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Item 8 (a) of the provisional agenda

Implementation of Article 4, paragraphs 8 and 9, of the Convention

Progress on the implementation of activities under decision 5/CP.7

**Information on current and/or planned activities implemented in support of
the various provisions of decision 5/CP.7.**

Submissions from Parties and international organizations

Addendum

1. In addition to the seven submissions contained in document FCCC/SBI/2004/MISC.2, three further submissions have been received.
2. In accordance with the procedure for miscellaneous documents, these submissions are attached and reproduced* in the language in which they were received and without formal editing.

* These submissions have been electronically imported in order to make them available on electronic systems, including the World Wide Web. The secretariat has made every effort to ensure the correct reproduction of the texts as submitted.

FCCC/SBI/2004/MISC.2/Add.1

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PAPER NO. 1: CHINA

**China's
Submission on current and/or planned activities implemented in support of
the various provisions of decision 5/CP.7**

China presents the following views as requested by FCCC/SBI/2003/L.26 on issues related to current and/or planned activities implemented in support of the various provisions of Decision 5/CP.7.

Being aware of the importance of the work in support of the implementation of decision 5/CP.7, China has conducted some initial work with domestic resources in this field and engaged in several bilateral collaborative projects with the United Kingdom, Canada, etc. on impacts assessment and adaptive capacity building.

China notes the status on the implementation of decision 5/CP.7, particularly the establishment of a working LDC fund, development of guidelines for NAPAs, and the useful work of the LDC Expert Group. China strongly calls upon that the work programmes of NAPAs should extend to all developing countries and cover more fields in addressing the adverse impacts of climate change on developing countries and the related response measures. China believes that GEF and other additional resources should be ready to provide funding for these activities.

With regard to the work programmes of NAPAs, China proposes to cover the following points at the present stage:

- to identify the country-specific adverse impacts;
- to assess the adaptive capacity and adaptation needs;
- to identify priority areas and key technologies;
- to provide reference guidelines for adaptation policies and measures;
- to identify supporting/collaborative programmes for the above-mentioned purpose;

China emphasizes the great importance of the adaptive capacity building for all developing countries. Establishment and improvement of decision tools, for example, impacts and adaptation policy assessment models, are fundamental work for decision-making to meet the special needs of developing countries. China welcomes more useful information provided by future work on modeling. Further more, China believes that it is very helpful to filter out some models in the state of arts and make them available for developing countries through collaborative research and training.

PAPER NO. 2: JAPAN

Japan's submission
on progress on the implementation of activities under decision 5/CP.7
1 June 2004

Japan is pleased to provide information on current and/or planned activities including support programmes, to meet the specific needs and circumstances of developing country Parties arising from the adverse effects of climate change, implemented in support of the various provisions of decision 5/CP.7.

Introduction

As Delhi Ministerial Declaration states, adaptation issues should be addressed in the context of sustainable development. Therefore, many of the implementation of activities under decision 5/CP.7 should be recognized that they are deeply related to existing development cooperation programmes, and the activities should be promoted by both Annex I and non-Annex I parties.

Activities under 5/CP.7 range over various areas: adverse effects on climate change; agriculture; food security; medicine; water resource management; etc. Additionally, we have been discussing the impact of response measures, noting that many persistent uncertainties have been highlighted by workshops and previous negotiations. In light of this, 5/CP.7 activities are not only related to the limited area of measures for climate change, but also placed as measures for assisting the growth of the economy, reforming society and eradicating poverty.

Of course, Japan continues to implement the specific climate change programme "Kyoto Initiative" as indicated below in order to take action against adaptation as well as mitigation. Japan also encourages various entities including NGOs and private sectors to promote activities relating to 5/CP.7. In addition, the implementation of the 5/CP.7 activities has been supported through the Global Environment Facility (in accordance with decision 6/CP.7) and other bilateral and multilateral sources.

Nonetheless, a stack of urgent needs for assisting non-Annex I parties are and will be increasing. Although Japan would like to make efforts to assist these activities as necessary, we are concerned that international climate change community might not be able to address such needs as many vulnerable countries and areas would desire, due to limited financial resources. Taking account of these circumstances and the fact that adaptation measures are effective particularly in local and regional areas rather than global areas, Japan recognizes that improving governance and acquiring ownership of non-Annex I parties by themselves are essential to promoting activities under 5/CP.7 of Parties from non-Annex I so that activities can be prioritized and streamlined by their own leaderships.

Last but not least, Japan believes that responses to climate change should be coordinated with social and economic development in an integrated manner because the more non-Annex I parties develop, the more they will acquire the capability to resist vulnerability to climate change. In this context, sustainable development, which includes various national activities related and unrelated to climate change, is the pivotal key when we are dealing with adaptation issues including 5/CP.7 activities.

Considering all the above mentioned facts, Japan would like to provide information on bilateral and multilateral cooperation that Japan has been engaged in. What we introduce herewith are just highlighted examples of our work in lieu of the total list of the activities related to.

Activities

The government of Japan addresses the specific needs and concerns of developing countries regarding 5/CP.7 mainly through its ODA schemes. This paper first presents two initiatives under Japan's ODA,

which contribute to implementing activities on 5/CP.7 in developing countries, and then some specific project examples for further discussions with fellow UNFCCC parties.

1. Japan's initiatives for sustainable development in developing countries

A. Kyoto Initiative

In December 1997, on the occasion of the third conference of the parties to the UNFCCC in Kyoto Japan, the government issued the "Kyoto Initiative" to assist developing countries in combating global warming. It announced to (1) train 3000 people in developing countries in the fields of air pollution, waste disposal, energy saving technologies and forest conservation and afforestation in the five years beginning in the fiscal year 1998, (2) Yen loans with concessional terms available internationally to actively promote cooperation in the fields of energy saving technologies, new and renewable energy sources and forest conservation and afforestation, and (3) use technology and know-how acquired in the process of combating Japan's own pollution and energy problems.

B. EcoISD (Environmental Conservation Initiative for Sustainable Development)

In August 2002, on the occasion of WSSD, Japan established the "Environmental Conservation Initiative for Sustainable Development (EcoISD)", replacing the former initiative (Initiative for Sustainable Development toward the 21st Century), so as to carry out more effective and efficient environmental co-operation.

This new initiative indicates policies for Japan's support to developing countries in order to tackle the vast areas of environmental problems such as efforts to address global warming, pollution control, fresh water issues and conservation of natural environment. These policies include (1) human resources development totaling 5,000 in the environmental field over a five-year period from the fiscal year 2002, (2) provision of yen loans with the concessional terms for projects in environmental fields, (3) enhancement of Japan's grant aid for global environment, (4) promotion of wide-ranging collaboration with international organizations, and (5) further improvement of evaluation methods in order to make the ex-post evaluation of Japan's environmental ODA more effective.

2. Examples of activities

Examples of activities mentioned below are not only climate specific projects but also multi-objective projects, which consequently bring ancillary benefits for addressing adverse effect of climate change.

A. APN (Asia Pacific Network); information and methodologies

(1) Objective

The Asia-Pacific Network for Global Change Research (APN) is an inter-governmental network whose primary purposes are to foster global environmental change research in the Asia-Pacific region, increase developing country participation in that research, and to strengthen links between the science community and policy makers. It promotes, encourages and supports research activities on long-term global changes in climate, ocean and terrestrial systems, and on related physical, chemical, biological and socio-economic processes.

The 21 APN member countries include Australia; Bangladesh; Cambodia; China; Fiji; India; Indonesia; Japan; Lao People's Democratic Republic; Malaysia; Mongolia; Nepal; New Zealand; Pakistan; Philippines; Republic of Korea; Russian Federation; Sri Lanka; Thailand; United States of America and Viet Nam.

APN activities are decided by the annual Inter-Governmental Meeting, and supported by the Steering Group and Scientific Planning Group. Liaison Officers in each area facilitate communications. The following is a brief outline. For more details, please see the Organizational Arrangements and Procedures.

(2) CAPaBLE

The APN has launched a new Programme - Scientific Capacity Building/Enhancement for Sustainable Development (**CAPaBLE**), under the framework of the APN.

The **CAPaBLE** Programme is a concrete initiative to realize parts 107 to 114 of the Plan of Implementation for the WSSD and has been registered as a WSSD Type II Partnership/Initiative. Of particular relevance in the WSSD Plan of Implementation to the proposed Programme is part 111:

111. Establish regular channels between policy makers and the scientific community for requesting and receiving science and technology advice for the implementation of Agenda 21, and create and strengthen networks for science and education for sustainable development, at all levels, with the aim of sharing knowledge, experiences and best practices, and building scientific capacities, particularly in developing countries.

The five-year **CAPaBLE** programme is expected to develop and enhance scientific capacity in developing countries to improve their decision-making in the target areas related to climate change and water and food security that are directly linked to their sustainable development. Phase I of CAPaBLE, which will run from September 2003 to March 2006, will focus on climate change. This is expected to be achieved through a two-track approach:

- (1) Capacity Enhancement for Experienced Leading Scientists
- (2) Capacity Building for Young and Aspiring Scientists

Further detailed information; [http:// www.apn.gr.jp/](http://www.apn.gr.jp/)

B. South Pacific Resource Book; information, methodologies, vulnerability and adaptation

(1) Objective

In order to fulfill capacity building, and to develop resources to carry out vulnerability and adaptation assessment, the Ministry of the Environment of Japan has undertaken research and other studies concerning sea-level rise attributed to climate change in Pacific Island Countries from 1992, in cooperation with the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) and countries in the Pacific Islands Region.

Based on this experience, from year 1999 to 2000, the Ministry of the Environment of Japan and SPREP implemented a cooperative study, "Assessment of Possible Climate Change and Sea-level Rise Activities to be undertaken in Pacific Island Countries in Cooperation with Japan".

(2) Details

The South Pacific Resource Book is an outcome of over ten years of research and it provides people with up-to-date knowledge concerning climate change and sea-level rise, adaptation to adverse impacts including climate related disasters, and mitigation options. It is also a useful tool for policy makers as a guide to establish adaptation policies, for educator as text book to raise people's awareness including school students, and for other stakeholders to get information useful for their own consideration. It was first introduced at the Third Japan-PIF (Pacific Island Forum) Summit Meeting in Okinawa, May 2003 and is now being distributed in the Pacific region.

Further detailed information; [http:// www.sprep.org.ws/climate/doc/01index.htm](http://www.sprep.org.ws/climate/doc/01index.htm)

C. Assistance for submitting National Communication and Inventory; information and methodologies

The Work Shop of GHG Inventories in Asia Region held on November 11-13, 2003 in Phuket, Thailand. It brought together 26 inventory researchers and governmental officials from 11 countries (Thailand, Indonesia and so on) and representatives of two international organizations.

The participants share experiences and information on each country concerning institutional arrangements and technical aspects for developing GHG inventories in Asia-Pacific. Identify pros and cons for developing GHG inventories in each country that will guide the next phase of the capacity development strategy and produce a workshop.

Further detailed information; <http://www.apn.gr.jp/activity/capable/capableprojects.htm>

D. AP-net; information and methodologies

(1) Objective

AP-Net (Asia-Pacific Network on Climate Change) is a web-site which was established by the Ministry of the Environment Japan, for the purpose of facilitating the exchange of experience, data, and information among all relevant countries in the Asia-Pacific region. It contains several links to climate change related web-sites in 25 countries (Australia, Bangladesh, Canada, China, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kiribati, Kyrgyzstan, Malaysia, Maldives, Nepal, New Zealand, Pakistan, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Tuvalu, United States of America, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu and Viet Nam) and 19 international and regional organizations.

(2) Details

Since its establishment in 1998, the number of access to AP-Net has been increasing each year, and the recent status of average hit is 630 per month. It was also registered as a Type2 project in WSSD in order to enhance regional strategy on climate change.

Not only functioning as an information providing tool, AP-Net also gives an opportunity for capacity building. On the request by member countries, the AP-Net seminar was held to train internet literacy, contents development, and web-administration. Many participants, especially from Pacific Island countries, joined the program.

Further detailed information; <http://www.ap-net.org/index.htm>

E. Asia-Pacific Seminar on Climate Change; information and methodologies

The Ministry of the Environment of Japan has held the Asia-Pacific Seminar on Climate Change annually since 1991. The major objectives of the Seminar are to exchange information, experience and views on climate change among countries in Asia and the Pacific and to facilitate further activities to address climate change in the region. The thirteenth Seminar was held on September 2-5 2003 in Miyazaki, Japan, with an attendance of experts from eighteen countries and thirteen organizations. The participants came from Australia, China, Fiji, Indonesia, Islamic Republic of Iran, Japan, Kazakhstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Mongolia, Nepal, New Zealand, Pakistan, Philippines, Thailand, Tuvalu, United States of America and Viet Nam.

Main topics at the Seminar were capacity building to address climate change issues, preparation for CDM/JI and international cooperation for adaptation strategies. AP-Net, which is a climate change information network in the region developed by MOE, and local initiatives to combat global warming were also highlighted.

The fourteenth seminar will be held in Australia in year 2004.

Further detailed information; <http://www.ap-net.org/apseminar/>

F. Earth Observation Summit; information and methodologies

(1) Objective

Data from Earth observations significantly contributes to advance understanding of the Earth system such as weather, climate, oceans, land, geology, natural resources, ecosystems and natural and human-induced hazards. Thus, Earth observations play a crucial role in enhancing human health, safety and welfare, alleviating human suffering including poverty, protecting the global environment, achieving sustainable development and the importance of Earth observations has been stressed in various international conferences such as the World Summit on Sustainable Development. Based on commitments from G8 Summit Action Plan and the Declaration of the first Earth Observation Summit held in July 2003, the establishment of a comprehensive, coordinated and sustained Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS) is undertaken by countries and international organizations.

(2) Details

To this end, Japan hosted the Earth Observation Summit II on 25 April 2004. Ministers and representatives from 43 developed and developing countries, EC, and 25 international organizations participated in the Summit, and the "Framework Document" for a 10-Year Implementation Plan to achieve GEOSS was adopted. As the Framework Document stresses, Japan believes that Earth

observations will yield socio-economic benefit especially in the area of understanding, assessing, predicting, and adapting to climate variability and change, and that the benefit will be realized by broad range of user communities including national, regional, and local decision makers and full participation of developing country members will maximize their opportunities to derive real benefits.

Further detailed information:

Earth Observation Summit II: http://www.mext.go.jp/a_menu/kaihatu/earth/index.htm

Ad Hoc Group on Earth Observations: <http://earthobservations.org/>

G. Inventory of Glacier and Glacial Lakes and the Identification of Potential Glacial Lake Outburst Floods (GLOFs) Affected by Global Warming: information and methodologies

(1) Objective

The Main Objectives of this project is to assure that mountain inhabitants in the Hindu Kush-Himalayan (HKH) region enjoy safe and sustainable livelihoods through a better understanding of environmental hazards associated with mountain glaciers and glacial lakes, with which to address sound environmental policy, planning and impact/risk mitigation. The long-term objective is to establish an inventory and digital database on mountain glaciers/glacial lakes and of change due to global warming affecting potential glacial lake outburst floods (GLOFs) and associated hazards. The database methodologies and information will be analyzed, synthesized and shared nationally and regionally among the collaborating national organizations and agencies, to form the foundations for both policy and planning (and, later, in a second phase under other funding.)

(2) Expected Outcomes

Establish and analyze glacial inventory database of selected catchments in each participating countries. Identify potential hazards, their dimensions and their impact areas. Enhance institutional capacity among regional partner organizations and agencies. Inform policy makers, planners, educators and general public. The implementation of this project is already in progress and a professional level training cum workshop on "The inventory of glaciers, glacial lakes and glacial lake outburst flood monitoring and early warning systems in the Mountains of Himalayan region" was conducted from 28 July to 22 August 2003 in Kathmandu. The participants came from China, India, Pakistan and Nepal. The coordinator of the training cum workshop was Pradeep Mool and supported by full time resource person, Samjwal Ratna Bajracharya.

The main objective of the training cum workshop was to provide knowledge and skills in GIS and remote sensing and its application in the study of inventory of glaciers and glacial lakes.

Further detailed information; http://www.apn.gr.jp/.../html/activity/project_brief/2003-05.html

H. Education project; Strategies on Climate Change and Development of National Inventories

Many developing countries suffer shortages of knowledgeable administrators and engineers in general affairs on environmental conservation. Japan's Government executes group trainings through JICA in collaboration with relevant authorities, local governments, etc.

This course execute since 1992. The purpose of this course is to provide the latest information on the UNFCCC from both scientific and technical point of view, and thus assist developing countries to fulfill their obligations imposed by the Convention. Until 2003, the participants came from 42 countries.

I. Assistance for Meteorological Services; vulnerability and adaptation

(1) Training Course in Meteorology

Japan has carried out a training course in meteorology since 1973. In this course, meteorological officials from developing countries are lectured on meteorological services. A total of 227 officials from 64 countries have taken this course. In 2003, 10 participants from Bhutan, Cambodia, Colombia, Kazakhstan, Mongolia, Laos, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines and Vanuatu took the training.

(2) Technical Cooperation Project in Cambodia

A three-year technical cooperation project in Cambodia was implemented, aiming at improving weather forecast system and its application to agrometeorology. In this project, two long-term and six

short-term meteorological experts from Japan were sent to Cambodia and one expert from Cambodia was invited to the training course described above in 2003. In addition, six automated weather observation systems were provided.

This project was terminated in January 2004 and but one long –term expert will be dispatched to continue improving weather forecasting and observation skills.

(3) Support to Training Programme in Fiji

A project to support a training programme conducted by the Fiji Meteorological Services (FMS) for participants from National Meteorological Services in the South-West Pacific region is being implemented. An expert from Japan gave support in making the program in 2000. Japan has sent lecturers to the annual seminar since 2001.

J. The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria; adaptation activities (health)

(1) Objective

The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria was created to dramatically increase resources to fight three of the world's most devastating diseases, and to direct those resources to areas of greatest need. As a partnership between governments, civil society, the private sector and affected communities, the Global Fund represents an innovative approach to international health financing. Japan has contributed to 230 million \$ for this fund.

(2) Malaria

Malaria, one of the world's most common and serious tropical diseases, is a protozoal infection transmitted to humans by mosquitoes. Each year, malaria causes at least one million deaths and an additional 300 to 500 million clinical cases, the majority of which occur in the world's poorest countries. More than 41% of the world's population is at risk of acquiring malaria, and the proportion increases yearly due to deteriorating health systems, growing drug and insecticide resistance, climate change, and war.

The Global Fund is becoming the largest financier of insecticide-treated bed nets in the world. Ninety percent of these new nets are being directed to Africa. In addition to this, grantees will deliver annually more than 3.6 million combination drug treatments for resistant malaria to eight African countries.

Further detailed information; <http://www.theglobalfund.org>

(3) Project example

Project Title:	Proposal to strengthen and scale up disease prevention and care for HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria in Zimbabwe (2002)
Country:	Zimbabwe
Principal Recipient:	The Ministry of Health and Child Welfare of the Government of Zimbabwe
Grant Agreement Signed:	05-Feb-03
Total Funding Request:	\$8,877,500.00
2-year Approved Funding:	\$6,716,250.00
Total Funds Disbursed:	\$1,415,000.00

Summary:

The Program focuses on three main components:

Component 1: Strengthen and expand malaria transmission prevention program in 10 districts Of Zimbabwe worst affected by malaria

Component 2: Strengthen the diagnosis and management of malaria cases at community and primary health care levels

Component 3: Strengthen the malaria control program management.

Goals:

1. To reduce the rate of malaria transmission in 10 districts most affected by malaria in Zimbabwe:
 - * To increase coverage of the vector control program to 100 per cent
 - * To increase the availability and use of insecticide treated bed-nets in the program districts by 10 per cent per year per district
2. To strengthen malaria case management in the 10 program districts:
 - * To reduce morbidity and mortality from malaria by 10 per cent per year among children under the age of five years in the 10 Program districts
 - * To reduce morbidity and mortality rates from the malaria by 10 per cent per year among pregnant women in the 10 program districts

Main activities

The Ministry of Health and Child Welfare will:

- * Procure and distribute insecticide for indoor residual spraying
- * Procure and distribute insecticide-treated tests and the Re-treatment Kits
- * Procure and maintain transport (lorries, motorcycles, bicycles)
- * Train Health Workers in Malaria vector control.
- * Train Health Workers in Malaria diagnosis and case management.
- * Provide adequate drug supplies and other consumables
- * Monitor and evaluate the Program

Intended results:

The Principal Recipient together with the implementing partners intends to accomplish the following in the 10 districts:

- * 75% of homesteads covered by indoor residual spraying
- * 75% of the population protected by indoor residual spraying
- * Increase number of households having at least one insecticide-treated net by 40% of baseline.
- * 50% of pregnant women sleeping under an insecticide-treated net
- * 30% of children under five years old sleeping under an insecticide-treated net
- * 100% of pregnant women receiving appropriate malaria treatment and chemoprophylaxis.
- * 50% of children under five with malaria or fever receiving appropriate treatment within 24 hours (from community or health facilities)
- * 60% of children under five admitted with severe malaria correctly managed at health facilities
- * 100% of health facilities with no stock of anti-malarial drugs continuously for one week during the last three months

K. Rehabilitation of Degraded Tropical Forest Ecosystems; adaptation activities (forestry research)

(1)Objective

What is now particularly alarming about the degradation of tropical ecosystems is the rate and the scale at which this phenomenon occurs and its enormous social and biological consequences. Expanding degraded forests increases the pressure on remaining forests. Restoring production potential in degraded forest is essential to prevent further degradation of remaining forests. This project focuses on monitoring and learning from the past and ongoing rehabilitation efforts, and understanding the ecological and socio-economic factors in order to better design and guide for future rehabilitation efforts.

Japan has been supporting the project carried out by CIFOR (Center for International Forestry Research), which is a member of CGIAR (Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research), through voluntary contribution.

(2)Details

This project, whose task manager is a Japanese scientist funded by government of Japan, has been proceeding in partnership between Japan and CIFOR. Research has been conducted under four areas:

- 1) Development of the methods to rehabilitate logged-over forests and degraded forest lands,
- 2) Site management and productivity in tropical forest plantations and degraded lands,
- 3) Social and economic acceptability of management options,
- 4) Integration of the rehabilitation of logged-over forests into regional environment conservation

Further detailed information; <http://www.cifor.cgiar.org/rehab/>

L. The Saudi Japanese High Automobile Institute (SJAHI); addressing the impact of response measures

(1) Objective

The Saudi Japanese High Automobile Institute (SJAHI) Project aims to provide basic knowledge on theory and practical technology, as well as education of the code of conduct as technician, namely sorting and keeping materials and tools in order, keeping the factory clean and orderly, and behaving with professionalism in order to provide qualified Saudi mechanics to the Saudi labor market, and to train Saudi automobile mechanics, to meet international standards. Above all, it is expected that the whole

automobile labor market will benefit from the project, taking into consideration that the main objective is to promote “Saudization”, i.e. employment of Saudi Arabian people in the sector.

(2) Details

The period of cooperation between Saudi Arabia and Japan is five years starting from September 2001. The Government of Saudi Arabia donated land for the project, with a total area of 72,580m². Both JADIK (Japan Automobile Distributors in the Kingdom) and JAMA (Japan Automobile Manufacturer’s Association) finance the construction of SJAHI building, while the Government of Japan through JICA will provide the following:

- (i) Dispatch of Japanese experts for technology transfer;
- (ii) Machinery, equipment and materials necessary for the implementation of the project;
- (iii) Training in Japan for the Saudi instructors and officials in charge of the project.

The construction completed in April 2002. The commencement of the schoolwork was the scholastic year of September 2002. The education level of SJAHI will be that of technical college of two-year course. The educational objective is the provision of practical technical training for the automotive service technicians, while the technical level of the graduates will be equivalent to the national license of third grade automobile mechanics in Japan. The students of the institute are high school graduates. At the beginning, the institute receives 5 classes with 200 students in each grade. The training in Japan has been provided to the institute staff members and instructors. There is an opportunity for outstanding students to be assigned after graduation as instructors in the institute, and consequently there will be a chance for those instructors to study in Japan.

M. Private Sector Activities

Japanese business are interested in CSR (corporate social responsibility), which emphasizes creating not only sustainable shareholder value but also sustainable social value. For example, activities based on CSR are as follows:

- An oil company conducts various environmental conservation activities in developing countries, which simultaneously achieve improvement of living standard of the activity areas, understanding that sustainable environmental conservation is indispensable with economic development. In Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands, the company promotes organic farming projects with NGOs and each government, in order to transfer from shifting cultivation to stationary cultivation, to protect rainforest, and also to secure food supply. In Kiribati, where suffers from rising sea level as a result of global warming, it installs rain tank to ensure water supply, and is now planning mangrove forestation to protect sea shore.
- Paper-manufacturing companies are conducting forestation activities in many developing countries, such as Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, Vietnam, South Africa, China, etc. These forestation activities contribute to regional community through improving employment, building infrastructure including roads and ports, and preventing earth degradation, as well as enhancing sinks of carbon dioxide.

PAPER NO.3: INTERNATIONAL STRATEGY FOR DISASTER REDUCTION

Input from the ISDR Secretariat to the decision 5/CP.7 on 'current and/or planned activities to meet the needs of developing countries arising from the impacts of climate change'.

I. Activities Carried out by the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR)

As a successor to International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction (IDNDR, 1990-99), the UN General Assembly founded the ISDR in 2000 to continue to promote work and commitment in disaster reduction. It has worked to shift the primary focus from hazards and their physical consequences to emphasize more the processes involved in incorporating physical and socio-economic dimensions of vulnerability into the wider understanding, assessment and management of disaster risks. This highlights the integration of disaster risk reduction into the broader context of sustainable development and related environmental considerations.

ISDR also provides a global framework for action with the objective of reducing human, social, economic and environmental losses due to natural hazards and related technological and environmental phenomena. It aims at building disaster resilient communities by promoting increased awareness of the importance of disaster reduction as an integral component of sustainable development. Its strategies build on lessons from IDNDR, the experience of the Yokohama Strategy and the Geneva Mandate of 1999.

In January 2000, through resolution 54/219, the General Assembly established two mechanisms for the implementation of ISDR; the Inter-Agency Secretariat and the Inter-Agency Task Force on Disaster Reduction. This was reconfirmed in resolution 56/195 in December 2001.

The General Assembly also called upon governments to establish national platforms or focal points for disaster reduction, and to strengthen them where they already exist, with a multisectoral and interdisciplinary approach.

Inter-Agency Task Force on Disaster Reduction

The Inter-Agency Task Force on Disaster Reduction (IATF/DR) was established in 2000 as the main forum within the UN system for devising strategies and policies for the reduction of disaster risks and vulnerabilities. It is tasked with identifying additional needs to improve disaster reduction policies and programmes, and further recommending remedial or additional action as may be considered necessary. In both cases, particular attention is given to ensuring complementary action by the different UN agencies involved in disaster reduction endeavours.

The Task Force is chaired by the UN Under-Secretary General for Humanitarian Affairs and is composed of up to 14 representatives of agencies and organizations of the UN system; up to eight representatives from regional entities and up to eight representatives of civil society and relevant professional sectors. The Director of the ISDR Secretariat acts as the Secretary of the Task Force.

In its first two biennia, the Task Force established four Working Groups to address climate variability, early warning, vulnerability and risk analysis, and wildland fires. An interest group focused on drought has drawn members from the Task Force to reflect the specific requirements of drought risks that cut across the other areas of attention. At present, the Task Force is reviewing its areas of focus and new subjects are being addressed, such as climate change, urban risk management, data management and preparation for the World Conference on Disaster Reduction in 2005.

Inter-Agency Secretariat of the ISDR

The Inter-Agency Secretariat of the ISDR (UN/ISDR) is the focal point within the UN system for coordination of strategies and programmes for disaster reduction and to ensure synergy between disaster reduction activities and activities in the socio-economic and humanitarian fields.

The Secretariat also serves as an international clearinghouse for the identification, management and dissemination of information pertaining to the current state of knowledge and range of activities underway that contribute to the progress of disaster risk reduction efforts around the world.

In part, this publication of a global review of disaster reduction initiatives reflects a growing international knowledge base about the subject and extends that information to an expanding field of collaborators. By means of this publication, *Living with Risk: A global review of disaster reduction initiatives*, ISDR seeks to advocate wider understanding and to further the greater multidisciplinary engagement of disaster risk reduction in practice. The many examples which it contains show that communities can become safer for their inhabitants, and disaster risks can be reduced by accomplishments working through political, professional, institutional and public forms of collaboration.

The Secretariat also develops activities such as advocacy campaigns to promote wider understanding about natural hazards and disaster risk to motivate a worldwide commitment to disaster reduction. A particularly important role is to encourage both policy and advocacy activities by promoting national committees, networks or platforms dedicated to disaster reduction, and working in close association with regional initiatives. Regional outreach programmes have been established in Latin America and the Caribbean and in Africa to this effect. Arrangements are proceeding to collaborate further with additional regional institutions in Europe, Asia and the Pacific.

The Secretariat has a facilitating role, bringing agencies, organizations and different disciplines together, providing a common platform and understanding of the scope of disaster risk reduction. In this regard, one main function of the Secretariat is to support the Inter-Agency Task Force on Disaster Reduction for the development of policies on disaster reduction.

Framework for action for the implementation of the ISDR

The Task Force, supported by the ISDR Secretariat, formulated in 2001 a framework for action for the implementation of ISDR with four main objectives:

- Increase public awareness to understand risk, vulnerability and disaster reduction
- Promote the commitment of public authorities to disaster reduction
- Stimulate multidisciplinary and intersectoral partnerships, including the expansion of risk reduction networks
- Improve scientific knowledge about the causes of natural disasters, as well as the effects that natural hazards and related technological and environmental disasters have on societies.

The framework also incorporates two additional activities specifically mandated to the ISDR Secretariat by the UN General Assembly:

- Continue international cooperation to reduce the impact of El Niño and other aspects of climate variation
- Strengthen disaster reduction capacities for the development of early warning systems.

In pursuing these objectives, the framework for action outlines the following areas of common concern:

- Recognition and incorporation of special vulnerability of the poor and socially marginalized groups in disaster reduction strategies
- Environmental, social and economic vulnerability assessment with special reference to health and food security
- Ecosystems management, with particular attention given to the implementation of Agenda 21
- Land-use management and planning, including appropriate land use in rural, mountain and coastal areas, as well as unplanned urban areas in mega-cities and secondary cities
- National, regional and international legislation with respect to disaster reduction.

II. Specific Activities of Relevance

World Conference on Disaster Reduction, 18-22 January 2005, Hyogo, Japan

In December 2003 the UN General Assembly adopted two resolutions in support of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction. Previously postponed in 2002 (when the GA took the decision to conduct the review of the Yokohama Strategy and Plan of Action), resolution A/RES/58/214 conveyed the decision to convene the World Conference on Disaster Reduction in Kobe, Hyogo (18-22 January 2005). Prior to the adoption of the resolution, UN Member States engaged in long discussions among UN Member States on the purpose, focus and level of the World Conference, as well as the relevance in its timing.

As stated in the resolution, the World Conference is expected to bring about concrete changes and results in the form of specific guidance and mechanisms to help countries and organizations achieve significant progress in reducing risk from natural and technological hazards. The main objectives of the World Conference are to conclude the review of the 1994 Yokohama Strategy and Plan of Action and identify activities aimed at ensuring the implementation of relevant provisions of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation.

Strategies on climate risk and changes

Another GA Resolution on “Vulnerability to Natural Disasters” (A/RES/58/215) addresses the important issue of reversing the negative impacts of extreme weather events and associated natural disasters in particular in developing countries through the implementation of the ISDR and encourages the IATF/DR to continue its work in this regard. It extends the focus of the work to include activities on the effects of climate change carried out under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change and its Kyoto Protocol and it also encourages the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change to assess the adverse effects of climate change on the socio-economic and natural disaster reduction systems of developing countries.

The ISDR secretariat has been interacting with organizations focusing on adaptation to climate change reported in previous information notes. Activities in support of the UNFCCC process were highlighted in the statement made by the ISDR secretariat at the ninth session of the Conference of the Parties in Milan, December 2003. The conceptual and implementation challenges for policy makers associated with climate-related disaster reduction and those working on adaptation to climate change are similar and will benefit from a coordinated approach to maximize resource use.

Early warning

Progress has been made by the ISDR secretariat toward developing the early warning platform that was recommended by the second International Conference on Early Warning (EWC-II) held in Bonn, October 2003. An office capacity is being established in Bonn, to support the platform and a project work programme for 2004 was developed.

The platform aims to sustain the dialogue on early warning and related risk reduction, and to encourage the development of more systematic approaches to the application of early warning. Specific tasks planned include establishing the platform's operational capacities and initial products, promoting early warning and its integration into key international policy processes, particularly those associated with the World Conference on Disaster Reduction, and generally stimulating dialogue and innovation on early warning through networking, information generation and partnerships.

The platform increases the resources and effort that the secretariat can contribute to early warning and risk reduction, and an ISDR secretariat presence in Bonn will strengthen interactions with several key UN institutions there, notably the secretariat of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, (UNFCCC), the secretariat of the UN Convention for Combating Desertification (UNCCD), United Nations Volunteers (UNV), and the United Nations University's Institute for Environment and Human Security.

Space applications

UN/ISDR has been leading a broad based effort to gather partners around the idea that space based applications and tools can benefit prevention (risk and vulnerability assessment) much more than currently believed. The ISDR secretariat continues its efforts to invest in partnerships to promote and disseminate space based applications for disaster prevention especially aiming at making vulnerable communities in developing countries benefit from low-cost, high-impact solutions that are already available.

Synthesized information on disaster risk reduction

The ISDR secretariat is strengthening its information management system and website. Resources have been provided to improve ISDR reference databases (contacts, organizations, initiatives, calendar of events) including their re-structuring, interrelation, updating, reporting and management by using specialized services and software. Specific emphasis is given to the development of country profiles, which will include database information, hazard and vulnerability analysis in cooperation with other UN organizations, as well as information on initiatives and good practices.
