

ANNEX 2
TO MINUTES OF THE JAKARTA MEETING

SUMMARIES OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

NOTES ON NGO PUBLIC HEARING RESULTS

- Lively & informative debate/discussions with 40-50 representatives of local community groups (farmers, slum dwellers, village headman) & regional and national NGO's (2 locu).
- WCED participation included Singh & Ma Shijun in morning & Brundtland, Salim, MacNeill in afternoon.
- Covered many relevant substantive points & views, & case studies, but will not summarize & instead raise at relevant points in our agenda.

WHAT CAN WCED DO TO ASSIST NGO's ?

- In response to this question, the following points emerged:
 - (1) Tell the Government if you found this meeting useful (Dr. Brundtland did so in her opening speech).
 - (2) Continue to convene similar public hearings (WCED already committed to doing so at future meetings).
 - (3) Emphasize the public right of access to data & information as fundamental.
 - (4) Emphasize strengthening of public & community participation in decision-making as essential & integral part of environmental protection & sustainable development.
 - (5) Help NGO's in struggle with larger & greater forces, particularly multinational corporations, & inappropriate technologies & harmful products, processes, wastes & chemicals.
 - (6) Recommend the re-direction of development assistance away from "things" & back to "people". Emphasize more support to technical training within & outside government, & for community groups & leaders on organizational skills.
 - (7) Recommend more funds to community groups & NGO's ("we often get funds for what others want us to do, but difficult to get funds for what we see needs to be done").
 - (8) Do not just issue a single printed report as traditionally done, but use other forms & means to communicate WCED results.
- Finally, it was a remarkable demonstration of vitality & dedication of Indonesian NGO's, & also of the special relationship & high regard they have for our colleague, Dr. Salim.

SUMMARY NOTES WCED
Public Hearing, Jakarta
March 26, 1985

Government Departments/Professional Associations/
Research Institutes

PUBLIC HEARING

POPULATION

- * Population pressures on resources: the most critical issue of environment and development for Indonesia and South East Asia
 - spatial distribution (i.e. over-concentration in Java - 70% of population in 7% of land area)
 - transmigration policy
 - rural to urban migration - growing cities
 - environment impacts of migration to uplands (dangerous above 500 m)
 - health, nutrition, employment and cultural aspects as important as family planning in population control
 - the correlation between family size and welfare
 - the need to integrate population policies with development planning and socio-economic policies
 - growth rate under current 5 year plan: 2.3% p.a. 1.9. p.a.

ENERGY

- * Major objectives of Indonesian Energy Policy
 - (1) exploration, R & D
 - (2) energy diversification (i.e. reduce dependence on oil)

- (3) energy conservation
- (4) energy indexation (i.e. matching the needs with sources)
 - 80% of population dependent on non-commercial fuelwood
 - however, caution against rushing into alternative energy future through "renewables path"
 - constraints to accelerated development of renewable energy:
 - (1) limited availability of the sources
 - (2) high economic costs

Resource depletion to be taken into account i.e. (the interests of future generations)

* International Economic Relations

- "hard core" economic realities of commodity negotiations (e.g. tin)
- environment objectives in the I.T.T.A.: encouraging signs
- no radical changes in the international economic system advocated: the need to be realistic
- (1) assist in enhancing bargaining powers of LDC's in selecting technologies and investments
- (2) establish international code for technologies with high environment risks
- (3) quest for technologies appropriate for meeting the needs of the masses

* Agriculture

A major objective: optimum production and utilization of natural resources with sound environmental management

- new rice varieties, germ plasm storage, etc.
- minimize the use of pesticides but learn to live with them
- biological control of pests: no visible immediate effects
- land clearance: an international workshop being organized
- ground water depletion (competition demand from urban users)

* Forestry

- 36 out of 81 water catchment areas in critical conditions
 - reafforestation, greening movements
 - soil conservation
 - agro-forestry development
 - extension and demonstration work
- The problem of shifting cultivation: 1 million farmers
 - local transmigration - resettlement in other areas
- Is Indonesia becoming a net importer of forest products?
 - No, but threatened with competition from other IC's

International cooperation with ASEAN and some IC's

* Human Settlements

- spatial distribution problem more acute than in other countries of the region -- 1st to 4th national plans
- locational criteria developed by the national planning agency
- increasing regionalization -- planning regions
 - (-- conflicts arise between administrative provinces)
- 3 elements of urban development strategy
 - (1) growth
 - (2) equity
 - (3) stability
- employment generation, industrial growth can absorb pressure
 - average growth rate in cities -- 3% p.a.
 - Jakarta, Surabaya ----- 6% p.a.
- the problem of what, when, at what cost to implement

* Monitoring and Reporting

- The use of space (satellite remote-sensing) technology has limitations in the tropics e.g. 85% cloud cover
- commercialization of Land-Sat operations: a serious drawback
- application of the technology to marine pollution and ground water resources monitoring needed

* International Cooperation

- UN organizations are increasingly fragmented and even reinforce fragmentation in national entities
- "turning away from international cooperation": untrue -- a role for UN bodies to coordinate more bilateral aid
- past achievements and failures of UN Development Decades need to be re-assessed by the Commission
- uniform mandatory standards vs. flexibility to select local conditions
 - the need for a set of procedures to establish standards, rather than "frozen" rigid standards
- a clear priority to national development over env. protection
 - reverse "ecological basis for development" to "development with sound environmental management"
- the practical problem of anticipatory and preventive policy in economic terms, with short time horizons
- an international PPP?
- the need to classify projects and policies (e.g. new & old)
- behaviour of MNC's and negotiating contracts
- soil erosion also caused by strip mining common in the tropics
- ground subsidence and salt water intrusion in urban areas (e.g. Bangkok: 10 cm p.a.)
 - (long term planning and preventive policy needed)
 - (modelling necessary, too?)
- WCED should make an input to the 4th UN Development Decade
- reappraisal of the value premises operating in UNND's necessary
 - what are the Commission's value premises?
 - (1) interdependence
 - (2) sustainability
 - (3) equity
 - costing the WCED action recommendations?
 - means of raising that money also to be proposed?
 - the question of the war industry and armament: no way the Commission can influence the course of events?

Public hearings with "Eminent Persons".

Summary

March 26th, 1985

Environmental degradation caused by poverty is particularly important in developing countries. It can only be ameliorated or solved through development and a more equitable distribution of income. Hence, development is needed in order to stem and reverse the process of degradation. Development and environment should not be viewed as opposite objectives, but rather as integral to the achievement of harmonious development.

Environmental consideration should not be thought of as a negative. It should not only be thought of as prohibitionsⁱⁿ but as positive action to ensure the goal of sustainable development. In the midst of poverty and inequity development can improve the environment.

"Cultural pollution" may be caused by a tendency of developing countries to adopt rather uncritically the ways of northern industrial societies causing cultural and social dislocations. There is a need for an ethical approach to development. The idea of harmony in Asian culture must be preserved. Such harmony should be preserved in the relation between man and man, man and society and society and nature.

Education is needed in order to create awareness of the environmental perspective. Particular emphasis must be put on the education of the young. Women are very important as teachers in this connection, they can transmit the cultural heritage to the next generation. It is important also to train leaders who will shape policy and manage operations in a responsible manner. Finally, the importance of the informal sector was stressed as a means of ensuring the participation of civil society in the shaping of national development. NGO's form an important part of the informal sector.

Developing societies face a need for planning, but confront the reality that economic science does not provide the tools and instruments which are needed to deal with the broad problems of creating sustainable development. Neither Karl Marx nor Adam Smith provide sufficient guidance.

The basic problem of Indonesian development is poverty, backwardness and ignorance. Technology and science are important instruments for removing the obstacles to sustainable development. In choosing appropriate technology particular attention must be paid to the need to create employment. Indonesia needs to develop a high technology base as well as simple technologies which are relevant to development in primitive rural areas.