

Since you have also requested information on measures that are being undertaken to address WSSD issues as well as matters which may require further action, especially regarding coordination and cooperation, I can provide the following information based on events subsequent to the Johannesburg Summit:

- **A/RES/57/253**, entitled “World Summit on Sustainable Development”, was adopted by the General Assembly on 20 December 2002, without a vote. Through this resolution, the Assembly, *inter alia*, endorsed the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation and decided to adopt sustainable development as a key element of the overarching framework for United Nations activities, in particular for achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration. The Assembly further called for the implementation of the commitments, programmes and time-bound targets adopted at the World Summit, and urged Governments and all relevant international and regional organizations, agencies and institutions, as well as major groups, to take timely actions to ensure the effective follow-up and implementation of the Johannesburg outcomes.

- As agreed in the WSSD Plan of Implementation, the **Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD)** should continue to serve as the high-level forum within the United Nations system for the consideration of issues related to the integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development--economic, social and environmental. 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 (WSSD, POI, para. 145). Decisions on the practical modalities and the future programme of work of the Commission are to be agreed at the CSD’s eleventh session in 2003.

- Following the adoption of the Assembly resolution, it has been decided that the first meeting of the eleventh session of the Commission on Sustainable Development will take place on **27 January 2003** for the purpose of electing a Chairman and other members of the Bureau. The full two-week session of CSD-11 will take place from **28 April-9 May 2003** in New York. A Report of the Secretary-General containing proposals on the modalities of the future work of the Commission, as well as suggestions on a thematic work programme, will be issued in February 2003.

- Regarding **coordination and cooperation**, GA resolution A/RES/57/253 also included a request to the Economic and Social Council to implement the provisions of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation relevant to its mandate and, in particular, to promote the implementation of Agenda 21 by strengthening system-wide coordination. At the **inter-agency** level, the High-level Committee on Programmes (HLCP) of the UN Chief Executives’ Board for Coordination (CEB), the former ACC, at its 22-24 September 2002 meeting, held an initial discussion on how the UN system could best respond to the decisions adopted by the WSSD. To assist in the development of a system-wide strategy for inter-agency cooperation on sustainable development issues, the HLCP established an open-ended working group, which has met twice by video-conference. The HLCP will submit a report on these issues to the next meeting of the CEB in the Spring of 2003. Updated information on CEB’s decisions related to sustainable development issues in general, and oceans and seas in particular, will be available only after the Spring meeting; **a supplementary information note on this can be provided to the 4th meeting of the informal consultative process in June 2003.**

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- Regarding **intergovernmental coordination**, the results of the Johannesburg Summit are to be fully taken into account in the work of the new open-ended ad hoc working group of the General Assembly on integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields, established by GA resolution A/RES/57/270. The working group, which is to produce concrete recommendations, is to begin work by the end of January 2003 and is mandated to submit its report before 27 June 2003 for consideration and action by the General Assembly before the close of its 57th session in 2003.

- A further action by the General Assembly which is relevant to the follow-up to WSSD, particularly in the area of oceans and seas, is the adoption on 20 December 2002 of resolution A/RES/57/262 on “**Further implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States**”. In accordance with the WSSD’s agreement (POI, para. 61) that a full and comprehensive review of the implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action for SIDS should be undertaken in 2004 (ten years after the Barbados Conference), the Assembly decided to convene an international meeting in 2004 for this purpose and welcomed the offer by the Government of Mauritius to host the meeting. The Division for Sustainable Development of the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs is currently planning two regional meetings in 2003 to prepare for the ten-year review.

~~Draft resolution I~~

World Summit on Sustainable Development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 55/199 of 20 December 2000 and 56/226 of 24 December 2001,

Adopted by GA as

A/RES/57/253

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Recalling also the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,¹ Agenda 21² and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21.³

Having considered the report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development,⁴ held in Johannesburg, South Africa, from 26 August to 4 September 2002,

Reaffirming in this regard the commitment to achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration⁵ and in the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and international agreements since 1992,

Welcoming the adoption by the Summit of the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development⁶ and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation⁷ on 4 September 2002,

Expressing its satisfaction that the World Summit on Sustainable Development and its preparatory committee provided for the active participation of all States Members of the United Nations and members of the specialized agencies, of observers and various intergovernmental organizations, including the funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, at the highest level as well as the major groups representing all the regions of the world,

Reaffirming the need to ensure a balance between economic development, social development and environmental protection as interdependent and mutually reinforcing pillars of sustainable development,

Reaffirming also that poverty eradication, changing unsustainable patterns of production and consumption, and protecting and managing the natural resource base of economic and social development are overarching objectives of, and essential requirements for, sustainable development,

Recognizing that good governance within each country and at the international level is essential for sustainable development,

Noting with interest the partnership initiatives voluntarily undertaken by some Governments, international organizations and major groups, and announced at the Summit,

Expressing its profound gratitude to the Governments and the peoples of Indonesia and South Africa for hosting, respectively, the fourth preparatory committee meeting and the Summit, for the excellent arrangements, for the hospitality extended to participants and for the facilities, staff and services placed at their disposal,

¹ *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution I, annex I.

² *Ibid.*, annex II.

³ Resolution S-19/2, annex.

⁴ *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1).

⁵ See resolution 55/2.

⁶ *Ibid.*, chap. I, resolution I, annex.

⁷ *Ibid.*, resolution 2, annex.

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1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development;⁴

2. *Endorses* the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development⁶ and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;⁷

3. *Decides* to adopt sustainable development as a key element of the overarching framework for United Nations activities, in particular for achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,⁵ and to give overall political direction to the implementation of Agenda 21 and its review;

4. *Urges* Governments and all relevant international and regional organizations, the Economic and Social Council, United Nations funds, programmes and regional economic commissions, specialized agencies, international financial institutions, the Global Environment Facility, as well as other intergovernmental organizations and major groups, to take timely actions to ensure the effective follow-up and implementation of the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;

5. *Encourages* the implementation of partnership initiatives voluntarily undertaken by some Governments, international organizations and major groups, and calls for further discussion of this matter within the Commission on Sustainable Development;

6. *Calls* for the implementation of the commitments, programmes and time-bound targets adopted at the World Summit and, to this end, for the fulfilment of the provisions of the means of implementation as contained in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;

7. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council to ensure that the Commission on Sustainable Development holds an organizational meeting of its next session in January 2003 and its session in April/May 2003;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare a report containing proposals on the modalities of the future work of the Commission, taking into account the decisions contained in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;

9. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council to implement the provisions of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation relevant to its mandate and, in particular, to promote the implementation of Agenda 21 by strengthening system-wide coordination;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take into full account the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, in particular the decisions made on the institutional framework for sustainable development as contained in chapter XI of the Plan of Implementation, in the ongoing process of reform of the United Nations and in his contribution to the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session an item entitled "Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on

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Sustainable Development”, and requests the Secretary-General at that session to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

~~Draft resolution II~~

Further implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

Adopted by the GA as
A/RES/57/262

20 Dec. 2002.

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 49/122 of 19 December 1994 on the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,

Recalling also its resolutions 51/183 of 16 December 1996, 52/202 of 18 December 1997 and 53/189 of 15 December 1998, the review document adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-second special session,⁴ and its resolutions 54/224 of 22 December 1999, 55/199 of 20 December 2000, 55/202 of 20 December 2000 and 56/198 of 21 December 2001, and recalling further the Declaration of Barbados² and the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,³

¹⁷ See United Nations Environment Programme, *Convention on Biological Diversity* (Environmental Law and Institution Programme Activity Centre), June 1992.

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Taking into account the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development⁵ and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation,⁶ the particular emphasis given to small island developing States in the Declaration and the Plan of Implementation, and the call for the General Assembly to consider convening an international meeting for a comprehensive review of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States in 2004,

Recalling the report of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on its tenth session,¹⁸

Welcoming the establishment of the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, and emphasizing the importance of issues related to small island developing States within the United Nations system,

Recognizing that, within the context of the challenges of development, small island developing States experience specific problems arising from small size, remoteness, geographical dispersion, vulnerability to natural disasters, fragile ecosystems, constraints on transport and communication, isolation from markets, vulnerability to exogenous economic and financial shocks, limited internal markets, lack of natural resources, limited freshwater supply, heavy dependence on imports and limited commodities, depletion of non-renewable resources and migration,

Recognizing also the significant efforts of small island developing States to achieve sustainable development and the need to continue to enhance their capacities to participate effectively in the multilateral financial and trading system,

Reiterating the importance of the vulnerability index as a tool for assessing, and thereby addressing, the vulnerability of small island developing States, as well as identifying the challenges to their sustainable development,

Recognizing the relevance of such work to the mandate of the Committee for Development Policy concerning criteria for the identification, including designation and graduation, of the least developed countries,

Noting the efforts to implement the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States at the national, regional and international levels and the need for regional and global institutions to continue to supplement the efforts being made at the national level, inter alia, through the provision of adequate financial and technical support,

Emphasizing the continuing need for the technical and financial support of projects that were presented within the context of the implementation of the Programme of Action, inter alia, at the meeting of representatives of donor countries and small island developing States, held in New York from 24 to 26 February 1999,¹⁹ as well as the partnership initiatives presented by small island developing States and their organizations during the World Summit on Sustainable Development,

Noting in this regard the preparatory activities undertaken at the national and regional levels for the World Summit on Sustainable Development and expressing

¹⁸ TD/390.

¹⁹ See A/S-22/4.

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its appreciation to the Government of Singapore for hosting the interregional meeting of the Alliance of Small Island States held in preparation for the Summit from 7 to 11 January 2002,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;²⁰
2. *Reiterates* the urgent need for the full and effective implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States³ and of the Declaration and review document adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-second special session⁴ to assist small island developing States in their efforts to achieve sustainable development;
3. *Welcomes* the efforts made at the national, subregional and regional levels to implement the Programme of Action;
4. *Requests* the relevant organs and agencies of the United Nations system, as well as the regional commissions and organizations, to undertake concrete measures, within their respective mandates, for the further implementation of the Programme of Action in the context of their programmes;
5. *Decides* to convene an international meeting in 2004, which will include a high-level segment, to undertake a full and comprehensive review of the implementation of the Programme of Action, as called for in the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development,²¹ and welcomes the offer of the Government of Mauritius to host the international meeting;
6. *Also decides* that the comprehensive review referred to in paragraph 5 above should seek a renewed political commitment by all countries to, and should focus on, practical and pragmatic actions for the further implementation of the Programme of Action, inter alia, through the mobilization of resources and assistance for small island developing States;
7. *Further decides* to convene regional preparatory meetings of small island developing States in the African, Caribbean and Pacific regions, as well as an interregional preparatory meeting for all small island developing States, to undertake the review of the Programme of Action at the national, subregional and regional levels and to identify and develop input for the above-mentioned review that is specific to small island developing States while maximizing coherence and complementarity with respect to other preparatory work;
8. *Welcomes* the initial efforts of the small island developing States to develop the national and regional modalities necessary for the regional preparatory meetings, and calls upon the United Nations system in general and the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat in particular, as well as the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, the multilateral financial institutions and the Global Environment Facility, to put in place modalities at the international level that will facilitate the meetings referred to in paragraphs 5 and 7 above in a timely manner;

²⁰ A/57/131.

²¹ See *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1), chap. I, resolution 2, annex, para. 61.

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9. *Requests* that, in facilitating the review of the implementation of the Programme of Action, the United Nations system seek country input that is short and well-focused and that draws upon, inter alia, material prepared for the World Summit on Sustainable Development, in order to minimize the burden on participating States while maximizing the usefulness of the information gathered;

10. *Invites* the Commission on Sustainable Development, at its eleventh session, to consider its role in the preparatory process for the comprehensive review of the Programme of Action;

11. *Invites* all Member States and States members of the specialized agencies, relevant regional and international agencies and organizations and the major groups identified in Agenda 21,²² in accordance with the rules of procedure of the Commission on Sustainable Development²³ and the rules of procedure of the World Summit on Sustainable Development,²⁴ as well as the established practices of the Commission, to participate fully in the activities identified for the further implementation of and effective follow-up to the Programme of Action and in the preparations for the comprehensive review;

12. *Invites* all international meetings of relevance to small island developing States, including the regional and interregional meetings of small island developing States, to provide relevant input into the comprehensive review and its preparatory process;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General, pursuant to paragraph 8 of General Assembly resolution 56/198, to give further consideration to strengthening the Small Island Developing States Unit, inter alia, through the regularization of the current post of Interregional Adviser for Small Island Developing States at the earliest opportunity, thereby enabling the Unit to assist in the preparations for the comprehensive review of the Programme of Action;

14. *Calls* for the participation of associate members of regional commissions in the comprehensive review of the Programme of Action, and in the preparatory process therefor, as observers, in the same capacity specified for their participation in the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, held in 1994, and in the twenty-second special session of the General Assembly, held in 1999 to review the implementation of the Programme of Action;

15. *Decides* to establish a voluntary fund for the purpose of assisting small island developing States, including the least developed among them, to participate fully and effectively in the international meeting referred to in paragraph 5 above, as well as in the various preparatory processes referred to in paragraph 7 above, and

²² *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992* (Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex II. The major groups are women; young people; indigenous people and their communities; non-governmental organizations; local authorities; workers and their trade unions; business and industry, including transnational corporations; the scientific and technological community; and farmers.

²³ See *Rules of Procedure of the Functional Commissions of the Economic and Social Council* (E/5975/Rev.1).

²⁴ A/CONF.199/2 and Corr.1.

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invites Governments, intergovernmental organizations and the major groups accredited to the Commission on Sustainable Development to contribute to the fund;

16. *Urges* all relevant organizations to finalize, by 2004, the work on the vulnerability index, taking into account the particular circumstances and needs of small island developing States;

17. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session, under the item entitled "Environment and sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Further implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States";

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution.
