



EARTH CHARTER INITIATIVE

GLOBAL REPORT ON THE PREPARATORY PROCESS FOR WSSD AND THE EARTH CHARTER

In the context of the preparatory process towards the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg 2002), which started about a year and half before the Summit itself, a number of documents and reports have been produced (in the governmental and non-governmental process) as a result of gatherings, forums, meetings and activities, aimed at contributing to the Summit.

Over the year that preceded the Johannesburg Summit, the Earth Charter International Secretariat approached a significant number of government officials from all regions drawing their attention to the Earth Charter and requesting them to consider using the Earth Charter, endorsing it or simply expressing their support to the vision of the Earth Charter. The Secretariat received clear feedback from the governments of Niger, Costa Rica, Honduras and Romania on their endorsement of the Earth Charter. In addition, many different expressions of support were received.

The organization of this document reflects the framework of the WSSD preparatory process. It lists events that had a particular focus on the Earth Charter, and includes a compilation of statements in which the Earth Charter is specifically mentioned or in which there is a reference to the need for a common ethical framework for Sustainable Development. The Report is divided into four sections.

1. Prepcoms (i.e. the official UN intergovernmental preparatory meetings)
2. Independent events contributing to the UN WSSD process
3. Specific references to the Earth Charter in documents generated by the preparatory process.
4. Other references to a common ethical framework of values and principles for sustainability and related ideas.

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A- Earth Charter in the PrepComs

1. PrepCom IV – June 2002, Bali, Indonesia

Chairman's summary of the Prepcom IV

Point 4 regarding the Plan of Implementation: *“several ministers reaffirmed support for the values and principles contained in the Earth Charter”*

Point 27 in connection with the Political Declaration: *“many called for inclusion of language that would reaffirm the Earth Charter as an ethical basis for sustainable development”*.

More on Prepcom IV can be found on www.iisd.ca/linkages/2002/pc4/enbots/

7 June – Final Plenary Session

During the final plenary session in Bali when governments were addressing the theme “Elements for Political Declaration”, several government representatives recommended that the Earth Charter be reflected in the Johannesburg declaration as an important contribution towards a global ethic for sustainability. The State Secretary of Environment from Romania made a strong reference to the significance of the Earth Charter and expressed his government's full support. Romania recommended that the Summit's Political Declaration address the concern on the need for a global ethical framework for sustainability and consider the Earth Charter as an important instrument towards this end. The Minister of Environment of Indonesia supported Romania's proposal and recommended the Political Declaration to acknowledge the Earth Charter as a global ethical framework for the implementation of sustainable development.

This was then supported by The Philippines, Costa Rica, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama and Kuwait. On the previous day, the distinguished representatives from Italy and Niger had mentioned their support and use of the Earth Charter as well as their recommendation for other member states to consider utilizing the Charter. Several other governments, such as Belgium, Rwanda and Colombia, expressed the importance of the need to have a common ethical framework reflected in the Political Declaration. As a result, the first draft of the Political Declaration, has a reference to the Earth Charter.

3 and 6 June – Earth Charter official Side Events as part of the UN Conference

Two side events during PrepCom IV were held to raise awareness and support to the Earth Charter. The first one, held on 3 June, was chaired by Cielito Habito, former Minister of State of The Philippines. Participants included Minister Jan Pronk, from Holland, Kamla Chowdhry, Earth Charter Commissioner from India and Alvaro Umaña, from UNDP.

The second side event was chaired by the Nabel Makarim, Indonesian State Minister for Environment. Minister Jan Pronk, Minister of Colombia Juan Myur, Maurice Strong, chairman of the Earth Council Foundation, and Her Royal Highness Princess Basma Bint Talal of Jordan participated in this event.

2 June – Earth Charter Cultural Event and Exhibition

Over 1,000 people attended the "Earth Charter Cultural Festival" held at the Candra Loka Amphitheatre in Nusa Dua on the evening of June 2, which was sponsored and organized by Soka Indonesia and Soka Gakkai International (SGI) in cooperation with the Earth Council and Indonesian NGO Kehati.

1 and 2-June 2002 – Earth Charter Activists Working Session

A reunion of Earth Charter focal points took place with the aim of sharing perspectives and concerns regarding possible outcomes for the Earth Charter at the Johannesburg Summit, as well as to share their experiences in working with the Earth Charter in different parts of the world. Many of the participants were then engaged in bringing the Earth Charter to the attention of many other governments and NGOs present in Bali.

2. PrepCom III – April 2002 – New York, USA

1 April 2002 – Earth Charter/Earth Council Side Event on Deepening and broadening participation in sustainable development.

Erna Witoelar, Indonesian National Director for WSSD Prepcom IV, described the Indonesian National Council for Sustainable Development's (NCSD) experiences with creating a multisectoral process under conditions of political crisis. She stressed that political realities can support or ruin sustainable development, and underscored the need for an ethical framework such as the Earth Charter. Alvaro Umaña, UNDP, said that local involvement is central to UNDP's work. He highlighted UNDP's successful local development programs and said a new Capacity 2015 program would soon be launched. He underscored that much can be accomplished with minimal resources at the local level, and urged the development of governance participation mechanisms. For more see: www.iisd.ca/linkages/2002/pc3/enbots/April01.html

3. PrepCom II – January 2002 – New York, USA

29 January 2002 – Earth Charter Briefing Session

Official Side Event that took place at the UN Headquarters. Presenters included: Prof. Wangari Maathai, President of the Green Belt Movement, Kenya; Prof. Steven C. Rockefeller, Earth Charter Commissioner, USA; Dr. Kamla Chowdhry, Earth Charter Commissioner, India; Ms. Yolanda Kakabadse, President of IUCN – World Conservation Union, Ecuador; Waldaba Stewart, NGO Southern Caucus; Moderator: Amb. Mohamed Sahnoun, Algeria.

This session provided an overview on the Earth Charter and considered the relevance of its widely shared vision of fundamental values to the World Summit on Sustainable Development. Each participant presented an in-depth vision with different perspectives on the Earth Charter.

4. Other actions undertaken during the preparatory process

Briefing with the UN Missions

In between these PrepComs, delegates from many countries were approached in order to present them the Earth Charter vision. During PrepCom III, an Earth Charter Briefing session took place at the Dutch Mission to the UN in New York with the participation of the Dutch, the Swedish and the Japanese Delegations, Steven Rockefeller and Mirian Vilela.

Appeal letter sent to Ministers of Environment

In May 2002, Mr. Jan Pronk, UN Special Envoy to WSSD from The Netherlands, sent a letter to all Ministers of Environment drawing their attention to the Earth Charter and requesting their consideration for utilizing the Charter, as well as supporting it towards recognition in WSSD.

B- Independent events contributing to the UN process

1. Earth Dialogues – February 2002 – Lyon, France

The Earth Dialogues addressed the question “Globalization and Sustainable Development: Is Ethics the Missing Link?” and welcomed the Earth Charter as a peoples’ document providing an ethical framework equally applicable to guiding the choices of individuals, companies and states. This forum recommended the use of the Earth Charter as an educational tool at all levels and agreed that the Charter provides the ethical basis necessary to support a sustainable development agenda and must be promoted as a guide for negotiations at the WSSD and beyond. The Forum convened by Mikhail Gorbachev and Maurice Strong brought together over 1000 participants. The full synthesis report is available at www.earthdialogues.org

2. Asia Pacific Earth Charter Conference – Nov. 2001 – Australia

More than 300 delegates from sixteen Asia-Pacific countries gathered in Brisbane between November 29 and December 2, 2001. The Forum issued the Brisbane Declaration. Which states in its first point:

“The governments of the Asia Pacific Region are urged to endorse the Earth Charter as an ethical framework for a more sustainable way of living, and to actively support its endorsement at the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg, 2002.”

3. Arab Regional Meeting on the Earth Charter – Nov. 2001 – Amman, Jordan

Under the leadership of Her Royal Highness Princess Basma Bint Talal a national discussion was launched as well as an Arab regional meeting to introduce the Earth Charter Principles. The purpose of both gatherings was to carry on discussing, disseminating, and endorsing the principles of the Earth Charter. The ultimate goal was to receive an endorsement of the Charter from many key leaders in the region to prepare for the World Summit on Sustainable Development to be held in South Africa in 2002 (RIO +10).

All the participants gave their support to the Earth Charter document and *“encouraged all Arab governments and all organisations in different Arab countries to adopt the Earth Charter document and implement its values and principles”*.

4. Southern NGO Summit - The Algiers Declaration

During the Southern NGO Summit Towards Johannesburg and Beyond held in Algiers, Algeria, on March 16th and 17th, was adopted a declaration where the Earth Charter was mentioned as follows:

“We commit ourselves, as NGOs of the South involved in Sustainable Development, to the vigorous pursuit of new alternatives for development that will lead to the implementation of the vision that follows: ...Where peace with justice prevails, where wars instigated to exploit the resources of the South cease, and where the Earth Charter and other culturally-diverse values frameworks, and the Indigenous Platform for Human Rights that adopted ethical foundations for human interaction, are considered...”

C- Specific references to the Earth Charter in documents of the preparatory process

1. UN Secretary General advisory panel for WSSD

U.N. SG Advisory Panel for WSSD strongly supports the Earth Charter

The second meeting of the Secretary General's Advisory Panel for the World Summit on Sustainable Development took place in New York on 5 February 2002. One of the key points emerging from the Panel discussion, was a strong support for the Earth Charter. Members of the Panel agreed to help mobilize support among all constituencies for the Charter to be recognized and formally endorsed by the Summit. According to the Panel, consideration of the Charter should be linked with discussion on the private versus public goods.

Based on their own experience, panel members felt that the following issues should be included in the political deal and the implementation program to be agreed at the Summit: the Earth Charter, corporate accountability, governance, women in decision-making, meeting the millennium targets, participation of civil society, access to information, access to and ownership of genetic resources, and peace as a proactive approach.

For the complete meeting report see:

www.johannesburgsummit.org/html/documents/sgpanel_note_502.doc

2. Regional Roundtables (organised by the UN) and other meetings

2.1 Regional roundtable for East Asia and the Pacific Region

9/11 July 2001– Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Reference is found under the section "Proposals for Action: Capacity-Building through Education, Training and Public Awareness":

"The Earth Charter could be a useful means to raise public awareness about sustainable development values and issues."

Find the whole text on:

www.un.org/jsummit/html/prep_process/asiapacific_prep1/malaysia_roundtable_report.htm

2.2 Regional Roundtable for Central and South Asia

30 July / 1 August 2001 – Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan

Reference is under Education, training and awareness

“(Paragraph) 60. It is only through better education and awareness that the currently prevailing culture of apathy, ignorance and greed can be reversed into a culture of shared responsibility and commitment. Governments in Johannesburg should recommend that such inspirational and educational documents as the Earth Charter, are broadly disseminated in schools, education facilities and among local communities.”

In Proposals for action, the following is stated:

“Governments in Johannesburg should recommend that such inspirational educational documents as the Earth Charter, are broadly disseminated in schools, education facilities and among local communities.”

“(Paragraph) 73. Governments need to give serious consideration to launching a process leading to elaboration of an overarching international treaty on sustainable development that will provide an "umbrella" to more specialized treaties and instruments dealing with specific environmental, social and economic issues. This work could build on IUCN's Draft International Covenant on Environment and Development, and the Earth Charter elaborated by the Earth Council. The treaty could also encompass the use of sustainability criteria and indicators and the use of market based instruments.”

Find the whole text on:

www.un.org/jsummit/html/prep_process/asiapacific_prep1/bishkek_report.pdf

2.3 Asia Pacific High Level Regional Session For WSSD

27/29 November 2001 – Pnom Penh, Cambodia

Reference is found under: Statement by his Excellency Mr. Nabil Makarim. Minister of State for the Environment of the Republic of Indonesia.

“(Paragraph)10. First, the concept and the understanding of sustainable development have been developing since it was first conceived. As I have mentioned earlier, in order to be implemented effectively, sustainable development requires basic changes in our attitudes as well as our lifestyles. Therefore, the present concept of sustainable development requires a different set of ethics. This should be developed. The closest to this the Earth Charter. The Earth Charter may be enriched to become the set of ethics as a basis for sustainable development.”

2.4 Youth statement – African Regional prep conference for WSSD

15/16 October 2001 – Nairobi, Kenya

Reference found in under :The Youth Call to Governments –Earth Charter

“(Paragraph)16. We call upon all African governments to consider adoption of the Earth Charter, after consultation with all stakeholders, as the ethical framework for sustainable development.”

2.5 WSSD Youth Political Declaration issued after Prepcom IV

Point 9 (last one) on Ethical Framework:

“An integrated ethical framework of shared values, such as the Earth Charter, must be established to guide us toward the common good and effective implementation of the sustainable development agenda at all levels.”

2.6 Asia-Pacific Forum for Environment and Development (APFED)

12/13 January 2002 – Bangkok, Thailand

Reference found in under: Deliberations of the APFED 1st Substantive Meeting

“(Paragraph) 3. It was pointed out that APFED should deliver a message on environmental ethics, such as those included in the Earth Charter, which call for changes in people’s behaviour, values and lifestyle.”

2.7 Pan-European ECO meeting preparing Ministerial Conference

14/16 Sept. 2000 – Kiev, Ukraine

Representatives of 104 environmental citizens' organisations (ECOs) based in 33 countries of the Pan-European region met to prepare for the next "Environment for Europe" (EfE) Ministerial Conference, in 2002. Considering the key issues to be absolutely necessary for the Kiev-2002 Ministerial Agenda, in paragraph 3, Kiev 2002 and Rio+10, the reference was:

“We call for support to the process of realising an Earth Charter at the Rio+10 Conference.”

3. Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue, WSSD Prepcom 2

28 January / 8 February 2002 – New-York, USA

3.1 Dialogue paper by local authorities

In the section that refers to Building a New Culture of Sustainability, it was stressed that:

- “ 1. Governments must use their policies and programs to support sustainable practices and to encourage business and citizens to do the same. Specifically, we must:
- (i) Adopt Sustainable Cultural Norms to Guide Public Policies
Consider adopting the Earth Charter as a coherent and thoughtful set of cross-cultural values and principles to guide local and global leadership for sustainable development.”

3.2 Dialogue paper by scientific and technological communities.

Chapter III, Ethics, science, engineering and society, specifically refers to the Earth Charter:

“Paragraph 54. Since Rio, some progress has been made in the development of codes of practice and guidelines within the scientific and technological community. Engineers and medical doctors are bound by professional codes of ethics that state categorically that public interest — life, safety, and property — overrides private interest in the practice of their profession. WFEO incorporated a Code of Environmental Ethics into its Engineering Code of Ethics. The engineering community also endorsed the Earth Charter, which calls upon member Governments, professionals and civil society to accept a moral and ethical guide of conduct and to commit to sustainable development. The ICSU Committee on Responsibility and Ethics in Science is completing an analysis of 115 codes of practice and standards from within the scientific and technological community.”

“Paragraph 56. The Ethics is an essential and important instrument for the integrity for the processes and outcomes of research activities....”

“Paragraph 61. The scientific and technological community is committed to extending its efforts regarding ethics and society and will increase its capacity to implement and monitor its codes of ethics and guidelines in collaboration with others. At the same time, efforts will be made to extend existing codes as appropriate to deal with sustainable development. Science and technology organizations and individual scientists will also be encouraged to carefully consider their possible adherence to the Earth Charter.”

4. National Reports

4.1 National report of Costa Rica for Rio + 10

In the section titled Actions to be taken to strengthen the coordinating mechanism at local and national levels, the role of education and the Earth Charter is highlighted as follows:

“It is important to develop educational programs as the main tool for sustainable development, aimed at raising awareness among different organizations and sectors at all levels. In this context, it is fundamental to promote and strengthen the principles and values included in the Earth Charter, as a tool for sustainability.”

Along these lines, in Suggestions to overcome these failures, it is stated that:

“It is essential to promote the incorporation of clean technologies for the sustainable use of natural resources. It is also necessary to promote local projects for formulating and implementing the Earth Charter. This, in order to recover the ethical values needed to achieve sustainable development.”

Also, in Recommendations to improve institutional effectiveness to provide education for sustainable development, the Report focuses on:

“It is essential to strengthen a set of courses on sustainable development and promote campaigns intended for civil society at large, through the media. It is also important to urge citizens to commit to environmental conservation and sustainability. A feasible strategy to achieve this goal is the introduction of the Earth Charter (as a declaration of ethical principles) within formal and non-formal education. It is also fundamental to foster processes for establishing dialogue and reconciliation among the government, organizations and civil society. Finally, it is important to provide society with accessible, opportune, pertinent and transparent information, as a tool for proactive and committed participation.”

Finally, in Vision for the Future the following is stressed that:

“Organizations and institutions must contemplate and implement a Plan for Sustainable Development within their internal structures. In addition, the establishment and implementation of ethical values needed for sustainable development must be promoted within formal and non-formal education, taking into consideration those values formulated in the Earth Charter.”

4.2 National report of Honduras for Rio + 10

In Vision for the Future, the Honduran Report affirms that:

“In the context of Agenda 21, the Central American Alliance for Sustainable Development (ALIDES), the Earth Charter, the vision of the National Strategy for Sustainable Development (NSSD) is to create a society with equal opportunities and improve the quality of life of the Honduran population, in order to meet their present economic, social, environmental and political needs without endangering the capacity of future generations to meet their own needs.

(...) To achieve this, it is necessary to implement the NSSD, as well as the principles, goals and commitments of Agenda 21, the Earth Charter, ALIDES and other international agreements subscribed by the Government of Honduras, such as the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (...)”

4.3 National report of Tajikistan

In the Introduction, the Report stated that:

“The Earth Charter as a way of forming a new notion of the importance of the environmental protection.”

In the second part the Report affirms that:

“Based on the Guidelines of the Earth Council and the principles of the Declaration of the OSCE about environmental protection and sustainable development and the Agenda of the 21 century, the participants of the seminar have established the following steps that they consider imperative for the sustainable development of the Republic of Tajikistan:

(...)

2. It is important to endorse/ accept the ideology and principles propose/listed in the project of the International Declaration “Earth Charter”. These principles represent the model for the behavior and activity of people, nations and states in terms of protecting environment and providing the basis for the optimal/ most favorable development of the planet Earth.”

In the last section the Report affirms that:

“Informing the citizens of Tajikistan about the programs and plans of sustainable development, Agenda of the 21 century, and Earth Charter; as well as providing them with the concrete examples that illustrate successful accomplishments of the sustainable development.”

4.4 National report of Chile

In the introduction the report states that:

“How we are going to advance? I want to incite the orientation contains in the Values, Culture and Education for Sustainability Inform submit by the Sustainable Development Council to the republic’s president in June 2000: “We think that in order to advance towards a sustainable conduct of the persons it is necessary promote values that inspire it such as responsibility, solidarity, respect and affect between each other.”

In this perspective, we think that a wonderful tool we have available and we can disseminate is the Earth Charter, promoted by The Earth Council, as a way to achieve the goals for sustainability stated in Rio. This text was submit to each of all and we think it could help you for the inspiration.”

5. Declarations issued in Johannesburg

See as well WSSD Report for more information on Johannesburg’s WSSD.

5.1 ICLEI Declaration

The Johannesburg Call, a statement made by local governments of the WSSD on August 30 stipulates the commitment of all local governments to the Earth Charter. In the Local Government Declaration to the WSSD, it is specified that *“to develop a new and deeper culture of sustainability in our cities and localities, including a commitment to socially and environmentally sound procurement policies and consumption patterns, sustainable planning, investment and management of resources, and promotion of public health and of clean energy sources; to this end we ask all local governments to discuss endorsement of the Earth Charter”*.

5.2 Youth Declaration

Youth Major Group Statement on Governance, Globalization, Finance and Trade. Delivered 30 August 2002 in plenary hall:

“We recommend the Earth Charter as a valid ethical framework for this new system of global governance, and demand respect for both cultural and biological diversity.”

5.3 Ubuntu Declaration

Eleven of the world's foremost global educational organizations and scientific academies state that there is a need to integrate a sustainable development focus into the curriculum at every level of education, starting in primary school. The "Ubuntu Declaration" says greater global emphasis on education is essential to reaching sustainable development goals, and creates a major global alliance to promote science and technology courses and teaching throughout educational systems worldwide. It calls for an initiative to strengthen science and technology education for sustainable development which contains:

“Endorsing the Earth Charter as the inspiring, fundamental and balanced set of principles and guidelines for building a just, sustainable and peaceful global society in the 21st century, which should permeate all levels and sectors of education.”

Find the whole text on: www.unu.edu/hq/rector_office/press2002/pre37.02.html

5.4 Latin American and Caribbean Ministerial Initiative for Sustainable Development

Following the first special meeting of the Forum of Ministers of Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean, a declaration has been issued in Johannesburg on August 31st. The 3rd part of the document presents the operational guidelines for the Initiative. To reinforce positions adopted at and consolidated after Rio 1992, it is suggested to (paragraph 10):

“Promote the introduction of a new sustainable development ethical practice that takes account of processes that have already been developed, such as the Earth Charter.”

Find the whole text on: www.rolac.unep.mx/ilc_ing.pdf

D- References to a common ethical framework, or similar notion

1. UN Secretary General and WSSD Secretary General

During the preparatory process, both Secretary General of the United Nations Kofi Annan and Secretary General of the World Summit Nitin Desai emphasized the importance of a shared moral framework to guide the implementation of sustainable development.

2. The need for guiding principles and values, and new ethics

2.1 Regional Roundtable for Latin America and the Caribbean

18/20 June 2001 – Barbados

A few paragraphs mentioned interesting facts.

Under the major challenges and opportunities for sustainable development in Latin America and the Caribbean, paragraph 13 states:

“... The net long-term impact of globalization in the region as a whole will be adverse unless managed within a framework of sustainable development. ...”

Under Social factors, human development and cultural issues, paragraph 57 states:

“An understanding of sustainable development issues should be an important part of education and information programs and an integral component of the curriculum at all stages of life, from early childhood to tertiary and adult education. Educational programs should incorporate values related to personal growth, social solidarity and respect for the natural environment, with special reference to indigenous people.”

Under Governance, institutions and international co-operation, paragraph 90 states:

“As successful implementation of sustainable development requires participation of all major elements of civil society e.g. business, indigenous people, trade unions, religious bodies, women, small farmers, political parties and scientists, mechanisms to provide for their formal and effective involvement need to be established. A number of countries in the region have established national sustainable development councils. Other countries in the region should consider establishing these or similar representative bodies and/or other mechanisms, such as sectoral strategies and national mission statements of guiding principles and values, and implementing the resultant proposals for action.”

Find the whole text on:

www.un.org/jsummit/html/prep_process/lac_docs/lac_roundtable_report.htm

2.2 Regional Roundtable for Europe and North America

6/8 June 2001 – Vail, USA

Section II, Conclusions and Proposals for Action, highlights among overriding concerns in Paragraph 10 that:

“The present generation may be among the last that could correct the current course of world development before it reaches a point of no return, due to depletion of the natural resource base and degradation of the environment. It has the knowledge and technological ability to achieve this. What it still lacks is political will and a individual commitment for action and broad public awareness of the consequences of inaction. There is a need for a new ethics level of commitment, responsibility and partnerships. There is also a need for that are based on the recognition that growth is limited by the health and carrying capacity of the natural environment and that we have to respect the rights of forthcoming generations. There is a need to bring up and educate our children in ways that increase their deeper knowledge of natural processes , their connectedness with the natural world and their capacity for positive action.”

Find the whole text on:

www.un.org/jsummit/html/prep_process/europe_northamerica/vail_roundtable_report.htm

2.3 Statement by Mr. Nitin Desai to WSSD Prepcom 1

30 April 2001 – New-York, USA

Page 3, paragraph 5:

“I sensed that there was a recognition of that we will never achieve sustainable development unless we can generate a global ethic of responsibility or stewardship. Sustainable development must be guided by this and Johannesburg must, in some ways, become an expression of such a global ethic.”

Find the whole text on:

www.un.org/jsummit/html/documents/statement_by_nitin_desai_to_prepcom_one.htm

2.4 First meeting of UN Secretary General’s advisory panel for WSSD

29 October 2001

The 2nd point states:

“The importance of public participation, a strong multi-stakeholder dialogue and the highest level of political representation were also stressed. An ethical dimension, spirituality and shared values were also considered necessary for engendering a new ‘Johannesburg spirit’.”

Find the whole text on:

www.un.org/jsummit/html/documents/key_points_29%20oct.doc

2.5 Implementing Agenda 21 – Report of the Secretary General

E/CN.17/2002/PC.2/7

Many references can be found in this document.

Talking about the expected outcomes of the WSSD, paragraph 13 states:

“Political will, practical steps and partnerships have to be combined with a renewed spirit of global cooperation and solidarity. (...) We share a common future, and we must work together to ensure our own well-being and that of future generations. The neglect of longer-term concerns today will sow the seeds of future suffering, conflict and poverty.”

Chapter III, Combating Poverty and Promoting Sustainable Livelihoods, item E, Education, states the following:

(Paragraph 77). *Education should provide students with the skills, perspectives, values, and knowledge to live sustainably in their communities. It should be interdisciplinary, integrating concepts and analytical tools from a variety of disciplines. Few successful working models of education programmes for sustainable development currently exist.*

(Paragraph 80) *“Teacher education is a high priority since teachers can serve as agents of change in support of sustainable development. Efforts have been made since UNCED to develop international guidelines for reorienting teacher education.”*

Chapter VIII titled Strengthening Implementation – Global Partnerships for Sustainable Development, item F. Sustainable Management of Ecosystems and Biodiversity, in paragraph 227 refers to:

“A framework of principles for global stewardship is urgently needed to protect the Earth’s environment while meeting the social and economic needs and aspirations of all countries and people.”

2.6 Overview of the Regional preparatory meetings, Priorities for WSSD

Under Institutional Structure for Sustainable Development, it is stated that:

“While identifying the obstacles faced in the implementation of Agenda 21 and lessons learned, the governments of the region [Regional Preparatory Conference of Latin America and the Caribbean for WSSD, Rio de Janeiro, October 23-24, 2001] highlighted the following areas: (...) - The need for a developing a new environmental ethic.”

2.7 Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue, WSSD Prepcom2, Paper by indigenous peoples

28 January / 8 February 2002 – New-York, USA

On page 1, paragraph 3 of this document, the importance of universal values is highlighted:

“In these times, humanity must work together, not just for survival, but for quality of life based on universal values that protect the delicate interrelatedness of life that protects us all. ... Biodiversity is a clinical, technical term for this intricate inter-weaving of life that sustains us. We indigenous peoples say that we are related to this life; thus your “resources” are our relations. It is all in how you look at it.”

2.8 Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue, WSSD Prepcom2, Paper by local authorities

28 January / 8 February 2002 – New-York, USA

In Strengthen Local Government, the promotion of shared values is stated as follows:

“Yet, the promotion of equity and sustainability as public values require a strong and leading role for government. What was needed—and what we most need now—is a positive agenda for redefining government as an effective agent for these essential public objectives.”

2.9 Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue, WSSD Prepcom2, Paper by NGOs

28 January / 8 February 2002 – New-York, USA

Within the section titled *GLOBAL DEAL*, the need to restructure our guiding values and principles has been emphasized:

“The notion of the WSSD producing a new “Global Deal” was considered by the UNECE NGO consultation as a result of suggestions made previously by the South African and Danish governments, among others. Its objective would be to bridge North/South differences on key elements, including: Equity – eradicating poverty through equitable and sustainable access to resources; Rights – securing environmental and social rights; Limits – reducing resource use to within sustainable limits; Justice – recognition of ecological debts and cancellation of financial debts; Democracy – ensuring access to information and public participation; and Ethics – rethinking the values and principles that guide human behaviour.”

2.10 WSSD PrepCom 1, Education, Public awareness for Sustainable Development, Commission on Sustainable Development

30 April / 2 May 2001 – New-York, USA – Organizational session

Under Section II, Beyond Basic Education to Education for Sustainable Development, it is stressed in paragraph 13 that:

“Since the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, there has been increasing recognition that a curriculum oriented towards sustainability would place good citizenship among its primary objectives. Many existing curricula are being revised with that objective in mind. Efforts are being made to develop teaching, learning and assessment processes that emphasize values, ethical motivation and the ability to work with others to help build a sustainable future.”

3. Stakeholders’ participation and the generation of common values

3.1 WSSD PrepCom 1, Major Groups, Commission on Sustainable Development

30 April / 2 May 2001 – New-York, USA – Organizational session

Section II, Major Accomplishments, includes the importance of the stakeholders’ involvement as a means to establish shared values (paragraph 13):

“Participation generates shared values, mutually reinforced commitments, and joint ownership, which, in turn, effectively breaks the traditional pattern dividing stakeholders into “recipients” and “providers”.”

3.2 WSSD Prepcom 1, Statement by women, Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue

30 April 2001 – New-York, USA

Reference to environmental ethics is found within the following text (Page 1, paragraph 3 & 4):

“Women’s Action Agenda 21 covers issues of governance and decision-making; environmental ethics and accountability; militarism; global economic issues such as trade and debt; poverty, land rights and food security; women’s rights, reproductive health, and health and environment; biodiversity and biotechnology; energy; science and technology; women’s consumer power; and information and education.(...) We intend to launch Women’s Action Agenda 2002 in Johannesburg. The Agenda will serve as a vision for the future and a document of principles that women and men worldwide could both contribute to and use for their own advocacy globally in Johannesburg and nationally and locally with their own governments.”

3.3 WSSD Prepcom 2, Chairman's Summary, Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue

January 2002

Paragraph 10. *“Peace and stability were also seen as prerequisites of sustainable development, and calls were made for inter-governmental support for major group participation in this area. The importance of promoting the values and ethics of sustainable development was raised in this context.”*

Paragraph 41. *“Many supported statements by Tuvalu and Indonesia that the social pillar of sustainable development should more fully recognize the human spiritual dimension and incorporate ethics and cultural values into sustainable development education.”*