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**Follow-up to and implementation of the
outcomes of United Nations summits and
major intergovernmental meetings,
including the decisions of the Governing Council**

Resolutions adopted by the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session of relevance to the United Nations Environment Programme and measures taken and envisaged for the implementation of General Assembly resolution 62/208

Note by the Executive Director

Summary

The present note highlights some resolutions adopted by the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session that are of relevance to the United Nations Environment Programme, including those grouped in conformity with the six subprogrammes of the programme of work for the current biennium, and also of regional significance.

It should be noted that at the time of preparation of the present note the resolutions summarized herein had not yet been formally edited. The resolutions as they appeared at that time might therefore differ in certain non-substantive respects from the resolutions as they appear after editing.

The annex to the present note presents a report on measures taken and envisaged for the implementation of General Assembly resolution 62/208 of 19 December 2007 on the triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, as called for in paragraph 140 of that resolution. It is being circulated without formal editing.

* UNEP/GC.26/1.

Introduction

1. At its sixty-fifth session, the General Assembly adopted, from September to December 2010, a total of 262 resolutions. In December 2010 alone, the General Assembly's six committees adopted more than 240 resolutions covering diverse areas of focus, including disarmament and international security; social, humanitarian and cultural matters; sustainable development; cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations; and administrative and budgetary matters. The first two resolutions adopted at the session were 65/1 of 22 September 2010, entitled "Keeping the promise: united to achieve the Millennium Development Goals", by which the Assembly adopted the outcome document of the High-level Plenary Meeting of the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals, and resolution 65/2 of 25 September 2010, entitled "Outcome document of the High-level Review Meeting on the Implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States", by which the Assembly adopted the outcome document of the said meeting.

2. Some 40 resolutions focused on diverse environmental and sustainable development issues. A significant number are of direct relevance to the programme of work of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), and in its contribution to preparations for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, to take place in 2012. The resolutions are particularly relevant to the current UNEP programme of work and its six subprogrammes: environmental governance, ecosystem management, climate change, disasters and conflict, harmful substances and hazardous waste, and resource efficiency and sustainable consumption and production. Of immediate interest are resolutions 65/162, which provides for the full operationalization of the science-policy platform on biodiversity and ecosystem services, and resolution 65/152, which elaborates on the preparations for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development. In addition to the science-policy platform on biodiversity and ecosystem services, resolution 65/162, also deals with diverse issues such as international environmental governance, the need for UNEP to provide inputs to the preparations for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, and chemicals and mercury. Resolution 65/152 also deals with the nineteenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development, in May 2011.

3. The resolutions adopted also include those on the Convention on Biological Diversity; the implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa; the protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind; oil slicks; the protection of coral reefs for sustainable livelihoods and development; the International Year for Sustainable Energy for All; the sustainable development of the Caribbean Sea for present and future generations; and oceans and the law of the sea. In addition, the General Assembly adopted a series of administrative and budgetary resolutions, including resolution 65/244 on the strategic framework for the period 2012–2013, which encompasses programme 11 on the environment.

4. The following chapters summarize relevant resolutions in the context of the six UNEP subprogrammes, highlighting not only the diversity and breadth of the issues considered by the General Assembly, but also their significance to UNEP. All the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly between September and December 2010 will be available online during 2011 at www.un.org/ga/65/resolutions.shtml.

I. Resolutions relevant to the environmental governance subprogramme

A. Resolution 65/162: Report of the UNEP Governing Council on its eleventh special session

5. In resolution 65/162, the General Assembly requested UNEP, without prejudice to the final institutional arrangements for the intergovernmental science-policy platform on biodiversity and ecosystem services and in collaboration with the secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, relevant international, regional and subregional organizations, including the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the United Nations Development Programme, to convene a plenary meeting providing for the full and effective participation of all Member States, in particular representatives from developing countries, to consider modalities and arrangements fully to operationalize the platform at the earliest opportunity. It called upon international and bilateral donors

and other countries in a position to do so to support the full and effective participation of representatives from developing countries in the plenary meeting.

6. The General Assembly recalled the UNEP Governing Council decision SS.XI/1 of 26 February 2010 on international environmental governance, and took note of the set of options for improving international environmental governance identified by the consultative group of ministers or high-level representatives and the invitation to the President of the Governing Council to transmit the set of options to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session as an input to the continuing process of improving international environmental governance. It also took note of the ongoing work of the consultative group of ministers that would present its final report to the Governing Council at its twenty-sixth session in anticipation of the Governing Council's contribution to the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development at its second session.

7. In encouraging UNEP to support the ongoing work of the Joint Liaison Group of the secretariats of the three conventions adopted in Rio de Janeiro and the Liaison Group of the Biodiversity-related Conventions, the General Assembly acknowledged the importance of improving coherence in the implementation of the three conventions, recognized the importance of enhancing synergies among the biodiversity-related conventions, without prejudice to their specific objectives, and encouraged the conferences of the parties to the biodiversity-related multilateral environmental agreements to consider strengthening efforts in that regard, taking into account relevant experiences and bearing in mind the respective independent legal status and mandates of all those instruments.

8. It underlined the need further to advance and accelerate the full implementation of the Bali Strategic Plan for Technology Support and Capacity-building with a view to achieving its objectives in the areas of capacity-building and technology support for developing countries and countries with economies in transition. It invited relevant United Nations funds and programmes and the specialized agencies and multilateral environmental agreements to consider mainstreaming the Bali Strategic Plan in their overall activities, and called upon Governments and other stakeholders in a position to do so to provide the necessary funding and technical assistance further to advance and fully implement the Bali Strategic Plan.

9. It reiterated the instrumental role of regional offices of UNEP in assisting countries in mainstreaming their environmental priorities and maintaining the strategic presence of the Programme at the national and regional levels as part of the continued efforts of the Programme in shifting emphasis from delivery of outputs to achievement of results within its budget and programme of work, and called for increased support to strengthen the human, financial and programmatic capacities of all regional offices.

B. Resolution 65/152: Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development

10. In resolution 65/152, the General Assembly reaffirmed the decision to hold the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development in Brazil in 2012. It requested the Secretary-General to provide all appropriate support to the work of the preparatory process and of the Conference and to ensure inter-agency cooperation and effective participation of and coherence within the United Nations system, as well as the efficient use of resources, to address all the objectives and themes of the Conference. It invited Governments and all relevant stakeholders, including regional commissions, United Nations organizations and bodies, other relevant intergovernmental and regional organizations, international financial institutions and major groups involved in sustainable development, to participate fully and effectively at all levels and to provide ideas and proposals reflecting their experiences and lessons learned as a contribution to the preparatory process of the Conference, as agreed in the preparatory process by Member States. It also encouraged Governments actively to involve and coordinate inputs from all national agencies responsible for economic development, social development and environmental protection in their national preparations for the Conference.

11. The General Assembly called for the effective implementation of the commitments, programmes and time-bound targets adopted at the World Summit on Sustainable Development and for the fulfilment of the provisions relating to the means of implementation, as contained in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation.

12. It reiterated that the Commission on Sustainable Development was the high-level body responsible for sustainable development within the United Nations system and served as a forum for the consideration of issues related to the integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development, and underlined the need to further support the work of the Commission, taking into account its existing mandate and the decisions taken at its eleventh session.

13. It reaffirmed the objective of strengthening the implementation of Agenda 21, including through the mobilization of financial and technological resources, as well as capacity-building programmes, in particular for developing countries, inviting donor Governments and international financial institutions, together with the international community, to support the efforts of developing countries to overcome barriers and constraints identified during the review year in the thematic cluster of issues, namely, transport, chemicals, waste management, mining and a 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production patterns.

C. Resolution 65/1: Keeping the promise: united to achieve the Millennium Development Goals

14. In resolution 65/1, the General Assembly adopted the outcome document of the High-level Plenary Meeting of the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals.

15. In the outcome document, the Heads of State and Government, gathered at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 20 to 22 September 2010, reiterated their deep concern at the multiple and interrelated crises, including the financial and economic crisis, volatile energy and food prices and ongoing concerns over food security, as well as the increasing challenges posed by climate change and the loss of biodiversity, which had increased vulnerabilities and inequalities and had adversely affected development gains, in particular in developing countries.

16. They recognized that climate change posed serious risks and challenges to all countries, especially developing countries. Addressing climate change would be of key importance in safeguarding and advancing progress towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals. They called for increased efforts at all levels to enhance policy coherence for development and affirmed that the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals required mutually supportive and integrated policies across a wide range of economic, social and environmental issues for sustainable development.

17. They committed themselves to accelerating progress in order to achieve Millennium Development Goal 7, including by: pursuing sustainable development, in accordance with the principles contained in the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, including the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, and taking into account the respective capabilities of countries, with a view effectively to implementing the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development and addressing new and emerging challenges; supporting the implementation of national policies and strategies to combine, as appropriate, the increased use of new and renewable energy sources and low-emission technologies, the more efficient use of energy, greater reliance on advanced energy technologies, including cleaner fossil fuel technologies, and the sustainable use of traditional energy resources, as well as promoting access to modern, reliable, affordable and sustainable energy services and enhancing national capacities to meet the growing energy demand, as appropriate, supported by international cooperation in that field and by the promotion of the development and dissemination of appropriate, affordable and sustainable energy technologies and the transfer of such technologies on mutually agreed terms; promoting integrated waste management systems, in partnership with all relevant stakeholders and with international financial and technological support, as appropriate; promoting sustainable consumption and production patterns, in accordance with the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation; and fostering a greater level of coordination among national and local institutions responsible for economic and social development and environmental protection, including with regard to the promotion of investments relevant for sustainable development.

D. Resolution 65/2: Outcome document of the High-level Review Meeting on the Implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

18. In resolution 65/2, the General Assembly adopted the outcome document of the High-level Review Meeting on the Implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing.

19. In the outcome document, the Heads of State and Government, ministers and representatives of Member States, gathered at a high-level meeting at United Nations Headquarters in New York on 24 and 25 September 2010 to undertake a five-year review of the Mauritius Strategy, acknowledged that climate change and sea-level rise continued to pose a significant risk to small island developing States and their efforts to achieve sustainable development and, for some, represented the gravest of threats to their survival and viability.

20. They called upon the international community to continue to enhance its support for the development and implementation of small island developing States' national climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies and programmes, as well as to facilitate regional and interregional cooperation, in view of the urgent need to build the resilience of such States to the adverse impacts of climate change. As climate change, along with other sources of environmental degradation, could have an adverse impact on the sustainability of the tourism industry in such States, they called upon the World Tourism Organization, the relevant United Nations agencies and other relevant stakeholders to support the development and implementation by small island developing States of measures to promote sustainable tourism in such States. They called upon the international community to assist the efforts of such States to strengthen national disaggregated data and information systems as well as analytical capabilities for decision-making, tracking progress and development of vulnerability-resilience country profiles.

E. Resolution 65/156: Follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

21. In resolution 65/156, the General Assembly urged the full and effective implementation of the outcome document adopted on 25 September 2010 at the High-level Review Meeting of the General Assembly on the Implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States. It urged Governments and all relevant international and regional organizations, United Nations funds and programmes, the specialized agencies and regional commissions, international financial institutions and the Global Environment Facility, as well as other intergovernmental organizations and major groups, to take timely action for the effective implementation of and follow-up to the Mauritius Declaration and the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation, including the further development and operationalization of concrete projects and programmes.

F. Resolution 65/161: Convention on Biological Diversity

22. In resolution 65/161, the General Assembly recognized the important outcomes of the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, held in Nagoya, Japan, from 18 to 29 October 2010, and its fifth meeting serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, held in Nagoya from 11 to 15 October 2010, which represented a significant contribution towards the comprehensive implementation of the three objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

23. The General Assembly took note of the adoption by the Conference of the Parties of the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from Their Utilization to the Convention on Biological Diversity, and acknowledged the potential role of access and benefit-sharing in contributing to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, poverty eradication and environmental sustainability, thereby contributing to achieving the Millennium Development Goals.

24. It encouraged the Global Environment Facility to continue supporting the implementation of the three objectives of the Convention, especially its work on assisting the early entry into force of the Nagoya Protocol.

25. It also noted the decision adopted by the Conference of the Parties on the administration of the Convention and budget for the programme of work for the biennium 2011–2012, which included the revised administrative arrangements between the secretariat of the Convention and UNEP, and through which the Conference of the Parties looked forward to the rapid completion of the service-level agreement provided for in those arrangements, requested the Executive Secretary of the Convention to report to the Conference of the Parties through its bureau on the implementation of those arrangements and invited the Executive Director of UNEP to report on those arrangements to the Governing Council at its twenty-sixth session.

26. The General Assembly decided to declare 2011–2020 the United Nations Decade on Biodiversity, with a view to contributing to the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity for the period 2011–2020. It requested the Secretary-General, in consultation with Member States, to lead the coordination of the activities of the Decade on behalf of the United Nations system, with the support of the secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the secretariats of other biodiversity-related conventions and relevant United Nations funds, programmes and agencies.

G. Resolution 65/163: United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (2005–2014)

27. In resolution 65/163, the Assembly took note of the report of the Director-General of UNESCO on the mid-decade review of the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development, including the areas identified for further action in the remaining half of the Decade.

28. It recognized that, while progress had been made in raising awareness of the significance of education for sustainable development, such progress remained unevenly distributed. It encouraged the international community to reinforce its collective commitment to raise awareness of the significance of education for sustainable development, including through mobilizing resources, supporting national efforts, and establishing processes that would continue beyond the end of the Decade. It requested the UNESCO, as the designated lead agency, to continue its coordination role in promoting the Decade, in cooperation with other relevant United Nations organizations, funds and programmes.

II. Resolutions relevant to the ecosystem management subprogramme

A. Resolution 65/37: Oceans and the law of the sea

29. In resolution 65/37, which was adopted by 123 votes to 1, with 2 abstentions, the General Assembly reiterated its deep concern at the serious adverse impacts on the marine environment and biodiversity. It also reiterated, among other things, the essential need for cooperation, including through capacity-building and transfer of marine technology, to ensure that all States, especially developing countries, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, as well as coastal African States, were able to implement the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and to benefit from the sustainable development of the oceans and seas, as well as to participate fully in all forums and processes dealing with oceans and law of the sea issues.

30. It also decided that the Regular Process for Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment was accountable to it and should be an intergovernmental process guided by international law, including the Convention and other applicable international instruments. It would be overseen and guided by an ad hoc working group of the whole. It requested the Secretary-General to convene the first meeting of that group from 14 to 18 February 2011 and to invite the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO, UNEP, the International Maritime Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and other competent United Nations specialized agencies, as appropriate, to provide technical and scientific support to the Regular Process.

31. The Assembly emphasized that the first cycle of the regular process had begun and that the deadline for the first integrated assessment was 2014. It recognized the work by the Convention on Biological Diversity on marine biodiversity; the work by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change on ocean acidification; and the work of UNEP on the scientific understanding of the oceans-atmosphere interface under the Global Ocean Observing System and on marine debris; and under the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal. It also encouraged States that had not done so to become parties to regional seas conventions addressing the protection and preservation of the marine environment and to implement the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities.

B. Resolution 65/38: Sustainable fisheries, including through the 1995 Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks, and related instruments

32. In resolution 65/38, the General Assembly called upon all States to apply widely the precautionary approach and ecosystem approaches to the conservation, management and exploitation of fish stocks. It called upon States to commit themselves urgently to reducing the capacity of the world's fishing fleets to levels commensurate with the sustainability of fish stocks, through the establishment of target levels and plans or other appropriate mechanisms for ongoing capacity assessment.

33. While the Assembly deplored the fact that fish stocks in many parts of the world were overfished, it also expressed particular concern that illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing constituted a serious threat to fish stocks and marine habitats and ecosystems, to the detriment of

sustainable fisheries, as well as the food security and the economies of many States, particularly developing States. It also recognized the economic and cultural importance of sharks in many countries, the biological importance of sharks in the marine ecosystem as key predatory species, the fact that some were threatened with extinction, and the need for measures to promote the long-term conservation, management and sustainable use of shark populations and fisheries.

34. The Assembly urged all States to implement the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities and acknowledged the serious environmental impacts on the marine environment caused by abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded fishing gear. It welcomed a 2009 report by UNEP and FAO, and encouraged States to take action to reduce such gear, noting the recommendations of the report. It also urged States to strengthen and enhance cooperation among existing and developing regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in which they participated.

C. Resolution 65/150: Protection of coral reefs for sustainable livelihoods and development

35. In resolution 65/150, the General Assembly urged States, within their national jurisdictions, and the competent international organizations, within their mandates, given the imperative for action, to take all practical steps at all levels to protect coral reefs and related ecosystems for sustainable livelihoods and development, including immediate and concerted global, regional and local action to respond to the challenges and address the adverse impacts of climate change, including through mitigation and adaptation, as well as of ocean acidification, on coral reefs and related ecosystems.

36. The General Assembly also urged States to formulate, adopt and implement integrated and comprehensive approaches for the management of coral reefs and related ecosystems under their jurisdiction. It encouraged regional cooperation in accordance with international law regarding the protection and enhancement of the resilience of coral reefs, and in that respect called upon development partners to support such efforts in developing countries, including through the provision of financial resources, capacity-building, environmentally sound technologies and know-how on mutually agreed terms, as well as the exchange of relevant scientific, technical, socio-economic and legal information, to enable developing countries to take all necessary action for the protection of their coral reefs and related ecosystems, as appropriate.

37. It requested the Secretary-General to submit a report on the importance of protecting coral reefs and related ecosystems for sustainable livelihoods and development, including an analysis of the economic, social and development benefits of protecting coral reefs, in the context of the themes and objectives of the 2012 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, to be considered during the sixty-sixth session and for the information of other forums.

D. Resolution 65/153: Follow-up of the International Year of Sanitation, 2008

38. In resolution 65/153, the General Assembly called upon all Member States to support the global effort to realize “Sustainable sanitation: the five-year drive to 2015” by redoubling efforts to close the sanitation gap through scaled-up ground-level action, supported by strong political will, increased community participation and improved hygiene, in accordance with national development strategies, promoting the mobilization and provision of adequate financial and technological resources, technical know-how and capacity-building for developing countries, and developing appropriate human resources in order to improve hygiene and increase the coverage of basic sanitation.

39. The Assembly invited all Member States to increase political prioritization, promote evidence-based decision-making and support strong national planning processes in order better to target funding for basic sanitation and drinking water to achieve the internationally agreed targets set out in the United Nations Millennium Declaration and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, including halving by 2015 the proportion of people who were unable to reach or afford safe drinking water and who did not have access to basic sanitation.

E. Resolution 65/154: International Year of Water Cooperation, 2013

40. In resolution 65/154, the Assembly decided to declare 2013 the International Year of Water Cooperation. It invited the Secretary-General, in cooperation with UN-Water, to take appropriate steps to organize the activities of the Year and to develop necessary proposals on activities at all levels to support Member States in the implementation of the Year. It encouraged all Member States, the United Nations system and all other actors to take advantage of the Year to promote actions at all levels, including through international cooperation, as appropriate, aimed at the achievement of the internationally agreed water-related goals contained in Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further

Implementation of Agenda 21, the United Nations Millennium Declaration and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, as well as to increase awareness of their importance.

F. Resolution 65/155: Towards the sustainable development of the Caribbean Sea for present and future generations

41. In resolution 65/155, the General Assembly called upon the United Nations system and the international community to assist, as appropriate, Caribbean countries and their regional organizations in their efforts to ensure the protection of the Caribbean Sea from degradation as a result of pollution from ships, in particular through the illegal release of oil and other harmful substances, and from the illegal dumping or accidental release of hazardous waste, including radioactive materials, nuclear waste and dangerous chemicals, in violation of relevant international rules and standards, as well as pollution from land-based activities. It called upon States, taking into consideration the Convention on Biological Diversity, to develop national, regional and international programmes to halt the loss of marine biodiversity in the Caribbean Sea, in particular fragile ecosystems such as coral reefs and mangroves. It also called upon Member States to improve as a matter of priority their emergency response capabilities and the containment of environmental damage, particularly in the Caribbean Sea, in the event of natural disasters or of an accident or incident relating to maritime navigation.

G. Resolution 65/160: Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa

42. In resolution 65/160, the General Assembly welcomed the outcomes of the seventeenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development regarding desertification, land degradation and drought, and emphasized the need to implement the policy options pertaining to thematic clusters of that session. It recommended the strengthening of the advisory role of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention and the Committee on Science and Technology through their recommendations in order to monitor effectively the decisions of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention to Combat Desertification. It decided to convene a one-day high-level meeting on the theme "Addressing desertification, land degradation and drought in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication" on Tuesday, 20 September 2011, prior to the general debate of the sixty-sixth session of the General Assembly. It welcomed the amendment to the Global Environment Facility instrument whereby the Facility should be available to serve as a financial mechanism of the Convention to Combat Desertification, pursuant to article 20, paragraph 2 (b), and article 21 of the Convention.

H. Resolution 65/164: Harmony with nature

43. In resolution 65/164, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to convene, at its sixty-fifth session, an interactive dialogue, to be held at two plenary meetings during the commemoration of International Mother Earth Day on 26 April 2011, with the participation of Member States, United Nations organizations, independent experts and other stakeholders, actively and effectively to contribute to and support efforts in the preparatory process for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development in 2012, on ways to promote a holistic approach to sustainable development in harmony with nature; and sharing national experiences on criteria and indicators to measure sustainable development in harmony with nature. It also requested the Secretary-General to establish a trust fund for the participation of the independent experts in the interactive dialogue at the two plenary meetings, and invited Member States and other relevant stakeholders to consider contributing to that fund.

I. Resolution 65/178: Agriculture development and food security

44. In resolution 65/178, the General Assembly underlined the importance of enhancing synergies between agriculture, biodiversity, food security and development policies and strategies at the national, regional and international levels, including by prioritizing and mainstreaming agriculture and food security into development policies. It stressed the need to enhance agricultural production, productivity and sustainability, including through public and private investment, expanding the access of smallholder farmers to markets, credit, inputs, land, improved land-use planning, crop diversification and commercialization, sound water management, including efficient irrigation, water harvesting and storage, developing strong agriculture value chains, and investment in rural infrastructure, in order to reach the poverty and hunger targets of the Millennium Development Goals. The Assembly promoted research for food and agriculture, including research to adapt to and mitigate climate change, and access to research results and technologies at the national, regional and international levels, including through the international research centres of the Consultative Group on

International Agricultural Research, as well as other relevant international and regional research organizations.

J. Resolution 65/220: Right to food

45. In resolution 65/220, the General Assembly among other things, stressed the importance of fighting hunger in rural areas, including through national efforts supported by international partnerships to stop desertification and land degradation and through investments and public policies that were specifically appropriate to the risk of drylands. It also stressed the importance of international cooperation and development assistance as an effective contribution both to the expansion and improvement of agriculture and its environmental sustainability. The resolution also welcomed the work being done under the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on the rights to adequate food and to water which would require the adoption of appropriate economic, environmental and social policies oriented towards the eradication of poverty.

III. Resolutions relevant to the climate change subprogramme

A. Resolution 65/151: International Year for Sustainable Energy for All

46. In resolution 65/151, the General Assembly decided to declare 2012 the International Year of Sustainable Energy for All. It took note of the efforts of the United Nations system to work towards ensuring energy access for all and to protect the environment through the sustainable use of traditional energy resources, cleaner technologies and newer energy sources. It requested the Secretary-General, in consultation with relevant agencies within the United Nations system and UN-Energy, to organize and coordinate activities to be undertaken during the Year. It encouraged all Member States, the United Nations system and all other actors to take advantage of the Year to increase the awareness of the importance of addressing energy issues, including modern energy services for all, access to affordable energy, energy efficiency and the sustainability of energy sources and use, for the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, sustainable development and the protection of the global climate, and to promote action at the local, national, regional and international levels.

B. Resolution 65/158: International cooperation to reduce the impact of the El Niño phenomenon

47. In resolution 65/158, the General Assembly welcomed the activities undertaken so far to strengthen the International Research Centre on El Niño, through collaboration with international monitoring centres, including the national oceanographic institutions, and efforts to enhance regional and international recognition and support for the Centre and to develop tools for decision makers and government authorities for reducing the impact of the El Niño phenomenon. It called upon the Secretary-General and the relevant United Nations organs, funds and programmes, in particular those taking part in the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, and the international community to adopt, as appropriate, the necessary measures further to strengthen the International Research Centre on El Niño, and invites the international community to provide scientific, technical and financial assistance and cooperation for that purpose, as well as to strengthen, as appropriate, other centres devoted to the study of the El Niño phenomenon.

C. Resolution 65/159: Protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind

48. In resolution 65/159, the General Assembly called upon States to take urgent global action to address climate change in accordance with the principles identified in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, including the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, and in that regard urged all countries fully to implement their commitments under the Convention, to take effective and concrete actions and measures at all levels and to enhance international cooperation in the framework of the Convention. It recognized the urgency of providing financial and technical resources, as well as capacity-building and access to and transfer of technology, to assist those developing countries adversely affected by climate change. It reaffirmed that efforts to address climate change in a manner that enhanced the sustainable development and sustained economic growth of the developing countries and the eradication of poverty should be carried out by promoting the integration of the three components of sustainable development, namely, economic development, social development and environmental protection, as interdependent and mutually reinforcing pillars, in an integrated, coordinated and balanced manner.

D. Resolution 65/165: Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)

49. In resolution 65/165, the General Assembly encouraged UN-Habitat, within its mandate, and in line with focus area three of the medium-term strategic and institutional plan, to continue its existing cooperation on issues related to cities and climate change and to continue to play a complementary role in matters related to climate change within the United Nations system, in particular in addressing the vulnerability of cities to climate change, including through further normative work and expansion of its technical assistance to towns and cities on local action for the mitigation of urban-based greenhouse gas emissions and adaptation to climate change, with a focus on vulnerable urban populations, slum-dwellers, the urban poor and at-risk populations. It invited UN-Habitat to contribute to the preparatory process for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development by providing technical contributions and inputs, as appropriate, to the report of the Secretary-General on the objective and themes of the Conference, and to transmit outcomes emanating from its meetings relevant to the themes of the Conference.

IV. Resolutions relevant to the disasters and conflict subprogramme

A. Resolution 65/49: Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia

50. In resolution 65/49, which was adopted by 144 votes to 3, with 36 abstentions, the Assembly emphasized the role of the Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia in promoting cooperation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and in the environmental rehabilitation of territories affected by radioactive contamination, and the importance of stepping up efforts to ensure the safe and reliable storage of radioactive waste in the Central Asian States.

B. Resolution 65/53: Observance of environmental norms in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms control

51. In resolution 65/53, the General Assembly called upon States to adopt unilateral, bilateral, regional and multilateral measures so as to contribute to ensuring the application of scientific and technological progress within the framework of international security, disarmament and other related spheres, without detriment to the environment or to its effective contribution to attaining sustainable development.

C. Resolution 65/55: Effects of the use of armaments and ammunitions containing depleted uranium

52. In resolution 65/55, which was adopted by 148 votes to 4, with 30 abstentions, the Assembly invited Member States and relevant international organizations to report to the Secretary-General to communicate to the Secretary-General their views on the effects of the use of armaments and ammunitions containing depleted uranium, and those States that had used those weapons in armed conflicts to provide the relevant authorities of affected States, upon request, with information, as detailed as possible, about the location of the areas of use and the amounts used, with the objective of facilitating the assessment of such areas.

D. Resolution 65/131: Strengthening of international cooperation and coordination of efforts to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster

53. In resolution 65/131, the General Assembly stressed the significance of the upcoming twenty-fifth anniversary of the Chernobyl accident for the further strengthening of international cooperation to study, mitigate and minimize its consequences. It welcomed the initiative of Ukraine, co-sponsored by Belarus and the Russian Federation, to convene the International Conference "Twenty-five Years after the Chernobyl Disaster: Safety for the Future" in April 2011 in Kyiv, and called upon the relevant United Nations bodies actively to engage in and fund, within existing resources, the preparations for the conference. It also requested the President of the General Assembly to convene, on 26 April 2011, a special commemorative meeting of the General Assembly in observance of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Chernobyl catastrophe.

E. Resolution 65/147: Oil slick on Lebanese shores

54. In resolution 65/147, which was adopted by 163 votes to 8 with 5 abstentions, the General Assembly requested the Government of Israel to assume responsibility for prompt and adequate

compensation to the Government of Lebanon and other countries directly affected by the oil slick, such as the Syrian Arab Republic whose shores had been partially polluted, for the costs of repairing the environmental damage caused by the destruction, including the restoration of the marine environment, in particular in the light of the observation by the Secretary-General concerning the lack of any acknowledgement on the part of the Government of Israel of the relevant paragraphs of Assembly resolutions 61/194, 62/188, 63/211 or 64/195. It also requested the Secretary-General to give further consideration to the option of examining the potential role of the Compensation Commission in securing the relevant compensation from the Government of Israel. It welcomed the agreement of the Lebanon Recovery Fund to host the Eastern Mediterranean Oil Spill Restoration Trust Fund, based on voluntary contributions, to provide assistance and support to the States directly adversely affected in their integrated environmentally sound management, from clean-up to safe disposal of oily waste, of that environmental disaster resulting from the destruction of the oil storage tanks at Jiyeh electric power plant.

F. Resolution 65/149: Cooperative measures to assess and increase awareness of environmental effects of waste originating from chemical munitions dumped at sea

55. In resolution 65/149, the General Assembly noted the importance of raising awareness of the environmental effects of waste originating from chemical munitions dumped at sea. It invited Member States and international and regional organizations to keep under observation the issue of the environmental effects of waste originating from chemical munitions dumped at sea, and to cooperate and voluntarily share relevant information on that issue. It invited the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member States and relevant regional and international organizations on issues relating to the environmental effects of waste originating from chemical munitions dumped at sea, as well as on possible modalities for international cooperation to assess and increase awareness on that issue, and to circulate such views to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session for further consideration.

G. Resolution 65/157: International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

56. In resolution 65/157, the General Assembly called upon the United Nations system, and invited international financial institutions and regional and international organizations, to integrate the goals of, and take into full account, the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005–2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters in their strategies and programmes, making use of existing coordination mechanisms, and to assist developing countries with those mechanisms to design and implement, as appropriate, disaster risk reduction measures with a sense of urgency.

57. It recognized the importance of coordinating adaptation to climate change with relevant disaster risk reduction measures, invited Governments and relevant international organizations to integrate those considerations in a comprehensive manner into, among other things, development plans and poverty eradication programmes and, in the least developed countries, into the preparation and implementation of national adaptation programmes of action, and invited the international community to support the ongoing efforts of developing countries in that regard.

58. The Assembly emphasized the importance of early warning systems as part of effective disaster risk reduction, at the local, national and regional levels, in order to reduce economic and social damages, including the loss of human lives. It therefore encouraged Member States to integrate such systems into their national disaster risk reduction strategies and plans. It also encouraged donors and the international community to enhance international cooperation for supporting such initiatives, as appropriate, through technical assistance, technology transfer by mutually agreed terms, capacity-building and training programmes. It stressed the need to strengthen mainstreaming disaster risk reduction into national development strategies, and as a practice in the policies and programmes of the humanitarian and environmental sectors, planning ministries and financial institutions and other relevant bodies.

H. Resolution 65/170: International migration and development

59. In resolution 65/170, the General Assembly emphasized that respect for the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all migrants was essential for reaping the benefits of international migration. It expressed concern at legislation adopted by some States that resulted in measures and practices that might restrict the human rights and fundamental freedoms of migrants, and reaffirmed that, when exercising their sovereign right to enact and implement migratory and border security measures, States had the duty to comply with their obligations under international law, including international human rights law, in order to ensure full respect for the human rights of migrants. The Assembly called upon the United Nations system and other relevant international organizations and multilateral institutions

to enhance their cooperation in the promotion and development of methodologies for the collection and processing of internationally comparable statistical data on international migration and the situation of migrants in countries of origin, transit and destination, and to assist Member States in their capacity-building efforts in that regard.

I. Resolution 65/179: Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources

60. In resolution 65/179, which was adopted by 167 votes to 8, with 5 abstentions, the General Assembly recognized the right of the Palestinian people to claim restitution as a result of any exploitation, damage, loss or depletion, or endangerment of their natural resources resulting from illegal measures taken by Israel, the occupying Power, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and expresses the hope that that issue would be dealt with in the framework of the final status negotiations between the Palestinian and Israeli sides.

J. Resolution 65/193: Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa

61. In resolution 65/193, the General Assembly expressed grave concern about the deteriorating conditions in many refugee camps in Africa. It also called upon the international donor community to provide material and financial assistance for the implementation of programmes intended for the rehabilitation of the environment and infrastructure affected by refugees in countries of asylum as well as internally displaced persons.

K. Resolution 65/194: Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

62. In resolution 65/194, the General Assembly expressed its deep concern about the challenges posed by climate change and environmental degradation to the protection activities of the Office of the High Commissioner and the assistance it provided to vulnerable populations across the globe, particularly in the least developed countries.

L. Resolution 65/53: Observance of environmental norms in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms control

63. In resolution 65/53, the General Assembly reaffirmed that international disarmament forums should take fully into account the relevant environmental norms in negotiating treaties and agreements on disarmament and arms limitation and that all States, through their actions, should contribute fully to ensuring compliance with the aforementioned norms in the implementation of treaties and conventions to which they were parties. It called upon States to adopt unilateral, bilateral, regional and multilateral measures so as to contribute to ensuring the application of scientific and technological progress within the framework of international security, disarmament and other related spheres, without detriment to the environment or to its effective contribution to attaining sustainable development.

V. Resolutions relevant to the harmful substances and hazardous wastes subprogramme

Resolution 65/96: Effects of atomic radiation

64. In resolution 65/96, the General Assembly commended the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation for the valuable contribution it had been making since its inception to widen knowledge and understanding of the levels, effects and risks of ionizing radiation. It also emphasized the vital need for sufficient, assured and predictable funding, as well as efficient management, of the work of the secretariat of the Scientific Committee. The Assembly urged UNEP to continue to strengthen the Committee's funding, and encouraged Member States to consider making voluntary contributions to the general trust fund established by the Executive Director of UNEP to support the Scientific Committee's work. It also requested the Secretary-General to prepare a report to be submitted to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session on the objective criteria and indicators to be used to determine the membership that would best support the Scientific Committee's essential work. It also requested the Secretary-General to consider the financial implications of increased membership and to report to it, at its sixty-sixth session, regarding the effects of atomic radiation in the Marshall Islands.

VI. Resolutions relevant to the resource efficiency and sustainable consumption and production subprogramme

A. Resolution 65/145: Follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development

65. In resolution 65/145, the General Assembly recognized that a dynamic, inclusive, well-functioning and socially responsible private sector was a valuable instrument for generating economic growth and reducing poverty. It emphasized the need to pursue appropriate policy and regulatory frameworks at national levels and in a manner consistent with national laws through which to encourage public and private initiatives, including at the local level, and to foster a dynamic and well-functioning business sector, while improving income growth and distribution, raising productivity, empowering women and protecting labour rights and the environment. It reiterated the importance of ensuring that the benefits of growth reached all people by empowering individuals and communities.

66. It emphasized that the financial and economic crisis had demonstrated the need for more effective government involvement so as to ensure an appropriate balance between the market and the public interest, and recognized the need better to regulate financial markets. It called upon developing countries and countries with economies in transition to continue their efforts to create a domestic environment conducive to attracting investments by, among other things, achieving a transparent, stable and predictable investment climate with proper contract enforcement and respect for property rights. It stressed the importance of enhancing efforts to mobilize investment from all sources in human resources and physical, environmental, institutional and social infrastructure.

67. It reiterated that official development assistance could play a catalytic role in assisting developing countries in removing constraints on sustained, inclusive and equitable growth by, among other things, enhancing social, institutional and physical infrastructure, promoting foreign direct investment, trade and technological innovations, improving health and education, fostering gender equality, preserving the environment and eradicating poverty.

B. Resolution 65/146: Innovative mechanisms of financing for development

68. In resolution 65/146, the General Assembly stressed the essential role that official development assistance played in complementing, leveraging and sustaining financing for development in developing countries and in facilitating the achievement of development objectives, including the internationally agreed development goals, in particular the Millennium Development Goals. It reiterated that official development assistance could play a catalytic role in assisting developing countries in removing constraints on sustained, inclusive and equitable growth by, among other things, enhancing social, institutional and physical infrastructure, promoting foreign direct investment, trade and technological innovations, improving health and education, fostering gender equality, preserving the environment and eradicating poverty. It welcomed steps to improve the effectiveness and quality of aid based on the fundamental principles of national ownership, alignment, harmonization, managing for results and mutual accountability.

C. Resolution 65/148: Global Code of Ethics for Tourism

69. In resolution 65/148, the General Assembly recognized the important dimension and role of tourism as a positive instrument towards the eradication of poverty, the protection of the environment and the improvement of the quality of life for all people, its potential to make a contribution to sustainable development, especially of the developing countries, and its emergence as a vital force for the promotion of international understanding, peace and prosperity.

70. It welcomed the work of the World Tourism Organization and its World Committee on Tourism Ethics in the implementation of the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism and the establishment of the permanent secretariat in Rome.

71. It recognized the need to promote the development of sustainable tourism, including non-consumptive tourism and ecotourism in order to increase the benefits from tourism resources for the population in host communities, while maintaining the cultures and environmental integrity of the host communities and enhancing the protection of ecologically sensitive areas and natural heritage, and to promote the development of sustainable tourism and capacity-building in order to contribute to the strengthening of rural and local communities, taking into account the need to address, among other things, the challenges of climate change and to halt the loss of biodiversity.

72. It invited Member States and other stakeholders to support the activities undertaken by, among others, the World Tourism Organization for the promotion of responsible and sustainable tourism, including in the context of emergency preparedness and response to natural disasters, as well as for capacity-building in order to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, by extending the benefits of tourism to all sectors of society, in particular to the most vulnerable and marginalized groups of the population, while minimizing its negative impact.

D. Resolution 65/173: Promotion of ecotourism for poverty eradication and environment protection

73. In resolution 65/173, the General Assembly emphasized the need to maximize the economic, social and environmental benefits stemming from ecotourism activities in all countries, particularly in developing countries, including African countries, the least developed countries and small island developing States. It also emphasized that ecotourism could contribute to sustainable development, in particular environmental protection, and improve the well-being of local and indigenous communities.

74. It recognized that ecotourism created significant opportunities for the conservation, protection and sustainable use of natural areas by encouraging local and indigenous communities in host countries and tourists alike to preserve and respect natural and cultural heritage. It underlined the importance of establishing, at the national level and in accordance with national priorities, appropriate guidelines and regulations for promoting and supporting ecotourism and minimizing its potential negative impact, and encouraged Member States to promote investment in ecotourism, in accordance with their national legislation, which might include the creation of small- and medium-sized enterprises and facilitating access to finance, including through microcredit initiatives for the poor, local and indigenous communities in areas with high ecotourism potential, including rural areas.

75. It also underlined the importance of conducting an environmental impact assessment, in accordance with national legislation, for the development of ecotourism opportunities. It called upon the United Nations system, in the context of the global campaign for the Millennium Development Goals, to promote ecotourism as an instrument that could contribute to achieving those Goals, in particular the Goals of eradicating extreme poverty and of ensuring environmental sustainability, and to support the efforts and policies of developing countries in that field.

E. Resolution 65/142: International trade and development

76. In resolution 65/142, which was adopted by 119 votes to 47, with 7 abstentions, the General Assembly stressed that, in order for the Doha Round to be concluded satisfactorily, the negotiations should strengthen the rules and disciplines in the area of agriculture, eliminate agricultural export subsidies, substantially reduce the domestic measures of support by developed countries and promote enhanced market access to developed country markets, in a balanced and development-oriented outcome, while adhering to the development mandate of the Doha Ministerial Declaration, the decision of 1 August 2004 of the General Council of the World Trade Organization and the Hong Kong Ministerial Declaration. It reaffirmed the necessity of promoting the transfer and dissemination of technology and access to knowledge for the benefit of developing countries, taking fully into account the priorities and special needs of developing countries, as well as the World Intellectual Property Organization Development Agenda.

F. Resolution 65/175: Industrial development cooperation

77. In resolution 65/175, the General Assembly stressed the importance of access to modern forms of energy and renewable energy, advanced energy technology, including cleaner fossil fuel technologies, and the promotion of energy efficiency for advancing industrial development and for achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals.

78. It emphasized that, in order to create the right environment for sustainable industrial development, the international community and the private sector should accelerate measures to facilitate the development, transfer and diffusion of environmentally sound technologies, on mutually agreed terms, to developing countries, as appropriate.

79. It encouraged the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) to continue to promote environmentally sound and sustainable production, including through its programmes on cleaner production, industrial water management, industrial energy efficiency and the utilization of efficient, modern and affordable forms of energy for productive use, especially in rural areas, as well as through cooperation with United Nations and other organizations to promote global goals on access to modern forms of energy and on energy efficiency.

80. It welcomed the increased cooperation of UNIDO with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO, the World Trade Organization, the United Nations Development Programme, UNEP, the World Health Organization, FAO, the World Intellectual Property Organization and the regional commissions. It invited UNIDO to continue to build and strengthen its partnership with other United Nations organizations having complementary mandates and activities, as well as with other entities, including in the private sector, with a view to achieving greater effectiveness and development impact and promoting increased coherence within the United Nations system.

G. Resolution 65/143: International financial system and development

81. In resolution 65/143, the General Assembly stressed that the economic and financial crisis had highlighted the need for reform as well as added new impetus to ongoing international discussions on the reform of the international financial system and architecture, including on issues related to mandate, scope, governance, responsiveness and development orientation, as appropriate, and in that regard encouraged continued open, inclusive and transparent dialogue. It called for the swift implementation of the reform in the voting power of developing countries and countries in transition in the World Bank, as endorsed by the Development Committee in its communiqué of 25 April 2010, and of the decision taken by the Executive Board of the International Monetary Fund on 5 November 2010 on quotas, voting shares and governance.

H. Resolution 65/144: External debt sustainability and development

82. In resolution 65/144, the General Assembly welcomed the efforts of and called upon the international community to provide flexibility, and stressed the need to continue efforts in helping post-conflict developing countries, especially those that were heavily indebted and poor, to achieve initial reconstruction for economic and social development. It also welcomed the efforts of and invited creditors to provide flexibility to developing countries affected by natural disasters so as to allow them to address their debt concerns, while taking into account their specific situation and needs. It called for the intensification of efforts to prevent and mitigate the prevalence and cost of debt crises by enhancing international financial mechanisms for crisis prevention and resolution, encouraged the private sector to cooperate in that regard, and invited creditors and debtors further to explore, where appropriate and on a mutually agreed, transparent and case-by-case basis, the use of new and improved debt instruments and innovative mechanisms such as debt swaps, including debt for equity in Millennium Development Goal projects, as well as debt-indexation instruments.

VII. Resolutions relevant to regional activities of the United Nations Environment Programme

A. Resolution 65/113: Question of New Caledonia

83. In resolution 65/113, the General Assembly noted concerns expressed by representatives of indigenous people regarding the impact of mining on the environment; the strengthening of ties between New Caledonia and both the European Union and the European Development Fund in such areas as economic and trade cooperation, the environment, climate change and financial services; and the positive initiatives aimed at protecting the natural environment of New Caledonia, including the “Zonéco” operation designed to map and evaluate marine resources within the economic zone of New Caledonia.

B. Resolution 65/115: Questions of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, Saint Helena, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands

84. In resolution 65/115, the General Assembly, noted the concerns expressed by the inhabitants of Guam regarding the potential social, cultural, economic and environmental impacts of the impending transfer of additional military personnel of the administering Power, the United States of America, to the Territory.

C. Resolution 65/242: Cooperation between the United Nations and the Caribbean Community

85. In resolution 65/242, the Assembly expressed its deep concern about the persistent challenges posed by an international environment characterized by, among other things, crises in food and energy security, the impact of global warming, the loss of biodiversity and a fragile and uneven international

financial system, all of which had increased the vulnerabilities and seriously exacerbated the challenges for the development efforts of the countries of the Caribbean Community. It also noted the support of UNEP for the implementation of the Community's environmental and sustainable development programmes and expressed appreciation for the technical role of UNEP in building cooperation linkages among the region's small island developing States, particularly with regard to climate change adaptation assessments.

VIII. Other resolutions of particular relevance to the United Nations Environment Programme

A. Resolution 65/95: Global health and foreign policy

86. In resolution 65/95, the Assembly underscored the urgency of strengthening health systems by improving infrastructure and ensuring affordable access to quality services, safe drinking water and basic sanitation, and acknowledged the need to make the global health architecture more effective, efficient and responsive, in order to, among other things, bring more coherence to the delivery of health outcomes and enhance health equity. It called for more attention to health as an important policy issue on the international agenda and recognized that global health challenges required concerted and sustained efforts, urging Member States to consider health issues in the formulation of foreign policy.

B. Resolution 65/166: Culture and development

87. In resolution 65/166, the Assembly emphasized the important contribution of culture for sustainable development and the achievement of national development objectives and internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals.

88. It invited all Member States, intergovernmental bodies, organizations of the United Nations system and relevant non-governmental organizations to, among others, preserve and maintain local and indigenous traditional knowledge and community practices of environmental management, which were valuable examples of culture as a vehicle for environmental sustainability and sustainable development, and to foster synergies between modern science and local and indigenous knowledge. It requested the Secretary-General to ensure that United Nations country teams further integrated and mainstreamed culture into their programming exercises, in particular United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks, in consultation with relevant national authorities, when assisting countries in the pursuit of their development objectives.

C. Resolution 65/171: Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries

89. In resolution 65/171, the General Assembly decided to convene at the highest possible level the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries from 9 to 13 May 2011 in Istanbul, Turkey. It also decided to reschedule the second session of the Intergovernmental Preparatory Committee and hold it in New York from 4 to 8 April 2011, for five working days. It requested the Secretary-General to submit a 10-year comprehensive report on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001–2010 to the Conference, identifying, among other things, lessons learned and best practices as well as structural constraints and handicaps encountered, resource requirements and resource gaps in achieving the set objectives of the Programme of Action.

D. Resolution 65/172: Groups of countries in special situations: specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries: outcome of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation

90. In resolution 65/172, the General Assembly recognized the challenges presented by land degradation, desertification, deforestation and climate change, the negative impact that they had on one another and the potential benefits of mutually addressing those problems and their impact on the availability of food and water. It called upon the international community to continue to enhance support for the efforts of the landlocked developing countries to address those challenges in an integrated manner, as appropriate. The Assembly encouraged the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, the secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the secretariat

of UNEP, the Convention to Combat Desertification and the regional commissions, as well as relevant research institutions and pertinent international organizations, to assist the landlocked developing countries, as appropriate, to conduct studies in order to provide a better understanding of the implications of climate change for landlocked developing countries and to make recommendations in that regard.

E. Resolution 65/174: Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008–2017)

91. In resolution 65/174, the General Assembly called upon the international community, including Member States, to address the root causes of extreme poverty and hunger. It emphasized the need to accord the highest priority to poverty eradication within the United Nations development agenda, while stressing the importance of addressing the causes and challenges of poverty through integrated, coordinated and coherent strategies at the national, intergovernmental and inter-agency levels. It took note of the inter-agency system-wide plan of action for poverty eradication involving more than 21 agencies, funds, programmes and regional commissions, and requested the Secretary-General to provide details on the implementation of the plan of action to the Member States. It encouraged greater inter-agency convergence and collaboration within the United Nations system in sharing knowledge, promoting policy dialogue, facilitating synergies, mobilizing funds, providing technical assistance in the key policy areas underlying the decent work agenda and strengthening system-wide policy coherence on employment issues, including by avoiding duplication of effort.

F. Resolution 65/141: Information and communication technologies for development

92. In resolution 65/141, the General Assembly encouraged the United Nations funds and programmes and the specialized agencies, within their respective mandates, to contribute to the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society, and emphasized the need for resources in that regard. It recognized the urgent need to harness the potential of knowledge and technology, and in that regard encouraged the United Nations development system to continue its effort to promote the use of information and communications technologies as a critical enabler of development and a catalyst for the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals.

G. Resolution 65/214: Human rights and extreme poverty

93. In resolution 65/214, the Assembly encouraged the international community to strengthen its efforts to address challenges that were contributing to extreme poverty, including those posed by climate change and the loss of biodiversity in all parts of the world.

H. Resolution 65/223: promotion of a democratic and equitable international order

94. In resolution 65/223, which was adopted by 126 votes to 54, with 5 abstentions, the Assembly affirmed that such a democratic and equitable international order required, among other things, the realization of the right of every person and all peoples to a healthy environment and to enhanced international cooperation that responded effectively to the needs for assistance of national efforts to adapt to climate change, particularly in developing countries, and that promoted the fulfilment of international agreements in the field of mitigation.

I. Resolution 65/230: Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

95. In resolution 65/230, the General Assembly welcomed action by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on emerging forms of crime that had a significant impact on the environment.

IX. Resolutions of relevance to programme and administrative matters

A. Resolution 65/244: Programme planning

96. In resolution 65/244, the General Assembly endorsed the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on the strategic framework for the period 2012–2013, including programme 11 on the environment.

B. Resolution 65/107: Questions relating to information

97. In resolution 65/107, the Assembly among many other things, requested the Department of Public Information and content-providing offices of the Secretariat to ensure that United Nations publications were produced in a cost-effective and environmentally friendly manner and to continue to coordinate closely with all other entities, in order to avoid duplication.

Annex

The annex provides information on the follow up to the General Assembly Resolution 62/208. It outlines the measures taken and progress achieved by UNEP as a non-resident organization of the United Nations system in implementing the management process for the implementation of the resolution 62/208.

Acronyms

CCA	Common Country Assessment
ECLAC	Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
EF	The Environment Fund
ESCAP	Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
ERP	Enterprise Resource Planning
GEF	Global Environmental Facility
IPSAS	International Public Sector Accounting Standards
MDG	Millennium Development Goal(s)
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
OCHA	Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
UNCT	United Nations Country Team
UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
UNDESA	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs
UNDG	United Nations Development Group
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
WGPI	UNDG Working Group on Programming Issues

I. Introduction

1. The triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system was undertaken by the General Assembly at its sixty-second session, and led to the adoption of resolution 62/208 on 19 December 2007.

2. To ensure follow-up to the resolution, the General Assembly requested the Secretary General to submit a proposal, for consideration by the ECOSOC, identifying an appropriate management process for the full implementation of the resolution 62/208. The Assembly also requested the governing bodies of the funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations development system to take appropriate actions for the full implementation of resolution 62/208, and called upon the executive heads of those organizations to submit a yearly progress report to their governing bodies on measures taken and envisaged for the implementation of the resolution for the triennial comprehensive policy review.

3. The ECOSOC, during its substantive session of 2008, approved the management process proposed by the Secretary General, as contained in document E/2008/49, which provides a comprehensive programme of work for the full implementation of the resolution 62/208 and serves as the basis for progress reporting to ECOSOC in 2009 and 2010 by the Secretary General.

4. The present report has been prepared, pursuant to the General Assembly request, to provide the Governing Council and Global Ministerial Environment Forum (GC/GMEF) with a synopsis of the measures taken and progress made by United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in the implementation of the management process for the implementation of the resolution 62/208. As a non-resident agency, UNEP's follow up in this regard has primarily taken place in the context of its membership in the UNDG and its increasing involvement in the CCA/UNDAF processes. Consequently, the report contains UNEP's activities in relation to those policy directives of the management process that have direct relevance to UNEP's operational role and engagements in the above context.

II. Overall approach to the role and functioning of the United Nations system's development cooperation in support of national development priorities and strategies of programme countries and the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals.

Policy Direction: Coordination at country level to recognize respective organizations mandates and roles and enhance the effective utilization of their resources and expertise (see para. 13 of the resolution)

5. As part of the United Nations reform and the “*delivering as one*” efforts, UNEP's collaboration with the United Nations family at the country level has been strengthened through active engagement in the eight One UN pilots. UNEP is increasingly involved in United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) processes and, with the support of the resident coordinators and UN Country Teams (UNCTs), contributes to the development of the One UN programmes and UNDAFs.

6. Growing out of UNEP's increased involvement at the country level, UNCTs and UN Resident Coordinators acknowledge UNEP's normative, scientific and policy expert contributions. UNEP's regional and sub-regional approach and its network of environmental experts within governments and civil society have provided critical inputs into the UNDAF process and this has been appreciated by the UNCTs leading to an increase in the number of requests for UNEP's support.

7. Since 2009 the number of countries requesting support from UNEP with national development plans and strategies that include environmental sustainability rose from 18 to 27. By 2010 eighteen country analysis processes had incorporated references to UNEP-supported environmental assessments and national environmental summaries that describe key linkages between environment and development at the national level. Further, 23 UNDAF development countries incorporated environment into the UNDAF roll-out with UNEP's involvement.

8. UNCTs continue to acknowledge the wide range of expertise that UNEP brings to the country programming processes. UNEP still faces a number of challenges as a non-resident agency, such as the following, which must be overcome for effective use of UNEP's expertise to support national development programmes:

- The UN common country programming process and implementation are time consuming, involving intensive engagement at the country level. UNEP, as a non-resident agency, faces communication and operational challenges that impact negatively on its engagement.
- Differences in UNCT programming cycles, pace of operations, administrative and financial management procedures continue to pose challenges to UNEP's effective country-level engagement.
- In some cases, UNEP and other non-resident agencies are not encouraged to participate in the One UN programme nor do they have access to the One UN Fund.
- It is difficult to balance the need to ensure broader, more substantive and coherent UNEP inputs into UNCT processes and programmes with the current internal capacities to deliver on the expectations emerging from UNEP's engagement with the UNCT.
- Limited understanding within some UNCTs of structures and operations of non-resident agencies such as UNEP which often places unrealistic expectations on the ability of non-resident agencies to fully engage in UNCT processes.

9. Recognizing these challenges, UNEP has taken a number of management actions to ensure that UNEP remains very actively and appropriately involved in common country planning and joint programming in a number of countries in Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean, Europe and West Asia (see paragraphs 20-28 for details). UNEP has developed an internal Delivering as One Guidance Note that aims to define and guide UNEP's engagement at the country level. The note contains guidance on UNEP's role in country level interventions; rules of engagement; methodologies and management.

III. Funding for operational activities for development of the United Nations system

Policy Direction: Organizations to address the imbalance between core and non-core resources

10. The Environment Fund (EF) and the UN Regular Budget constitute UNEP's core sources of funding. The EF, which is made up of voluntary contributions from member states, constitutes the primary resource base of UNEP's Programme of Work approved by the GC/GMEF.

11. UNEP continues its effort to improve the predictability and increases in the level of contribution to the EF. Some key measures taken so far are i) application of a voluntary indicative scale of contributions (VISC) to stimulate and suggest member states to provide funding to the EF commensurate with their respective economic and social circumstances; ii) active engagement to broaden the donor base for core funding; and iii) encouragement to member states to shift their contributions to the EF instead of earmarking. Such efforts are being carried through with member states to identify their funding preferences and matching them with UNEP's programme priorities and objectives. A new VISC for 2010-2011 is being used to guide member states for suggestive EF contributions.

12. As a result of these combined efforts, UNEP received a total contribution of US\$81 million in 2010, which is 45 per cent of the GC/GMEF approved biennial budget of US\$180 million. Contributions to the EF came from 88 member states, which include developing countries and countries with economies in transition. With the streamlined programming approach, additional earmarked contributions are now channeled and aligned in support of implementing the approved Programme of Work for 2010-2011.

13. UNEP's proposed budget for 2010-2011 requests close to 60% of the total budget from extra-budgetary (non-core) resources to supplement the EF and regular budget resources. Considering the magnitude and the inevitability of non-core financial support, UNEP has multi-donor partnership programming arrangements with several donor countries. This has been helpful in improving the predictability of funding through a multi-year financial framework in support of selected priority areas within the approved Programme of Work.

IV. Contribution of United Nations operational activities to national capacity development and development effectiveness

A. Capacity-building and development

Policy Direction: The United Nations system to develop capacity of developing countries to coordinate and evaluate the impact of external development assistance (see para. 37 of the resolution); to support the development of frameworks to enable countries design, monitor and evaluate results in capacity development (see para. 38 of the resolution); and to create and report on results framework to measure capacity-building initiatives and activities of the United Nations (see para. 42 of the resolution).

14. UNEP's engagement in the One UN pilots and UNDAF processes has led to a shift in approach for its capacity building activities at the national level. UNEP's intended interventions are increasingly being incorporated in the One UN Programmes and Common Country Assessments (CCAs)/UNDAFs. These interventions are at higher levels of aggregations and are further elaborated when the UNDAFs are translated into specific joint programmes and workplans.

15. UNEP has, through their active engagement in the One UN Pilots and UNDAF processes, strengthened the coordination of developmental assistance by introducing and integrating the activities of different line ministries into the country's planning processes. UNEP has set out to promote their systematic involvement in the UNCT processes enabling developing countries to better coordinate development assistance and align these efforts with existing planning processes.

16. UNEP's engagement in the UNDAF adheres to and supports the strengthening of monitoring and evaluation tools, including the use of the results matrix to track activities. Further, UNEP actively participates in the Mid-term and Annual Reviews of the UNDAFs.

Policy Direction: The United Nations organizations to adopt measures that ensure sustainability in capacity-building activities (see para. 39 of the resolution); to use, to the fullest extent possible, national execution and national expertise/technologies as the norm to implement operational activities (see para. 39 of the resolution); and to strengthen and progressively rely on national procurement systems (see para. 41 of the resolution)

17. UNEP is increasingly supporting the Harmonized Approach to Cash Transfer (HACT) when the projects are jointly implemented with UN agencies or using UN Service Centers at the country level. For example, Poverty and Environment Initiative (PEI) projects in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Nigeria and Sudan all use HACT standards. UNEP has a mandate for capacity building and technology support for countries under its Bali Strategic Plan. To this end, UNEP works closely with scientific experts and policy-making networks for knowledge sharing and capacity building in the field of sustainable development and environment at the country level.

Policy Direction: Funds, programmes and specialized agencies to intensify collaboration at the country and regional levels in strengthening national capacities (see para. 43 of the resolution)

18. With UNEPs growing participation in the development of UNDAFs and One UN Programmes, UNEP has been able to provide substantive inputs on environmental issues, thereby strengthening the plans greatly. UNEP has also provided environmental data and information to strengthen country analysis on key national development issues (i.e. National Environmental Summaries). In addition, UNEP has been involved in the development and implementation of 14 MDG-F joint programmes under the environment and climate change thematic window. These programmes work hard to strengthen national capacities to address environmental and climate change issues including supporting mainstreaming. Furthermore, these programmes include a strong exit strategy with the full intention to hand over implementation to developing country governments, resulting in significant capacity building at the national level.

19. Since 2009, UNEP has provided UN Country Teams with training, environmental information and technical expertise for the integration of environmental sustainability and climate change considerations into UNDAF processes in the regions of: Africa; Asia and Pacific; Europe; West Asia; and Latin America and the Caribbean as outlined below.

20. In Africa, UNEP has been actively involved in UN common country planning in Kenya, Ethiopia, Rwanda and Tanzania; and involved in joint programming activities in Botswana, Cape Verde, Namibia, Mozambique and Senegal. Further, since 2009, UNEP has provided UN Country Teams with training, environmental information and technical expertise for the integration of environmental sustainability and climate change considerations into UNDAF processes in Ghana, Burkina Faso, Egypt, Chad, Gambia, Mozambique and Malawi. National Environmental Summaries were developed to support the UN country analyses and UNDAF preparation for Libya and Ghana. UNEP also provided technical inputs for Tanzania, Uganda, Mozambique, Malawi, Burkina Faso, Egypt, Ghana, Chad and Lesotho in order to support the integration of environmental sustainability and climate change issues in the CCA/UNDAF drafting processes. Finally, UNEP provided technical backstopping for the implementation of UNDAFs in Botswana, Tanzania, Cape Verde and Rwanda. Although UNEP was not involved in the development of the South Africa UNDAF, since April 2009, UNEP has been a member of the South Africa UNCT.

21. During the joint meeting of the Regional UNDG teams for Eastern and Southern Africa and West and Central Africa held in March 2010, it was agreed that technical clusters/working groups would develop their 2010 work plans based on the UNDG-ESA core functions and support required from the UNCTs as indicated in the 2010 UNCT work plans. UNEP is taking the lead in Africa in setting up and guiding a task team to look at environment and climate change issues. This cluster will bring together all the diverse perspectives, expertise and strengths of the UN system so as to deliver as ONE in the critical areas of environment and climate change.

22. In Asia and the Pacific, UNEP is actively involved in UN common country programming activities in Bhutan, Laos, and Vietnam; and arrangements are underway in the Philippines and Pakistan to provide, inter alia, secretariat support to the joint UN Theme Group on the Environment and to the pilot One UN initiative, respectively. UNEP has appointed a UNEP Regional UNDAF Coordinator to strengthen its capacity to support the UNDAF preparation in all 2009 roll-out countries.

23. Since 2009, UNEP has provided UN Country Teams with training, environmental information and technical expertise for the integration of environmental sustainability and climate change considerations into UNDAF processes in China and Indonesia. A National Environmental Summary was developed to support the UN country analyses and UNDAF preparation for Indonesia. UNEP also provided technical inputs for the Maldives, Mongolia, Indonesia, Philippines, Laos, China, Cambodia, Thailand, Kyrgyzstan, Vietnam, Myanmar, and DPRK in order to support the integration of environmental sustainability and climate change issues in the CCA/UNDAF drafting processes. Finally, UNEP provided technical backstopping for implementation of UNDAFs in Bhutan and Vietnam.

24. In Europe, UNEP participated in the UNDAF development process in Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, and Serbia ensuring the incorporation of environmental dimension in the draft UNDAF documents. UNEP has also worked closely with the Resident Coordinator and UNDP, in Turkey in supporting the climate change adaptation project activities funded by the MDG Achievement Fund. Furthermore, UNEP is strongly involved in the Albania “*delivering as one*” pilot and continues to lead the environment cluster, in which UNDP, UNICEF, UNESCO and UNFPA are represented.

25. Since 2009, National Environmental Summaries were developed to support the UN country analyses and UNDAF preparation for Ukraine and Belarus. UNEP also provided technical inputs for Ukraine and Montenegro in order to support the integration of environmental sustainability and climate change issues in the CCA/UNDAF drafting processes.

26. In West Asia, UNEP was involved in UNDAF drafting process in Lebanon. Since 2009, UNEP has also provided UN Country Teams with training, environmental information and technical expertise for the integration of environmental sustainability and climate change considerations into UNDAF processes in Iraq and Syria. UNEP provided technical inputs for Syria and Yemen in order to support the integration of environmental sustainability and climate change issues in the CCA/UNDAF drafting processes.

27. In Latin America and the Caribbean, UNEP takes part in UNDAFs in several countries and contributes to various components, encompassing e.g. water and sanitation in Brazil, in Cuba, inter alia, energy and in Mexico natural resources and energy, etc. In addition, UNEP currently contributes to the formulation of the UNDAFs in Ecuador, Guatemala and Haiti and expect to extend its support to UNDAF in Panama upon completion of the next annual review. Furthermore, UNEP co-chairs the UNDAF Working Group on the Results Matrix 2: Human Rights, which includes the area of environmental sustainability. UNEP also participates in the MDG Achievement Fund joint programmes as an executing agency under the “environment and climate change” theme in Nicaragua, Panama and Peru. UNEP is also actively involved in the “*delivering as one*” Pilot Uruguay and will execute two joint projects under the Coherence Fund in areas of environmental indicators, and sustainable consumption and production, respectively. These engagements have resulted in raising UNEP profile among national governments in the region as well as the sister agencies thus increasing their support for UNEP participation in joint activities and funding for UNEP projects.

28. Since 2009, National Environmental Summaries were developed to support the UN country analyses and UNDAF preparation for Guyana, St Kitts and Nevis, St Lucia, St Vincent and Grenadines, Dominica, Antigua and Barbuda, and Grenada. UNEP also provided technical inputs for Uruguay, Panama, Peru, El Salvador and Brazil in order to support the integration of environmental sustainability and climate change issues in the CCA/UNDAF drafting processes. Finally, UNEP provided technical backstopping for implementation of UNDAFs in Brazil, Uruguay, Panama, Guatemala and Ecuador.

B. South-South Cooperation and development of national capacities

Policy Direction: Funds, programmes, specialized agencies and other entities of the United Nations system to mainstream support to South-South and triangular cooperation (see para. 48 of the resolution)

29. The implementation of the UNEP Programmes of Work for 2008-2009 and 2010-2011 has progressively employed South-South Cooperation approaches in the delivery of capacity building and technology support project activities. While the scope, focus and outputs of these initiatives vary from sub-programme to sub-programme, the overall thrust of the South-South Cooperation approaches

employed reflect deliberate efforts to use expertise, knowledge and network resources available in countries of the south to deliver the capacity building objectives of these project activities.

30. As part of the implementation process, UNEP has undertaken consultations with a broad spectrum of organizations, institutions and networks to develop new strategic partnerships and alliances to support the delivery of planned capacity building activities. The consultations also focus on building upon and strengthening existing partnerships especially for on-going project activities that were initiated in the 2008-2009 Programme of Work including in the planned expansion and follow-up work.

31. For the 2010-2011 Programme of Work, formal cooperation arrangements were established with partners comprising UN agencies, regional and sub-regional organisations, national institutions and the scientific community. While the entry points and scope of the individual contributions of the partnerships vary from project to project, the value of the partnerships is reflected in the range of outputs generated in the form of provision of specialized data support, training and related capacity development, education, expertise inputs including tools and methodologies, outreach materials, network resources including mechanisms for sharing knowledge, information and experiences.

32. In addition, UNEP has continued to maintain and strengthen its interaction with UNDP Special Unit for South-South Cooperation which is mandated to coordinate UN interagency policy dialogue to advance South-South Cooperation within the UN system. In 2009 and 2010, UNEP held regular consultations with the UNDP Special Unit particularly focusing on UNEP's contribution to and participation in relevant global South-South Cooperation processes and events and more specifically on UNEP's inputs in meetings of the UN High-Level Committee on South-South Cooperation.

33. UNEP has developed policy guidance and operational guidelines which will serve as agency-wide reference tools to systematically mainstream South-South Cooperation in the work of the organisation. These tools will provide clear direction for addressing, in the short and medium term, the challenges that have hitherto impeded faster uptake of coordinated and coherent integration of this delivery mechanism in the UNEP Programme of Work.

C. Gender mainstreaming

Policy Direction: The United Nations development system to mainstream a gender perspective and to pursue gender equality and the empowerment of women in country programmes, planning instruments and sector-wide programmes and to articulate specific country-level goals and targets (see para. 56 of the resolution); and the governing bodies to ensure that gender perspectives are integrated into all aspects of their monitoring functions (see para. 57 of the resolution)

34. In order to ensure that all UNEP programme and project activities are gender responsive, Gender Action Plans for divisions consistent with their respective programmatic requirements have been developed and are in use. Furthermore, over 550 of UNEP staff have been trained to-date on mainstreaming gender into programmes and projects. This resulted in an increase in integration of gender into project development from concept note to full proposal development. In addition gender was fully integrated into the programme frameworks for 2010-2011 POW. The Quality Assurance Section (QAS) of UNEP plans to carry out regular monitoring and oversight on UNEP projects' integration of gender perspectives.

Policy Direction: The United Nations development system to enhance the effectiveness of gender specialist resources, gender focal points, gender theme groups (see para. 60 of the resolution)

35. Gender mainstreaming in UNEP is guided by the Senior Gender Advisor. At the divisional level gender focal teams were developed with a total of 80 staff drawn from all UNEP offices to form these focal teams, which assist in division level capacity building on gender mainstreaming. Gender focal teams have all been trained on gender mainstreaming with a particular focus on their respective programmes. Capacity building of the gender focal team was completed by October 2010.

Policy Direction: *Organizations of the United Nations development system to continue efforts to achieve gender balance in appointments within the United Nations system for positions that affect operational activities for development, including appointments of resident coordinators and other high-level posts (see para. 66)*

36. UNEP has made significant progress in recruiting women through targeted outreach efforts. Against a target of 50% women in the selection of staff UNEP reached 44% in the period by 2009 in professional categories.

37. UNEP continues to make efforts in attracting senior women to the organization, including its headquarters. However, the challenge remains and more resources are being invested. In 2009 UNEP had achieved a 40% ratio of women at D2 level and 20% at D1 level.

D. Transition from relief to development

Policy Direction: *The United Nations system to contribute to the development of national capacities to manage the transition process (see para. 67 of the resolution); and to tailor support to country-specific needs and to effectively support early recovery (see paras. 70 and 78 of the resolution)*

The United Nations system organizations to support national capacity-building efforts and report on their activities to their respective governing bodies (see para. 72 of the resolution); and to begin planning the transition to development and taking measures supportive of that transition from the beginning of the relief phase (see para. 81 of the resolution)

38. UNEP's work on disaster and conflicts focuses on helping states to minimize the threats to human well-being from the environmental causes and consequences of disasters and conflicts. Through its post-crisis environmental recovery programmes, UNEP continues to provide capacity-building and institutional development support, and environmental expertise to UNCTs and RCs in post-crisis countries (e.g. Afghanistan, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Rwanda, Haiti, Sierra Leone, Democratic Republic of Congo, Occupied Palestinian Territory and Nepal), and has taken an active role in the development of UN workplans, Development Assistance Frameworks, and other country programming planning processes.

39. At the request of UNDG, UNEP has worked in close collaboration with the World Bank to develop guidance on the integration of environmental needs in Post-Conflict Needs Assessments. This guidance has been supplemented with a Conflict Analysis Framework (CAF) intended to serve as a standard methodology to rapidly assess, prioritize and provide recommendations on peace building opportunities and mitigation of potential conflict risks over natural resources. The methodology is currently undergoing final review, and will be finalized in 2011.

40. As part of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) Working Group on Early Recovery, UNEP mobilized resources and expertise to respond to several crisis situations, including the 2010 earthquake in Haiti, UNEP provided technical assistance on environmental issues for early recovery to organizations in a broad range of clusters. Following the January 2010 earthquake in Haiti, UNEP also successfully integrated environmental considerations within the Flash Appeal, the EU/World Bank/UN Post Disaster Needs Assessment and the national recovery plan, as well as within the UN-led Flood Impact on the Millennium Development Goals Assessment (FIMA) undertaken in Pakistan after the 2010 monsoon floods. In addition, through its Joint Environment Unit (JEU) with OCHA, UNEP has supported countries and international partners by coordinating and mobilizing environmental expertise to identify and mitigate acute environmental risks to human health stemming from emergency situations and related secondary risks in countries such as Benin, Burkina Faso, China/Taiwan, Guinea, Philippines, Samoa, Madagascar, Albania, Ukraine, Haiti, Pakistan, and Nigeria.

Policy Direction: *Strengthen interdepartmental and inter-agency coordination (see para. 71), including improved coordination and joint response by the United Nations system and the Bretton Woods institutions (see para. 73 of the resolution)*

41. Principal to UNEP strategy in post conflict and post disaster interventions is to work within the framework of UN coordinated efforts. UNEP is an active member of inter-agency fora at the international level (e.g. Environment Management Group, which is chaired by the Executive Director of UNEP, United Nations Development Group, where UNEP co-chairs the Climate Change Working Group, Inter-Agency Standing Committee Cluster Working Group on Early Recovery) as well as at

the country level, including UNCTs in Afghanistan, Sudan, Haiti, Sierra Leone, Democratic Republic of Congo on which UNEP acts as the focal point for environment.

42. UNEP has worked in close collaboration with the World Bank to develop guidance on the integration of environmental needs in post-conflict needs assessments. UNEP, in collaboration with the EU and a consortium of five UN agencies and departments led the development of a training programme to support war-torn and vulnerable countries to prevent conflict and build peace through improved natural resource management. The programme, geared towards national and local governments, as well as UN and EU and other international field staff, was developed over two years and pioneers a new interagency approach towards joint assessments and programming, leveraging the specific expertise and comparative advantage of each entity. Within the framework of the UNEP coordinated-Environment and Security Initiative (ENVSEC), six international organizations comprising the UNEP, UNDP, OSCE, UNECE, REC and NATO, have continued to join forces to contribute to reducing tensions and increasing cooperation through the joint management of natural resources and environmental threats in Eastern Europe, South Eastern Europe, the Southern Caucasus and Central Asia.

43. UNEP was instrumental in the development of the UNDG Guidance Notes on integrating Environmental Sustainability and Climate Change in the UN country analysis and UNDAFs. These Guidance Notes are references for all the UNCTs. Subsequently, UNEP supported the UN System Staff College in the delivery of a Training of Trainers for 30 UN staff on mainstreaming environmental sustainability and climate change in the UN country analysis and UNDAF processes. Now those Trainers are, in turn, organizing training for UNCTs in their respective regions. Furthermore UNEP and UNDG are currently looking into joining forces with the Trainers to hold joint training sessions and roll out similar capacity building initiatives where possible.

Policy Direction: Improve the effectiveness of resource mobilization for transition from relief to development (see para. 75 of the resolution)

44. UNEP works together with national governments and partner agencies to mobilize funding for early recovery programmes that address environmental issues, mitigate risks and ensure that resources are used in a sustainable manner within reconstruction and development processes. Annual policy, programme and resource mobilization consultations were carried out with the Nordic countries, Belgium, Spain, UK, China to develop new approaches and set targets in resource mobilization, which has been beneficial in raising awareness of donor countries on the need for increased and timely fund-raising.

45. UNEP has also mobilized funds to respond to several crisis situations as part of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) Working Group on Early Recovery. At country level, UNEP has worked to improve timeliness and appropriateness of funding for early recovery as part of UNCTs in Afghanistan, Sudan and Haiti. Domestic funding for addressing environmental needs in the recovery process has also been secured thanks to UNEP's support to the Chinese Ministry of Environmental Protection. In Haiti, where UNEP led the assessment of the environmental sector in the Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA), 11% of the total needs assessed for recovery and reconstruction in the PDNA were dedicated to environment and disaster risk management. Moreover, US \$16.4 million has since been invested by the international community in environmental restoration and sustainability projects in the country.

Policy Direction: Harmonize data collection and information management during the transition phase; make information available to Member State concerned (see para. 77 of the resolution)

46. The coordination of data collection by UN agencies and partners is under the purview of UNDG and UNEP remains available to provide environmental data, analysis and expertise on environmental issues to partner agencies and wider UN processes. In 2010, for example, a UNEP assessment of the linkages between environment, conflict and peace building in Sierra Leone led to the integration of environmental risk factors into the latest peace building strategy for the country, known as the Joint Vision, and the establishment of a dedicated programme of support to the Government and UN Country Team to address these risks.

Policy Direction: *The resident coordinator system and the United Nations county teams to promote the inclusion of prevention strategies in national development plans (see para. 84 of the resolution); and the relevant United Nations organizations to integrate disaster risk reduction (DRR) into their respective activities (see para. 85 of the resolution)*

47. In 2009, a Guidance Note on Integrating DRR in UNDAFs has been finalized and a first Training of Trainers was delivered in 2009 while in-country support has been provided to UNCTs in 2010. UNEP is presently working with other UN agencies (UNDP, UNU) and other partners in developing a training course on mainstreaming environment-DRR approaches in national / local development planning, which will be piloted tested in Sri Lanka in April 2011 to develop both Government and UNCT capacities, with the view of incorporating the course into existing DRR training programmes (globally / nationally).

48. In 2010, UNEP completed a pilot Risk and Vulnerability Assessment Methodology Development Project (RiVAMP) in Jamaica. This vulnerability methodology is aimed at assisting decision-makers in evaluating their investment options effectively; taking into account long-term environmental and climate change factors in the analysis of risk and vulnerability. Follow-up activities include training on how to apply the RiVAMP methodology in other parts of Jamaica and in the Caribbean region.

49. However, it should be noted that disaster risk reduction activities remain under-funded despite clear demands from vulnerable countries for UNEP's technical support. Indeed, in countries vulnerable to natural hazards environment, natural resource management and risk reduction issues often compete for funding with other priorities such as poverty alleviation and development.

V. Improved functioning of the United Nations development system

A. Coherence, relevance and effectiveness

Policy Direction: *The United Nations system to use UNDAF and its results matrix as the common programming tool for country-level contributions of the funds and programmes towards the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals (see para. 86 of the resolution); and the United Nations system to fully utilize opportunities (based on UNDAF) for joint initiatives and joint programming (see para. 87 of the resolution)*

50. As part of the UN reform and the "delivering as one" efforts, UNEP's collaboration with the UN family has been strengthened at the country level through active engagement in the eight One UN pilots. Since 2009, UNEP has progressively increased its involvement in UNDAF processes and improved the quality and coordination of its participation in all regions. The implementation of UNEP's programme of work activities at the country level will continue to be guided by and aligned to the UNDAFs in order to better respond to the identified national priorities.

Policy Direction: *The United Nations system to provide further financial, technical and organizational support for the resident coordinator system (see para. 92 of the resolution)*

51. UNEP continues to develop systems to strengthen its capacity to ensure effective participation in the resident coordinator system and UNDAF processes. It also supports UN resident agencies with their efforts to mainstream environmental sustainability into their operations.

52. UNEP, through its Regional Directors and relevant staff of the Regional Offices, participates and provided substantive inputs in the operations of the Regional UNDG Teams (quality support assurance, Peer Support groups, etc.). In Eastern and Southern Africa, UNEP is the Convenor of the Regional UNDG cluster on Environment and Climate Change. At the global level UNEP is the co-chair of the UNDG Task Team on Environment and Climate Change.

Policy Direction: *The Secretary-General to improve the transparency and competitiveness of the recruitment process for senior high-level posts in the United Nations system, and through CEB, to harmonize recruitment processes for senior officials by 2009 (see para. 102 of the resolution)*

53. In line with the guidelines of CEB/HLCM, UNEP has significantly improved its recruitment practices at the senior level with targeted outreach activities (including gender and geographical), mandatory telephone interviews, face-to-face interviews for the final short-listed candidates, written

assessment, personality assessment and thorough reference checks. The improved procedures and processes have had an overall positive impact on recruitment practices in the organization.

Policy Direction: The strategic plans of funds and programmes should be guided by the comprehensive policy review (see para. 97 of the resolution)

54. UNEP actively participates in the inter-agency Strategic Planning Network, which reflects on the implications of the triennial comprehensive policy review across UN entities. UNEP's Programme of Work 2010-2011 reflects the key issues of the 2007 Triennial Comprehensive Policy Review, especially on capacity-building, inter-agency collaboration, assisting countries to transit from relief to sustainable development and gender mainstreaming. Continuous efforts are made toward South-South Cooperation, HACT and other operational issues related to UNDAF.

Policy Direction: Programme countries should have access to the full range of resources of the United Nations system (see para. 101 of the resolution)

55. UNEP actively participates in UN Common Country Programming Processes, both at country level, as well as part of the regional Quality Support & Assurance functions. Although the 2007 Non-resident Agency Implementation Plan preceded UNEP's planned and structured engagement in UNCT processes, UNEP has nonetheless provided and continues to provide support to UNCTs in all regions.

56. UNEP also seeks to align and integrate its country level activities with UNDAF processes, where relevant. The integration of UNEP's interventions in UNCT processes implies making available, to the UNCT and national partners, the full range of UNEP expertise and resources as they relate to the requirements of these interventions. In order to inform countries and UNCTs of the expertise and services available, UNEP disseminates information on (i) its available expertise and resources, and comparative advantage and potential value added to the work of UNCTs; and (ii) its experience in participation in CCA and UNDAF preparatory processes and reviews, in particular the integration of environmental sustainability in UNDAFs, joint programmes and workplans.

B. Regional dimensions

Policy Direction: Entities of the United Nations system at the regional level to intensify their cooperation and coordination (see paras. 108, 110 of the resolution); Regional Commissions to further develop their analytical capacities to support country-level development initiatives and more intensive inter-agency collaboration at the regional and subregional levels (see para. 108 of the resolution); The United Nations development system to intensify cooperation with regional and subregional intergovernmental organizations and regional banks (see paras. 107, 110 of the resolution); and Align regional technical support structures and the regional bureaux and identify appropriate mechanisms at the subregional level, where appropriate (see para. 109 of the resolution)

57. UNEP is an active member of the Regional UNDG Teams for Eastern and Southern Africa, Western and Central Africa, Asia and the Pacific, West Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, and Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States. UNEP actively reviews and provides inputs to draft CCAs and UNDAFs through the regional Quality Support and Assurance teams; and in some cases serve as the lead agency in UNDAF roll-out peer support teams in these regions.

58. In addition, UNEP works very closely with other UN organizations and participates in numerous inter-agency mechanisms in delivering its mandated work programme. UNEP is co-chairing the Asia Pacific UNDP working group on mainstreaming climate change in the UNDAFs and in recognition of UNEP's increased engagement in the UN reform through the UNDG Peer Support Group. UNEP was asked to make presentations on various aspects of Delivering as One at the annual retreat for the Peer Support Group. UNEP is a member of the UNDG Peer Support Groups for Latin America and the Caribbean, and the Arab Region. UNEP trained these Peer Support Groups on mainstreaming environmental sustainability and climate change in the UNDAF. Through the South-African UNDG, UNEP has supported the UN common country programming processes in Ethiopia, Zambia and Malawi.

59. In partnership with UNDP and the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, UNEP delivered a joint training to 15 African UNCTs on mainstreaming Climate Change and Disaster Risk reduction in the UNDAF process (Senegal, Mali, Guinea, Cameroon, Chad,

Djibouti, Cape Verde, Guinea Bissau, Republic of Central Africa, Mauritania, Togo, Sao Tome and Principe, Gambia, Morocco and Algeria.

60. Under the Regional Coordination Mechanisms for Africa, UNEP as the convener of the cluster on “Population, Urbanization and Climate Change” integrated climate change considerations in the Regional Coordination Mechanisms’ guidance notes.

C. Transaction costs and efficiency

Policy Direction: Continue to develop harmonized approaches (see para. 121 of the resolution)

61. UNEP continues to carry out reviews of requirements and processes in relation to change management for effective participation of UNEP in the One UN pilots, especially in the aspect of internal capacity assessments of required skill sets for Delivering as One, take into consideration UNEP unique circumstances as global organization with no country-level presence and yet with expertise and resources to contribute significantly to the work of UNCTs. UNEP is participating in reviews of the capacity assessments in some countries in Africa, but yet to receive focused and agency-specific attention and consideration with respect to initiating internal change management practices in order to better respond to demands of country level engagement as a NRA.

62. UNEP’s preparation for IPSAS and ERP are guided by the time table managed by the UN Secretariat. The Nairobi duty station has initiated an inter-agency working group to prepare agencies headquartered in Nairobi. The agencies headquartered in Nairobi duty station collaborate through an inter-agency working group to provide necessary coordination and support for the implementation of IPSAS and ERP.

Policy Direction: Reduce United Nations overhead and transaction costs for national Governments (see paras. 118 and 120 of the resolution)

63. UNEP has entered into a new Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with UNDP that further enhances UNEP’s country level engagement and simplifies interaction with national stakeholders. To facilitate MoU implementation, common business processes between UNEP and UNDP have been identified and services have been agreed upon.

D. Country-level capacity of the United Nations development system

Policy Direction: United Nations staff to have the skills and expertise for effective management, policy advisory and other capacity development work (see para. 124 of the resolution); and the United Nations to adopt comprehensive policies and strategies for human resources and workforce planning and development and, in this regard, the Secretary-General to report on identifying human resource challenges at the country level (see para. 125 of the resolution)

64. UNEP has developed a concept paper on a demand and supply analysis which will form the foundation for the gap analysis on the human resources capacity of the organization. The results of the analysis is a continuing realignment exercise in the organization, including provision of training and learning opportunities to existing staff, review of skills required for new staff intake and possible separation of staff whose skills cannot be adjusted to the new priorities of the organization.

65. UNEP actively supports the realignment of human resources and upgrades their skill sets in line with country needs and in cases where UNEP is part of the UNCT.

Policy Direction: Intensify efforts related to inter-agency staff mobility, re-profiling and redeployment of staff, as well as training and skills upgrading (see para. 126 of the resolution)

66. UNEP is conducting annual training needs assessments in conjunction with UNON. UNEP makes use of courses offered by OHRM of the UN Secretariat and UNSSC.

67. UNEP has launched its own Pilot Voluntary Rotation Programme for all staff. UNEP will continue to seek to provide other career development opportunities for its staff and will endeavor, among other initiatives, on developing modalities and a formal programme for staff exchange with other UN agencies, programmes and funds.

E. Evaluation of operational activities for development

Policy Direction: Strengthen evaluation activities across the United Nations development system with focus on results (see paras. 132, 138); develop further guidance and oversight mechanisms for assessing UNDAFs (see para. 136); promote a culture of evaluation (see para. 138 of the resolution)

68. UNEP actively participates in the UN Evaluation Group and in this role also plans to participate in any evaluations of UNDAFs. Even in the absence of new UNDAF guidelines UNEP's evaluation approach has focused largely on "results" consistent with its implementation of Results Based Management in the Medium term plan and programmes of work for 2010-20013.

69. Discretionary internal evaluations planned for 2010-2011 encompass the evaluations undertaken by UNEP's Evaluation office. The achievement of results is a prominent feature of the UNEP 2010-2011 Programme of Work (POW). This is to be mirrored by an evaluation approach that has a strong focus on the evaluation of UNEP's performance in achieving such results.

70. The anticipated approach introduces a new level of self-assessments and evaluations that will specifically focus on the contributions made by UNEP to the Expected Accomplishments (EAs) defined in the POW. This forms a part of a systematic evaluation approach where evaluations of projects provide input into Expected Accomplishment evaluations. The Expected Accomplishment evaluations, in turn, provide essential inputs into evaluation of the overall performance and impact of UNEP's subprogrammes. In addition there will be enhanced attention to evaluating the implementation of projects within the POW through the introduction of assessment of the quality of UNEP project supervision.

71. Even though UNEP is not a resident agency at the country level, it has been active in the Inter-Agency working group to manage and conduct evaluability assessments of the Delivering as One UN (DaO) under the auspices of the United Nations Evaluation Group (UNEG). UNEP served on the Management Board for the evaluation and led a team of both UN evaluators and consultants to conduct an evaluability assessment of the DaO in Tanzania.

72. UNEP evaluations are guided by the UNEG Norms and Standards. A key requirement of the Norms and Standards is the Development of an Evaluation Policy. This policy was approved formally in August 2009 and the policy elements which are consistent with the Systems Norms and Standards have been implemented. UNEP has a distinct evaluation function. While located within Executive Management, it is independent of the substantive programmes and has relative independence to conduct evaluations.
