped to set the agenda on environment and development issues for the rest of the decade. Along with the Rio Declaration and Agenda 21, the 'Earth Summit' led to agreement on two legally binding conventions: on Biological Diversity and the Framework Convention on Climate Change⁶. The Summit also produced a Statement of Forest Principles and helped stimulate participatory Local Agenda 21 initiatives in cities and villages all over the world.

The Nineteenth UN General Assembly Special Session convened in New York from 23-27 July 1997 to conduct a five-year review of the implementation of Agenda 21. Also known as 'Earth Summit+5', the Session proved to be a sobering reminder that little progress had been made in implementing key elements of Agenda 21. The meeting itself failed to generate new momentum and an attempt to produce a political declaration collapsed. The President of the General Assembly, Razali Ismail of Malaysia summed up the proceedings with his description of the meeting as 'an honest attempt to try and make an appraisal of the results, and of how far we have gone from Rio. There was little attempt to try to sweep things under the carpet or put a gloss over something that's not there.'⁷

In Resolution 55/199, the General Assembly (GA)⁸, on 20 December 2000, noted its deep concern that despite the many successful and continuing efforts of the international community over the last 20 years, the environment and the natural resource base that support life on earth continues to deteriorate at an alarming rate. The GA decided to organise a ten-year review of the progress that has been achieved in the implementation of the outcome of the 'Earth Summit'. National, regional and global preparations for the World Summit on Sustainable Development began in 2000. National-level preparations were co-ordinated by national multi-stakeholder committees on sustainable development. These took responsibility for defining national priorities and undertaking reviews of national progress. The United

⁵ My emphasis

⁶ Parties to the UNFCCC have also negotiated the Kyoto Protocol, which includes the first legally binding targets for greenhouse gas emission reductions by industrialised countries.

⁷ ENB Vol. 5 No.88 July 1997

⁸ UN General Assembly Resolution A/RES/55/199.

Nations Commission on Sustainable Development asked each national committee to identify 4-5 national targets to advance sustainable development in their respective countries.

In the run-up to the WSSD, regional meetings of governments and other 'major groups'⁹ were convened to help build a consensus on critical issues, identify priority actions and highlight regional best practice. The regional meetings took place throughout 2001 in Latin America and the Caribbean; Africa; Europe and North America; West Asia; and Asia and the Pacific.

Global preparations for the World Summit took place at a series of four Preparatory Committee meetings, three in New York and one at ministerial level in Bali, Indonesia.

THE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S AGENDA FOR WSSD

United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan issued a 63-page report analysing progress over the past decade in implementing Agenda 21, the global plan of action in pursuit of sustainable development agreed at the first 'Earth Summit'. The report¹⁰, tabled as part of the conference documentation in Johannesburg, assesses economic, social and environmental trends and offers suggestions on how the international community can realistically redirect its efforts to realize the goals.

The Secretary-General observes that conservation measures taken to date have been far from sufficient and there has only been very limited progress in reducing poverty in the developing world. Globalisation itself, he adds, has not benefited most people in the world. His conclusion is that attempts to promote human development and to reverse environmental degradation have not, in general, been effective over the last decade. He attributes this to too few resources, a lack of political will, piecemeal and uncoordinated approaches and continued wasteful patterns of production and consumption.

The Secretary-General also identified new global trends that have grown in importance since the first 'Earth Summit' in 1992. These include the challenges created by globalisation, the information and communications revolution, and the spread of HIV/AIDS. The Secretary-General also identified the key themes to be addressed: water, energy, health, agriculture and biodiversity, i.e. WEHAB.

3.0 THE PLAN OF IMPLEMENTATION

This section introduces a number of key sections together with the relevant abstracts from the Plan of Implementation where it addresses:

- Sanitation
- Renewable energy
- Biodiversity
- Sustainable Consumption and Production
- Subsidies

⁹ Major Groups as defined in Agenda 21 include trade unions, local authorities, NGOs, business, women, youth, indigenous people, the scientific and technological community and farmers.

¹⁰ Press Summary of the Secretary-General's Report on Implementing Agenda 21, United Nations Department of Public Information, January 2002.

- Fisheries, and
- Chemicals.

SANITATION

The UN 2002 Human Development Report has estimated that 1.1 billion people lacked access to safe drinking water in 2000, and twice that number did not have adequate sanitation. Agreement on the inclusion of a target on sanitation was reached after the United States gave up its opposition in return for blocking targets on renewable energy. The Plan of Implementation states:

The provision of clean drinking water and adequate sanitation is necessary to protect human health and the environment. In this respect, we agree to halve, by the year 2015, the proportion of people who are unable to reach or to afford safe drinking water (as outlined in the Millennium Declaration) and the proportion of people who do not have access to basic sanitation, which would include actions at all levels to:

- Develop and implement efficient household sanitation systems;*
- Improve sanitation in public institutions, especially schools;*
- Promote safe hygiene practices*
- Promote education and outreach focused on children, as agents of behavioural change;*
- Promote affordable and socially and culturally acceptable technologies and practices;*
- Develop innovative financing and partnership mechanisms;*
- Integrate sanitation into water resources management strategies. (#7)*

RENEWABLE ENERGY

One of the biggest disappointments of the WSSD was the defeat of proposals from the European Union and Brazil for the world's first global renewable energy target. A key factor in the defeat of proposals for targets was a decision by South African Environment Minister, Valli Moosa, to allow the G-77/China representative to draft a 'compromise' proposal, which did not include targets. This text was taken up as the basis for negotiation and the EU was unable to reintroduce its proposals. With the defeat of the proposals, the EU announced that it would seek to put together a coalition of willing regions to adopt their own renewable energy target. A number of regions have already adopted regional targets for the development of renewable energy sources, including Latin America and the Caribbean. The Plan of Implementation calls for an increase in the renewable energy share of energy resources and recognizes the role of national and voluntary regional targets:

Diversify energy supply by developing advanced, cleaner, more efficient, affordable and cost-effective energy technologies, including fossil fuel technologies and renewable energy technologies, hydro included, and their transfer to developing countries on concessional terms as mutually agreed. With a sense of urgency, substantially increase the global share of renewable energy sources with the objective of increasing its contribution to total energy supply, recognizing the role of national and voluntary regional targets as well as initiatives, where they exist, and ensuring that energy policies are supportive to developing countries' efforts to eradicate poverty, and regularly evaluate available data to review progress to this end. (#19 (e))

BIODIVERSITY

Biodiversity loss: The Draft plan coming out of the Bali PrepCom contained two options for language on biodiversity loss. One referred to actions required to put instruments in place to “stop” biodiversity loss. A second, weaker option was adopted in Johannesburg. It refers to “achieving a significant reduction in the current rate of biodiversity loss”:

A more efficient and coherent implementation of the three objectives of the Convention and the achievement by 2010 of a significant reduction in the current rate of loss of biological diversity will require the provision of new and additional financial and technical resources to developing countries (42).

Benefit sharing: At its sixth meeting, in The Hague, in April 2002, access and benefit-sharing (ABS) was one of the priority themes addressed by the COP of the Convention on Biological Diversity. The outcomes of COP-6 on ABS are included in decision VI/24. There was agreement on the adoption of the Bonn guidelines on access to genetic resources and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from their utilization¹¹.

The COP also decided to reconvene an *Ad Hoc* Open-ended Working Group on Access and Benefit-sharing to advise the Conference of the Parties.

The Conference of the Parties also considered in decision VI/24 B other complementary approaches to the Bonn guidelines in view of assisting Parties with the implementation of the access and benefit-sharing provisions of the Convention, such as the development of an action plan for capacity-building. In order to further develop elements of this Action Plan for Capacity-building for access and benefit sharing, the COP decided to convene an Open-ended Expert Workshop.

Biodiversity and benefit sharing in the Plan of Implementation: The Plan also contains language on benefit sharing:

Promote the wide implementation of and continued work on the Bonn Guidelines on Access to Genetic Resources and Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits arising out of their Utilization of the Convention, as an input to assist Parties to the Convention when developing and drafting legislative, administrative or policy measures on access and benefit-sharing, and contract and other arrangements under mutually agreed terms for access and benefit-sharing (42.N);

Negotiate within the framework of the Convention on Biological Diversity, bearing in mind the Bonn Guidelines, an international regime to promote and safeguard the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources (42.O).

This formulation was opposed by some countries initially because it was felt that the Bonn Guidelines should be allowed to bed down.

¹¹ Further information on the Bonn guidelines is available at the CBD website: www.biodiv.org/programmes/socio-eco/benefit/bonn.asp.

SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

One of the Cinderella themes from Agenda 21, action on sustainable consumption and production, has been slow in coming and received little new momentum at the WSSD. The Plan of Implementation states:

Encourage and promote the development of a 10-year framework of programmes in support of regional and national initiatives to accelerate the shift towards sustainable consumption and production to promote social and economic development within the carrying capacity of ecosystems by addressing and, where appropriate, delinking economic growth and environmental degradation through improving efficiency and sustainability in the use of resources and production processes, and reducing resource degradation, pollution and waste.(#10)

SUBSIDIES:

Progress on the removal of the European Union's subsidies was one of the objectives of the host Government of South Africa (Bond,2002:1). Little progress, apart from an aspirational reference in the Plan of Implementation, was achieved.

Doha and subsidies: *Fulfil, without prejudging the outcome of the negotiations, the commitment for comprehensive negotiations initiated under article 20 of the Agreement on Agriculture as referred to in paragraphs 13 and 14 of the Doha Ministerial Declaration, aiming at substantial improvements in market access, reductions of with a view to phasing out all forms of export subsidies, and substantial reductions in trade-distorting domestic support, while agreeing that the provisions for special and differential treatment for developing countries shall be an integral part of all elements of the negotiations and shall be embodied in the schedules of concession and commitments and, as appropriate, in the rules and disciplines to be negotiated, so as to be operationally effective and to enable developing countries to effectively take account of their development needs, including food security and rural development(86.C).¹²*

Support the completion of the work programme of the Doha Ministerial Declaration on subsidies so as to promote sustainable development and enhance the environment, and encourage reform of subsidies that have considerable negative effects on the environment and are incompatible with sustainable development (91.B).

FISHERIES

The Plan of Implementation includes a target on the recovery of fish stocks:

To achieve sustainable fisheries, the following actions are required at all levels: (a) Maintain or restore stocks to levels that can produce the maximum sustainable yield with the aim of achieving these goals for depleted stocks on an urgent basis and where possible not later than 2015 (30).

Fisheries & subsidies: *Eliminate subsidies that contribute to illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and to over-capacity, while completing the efforts undertaken at WTO to clarify and improve its disciplines on fisheries subsidies, taking into account the importance of this sector to developing countries (30.F)*

CHEMICALS

At the International Forum on Chemical Safety III Meeting in Bahia, Brazil, in October 2000 the participants identified where tasks had been completed or where progress was still ongoing to accomplish the intent of Chapter 19 of Agenda 21. On this basis, a strategy and priorities for addressing future issues up to Forum IV (expected in 2005 or 2006) were agreed on, set out in the Bahia Declaration on Chemical Safety and in the Priorities for Action Beyond 2000. The Plan of Implementation states:

Renew the commitment, as advanced in Agenda 21, to sound management of chemicals throughout their life cycle and of hazardous wastes for sustainable development and for the protection of human health and the environment, inter alia, aiming to achieve by 2020 that chemicals are used and produced in ways that lead to the minimization of significant adverse effects on human health and the environment, using transparent science-based risk assessment procedures and science-based risk management procedures, taking into account the precautionary approach, as set out in principle 15 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, and support developing countries in strengthening their capacity for the sound management of chemicals and hazardous wastes by providing technical and financial assistance¹³ (22)

Further develop a strategic approach to international chemicals management based on the Bahia Declaration and Priorities for Action beyond 2000 of the Intergovernmental Forum on Chemical Safety (IFCS) by 2005, and urge that the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), IFCS, other international organizations dealing with chemical management, and other relevant international organizations and actors closely cooperate in this regard, as appropriate (22.B).

4.0 THE ACTORS AND SOME POSITIONS

This section provides a flavour of some positions adopted by the main players during the negotiations at the WSSD.

South Africa: The host country used its facilitating role to great effect, ensuring that the Summit refocused the sustainable development agenda on the core issues of global poverty and social development, corporate accountability, and NEPAD. From the Chair, they also contributed to the defeat of efforts to introduce targets for renewable energy.

European Union: support for defeated proposal to introduce a renewable energy target; tried, unsuccessfully, to introduce a natural resources target. EU Commissioner Margot Wallström, expressed regret that the Summit was not able to agree to a specific target for renewable energy sources. She announced that the EU had launched a coalition of countries and regions who would go it alone and set themselves targets and timeframes for the increase of renewables in the energy mix.

G-77/China: opposed proposals for a renewable energy target despite the existence of regional renewable energy targets in areas such as Latin America and the Caribbean; reintroduced the separate chapter on globalisation. This was due largely to the influence of OPEC countries within the grouping.

¹³ The Bahia Declaration:
http://www.fjokk.hu/cejoem/files/Volume6/Vol6No4/CE00_4-01.html

United States: Opposed renewable energy targets on the basis that one size does not fit all; support for references to good governance in text on sound economic policies and sustainable development. Resisted targets and timetables; supported partnership delivery i.e. Type II outcomes.

Australia: Opposed renewable energy targets; opposed natural resources target on grounds that it could not be measured.

Japan: Opposed renewable energy targets; pressed negotiators not to re-open the Doha and Monterrey agreements; drafted compromise text on the Kyoto Protocol on behalf of the contact group.

Norway: Played a 'heroic' role in the eyes of many observers, attempting to support the 'environmental integrity' of the process; Supported renewable energy targets; strongly defended retention of the precautionary approach.

Brazil: Proposed renewable energy target.

Mexico for the Mega-Diverse Countries¹⁴ Strengthened language on biodiversity benefit sharing, called for a commitment to negotiate a legally binding regime to effectively promote and safeguard the fair and equitable sharing of benefits from biodiversity.

The Central Group (Central and Eastern Europe): Supported renewable energy targets.

Venezuela: The country acting as Chair of the G-77/China pointed out that his government supported a regional renewable energy target of 10% in Latin America.

5.0 POLITICAL ANALYSIS & THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE WSSD

This section begins with six observations on the political significance of the WSSD.

The last 'Earth Summit'?: The World Summit on Sustainable Development was a bitter disappointment for many in the NGO and media communities. There was a strong sense that expectations could not be matched by what the multilateral system could deliver in Johannesburg. The United Kingdom's International Development Secretary, Clare Short, put it like this: 'We do not need more big multilateral agenda-setting conferences, we need a real period of intensive implementation.'¹⁵ At the closing Plenary in Johannesburg, similar frustrations with the multilateral process itself were voiced by a number of Heads of State from developing countries.

At a roundtable on multilateralism, South African President Thabo Mbeki joined in the critique. He argued that the multilateral system trails some fifty years behind the requirements of humanity in the 21st century, attacked the tendency to compartmentalize discussions, and called for greater collaboration across the system of global institutions.

¹⁴ Formed on 18 February 2002 when they came together in Mexico to sign the Cancun Declaration, the Mega-Diverse countries are hosts to 70% of the world's biological diversity. They are: Brazil, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Mexico, Peru, South Africa and Venezuela.

¹⁵ Geoffrey Lean 2002 'UN blocks future Earth Summits', Independent.co.uk, news.independent.co.uk.

Unlike the Johannesburg Summit, the Stockholm Conference on the Human Environment (1972) and Rio Summit (1992) served an agenda-setting function, registering shifts in the global context in the course of a decade of UN-sponsored conferences. In the words of the French economist, Alain Lipietz, 'we are here in a 'controversial universe', involving debates about national models and international justice...In fact, we are witnessing the birth of a social object: the political economy of global environment.'¹⁶

The coming decade, beyond agenda setting, will see an increasing focus on questions of effective implementation and the institutional/political obstacles. Hyvarinen and Brack (2000) have summarised some useful questions for policy for those who may wish to contribute to this emerging discussion (Annex II). It will only be possible for certain elements of discussions rehearsed in Johannesburg to come to maturity when those conversations are transferred to the relevant international organisations:

- **Doha Declaration** (paras 31, 32 and 33): The highly contentious question of the relationship between WTO rules and Multilateral Environmental Agreements (e.g. the Kyoto Protocol) will be one of the early indicators of the degree to which the WTO is capable of accommodating a shift towards meaningful integration of the environmental and social pillars into the trade regime;
- **In the context of the 'global compact'** which underpinned the agreements reached at UNCED in 1992, the International Conference on Financing for Development represents a key 'confidence building' block in the new architecture for advancing sustainable development. The development finance institutions have a special role in restoring the loss of confidence in developing countries in the years after Rio;
- **Institutional questions** have been rehearsed in the course of the UNEP-sponsored International Environmental Governance (IEG) process in the lead-up to the WSSD. Only modest proposals were taken up in the Plan of Implementation agreed at Johannesburg. The key UN bodies charged with moving the sustainable development agenda beyond agenda setting may continue to struggle to engage trade/finance ministers and organisations.

The multilateral system in an era of globalisation: In both the formal negotiations and in the special events organised alongside the WSSD, there were hints of the challenges that the multilateral system will have to address under conditions of globalisation:

- A new regionalism (e.g. NEPAD) and the pursuit of regional interests;
- Formation of interest-defined groups (e.g. the Mega-Diverse countries);
- The significance of 'glocalisation' as evidenced by the proliferation and success of Local Agenda 21 programmes; and
- The ascendancy of civil society's role and that of global public policy organisations in mediating the gaps between the State, corporations and communities.

¹⁶ Alan Lipietz, 'Enclosing the Global Commons: Global Environmental Negotiations in a North-South Conflictual Approach', in *The North, the South, and the Environment*, edited by Bhaskar and Glynn (London: Earthscan, 1995).

Corporate accountability: One of the most talked about paragraphs in the globalisation chapter was the text on corporate responsibility and accountability. The text is viewed as a possible stepping-stone for civil society to press its case for an international regulatory framework for corporations - many of which now far surpass the power and influence of Member States of the United Nations. Some NGOs sense that the timing for such an initiative is just right.

Evolution in treatment of Agenda 21 themes: The Plan of Implementation may lack new targets and commitments. However, the structure and language of the Plan suggest that an evolution in the treatment of issues has taken place. One official close to the Secretariat pointed to the contrasting treatments of poverty in Agenda 21 and the Plan. Whereas the theme occupied a separate chapter in Agenda 21, it is now treated within the wider ecological context e.g. access to energy and resources. This development may contribute to the enhancement of joined-up government as ministries, other than environmental departments, begin to appreciate the connections implied by sustainable development. One example provided during the Summit was the linkage between the provision of clean water and sanitation and the impact this would have on the education of girls.

Renewable energy targets: The attempt by the European Union to introduce the world's first global renewable energy target was defeated by some OPEC countries working closely with the United States Government and industry delegates. The European proposals were modest (their 15 percent global target would have meant a one percent increase on the current figure for all renewable energy technologies) compared to proposals from Brazil, with support from Argentina and a number of other developing countries, and Norway (an 8 percent increase from 2 to 10 percent). Unlike the EU's target, Brazil wanted to include only new renewables e.g. solar, wind, and rural technologies such as large hydro schemes. One NGO commented that the agreed language on energy now has more in common with the Bush-Cheney Energy Plan in the United States than a programme to support a transition to a decarbonised economy. On completing their work on the renewable energy text in the contact group, the US Government delegates could be seen readily acknowledging a congratulatory 'thumbs up' from an industry colleague standing at the back of the room, at the end of what was clearly viewed as another good day's work.

Environmental security: As indicated in the IISD/IUCN publication, 'Conserving the Peace: Resources, Livelihoods and Security' (2002), the linkage between environment/resource issues and security concerns has been in the ascendant for several decades, notably since the publication of the Brundtland Commission's 'Our Common Future' (1987). The IISD publication reflects a relatively conventional approach to this thematic, drawing on a traditional strategic or resource management approach to security. There is considerable scope for the development of this research theme in the work of the IISD, as 'sustainable development' comes to be viewed increasingly as the potential bearer of an alternative security paradigm. To develop this research programme, the philosophical roots of the dominant Western security paradigm in modernity must be explored *inter alia* within the context of the need for a post-Statist conception of security. The importance of this work is underlined by the hegemonic status of 'Security' concerns in the United Nations system, resulting in a continued marginalisation of the social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development.

IISD PRIORITY THEMES AND WSSD OUTCOMES

International trade and investment

a. The launch of the Doha round of negotiations may signal the start of a new era in sustainable development discourse, as the WTO begins to grapple with the relationship (and hierarchy) of trade and environment regimes. Eco-labelling will be taken up by the Committee on Trade and Environment.

The Doha debates may represent a turning point in the institutionalisation of sustainable development; the development will be closely shadowed by NGOs and the so called 'anti-globalisation movement'.

A number of the emerging issues were rehearsed in Johannesburg e.g. the autonomy of Multilateral Environmental Agreements vis a vis the WTO.

b. Globalisation is treated in Chapter V of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation. Important aspects of this chapter include references to calls for the successful completion of the Doha work programme and implementation of the Monterrey Consensus;

The section also contains a call for the active promotion of corporate responsibility:

Actively promote corporate responsibility and accountability, based on the Rio Principles, including through the full development and effective implementation of intergovernmental agreements and measures, international initiatives and public-private partnerships, and appropriate national regulations, and support continuous improvement in corporate practices in all countries. (#45 ter)

c. Important aspects of the Doha Ministerial Declaration on market access are re-stated in the Section (#9) on Means of Implementation.

d. On the mutual supportiveness of trade, environment and development, the Plan of Implementation includes references to:

- Roles for the WTO Committee on Trade and Environment and the Committee on Trade and Development in identifying and debating developmental and environmental aspects of negotiations, to support an outcome which benefits sustainable development consistent with the commitments in the Doha Ministerial Declaration;
- Completion of the Doha Work Programme on subsidies incompatible with sustainable development;
- Encouragement of cooperation between the WTO, UN agencies and others on trade, environment and development; and
- Encouragement for the voluntary use of environmental impact assessments to better identify environment, trade and development inter-linkages at the national level.

The Section also contains a paragraph which was the subject of some debate at the WSSD:

Promote mutual supportiveness between the multilateral trading system and the multilateral environmental agreements, consistent with sustainable development

*goals, in support of the work programme agreed through WTO, while recognizing the importance of maintaining the integrity of both sets of instruments. (#92)*¹⁷

The debate on the relationship between the multilateral trading system and MEAs is framed by the two phrases which appear in this paragraph: one attempting to lock the relationship into the parameters of 'the work programme agreed through the WTO', and another offering important recognition of the 'importance of maintaining the integrity of both sets of instruments'.

There are competing interpretations of the phrasing. In Johannesburg, the Eco Equity Coalition (WWF, Consumers International, Oxfam, Friends of the Earth and the Northern Alliance for Sustainability ANPED) criticised the paragraph's inclusion of the phrase 'in support of the work programme agreed through the WTO' because it appeared to reinforce the WTO's 'dangerously unbalanced Doha mandate'. Others took a more generous view, noting that the phrase 'in support of' could be interpreted more broadly as leaving room for action that was different or went beyond Doha, as well as an invitation for other institutions to promote mutual supportiveness in their work programme.¹⁸

e. One of the most significant outcomes of the WSSD is a paragraph in the Section IV on Natural Resources, regarding benefit sharing. Paragraph 23(o) calls for a negotiation within the framework of the Convention on Biological Diversity, bearing in mind the Bonn Guidelines, an international regime to promote and safeguard the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources'. The implications of this recommendation were expected to be discussed at the CBD Bureau, and may be taken up at COP-7 in 2004. The United States, in a Closing Plenary intervention, noted that their interpretation of the recommendation is that any new regime will be voluntary. The phrase 'legally binding' had been dropped during negotiations.

Economic policy

a. Shortcomings in the multilateral system's treatment of sustainable development reflect continuing resistance at government level when it comes to integrating the social, environmental and economic dimensions across government departments.

b. Economic policy, for example, continues to be informed by a conventional government commitment to maintaining and priming levels of consumption to support throughout.

An important development in the economic policy area was the agreement in Johannesburg to encourage the development of a ten-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production:

Encourage and promote the development of a 10-year framework of programmes in support of regional and national initiatives to accelerate the shift towards sustainable consumption and production to promote social and economic development within the carrying capacity of ecosystems by addressing and, where appropriate, delinking economic growth and environmental degradation through improving efficiency and sustainability in the use of resources and production processes, and reducing resource degradation, pollution and waste. (#14)

¹⁷ My emphasis

¹⁸ See BRIDGES Trade BioRes – Special WSSD UPDATE No.5 5 September 2002.

c. Relevant authorities, at all levels, are encouraged to take sustainable development into account in decision-making e.g. in planning, investment, procurement etc. (#18)

Climate Change

The Johannesburg Summit was a turning point for the prospects of entry into force of the Kyoto Protocol, following an indication by the Russian Federation and Canada that ratification could follow soon. The Plan of Implementation also urges, on behalf of those who have already done so, countries to ratify the Protocol. (#36)

Entry into force will lead to an increased demand for research to inform implementation of climate change policy e.g. emissions trading, opportunities for technology development and transfer.

The Plan of Implementation re-states a number of recommendations from the ninth session of the CSD on energy and sustainable development, including references to subsidies. (#19)

Measurement and indicators of sustainable development

The Johannesburg Plan of Implementation encourages further work on the development of indicators of sustainable development at the national level, including work on gender.

The Plan of Implementation states:

119.quinquies Encourage further work on indicators for sustainable development by countries at the national level, including integration of gender aspects, on a voluntary basis, in line with national conditions and priorities.

119.sexties Promote further work on indicators, in conformity with paragraph 3 of decision 9/4 of the Commission on Sustainable Development¹⁹.

Natural resource management

Section IV of the Plan of Implementation outlines recommendations on Protecting the natural resource base for social and economic development.

The Johannesburg Summit agreed that it is necessary to implement natural resource strategies which should include targets adopted at the national and, where appropriate, regional levels to protect ecosystems and achieve integrated management of land, water and living resources. Important aspects include references to the recovery of fish stocks, water, sanitation, the marine environment biodiversity etc.

An action programme is outlined, including:

- Actions to achieve the Millennium Development Goals on safe drinking water;
- Mobilizing resources, technology transfer, and capacity building for water and sanitation infrastructure;
- Facilitating access to public information and participation related to water resources management and project implementation;

¹⁹ CSD-9, Information for decision-making and participation, Decision 9/4 (16-27 April 2001).

- Promoting priority action by governments in water management and capacity building;
- Intensifying water pollution prevention to reduce health hazards and protect ecosystems; and
- Adopting prevention and protection measures to promote sustainable water use and address water shortages.

Miscellaneous issues of interest to IISD

a. GEF replenishment: On 7 August 2002 donor countries pledged nearly US\$3 billion for new GEF activities through 2006, the highest ever replenishment of the Facility. Since the 1992 'Earth Summit' the GEF has grown from a private programme to become the largest investor in the global environment, providing some US\$4 billion in grants and leveraging an additional US\$12.4 billion in co-financing for more than 1000 projects in 160 developing countries and transition economies.

Additional funds in 2002 will help finance work on climate change, the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants and outcomes from the WSSD. The GEF also expects to do more in the area of land degradation by opening a new window to support the Convention to Combat Desertification and in the area of persistent organic pollutants, or toxic substances.

6.0 CONCLUSION

As sustainable development moves beyond a headline decade of agenda setting, the demand for practical policy support can be expected to grow exponentially. The World Development Report 2003 commends the 'think-and-do tank' model. These are policy analytic and action-oriented organizations that build links to universities and think tanks in developing countries and in the developed world, to government line agencies in their own countries, and to local governments and community organizations on the ground.²⁰

With the passing of time an appreciation of the significance of Agenda 21 and the UNCED agreements will grow and the discourse of sustainable development will become enshrined in political exchanges alongside the norms of democracy, economic justice, human rights and participation. In time, we shall be less impressed by the use of the term 'sustainable development' and much more concerned with the quality of praxis; this is precisely how we deal critically with other normative claims in daily political exchanges. In the process, the normative claims associated with sustainable development will migrate in an agonistic fashion to new global institutions (notably the World Trade Organisation) and street-level demands for the extension of democratic norms of accountability, responsibility and transparency to the private sector (notably corporations) will mark some of the most significant attempts to mainstream sustainable development in the near future.

A holistic articulation of sustainable development will also come to challenge the hegemonic paradigm of security as currently practised by the privileged institutions of the international system.

Thinkers and doers have only begun their provocative conversation.

²⁰ See World Development Report 2003: Transforming Institutions, Growth and Quality of Life, World Bank: Washington.

ANNEX I: THE ISSUES - KEY OUTCOMES FROM THE JO'BURG SUMMIT²¹

- The Summit reaffirmed sustainable development as a central element of the international agenda and gave new impetus to global action to fight poverty and protect the environment.
- The understanding of sustainable development was broadened and strengthened as a result of the Summit, particularly the important linkages between poverty, the environment and the use of natural resources.
- Governments agreed to and reaffirmed a wide range of concrete commitments and targets for action to achieve more effective implementation of sustainable development objectives.
- Energy and sanitation issues were critical elements of the negotiations and outcomes to a greater degree than in previous international meetings on sustainable development.
- Support for the establishment of a world solidarity fund for the eradication of poverty was a positive step forward.
- Africa and NEPAD were identified for special attention and support by the international community to better focus efforts to address the development needs of Africa.
- The views of civil society were given prominence at the Summit in recognition of the key role of civil society in implementing the outcomes and in promoting partnership initiatives. Over 8,000 civil society participants attended the Summit, reinforced by parallel events which included major groups, as well as Chief Justices from various countries.
- The concept of partnerships between governments, business and civil society was given a large boost by the Summit and the Plan of Implementation. Over 220 partnerships (with \$235 million in resources) were identified in advance of the Summit and around 60 partnerships were announced during the Summit by a variety of countries.

KEY COMMITMENTS, TARGETS AND TIMETABLES FROM THE JOHANNESBURG PLAN OF IMPLEMENTATION²²

Poverty Eradication

Halve, by the year 2015, the proportion of the world's people whose income is less than US\$1 a day and the proportion of people who suffer from hunger (*reaffirmation of Millennium Development Goals*).

²¹ Based on a document prepared by UNDESA

²² Note: this list is not exhaustive but provides information on the key commitments set out in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation. For the full text, including the exact terms in which these commitments were made, visit the official website: www.johannesburgsummit.org

By 2020, achieve a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers, as proposed in the “Cities without slums” initiative (*reaffirmation of Millennium Development Goal*).

Establish a world solidarity fund to eradicate poverty and to promote social and human development in the developing countries.

Water and Sanitation

Halve, by the year 2015, the proportion of people without access to safe drinking water (*reaffirmation of Millennium Development Goal*).

Halve, by the year 2015, the proportion of people who do not have access to basic sanitation.

Sustainable Production and Consumption

Encourage and promote the development of a 10-year framework of programmes to accelerate the shift towards sustainable consumption and production.

Energy

Renewable energy

Diversify energy supply and substantially increase the global share of renewable energy sources in order to increase its contribution to total energy supply.

Access to Energy

Improve access to reliable, affordable, economically viable, socially acceptable and environmentally sound energy services and resources, sufficient to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, including the goal of halving the proportion of people in poverty by 2015.

Energy Markets

Remove market distortions including the restructuring of taxes and the phasing out of harmful subsidies.

Support efforts to improve the functioning, transparency and information about energy markets with respect to both supply and demand, with the aim of achieving greater stability and to ensure consumer access to energy services.

Energy efficiency

Establish domestic programmes for energy efficiency with the support of the international community. Accelerate the development and dissemination of energy efficiency and energy conservation technologies, including the promotion of research and development.

Chemicals

Aim, by 2020, to use and produce chemicals in ways that do not lead to significant adverse effects on human health and the environment.

Renew the commitment to the sound management of chemicals and of hazardous wastes throughout their life cycle.

Promote the ratification and implementation of relevant international instruments on chemicals and hazardous waste, including the Rotterdam Convention so that it can enter into force by 2003 and the Stockholm Convention so that it can enter into force by 2004.

Further develop a strategic approach to international chemicals management, based on the Bahia Declaration and Priorities for Action beyond 2000, by 2005

Encourage countries to implement the new globally harmonized system for the classification and labelling of chemicals as soon as possible, with a view to having the system fully operational by 2008.

Management of the natural resource base

Water

Develop integrated water resources management and water efficiency plans by 2005.

Oceans and fisheries

Encourage the application by 2010 of the ecosystem approach for the sustainable development of the oceans.

On an urgent basis and where possible by 2015, maintain or restore depleted fish stocks to levels that can produce the maximum sustainable yield.

Put into effect the FAO international plans of action by the agreed dates:

- for the management of fishing capacity by 2005; and
- to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing by 2004.

Develop and facilitate the use of diverse approaches and tools, including the ecosystem approach, the elimination of destructive fishing practices, the establishment of marine protected areas consistent with international law and based on scientific information, including representative networks by 2012 .

Establish by 2004 a regular process under the United Nations for global reporting and assessment of the state of the marine environment.

Eliminate subsidies that contribute to illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and to over-capacity.

Atmosphere

Facilitate implementation of the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer by ensuring adequate replenishment of its fund by 2003/2005.

Improve access by developing countries to alternatives to ozone-depleting substances by 2010, and assist them in complying with the phase-out schedule under the Montreal Protocol.

Biodiversity

Achieve by 2010 a significant reduction in the current rate of loss of biological diversity.

Forests

Accelerate implementation of the IPF/IFF proposals for action by countries and by the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, and intensify efforts on reporting to the United Nations Forum on Forests, to contribute to an assessment of progress in 2005.

Corporate responsibility

Actively promote corporate responsibility and accountability, including through the full development and effective implementation of intergovernmental agreements and measures, international initiatives and public-private partnerships, and appropriate national regulations²³.

Health

Enhance health education with the objective of achieving improved health literacy on a global basis by 2010.

Reduce, by 2015, mortality rates for infants and children under 5 by two thirds, and maternal mortality rates by three quarters, of the prevailing rate in 2000 (*reaffirmation of Millennium Development Goal*).

Reduce HIV prevalence among young men and women aged 15-24 by 25 per cent in the most affected countries by 2005 and globally by 2010, as well as combat malaria, tuberculosis and other diseases (*reaffirmation of General Assembly resolution*).

Sustainable development of small island developing States

Undertake initiatives by 2004 aimed at implementing the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities to reduce, prevent and control waste and pollution and their health-related impacts.

Develop community-based initiatives on sustainable tourism by 2004.

Support the availability of adequate, affordable and environmentally sound energy services for the sustainable development of Small Island Developing States, including through strengthening efforts on energy supply and services by 2004.

Review implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States in 2004.

Sustainable development for Africa

Improve sustainable agricultural productivity and food security in accordance with the Millennium Development Goals, in particular to halve by 2015 the proportion of people who suffer from hunger.

²³ The Chair of the Contact Group responsible for discussions was invited by the United States to draw up an interpretive statement in response to proposals on corporate accountability. The interpretive statement noted that it was the collective understanding of the contact group on Means of Implementation that the relevant paragraph refers to existing intergovernmental agreements and international initiatives. NGOs had been campaigning for the launch of negotiations of a new convention on corporate accountability.

Support African countries in developing and implementing food security strategies by 2005.

Support Africa's efforts to implement NEPAD objectives on energy, which seek to secure access for at least 35 per cent of the African population within 20 years, especially in rural areas.

Means of implementation

Ensure that, by 2015, all children will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling and that girls and boys will have equal access to all levels of education relevant to national needs (*reaffirmation of Millennium Development Goal*).

Eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education by 2005 (*reaffirmation of Dakar Framework for Action on Education for All*).

Recommend to the UN General Assembly that it consider adopting a decade of education for sustainable development, starting in 2005.

Institutional Framework for sustainable development

Adopt new measures to strengthen institutional arrangements for sustainable development at international, regional and national levels.

Enhance the role of the Commission on Sustainable Development, including through reviewing and monitoring progress in the implementation of Agenda 21 and fostering coherence of implementation, initiatives and partnerships.

Facilitate and promote the integration of the environmental, social and economic dimensions of sustainable development into the work programs UN regional commissions.

Establish an effective, transparent and regular inter-agency coordination mechanism on ocean and coastal issues within the United Nations system.

Take immediate steps to make progress in the formulation and elaboration of national strategies for sustainable development and begin their implementation by 2005.

SOME KEY INITIATIVES (TYPE II) AND ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE JOHANNESBURG SUMMIT²⁴

WATER & SANITATION

- The United States announced \$970 million in investments over the next three years on water and sanitation projects.

²⁴ The following list is not exhaustive, but reflects some key initiatives announced during the Johannesburg Summit.

- The European Union announced the “Water for Life” initiative that seeks to engage partners to meet goals for water and sanitation, primarily in Africa and Central Asia.
- The Asian Development Bank provided a \$5 million grant to UN Habitat and \$500 million in fast-track credit for the Water for Asian Cities Programme.
- The UN has received 21 other water and sanitation initiatives with at least US\$20 million in extra resources.

ENERGY

- The nine major electricity companies of the E7²⁵ signed a range of agreements with the UN to facilitate technical cooperation for sustainable energy projects in developing countries.
- The European Union announced a US\$700 million partnership initiative on energy and the United States announced that it would invest up to US\$43 million in 2003.
- DESA, UNEP and the US EPA announced a partnership on Cleaner Fuels and Vehicles with broad support from confirmed partners from the private sector, the NGO community, developed and developing countries.
- The South African energy utility Eskom announced a partnership to extend modern energy services to neighbouring countries.
- The United Nations Environment Programme launched a new initiative called the Global Network on Energy for Sustainable Development to promote the research, transfer and deployment of green and cleaner energy technologies to the developing world
- The UN has received 32 partnership submissions for energy projects with at least US\$26 million in resources.

HEALTH

- The United States announced a commitment to spend US\$2.3 billion through 2003 on health, some of which was earmarked earlier for the Global Fund.
- The UN has received 16 partnership submissions for health projects with US\$3 million in resources.

AGRICULTURE

- The United States will invest US\$90 million in 2003 for sustainable agriculture programmes.

²⁵ The E7 is a group of leading power generation companies from G-8 countries dedicated to protecting the global environment through the promotion of efficient generation and supporting economies in developing countries.

- The UN has received 17 partnership submissions with at least US\$2 million in additional resources.

BIODIVERSITY AND ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT

- Canada and Russia announced they intended to ratify the Kyoto protocol
- The United States announced US\$53 million for forests in 2002-2005.
- The UN has received 32 partnership initiatives with US\$100 million in resources.

CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES

- Agreement to the replenishment of the Global Environment Facility, with a total of US\$3 billion (US\$2.92 billion announced pre-Summit and US\$80 million added by EU in Johannesburg).
- Norway pledged an additional US\$50 million towards following up the Johannesburg commitments
- The United Kingdom announced it was doubling its assistance to Africa to £1 billion a year and raising its overall assistance for all countries by 50 per cent
- The EU announced that it will increase its development assistance with more than 22 billion euros in the years to 2006 and by more than 9 billion euros annually from 2006 onwards
- Germany announced a contribution of 500 million euros over the next five years to promote cooperation on renewable energy
- Canada announced that, as of 1 January 2003, it will eliminate tariffs and quotas on almost all products from the least developed countries and that by 2010 it would double development assistance.
- Japan announced that it will provide at least 250 billion yen in education assistance over a five-year period and that it would extend emergency food aid amounting to US\$30 million dollars to save children in southern Africa from famine
- Japan also announced it would provide cooperation in environment-related capacity building by training 5,000 people from overseas over a five-year period
- Ireland announced that it has allocated almost 8 million euros in emergency funding in response to the humanitarian needs of the African region

STATUS OF THE KYOTO PROTOCOL

Ministers at the Johannesburg Summit indicated their support for the Kyoto Protocol. The Plan of Implementation reads: 'States that have ratified strongly urge those that have not done so to ratify Kyoto in a timely manner'.

The Johannesburg Summit marked a turning point in the fortunes of the Protocol, following the withdrawal of the United States. Entry into Force became a very real prospect with a strong signal that the Russian Federation will soon ratify.

China, India, Brazil and Thailand announced their ratification of the Kyoto Protocol at the Johannesburg Summit. Russia and Canada have given strong signals that they will ratify in the near future. The combined emissions of Russia and Canada would be sufficient to push the greenhouse gas figures over the requirement for ratification.

The Kyoto Protocol will enter into force 90 days after 55 governments have ratified, including developed countries representing at least 55% of that group's 1990 carbon dioxide emissions. As of September 2002, 94 countries had ratified - including all European Union member states and Japan, accounting for 37.1%.

ANNEX II: FEATURES OF A STRUCTURE FOR EFFECTIVE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE

1. Transformational leadership
2. Clear and early identification of problems
3. Identification and assessment of response options and management objectives
4. Effective implementation at international level
5. Coordination of activities
6. Effectiveness of activities
7. Policy integration
8. Mobilisation of private sector resources
9. Transformation of the traditional industrialised-country development model
10. International equity
11. Legitimacy
12. Institutional adaptability: innovation and learning

ANNEX III: UN SECRETARY-GENERAL ON MDGs (1 OCTOBER 2002)

New York, 1 October 2002 - Secretary-General's opening remarks at press conference on the first progress report on the implementation of the Millennium Declaration

Good Morning, Ladies and Gentlemen

I know most of you are focused on Iraq at the moment, but the United Nations has to keep thinking about the rest of the world as well – especially the well over a billion people who struggle to survive on a dollar a day or less, without clean water or sanitation, and go to bed hungry every night.

You may remember that two years ago Heads of State and Government came here from all over the world, and adopted the Millennium Declaration – an agenda of the things that most urgently need to be changed if the human race is to get through the twenty-first century in better shape than it did the twentieth.

You will also remember that the agenda included a series of very precise and measurable targets, which all States agreed must be achieved by 2015. Those are the eight Millennium Development Goals. They include halving extreme poverty, halting the spread of HIV/AIDS, and giving full primary education to all children, girls and boys alike.

The General Assembly asked me to produce a road map, setting out in some detail what would need to be done to make all the pledges given in the Declaration come true. I did that last year.

And now I have to produce a report each year, showing what progress has been made in implementing the Declaration; where we are falling short; and what more needs to be done.

The first of those annual reports is what you now have in your hands. It will be discussed in the General Assembly on Friday.

What does it say? Are we on track to achieve to fulfil the pledges in the Declaration or not?

In a nutshell, it says that the world is falling short. If we carry on as we are, most of the pledges are not going to be fulfilled.

On all our broad objectives – human rights, democracy, good governance, the resolution of conflicts, and the special needs of Africa – we are moving too slowly. Unless we can speed things up dramatically, we shall find when we get to 2015 that the words of the Declaration ring hollow.

As for the Millennium Development Goals – which are more precise, and therefore easier to measure – the record so far is mixed, at best. There are marked differences between regions.

Over the past decade, East Asia has already halved the proportion of people living on less than one dollar per day – from 28 per cent to 14. South Asia, where nearly half the world's poor still live, has seen a more modest drop: from 44 per cent to 37.

But in Africa, where ten years ago 48 per cent of people were living on one dollar a day or less, the figure today is 47 per cent. In ten years, Africa has only managed to cut the proportion by one forty-eighth. There has to be a quite dramatic change if by 2015 – only just over twelve years from now – it is going to cut that proportion by 50 per cent.

The first big test of our commitment to achieve the Goals will come in 2005 – little more than two years from now – by which time Member States have pledged to achieve parity of girls and boys in both primary and secondary schools. I regret to say it is unlikely to be met.

Between 1990 and 2000 the gender gap narrowed by only 25%. And without greater success in placing more girls in school, I fear it will prove even more difficult to reach the other goals.

The Millennium Goals are global, but it is what happens in each separate developing country that will determine whether they are met or not. And there is no magic formula for reaching them that every country can apply. Each country must find the right mix of policies that suits its local conditions, and the people of each country must insist that those policies are applied.

And that applies also to the developed countries, which must deliver their promises on trade and development assistance so that developing countries have a real chance to prosper in the new global economy.

In other words, it is not here at the United Nations who can achieve these goals. All we can do is keep reminding governments of their pledges, and urging them to do whatever is needed to meet those pledges and make them come true.

And that is what we're doing. We have started a Millennium Campaign, to make the Goals better known throughout the world – and to try and make sure that something is actually done.

I shall deliver my annual global report each year, but we will also help every developing country to produce its own annual report – so that in each country the people will know how they are doing. Our hope is that, in this age of democracy, once people know they will be able to insist on action.

And that is why Eveline Herfkens is here. Many of you probably know her from her outstanding leadership over the past few years as Minister for Development Cooperation in the Netherlands. In that capacity, she has already done a great deal to bring the Millennium Development Goals to the top of the global agenda.

Perhaps we should be grateful to the Dutch people for voting against her party in the recent elections, since as a result she is now free to take on a global role! I am delighted to announce that she has agreed to work with me, and with Mark Malloch Brown, in running this historic Millennium Campaign.

Let me now ask Mark to tell you a little more about the country monitoring process, and then he and Eveline will take your questions.

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