

19829

VOL. 10 - DOC. 14

INAUGURAL MEETING

WCED/84/10

GENEVA, 1-3 OCTOBER, 1984

ITEM 5. OF THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

FUTURE WORK OF THE COMMISSION

W3061B/BL/11.9.84

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PART THREE: DRAFT WORKPLAN AND TIMETABLE

## INTRODUCTION

1. Three major questions are to be addressed by the Commission at its forthcoming Inaugural Meeting :
  - What are the Key Issues that the Commission should address, and from what perspectives should it address them?
  - What Strategy should the Commission employ to marshal the information that it will need, and the intellectual, political and organizational resources that need to be tapped in order to achieve its objectives?
  - How do the answers to these questions translate into a practical Workplan and Timetable that will enable the Commission to achieve its objectives within a reasonable period of time?
2. The Commission had a preliminary discussion of these questions at its Organizational Session and it will wish to take decisions on them at its Inaugural Meeting so that work can proceed. At the same time, it will no doubt wish to keep these questions somewhat open in order to enable modifications and refinements in the light of its future work and in the light of the further views that it will receive from the Intergovernmental Inter-Sessional Preparatory Committee (IIPC) of UNEP, from other United Nations bodies and Specialized Agencies, and from NGO's and others at future meetings of the Commission.

3. The attached paper has been prepared to act as a point of departure for the Commission's discussion, in accordance with the decision of the Organizational Session. Although it is presented in three parts (i.e. Key Issues; Strategy; and Workplan and Timetable), the parts are inter-related and should be considered together.
4. The paper will be revised in light of the Commission's discussion and will be used to guide the work of the Commission and its Secretariat until it is further discussed and revised at future meetings of the Commission.