

## **Extracts from the Chair's Text for PrepComm IV, relating to Health**

1. Achieve the Millennium Declaration poverty-related goals, including the reduction by half, by 2015, of the proportion of people whose income is below \$1 per day, the number of people suffering from hunger, and proportion of people without access to safe drinking water. This would include international, regional and national actions to:

b. Develop national programme for sustainable development and community development to promote the empowerment of people living in poverty and their organizations. These programmes should reflect their priorities, and enable them to increase access to productive resources, public services and institutions, in particular land, water, employment opportunities, credit, education, and health;

c. Promote women's participation in decision making at all levels, mainstreaming gender perspectives in all policies and strategies, eliminating all forms of violence and discrimination against women, and improving the status, health and economic welfare of women and girls through full and equal access to economic opportunity, credit, education, health care and services;

d. Deliver basic health services for all and reduce environmental health threats, taking into account the linkages between poverty, health and environment, with provision of financial resources, technical assistance and knowledge transfer to developing countries and countries with economies in transition;

8. Launch an action programme, with financial and technical assistance from developed countries, to halve by 2015 the proportion of people lacking access to improved sanitation, through the development and implementation of efficient sanitation systems and infrastructure while safeguarding human health.

13. Develop a ten-year work programme for improving resource efficiency in order to promote social and economic development within the carrying capacity of ecosystems, while reducing resource degradation. The work programme should also include indicators for measuring progress, using environmental impact assessment procedures, and bearing in mind that standards applied by some countries may be inappropriate for others and of unwarranted economic and social cost to other countries, in particular developing countries. This would include international, regional and national actions to:

a. Adopt and implement policies and measures aimed at promoting sustainable patterns of production and consumption, applying the polluter-pays principle, with due regard to the public interest and without distorting international trade and investment;

b. Develop production policies using a life-cycle approach to improve the services provided while reducing environmental and health impacts;

18. Promote an integrated approach to policy making at national and regional levels for transport services and systems to promote sustainable development, including policies and planning for land use, infrastructure, public transport systems and goods delivery networks, with a view to providing efficient transportation, reducing energy consumption and pollution, reducing congestion, limiting urban sprawl, and promoting long-term sustainable development, taking into account national priorities and circumstances. Actions at the International, regional, and national levels are required to:

a. Implement transport strategies for sustainable development, reflecting specific regional, national and local conditions, so as to improve the affordability, efficiency and convenience of transportation, as well as improving urban air quality and public health, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by developed countries,

c. Implement transport strategies that reflect specific national and local condition so as to improve the efficiency and convenience of transportation and that improve urban air quality and public health;

20. Renew the commitment to sound management of chemicals throughout their life cycle for sustainable development for the protection of human health and the environment. This would include international, regional and national actions to:

- a. Promote the ratification and implementation of relevant international instruments on chemicals and wastes;
- b. Further develop a strategic approach to international chemicals management based on the Bahia Declaration and Priorities for Action Beyond 2000 of the Intergovernmental Forum on Chemical Safety (IFCS) and urge the active engagement of relevant International Agencies and other relevant actors in this regard;
- c. Encourage countries to implement the new globally harmonized system (GHS) for the classification and labeling of chemicals as soon as possible;
- d. Encourage partnerships to promote activities aimed at enhancing environmentally sound management of chemicals, implementing multilateral environmental agreements, raising awareness of issues relating to chemicals and hazardous waste, and encouraging the collection and use of additional scientific data;
- e. Promote efforts to prevent damage resulting from the transboundary movement and disposal of hazardous wastes, including illegal trafficking, in a manner consistent with obligations under relevant international instruments;
- f. Support developing countries in strengthening their capacity for the sound management of chemicals by providing technical and financial assistance;
- g. Encourage development of coherent and integrated information on chemicals, such as through national Pollutant Release and Transfer Registries;
- f. Promote further reduction of risks posed by heavy metals and consider the possibility of addressing heavy metals in an international instrument.

22. Achieve the UN Millennium Declaration goal to halve, by the year 2015, the proportion of people who are unable to reach or afford safe drinking water. This would require international, regional and national efforts to:

- d. Intensify water pollution prevention to reduce health hazards and protect ecosystems by introducing technologies for affordable sanitation, waste water treatment, monitoring and effective legal frameworks;

34. Enhance cooperation at the international, regional and national level to reduce air pollution, transboundary air pollution and acid deposition with actions to:

- a. Strengthen capacities of developing countries and countries with economies in transition to measure, reduce and assess the impacts of air pollution, including the health impacts and provide financial and technical support for these activities;

36. Strengthen the implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa (UNCCD) to restore land for agriculture as well as to address poverty resulting from land degradation. This would include international, regional and national actions to:

- d. Integrate measures to combat and prevent desertification into relevant policies and programmes, such as land and water management, agriculture, rural development, environmental, energy, natural resources, health and education and poverty reduction strategies;

41. Mining, minerals and metals are important to the economic and social development of many countries. To enhance the contribution of mining, minerals and metal to sustainable development, actions at international, regional and national levels are required to:

- a. Address the environmental, economic, health and social impacts and benefits of mining, minerals and metals, including workers' health and safety, throughout their lifecycle and use

existing mechanisms, including partnerships arrangements among interested governments, intergovernmental organizations and other stakeholders to promote greater efforts, transparency and accountability for sustainability of the mining and minerals industry;

### **Health and Sustainable Development**

- 43) The Rio Declaration states that human beings are at the centre of concerns for sustainable development, and that they are entitled to a healthy and productive life in harmony with nature. The goals of sustainable development can only be achieved in the absence of a high prevalence of debilitating illnesses while population health requires poverty eradication. There is an urgent need to address the causes of ill health and their impact on development, with particular emphasis on women and children, as well as other vulnerable groups of society such as people with disabilities, elderly persons, and indigenous people.
- 44) Strengthen the capacity of healthcare systems to deliver basic health services to all in an efficient, accessible and affordable manner aimed at preventing, controlling and treating diseases and to reduce environmental health threats and, to this end, take measures to:
- a) Integrate health concerns of the most vulnerable populations into strategies, policies and programmes for poverty eradication and sustainable development;
  - b) Ensure equitable and enhanced access to affordable and efficient healthcare at the primary, secondary and high complexity levels and access to essential and safe drugs, at affordable prices, immunization services and safe vaccines, as well as ensure the access to medical technology and development of new vaccines;
  - c) Provide technical and financial assistance to developing countries as well as countries with economies in transition to implement health for all strategy, including health information systems and integrated databases on development hazards;
  - d) Improve the development and management of human resources in health care services;
  - e) Develop an international programme to achieve global health literacy by 2010 and develop public/private partnerships to promote health education, with the objective of achieving global health education by 2010;
  - f) Develop programmes and initiatives to reduce, by the year 2015 mortality rates for infants and children under 5 by two thirds, and maternal mortality rates by three-quarters, of the prevailing rate in 2000 and to reduce disparities between and within developed and developing countries as quickly as possible;
  - g) Target research efforts and its dissemination to reduce exposures, in particular of susceptible and vulnerable populations, to all kinds of pathogenic agents, building on equal access to healthcare services, education, training, and medical treatment and technology, as well as to address the secondary effects of poor health;
  - h) Promote the use of traditional medicine, where appropriate in combination with modern medicine, with an approval and involvement of the indigenous and local communities who are the holders of the knowledge and practices, and encourage governments to develop and implement strategies ensuring effective protection of traditional knowledge [through approaches such as, inter alia, intellectual property rights, the use of contractual agreements, and sui-generis protection regimes / ensuring sui-generis protection of traditional knowledge<sup>1</sup>];**
  - i) Ensure equal access of women to healthcare and services, including reproductive healthcare, giving particular attention to maternal and emergency obstetric care;
  - j) Launch an international capacity building initiative that assesses health and environment linkages and uses the knowledge gained to create more effective national and regional policy responses to environmental threats to human health;

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<sup>1</sup> The Chairman has not proposed any compromise language and further discussion will be needed to reach consensus.

- k) Transfer and disseminate technologies for safe water, sanitation and waste management for rural and urban areas in developing countries as well as countries with economies in transition, with international financial support, taking into account country-specific conditions and gender concerns;
  - l) Strengthen and promote ILO programmes to reduce occupational deaths, injuries, and illnesses originating from unsustainable work practices and conditions and to link occupational health with public health promotion as means for promoting public health and education;
  - m) Promote health by ensuring access for all to sufficient, safe, culturally acceptable and nutritionally adequate food as well as through consumer health protection, address issues of micro-nutrient deficiency, and implement existing internationally agreed commitments, standard and guidelines.
- 45) Combat by reducing HIV infection rates by 25 percent **[by 2005]** in the most affected countries and globally **[by 2010]**, as well as to combat Malaria, TB and other diseases by, *inter alia* :
- a) Implementing national preventive and treatment strategies, regional and international co-operation measures as well as development of international programme to provide special assistance to children orphaned by HIV/AIDS;
  - b) Fulfilling the commitment for the provision of sufficient resources to support the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, while ensuring access to the Fund by countries most in need;
  - c) Protecting the health of workers and promoting occupational safety, **[by, inter alia, following the International Labour Organization (ILO) Code of Practice on HIV/AIDS and the World of Work,<sup>2</sup>]** improving conditions of the work place, and providing financial and technological support as well as eliminating discriminatory practices;
  - d) Supporting programmes and initiatives, particularly by the WHO and other multilateral and international institutions;
  - e) Gradually increase developed countries' financial support toward R&D activities directed at development of drugs for neglected diseases such as malaria, TB with the aim of reaching \$ 1.5 billion **[by 2007]**.
- 46) Reduce respiratory diseases and other health impacts resulting from air pollution, including from some traditional cooking and heating practices, with particular attention to women and children who are most exposed to indoor air pollution by:
- a) Strengthening regional and national programmes, including through public/private partnerships, with technical and financial assistance to developing countries;
  - b) Gradually phasing out of lead in gasoline and lead-based paints, and strengthening monitoring and surveillance efforts as well as treatment of lead poisoning;
  - c) Strengthening and supporting efforts for the reduction of sulphur and benzene in fuels and the reduction of vehicle exhaust emission, including through cleaner fuels, modern pollution controls, particularly to developing countries.
- 47) Implement the commitments and objectives contained in the Declaration on the TRIPS Agreement and Public Health adopted at Doha in a manner supportive of the protection of public health and of the promotion of access to medicines for all, while recognizing the gravity of the public health problems afflicting many developing and least developed countries, especially those resulting from HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and other epidemics.

48. Small island developing States (SIDS) are a special case both for environment and development. Although they continue to take the lead in the path towards sustainable development in their countries, they are increasingly constrained by the interplay of adverse factors clearly underlined in Agenda 21, the Programme of Action for the Sustainable

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Development of Small Island Developing States, and decisions of the 22nd Special Session of the UNGA. Actions at the international, regional and national levels are required to:

e. Effectively reduce, prevent, and control waste and pollution and their significant health related impacts by undertaking, by 2004, initiatives aimed at implementing the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land Based Activities in SIDS and apply comprehensive impact assessment of mining;

82. Provide financial assistance and support to education, research and developmental institutions in developing countries as well as countries with economies in transition, in order to:

a. Sustain their educational infrastructures and programmes, including those related to environment and public health education; and