

Reactions to the Compilation Text

The vast compilation text for Johannesburg released today is an impressive tribute to the energy of the national negotiators. But it is uneven in quality. Some of the ideas in it are innovative and excellent. Others look rather more familiar.

As negotiators get into the laborious task of condensing this material into a more manageable text it will be vital that they keep their eyes firmly fixed on the elements of the programme that will make for a strong central thrust and dynamic. There will be a great need for a clear summary that expresses the main priorities of the programme and can engage the active support of countries, stakeholders and ordinary people around the world.

The authors of this article offer the following points as central priorities that should be strongly emphasized in the reworking of the text to give it that focus.

A practicable and implementable programme needs to clearly identify:

- Goals, principles and the basis for action
- Objectives, timetables and targets
- Action needed at each level - national, local and international - and by different stakeholders
- The means of implementation
- How the necessary financial resources are to be mobilized
- Monitoring and assessment of progress.

In the initial comments which follow we have tried to follow these principles in order to emphasise what might be highlighted as top priorities; and in the italic passages we have made some additional suggestions for points not yet fully reflected in the compilation text which would give the text more strength, innovation and dynamism.

1. Goals and Principles. The compilation text rightly bases the action programme around the goals and principles of Agenda 21, as updated and extended by the Millennium Declaration and the Millennium Development Goals.

As a new element there should be reference to the Earth Charter as a document that recaptures the spirit of Rio, and embodies the vision of sustainable development in an eloquent and inspirational way. Recognition by Heads of Government at Johannesburg would give it added weight and dynamic in the world.

2. Objectives, Timetables and targets. The Millennium Summit reaffirmed and restated international commit-

ment to agreed development goals for 2015. 2015 is however a long way off, and there is a need for earlier target dates to encourage early action on the key elements. At present the compilation text (Introduction) merely repeats the Millennium goals and target dates.

As a new element Johannesburg should establish intermediate targets, for 2005 and 2010, and should establish machinery for specific programmes of action to support sustainable development in developing countries in key sectors including, poverty, water and sanitation, energy, health, and food security.

3. National and Local Strategies for Sustainable Development. National governments are the central actors and clearly have the prime responsibility for making sustainable development a reality. But with a few noteworthy exceptions national strategies are not yet the central and powerful means of driving towards sustainability in individual countries that they ought to be. In many parts of the world local government has made good progress in establishing local sustainability strategies, but so far their quality is uneven, and their coverage incomplete. The compilation text (Governance, paras 22-31) makes rather mild references to national strategies.

As a new element countries should commit themselves to making sustainable development strategies the central over-arching strategy for integrating all other plans and strategies within each country. They should establish clear and timetabled goals and targets. They should provide the framework for establishing budget and fiscal priorities, reconciling conflicting priorities, evaluating new initiatives and programmes. They should be built on a national effort of widespread consultation and engagement, and should identify the role and scope for other stakeholders to play their full part in the implementation. Sustainability Impact Assessments and Sustainability Reporting should be developed further.

Local authorities should in a similar way create sustainable development strategies to integrate all their other plans and activities.

Most stakeholders fully support the concept of encouraging partnerships for sustainable development involving governmental and non-governmental actors. *Such partnerships need to be encouraged and placed within a clear context of governmental and intergovernmental action programmes. Their participation should satisfy clear criteria so as to ensure that they make a real and significant contribution to sustainability.*

4. International Actions. At international level the key areas of activity relevant to promoting sustainability are:

- Providing direct support for developing countries from donor countries and international agencies to support sustainability;

Cont. P. 7

Youth, a long term investment

The Youth caucus is now rolling: Through out the WSSD process, youth have spoken out on the importance of education, good governance and youth participation in building sustainable communities. In doing this we build on the consensus reached by youth at the Financing for Development Conference in Monterrey. There youth identified access to basic quality education, fight against corruption and active participation of civil society as three of seven essential points through which the lives of all people of the world can be improved.

The one thing that young people everywhere have in common is that at the moment of their birth they do not yet know anything. Growing brings a thirst to learn that is soothed by their environment: family and community leading to society. The education provided to youth is a long term investment to promote sustainable development.

Youth also realises that their potential can only be fully realised in an environment free from corruption. With education and no freedom, What can we do? To often, corruption is an accepted way of life. Fatalistic acceptance of such conditions undermines the fabric of society. Youth are particularly affected by these situations, feeling disempowered and unable to act positively in their communities.

Therefore it is urgent that all governments work to fight corruption at all levels, putting into place truly transparent and democratic institutions and mechanisms. Finally, youth must be enabled to participate substantially in the decision making process. Ten years ago in Rio de Janeiro governments agreed in Chapter 25 of Agenda 21 to include youth on their delegations. Few have honored this commitment. In particular, youth from developing countries are poorly represented.

As delegates return from a long "restful" weekend, the Youth Caucus urges them to bear in mind these three essential points in sustainable development: education, good governance, and youth participation. The Youth Caucus present in New York together with youth around the world wishes all delegates fruitful negotiations!

Leila d'Ansembourg, European Youth Alliance

Outrage for Outreach

The latest from the Women's Caucus,

Great concern was expressed by the Women's Caucus about the fact that all the Caucuses and the sponsors of the 'side events' are being charged for the use of the meeting rooms in the UN base-ment.

The importance to the Summit process of the participation of the Major Groups, NGOs and representatives of civil society is critical to the success of the Summit: if those bodies cannot afford to meet

because of the rent demanded by the UN, the whole bottom up process is severely undermined and threatened.

We look forward to a speedy resolution of this problem. Cash strapped civil society organisations cannot afford hefty UN rates – as much as \$750 for one of the large conference rooms (usually not necessary for the civil society meetings, but sometimes the only option offered).

What will happen in Bali? And in Johannesburg?

Catherine Budgett-Meakin

Indigenous Youth & WSSD

As Indigenous Youth from Turtle Island (North America) we have organised through the Youth Delegation of the Indigenous Environmental Network (IEN) to participate in the World Summit on Sustainable Development process. IEN is an alliance of indigenous peoples whose mission is to protect the sacredness of Mother Earth from contamination and exploitation by strengthening, maintaining and respecting the traditional teachings and the natural laws.

Over the past two years we have been working towards developing a Native youth programme to empower our youth to become engaged in the environmental and economic justice movement on Turtle Island. We are working towards developing youth leadership in our communities that are affected by unsustainable development, poverty and environmental degradation. This means creating education mechanisms for our youth, through creative methodologies. But, more importantly, empowering our youth to reach their full capacity as leaders of our future generation. We are here supporting a global network with youth from all over the world.

Right now we are bring our organisation's Youth Leadership Development Campaign into the WSSD process. For Prep. Comm. III we have brought three Native Youth here to New York. We are hoping to bring ten youth to Johannesburg. We are working towards creating an effective youth team that is knowledgeable on UN systems, environmental issues and sustainable development to be able to work through the various United Nations mechanisms. This would allow a voice for the concerns of our people, our ancestors, our unborn and all generations, our land and all living organisms. We are committed to bringing home information, resources and action plans around protecting Indigenous Sustainability.

We have drafted our position paper as Indigenous youth. We recognise our 'distinct' special relationship to our lands and environments, but also the self-sustainability we have maintained since time immemorial. We also understand the devastating impacts that unsustainable development has had in our communities, affecting our medicines, our food sources, our animals and our families. We understand that we have survived 500 years of colonialism, and in turn environmental injustices have not only impacted us in our 'environment', but socially and economically. We are participating in the WSSD with the voices of our people and continue to enact effective change

Clayton Thomas

Governments and Stakeholders: What Roles and Responsibilities?

Since the introduction of the overall framework of outcomes for the Johannesburg Summit, corridors and coffee areas are abuzz with discussions of “partnership initiatives”, “stakeholder contributions”, or simply “type 2s”. The number of people turning up for informal discussions on “type 2 outcomes” last week gave a good indication of the level of interest. Many were putting forward ideas for possible initiatives. But many also focused on serious concerns raised by this new concept, suggesting criteria for the selection of “type 2s” and urging for strong linkages between type 1 and 2.

We will see these ideas, suggestions and concerns reflected in a paper being prepared by Vice-Chairs Jan Kara and Diane Quarless during this week, which will clarify the parameters for type 2 and their preparatory process.

But the need for clarification goes further than that. The Johannesburg process, now that it seems to endorse the framework of type 1 and type 2 outcomes, also needs to clarify the roles and responsibilities of governments North and South, and the roles that stakeholders should be taking.

The overall concept of type 1 and type 2 outcomes seems to stem from two sources:

1. The acknowledgement that governments cannot achieve sustainable development on their own. This is part of the vision from Rio and has been outlined in more detail in subsequent decisions of the CSD and other fora.
2. The concern that governments have not done enough to implement the Rio agreements, and that they might not be able to do so in the future, due to the lack of political will and the lack of resources.

It is the former we need to emphasize, and the latter we need to reverse.

A general *implementation gap* has been widely acknowledged, but implementation has not been altogether absent. Similarly, it is not correct to say that the necessary resources do not exist – they are being put elsewhere, and the political will to shift investments is lacking. Emphasizing the fact that governments and all stakeholders need to work together to achieve sustainable development effectively means a *broadening* of responsibility. It should, however, not result in a *diffusion* of responsibility.

Rio provided us with a vision. But vision is not leadership. Leadership is not action. What we need now is leadership and action.

Leadership needs to come from governments and international

institutions, in the form of a detailed Programme of Action and a strong and visionary Political Declaration. A weak intergovernmental agreement (PoA & Declaration), without effective commitments, targets, and benchmarks will jeopardise the legacy from Rio instead of taking it forward.

Only an international arena with a strong global consensus can inspire and empower the “coalitions of the willing”: as a permission to act, a forum to share their experiences, as a challenge towards their creativity, their contributions, their excellence.

To move *from vision to action*, we need a detailed global programme of action (PoA) and a strong and visionary political declaration. A detailed PoA will outline what needs to be done and by whom, which resources are necessary, and which partnerships would be most effective. It would represent a global consensus on responsibilities North and South. It would state the commitments made by governments. It would outline the details of the enabling environment that governments need to create to allow for effective international collaboration as well as effective stakeholder contributions.

Such a PoA would allow for type 2 outcomes to be closely linked to type 1: The more detail we find in the intergovernmentally negotiated text, the more opportunities for stakeholders to target their initiatives at contributing to the implementation of the programmes. For example: To fulfill the Millennium Target of halving the number of people without access to clean water by the year 2015, such access needs to be created for 300,000 people per day between now and 2015. The PoA should try and break this task down into several steps so that progress can be monitored. And type 2 initiatives on access to clean water could be asked to specify what their estimated contribution to the target is and by when this will be achieved.

For such type 2 outcomes to come forward, time is very short. Developing partnership initiatives and generating stakeholder commitments takes time. And it takes a framework to relate to.

Strengthening governments, international institutions and the multi-lateral system must be a primary goal of a UN process. Within the framework of type 1 & 2 documents, this can only be achieved if governments are in the driving seat, providing leadership and challenging stakeholders on the basis of (inter)governmental authority. The Johannesburg process needs to reaffirm governments’ leadership and encourage citizens around the world to develop a global perspective.

The challenge of the outcomes ‘package’ is to find the balance of authority and leadership vs. widespread responsibility and stakeholder participation. We don’t want to see an exquisite self-disempowerment exercise of (inter)governmental institutions, but we do want to achieve a strong push for implementation of Agenda 21 that is carried out by all stakeholders.

By Minu Hemmati

Steps Toward Good Governance

The first week of PrepCom III saw a continued emphasis on good governance as an essential component of sustainable development. As articulated in Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, good governance includes public access to information, decision-making, and justice, as well as rule of law and protection of advocates.

In addition to Principle 10, numerous other international environmental and human rights treaties promote these principles. For example, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights guaranteed generalized rights of access to information and justice, and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights ensured the "freedom to seek, receive and impart information and ideas of all kinds." The World Charter for Nature, the Convention to Combat Desertification, the Convention on Biological Diversity, and numerous other international environmental agreements also rely on public participation norms and mechanisms. Likewise, over the past decade, international institutions - including the World Bank group, the United Nations, and international water management authorities - have taken specific steps to disclose information to the public, provide for public participation and input in decision-making, and establish public access to judicial or quasi-judicial dispute resolution mechanisms.

Regional instruments have also established implementing frameworks to promote public involvement in the Americas, Europe and the Newly Independent States, and East Africa, as well as one underway that would include ten Asian nations.

However, implementation at the national and international levels remains uneven. The WSSD can take several specific, concrete steps to promote effective public involvement in sustainable development. These include a commitment to developing guidelines, collaborating with civil society to track progress in implementation, and dedicating the necessary resources. Both the consensus declaration and "type II" partnerships will be important.

The consensus document should have a strong statement on the essential role of the public in realizing sustainable development. Principle 10 is laudable, but it should be expanded to apply explicitly to the international context. Further articulation of public access to information, participation, and justice to reflect experiences over the past decade is also important.

Many NGOs and some governments have called for the development of global multilateral guidelines on all three pillars - public access to information, participation, and justice in decision-making - that draws on existing experience, including the various regional initiatives implementing Principle 10. These guidelines should apply to activities and decision-making at the national and regional levels, as well as by international institutions.

Financial and technical resources will be crucial to the development of national capacity to ensure effective public involvement, as well as the strengthening of regional initiatives. The WSSD should encourage governments to earmark official development assistance (ODA) to build capacity of governments in developing nations to

provide public access to information, ensure public participation in decision-making and guarantee access to justice. ODA should also build capacity of civil society to utilize these opportunities and to apply a common set of tools to track progress in building governance systems.

Finally, the WSSD can encourage the *adoption* of national-level indicators and international indicators of public access to information, participation, and justice. *At national level such indicators have already been developed and tested in 9 countries by the Access Initiative.* These may be a component of a broader set of sustainable development indicators, or they may stand on their own. Civil society should be actively involved in the development of these indicators and in tracking progress in implementing the principles. The public also should have timely, affordable, and easy access to the information generated.

There will undoubtedly be practical and political challenges. First, sustainable development entails three distinct but overlapping areas (environmental, economic, and social), each with its own culture and set of principles. While the environmental and social fields have realized significant strides in ensuring public access, economic concerns often raise issues of confidential business information, transaction costs of public participation, and expenses and delays due to public interest litigation. Yet, a lack of transparency, inclusiveness, and rule of law have been identified as a key stumbling block to private sector investment. In developing a set of principles and mechanisms that promote public involvement in sustainable development, particular attention will need to be paid to challenges raised by the integration of environmental, social, and economic fields.

Second, while the principles of transparency, participation, and accountability should be advanced at all levels, it may be appropriate to develop a different set of guidelines that apply to international and regional institutions and to national and sub-national authorities. Since international institutions are governed by organic statutes which are often established by treaty, some NGOs have advocated for the development of an international administrative procedures treaty that would apply generally to international institutions. The 1968 Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties provides a precedent for such a convention that would affect the interpretation and application of other conventions by establishing a common framework.

The third, and perhaps most thorny, issue is of a rights-based approach to ensuring public access. Many developing and developed nations have enshrined access to information, participation, and justice into their constitutions. The 1998 Aarhus Convention adopts a rights-based approach for public involvement in the UN/ECE region, and human rights conventions emphasize rights-based approaches. However, many nations have resisted a "one size fits all" approach to governance, stressing the cultural and legal differences among nations.

Notwithstanding these issues, it is important that the WSSD set forth a clear framework for advancing good governance at the local, national, regional, and international levels. This framework should include an articulation of principles, development of guidelines, application of indicators, and a commitment of resources.

Carl Bruch, Environmental Law Institute

ILO Launches WSSD Agenda at Prep.Comm. III Side Event in New York

The International Labour Organisation (ILO) has provided a much-needed boost to efforts to draw attention to the social dimension of sustainable development by announcing plans to become actively involved in the planning process for the WSSD and the implementation of its conclusions.

At a Prepcom III Side Event on Thursday, March 28, top ILO officials told representatives of business, trade unions, NGO's, governments, and UN agencies that planning for the WSSD is now a priority for the tripartite organisation, and outlined concrete commitments to put employment and related social issues squarely on the agenda of the WSSD, when it meets in South Africa this summer.

Allan Larsson, Special Envoy to ILO Director General Juan Somavia, stated that the WSSD Preparatory process has reached a crisis stage, and called on Chairman Salim to give Prepcom III a new start by introducing text to identify employment and investment as primary elements in its agenda. John Longmore from the ILO's New York Office, who chaired the Session, and Larry Kohler, Special Advisor for Sustainable Development, who described the ILO's Global Employment Agenda, joined him.

PREPCOM TEXT IS LACKING: Notably absent from current Prepcom text, said Larsson, is a forceful message on employment, more and better jobs, and decent work, elements that must be present if any progress is to be made on the main focus of the WSSD, the eradication of poverty. He called on the Prepcom Chairman to make a strong case to delegates for a review and re-orienting of past policies, in favour of a full employment policy as the way to couple economic growth with social progress in a sustainable development framework.

Referring to the 'Global Employment Agenda' that was recently released by the ILO, he said that the current world employment situation rules out 'business as usual' as an option. An ILO document circulated to the Side Event said that, first and foremost, "employment in the form of more and better jobs must be identified as one of the main factors to eradicate poverty and be made the centrepiece of the WSSD poverty eradication strategy.

A broad cross-section of those attending the workshop, including the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), the World Health Organisation (WHO), the Government of Switzerland, the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU), the Trade Advisory Committee to the OECD (TUAC) and several others, offered their support for the ILO initiative. Several of the stakeholders echoed the sentiment expressed by Jack Whelan (ICC), who hoped that special efforts would be made in the WSSD process to bring business, trade unions and governments to the table to finally make the breakthrough on economic and social issues that is so badly needed.

"Over the next decade, the potential for economic growth is huge," it goes on to say. "To begin with, there are over 500 million working poor in the developing countries to be mobilized for more productive work - and more decent working and living conditions. In the next ten years, there will be an additional 500 million more people in the world's labour force, mainly young people with better education and training, 97 % of them in the developing world. The integration of all these people in more productive employment is the big challenge for national governments, for the social partners, for civil society, and for the UN agencies and the Bretton Woods institutions."

Also lacking from the current Prepcom text are the means for bridging the gaps between the three 'pillars' of sustainable development, said Larsson. Technology and investment, if properly paired, could provide such a bridge, as every investment decision involves a choice between more or less sustainable technologies.

"The good news is that when you look at sustainable development as an investment strategy, you find the key to integration among economic, social and environmental concerns," he said. "The transformation of the economy requires the involvement of economic and social actors - business, entrepreneurs, employers, workers, are the main decision-makers; they represent the 'make or break' of the process." ILO proposals unveiled at Thursday's event clarify the role that these economic and social actors can play on a sector-by-sector approach, particularly within agriculture, energy, transport, industry, forestry, fishery and tourism. Specifically, the ILO offered to contribute to mechanisms and resources to effectively mobilise these actors to draft and follow-up on practical strategies for implementation of policies for full, productive and freely chosen employment as the basis for action in what they define as 'main economic sectors of importance for sustainable development'; i.e. the ones that threaten main life support systems on earth.

The WSSD will be encouraged to build on the goals of the ILO 'Decent Work Agenda', for example, to provide an integrated approach to employment, social protection, standards, rights at work, and social dialogue as driving forces for poverty eradication and sustainable development. Strategic global alliances to strengthen employment and thereby combat poverty would be based on the model provided by the Youth Employment Network, initiated by the Secretary-General of the UN, the Director General of the ILO and the President of the World Bank. As well, the ILO's Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work and core labour standards should be recognised as providing essential support to governance for sustainable development at all levels.

The ILO Director-General will act directly to move the sectoral process forward, said Larsson, by making a long term commitment to the WSSD to organise a series of Round Tables, including employers, workers and governments, and others, to find ways to translate WSSD outcomes in which the social dimension is particularly significant into integrated sustainable development strategies for change. Other UN agencies will also be invited to bring their expertise to the table.

The ILO already has already developed tripartite processes for all of these critical sectors. The announcement means, however, that the principle of joint planning by business, labour and government will now become an important feature of the WSSD process, and the basis for new partnerships. It also means that= efforts by the

WSSD to address globalisation can effectively utilise the ILO's World Commission on the Social Dimension of Globalization, and Jobs for Africa programme.

Water – A key to Sustainable Development

Excerpts from - The Bonn Keys Recommendations for Action *Actions in the Field of Governance*

1. Secure equitable access to water for all people The primary responsibility for ensuring equitable and sustainable water resources management rests with governments. It requires the participation of all stakeholders who use or protect water resources and their ecosystems.

Water resources policies and management should be better linked with other international agreements and processes, processes on development, finance and national benefits from trade in other goods.

2. Ensure that water infrastructure and services deliver to poor people Water is an integral part of sustainable development. Policies for all aspects of water should be clearly linked to policies for poverty reduction and economic growth. [Bonn 2 para 1]

Establish water infrastructure and services, which are pro-poor and gender-sensitive. The plans should be realistic and targeted to the needs of the poor, and should include targets and indicators of progress at all levels. [Bonn 2 para 2]*

3. Promote gender equity Data relating to water should be disaggregated by gender. [Bonn 3. para 4]

Water management policies should not distinguish between water users by gender and should allow men and women equitable access to water resources, including safe drinking water and sanitation. [Bonn 3 para 1.]

Water resources management should be based on a participatory approach. Men and women should be equally involved in managing the sustainable use of water resources and sharing of benefits. In many parts of the world the role of women in water management needs to be strengthened and their participation broadened. [Bonn 3 para 2]

4. Allocate water among competing demand Water should be equitably and sustainably allocated, firstly to basic human needs and then to the functioning of ecosystems and different economic uses.

5. Share benefits National water management policies should take account of the impact of trade in water-intensive goods on water availability and ecosystems integrity. For example, in water scarce regions, people should grow crops with low water requirements or of high value compared to the water used. Subsidies that inhibit water use efficiency or cause negative effects on the environment should be reduced. [Bonn 5. para 2]

6. Promote participatory sharing of benefits from large projects In many water-scarce countries, the development of new water

sources and infrastructure may be necessary to provide water for development and to mitigate against the impacts of desertification, droughts and climate change. [Bonn 6. para 1]

Large scale projects: Decisions to construct large water infrastructure projects including dams should be taken after a participatory integrated assessment of needs and options, taking a precautionary approach into account. Actions to improve the performance of existing infrastructure should be a high priority.

Proper mechanisms and incentives should be in place for compliance with rules and agreements concerning environmental and social aspects of projects. [Bonn 6. para 3]

7. Improving water management Watersheds, river basins, lakes and aquifers must be the primary frame of reference for water resources management. Institutional and participatory mechanisms need to be developed at this level. [Bonn 7 para 1]

Co-operative management of water is best served by long-term commitments. [Bonn Water can promote regional co-operation. Such co-operation across internal and inter-national boundaries should be intensified as a means to share the upstream and downstream benefits. [Bonn 7 para 2.]

Information exchange: Active strategies should be initiated to exchange water-related knowledge and develop mutual understanding. [Bonn 7. para 2.]

8. Protect water quality and ecosystems Water governance arrangements should protect ecosystems and preserve or restore the ecological integrity of groundwater, rivers, lakes, wetlands and associated coastal zones. This will maintain the wide range of ecological services that healthy ecosystems provide and the livelihoods that depend upon them. [Bonn 8 para 2]

Water resources management should complement work to combat desertification and other forms of environmental and ecological degradation. [Bonn 8 para 3]

Pollution prevention should be prioritised, because it is normally more cost effective than the restoration of polluted waters. Water supplies should be protected from pollution from the source to the user. [Bonn 8 para 4]

Effective legal frameworks for protecting water quality should employ the full range of policy instruments including regulation, voluntary measures, market- and information-based tools. Where such frameworks exist, water quality should be monitored and the regulations enforced. This approach should make use of the polluter pays principle, thus giving incentives to polluters to apply the best available technology to prevent pollution. [Bonn 8 para 6]

9. Manage risks to cope with variability and climate change Manage risks: Water management arrangements should take account of climate variability and expand the capacity to identify trends, manage risks and adapt to hazards such as floods and droughts. Anticipation and prevention are more effective and less expensive than having to react to emergencies. Early warning systems should become an integral part of water resources development and planning. [Bonn 9. para 1]*

Decision-making mechanisms under uncertainty should ensure flexibility to respond to both rapid onset disasters and long term changes to water resources. Risk management should be an integral

part of water resources management. This should include establishing close co-ordination beyond the water sector. [Bonn 9, para 3]

Organisations that deal with disaster preparedness and management should be strengthened. Such action will also place societies in a better position to deal with future climate change. [Bonn 9, para 6]

10. Encourage more efficient service provision The predominant public delivery of water services should be complemented by more use of different and often innovative forms of service delivery, including self help groups formed by the people themselves, informal service providers, co-operative societies, and local and international private enterprises. In each situation, the approach should be chosen that would best benefit people and the environment. [Bonn 10 para 1]

All service providers should be subject to effective regulation, benchmarking and monitoring. They should be efficient, accountable, and protected from inappropriate pressures. There should be clear separation between the roles and responsibilities of the regulator and the service providers. [Bonn 10 para 2]

11. Manage water at the lowest appropriate level National governments should strengthen their domestic public funding capabilities and create a viable financial frame for local governments. This will require significant support to modernise the financial planning, management and accounting skills in local governments.

Decision making, implementation of projects, and operation of services should be decentralized to the lowest level capable of handling such tasks, keeping in mind that watersheds are the appropriate frame of reference for water resources management

Local governments, community-based organisations and private service providers (where they exist) should be the key players in local management and the provision of local services. This requires appropriate legislation and financial mechanisms to empower local government and to facilitate the role of small-scale service providers. [Bonn 11 para 2]

12. Combat corruption effectively Accountability: Water governance arrangements should improve accountability, introduce and enforce appropriate legal provisions against corruption, monitor the performance of public institutions and private companies, develop codes of conduct, and invite civil society to play an active role in these processes. [Bonn 12 para 1]

Corruption: The fight against corruption must start with awareness building and should aim at maximising transparency to the public in the entire decision making process of a project, from planning through procurement to construction and operation. It must focus on all parties to any corrupt practices. [Bonn 12 para 1]

Access to Information: Assured access for citizens to all relevant information in the public domain is a powerful tool for fighting corruption. The public should also have access to effective and affordable justice. [Bonn 12 para 2]

Part II of the Bonn Keys tomorrow

Final Installation Wednesday

- Ensuring fair trading relationships prevail between countries;
- Ensuring a fair basis for guiding or controlling investment flows between countries;
- Ensuring that appropriate standards and enforcement machinery is in place to regulate environmental issues that transcend national boundaries;
- Assisting the transference of knowledge and capacity for sustainability through education, capacity building and technology transfer programmes;
- Ensuring that appropriate international governance machinery is in place to enable sustainability to be advanced systematically, and progress monitored;
- Encourage and enforce enhanced accountability of transnational corporations.

As a new element sustainable development should be built into the central objectives and goals of all the institutions dealing with all these issues.

5. Globalisation and a level playing field for trade. The key issue for sustainability in the new trade round will be to ensure that it delivers on the legitimate aspirations of developing countries for better market access to the developed world, and for the elimination of distorting and environmentally perverse subsidies, as well as other distorting market practices in the North.

The Johannesburg Summit should be used to send a clear message from the heads of government to the trade negotiators on these lines. Further work should be done to support developing countries in trade negotiations around trade policy and programmes, in accordance with the Doha declaration.

6. Finance for Sustainable Development. At Monterrey the developed countries made welcome commitments to increase the level of ODA as a first step. It is clear that achievement of the Millennium targets will be impossible for some of the poorest countries without significant external assistance.

New and additional finances need to be clearly targeted for meeting the needs of the poor and building up poor communities towards making their own ways out of poverty. As such Johannesburg should be used to identify particular resource streams for the key implementation programmes for water, energy, health and food security. The resources available to the Global Environment Facility should be doubled in the forthcoming replenishment negotiation.

7. Sustainable Production & Consumption. Global markets need to make the shift towards more sustainable and efficient frameworks.

Johannesburg should give strong encouragement to all the methods for promoting this shift including voluntary initiatives such as the Global Reporting Initiative, ISO 14001, consumer led initiatives such as the forest and marine stewardship councils, and fiscal and regulatory incentives. It should initiate discussions on a new global framework to govern the basis on which corporations should operate across national boundaries, and how to enforce compliance with appropriate standards.

8. Natural Resources and the Environment. (Chapter IV)

Johannesburg should be made the deadline for the ratification of the Kyoto Protocol (and its associated measures and instruments),

Events Diary

Monday 1.15 - 2.45	Integrating a Human Rights Framework for Sustainable Development. Peoples Movement for Human Rights Education. Conference Room 4
1.15 - 2.45	Promoting Health Through Sustainable Development. Physicians for Social Responsibility. Conference Room 6
1.15 - 2.45	Ecovillage Visions. Indigenous Peoples & Sustainable Development. Global Ecovillage Network. Conference Room B
1.15 - 2.45	Water & Gender Issues. Government of the Netherlands. Delegates Dinning Room
6.15 - 2.45	Integrated Mechanism for Implementing Sustainable Development. Earth Council Conference Room 4
6.15 - 2.45	Nuclear Applications for Sustainable Development. International Atomic Energy Agency. Conference Room 6
6.15 - 2.45	Subtracting Sulphur from Diesel: The Next Step in Cleaning the World's Fuel Supply. Natural Resources Defence Council. Conference Room B
Tuesday 1.15 - 2.45	Emergency Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue on targets that can be included in the text. Conference Room F
1.15 - 2.45	Ecological values for Development. Temple of Understanding. Conference Room 1
1.15 - 2.45	The Earth Charter: A Useful Tool for Governments. Brahma Kumairs World Spiritual University. Conference Room 6
1.15 - 2.45	Youth & Sustainable Development. World Youth Alliance. Conference Room B
6.15 - 7.45	The Way to Bali. Greenpeace International. Conference Room 4
6.15 - 7.45	Powering Sustainable Development. E7 Fund for Sustainable Energy Development. Conference Room 6
6.15 - 7.45	Indigenous Peoples' Assessment of Ongoing Negotiations. TEBTEBBA Foundation. Conference Room B

the Biosafety Protocol, and further steps on implementing other environmental Conventions so that at the Summit Heads of Government can commit themselves to effective implementation of all these agreements as they come into force. The principles of integrated resource and ecosystem management should be adopted.

9. Education and capacity building. (Chapters II and IX) *The Summit should give international endorsement of sustainable development to be set at the core of education from primary to tertiary levels, cutting across disciplines and research, as well as informal means of learning e.g. adult education and workplace training. Developing countries need to be particularly supported, in establishing strong education programmes, but also for sustainability programmes more generally, through training and capacity building under UNDP's Capacity 21 initiative.*

10. Governance. *The UN Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) should be strengthened to fully establish its overarching and integral relationship to other UN agencies and commissions, external institutions. The mechanisms and processes to do this need to be clarified. Its ability to monitor progress on sustainability throughout the world should be strengthened. The involvement of stakeholders needs to be further enhanced within CSD dialogues and outcomes. The Summit should strengthen and consolidate the process for engaging a wide range of stakeholders in debate and action relating to sustainable development. Frameworks*

for achieving this, such as the Aarhus Convention, could be further developed and supported at national, regional and global levels.

UNEP has a crucial role in promoting action to protect and enhance the world's environment, and monitoring progress. The progressive move towards clustering the MEAs would significantly help this. In addition the call for UNEP to become a UN Agency should be fully supported. Countries need to commit to enhanced and more secure financing, through assessed contributions, for UNEP if it is to play the leading role that is needed in the world.

Beyond Johannesburg an open and participative audit of the international architecture, including Bretton Woods and the World Trade Organisation, needs to be undertaken with the specific objective of reframing global governance more effectively towards sustainable development.

Conclusion. A new Global Deal.

A slim and dynamic action plan on these lines is struggling to get out of the bloated text of the compilation document. It would then deserve the presence and endorsement of Heads of Government from around the world at Johannesburg, and to be presented as a new Global Deal for the twenty first century.

Derek Osborn, co-chair, Margaret Brusasco-Mackenzie, vice chair-Felix Dodds, Executive Director