
THE WORLD COMMISSION
ON
ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

MINUTES OF THE SECOND MEETING

25 - 31 MARCH 1985

JAKARTA, INDONESIA

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I. Introduction

1. The Second Meeting of the World Commission on Environment and Development was held at the Borobudur Hotel, Jakarta, Indonesia from 25 - 31 March, 1985.
2. The Second Meeting was attended by 14 Members of the Commission. The list of participants is attached to these Minutes as Annex 1.

II. Site Visits and Public Hearings

3. To permit the Commissioners to have a first-hand view of some of the environmental problems facing Indonesia and to permit representatives of the Indonesian government, NGO's and interested individuals to have the opportunity of expressing their views to the Commission on the Key Issues it is addressing , two and one half days of site visits and one full day of public hearings were organized in Indonesia in conjunction with the Second Meeting.

III. Opening Session of the Second Meeting

6. The Opening Session of the Second Meeting was held at the Presidential Palace on the morning of Wednesday, 27 March, 1985 in the presence of H.E. President Soeharto, President of the Republic of Indonesia, H.E. Umar Wirahadikusuma, Vice-President of the Republic of Indonesia and an audience of invited guests, including representatives from the diplomatic community, government ministries and departments and the press. The Opening Session was begun with an address by H.E. Emil Salim, the State Minister for Population and the Environment of Indonesia. Addresses were then given by Mrs. Gro Harlem Brundtland and H.E. President Soeharto.
7. The statements delivered at the Opening Session by Mrs. Brundtland and H.E. President Soeharto are attached as Annex 3.

IV. Opening of the Meeting and Adoption of the Agenda

8. The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming Mr. William Ruckelshaus and Academician Vladimir Sokolov each of whom was attending his first meeting of the Commission and informing the Commissioners of the appointment of H.E. Lamine Fadika, the Minister of Marine Affairs of the Ivory Coast as a Commissioner. She reported that unfortunately it was not possible for Mr. Fadika to be in attendance at the meeting.

9. The Agenda for the Second Meeting was adopted as set out in Annex 4 to these Minutes.

V. Key Issues - First Discussion

Population, Environment and Sustainable Development

10. At the request of the Chairman, the Secretary General introduced the paper on Population, Environment and Sustainable Development (WCED/85/2)(Annex 5), noting in doing so that at this meeting the Commission would be having its first substantive discussions on the Key Issues and that he had therefore used three models in preparing the papers for the meeting, i.e., a Secretariat prepared paper on Population, an issue paper prepared by an outside consultant on Science and Technology and general background papers on Multinational Investment and the Environment. This model he felt would allow the Commission to give guidance to the Secretariat on the type of papers it wished to have prepared for its consideration at future meetings.
11. In introducing the discussion on the population paper, the Secretary General noted that the population issue was one of fundamental importance to the Commission and that the paper presented to it was designed to provide a framework for an initial discussion by the Commission to help situate the population issue within the interrelated issues of resources, carrying capacity, environment and development. Situating population within the context of these broader issues, he remarked, was the real challenge before the Commission.

12. In the discussion on the population paper itself it was stressed that papers submitted to the Commission by the Secretariat should be prepared as policy options papers designed to stimulate discussion within the Commission on the issue and facilitate the identification of ultimate recommendations. It was also noted that it would be helpful to have the Secretariat make available to the Commission by way of background information the technical papers which formed the basis of the policy options.

13. In considering the issues raised in the paper, it was strongly felt that development was at the heart of the population problem and that population must be addressed and considered in the overall context of the process of development since inequity and lack of development, which leads to poverty, are the major causes of high population growth. Hence, it was noted that the solution to the problem lies in the realm of economic development. The need to consider differences in development styles and the qualitative as well as the quantitative aspects of the population issue and to analyze national and regional differences in demographic dynamics were also stressed. Finally, in summing up the discussion on population, the Chairman noted that there are indeed finite limits to the earth's capacity to support life and that the Commission must be bold enough to sound the proper alarm about population growth, but that it must do so in a concrete manner and in a sufficiently broad context.

Science, Technology, Environment and Development

14. In calling upon the Secretary General to introduce the paper on Science, Technology, Environment and Development (WCED/85/3)(Annex 6), the Chairman noted that science and technology like population cuts across many of the Key Issues to be addressed by the Commission and that although in itself it is neutral it does affect social organization and the natural environment and causes social and cultural change.
15. In introducing the paper the Secretary General briefly summarized the major points discussed in it and recorded his agreement with its main message, i.e., that it was possible to manage the negative side-effects of science and technology and to make use of its potentials to enhance both the natural environment and economic development.
16. In the discussion which followed it was stressed that environment can no longer be considered as a free commodity and that economic incentives must be devised to encourage the development of environmentally sound technologies. In addition, it was noted that the gap in science and technology between the developed and the developing countries represents the greatest duality in the environment and development problematique and that current and projected technological developments in the developed world may very well broaden that gap. How to overcome that gap, it was remarked, was a challenge which the Commission had to face. Indeed, it was noted

that current technological imbalances between developed and developing countries could lead to a form of "technological colonialism". It was also suggested that the labour-saving impact of modern technology developed by the industrial countries may very well be inappropriate to the structure of incentives and priorities in the developing world since a primary obstacle to sustainable development in the third world is poverty and poverty in turn is fuelled by unemployment.

17. The effects of science and technology on social and cultural relationships was also discussed and the Chairman noted the Commission's agreement to be attentive to their impact on the harmonies of third world societies when developing its recommendations. In this regard she stressed that developing countries must be encouraged to avoid some of the mistakes made by the developed countries and strive to adopt science and technology which is resource, culture, environment and development sensitive. To accomplish this task it was noted that developing countries need to establish their own indigenous scientific and technological infrastructures in order to generate technologies appropriate to the task of furthering sustainable development in their particular social and cultural settings. The importance of education in this connection was underlined. Finally, the necessity of developing mechanisms for the transfer of science and technology into the public domain was recognized and it was recommended that the Commission give thought to possible international institutional arrangements for accomplishing this.

18. In concluding the discussion on this item, some of the major concerns and policy considerations which need to be addressed in further discussions on the issue of science and technology were enumerated (i.e., how can the introduction of science and technology in the developing countries be made to be in the service of development, how is technology chosen by those countries, what are the constraints on those choices and how is environment to be included in the pricing component of economics). It was also agreed that the Secretariat would prepare a further paper or papers on this issue for consideration by the Commission at its meeting in Oslo.

International Economic Relations and Environment

19. The Secretary General introduced the papers on Multinational Investment, Environment and Development (WCED/85/4 and WCED/85/4 Add.1) (Annex 7*) noting that the Commission had to date only briefly discussed the issue of international economic relations and the environment but that judging from the responses that have been received on the Mandate paper and discussions with senior government officials and others there was a great deal of interest in the questions embraced by

*Only the two papers submitted to the Commission on the Lessons of Bhopal have been included in this Annex. The remaining three papers on Multi-national Investment and the Environment by UNTCT, Prof..Gladwin, and WRI have not been included.

international economic relations and the environment. He observed that international economic relations and the environment was a neglected policy field and offered as an explanation for this the fact that few governments have built up an institutional capacity to look at this question. In the introductory remarks on this item four principle policy areas were suggested for consideration by the Commission: trade, multilateral and bilateral development assistance, multinational investment conditions and the promotion of an international polluter pays principle. The Commission was also advised of the appointment of Gamani Corea, former Secretary General of UNCTAD, as a Special Advisor to the Commission on Trade. In concluding his remarks, the Secretary General noted that many of the issues subsumed under the topic of international economic relations and the environment had been given a high profile recently by the tragedy of Bhopal and that two papers had therefore been prepared on that subject to serve as a point of departure for the Commission's discussion.

20. In its general discussion on international economic relations the Commission recorded its grave concern about the current crisis in the world's economic system. It was noted that there is no longer a consensus that international cooperation is desirable and yet international cooperation is essential for economic and social development. Indeed, it was felt that without the development of agreed and workable international guidelines in environment and development policy "a new era of colonialism" could be expected. Environment and development, it was observed,

constitute powerful reasons for returning to multilateralism in the conduct of international economic relations and there was general agreement that the challenge before the Commission was to convince the world of the necessity to return to multilateralism and to forcefully argue the case that sound environment policy is sound economic policy. In concluding the general discussion on international economic relations, the Chairman observed that there were differing views on what could be expected to be accomplished under present circumstances. Nevertheless, she noted that the Commission must endeavour to agree on principles and guidelines which will launch international economic relations in the direction of needed reform.

21. As a prelude to the Commission's discussion on the issues raised by the Bhopal tragedy, Judge Nagendra Singh made a presentation to the Commission on the principles of international law applicable to the incident, reviewing in detail the legal questions involved and the remedial actions they illustrated. In concluding his presentation, Judge Singh undertook to prepare a paper for the Commission on the legal questions raised by the Bhopal incident.
22. In the Commission's general discussion on the Bhopal tragedy, it was noted that this incident was caused by failures and neglect on all fronts, the transnational involved, the home country, the host country and the international system. Nevertheless, it illustrated that the introduction of technology into the developing world brings dangers and international responsibility. In the discussion it was stressed that to avoid a repetition of similar incidents it will be

necessary to institute international standards for the manufacture and export of dangerous chemicals and to develop institutional capacities in the developing world to evaluate the environmental risks of the manufacture of dangerous chemicals. In this connection, it was suggested that plants for the manufacture of dangerous chemicals should only be allowed to be exported under a licence which includes the obligation of an international body to inspect. In concluding the discussion on this point the Chairman remarked that the Bhopal incident underscored the necessity for concerted international action to increase the institutional capacity of the developing countries to evaluate, understand and utilize new and dangerous technology.

VI. Proposed Work Programmes for Energy, Industry, Food Security-Agriculture-Forestry, Human Settlements, Decision Support Systems and International Co-operation

23. At the request of the Chairman, the Secretary General introduced this item pointing out to the Commission that in furtherance of the strategy adopted by it at the Inaugural Meeting, the Secretariat had expended considerable effort since that meeting in identifying the major questions to be addressed in each of the Key Issue areas, and developing proposed workplans and co-ordinated schedules for tackling them. The results of that effort, he noted, were the draft programmes of work for six of the Key Issues areas which were before the Commission for its review and approval. (WCED/85/5-10)(Annex 8). In introducing the work programmes he reminded the Commission of its agreement to constitute advisory panels for certain of the Key Issue areas and reported that

the constitution of those panels was progressing with the panel on Food Security having been constituted and panels being appointed for the key issue areas of Industry, Energy, Human Settlements and Decision Support Systems. Dr. Swaminathan, he advised, had been appointed as Chairman of the Food Security panel and Enrique Iglesias had been asked to chair the Energy Panel.

24. The Secretary General next gave a brief resume of the principal elements of each of the six work programmes. The discussion which followed his introductory remarks confirmed the Commission's agreement to combine the key issues of Food Security Agriculture and Environment and Forestry and the Environment into one new issue "Food Security, Agriculture, Forestry and Environment" and its approval of the work programmes as presented, it being noted, however, that:

(i) the work programmes were indeed broad in their scope and that priorities in regard to the work to be performed under each would need to be established either by the Secretariat or the Advisory Panels ;

(ii) the management of marine resources, the effects of food subsidies and the possibility of the creation of an International Food Bank should be included as matters for consideration within the work programme on Food Security;

(iii) consideration by the Commission in regard to questions of necessary changes or alterations in existing international institutional arrangements should be delayed until a late stage in the Commission's work so as to allow the results of the analysis conducted in other key

issues areas to be brought forward for its consideration before it frames its recommendations. (In this connection it was suggested that the views of Maurice Strong were of particular importance and it was suggested that perhaps an evening meeting could be arranged in Oslo with his participation for an informal consultation on the question of needed changes in institutional arrangements);

(iv) efforts should continue to ensure the co-operation and involvement of institutions and individuals from Eastern Europe and the developing countries in the work programmes;

(v) the process of work instituted by the Secretariat should address issues which are considered critical by Commissioners and should be designed to ensure that those issues are brought before the Commission for its consideration at an early stage in its deliberations; and

(vi) any further suggestions or observations which Commissioners might have on the work programmes should be communicated directly to the Secretary General.

VII. Information Strategy of the Commission

25. The Secretary General introduced the paper on this item (WCED/85/11) (Annex 9) by highlighting for the Commission the principle points covered in it, most notably the priority audiences to be addressed by the Commission, the proposed methods of communicating with them and the Secretariat's preliminary proposals for the Commission's final report.

26. In the discussion which followed, the Commission recorded its agreement with the principle elements of the Information Strategy noting that it contained all of the components necessary for effective dissemination of information about the Commission and communication with its priority audiences. In considering the Secretariat's suggestions for the Commission's final report, the Chairman requested that a separate and more detailed paper on the preliminary outline and format of the final report be prepared by the Secretariat and presented to the Commission for its consideration in Oslo. It was also recommended that Commissioners be utilized during their travels to meet with government officials, NGO's and the press and that they identify scientific and other learned journals to which articles could be submitted by them for publication. The Commission also requested the Secretary General to arrange to have private discussions with the heads of key international organizations and agencies about the work of the Commission to obtain their candid views on issues of common concern.
27. In summing up the discussion, the Chairman noted that in conducting its work the Commission should pay particular attention to developing and maintaining close relations and co-operation with NGO's, that it should consider methods for facilitating an exchange of views between NGO's, scientific institutes and international organizations and agencies, perhaps through the public hearings and that it should find appropriate ways for including youth in its process of global consultations. Finally, it was suggested that a strategy be developed for the process of releasing and presenting the

Commission's final report and building support for its recommendations during the period from the Spring to the Fall of 1987 and it was agreed that the Secretariat should also prepare a paper on this point for consideration by the Commission at the Oslo meeting.

VIII. Discussions with Invited Guests

28. To provide the Commission with the continuing opportunity to receive the views and advice of leading international organizations and agencies on the key issues to be addressed by it in the course of its work, Mr. M.S. Kibria, Executive Secretary of ESCAP and Dr. Arcot Ramachandran, Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) were invited to attend the Second Meeting and to submit papers to the Commission for its prior review. In addition, to continue the open dialogue which has been established between the Commission and the Inter-governmental Intersessional Preparatory Committee of UNEP, H.E. K.K.S. Rana, Chairman of the IIPC was invited to meet with the Commission to discuss the relationship between the Commission and the IIPC and to hear the Commission's reactions to the IIPC's paper, "Expectations of the Governing Council for Consideration by the World Commission on Environment and Development".
29. Mr. Kibria and Dr. Ramachandran both submitted papers to the Commission for its review (copies of which are attached as Annex 10) and Dr. Ramachandran and H.E. K.K.S. Rana appeared in person before the Commission.

Discussion with H.E. K.K.S. Rana of the IIPC

30. The Chairman welcomed Dr. Rana and expressed the Commission's pleasure at his being able to attend the meeting on behalf of the IIPC. After expressing his appreciation for the Commission according the IIPC the opportunity to meet and discuss with the Commission, Dr. Rana read a statement to the Commission (Annex 11 to these Minutes) in which he called attention to UN General Assembly resolution 38/161 and the guidelines it contains regarding interaction between the IIPC and the Commission. Dr. Rana also remarked that close dialogue had been established between the IIPC and the Commission, citing the two meetings which had taken place between the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Commission and the IIPC, and the submission to the Commission by the IIPC of its paper entitled "Expectations of the Governing Council for Consideration by the World Commission on Environment and Development". Referring to the "Expectations Paper", Dr. Rana highlighted four points which, in his personal view, merited the Commission's attention :

- a) Environmental and development strategies for the future;
- b) International cooperation for environmental management and development;
- c) Population growth and distribution as a major factor in determining environmental quality; and

d) The need to highlight and analyze successful experiences which illustrate the successful integration of sectoral interest, both at the macro and micro level.

31. Following the presentation of his statement, Dr. Rana placed three additional points before the Commission:

. Firstly, he undertook to request the member governments of UNEP's Governing Council at its forthcoming meeting in May 1985, to provide their views and comments on the Commission's "Mandate and Key Issue" document.

. Secondly, he noted that while the Commission's independence was without question, and that it was free to prepare its own report and frame its own conclusions, the Commission's findings would also be an input to, and base material for, a Global Perspective report to be prepared by UNEP and submitted to the General Assembly in the fall of 1987. In that regard, Dr. Rana sought clarification from the Commission on the modalities of information and document sharing between the Commission and the IIPC.

. Thirdly, Dr. Rana called the Commission's attention to the timing of the preparation of its report, noting that if, as called for by General Assembly resolution 38/161, it was to be submitted to UNEP's Governing Council at its regular session in May of 1987, it would need to be ready far in advance of that date in order to permit its translation into the UN official languages.

32. In the discussion which followed Dr. Rana's statement and remarks, the Chairman also expressed her pleasure at the open dialogue which has been established and maintained between the IIPC and the Commission, and expressed her appreciation to the IIPC for the "Expectations Paper", noting that substantially all of the points raised in that paper had in fact been embodied in the strategy and workplan of the Commission. She also welcomed Dr. Rana's offer to seek the views and comments of the member countries of UNEP's Governing Council on the Commission's "Mandate and Key Issue" document.
33. In considering Dr. Rana's second point on the modalities of information and document sharing between the Commission and the IIPC, it was stressed that consultations between the Commission and the IIPC along the lines of those already in process should continue during the period up to the completion of the Commission's final report. It was agreed, however, that any decision on releasing a document or report submitted to and/or considered by the Commission would be taken on a case-by-case basis by the Commission itself. It was strongly felt that the Commission as a body should decide at which stage it was possible and wise to release documents and reports outside the Commission. In summarising the discussion on this point, the Chairman noted that informal consultations between the IIPC and the Commission would continue and that it was indeed possible that the Commission, at various stages in the conduct of its work, could consider it appropriate for certain documents and reports to be released to the IIPC.

34. The practical difficulties associated with the timing of the issuance of the Commission's final report were discussed and it was agreed that further discussions would take place between the Commission's secretariat and the IIPC in an attempt to overcome these difficulties.

Discussion with Dr. Arcot Ramachandran, Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)

35. The Chairman welcomed Dr. Ramachandran and expressed the Commission's pleasure that he was personally able to attend its Second Meeting. Dr. Ramachandran thanked the Commission for the invitation to personally meet with it and delivered a short address (attached as Annex 11) in which he reiterated the crucial theme of the paper submitted by him in advance of the meeting, i.e., that the failure of environmental programmes is directly attributable to the fact that environment and development are still seen as two separate, even conflicting, issues. To overcome that misconception Dr. Ramachandran suggested that it was essential for macro-economists to introduce environmental management activities into their thinking and to develop techniques to match environmental factors with other economic variables. He observed that these techniques could be developed by viewing environmental issues in a human settlements context.
36. In his remarks, Dr. Ramachandran also observed that until now environmental problems have been handled with crisis-management techniques but that what is important from this point on is for

decision makers and planners to look at environment as part of an holistic system and plan for it in conjunction with all other development activities. To do this, in Dr. Ramachandran's view, will require (i) the building up of national-level capabilities to measure environmental considerations and evaluate environmental components of development decisions and (ii) changes in the educational process of future technocrats who will control the machinery of development planning. Dr. Ramachandran concluded his remarks by asking the Commission for its view on the theory recently expressed by Jane Jacobs that "cities" and not national economies provide the fundamental data for macro-economic analysis and are the real creator and measure of economic vitality.

37. In the discussions which followed Dr. Ramachandran's remarks it was noted that the trend to mega cities would continue, that virtually all of the growth of mega cities would occur in the developing countries and that as long as governments continue to utilize investment policies which create new jobs in cities people will continue to migrate to them. It was therefore suggested that planning and investment policies be diversified so as to encourage the development of intermediate cities. In this regard, the results of a study conducted in Canada in the early 70's were mentioned which showed a direct correlation between growth in the size of urban areas and increases in per capita GNP illustrating that the process of urbanization

enhances economic development. It was noted , however, that equivalent data and studies were not available for developing country urban areas and it may very well be that the results of the Canadian study are not relevant to developing countries.

38. In responding to Dr. Ramachandran's remark that environmental considerations, in general, and human settlement issues, in particular, need to be integrated into international economic relations and policy planning, it was stressed that governments by their very nature are required to think in the short term and that solutions for environment and development problems will not be found until this situation is changed.

International organizations and bodies like the Commission, it was remarked, have a major role to play in convincing governments and peoples of the necessity of long term thinking.

39. In the discussion, Dr. Ramachandran pointed out that within the next fifteen years, more than fifty percent of the population of the developing world will live in urban areas. The problem, therefore, was how to manage mega cities so as to assure that money generated by them is utilized to provide reliability of services and a healthy environment to their inhabitants. Finally, it was noted that there was a significant qualitative difference between mega cities in the developed world and those of the developing world and that as a result of the pace of development in the third world coupled with explosive population dynamics the options available to developing countries for the construction of basic services in existing cities or the creation of intermediate cities were extremely limited. Looking to the end

of the century and beyond, it is, therefore, extremely important that domestic policy and international cooperation be harnessed to make development possible in the third world.

IX. Secretary General's Report and Report on Public Hearings
Secretary General's Report

40. At the Chairman's request, the Secretary General introduced his report (WCED/85/CRD 1) (Annex 12) and briefly described the main areas of activity of the Secretariat since the Inaugural Meeting, including:

(i) Meetings and consultations - which had included meetings with ministers and senior officials of 15 governments, consultations with representatives of inter-governmental organizations (including 11 UN agencies, the IIPC the IPU), the World Bank, OECD and the Commonwealth Secretariat, and contacts and consultations with non-governmental organizations, including correspondence with several hundred NGO's on the Commission's Mandate paper, attendance by the Chairman at the IUCN General Assembly in Madrid and the WICEM conference in Paris, attendance by Mr. Maurice Strong on behalf of the Commission at the ELC Global Conference in Nairobi and participation by the Secretary General in a meeting of the "Geneva Group";

(ii) Response to and Revision of the Mandate Report - which had been very diverse and expressed clear satisfaction that the Commission had decided to move beyond the standard agenda and adopt an alternative and challenging agenda that opened up new possibilities for tackling the complex problems of environment and sustainable

development. (It was also suggested that the Mandate paper should be revised following the Oslo Meeting by which time the responses to it would be more geographically balanced);

(iii) Programme Planning - which had been progressing well and had resulted in the identification of the major questions to be addressed in respect of each of the Key Issues and the development of proposed workplans and co-ordinated time schedules for each of them (other than International Economic Relations and the Environment, which first needed a general discussion by the Commission);

(iv) Advisory Panels - which he reported had been constituted for Food Security, Agriculture, Forestry and Environment and were being constituted for Energy Environment and Development, Industry and Sustainable Development, Human Settlements and the Environment and Decision Support Systems for Environmental Management;

(v) Scientific State-of-the-Art Assessment Reports - the compilation of which he reported had proved more difficult than anticipated and therefore had necessitated the Secretariat taking up offers of co-operation with certain bodies (including among others) SCOPE and IFIAS. to identify reports that represent a good assessment of the current state of knowledge;

(vi) Co-operative Arrangements with Institutions - which were being negotiated and confirmed, including ones with WRI, IIED, AIT and CETESB;

(vii) Staffing - which was proceeding with the appointment of six additional professional staff members and several Special Advisors since the Inaugural Meeting;

(viii) Fund Raising - which had reached almost 50% of the Commission's targeted budget with over US\$3.35 million having been pledged by 15 governments;

(ix) Future Schedule of Meetings - which on further consideration, would entail holding seven meetings between Jakarta and the adoption of the final report, necessitating an additional meeting in January 1986 and the final meeting early in 1987.

41. In the discussion that followed it was remarked that the work done by the Secretariat was commendable and particular mention was made of the broad spectrum of individuals selected for the Advisory Panels and the Secretariat staff. Hope was expressed that such a policy of selection would continue in the selection of members for the remaining Advisory Panels. In addition, it was suggested that Mr. Maurice Strong's suggestion of a special Commission hearing in Africa on the African Crisis be pursued with a view to holding it, if possible, in Addis Abbaba in conjunction with the African Summit to held in July, 1985.

Report on Public Hearings

42. At the request of the Chairman, each of the Commissioners who had chaired a session of the public hearings on Tuesday, March 26, gave a report on his session (Summary Notes of each session are attached as Annex 3). In the discussion which followed those reports several important points emerged which are of relevance to the Commission's future work:

(i) Public hearings are important for the work of the Commission and should continue to form an integral part of the Commission's work programme;

(ii) Common people clearly understand the problems of environment and development and have organized themselves to bring pressure on governments to address the issues;

(iii) The functional sectoralization of the UN specialized agencies both reflects and perpetuates the fragmentation of power and administration in nation states;

(iv) Environmental policy requires an integrated view and co-ordination across sectoral policy areas and this fact must be reflected in the work of the Commission on international co-operation and institutions;

(v) The Commission must recognize the lack of scientific consensus and certainty in many areas of environmental concern and not assume certainty where uncertainty prevails;

(vi) NGO's are important communicators and linkages in an international infrastructure which must be strengthened;

(vii) Co-operation at the sub-regional level seems to be developing successfully in many areas - including that of environment - possibly because the issues can be treated more concretely and concertedly in such contexts.

X. Budgetary and Financial Matters

43. The Chairman requested the Vice Chairman, as head of the Commission's Finance Committee, to introduce the paper on Budgetary and Financial Matters (WCED/85/12)(Annex 13). In introducing the paper, the Vice Chairman gave a brief explanation of each of the financial tables and schedules attached to it and noted in doing so that the Commission's expenditure through the end of February, 1985 was under budget. He also called the Commission's attention to the information contained in the papers on Hunzinger Associates, S.A., an independent firm of accountants which had been proposed by the Secretariat for appointment as the Commission's auditors. The Vice Chairman then reported on the activities of the Finance Committee and the results of its fundraising efforts noting that it had had three meetings since its formation in October, 1984 and that it had made significant progress in the implementation of its agreed strategy to approach all member countries of the United Nations for financial support.

44. In the discussion on financial matters, the Secretary General called the Commission's attention to Annex 6 to the paper on Budgetary and Financial Matters which showed that since its inception approximately \$1.3 million of support had been received by the Commission, that another \$2 million of support had been pledged but not received and that an additional \$3 million of support had been requested but neither pledged nor received. He also advised that support was being sought for the Commission's work from private foundations and that he was already in communication with two foundations in the United States. In that regard, it was suggested that Commissioners could be of assistance in approaching foundations in their own countries and the Secretary General noted that he would appreciate their assistance
45. The Commission confirmed the appointment of Hunzinger Associates S.A. as auditors to the Commission.

XI. Future Meetings and Other Business

Future Meetings

46. The Chairman gave a brief description of the proposed arrangements for the Commission's next meeting on June 21-28 in Oslo noting that two of the principle issues to be discussed at the meeting will be acid rain and hazardous waste and

that the meeting will include site visits preceding the meeting, two days of public hearings (involving NGO's, international organizations and agencies, the Nordic Council and Nordic institutes) immediately following the opening session and a special outing on mid-summer night, Sunday, June 23. The three days of official meetings will be held on June 26, 27 and 28.

47. In considering the schedule of future meetings it was noted that the work of the Commission suffers from the lack of attendance of Commissioners and it was suggested that the Chairman communicate with members of the Commission to impress upon them the importance of their attendance at all meetings. As regards the next two meetings of the Commission, it was agreed that the Secretariat should canvas all members of the Commission to determine which weeks in October, 1985 and January, 1986 are most suitable for holding those meetings.

Other Business

48. It was proposed and agreed that immediately following the close of the meeting, the Chairman send a cable to President Soeharto thanking him for the hospitality of the Indonesian government in hosting the meeting of the Commission.

49. In concluding the meeting, the Chairman expressed her appreciation to the Commissioners for their patience and contributions during the meeting, to the Secretariat for their work in preparing the documents for the meeting and finally to Dr. Salim, his staff and the government of Indonesia for their hospitality and their assistance in planning the meeting.

W.H. Lindner
Secretary