II. ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATOR AND RELATED MATTERS

C. Follow-up to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development

1. In introducing the report contained in document DP/1994/II, the Director of the Bureau for Programme Policy and Evaluation mentioned that special efforts had been made during the previous year to strengthen collaboration agreements with a number of important partners, including United Nations agencies, the private sector, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), other sectors of civil society and indigenous groups. Measures had been taken to strengthen UNDP capacities in a number of areas, including the strengthening of the Global Environment Facility and the Montreal Protocol units, the training of UNDP personnel, and the recruitment of 41 sustainable development National Officers. Efforts were under way to strengthen the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office in order that UNDP might play an important support role in the implementation of the Convention on Desertification currently under negotiation. Furthermore, new initiatives were planned in the areas of sustainable development strategies, trade and environment, and environmental economics.

2. Many delegations commented and expressed their thanks for the special presentation on Capacity 21. While reiterating their support for Capacity 21, they requested that in his next report, the Administrator should present details on the impact that Capacity 21 was having in supporting changes in decision-making at the national level and in mobilizing additional resources. GE.94-62239 (E)
3. Many representatives felt that more emphasis needed to be placed in making national programmes fully participatory, including a greater role by NGOs and women groups. There was also a call to UNDP to ensure that the target of 40 per cent for least developed countries be fully met in the near future.

4. Regarding the Environmental Management Guidelines, several delegations expressed their support for UNDP efforts to incorporate good environmental management practices and commented on their high expectations on the role of the sustainable development National Officers.

5. Representatives pointed out the important role to be played by UNDP in the implementation and management of the Global Environment Facility and the Montreal Protocol as well as in the area of drought and desertification control.


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