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**THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE
ON ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT
RIO DE JANEIRO, BRAZIL, 3-14 JUNE 1992**

Matters of Interest to International Atomic Energy Agency

Introduction

1. This note presents results of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil from 3 to 14 June 1992. The Conference, presided by President Fernando Collor de Mello, Brazil, concluded with a two-day summit involving 115 Heads of State and Government.
2. The Conference adopted three documents by consensus: the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development which is a statement of twenty-seven principles; "Agenda 21" which is an 800-page document setting out objectives and activities within forty programme areas and which reflects a global consensus at the highest level; and the "non-legally binding authoritative statement of principles for a global consensus on the management, conservation and sustainable development of all types of forests". During the Conference two treaties were opened for signature: the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Convention on Biological Diversity. Over 150 States signed these two Conventions. The present note highlights those areas of the Rio conclusions that are of particular interest to IAEA.
3. Some important aspects of the follow-up to UNCED will be discussed and determined by the General Assembly in autumn 1992; other aspects are to be taken up directly by Governments and relevant multilateral agencies.

IAEA participation

4. The IAEA Secretariat participated actively in the preparatory work leading up to the Conference and in related inter-agency consultations. Pursuant to the General Conference resolution (document GC(XXXV)/RES/554) on the Agency's contribution to sustainable development, the following documents were provided to the UNCED Secretariat during the preparatory process:

- (a) the conclusions of the Senior Expert Symposium on Electricity and the Environment (Helsinki, May 1991);
 - (b) the conclusions of the International Conference on the Safety of Nuclear Power (Vienna, September 1991); and
 - (c) the Code of Practice on the International Transboundary Movement of Radioactive Waste.
5. The document "Nuclear Power, Nuclear Techniques and Sustainable Development" was distributed at the Conference itself.
6. The Director General addressed UNCED on 4 June 1992.
7. The Secretariat is actively co-operating in inter-agency co-ordination activities initiated by the UN Secretary-General in response to the outcomes of UNCED.

1. Agenda 21

8. This agenda for action into the twenty-first century covers the full range of issues under the broad concept of "sustainable development". It is divided into four sections: social and economic dimensions; conservation and management of resources for development; strengthening the role of major groups; and means of implementation. The table of contents of Agenda 21 appears in Annex I. Throughout Agenda 21 the term "environmentally sound" means "environmentally safe and sound", in particular when applied to the terms "energy sources", "energy supplies", "energy systems", or "technology/technologies". Several of the chapters related to conservation and management of resources for development are of interest to IAEA, in particular as regards the application of nuclear techniques in areas such as the management of land resources, the management and use of water resources, the management of fragile ecosystems, the promotion of sustainable agriculture and the sound management of biotechnology. The following chapters are singled out in this note as being of direct interest to the IAEA and in its field of competence.

Chapter 9 - Protection of the atmosphere

9. This chapter covers, inter alia, energy development, efficiency and consumption; transportation; industrial development; and transboundary atmospheric pollution. In the basis for action, it states that the control of atmospheric emissions of greenhouse and other gases and substances will need to be based on efficiency of energy production transmission, distribution and consumption and on growing reliance on environmentally sound energy systems, particularly new and renewable sources of energy. Governments should co-operate in the development of such energy systems to promote the availability of increased energy

supplies, in particular in developing countries. Energy planning and management capacities should be developed and supported and energy plans co-ordinated regionally and sub-regionally. The chapter encourages the development of capabilities to assess and mitigate transboundary air pollution resulting from industrial and nuclear accidents, natural disasters and the deliberate and/or accidental destruction of natural resources. Early warning systems and response mechanisms should be established or strengthened.

Chapter 17 - Protection of the oceans, all kinds of seas, including enclosed and semi-enclosed seas, and coastal areas and the protection, rational use and development of their living resources

10. Under the sub-chapter dealing with prevention, reduction and control of degradation of the marine environment from sea-based activities, States should assess the need for additional measures to address degradation of the marine environment

(a) from shipping, by, *inter alia*, encouraging IMO and IAEA to work together to complete consideration of a code on the carriage of irradiated nuclear fuel in flasks on board ships and revising and up-dating the IMO Code of Safety for Nuclear Merchant Ships and considering how best to implement a revised code and

(b) from dumping, by, *inter alia*, supporting wider participation in relevant conventions on dumping at sea, including early conclusion of a future strategy for the London Dumping Convention.

Another sub-chapter deals with addressing critical uncertainties for the management of the marine environment and climate change and encourages systematic collection of data on marine environmental parameters, supporting the role of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) in co-operation with other international organizations in the collection, analysis and distribution of data and information from the oceans and all seas. To achieve better coordination, mechanisms should be strengthened to develop comparable and compatible techniques, validate methodologies and measurements, organize regular scientific reviews, develop options for corrective measures, agree on formats for presentation and storage, and communicate the information gathered to potential users.

Chapter 19 - Environmentally sound management of toxic chemicals, including prevention of illegal international traffic in toxic and dangerous products

11. This chapter contains six programme areas including risk assessment, classification and labelling of chemicals, risk reduction, and strengthening national management capabilities. It advocates major research efforts to improve methods for assessment of chemicals, a common framework for risk assessment and improved procedures for using toxicological and epidemiological data to predict the effects of

chemicals on human health. A strengthened International Programme on Chemical Safety (IPCS) is foreseen, with the participation of UNEP, ILO, WHO, FAO, OECD and other organizations.

Chapter 20 - Environmentally sound management of hazardous wastes including prevention of illegal international traffic in hazardous wastes

12. The objectives of this chapter include preventing or minimizing the generation of hazardous wastes; basing transboundary movements of hazardous wastes on environmental and economic grounds and upon agreements between the States concerned; ratification of the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal and, for the countries concerned, of the Bamako Convention on the Ban on the Import into Africa and Control of Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes within Africa; and full respect for the decisions taken by the countries parties to conventions, such as the Bamako Convention and the Fourth Lome Convention, that prohibit the import of hazardous wastes into developing countries. Governments are called upon to ascertain that their military establishments conform to their nationally applicable environmental norms in the treatment and disposal of hazardous wastes.

Chapter 22 - Safe and environmentally sound management of radioactive wastes

13. As the entirety of this chapter is of interest and directed mainly to international cooperation within the framework of IAEA, the full text is reproduced in Annex II. States are called upon to support efforts within IAEA to develop and promulgate radioactive waste safety standards or guidelines and codes of practice as an internationally accepted basis for the safe and environmentally sound management and disposal of radioactive wastes. Safe practices should be promoted by facilitating the transfer of relevant technologies to developing countries and/or the return to the supplier of radiation sources after their use, in accordance with relevant international regulations or guidelines. States should strengthen their efforts to implement the Code of Practice on the International Transboundary Movement of Radioactive Waste and, under the auspices of IAEA, keep the question of such movements under active review, including the desirability of concluding a legally binding instrument.

Chapter 33 - Financial resources and mechanisms

14. This chapter notes that, in general, the financing for the implementation of Agenda 21 will come from a country's own public and private sectors. For developing countries, particularly the least developed countries, ODA is a main source of external funding, and substantial new and additional funding for sustainable development and implementation of Agenda 21 will be required. Developed countries reaffirm their commitments to reach the accepted United Nations target of 0.7 per cent of GNP for ODA and, to the extent that they have not yet achieved that target,

agree to augment their aid programmes in order to reach that target as soon as possible and to ensure a prompt and effective implementation of Agenda 21. Some countries agree or have agreed to reach the target by the year 2000. It was decided that the Commission on Sustainable Development would regularly review and monitor progress towards this target. This review process should systematically combine the monitoring of the implementation of Agenda 21 with a review of the financial resources available. Those countries which have already reached the target are to be commended and encouraged to continue to contribute to the common effort to make available the substantial additional resources that have to be mobilized. Other developed countries, in line with their support for reform efforts in developing countries, agree to make their best efforts to increase their level of ODA. In this context, the importance of equitable burden-sharing among developed countries is recognized. Other countries, including those undergoing the process of transition to a market economy, may voluntarily augment the contributions of the developed countries.

15. Funding for Agenda 21 and other outcomes of UNCED should use all available funding sources and mechanisms, including the IDA, the regional and subregional development banks, the Global Environmental Facility (GEF), the relevant specialized agencies, other United Nations bodies and other international organizations, which have designated roles to play in supporting national Governments in implementing Agenda 21, bilateral assistance programmes, debt relief, private funding, investment and innovative financing, such as the use of economic and fiscal incentives and mechanisms. The secretariat of the Conference has estimated the average annual costs (1993-2000) of implementing in developing countries the activities in Agenda 21 to be over \$600 billion, including about \$125 billion on grant or concessional terms from the international community. These are indicative and order of magnitude estimates only, and have not been reviewed by Governments. Actual costs will depend upon, inter alia, the specific strategies and programmes Governments decide upon for implementation.

Chapter 35 - Science for sustainable development

16. This chapter calls for substantial improvements in environmental and developmental policy formulation, building on the best scientific knowledge and assessments, taking into account the relative uncertainties of the various processes and options involved. Emphasis is placed on developing long-term environmental policy formulation, risk management and environmentally sound technology assessment. In determining scientific research priorities, use should be made of transparent, "user-friendly", risk evaluation technologies. Regional and global scientific and technological information networks should be expanded, including activities to reduce information barriers due to language differences. Applications of computer-based retrieval systems should be increased in order to cope with the growth of scientific literature.

Chapter 38 - International institutional arrangements

17. A high-level Commission on Sustainable Development should be established by the General Assembly to ensure the effective follow-up of the Conference, as well as to enhance international cooperation and rationalize the inter-governmental decision-making capacity for the integration of environment and development issues, and to examine the progress of the implementation of Agenda 21 at the national, regional and international levels. The Commission would, *inter alia*, review UN system efforts to carry out Agenda 21 and receive information from independent treaty bodies on the implementation of environmental conventions. The Commission would report to the General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council and would consist of representatives of States elected as members with due regard to equitable geographical distribution. It would be supported by a secretariat and would convene its first meeting no later than 1993. The institutional arrangements also foresee a strong role for the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the establishment of a high-level inter-agency co-ordination mechanism within the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination (ACC) as well as a high-level advisory board consisting of eminent persons knowledgeable about environment and development. In the follow-up to the Conference, all relevant organs, programmes and organizations of the United Nations system will have an important role within their respective areas of expertise and mandates in supporting and supplementing national efforts. Coordination and mutual complementarity of their efforts to promote integration of environment and development can be enhanced through encouraging countries to maintain consistent positions in the various governing bodies.

18. The chapter also notes that all United Nations specialized agencies, related organizations and other relevant intergovernmental organizations within their respective fields of competence have an important role to play in the implementation of relevant parts of Agenda 21 and other decisions of the Conference. Their governing bodies may consider ways of strengthening and adjusting activities and programmes in line with Agenda 21, in particular, regarding projects for promoting sustainable development. Furthermore, they may consider establishing special arrangements with donors and financial institutions for project implementation that may require additional resources.

19. Regarding the role of non-governmental bodies, the United Nations system organizations are urged to design open and effective means to achieve the participation of NGOs in the process established to review and evaluate the implementation of Agenda 21. Procedures should be established for an expanded role for NGOs, with accreditation based on the procedures used in UNCED. Such organizations should have access to reports and other information produced by the United Nations system.

Chapter 39 - International legal instruments and mechanisms

20. One of the objectives of this chapter is to set priorities for future law-making on sustainable development and to promote, through the gradual development of

universally and multilaterally negotiated agreements or instruments, international standards for the protection of the environment that take into account the different situations and capabilities of countries. The following specific reference is made to negotiations within the framework of IAEA:

"in view of the vital necessity to ensure safe and environmentally sound nuclear power, and in order to strengthen international cooperation in this field, efforts should be made to conclude the ongoing negotiations for a nuclear safety convention in the framework of the International Atomic Energy Agency".

II. The Rio Declaration on Environment and Development

21. The Rio Declaration is a set of 27 general principles and is reproduced in Annex III. Of particular interest are the following:

Principle 13 on liability and compensation for adverse effects of environmental damage, Principle 14 on discouraging the relocation or transfer of environmentally harmful activities or substances, Principle 15 on the application of the precautionary approach, Principle 17 on environmental impact assessment, and Principles 18 and 19 on notification of emergencies or activities that are likely to have significant adverse transboundary environmental effects.

III. Non-legally binding authoritative statement of principles for a global consensus on the management, conservation and sustainable development of all types of forests

22. These principles, *inter alia*, recognize the vital role of all types of forests in maintaining the ecological processes and balance by protecting fragile ecosystems, watersheds and freshwater resources and as rich storehouses of biodiversity and biological resources and sources of genetic material for biotechnology products, as well as photosynthesis. The principles encourage scientific research, forest inventories and assessments, including international cooperation.

IV. The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

23. This Convention was signed by 153 States and one regional economic integration organization during the Conference. The ultimate objective of the Convention and any related legal instruments that the Conference of the Parties may adopt is to achieve stabilization of greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system. Such a level should be achieved within a time frame sufficient to allow ecosystems to adapt naturally to climate change, to ensure that food production is not threatened

and to enable economic development to proceed in a sustainable manner. Developed country Parties to the Convention shall adopt national policies and take corresponding measures on the mitigation of climate change by limiting anthropogenic emissions of greenhouse gases and protecting and enhancing greenhouse gas sinks and reservoirs. In addition to signing the treaty, several industrialized countries publicly confirmed their targets for CO₂ reduction. The European Community reaffirmed its joint target of stabilization at 1990 levels by the year 2000. Switzerland, Austria and Liechtenstein did the same, and Canada confirmed its earlier commitments.

V. The United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity

24. This Convention was also signed by 153 States and one regional economic integration organization. Its objective is to preserve areas rich in plant and animal species and to promote the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources, including appropriate access to and transfer of, relevant technologies.

AGENDA 21

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**United Nations Conference on Environment & Development
Conférence des Nations Unies sur l'Environnement et le Développement**

160 Route de Florissant
P.O. Box: 80
CH-1231 Conches
Switzerland

Tel: (41-22)789-1676
Fax: (41-22)789-3536
InterNet/EcoNet: unced@igc.org,
D41:tcn4091, GeoNet:mcr1:unced

AGENDA 21, CHAPTER 22

**SAFE AND ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND
MANAGEMENT OF RADIOACTIVE WASTES**

NOTE: This is a final, advanced version of a chapter of Agenda 21, as adopted by the Plenary in Rio de Janeiro, on June 14, 1992. This document will be further edited, translated into the official languages, and published by the United Nations for the General Assembly this autumn.

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IN OUR HANDS

PROGRAMME AREA

Promoting the safe and environmentally sound management of radioactive wastes

Basis for action

22.1. Radioactive wastes are generated in the nuclear fuel cycle as well as in nuclear applications (the use of radionuclides in medicine, research and industry). The radiological and safety risk from radioactive wastes varies from very low in short-lived, low-level wastes up to very large for high-level wastes. Annually about 200,000 m³ of low-level and intermediate-level waste and 10,000 m³ of high-level waste (as well as spent nuclear fuel destined for final disposal) is generated world wide from nuclear power production. These volumes are increasing as more nuclear power units are taken into operation, nuclear facilities are decommissioned and the use of radionuclides increases. The high-level waste contains about 99 per cent of the radionuclides and thus represents the largest radiological risk. The waste volumes from nuclear applications are generally much smaller, typically some tens of cubic metres or less per year and country. However, the activity concentration, especially in sealed radiation sources, might be high, thus justifying very stringent radiological protection measures. The growth of waste volumes should continue to be kept under close review.

22.2. The safe and environmentally sound management of radioactive wastes, including their minimization, transportation and disposal, is important, given their characteristics. In most countries with a substantial nuclear power programme, technical and administrative measures have been taken to implement a waste management system. In many other countries still only in preparation for a national nuclear programme or having only nuclear applications, such systems are still needed.

Objective

22.3. The objective of this programme area is to ensure that radioactive wastes are safely managed, transported, stored and disposed of, with a view to protecting human health and the environment, within a wider framework of an interactive and integrated approach to radioactive waste management and safety.

Activities

(a) Management-related activities

22.4. States, in cooperation with relevant international organizations, where appropriate, should:

- (a) Promote policies and practical measures to minimize and limit, where

appropriate, the generation of radioactive wastes and provide for their safe processing, conditioning, transportation and disposal;

(b) Support efforts within IAEA to develop and promulgate radioactive waste safety standards or guidelines and codes of practice as an internationally accepted basis for the safe and environmentally sound management and disposal of radioactive wastes;

(c) Promote safe storage, transportation and disposal of radioactive wastes, as well as spent radiation sources and spent fuel from nuclear reactors destined for final disposal, in all countries, in particular in developing countries, by facilitating the transfer of relevant technologies to those countries and/or the return to the supplier of radiation sources after their use, in accordance with relevant international regulations or guidelines;

(d) Promote proper planning, including environmental impact assessment where appropriate, of safe and environmentally sound management of radioactive waste, including emergency procedures, storage, transportation and disposal, prior to and after activities that generate such waste.

(b) International and regional cooperation and coordination

22.5. States, in cooperation with relevant international organizations, where appropriate, should:

(a) Strengthen their efforts to implement the Code of Practice on the Transboundary Movements of Radioactive Waste and, under the auspices of IAEA, in cooperation with relevant international organizations dealing with different modes of transport, keep the question of such movements under active review, including the desirability of concluding a legally binding instrument;

(b) Encourage the London Dumping Convention to expedite work to complete studies on replacing the current voluntary moratorium on disposal of low-level radioactive wastes at sea by a ban, taking into account the precautionary approach, with a view to taking a well informed and timely decision on the issue;

(c) Not promote or allow the storage or disposal of high-level, intermediate-level and low-level radioactive wastes near the marine environment unless they determine that scientific evidence, consistent with the applicable internationally agreed principles and guidelines, shows that such storage or disposal poses no unacceptable risk to people and the marine environment or does not interfere with other legitimate uses of the sea, making, in the process of consideration, appropriate use of the concept of the precautionary approach;

(d) Not export radioactive wastes to countries that, individually or through international agreements, prohibit the import of such wastes, such as the contracting parties to the Bamako Convention on the Ban of the Import into Africa and the Control of

Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes within Africa, the fourth Lomé Convention or other relevant conventions, where such prohibition is provided for;

(e) Respect, in accordance with international law, the decisions, as far as applicable to them, taken by parties to other relevant regional environmental conventions dealing with other aspects of safe and environmentally sound management of radioactive wastes.

Means of implementation

(a) Financial and cost evaluation

22.6. The costs at the national level of managing and disposing of radioactive wastes are considerable and will vary, depending on the technology used for disposal.

22.7. The Conference secretariat has estimated the average total annual cost (1993-2000) to international organizations to implement the activities of this programme to be about \$8 million. Actual costs and financial terms, including any that are non-concessional, will depend upon, inter alia, the specific strategies and programmes Governments decide upon for implementation.

(b) Scientific and technological means

22.8. States, in cooperation with international organizations, where appropriate, should:

(a) Promote research and development of methods for the safe and environmentally sound treatment, processing and disposal, including deep geological disposal, of high-level radioactive waste;

(b) Conduct research and assessment programmes concerned with evaluating the health and environmental impact of radioactive waste disposal.

(c) Capacity-building, including human resource development

22.9. States, in cooperation with relevant international organizations, should provide, as appropriate, assistance to developing countries to establish and/or strengthen radioactive waste management infrastructures, including legislation, organizations, trained manpower and facilities for the handling, processing, storage and disposal of wastes generated from nuclear applications.



**UNITED
NATIONS**

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**United Nations Conference on
Environment and Development**

Rio de Janeiro
3-14 June 1992

Rio Declaration on Environment and Development

Preamble

The United Nations Conference on Environment and Development,

Having met at Rio de Janeiro from 3 to 14 June 1992,

Reaffirming the Declaration of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, adopted at Stockholm on 16 June 1972, and seeking to build upon it,

With the goal of establishing a new and equitable global partnership through the creation of new levels of cooperation among States, key sectors of societies and people,

Working towards international agreements which respect the interests of all and protect the integrity of the global environmental and developmental system,

Recognizing the integral and interdependent nature of the Earth, our home,

Proclaims that:

Principle 1

Human beings are at the centre of concerns for sustainable development. They are entitled to a healthy and productive life in harmony with nature.

Principle 2

States have, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the principles of international law, the sovereign right to exploit their own resources pursuant to their own environmental and developmental policies, and the responsibility to ensure that activities within their jurisdiction or control do not cause damage to the environment of other States or of areas beyond the limits of national jurisdiction.

Principle 3

The right to development must be fulfilled so as to equitably meet developmental and environmental needs of present and future generations.

Principle 4

In order to achieve sustainable development, environmental protection shall constitute an integral part of the development process and cannot be considered in isolation from it.

Principle 5

All States and all people shall cooperate in the essential task of eradicating poverty as an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, in order to decrease the disparities in standards of living and better meet the needs of the majority of the people of the world.

Principle 6

The special situation and needs of developing countries, particularly the least developed and those most environmentally vulnerable, shall be given special priority. International actions in the field of environment and development should also address the interests and needs of all countries.

Principle 7

States shall cooperate in a spirit of global partnership to conserve, protect and restore the health and integrity of the Earth's ecosystem. In view of the different contributions to global environmental degradation, States have common but differentiated responsibilities. The developed countries acknowledge the responsibility that they bear in the international pursuit of sustainable development in view of the pressures their societies place on the global environment and of the technologies and financial resources they command.

Principle 8

To achieve sustainable development and a higher quality of life for all people, States should reduce and eliminate unsustainable patterns of production and consumption and promote appropriate demographic policies.

Principle 9

States should cooperate to strengthen endogenous capacity-building for sustainable development by improving scientific understanding through exchanges of scientific and technological knowledge, and by enhancing the development, adaptation, diffusion and transfer of technologies, including new and innovative technologies.

Principle 10

Environmental issues are best handled with the participation of all concerned citizens, at the relevant level. At the national level, each individual shall have appropriate access to information concerning the environment that is held by public authorities, including information on hazardous materials and activities in their communities, and the opportunity to participate in decision-making processes. States shall facilitate and encourage public awareness and participation by making information widely available. Effective access to judicial and administrative proceedings, including redress and remedy, shall be provided.

Principle 11

States shall enact effective environmental legislation. Environmental standards, management objectives and priorities should reflect the environmental and developmental context to which they apply. Standards applied by some countries may be inappropriate and of unwarranted economic and social cost to other countries, in particular developing countries.

Principle 12

States should cooperate to promote a supportive and open international economic system that would lead to economic growth and sustainable development in all countries, to better address the problems of environmental degradation. Trade policy measures for environmental purposes should not constitute a means of arbitrary or unjustifiable discrimination or a disguised restriction on international trade. Unilateral actions to deal with environmental challenges outside the jurisdiction of the importing country should be avoided. Environmental measures addressing transboundary or global environmental problems should, as far as possible, be based on an international consensus.

Principle 13

States shall develop national law regarding liability and compensation for the victims of pollution and other environmental damage. States shall also cooperate in an expeditious and more determined manner to develop further international law regarding liability and compensation for adverse effects of environmental damage caused by activities within their jurisdiction or control to areas beyond their jurisdiction.

Principle 14

States should effectively cooperate to discourage or prevent the relocation and transfer to other States of any activities and substances that cause severe environmental degradation or are found to be harmful to human health.

Principle 15

In order to protect the environment, the precautionary approach shall be widely applied by States according to their capabilities. Where there are threats of serious or irreversible damage, lack of full scientific certainty shall not be used as a reason for postponing cost-effective measures to prevent environmental degradation.

Principle 16

National authorities should endeavour to promote the internalization of environmental costs and the use of economic instruments, taking into account the approach that the polluter should, in principle, bear the cost of pollution, with due regard to the public interest and without distorting international trade and investment.

Principle 17

Environmental impact assessment, as a national instrument, shall be undertaken for proposed activities that are likely to have a significant adverse impact on the environment and are subject to a decision of a competent national authority.

Principle 18

States shall immediately notify other States of any natural disasters or other emergencies that are likely to produce sudden harmful effects on the environment of those States. Every effort shall be made by the international community to help States so afflicted.

Principle 19

States shall provide prior and timely notification and relevant information to potentially affected States on activities that may have a significant adverse transboundary environmental effect and shall consult with those States at an early stage and in good faith.

Principle 20

Women have a vital role in environmental management and development. Their full participation is therefore essential to achieve sustainable development.

Principle 21

The creativity, ideals and courage of the youth of the world should be mobilized to forge a global partnership in order to achieve sustainable development and ensure a better future for all.

Principle 22

Indigenous people and their communities, and other local communities, have a vital role in environmental management and development because of their knowledge and traditional practices. States should recognize and duly support their identity, culture and interests and enable their effective participation in the achievement of sustainable development.

Principle 23

The environment and natural resources of people under oppression, domination and occupation shall be protected.

Principle 24

Warfare is inherently destructive of sustainable development. States shall therefore respect international law providing protection for the environment in times of armed conflict and cooperate in its further development, as necessary.

Principle 25

Peace, development and environmental protection are interdependent and indivisible.

Principle 26

States shall resolve all their environmental disputes peacefully and by appropriate means in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations.

Principle 27

States and people shall cooperate in good faith and in a spirit of partnership in the fulfilment of the principles embodied in this Declaration and in the further development of international law in the field of sustainable development.
