

THE WORLD BANK GROUP ARCHIVES

PUBLIC DISCLOSURE AUTHORIZED

Folder Title: Liaison files : United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) - Correspondence 01

Folder ID: 1104088

Series: Liaison files - Non-governmental and international agencies

Dates: 10/01/1986-07/01/1989

Sub-Fonds: Records of President Barber B. Conable

Fonds: Records of the Office of the President

ISAD Reference Code: WB IBRD/IDA EXC-11-50S

Digitized: 8/18/2021

To cite materials from this archival folder, please follow the following format:
[Descriptive name of item], [Folder Title], Folder ID [Folder ID], ISAD(G) Reference Code [Reference Code], [Each Level Label as applicable], World Bank Group Archives, Washington, D.C., United States.

The records in this folder were created or received by The World Bank in the course of its business.

The records that were created by the staff of The World Bank are subject to the Bank's copyright.

Please refer to <http://www.worldbank.org/terms-of-use-earchives> for full copyright terms of use and disclaimers.



THE WORLD BANK

Washington, D.C.

© International Bank for Reconstruction and Development / International Development Association or

The World Bank

1818 H Street NW

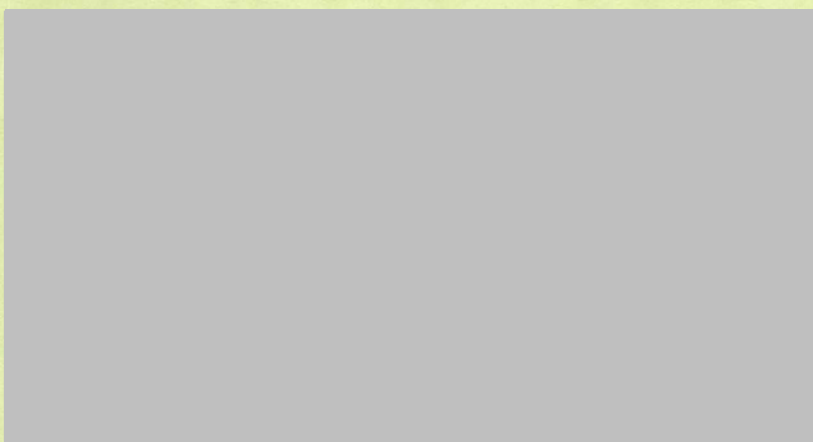
Washington DC 20433

Telephone: 202-473-1000

Internet: www.worldbank.org

PUBLIC DISCLOSURE AUTHORIZED

UNEP [United Nations Environment Program]



The World Bank Group
Archives
 1104088
 R1991-083 Other #: 3 209435B
 Liaison files : United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) - Correspondence 01

DECLASSIFIED
WBG Archives

UNEP

THE WORLD BANK
Washington, D.C. 20433
U.S.A.

BARBER B. CONABLE
President

June 14, 1989

Dr. Mostafa K. Tolba
Executive Director
United Nations Environment Program (UNEP)
P.O. Box 30552
Nairobi, Kenya

Dear Dr. Tolba:

My warmest congratulations to you on the substantial support for UNEP's activities which was registered at the Fifteenth Meeting of UNEP's Governing Council.

Both of us share a common commitment to protecting the environment. As Mr. Piddington, Director of our Environment Department, mentioned to you, we at the World Bank wish to develop and maintain a closer and more effective partnership with UNEP in all areas of mutual interest.

UNEP's role in mobilizing the Mediterranean States, the international community and the U.N. system under the Mediterranean Action Plan for the protection of marine resources and the sustainable development of coastal zones has been extremely important. UNEP is a major partner in our effort and we greatly appreciate your support.

As you know, the first phase of the Environmental Program for the Mediterranean will be completed shortly. We will communicate our report to UNEP in draft form and seek your views and suggestions.

As you suggested in your letter of December 15, 1988, it would be beneficial to formalize our working relationship through the signature of a document which recognizes our mutual and complementary roles in the Mediterranean area. I have, therefore, asked Mr. Wilfried P. Thalwitz, Vice President for the Europe, Middle East and North Africa Region, who is responsible for our environmental work in the Mediterranean area, to seek a meeting with you at your earliest convenience to discuss and sign such a document.

Dr. Mostafa K. Tolba


- 2 -

June 14, 1989

I would be very pleased if you would consider coming to Washington for that meeting, as that would enable me to participate personally in the discussions and to review with you other areas of common interest.

I am pleased with the substantial cooperation which we have developed and look forward to strengthening it even further.

Sincerely,


Barber B. Conable
President

UNEP

THE WORLD BANK
Washington, D.C. 20433
U.S.A.

BARBER B. CONABLE
President

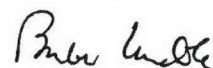
April 13, 1989

Dear Mr. Tolba:

Thank you for your letter of March 8, 1989, concerning the preparation of a successor document to the World Conservation Strategy published in 1980. We strongly support this important environmental initiative and will be pleased to assist Dr. Munro, project Director, in any way we can. I have asked Mr. Kenneth Piddington, Director of our Environment Department, to be the focal point within the Bank for cooperating on this exercise.

With warm regards.

Sincerely,



Mr. Mostafa Tolba
Executive Director
United Nations Environment Programme
P.O. Box 30552
Nairobi, Kenya

WORLD BANK OTS SYSTEM
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

BBE

CORRESPONDENCE DATE : 89/03/24

DUE DATE : 89/04/13

LOG NUMBER : 890328025

FROM : Mostafa Tolba

SUBJECT : 5-pg. framework of action re agreement to collaborate essential
background for the Environmental Perspective to Yr. 2000 & Beyond

OFFICE ASSIGNED TO FOR ACTION : Mr. Hopper (D-1202)

ACTION:

- APPROVED
- PLEASE HANDLE
- FOR YOUR INFORMATION
- FOR YOUR REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATION
- FOR THE FILES
- PLEASE DISCUSS WITH _____
- PLEASE PREPARE RESPONSE FOR RBC's SIGNATURE
- AS WE DISCUSSED
- RETURN TO _____

COMMENTS :

REC'D IN SPKLE
3/24/89



PROGRAMME DES NATIONS UNIES POUR L'ENVIRONNEMENT
UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME



Telephone 98 84 00 98 58 50
Telex 28 877 UNEP - CH
Cables: UNITERRA, GENEVA

Regional Office for Europe
Palais des Nations
CH-1211 GENEVA 10

Reference :

8 March 1989

Dear *Barber*

In 1980, the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources, the United Nations Environment Programme and the World Wildlife Fund, as it was then known, in collaboration with FAO and UNESCO, published the World Conservation Strategy. The WCS has proven to be a seminal contributor to thinking about the vital relationship between conservation and development. It helped lay the foundation for the report of the World Commission on Environment and Development and provided an essential background for the Environmental Perspective to the Year 2000 and Beyond.

UNEP, IUCN and WWF are now beginning the preparation of a successor document to the WCS. It will be a 50-page framework of action, which will briefly re-state the principles of the WCS and then go on to relate them to factors such as economics, ethics, population and patterns of consumption and other topics that have assumed increasing importance in the last ten years. Most importantly, the framework will provide guidance on the actions needed to achieve lasting conservation and development at the local, national and international levels.

Mr. Barber B. Conable
President,
The World Bank
1818 H Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20433
U.S.A.

I speak for my colleagues in IUCN and WWF as well as for myself in inviting your organization to work with us in the Second World Conservation Strategy Project. We believe your support is essential. We would like to be able to call on your experts for advice and information from the beginning of the period of preparation and we would ask for their comments and advice on successive drafts. We would also like to discuss with you the possibility of support for one of the several topical and regional workshops that we wish to hold during the preparatory process.

..... I hope that you can tell me very soon your agreement to collaborate in this important endeavour. We plan to prepare a brief "flyer" on the project for distribution to cooperators as soon as possible and we would like to be able to list your organization as a supporter. I enclose a copy of a short note that describes the project in a little more detail and upon which the "flyer" will be based.

The project director is Dr. David Munro, who was Director-General of IUCN during the period when WCS was being prepared. If you agree, I would expect him to establish a working relationship with whoever you would name to be the focal point for this activity.

Yours sincerely,

Kind personal regards


Mostafa K. TOLBA
Executive Director

WORLD BANK OTS SYSTEM
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

~~MTT~~
UNEP

CORRESPONDENCE DATE : 89/03/23

DUE DATE : 00/00/00

LOG NUMBER : 890324016

FROM : Pddington, Fischer

SUBJECT : Hazardous Wastes Convention

OFFICE ASSIGNED TO FOR ACTION : 2 Mr. B. Conable (E-1227)

ACTION:

- APPROVED
- PLEASE HANDLE
- FOR YOUR INFORMATION
- FOR YOUR REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATION
- FOR THE FILES
- PLEASE DISCUSS WITH _____
- PLEASE PREPARE RESPONSE FOR _____ SIGNATURE
- AS WE DISCUSSED
- RETURN TO _____

COMMENTS :

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 23, 1989

TO: Mr. B. Conable, EXC
Mr. S. Fischer, Acting PPRSV

FROM: Kenneth W. Piddington

SF
K.W. Piddington

EXTENSION: 33202

SUBJECT: Hazardous Wastes Convention

1. I have just returned from the UNEP Conference in Basel, where an agreement has been reached which will place some controls on trade in hazardous waste. You will see from comments in the press that the Convention is not perfect, and that it falls well short of the sort of ban that many countries would like to see. I offer a quick evaluation below in case you are asked for comments:

Positive Aspects

- the international community has moved a long way in the last 12 months; many governments have now decided to ban imports.
- continuing environmental concern will create pressure to strengthen the Basel text, as has happened in the case of the ozone agreement (Montreal Protocol). At least we have a starting point.
- industrial countries can not now delay the introduction of more sophisticated treatment facilities.
- there will be a constant watch on actual shipments and increased technical ability to monitor the situation.

Negative

- as with drugs, illegal trade will continue because of the economic incentive.
- although Africa is united at the political level on this issue, smaller, more vulnerable countries elsewhere will face pressure to receive wastes and stay outside the new Convention.
- in the absence of total bans on export, illicit ocean dumping will continue.

- no funds have been committed to enable UNEP to set up a supervisory mechanism or interim Secretariat.
- developing countries are beginning to feel that the industrialized countries are interested in restricting some of their freedoms (tropical forests, thermal and hydro power, ozone) but will not accept similar limitations on their own freedom to export toxic wastes.

The Bank's Role

2. The conclusions of the Basel meeting are in line with the position which you have stated on behalf of the Bank, and we can now support UNEP by helping developing countries to get maximum protection from the agreement. Specifically, I told the Conference we could:

- (a) include sound waste disposal in all the industrial projects we fund;
- (b) provide in our country programs for waste management, toxic clean-up and reduction of exposure (e.g., through air pollution); and
- (c) offer training and technical advice, plus help with institutional and legal arrangements to underpin the Convention.

3. A full back-to-office report will be prepared covering the detailed provisions of the agreed text and offering recommendations on follow-up action by the Bank.

cc: Messrs. E. Stern, D. Hopper, V. Rajagopalan, I. Shihata, M. Qureshi, E. Jaycox, I. Serageldin, F. Aguirre-Sacasa, A. Shakow, F. Colaco, J. Warford, L. Christoffersen, P. Whitford, R. Goodland, J. English, P. Ofosu-Amah, J.M. Trolldalen.
Mesdames G. Davis, J. Pratt, E. Tillier

KP/as

UNEP

THE WORLD BANK
Washington, D.C. 20433
U.S.A.

BARBER B. CONABLE
President

March 2, 1989

Dr. Mostafa K. Tolba
Executive Director
United Nations Environment Programme
P.O. Box 30552
Nairobi, Kenya

Dear Dr. Tolba:

Thank you for your letter of February 7 which was received here just several days ago. I congratulate you and the Government of United Kingdom and Northern Ireland on your initiative in convening the March 5-7 conference in London on "Saving the Ozone Layer." I only regret that with the pressure of other events, the Bank has not been able to take up the invitation to send a senior representative.

Since we are, however, very closely involved in action to support the purposes of the Montreal Convention, it might be helpful if I record the Bank's present stance on this important issue. My recent address on environmental issues in Manila included the following remarks:

"Our objective is to make sure that the developing countries we assist can take charge of adequately treating and disposing of any toxic emissions they produce. Where existing capacity is not equal to the job, we work with governments to make investments adequate to handle the new wastes with clean, economic technology. If there is an extra cost, we will seek ways to have it met.

We will also assist countries who face problems because of international measures to reduce production of CFC's in order to protect the ozone layer. If industry has to re-equip, we believe the Bank should be there to help."

It is my intention to have my staff look at the practical opportunities for early action in some of the key developing countries, such as the People's Republic of China. In the coming months we will study the costs of various options, including recovery of spent refrigeration units and the phasing in of substitutes. Once the costs have been identified we will consult with potential donors in order to arrange the funding of measures to reduce the release of these substances in the short term, and replace their production in the medium term.

I believe this position is in close accord with the central aim of the London Conference and would be grateful if this letter could be drawn to the attention of the delegates to the meeting.

Best wishes for a most successful conference. We shall, of course, take a close interest in the follow-up action by parties to the Montreal Convention.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Barber B. Conable".

Barber B. Conable
President

THE WORLD BANK
Washington, D.C. 20433
U.S.A.

BARBER B. CONABLE
President

March 2, 1989

Dear Mr. Cassell:

London Conference on "Saving the
Ozone Layer"

As you may know, the March 5-7 London Conference on "Saving the Ozone Layer" is being hosted by the Prime Minister and the Secretary of State for the Environment of the United Kingdom. Regrettably, the Bank is not able to be represented. Attached is a letter I have sent today to Dr. Tolba, Executive Director of UNEP. I would be most grateful if a copy of the attached letter could also be transmitted through your office to the organizers of the conference in London at the Ministry of the Environment.

Thank you very much.

Barber Conable

Mr. Frank Cassell
Executive Director

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Date: March 2, 1989

To: Mr. Barber B. Conable

Thru: Mr. W. David Hoppe *WDH*

From: V. Rajagopalan *VR*

Ext.: 33419

Subject: Attached Letter to Dr. Tolba, Executive Director, UNEP

The attached letter to Dr. Tolba is intended to place the Bank's views on record at the high-level conference on the ozone-layer being hosted by Mrs. Thatcher at the end of this week. Mr. Piddington has explained to the UK Executive Director's office and Embassy that other scheduling conflicts prevent our being represented at a senior level.

I request that you sign the letter and the note to Mr. Cassell asking that he transmit the message to the Ministry of the Environment as well.

Attachment



UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

PROGRAMME DES NATIONS UNIES POUR L'ENVIRONNEMENT



UNITERRA NAIROBI
333930 or 520600
Fax (2542) 520711
22068 UNEP KE

P.O. Box 30552
Nairobi, Kenya

Your Reference

Our Reference ORG 440 UK

7 February 1989

Dear Mr. Conable,

I would like to call your attention to the forthcoming London Conference "Saving the Ozone Layer" which is scheduled to be held at the Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre in London, from 5 to 7 March 1989.

The London Conference is being hosted by the Prime Minister and the Secretary of State for the Environment of the Government of the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland, in association with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). As Executive Director of UNEP, I would like to voice my own support for this conference, in which UNEP is co-operating and participating.

For years, UNEP has been concerned with the problem of the depletion of the ozone layer. In 1985, UNEP convened a Diplomatic Conference which approved and signed the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer. This Convention entered into force on 22 September 1988. In 1987, UNEP convened a further conference that resulted in the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer. This Protocol entered into force on 1 January 1989. The first meetings of the contracting parties to the Vienna Convention and the Montreal Protocol are scheduled to be held in Helsinki, Finland, in late April/early May this year. UNEP's activities in this field have been welcomed and endorsed by the General Assembly of the United Nations.

The London Conference "Saving the Ozone Layer" is being convened with two main objectives in mind. First, it is intended to assure non-OECD countries that they will not lose out if they agree to work towards a CFC-free world, and that the new products and processes from industry will be made available to them in reasonable quantities and at affordable prices. The second objective is to demonstrate to

Mr. Barber B. Conable
President
The World Bank
1818 H Street, N.W.
Washington D.C. 20433
USA

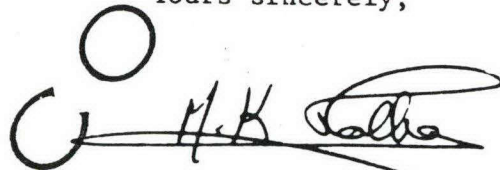
RECEIVED
88 FEB 27 AM 11:14
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT
PROGRAMME

- 2 -

participants how world industry is working to reduce dependence on CFCs by more careful use, by developing substitutes, or by adopting CFC-free technologies. The intended outcome of the Conference is to be a political message or declaration to support and boost the first meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer, scheduled to be held in Helsinki, Finland, in April 1989 and subsequent follow-up action.

The depletion of the ozone layer is a global problem that affects all humankind. To be effective, any action taken to ameliorate the problem must also be on a global level. In this effort to protect and enhance our global environment, it is of utmost importance that we all work together. The London Conference is being held at the ministerial level and I would hope, therefore, that your Organization would be in a position to send a suitably high-level representative to the Conference.

Yours sincerely,



Mostafa K. Tolba
Executive Director

COPIE -

Mr. Conable

THE WORLD BANK
Washington, D.C. 20433
U.S.A.

BARBER B. CONABLE
President

June 14, 1988

Dear Mr. Tolba:

Thank you for your letter of May 26 enclosing a draft proposal for a joint UN project on sustainable development in a few selected countries. Mr. Warford of our Environment Department will have the opportunity to discuss this proposal with Mr. Mansfield, UNEP's Deputy Executive Director, at the Committee of International Development Institutions on the Environment (CIDIE) meeting next week. We are pleased to collaborate with you in this important initiative.

Sincerely,

(Signed) Barber B. Conable

Mr. Mostafa K. Tolba
Executive Director
United Nations Environment Programme
P. O. Box 30552
Nairobi, Kenya

cc: Messrs. Piddington, Warford, Stanton

CBoucher ^{CB}pp



UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME
PROGRAMME DES NATIONS UNIES POUR L'ENVIRONNEMENT



Cable Address: UNITERRA, Nairobi
Telex No. 22068
Telephone: 33930

P. O. Box 30552,
Nairobi.

26 May 1988

Ref. No.

Dear *Barber*

On 9 February I wrote to you about a proposal for a joint project of the members of the United Nations system on sustainable development. The proposal is that the agencies and organizations principally involved with environment, natural resource and developmental issues would work together in a few selected countries to operationalize sustainable development.

It was not possible for a representative from the World Bank to take part in the initial Steering Group meeting in Geneva 19-20 April. At that meeting attended by ILO, WMO, UNESCO, FAO, IFAD and UNEP, the Steering Group reviewed a draft project proposal and made a number of suggested changes. UNEP has revised the draft accordingly and has prepared a second draft, which is attached.

I will appreciate it if World Bank officials could review this draft and propose changes or submit any questions to UNEP. We will prepare another draft and present it to the Steering Group to consider a final document.

If your experts have any questions on the project or the document, they may wish to contact my Deputy, Mr. William Mansfield, in Nairobi (33-39-30 X4021) who will be pleased to assist them.

Kind personal regards

Yours sincerely,

Mostafa K. Tolba
Executive Director

Mr. Barber Conable
President
The World Bank
1818 H Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20433

UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME
PROJECT DOCUMENT

Project Identification

- 1.1 Title of Project: United Nations Systemwide Coordinated Action to Promote Sustainable Development At the Country Level
- 1.2 Project Number: FP/2101-88-
- 1.3 Subject Area: Environmental Aspects of Development Planning and Cooperation (2101)
- 1.4 Geographical Scope: Global: Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Central America, Latin America
- 1.5 Implementation: Internal in association with World Bank, FAO, UNDP, UNFPA, WHO, ILO, UNIDO, WMO, UNESCO
- 1.6 Duration of Project: Commencing: May 1988
Completion: May 1992
- 1.7 Cost of Project: (Expressed in US\$)

	CC*	NCC
Cost to the Environment Fund	120,000	-
World Bank	80,000	-
UNDP	40,000	-
UNFPA	40,000	-
FAO	40,000	-
WHO	40,000	-
UNIDO	40,000	-
ILO	40,000	-
UNESCO	40,000	-
WMO		
IFAD		
 Total cost of project	 440,000	 -

* These contributions are estimated on the basis of expected annual contributions from agencies. If more agencies contribute, budget will accordingly be modified.

Section 2. Background and Legislative Authority

2.1.1 There is a consensus among experts and decision-makers that new approaches are required to enable economic development to match the needs of a greater number of people without eroding the natural resource base on which development depends. There is increasing and clear evidence that in different regions of the world excessive demands are being made on limited resources and the carrying capacity of fragile ecosystems. The unsustainable use, abuse and misuse of the very environmental systems upon which life and economic development depends is showing up in soil erosion, lack of water and its quality, deforestation, desertification and other adverse natural phenomena to the growing concern of governments and people.

2.1.2 A major element of this development problem is the relationship between the development process, the environment and natural resources. Traditional methods of development planning places emphasis on relatively short term goals and has not adequately accommodated the longer term environmental and resource concerns. Nor has it adequately integrated environmental and resource management considerations into the planning and decision-making process and the administrative procedures.

2.1.3 The complementarity of developmental and environmental concerns was recognized by the United Nations General Assembly in Resolutions 42/186 and 42/187 in December 1987. The Resolutions adopted the "Environmental Perspective to the Year 2000 and Beyond", prepared by the United Nations Environment Programme's Governing Council, and endorsed the main ideas of the Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development, "Our Common Future". The reports outlined the serious resource degradation already mentioned and called for an improved developmental approach through a process of sustainable development. The General Assembly transmitted the reports to governments and to the governing bodies of the organs and organizations of the UN system as a broad framework to guide national action and international cooperation on policies and programmes aimed at achieving environmentally sound and sustainable development.

2.1.4 The reports define sustainable development to mean that the economic needs of the present should be met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. They indicate that the key to the

approach is to integrate environmental and natural resource management considerations into the developmental planning and decision-making process, that it is better to address environmental considerations at the source with anticipatory and preventive approaches than to seek to correct the problems after they have occurred. They emphasize that, in general, economic growth, poverty alleviation and sound environmental management are in most cases mutually consistent and reinforcing objectives. And they call for greater public involvement in the decision-making process.

2.1.5 Because approaches to sustainable development must integrate a wide-range of issues and interests that are both short and long-term in nature, they require a multi-sectoral and multi-disciplined process. The techniques of decision-making and coordination must be simplified and made very practical. They must permit the reconciliation of ecological and economic considerations, enable environmental considerations to be included in the appraisal of policies, programmes and projects at a very early or conceptual stage and promote the effective involvement of concerned groups in development actions. Sustainable development policies must be promoted by industrialised as well as developing countries.

2.1.6 The approaches in developing countries can be achieved in part by considering environmental factors in development planning activities as well as by developing programmes and activities specially aimed at protecting and improving the environment and resource base. They can best be applied by strengthening the governments' own capability to better address environmental and resource management issues, on the one hand, and by assisting the governments to incorporate environmental and resource considerations in their developmental activities on the other. Indigenous capability is enhanced through strengthening environmental legislation policies, information, machinery, monitoring, research, training and financing. Assistance must also be provided for developing activities to prevent environmental degradation, as well as promote long-term sustainable development.

2.1.7 World Bank, UNDP, specialised agencies of the United Nations customarily provide advice, technical cooperation and financial assistance to developing countries on development policies, plans, programmes and projects.

Consistent with its catalytic and coordinating role, UNEP has been engaged in raising awareness, making available methodological, procedural, technological, legislative and regulatory guidance and promoting national action and international cooperation for environmental assessment and management and for consideration of the environment in development decisionmaking. By way of a concrete follow-up to the General Assembly resolutions, the present project aims at facilitating collaborative action by the World Bank, UNDP, UNEP and the specialised agencies of the United Nations system to assist selected developing countries in taking into account environmental considerations in development decisionmaking and administration. In particular it will seek to demonstrate how multi-sectoral coordinated action aimed at implementing a source-oriented or preventive and anticipatory approach to dealing with major environment problems can be made operational. It would be practical to begin in a few selected countries such an experiment aimed at strategic inter-agency coordination of technical cooperation, advice and financial support for development.

2.1.8 In response to requests from countries, agencies and UNEP have taken some steps to meet countries' needs for assistance in strengthening institutional capabilities for action for sustainable development. The present project, with its focus on UN systemwide action for sustainable development, should draw upon and our benefit from those initiatives.

2.2 Legislative Authority

General Assembly resolution 42/186, paragraph 8 and General Assembly resolution 42/187, paragraphs 7, 11 and 15.

Section 3

3.1 Objectives

3.1.1 Long-term Objective

To develop a strategy for strengthening capacities of three or four selected developing countries to incorporate environmental and resource management considerations into the design and implementation of policies/plans, programmes and projects to achieve environmentally sound and

sustainable development and to make the concept of sustainable development operational through coordinated supportive action and technical cooperation by the United Nations system.

3.1.2 Short-term Objective

Through coordination of United Nations systemwide consultation and inter-agency collaboration at the country level, to develop an effective and replicable approach which will enable the selected developing countries to design and implement development policies, plans, programmes and projects to meet their major developmental objectives in an environmentally sound manner.

Achievement Indicators

3.2.1 Long-term

Tangible progress at the country level in establishing methods, procedures, policies, legislation and regulations for consideration of major environmental objectives in the sectors of agriculture, industry and energy, health, energy, population, trade and finance, etc., and improve the means through which major sectoral development projects and programmes are formulated to help them achieve sustainable development objectives.

Development of sound, replicable planning procedures, methods and techniques to achieve sustainable development.

3.2.2 Short-term

(a) Availability of information and analysis of major environmental problems of selected developing countries and of their bearing on socio-economic development,

(b) Establishment by the host governments of methodological, institutional, policy and procedural mechanisms or organizational measures to implement the recommendations to monitor progress towards achieving sustainable development.

(c) Governmental steps to establish and strengthen policies, procedures and institutional mechanisms to integrate environmental objectives in the technical cooperation and advisory activities of collaborating institutions for progress towards sustainable development.

(d) Effective coordination of the advice and technical cooperation made available by specialised agencies, UNDP, World Bank and UNEP in the field of environment and development policy and planning, so that such assistance will promote sustainable development,

(e) Availability of technical cooperation and advice from specialised agencies, World Bank and UNDP within the respective fields of competence which respond specifically to the environmental objectives and concerns of the selected countries.

(f) Effective consideration of environmental and resource management issues in the development planning and decision-making in the developing countries.

Section 4

4.1 Outputs

4.1.1 Develop an inventory of environmental information by preparing analysis of environmental conditions, problems and data bases for the 3 or 4 selected developing countries and analysis of the linkages between sectoral development and policies and major environmental and natural resource changes in the respective countries.

4.1.2 A study reviewing and appraising methods and procedures for formulating sectoral development targets and for the design of major sectoral development projects evaluating their impact on the environment and resource base.

4.1.3 A study of the nature, scope and composition of advisory and technical cooperation activities bearing on socio-economic development being carried out or planned by individual United Nations organizations in the

respective selected countries, and how they respond to the major environmental concerns and objectives of the countries.

4.1.4 Recommendations on policy measures needed in the selected countries to integrate better environmental considerations in development planning, decision-making and administration.

4.1.5 Recommendations on measures (guidelines, procedures, methods) needed to incorporate environmental objectives in policies and technical cooperation and advisory programmes of the collaborating United Nations organizations in the countries concerned.

4.1.6 Recommendations for major joint UN system support projects specially designed to promote sustainable development by protecting, rehabilitating, managing or otherwise enhancing the environment or resource base.

4.1.7 Recommendations on cooperative measures to be employed by the organizations of the United Nations system for exchanging information and for effective cooperation and consultation among them so as to ensure that their programmes promote sustainable development in the countries concerned.

4.1.8 Recommendations for technical assistance, including training to the host country on sustainable development matters so as to develop their indigenous capacity to incorporate environmental and resource considerations in development planning.

4.1.9 Establishment of a bi-annual newsletter, as a mechanism for regular exchange of information among United Nations organizations and bodies and Governments on action for environment and sustainable development.

4.1.10 Final Report of the project.

4.2 Use of Outputs

4.2.1 Governments of the selected countries will implement through appropriate policies and mechanisms the programmes and measures necessary for coordinated progress towards sustainable development.

4.2.2 Specialised agencies, World Bank, UNDP and UNEP will use the outputs to guide and develop further their technical cooperation programmes in the selected countries so that they respond progressively to the environmental concerns and objectives of the countries.

4.2.3 Generalised guidelines drawn from the collaborative experience will be made available widely to the developing countries, development aid community and intergovernmental organizations.

4.2.4 Governments and UN organizations will carry out agreed projects for rehabilitating and improving the environment of the selected countries and for strengthening their individual capacity to incorporate environment and resource considerations in their development planning process.

4.2.5 UNDP country Programmes and World Bank's development assistance will, as appropriate, include the jointly designed inter-agency projects for implementation.

4.2.6 Information on action for environment and sustainable development will be used by Governments and development institutions in design and implementation of programmes and policies.

4.3 Follow-up Action

4.3.1 Based on the experience in the selected countries of integrating environmental objectives in technical cooperation and advisory programmes, organizations of the UN system will consider how similar programmes they are carrying out in developing countries could incorporate environmental and resource considerations in their policies, programmes and activities in other countries.

4.3.2 The mechanism of a newsletter will continue to be used, to make available widely information on how selected policies, programmes, and activities are responding to the environmental objectives set for the individual countries and also on the effectiveness of the internal policy, procedural and institutional measures undertaken within specialised agencies to promote national action for sustainable development.

4.4 Activities

- 4.4.1 UN organizations' approval of project.
- 4.4.2 Provisional selection of countries for systemwide action under the project based on agreed criteria.
- 4.4.3 Consultations with Governments proposed for selection.
- 4.4.4 UN organizations' final selection of project countries.
- 4.4.5 Preparation or updating of environmental report on environmental conditions, problems and information for selected countries and of analysis of environmental problems related to socio-economic development patterns and policies on basis of available information.
- 4.4.6 Preparation of overviews of individual agencies' technical cooperation and advisory activities, ongoing and planned, in the concerned countries.
- 4.4.7 Expert inter-agency missions to selected countries to assess environmental aspects of sectoral and overall development plans and policies.
- 4.4.8 Preparation of recommendations on how specific sectoral plans and policies and projects in the selected countries should respond to environmental concerns and objectives.
- 4.4.9 Preparation of recommendations on procedures, methods, regulations, legislation and institutional arrangements needed to facilitate sustainable development activities in the countries.
- 4.4.10 Preparation of recommendations to ensure that technical cooperation and advisory services of UN organizations' respond to the environmental objectives and concerns of countries.
- 4.4.11 Recommendations and design of field projects and activities for implementation in the selected countries to protect, rehabilitate, manage and enhance the environment and resource base in each selected country.

- 4.4.12 Recommendations of cooperative measures to be employed by UN organizations to facilitate their cooperation with developing countries on sustainable development.
- 4.4.13 Recommendation for assistance needed to enable host country to develop its indigenous capacity to incorporate environmental and resources considerations in development planning.
- 4.4.14 Editing, publication and dissemination of a bi-annual newsletter on action for environment and sustainable development based largely upon inputs from agencies.
- 4.4.15 Consultation with concerned Governments on the need for establishment of policies and methodologies and procedural and institutional mechanisms to improve progress towards sustainable development.
- 4.4.16 Inclusion of selected field projects and/or programmes in the UNDP country or other programmes.
- 4.4.17 Mobilization of investment resources to finance joint field projects and/or programmes through donors' meetings.
- 4.4.18 Final Report of the project.
- 4.4.19 Evaluation of the results of the project.

4.5 Inputs

4.5.1 The organizations and bodies of the United Nations system collaborating in this project will contribute financially, and provide technical personnel to develop and implement the activities under this project. Experts and consultants will also be engaged, as needed, to prepare the various studies and reports necessary to achieve the objectives of the project. Members of the Steering Group will also ensure that the lessons of systemwide action for sustainable development will be brought to the attention of relevant parts of their respective organizations.

4.5.2 The concerned collaborating Governments will make available requisite information and data to prepare the background materials and will ensure that technical personnel from the concerned departments will participate in the preparation of the various reports and analyses.

Section 5

5.1 Institutional Framework

5.1.1 An inter-agency Steering Group will be established with participation of technical experts from individual organizations and bodies to develop, oversee and monitor the activities under the project. Each organization represented in the Steering Group will be responsible to ensure that its organization's technical cooperation and advisory activities in the field of design and implementation of development policies, plans, programmes and projects in the selected developing countries in their respective fields of competence are appropriately reviewed and analysed. Members of the Steering Group will also ensure that results, findings and guidelines emanating from the project are brought to the attention of concerned departments of their respective organizations for appropriate follow-up activity. As a result, technical cooperation activities of the cooperating organizations should progressively respond to the environmental objectives and concerns of the developing countries. Consultations will be held to determine the composition and leadership of inter-organizational and country missions required to conduct project activities. Care will be taken to consider existing and planned activities of cooperating institutions in the selected countries so as to avoid duplication.

5.1.2 Selection of countries for preparation of the project will be guided by the following criteria:

(a) readiness of the Governments to engage in the joint collaboration to establish and implement policies, practices and procedures amenable to promoting sustainable development,

(b) significant general awareness and governmental commitment to environmentally sound and sustainable development,

(c) availability of data on major environmental problems and their bearing on socio-economic development,

(d) significant involvement of collaborating specialised agencies and organizations in advisory or technical cooperation activities relating to development,

5.1.3 UNEP will convene periodic meetings of the Steering Group to review progress of implementation of the project. Substantive work relating to the project will be carried out mostly within the selected developing countries by available national experts and international organization staff and external consultants engaged under the project. The terms of reference for the work of these experts will be agreed to by the Steering Group. Similarly, the Steering Group will review and finalize the various technical reports emanating from the project. UNEP will provide the secretariat for the project's management. UNEP will service the Steering Group meetings and their reports and will provide secretariat services as needed to organize the various country missions and substantive work within the selected countries. UNEP will also provide technical and organizational support for the editing and publication of the bi-annual newsletter on environment and sustainable development.

Section 6

6.1 Budget: See Annex.

SUMMARY PROJECT BUDGET

		<u>1988</u>	<u>1989</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>1991</u>	<u>1992</u>	<u>Total</u>
10.	<u>Project Personnel Component</u>						
12	<u>Consultants</u>						
1201	For preparation of analysis of environmental problems in selected countries and their relationship to sustainable development including main ideas for joint field projects.						
	(a) 4 m/m x 3 countries(P-4/P-5)	8,000	18,000	13,000	-	-	39,000
	(b) (travel and DSA) x 3 countries	4,000	4,000	4,000	-	-	12,000
1202	For preparation of country-by-country recommendations for inter-agency coordinated action for sustainable development, including field projects to be development jointly.						
	(a) 1 m/m (P-4/P-5) x 3 countries	-	4,200	4,200	4,200	-	12,600
	(b) Travel and DSA to Nairobi	-	3,000	3,000	3,000	-	9,000
1203	Detailed country-specific programmes and recommendations sector by sector for each participating agency on technical co-operation and advisory services on sustainable development: (a)* Food and Agriculture; (b) Industry; (c) Health; (d) Population; (e) Trade and Finance.						
	(a) 1 m/m x 5 agencies x 3 countries (P-4/P-5)	-	21,000	21,000	21,000	-	63,000
	(b) Travel to three countries + agency headquarters and DSA	-	20,000	20,000	20,000	-	60,000
		12,000	70,200	65,200	48,200	-	195,600

	<u>1988</u>	<u>1989</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>1991</u>	<u>1992</u>	<u>Total</u>
1300 <u>Administrative support</u>						56,000
1301 Research Assistant (G-9)	6,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	8,000	36,000
1302 Secretary (G-6)	4,500	9,000	9,000	9,000	4,500	
1600 <u>Travel on official business</u>						
1601 Participation in Inter-Agency Steering Group* once a year: Geneva 2 x (4 days) each year	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	20,000
1602 Participation in technical missions to countries including inter-agency meetings in countries. One mission per agency x 3 countries x 10 days	-	13,500	13,500	13,500	-	40,500
1603 Participation in donors' meetings* to raise finance for follow-up on field projects	-	-	-	3,000	6,000	9,000
50 <u>Miscellaneous component</u>						
5200 <u>Reporting costs</u> (Publication and dissemination of Newsletter on technical cooperation for sustainable development and on findings of project)	1,000	5,000	8,000	10,000	10,000	34,000
	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	15,000
5300 Sundry	3,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	23,000
5301 Communications	-	-	-	-	10,000	10,000
6500 Evaluation						
GRAND TOTAL	33,500	123,700	121,700	109,700	50,500	439,100

* Only UNEP participation shown. Each agency is expected to finance, outside of its project contribution, its participation in the Steering Group (two sessions a year) and fund-raising meetings (three for the three countries).

WDIAL

.SPRIE

OINFO

-SUBJECT: JULY 8TH MEETING OF AGENCY HEADS

-DRAFTED BY: MCARTER/^{AS}ASHAKOW

EXT:33307

-AUTHORIZED BY: BARBER B. CONABLE

-CC: MESSRS. HOPPER, PIDDINGTON, STANTON; MS. HAUG

842 270602 =

-UNESCO, PARIS, FRANCE

-ATTN: MR. FEDERICO MAYOR, DIRECTOR-GENERAL

963 22068 =

-UNEP, NAIROBI, KENYA

-ATTN: MR. MOSTAFA K. TOLBA, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

BT

WASHINGTON DC - 08 JUNE 1988

THANK YOU FOR YOUR LETTER OF APRIL 27 INVITING ME TO JOIN YOU AND SEVERAL OTHER AGENCY HEADS IN PARIS ON JULY 8 TO DISCUSS FUTURE ACTIONS IN THE ENVIRONMENTAL FIELD. I LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU THE NEXT DAY IN OSLO BUT REGRET THAT I WILL NOT BE ABLE TO MAKE IT TO PARIS AS I WILL BE COMPLETING AN OFFICIAL VISIT TO SPAIN. I HAVE ASKED MR. W. DAVID HOPPER, SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT FOR POLICY, PLANNING AND RESEARCH, TO ATTEND YOUR MEETING ON MY BEHALF. WITH KIND REGARDS. BARBER B. CONABLE, PRESIDENT, INTBAFRAD.

BBC



United Nations Educational,
Scientific and Cultural Organization

Organisation des Nations Unies
pour l'éducation, la science et la culture

7, place de Fontenoy, 75700 Paris

United Nations
Environment Programme

Programme des Nations Unies
pour l'Environnement



P.O.Box 30552 - Nairobi, Kenya

27 April 1988

Dear Mr. Conable,

The growing concern of the international community about environmental matters is clearly expressed at recent sessions of our governing bodies. The report of the World Commission on Environment and Development and the Environmental Perspective to the Year 2000 and Beyond have heightened this concern and improved our understanding of the relationship between environmental protection and development.

The UN system as a whole and our agencies in particular are taking steps to respond to the challenges outlined in these documents. We believe that, in view of the major responsibilities with which our organizations are entrusted, we should have regular consultations in order to determine an agreed course of action.

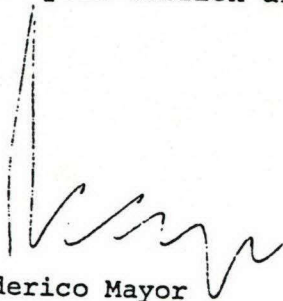
As a first step to that end, we would like to invite the executive heads of ILO, FAO, WHO, UNIDO, WMO, the World Bank and UNDP to meet with us on 8 July at 10.00 a.m. at the UNESCO Headquarters in Paris. This would seem a convenient time as it falls between our planned meeting of the ACC/CPC and ECOSOC in Geneva on 4-6 July and our meeting in Oslo with Prime Minister Brundtland on 9-10 July.

At our meeting in Paris we suggest that we exchange general views on ways to join our efforts, in particular as a follow-up of General Assembly resolutions 42/186 and 42/187. In addition, we propose that we concentrate on two issues, namely, climate change, including its impact on drought and desertification, and the integration of environmental considerations into the process of economic and social development.

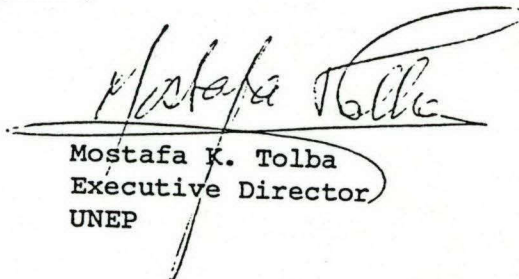
Mr. B. Conable
President
World Bank
1818 H Street, N.W.
Washington D.C. 20433
U.S.A.

We look forward to our talks on these issues, which we believe require top-level consideration within the United Nations. Please let us know if you can join us for the Paris meeting. It would, of course, be our intention to inform our other colleagues in the ACC of this meeting during our April session and naturally to apprise them of its results.

Sincerely yours,



Federico Mayor
Director-General
UNESCO



Mostafa K. Tolba
Executive Director
UNEP

② mm. Conable
① PPH
③ CP

THE WORLD BANK / INTERNATIONAL FINANCE CORPORATION
OFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE: December 23, 1987
TO: Mr. W. David Hopper, SVP/PPR
FROM: *deuf* Alexander Shakow, Director, SPRD
EXTENSION: 3-4697
SUBJECT: United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP): Publication of Population, Resources, Environment and Development Book

Dr. Mostafa Tolba, Executive Director, United Nations Environment Programme, has invited Mr. Conable to contribute to a forthcoming book on population, resources, environment and development. (See telex attached). Other contributing authors include Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, and the Prime Minister of New Zealand.

Messrs. Rajagopalan and Warford recommend that we accept. The book will provide a further opportunity to get across our message on the environment to an even larger audience. We support this recommendation. If you agree, we will inform Dr. Tolba accordingly. We envisage a mid-February deadline for our contribution.

*Logged mt
1/4/88
c.p.*

*o/k -
Will someone
work on copy?*

Attachments

cc: Messrs. Rajagopalan and Warford

CBoucher/abj



UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME
PROGRAMME DES NATIONS UNIES POUR L'ENVIRONNEMENT



HEADQUARTERS:
P.O. BOX 30552
NAIROBI, KENYA
CABLE ADDRESS: UNITERRA NAIROBI

Rm. DC2-0803
~~XXXXXXXXXX~~
UNITED NATIONS, N.Y. 10017
TELEPHONE: (212) 754-8139
CABLE ADDRESS: UNATIONS NEW YORK

20 October 1987

Dear Mr. Conable,

I have followed with great interest and admiration your statements since assuming the Presidency of the World Bank - particularly, of course, your views on the linkage between development and environmental issues. It is therefore an honour and a pleasure for me to invite you to contribute to a book which UNEP plans to publish in the first quarter of 1988. The subject is "Population, Resources, Environment, and Development." A number of distinguished international public figures have accepted my invitation to write chapters. They include the Prime Minister of Norway, the Director General of Food and Agriculture Organisation, The Duke of Edinburgh, Professor Barry Commoner, The Prime Minister of New Zealand, The Prime Minister of Jamaica, Dr. Saburo Okita of Japan, and Dr. Mansour Khalid of Sudan.

UNEP believes that this is a particularly appropriate time to gather together opinion and analyses from key makers of decisions and policies in this arena in a comprehensive publication.

I believe that this collection of views on the linked issues of population, resources, environment and development would not be complete without the benefit of your contribution.

I do hope you can accept this invitation. Our deadline for contribution is mid-January 1988.

With kindest personal regards.

Yours sincerely,

Mostafa K. Tolba
Under-Secretary General
United Nations
and
Executive Director
United Nations Environment Programme

Mr. Barber Conable
President, World Bank
1818 H. Street NW
Washington, DC 20433

WORLD BANK OUTGOING MESSAGE FORM Cable, Telex
IMPORTANT—PLEASE READ INSTRUCTIONS BELOW BEFORE TYPING FORM

Typewritten
Character
Must Fall
Completely in
Box!

PAGE 1 OF 1

OFFICIAL DEPT/DIV
ABBREVIATION
SPR/IERD

MESSAGE NUMBER

TEST NUMBER
(FOR CASHIER'S USE ONLY)

START
HERE

DR. MOSTAFA K. TOLBA, UNDER-SECRETARY GENERAL, UNITED NATIONS
AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME
U.N. HEADQUARTERS
NAIROBI, KENYA
RE YOUR TELEX OF OCTOBER 20. I AM PLEASED TO INFORM YOU THAT
MR. CONABLE HAS AGREED TO PROVIDE A CHAPTER TO UNEP'S BOOK ON
POPULATION, RESOURCES, ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT. WE WOULD
APPRECIATE GUIDANCE ON LENGTH REQUIRED AND SUBJECTS BEING
CONVERED BY OTHER CONTRIBUTORS. WORK PRESSURE ON BANK STAFF
CONCERNED SUGGESTS DEADLINE OF MID-JANUARY UNPRACTICAL. PLEASE
ADVISE IF MID-FEBRUARY DEADLINE WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE. REGARDS,
W. DAVID HOPPER, SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT, POLICY, PLANNING AND
RESEARCH. INTBAFRAD

END
OF
TEXT

PINK AREA TO BE LEFT BLANK AT ALL TIMES

INFORMATION BELOW NOT TO BE TRANSMITTED

CLASS OF SERVICE: CABLE	TELEX NO.: UNITERRA	DATE: 12-23-87
SUBJECT: UNEP Book Collaboration	DRAFTED BY: CBoucher /abj	EXTENSION: 34693
CLEARANCES AND COPY DISTRIBUTION: Cleared in substance and cc: E. Tillier	AUTHORIZED BY (Name and Signature): W. David Hopper	
	DEPARTMENT: SVP/PPR	
SECTION BELOW FOR USE OF CABLE SECTION		
CHECKED FOR DISPATCH		

October 31, 1986

Dear Dr. Tolba:

Thank you for your letter of September 11 about Bank organizational arrangements for dealing with natural resource management and with environmental concerns generally.

As you may have noted in my statement last month to the annual meeting of our Board of Governors, I emphasized the importance of protecting the environment as we promote economic advance. The integration of these concerns into our overall development strategy is critical, I noted, if we are to avoid the risk of ultimate failure of the work we undertake. The problems faced by our developing member countries in this area, and the path to their solution, are long standing, but we are increasingly sensitive to their importance, and I have committed myself to move from that awareness to a concerted, continuing plan of action for sustained development.

A factor in our efforts will, of course, be the way the Bank itself is organized to address these issues. In this connection, I welcome the perceptions that UNEP has come to have over the past several years and that you have generously passed on in your letter. They will be looked at carefully as we develop our strategy for the program outlined above.

The appropriate Bank organizational structure to address these and other issues is now the subject of a broad review of the Bank's entire organizational structure which I initiated just a few weeks ago. The pattern of our future internal organization in the environment area will, of course, be part of this review. But regardless of the form or any overall organizational change we may introduce, continued collaboration with UNEP will be an important element in matters relating to the environment. In this respect I welcome your assurance of UNEP's commitment to help and to lend its expertise, as appropriate, to the Bank's effort to reflect new attention to the role of environment in sound development.

Dr. Mostafa K. Tolba

-2-

October 31, 1986

To follow-up on this, I am asking Mr. Shahid Husain, Vice President, Operations Policy, to keep you informed of programmatic or organization changes that take place in the environmental work of the Bank. Members of his staff have had a long and fruitful dialogue with UNEP in the past. It certainly is our intention to continue.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Barber B. Conable

Barber B. Conable
President

Dr. Mostafa K. Tolba
Executive Director
United Nations Environment Programme
P. O. Box 30522
Nairobi, Kenya

cc: Messrs. J. William Stanton and S. Shahid Husain

VJRiley:ek/yrb

*logged not
10/31 chd*

CP- first check to see
if it was distributed
to senior staff.

CP- file UNEP

Thank you!
yes, per Eilat
by Polignone L -

THE WORLD BANK

Office of the President

Office
E/25
C.P.

Actn
+ Callie

Alex:

Mr. Conable has made some slight changes to the article, which I've written out for clarity purposes. Let me know if any of the changes are not clear, or if there is a problem with the suggested changes.

Mr. Conable thought this was an excellent article, and would like to have it distributed to senior staff.

I have had Mr. Conable sign the outgoing letter so that as soon as the changes are made the package can be sent. Would you please be sure that a final copy of the article is sent to EXC. Thanks.

Linda M. Laughlin

x 72001

(revised copy attached)

Ushering in the Era of Sustainable Development

by Barber Conable, President, The World Bank

A new era is opening in the history of development ... and not a moment too soon. It is the era of managing natural resources, not exhausting them, of linking economic growth and environmental protection in strategies for sustainable development.

As evidence of ecological damage in the Third World has multiplied, it has shown that development cannot bring lasting relief to the poor if it does not also take lasting care of the resources on which they and all human life depend. Developing nations and development institutions have learned that sound ecology is not only good economics; it is essential for survival. It can be compatible with growth.

Seeing that connection, however, is not the same as applying it. That is a tougher economic, political and social challenge and one the World Bank is addressing with new determination, new resources and, most importantly, new support from its member countries. Together, we are only at the beginning of this era of sustainable development. We are working against time but in the right direction.

The World Bank officially recognized the emerging importance of environment as a development issue two years before the United Nations

Conference on the Human Environment was convened in Stockholm. In 1970, the institution -- the first in its field to do so -- began to review the projects it supported to uncover and evaluate potential environmental damage.

Since then, the alarming pace of environmental degradation in the developing countries has attracted people of goodwill everywhere -- the multilateral and bilateral aid agencies, environmental and other non-governmental organizations -- to push more forcefully for the integration of sustainable natural resource management into the development process.

The challenge of sustainable development is to reconcile the objectives of promoting growth, alleviating poverty and protecting the environment. While these objectives may generally support each other in the long run, it is often more difficult to ensure their short-term compatibility. Given the limited financial resources allocated to development assistance, it is essential that the attack on poverty include a defense of sound ecology.

In its report, Our Common Future, the World Commission on Environment and Development (the Brundtland Commission) focuses on this question and describes the many facets of environmental considerations that need to be woven into development work. Beyond analyzing the problems and the extraordinary complexities of the many interlinked issues involved, the Brundtland report proposes an agenda for change.

At the World Bank, we are responding to that challenge. Although the institution had long been dealing with environmental issues before my arrival in July 1986, I have made these concerns a priority and set about strengthening the Bank's own capability to harmonize environmental protection and development. Environment, Growth and Development, a discussion paper prepared for the April 1987 meeting of the Development Committee, first pulled the policy strands together.

In depicting the intricate repercussions of environmental issues the paper points out that, contrary to popular perceptions, large-scale projects do not provoke the most serious environmental problems in developing countries. Rather the combined effects of countless small-scale activities that use fragile tropical soils, limited water resources and forests in an unsustainable manner do the most widespread harm. Aggravating burgeoning population pressure, inappropriate land tenure, economic incentive, taxation and resource conservation policies compound the damage.

In urban areas development assistance has failed to keep pace with the appalling problems of overcrowding and deteriorating human health. Millions of the urban poor live in unsanitary conditions without safe drinking water, surrounded by industrial and municipal pollution. Industrial accidents in the developing countries can devastate the lives of families too poor to afford the cost of relocation or reconstruction. While the Bank and other agencies have issued environmental guidelines for

containing pollution and reducing the risk of industrial accidents, consistent implementation of those guidelines is no easy task.

Moreover, investment policies, including those of the World Bank, have generally focused on measures to increase food production and to address immediate problems of rural poverty. As a result, the more intractable longer-term problems, such as desertification, spreading salinization of irrigated lands and over-exploitation of tropical forests, tended to be overlooked and to receive disproportionately lower financial support.

One of the main messages of the 1987 paper prepared for the Development Committee is that progress toward tackling these formidable issues will depend on integrating environmental management into economic policies at all levels of government and into international development assistance work. In the same vein as the Brundtland report, the paper calls for concerted action and cooperation in the environmental arena. While the governments of developing countries will have the leading role, multilateral and bilateral agencies must help them, and all parties must collaborate more with non-governmental organizations.

Out of the World Bank's own reorganization has come a new structure to strengthen the Bank in the continuing policy dialogue with governments of its member countries on environmental issues and sustainable development and to incorporate more broadly and systematically environmental protection considerations into Bank lending.

In addition to creating a central Environment Department with three divisions, the Bank has established four Environment Divisions, one in each of the Bank's regional operations units. Altogether, these units are staffed by some 60 environmental experts: ecologists, sociologists, anthropologists, biologists, natural resource economists, environmental engineers, hydrologists and agronomists. As part of their work, they act as environmental advocates throughout the Bank.

Changing attitudes in the developing countries also prompted the upgrading of the Bank's environmental arm. Many Third World governments now recognize that environmental degradation can compromise long-term economic growth unless appropriate policies and institutions pay heed to natural resource management. No longer considering environmental protection a luxury reserved for the rich nations, a growing number of developing countries have come to realize that they must include provisions in their development plans to stem the depletion of their natural resource base and to stamp a greater measure of permanency on development activities.

In taking up the challenge of sustainable development, the Bank is building on a solid foundation of project experience. Since the Stockholm conference, the Bank has helped finance more than 1,500 environmental components that were added to its power, transportation, industry and agriculture projects. A few projects were also designed to improve soil conservation and the management of forests, rangelands and watersheds; to

prevent desertification; to conserve water resources and fisheries; and to preserve genetic diversity in wildland areas. The Bank also financed many more projects to establish sites and services for urban housing, to upgrade slums, to improve water supply and sewerage as well as solid waste management, to develop renewable energy resources, to control urban pollution and to improve health.

For the future, however, the Bank recognizes clearly that a project-by-project focus is too narrow to address the national or regional problems related to natural resource degradation. Gradually, the Bank has moved towards broader-based multi-sector operations that contain a range of mutually reinforcing investments and policy reforms.

At the World Bank sustainable development is being pursued on two levels:

First, we are reviewing projects more systematically and comprehensively. Consistent with the Brundtland commission's recommendations, we will strive to anticipate the complex ecological and behavioral consequences of large-scale development projects and to promote appropriate defense against those consequences. We are putting stronger emphasis on identifying projects that not only meet economic growth and poverty alleviation criteria, but also directly address environmental issues or ease the problems of environmental management. Recent projects of this nature deal with water supply and pollution control, social

forestry, watershed management and industrial pollution control, while new projects being prepared will address wildlife management and directly support conservation.

Second, the Bank is systematically incorporating environmental issues into the five elements of the Bank's country assistance work: policy dialogue, economic analysis, sector work, lending program and aid coordination. Putting environmental considerations high on the agenda of all our relevant activities, we will uphold our commitment to sustainable development.

In collaboration with other agencies and non-governmental organizations, the Bank is assisting beneficiary countries to develop methodologies and strategies for identifying, controlling and taking environmental considerations into account in their own policies, incentives and institutions. Our goal is to improve their capacity to manage and preserve the natural resource base vital for future growth. Here again, the underlying assumption governing this work is that environmental issues and prudent resource management should be an integral part of economic policy, if sustained economic development with equity is to be achieved.

The mechanisms for pursuing these goals have been established. Within two years, the Bank will have produced summary reports on critical environmental issues facing all our major borrowers which will serve as guides to action. We will also conduct in-depth studies focused on developing policy, institutions and implementation capacity in a number of

countries. Selected according to their intrinsic ecological importance and the perceived commitment of their governments to improved natural resource management. Because of the diverse environmental problems and institutional arrangements of the selected countries, the Bank will be able to test a variety of approaches and methodologies. In addition to these country-specific studies, we have a regional Mediterranean program under way which will complement and support UNEP's ambitious Mediterranean Action Plan.

At the global level, the Bank has taken steps to mobilize resources and improve aid coordination by playing a lead role in formulating a Tropical Forest Action Plan, an initiative that already has doubled aid and community support for reforestation, watershed rehabilitation and fuelwood planting. We are exploring the possibility of a similar global initiative for conserving biological diversity in tropical rain forests, wetlands and marine environments.

A broad research effort has begun on some of the global and regional environmental issues that spill over national borders. These require in-depth examination of underlying socioeconomic and technical causes as the prerequisite for formulating effective environmental management strategies. On the problem of desertification, for example, the Bank has established a task force to conduct a number of studies and to plan closer collaboration with UNEP and FAO. Alternative approaches for land stabilization and improvement in a number of African countries are being studied. The attack on salinity, which has resulted in the

degradation of some 40 million hectares of farmland in arid regions, will require a more concerted effort to monitor water tables and salinity levels and increased investments for adequate drainage.

The reduction of industrial disasters, such as those that occurred at Bhopal, Chernobyl or Basel, is most important. Techniques for environmental risk analysis and improved management for accident avoidance are being developed. The Bank is benefiting from the experience of the EEC countries and outside scientific and industrial organizations in formulating its own programs.

Decreasing the use of chemical pesticides is another area receiving the Bank's attention. We are encouraged by the progress made in countries like Indonesia and Sri Lanka which are adopting the technique of integrated pest management in their agricultural loans, thereby diminishing heavy reliance on these products. On urban environmental issues, the daunting problems of sanitation, waste disposal and air pollution will require a concerted international effort. We deeply appreciate the strong support the UNDP and many bilateral agencies have given to the Bank's initiatives in the area of energy conservation.

In addition to these collaborative studies on critical global issues, there is a need to learn more about the effect of agricultural pricing policies and other economic incentives on natural resource depletion. We will be reviewing subsidies for fertilizers, pesticides and irrigation water to see whether they are economically and environmentally appropriate.

The relationship between women, resource management and development is a special area of concern. Many of our past projects have neglected women, generally the group most concerned with daily decisions on natural resource use and management. While it is women who gather fuelwood, till the soil and harvest the crops, they rarely are consulted about the design of agricultural and rural development programs.

The financial implications of a significant shift toward sustainable development are daunting and call for a massive global response. It would be unrealistic and unfair to expect the developing countries to bear the full cost of protecting tropical rain forests and other biological diverse habitats that benefit all mankind. The Bank is actively pursuing the possibility of securing increased concessional aid flows to tackle these global ecological issues.

The call for sustainable development thus urges the borrowing and donor nations to act in concert. It is a call for closer cooperation, for concerted decisions, for sustained generosity and for mutual compassion and understanding of the dilemma the developing countries face as they struggle to balance the pressure of immediate needs and the priority aim of longer-term sustainability. This critical call must be answered. Only then will Third World nations be encouraged to undertake development activities that do not endanger their natural resource base. Only then will the whole world be able to call its future safe.



UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME
PROGRAMME DES NATIONS UNIES POUR L'ENVIRONNEMENT



1355
Cable Address: UNITERRA, Nairobi
Telex No.: 22068
Telephone: 333930

P.O. Box 30552,
Nairobi, Kenya

Your Reference:

Our Reference:

11 September 1986

Dear Mr. Conable,

Congratulations again.

I understand that the World Bank is considering a change in organizational arrangements for strengthening capabilities to deal with natural resources management and the integration of environmental concerns in the Bank's lending operations generally.

We in UNEP will welcome organizational arrangements within the World Bank which will lead to an enforcement of the environmental focus and operational capacity. In your consideration of the different options for reorganization, you may wish to take account of the following perceptions that we have come to have over the past several years:

- We have reached the conclusion that in addition to promoting and applying methodologies for integrating environmental concerns in development projects, programmes and plans, it is necessary to address the broader question of how to influence national and regional policies as such, taking into account the basic link between environmental protection, resource management and for instance population pressures. These policies cover a wide spectrum, including, the role of women in rural development, subsidies that lead to environmental stress, possibilities for corrective taxation, and so forth. Economics and ecology are not only complementary, they must be made mutually re-inforcing through effective and efficient policy mixes. This implies that in countries where the Bank has a large and diversified lending programme, environmental issues cannot be addressed effectively in the context of individual projects alone, they must be seen as part of the overall country strategy. Thus, it is not only necessary to improve the technical efficiency and the in-house capacity for handling environmental matters, but also, through appropriate measures, to enhance the perception of recipients and donor countries of the Bank's increasing attention to environmental issues, and policies and procedures for dealing with them.

Mr. B. Conable
President of the World Bank
World Bank
1818 H Street N.W.
Washington D.C. 20433
U.S.A.

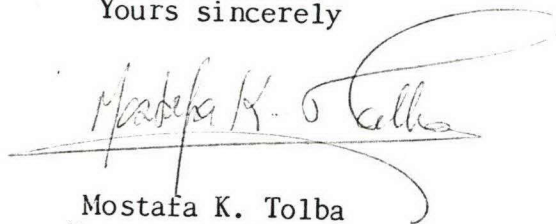
- 2 -

In other words, the Bank would need to ensure that environmental issues figure on the agenda of its organized consultative meetings and are addressed in the context of bilateral and other relevant discussions concerning the Bank's overall lending programmes and assistance to developing countries.

UNEP of course remains fully committed to help as appropriate and lend its expertise to further efforts of the Bank towards making its lending programmes and assistance environmentally sound.

Kind personal regards.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Mostafa K. Tolba', written over a horizontal line. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Mostafa K. Tolba
Executive Director