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INTERNATIONAL DRINKING WATER SUPPLY AND SANITATION DECADE

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1990 COMMITTEE GENEVA—31 MAY TO 2 JUNE 1989

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COLLABORATIVE
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COUNCIL

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THE 1990 COMMITTEE

At a Consultation of external support agencies (ESAs) involved in the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade held in The Hague, the Netherlands, in November 1988, it was agreed that an ESA Collaborative Council should be established. The chief aims of the Council are:

- To raise international awareness of the need for intensified efforts to expand water and sanitation coverage during the 1990s;
- To achieve collaboration among ESAs within the countries in which they are active;
- To serve as a forum for exchange of information on achievements, sector strategies, projects and programmes, and analysis of issues and needs, to alert members to opportunities for collaboration and support; and
- To mobilize support from members and others in the international community for development of the sector, including support for proposals emanating from Country-level, Inter-country and Global Consultations.

To assist in the development of strategies for the sector in the 1990s, the Collaborative Council called on the Secretariat, provided by the World Health Organization, to organize periodic meetings of a temporary committee, to be known as the 1990 Committee, comprising representatives of multilateral agencies and regional banks, bilateral agencies, non-governmental organizations, and invited members from developing countries. The Council also foresaw the need for the 1990 Committee to establish temporary working groups or advisory panels to deal with specific tasks.

The 1990 Committee, establishment of which was agreed by a majority of participants in the Hague meeting was given three main functions:

- Assistance to developing countries and ESAs in the organization of preparatory activities for a Global Consultation in 1990;
- Preparations for maintaining the momentum of the water supply and sanitation sector beyond 1990; and
- Consideration of temporary working group reports on the Council's work programme and transmission of recommendations to Council members.

The first meeting of the 1990 Committee was held in Paris in December, 1988. The second meeting took place in Geneva from 31 May to 2 June 1989, hosted by the World Health Organization. This document presents the outcome of the Geneva meeting.

CONTENTS

	Page
1. Introduction	1
2. Temporary Working Group Reports	4
3. Country-level Sector Support	9
4. 1990 Global Consultation	16
5. Chairman's Office and Secretariat	18
Annex 1. List of Participants	21

C O R R I G E N D A1990 Committee Report, Geneva, 31.5. - 2.6.89

Some comments received from participants of the 1990 Committee Meeting were not incorporated in the final report. They are summarized below:

1. Paragraph 1.11 on page 2 should be reworded as follows:
 - 1.11 "Efforts were continuing among NGOs and between them and the Chairman, to find ways for national and international NGOs to have an appropriate influence in the Framework for Global Cooperation. The Chairman will continue this dialogue and report the results to the next Collaborative Council Meeting.
2. Paragraph 1.12 on page 3 should be reworded as follows:
 - 1.12 "The 1990 Committee discussed the possibility of establishing additional TWGs covering the topics of Institutional Development, Operation and Maintenance and Environmental Pollution. All three were seen as important issues for a collaborative effort, but the consensus was that the TWG mechanism may not be the most effective way of handling them at this stage. A final decision can be taken only by the Collaborative Council. It was also noted that WHO has already initiated a core group on Operation and Maintenance and that the WHO Director-General has decided to convene a high level expert commission on health and environment."
3. Paragraph 2.6 on page 5 should be reworded as follows:
 - 2.6 "Once the amended TWG report is complete, the Chairman and the Secretariat are requested to promote adoption of the priority research agenda by all ESAs and to seek to identify specific country-level activities for which funding support may be provided. The Kuwait Fund representative emphasized the increasing need for reuse of sewage effluent and desalination of sea and brackish water in arid and semi-arid zones. The Kuwait Fund would consider including pilot projects in feasibility studies and projects financed by the Fund, if requested by the governments concerned."
4. Add new paragraph No.3.8(a) after 3.8 on page 10:
 - 3.8(a) "This meeting, in contrast with previous consultative meetings, provided the opportunity for the managers of water supply and sanitation institutions to share concerns about the problems and needs they faced in implementing their programs, and their views on what ESAs could do to help. The specific purpose was to formulate strategies to improve performance, accelerate sector development, expand cooperation among sector agencies in countries and among agencies, as well as with and among ESAs to foster full coverage of water supply and sanitation beyond 1990 and in the context of HFA/2000."

Please note that the full Report on the Round Table meeting of Managers of Water Supply and Sanitation Agencies held in Washington, D.C. on 10-12 May, 1989, is available from the Panamerican Health Organization, Environmental Health Division, Washington, D.C. and from WHO, CWS, Geneva, in Spanish, or in a condensed English version.
5. Add new paragraph 5.29 on page 20:

"Some concern was expressed during the meeting at the number of issues and consequent workload referred to the Chairman's Office and the Secretariat."

- 1.1 The second meeting of the 1990 Committee was held in Geneva, Switzerland, from 31 May to 2 June 1989, hosted by the World Health Organization. In all, there were 44 participants, representing 8 multilateral agencies, 10 bilaterals, 4 non-governmental organizations, and 3 international research institutions, and with 4 representatives from developing countries. A full list of participants is included as Annex 1.
- 1.2 The participants were welcomed by Dr J.P. Jardel, Assistant Director-General of the World Health Organization, who reminded them that the 1990 Committee's task was to promote country-level actions to meet the objective defined at The Hague Consultation: "To maintain Decade momentum beyond 1990 and accelerate the provision of water supply and sanitation services to all, with emphasis on the unserved rural and periurban poor, by using a coordinated programme approach."
- 1.3 The meeting was chaired by Mr. Alexander Rotival, UNDP/WHO Decade Coordinator, and Chairman of the ESA Collaborative Council.
- 1.4 In advance of the meeting, participants had received reports from the Temporary Working Groups (TWGs) on Applied Research and Communication of Information, a report on the informal regional meeting on Water Supply and Sanitation Beyond the Decade hosted by the Asian Development Bank in Manila, Philippines, on 16-17 March 1989, and a proposal from the Secretariat for future administrative arrangements. At the meeting a report was tabled on the Round Table Meeting of Managers of Water Supply and Sanitation Agencies hosted by the Pan American Health Organization in Washington, D.C., USA, on 10-12 May 1989, and the UNDP/World Bank Water & Sanitation Program tabled draft guidelines for the development of water and sanitation strategy and action plans for low-income groups. The Chairman presented a written statement covering activities since the first meeting of the 1990 Committee in Paris on 7-8 December, 1988. As well as the items described in the other reports, the Chairman's statement included a progress report on plans for the Global Consultation in India in 1990, a summary of regional initiatives in Africa and in the Arab States, and information on the UNDP Project in support of the Framework for Global Cooperation, which includes strengthening of the Chairman's office. A report was also distributed giving the responses of UNDP Resident Representatives to the Chairman's request for information on country-level sector support activities in their countries.
- 1.5 In plenary sessions and working groups, the 1990 Committee reviewed the various reports and developed proposals for promoting further activities by ESAs, at country level, regionally and globally. In this report, the outcome of the 1990 Committee Meeting is presented in the following sections:
 - Section 2. Temporary Working Group reports
 - Section 3. Country-level sector support

Section 4. 1990 Global Consultation

Section 5. Chairman's Office and Secretariat

1.6 Other issues raised in the plenary sessions are summarized below.

Representation of developing countries in Collaborative Council activities

1.7 The 1990 Committee shared a general feeling of concern about the way in which developing countries had so far been represented in Collaborative Council Meetings, 1990 Committee Meetings, regional and subregional meetings, and the meetings of Temporary Working Groups. As Collaborative Council activities were becoming, de facto, a forum for discussion of global, regional and national issues in the water and sanitation sector, it was argued that more substantive and better organized participation was needed from developing countries.

1.8 Several donors were willing to finance participation of developing country representatives, and saw a need to encourage greater numbers. With support from the Dutch government, WHO has established a fund through which ESAs can contribute to the costs of DC participants, in addition to those nominated and supported by individual ESAs.

1.9 There is a need for further consideration of the level of DC representation in Collaborative Council affairs, the selection process, the specific role of DC participants, and the financing mechanisms. The 1990 Committee referred this issue to the Chairman and Secretariat, and asked that a report be prepared for discussion at the next Collaborative Council Meeting.

Representation of NGOs

1.10 The Committee noted the difficulty in achieving proper representation of international and national NGOs, in view of the large numbers involved. The influence of NGOs on the sector is considerable, and the Committee agreed that there was a need to reflect their special role in Collaborative Council discussions. NGOs had found it difficult to achieve adequate representation in 1990 Committee discussions, partly because of the quota (The Hague Meeting of the Collaborative Council set a limit of three NGO representatives), and partly because there is not yet any established way of communicating within the NGO community.

1.11 Efforts were continuing both among NGOs and in discussions between WaterAid and the Chairman, to find ways for national and international NGOs to have an appropriate influence in the Framework for Global Cooperation. The Chairman will continue this dialogue and report the results to the next Collaborative Council Meeting.

Proposals for additional Temporary Working Groups

1.12 The 1990 Committee discussed the possibility of establishing additional TWGs covering the topics of Institutional Development and Operation and Maintenance. Both were seen as important issues for collaborative effort, but the consensus was that the TWG mechanism may not be the most effective way of handling them at this stage. The Chairman will contact members of the Collaborative Council for their views on the desirability of establishing new TWGs. Meanwhile, the Chairman and Secretariat will seek to promote collaboration among agencies already undertaking activities in the two subject areas, and to identify agencies willing to report to the Collaborative Council. It was noted that WHO has already initiated a core group on Operation and Maintenance, and that USAID/WASH was willing to act in a coordinating role on Institutional Development.

Next Collaborative Council Meeting

1.13 The next meeting of the Collaborative Council will be hosted by the French Government. It is to be held at CEFIGRE in Sophia Antipolis and will begin in the afternoon of 28 November 1989, ending at mid-day on 2 December.

1.14 The next meeting of the 1990 Committee will be held in Manila, The Philippines, in June 1990, back-to-back with the Regional Consultation hosted by the Asian Development Bank (see para 3.2 in Section 3).

2.1 The 1990 Committee reviewed reports from the two Temporary Working Groups established at its Paris meeting. The report on Applied Research had been produced by the Water and Sanitation for Health (WASH) project and the UNDP/World Bank Water and Sanitation Programme. It was introduced by Mr J. Ellis Turner, Project Director, WASH. The report on Communication of Information had been produced by the IRC International Water & Sanitation Centre, and was supplemented by a consultant's report on development of a Public Information and Promotion (PIP) strategy. The topic was introduced by Mr J.M.G. van Damme, Director, IRC. The associated issue of the CESI (Country External Support Information) system was the subject of an additional presentation by Mr I. Åhman of WHO.

Applied Research

- 2.2 The 1990 Committee commended the TWG on its report, which is seen as an important review of current research activities and needs. Discussions in plenary and in a working group led to suggested modifications, summarized below, and the Committee accepted an offer by WASH to prepare an updated version of the TWG report for wide circulation, incorporating discussions at the 1990 Committee.
- 2.3 The Committee endorsed the four global objectives which form the framework of the TWG report: Expansion of service coverage and enhancement of service to those covered; Maximization of service benefits; Sustainability of coverage and service provision; and Environmental sustainability of water supply and sanitation efforts. In addition, the Committee added two extra areas of emphasis: recognition of special problems in low-income urban areas; and the need to develop low-cost and appropriate water supply and treatment technologies, including desalination for arid and semi-arid areas.
- 2.4 The report will be structured so as to link the global objectives through accepted Decade approaches (the Global Sector Concepts endorsed at Interlaken for example) to specific research tasks. The tasks will then be elaborated individually, identifying concepts, methodologies and possible implementors, as well as the topics to be covered. In considering possible research methodologies, the Committee emphasized the value of participative research and evaluation as a means of promoting rapid application of research findings. It noted too that emphasis on country-based research carries with it the implication that research capabilities of water agencies, universities and other potential collaborators will need to be strengthened.
- 2.5 The 1990 Committee saw a need to obtain as much information as possible about past, ongoing and proposed research related to the topics identified by the TWG. It recognized too the difficulty of gathering this type of information. The TWG had invited 147 agencies to provide details, and the responses were included in the group's report. Suggestions for

further investigation included a survey questionnaire to be sent out by the Secretariat, and a request to all Collaborative Council members for lists of known researchers and research organizations, particularly those based in developing countries. This information would be progressively refined on a country by country basis through the CESI system. The Chairman and Secretariat will evaluate ways of gathering information on relevant research, and to take appropriate action. Meanwhile, ESAs are invited to send information on research and researchers to the Secretariat.

- 2.6 Once the amended TWG report is complete, the Chairman and Secretariat are requested to promote adoption of the priority research agenda by all ESAs and to seek to identify specific country-level activities for which funding support may be provided. The Kuwait Fund has indicated that funding will be available for appropriate research projects on reuse of sewage effluent and desalination of seawater. The 1990 Committee endorsed the TWG recommendation that individual coordinating agencies should be identified wherever possible for each research task, as a means of disseminating information and avoiding duplication of effort.
- 2.7 The Committee also approved a suggestion that the topic of Applied Research should be considered as an agenda item by organisers of regional and subregional meetings in connection with country-level sector support.
- 2.8 The 1990 Committee suggested amplifications and amendments to the TWG recommendations for a new TWG on Environmental Pollution. It suggested, for instance, that the TWG membership should be selected by the core group, and should be geographically representative, multidisciplinary (e.g. including representatives of engineering, education, etc), covering different subject areas (e.g. solid waste, water management, etc). The Committee believed that guidance on membership of the TWG would come from review of recommended Applied Research topics. The Committee concluded that the issue of whether to establish a TWG on Environmental Pollution should be referred to the Chairman's Office, where it could be considered alongside proposals for the development of issues papers for the Collaborative Council.

Communication of Information

- 2.9 The 1990 Committee commended the TWG on its report and welcomed the additional guidance on public information and promotion provided in the consultant's report. Discussions in plenary and in a working group led to general endorsement of the TWG report recommendations, with some amplifications summarized below, and the Chairman and Secretariat were asked to initiate a series of follow-up activities, described in paragraph 2.16.

- 2.10 In connection with the planned public information and promotion campaign, the 1990 Committee emphasized that messages must be simple and clear. Suggestions, in addition to those mentioned in the consultant's report, include:
- unambiguous and incontestable statements on the health benefits of water supply and sanitation (WSS);
 - promotion of the key concept that WSS activities "help people to help themselves", and that water is an entry point for other development;
 - reliable unit-cost figures to demonstrate value for money in WSS investments.
- 2.11 Goodwill ambassadors are seen as effective ways of increasing public awareness. The 1990 Committee noted the example of the Guinea Worm eradication programme in Ghana, which was boosted by former US President Jimmy Carter visiting the programme accompanied by Ghanaian President Rawlings. The Committee considered that an appropriate personality should be sought as an ambassador for the sector, beginning at the India Consultation in 1990.
- 2.12 While agreeing with the need for better promotion of the sector, the Committee cautioned that over-promotion may have the danger of encouraging inappropriate marketing efforts by private sector manufacturers, or undue haste by developing country governments to begin implementation without adequate planning.
- 2.13 Critical issues for further study are measures to promote the adoption of agreed promotional messages at all levels in developing countries and ways of conveying necessary technical information to community workers.
- 2.14 The Committee stressed that technical and project/sector information of most use to developing country agencies is generated and used in the countries, and strongly endorsed the TWG recommendation that the focus of information exchange should be on ensuring that developing countries contribute and receive information through their own channels. This means that countries will need technical assistance specifically aimed at strengthening information systems.
- 2.15 Recognizing that the UNDP/World Bank Regional Water and Sanitation Groups (RWSGs), and many other agencies have growing experience of Management Information Systems (MIS), which can be of benefit to developing country agencies and ESAs, the Committee saw scope for further elaboration of the TWG proposals for developing and promoting MIS concepts and approaches, linked as much as possible with CESI and technical information exchange. It welcomed an indication that the UNDP/World Bank Programme is interested

in establishing MIS as a natural part of sector strategies at country level, and invited CEFIGRE to develop a concept paper for the development of MIS activities.

2.16 Based on these conclusions, the 1990 Committee recommended that the Chairman and Secretariat be asked to promote adoption of the TWG-INFO report by ESAs. More specifically, the Chairman's Office and Secretariat are requested to:

- Seek support for a feasibility/programme definition study to further the development of a Public Information & Promotion (PIP) approach for the 1990s — UNDP has indicated a willingness to allocate some funds for this purpose. The study would be undertaken by specialist consultants guided by UNDP, UNICEF and IRC, and Cipta Karya in Indonesia has offered to participate. Its aim would be to develop options for consideration by the Collaborative Council meeting in November, on the PIP concept (message, logo, materials), an organizational framework at global, regional and national level, proposals for launch of the campaign in 1990, and an outline implementation programme for the period 1990-1992. The report of the study should be available for submission to the Collaborative Council for its meeting in November 1989. Because the UN Interagency Steering Committee for the IDWSSD is also considering a PIP strategy for the 1990s, UNDP and IRC were requested to report on progress with the study to the Steering Committee by 15 October 1989, in time for the Committee's meeting on 23-24 October.
- Urge ESAs to adopt and strengthen *Communication of Information* as an essential element of proposed WSS programmes and projects, alongside the six Global Sector Concepts endorsed at Interlaken. Develop a one-page flyer for widespread distribution, promoting the *ESA declaration of support for information activities* requested by countries (note: a package of flyers is recommended as part of the country-level sector support activities described in Section 3).
- Promote the further development of country project proposals, based on the preliminary projects in the TWG report, in dialogues between ESAs and developing country partners, including integration of management, project/sector, technical and public information where possible.
- Nominate and seek support for lead agencies and/or core groups to assist countries in the development of proposals, initiate pilot projects and seminars, review and evaluate case studies, prepare models and guidelines, initiate regional training in cooperation with regional centres or groups, and report to the Collaborative Council. For project and sector information, the suggested lead agency is WHO; for technical information exchange, IRC and IDRC would be the core group; no specific lead agency was identified for management information systems, though this may emerge from the suggested concept paper to be prepared by CEFIGRE (GTZ and DGIS have indicated that they may be able to provide MIS case studies).

- Encourage activities leading to standardization of information tools and reporting systems.

CESI

- 2.17 The Country External Support Information (CESI) system is now fully operational for exchanging project information among 40 participating ESAs, but additional funding for this core operation is still urgently needed. WHO has established a programme fund and will be asking ESAs to make contributions for their participation in the CESI exchange.
- 2.18 In accordance with the agreed CESI development plan, effort is now being concentrated on introduction of the system in developing countries. This will involve strengthening management information systems within the countries, as well as building up the support and training capabilities of selected regional centres. Funding support is also being sought for these activities, with components built in for support to the core operation. Initial discussions have been held with the UNDP/World Bank Regional Water and Sanitation Group in East Africa, which has offered support in establishing a pilot CESI scheme in the region.
- 2.19 Other recent enhancements of the CESI system include the development of new reporting formats, designed to produce information on planning, research, and specific support activities on a country by country basis.
- 2.20 The 1990 Committee stressed the positive benefits of CESI to ESAs, and the potential benefits which would arise for comparatively small investments by introducing CESI in developing countries. In addition to urging ESAs to provide financial support for continuation of the CESI core operation and the planned operations in developing countries, the Committee suggested a further investigation of the commercial opportunities of selling CESI reports to private sector clients. In doing so, it recognized the conflict between a desire to spread CESI information as widely as possible within the ESA community and in developing countries, and any aim to sell the same information commercially.
- 2.21 The Committee also urged the CESI Secretariat to develop a marketing approach to convince a broader range of staff within ESAs of the value of CESI and the need to provide continuous support.
- 2.22 Guideline figures for the costs of the CESI operation are US\$300,000 a year for the core operation in Geneva, plus US\$120-180,000 for each regional support project and US\$30-60,000 for each country project. UNDP, GTZ and SDC are making contributions to the core budget until the end of 1990, but more contributions are needed.

3.1 The 1990 Committee reviewed activities initiated since its Paris meeting to promote coordinated sector support at the country level. Discussions were based on written reports of regional meetings in Manila and Washington, on the Chairman's statement covering initiatives in Africa and the Arab World, and on presentations by the representatives of the Asian Development Bank (Mr R. Wirasinha), the Pan American Health Organization (Mr G. Davila), the African Development Bank (Mr A. Mengesha), the Kuwait Fund (Mr T.A. Dabbagh), and the UNDP/World Bank Programme (Mr Grey).

Asia

3.2 A written report on the informal regional meeting in Manila had been circulated prior to the meeting. This meeting had established the need for and proposed composition of a Regional Consultation in Asia, which is scheduled to take place in June 1990. The Asian Development Bank has agreed to host the Consultation and approved a contribution of US\$100,000 towards the costs. During the course of the 1990 Committee meeting, sufficient additional support was pledged by ESAs to ensure that the Consultation can go ahead along the lines proposed.

3.3 About 20 Asian developing countries will be invited to attend the Consultation, with participation expected to include at least one high-level policy maker and one senior sector specialist from each DC. A number of ESAs have already indicated a desire to participate, and others are being invited to do so.

3.4 The major obstacle to rapid sector development in the Asia region has been identified as the lack of well-thought-out sector strategies upon which to plan implementation, institutional strengthening and coordination of internal and external efforts. At least five Asian DCs will be invited to present comprehensive sector strategies at the Consultation, and many others will present what plans they have.

3.5 The main emerging issue for the 1990s in the region is rapid urbanization and the demands this will make on the WSS sector. Presentations and discussions at the Regional Consultation will centre around the two main themes: coordination and the need for sector strategies; and rapid urbanization and its consequences for the sector. Under these areas of concern, six specific topics have been selected and appropriate Asian DCs, with ESA support will prepare issues papers for presentation at the Consultation. The selected themes are: institutional policy and strength; financial viability and cost recovery; sustainability of facilities; rapid urbanization and the consequent large demand on resources; water resources management; and environmental pollution and management.

3.6 The Asian Development Bank has assembled a Task Force to prepare for the Consultation, including representatives from the WHO offices for the Western Pacific Region and the

South-East Asia Region, the UNDP/World Bank Sector Development Team, UNICEF, and bilaterals. It was agreed that further efforts would be made to encourage the participation of ESCAP.

- 3.7 The 1990 Committee commended the Asian Development Bank on the initiatives already taken and asked the Chairman and Secretariat to provide any additional assistance needed in encouraging wide participation by ESAs active in the region, and in urging ESAs to direct their assistance towards projects which are in sympathy with the country sector strategies resulting from these initiatives. The outcome of the Consultation is seen as important input for the September Global Consultation in India.

Latin America and the Caribbean

- 3.8 Participants received a written report on the Round Table Meeting of Managers of Water Supply and Sanitation Agencies held in Washington, DC, on 10-12 May 1989.
- 3.9 The meeting identified institutional weakness as a major constraint common to many countries in the Latin American Region, and in need of priority action. Other significant discussion points were: excessive use of water; appropriate technology; broadening of the sector, particularly in relation to rapid urbanization; and cooperation and collaboration among countries in Latin America.
- 3.10 Because of variations in conditions in different parts of the region, the meeting recommended the establishment of subregional working groups covering Central America, the Andean countries, and the Southern Cone countries with Brazil. Each working group would consist of decision-level sector managers from the countries of the subregion, and would analyse three major issues: institutional development and organization; integrated planning of sector requirements; and appropriate technology (the report lists more specific topics within each issue). In the Latin American context, the subregional groups are seen as an important channel to the country level, and PAHO/WHO is seeking funding from ESAs to establish the groups. The 1990 Committee endorsed this concept as a useful element of the Framework for Global Cooperation, and urges ESAs to commit support to the proposed groups.
- 3.11 The Washington meeting covered Latin American countries only, and was conducted in Spanish. A second meeting is proposed for the Caribbean countries, and preliminary contacts have been established with the Caribbean Development Bank and with the Caribbean Programme Coordination. PAHO has prepared a draft agenda for the meeting, which it is proposed should be combined with a planned meeting of the Caribbean Water Works Association on 1-3 November, 1989 in St Kitts. Participants will include senior sector managers of the Caribbean and ESA representatives.

3.12 The 1990 Committee commended PAHO on its leading role in establishing intercountry collaboration in the region, and urged ESAs to initiate country-level follow-up, based on the conclusions of the Washington meeting and the planned subregional working groups. The Chairman reported on encouraging discussions with the Inter-American Development Bank. IDB has itself identified three major areas of concern in the region: institutional development; environmental pollution; and the role of women in the WSS sector. The Committee noted with approval the Chairman's plan to follow up these opportunities for collaboration with IDB.

Africa

3.13 The 1990 Committee was informed that the African Development Bank has reacted favourably to the suggestion that it should host an informal meeting of ESAs to consider the scope for country level sector support in the region. First, there is a need to reinforce the Bank's own sector capabilities, and a proposal for UNDP support is being prepared by the Bank in collaboration with the UNDP/World Bank Regional Water and Sanitation Group in Abidjan.

3.14 Meanwhile, the African Development Bank has supplied the Chairman with a listing of pipeline projects for the sector for which the Bank is seeking joint financing. This listing was circulated to Collaborative Council members, and a number of ESAs indicated that they have already responded by inviting submissions of co-financing proposals from individual countries. The 1990 Committee sees this as an important initiative in promoting ESA coordination at the country level in the Africa region, and urges other ESAs to seek co-financing opportunities through AfDB's pipeline projects.

3.15 The 1990 Committee was told that follow-up of the Harare meeting had already resulted in country level activities in a number of countries. In Sudan for instance, a 4-day meeting had been held with a focus on the issue of operation and maintenance, and changes in policies and approaches were now being put into effect by both government agencies and ESAs.

3.16 The Committee heard too that the UNDP/World Bank RWSGs in Africa are holding discussions with 15 African countries seeking to host donor meetings, based on sector strategies which would require ESA support for their preparation and implementation. The RWSGs are seen as important vehicles for country-level donor coordination, and the 1990 Committee requested the Chairman, with the support of the RWSGs, to find ways of disseminating information about the ongoing and proposed activities of the RWSGs to all Collaborative Council members.

The Arab World

- 3.17 The Chairman reported on a visit to Kuwait in May, during which he discussed the work of the Collaborative Council and the 1990 Committee with representatives of the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development and the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development.
- 3.18 The Kuwait Fund has been an active participant in the Collaborative Council, and the Arab Fund has agreed in principle to join, and to assume a leadership role for coordination of ESA activities at the country level in the Arab States, where water and sanitation is seen as a priority sector.

General discussion points

- 3.19 In addition to the regional reports, the 1990 Committee discussed ways in which ESAs could help developing countries to improve country level coordination of sector activities.
- 3.20 As agreed at the Collaborative Council meeting in The Hague, the UNDP/World Bank Programme has developed draft guidelines for the development of water and sanitation sector strategy and action plans for low-income groups. The draft guidelines were tabled at the meeting, and the Committee heard of the experiences of the RWSGs in initiating sector support activities in a number of developing countries. The UNDP/World Bank Programme is seeking feedback on the draft guidelines, which are based on a 5-step process of supporting government agencies in: assessing the current status of the WSS sector; identifying the major issues and constraints; formulating strategies and policies; developing an action plan with clear priorities; and organizing a consultative meeting to present the plan to ESAs. Experiences in Pakistan and elsewhere have been encouraging, with success attributed in part to the establishment of dialogues among government agencies, between those agencies and ESA representatives in the country, and among the ESAs. The outcome should be a clear sector development framework accepted by all parties, and an investment plan within that framework.
- 3.21 The RWSGs are multidisciplinary teams supported by a number of different ESAs and are generally seen as a powerful resource for responding to country requests for coordinated sector support. The Committee noted that there was a misconception in some quarters that the RWSGs' role was limited to preparing projects for potential World Bank funding, and saw a need to correct this view.
- 3.22 The 1990 Committee noted the May 1989 World Health Assembly Resolution in support of the Framework for Global Cooperation, and WHO's commitment to country-level sector

support, currently estimated at US\$9 million a year. The new WHO Director General has made environmental health a priority programme and has announced his readiness to convene a high level expert commission on health and environment to make an inventory of what is known and what is not known and where more research is needed. On the basis of the commission's findings, WHO is pledged to develop responsive programme strategies and to initiate the necessary research activities financed by extrabudgetary resources. WHO agreed to submit a report to the Collaborative Council Meeting on its WSS sector support activities and on the new environmental health strategy currently being drafted.

3.23 After wide-ranging discussions about the relationships between ESAs, the Collaborative Council, the Framework for Global Cooperation, and developing country governments, the 1990 Committee saw a need to reiterate the objectives of the Council in as unequivocal a way as possible. It was agreed that "The common purpose of all recommended activities is assistance to developing countries in their aims to strengthen sector strategies and thereby substantially extend service coverage. The Collaborative Council's role is to help countries, donors and NGOs to coordinate their activities within the country towards that purpose. This will include sharing of experiences and adoption of agreed strategies at subregional, regional and global levels, where appropriate, using the Framework for Global Cooperation". The New Delhi Global Consultation and the UN General Assembly review of the IDWSSD in 1990 are key events at which it must be possible to demonstrate the achievements and needs of developing countries and establish a global agenda for the 1990s based on an agreed definition of the new challenges and strategies for meeting them. The meetings therefore establish a timetable for completion of some short term activities within the overall process of collaborative support.

Proposed activities

3.24 Following plenary and working group discussions, the 1990 Committee formulated a series of recommendations for action by ESAs and by the Chairman's office and Secretariat, to assist country-level sector support:

- ESAs are urged to review the draft sector development guidelines, which will be circulated soon by the UNDP/World Bank Programme, as a basis for coordinated support to countries. Responses should be sent to the World Bank as soon as possible. Comments will be taken into account in preparation of a revised version, for which the target publication date is 1 October, 1989.
- The number of countries requesting and receiving sector support should be increased substantially through promotion and follow-up by RWSGs, individual ESAs and the Chairman's Office. To assist in the promotion, the Chairman is requested to initiate the preparation of a series of flyers spelling out various aspects of Collaborative Council

activities and different forms of support available to countries on request. Target completion date for this task is 15 August. Individual ESAs will then be encouraged to add specific promotion missions to their visits to developing countries. Aided by the UNDP Resident Representative, the ESA representatives will meet government sector officials and ESA country staff, and will explain the Framework and the types of support available should the country see a need for assistance in coordinating sector activities. ESAs willing to undertake such promotion missions are asked to notify the Chairman. It is estimated that through the combined efforts of the RWSGs, the Chairman's Office, WHO Regional Offices, the Regional Development Banks, and willing bilaterals, promotional missions may be undertaken in up to 60 countries by the end of 1989.

- To assist in rapid follow-up to country requests for assistance, ESAs are urged to provide continued support to the RWSGs, as a primary vehicle for coordinated support to country-level sector development.
- The 1990 Committee noted that numerous examples exist of successful ESA collaboration at country level, and asked the Chairman to initiate documentation of these examples.
- In countries seeking assistance in the coordination of ESA support activities, it should be possible to identify a "coordination facilitator" in a government sector agency, and a counterpart facilitator from the ESA community in the country (the example of PAHO sanitary engineers in 14 Latin American countries was noted). These facilitators would have the task of assisting all those involved in the coordination of ESA activity at country level, including the preparation and maintenance of a calendar of relevant meetings and events. To help in the identification of potential facilitators from the ESA community, the Chairman is asked to initiate a desk survey to provide an inventory of permanent ESA staff in each developing country, and to seek to identify those willing to provide active coordination support.
- It is recommended that ESAs consider incorporating a reference to the importance of coordination in the job descriptions of resident staff in developing countries. The Chairman's Office is asked to prepare a specimen clause.
- The Committee requested that a distillation of issues raised and conclusions drawn from the regional meetings in Asia and Latin America and from the UNDP Resident Representatives' responses to the Chairman's request for information on country-level sector support should be prepared for discussion at the next Collaborative Council meeting.
- The Chairman is asked to commission the preparation of a review of the challenges and strategies for the 1990s. This "think piece" should be developed in close collaboration with WHO and should complement the work of the proposed expert commission (para

3.22). The review for the Collaborative Council should be prepared by recognized experts and/or prestigious research institutions from outside the ESA community. In preparation for the review, the Chairman's Office is asked to develop a list of issues and concerns, including key issues identified during the 1990 Committee Meeting, such as water scarcity problems and water resources management in arid and semi-arid lands. Aspects of the review will be incorporated in country-level strategies and in the global strategy to be developed in time for the New Delhi Consultation. The review should therefore be initiated urgently, and the Chairman is asked to present outline recommendations on the strategy for the 1990s to the next Collaborative Council meeting.

- WHO is requested to report to the next Collaborative Council Meeting on relevant aspects of the Decade Assessment being prepared for the UN General Assembly, and to invite the Interagency Steering Committee for the IDWSSD to report, through WHO, on plans for end of Decade activities.
- The 1990 Committee addressed the issue of developing country participation in activities in support of the Framework for Global Cooperation, and recognized concerns about the way in which DCs are represented in Collaborative Council and 1990 Committee meetings. The Chairman and Secretariat are asked to review the selection process and level of representation of DCs and to make recommendations to the Collaborative Council, including suggested methods of financing and identification of specific roles for DC participants.
- ESAs are urged to respond to the Secretariat's request for information on the specific regions and/or areas of interest in which they may be willing to support developing country requests for sector development assistance. This will enable the Chairman and Secretariat to initiate the matching exercise requested by the Collaborative Council. The Secretariat is asked to compile a summary of all information received in time for the next Collaborative Council Meeting.

- 4.1 The 1990 Committee reviewed plans for the Global Consultation in New Delhi, India, in September 1990, as outlined in the Chairman's Statement and in a draft announcement of the consultation, which included a tentative schedule. The Chairman announced that the UNDP Resident Representative had just informed him that the Government of India has set up a steering committee for coordination of the meeting, under the Secretary of Rural Development, with a sub-committee to be chaired by the Secretary of Urban Development. The formal concurrence of the Government of India to host the Global Consultation is expected shortly, through the UNDP Resident Representative in New Delhi. The consultation will be a global UNDP meeting, organized by the UNDP/World Bank Programme and hosted by the Indian Government.
- 4.2 The discussion points which follow were raised by individual participants for the consideration of the Consultation organisers. They should be seen as individual views, not as a meeting consensus.
- 4.3 In principle, the New Delhi meeting should be seen as the time to strengthen the developing countries' involvement in the Framework for Global Cooperation and the collaborative work on development and implementation of a strategy for Beyond the Decade. Any ESA participation in discussions on future strategies at the Consultation should be in response to initiatives from the developing countries seeking to encourage ESA collaboration.
- 4.4 The meeting agenda should include discussion of an issues paper on the Framework for Global Cooperation and the role and future of the Collaborative Council.
- 4.5 The objective of the meeting should be more than just an agreed statement; it should include action plans and strategies.
- 4.6 Mar del Plata shortcomings should not be repeated. In particular, this means that provision must be made for follow-up of any action plan, by ensuring that policy makers transmit actions to the right operational staff. A high level of media promotion is one suggested mechanism, and consideration should be given to identification of a high level "ambassador" for the next Decade. The agenda should include a specific item on follow-up.
- 4.7 Consideration needs to be given to links between the New Delhi meeting and the UN General Assembly in November 1990, also on Decade achievements and strategies. Timing is against any formal inclusion of a New Delhi report in the General Assembly, but it was recommended that the representative of the Government of India should be requested to speak on the matter at the General Assembly. Other country delegations could also speak on the outcome of the meeting.
- 4.8 Participation in the meeting needs to include representation of the health sector.

- 4.9 Conference themes need to include institutional development and to clarify the distinction between community management and utility-based provision of water and sanitation services in low-income communities (both are seen as important).
- 4.10 The Collaborative Council should offer to assist in the preparation of issues papers — one specific offer was made by USAID/WASH, to collaborate in the production of an issue paper on institutional development.
- 4.11 The way in which the issues are framed in the present draft is based on out-of-date concepts. Phrasing should be linked to more modern approaches (sustainable development, environmental management, . . .).
- 4.12 The issue of Women in Development bridges Human Resources Development and Community Management and merits special attention. So does Health and Hygiene Education.
- 4.13 The Public Information and Promotion (PIP) strategy recommended by the Temporary Working Group on Communication of Information includes promotion of media interest and development of information packages specifically targeted at a New Delhi relaunch.
- 4.14 Action Plan preparation can be assisted through the mechanism of regional and subregional meetings. These meetings, planned through the Framework for Global Cooperation, should be asked to develop draft components of a New Delhi Action Plan.
- 4.15 Poster sessions are an effective means of carrying messages to policy makers. The Collaborative Council and individual ESAs should help developing countries to prepare posters and should consider training courses to assist DC staff in developing skills in poster preparation. USAID is willing to provide such assistance.
- 4.16 Though Water Resources Strategies are included as an identified conference theme, the importance of this issue should be emphasized more, by inclusion in the Purpose of the Conference.
- 4.17 Inclusion of the Framework for Global Cooperation in the New Delhi Conference is seen as important, but needs to be treated with sensitivity. ESA collaboration is intended to be responsive to developing country needs.

- 5.1 The Chairman's Statement brought the 1990 Committee up to date with actions to reinforce the support to the Chairman's Office following the recommendations of the Paris Meeting. A UNDP Project for Support to the Collaborative Council had been approved in April. As a result, the Chairman's Office now includes a Deputy to the Chairman, a Junior Professional Officer, Programme Support Staff, and the consultancy services of a Senior Advisor.
- 5.2 Contributions from Canada and France, in addition to the UNDP support, provided for the immediate needs, but additional ESA contributions were still needed to ensure continuity. Over the two-year project duration, the total additional finance sought amounts to US\$458,000, including contributions for 15 months of the Deputy to the Chairman's time, 11 months of consultancy for the Senior Advisor, 18 months of programme support staff, plus finance for travel, equipment and premises.
- 5.3 During the course of the meeting, a contribution was pledged by GTZ to cover an extra 4 months of consultancy. The remainder of the support is to be the subject of bilateral discussions between the Chairman and individual ESAs.
- 5.4 WHO had circulated a proposal in February for strengthening of the Secretariat. This called for funds totalling US\$190,000 for extra staff and equipment in addition to the support already provided by WHO and SDC. No additional funds had yet been pledged. A number of agencies indicated that they will be seeking ways of assisting the Secretariat through commitment of funds or secondment of staff. From WHO's point of view, the additional support is urgently needed.
- 5.5 The 1990 Committee recognized the high workload already imposed on the Chairman and Secretariat, and the extra work generated by the recommendations of the Committee Meeting. It urges ESAs to commit the resources needed for effective functioning of the administrative arrangements. A summary of the tasks assigned to the Chairman's Office and the Secretariat by the 1990 Committee follows.

Tasks assigned to the Chairman and Secretariat by the 1990 Committee

- 5.6 Review proposals for a Temporary Working Group on Environmental Pollution and, if appropriate, establish a Core Group to initiate activities.
- 5.7 Review the revised version of the TWG Report on Applied Research, to be produced by WASH, and initiate promotion of the applied research strategy/agenda.
- 5.8 Seek to determine what research has been and is being carried out on the proposed research topics, identify gaps and seek funding interest.

- 5.9 Identify coordinating agencies for particular research topics, based on responses to a survey/questionnaire, or on indications provided by ESAs (this means asking all Collaborative Council members to assist by sending information on known research or researchers).
- 5.10 Assess the proposals for a feasibility/programme definition study on public information and promotion with UNDP/UNICEF/IRC and initiate the study if appropriate. Commission development of the PIP strategy for the 1990s, if funding is found.
- 5.11 Develop a series of flyers promoting support for agreed components of global concepts — coordinated sector support, information activities in WSS programmes, country-level CESI operations, etc.
- 5.12 Promote support for country project proposals on Communication of Information in the TWG-INFO report.
- 5.13 Nominate and find support for lead agencies/core groups for Project and Sector Information (WHO), Technical Information Exchange (IRC/IDRC), and Management Information Systems (encourage collaboration of World bank, WHO, Economic Commissions). Invite CEFIGRE to develop a concept paper for MIS. Seek UNDP/World Bank support for implementation of MIS activities linked with CESI initiatives.
- 5.14 Request all ESAs to consider adding the promotion of sector support as a specific element of missions to developing countries, coordinate such missions and follow up. Provide ESAs with promotional leaflets, and draft clauses for incorporation in job descriptions of country-based technical staff.
- 5.15 Initiate a desk survey to provide an inventory of permanent ESA staff in each developing country, and seek to identify those willing and able to provide active coordination support.
- 5.16 Identify individuals in developing country agencies willing and able to act as coordination facilitators.
- 5.17 Survey the loan and grant conditions applied by different ESAs and prepare a report for the Collaborative Council (note that information may be available from OECD/DAC).
- 5.18 Commission a "think piece" on challenges and strategies for the 1990s and issues papers on identified components of the strategy. Drafts to be available for the Collaborative Council Meeting.

- 5.19 Review the issue of developing country representation in Collaborative Council activities and prepare a report, including discussion of financing, simultaneous translation, and identified roles for DC participants/advocators.
- 5.20 Follow up the canvass of ESAs and undertake the matching exercise; prepare a report/summary of all information received by the Secretariat/Chairman's Office in time for the next Collaborative Council Meeting.
- 5.21 Follow up on the need for support for the Secretariat and Chairman's Office.
- 5.22 Assist in the preparation of regional and subregional meetings.
- 5.23 Encourage participation of missing ESAs in future Collaborative Council activities.
- 5.24 Collaborate with CEFIGRE in the preparations for the forthcoming Collaborative Council Meeting.
- 5.25 Continue dialogue with NGOs, to develop a method for better representation of their views and interests in the Framework for Global Cooperation.
- 5.26 Promote coordinated activities on Institutional Development and continued cooperation on Operation and Maintenance, and canvass Collaborative Council members on the desirability of establishing new Temporary Working Groups (see also para 1.12).
- 5.27 Promote the preparation of case studies by ESAs for presentation in New Delhi, with drafts available for the Collaborative Council Meeting. Identify interested ESAs and agree on preparation.
- 5.28 Engage consultants to draw lessons from case studies and recommend future action leading to transfer of experience and successful application elsewhere.

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1990 COMMITTEE
GENEVA – 31 MAY TO 2 JUNE 1989

ANNEX 1

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1990 COMMITTEE
GENEVA – 31 MAY TO 2 JUNE 1989

ANNEX 1

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