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**NEW ZEALAND RESPONSE TO THE REFORMED
COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

BACKGROUND PAPER NO. 1

Submitted by the
Government of New Zealand

New Zealand Response to the Reformed Commission on Sustainable Development

1. Introduction

Following the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD), New Zealand considered carefully how it might seek to implement the sustainable development ideas contained in the Johannesburg Plan Of Implementation (JPOI). The result of this was two strands of action which focus on the areas where New Zealand could best apply these ideas. These are:

- The development and publication of a national programme of action, Sustainable Development for New Zealand in January 2003.
- The incorporation of key sustainable development ideas into the development assistance programmes already being implemented by the New Zealand Agency for International Development.

1.1 New Zealand National Programme of Action

The New Zealand national programme of action was developed recognising the characteristics of New Zealand as an island nation with a relatively small population, many unique elements to its environment and in a Pacific context. The programme of action has 4 core elements, of which two are relevant to the current thematic cluster of the reform of the CSD decided at CSD 11. The 4 elements are:

- a) Quality and allocation of freshwater, aimed at adequate clean freshwater for all – implemented through the Water Programme of Action.
- b) Energy, aimed at delivery of energy services to everyone efficiently fairly, reliably and in a sustainable manner.
- c) Sustainable cities, aimed at healthy safe and attractive cities for business, social and cultural life.
- d) Investing in child and youth development, aimed at opportunities for young people to succeed and contribute.

Accordingly, this report focuses on the first and third item of New Zealand's Sustainable Development Programme of Action.

1.2 New Zealand Agency for International Development (NZAID)

NZAID supports a wide range of initiatives, which contribute to commitments within the themes of water, sanitation and human settlements. This support incorporates significant bilateral projects and the core funding of regional agencies in the Pacific charged with meeting needs in these areas, in particular the South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission (SOPAC), the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) and the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC). New Zealand provides between 15% (SPREP) and 38% (SOPAC) of the baseline funding for these

organisations. In addition NZAID provides funding which each agency uses for specific projects within their mandates (see below). Currently these funds range from NZ\$1,000,000 (SPC) to NZ\$350,000 (SPREP) per annum.

With regard to the themes of interest in the first thematic cluster decided by CSD 11, SOPAC is mandated to work in the area of sustainable water resources and sanitation, SPREP in the areas of waste management and pollution control, and SPC in sustainable land use and development, health and population issues. These agencies support member countries by providing capacity building, knowledge management, technical and policy advice, advocacy of Pacific issues at international levels, as well as the development of appropriate technologies and scientific research. Details of the specific projects being undertaken by these agencies can be found on their websites as follows:

South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission (SOPAC) www.sopac.org

Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) www.spc.int

South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) www.sprep.org.ws

In addition to this, a significant number of small-scale community initiatives in water and sanitation are supported by NZAID through small grant schemes and community development support, primarily in the South East Asian and Pacific Region. These latter areas are described in more detail under the relevant sections of the JPOI below.

NZAID has been an active party in supporting the establishment of the Pacific WSSD Type II Partnership Initiatives in Water and Sanitation, Sustainable Land Resources Development, and Waste Management and Capacity building for the Sustainable Use and Management of Natural Resources. To date only the Water and Sanitation partnership has been formally established, components of which NZAID is currently funding (see below). NZAID will continue to engage in this process, and consider financial support to initiatives as they come on stream.

2. Report against relevant paragraphs of the JPOI

The following sections of the report:

- Describe New Zealand actions under each paragraph of the JPOI relevant to the first thematic cluster of the reformed CSD including:
 - Actions under the elements of the NZ Sustainable Development Programme of Action and specifically the **Water Programme of Action** and the **Sustainable Cities Programme**.
 - Actions being undertaken or planned by the **NZ Agency for International Development**.
- Where appropriate, indicate areas where New Zealand wishes to pursue working together with others on exchanging learning and gaining implementing experience.

In reviewing the following sections it should be emphasised that much of the work being done by New Zealand in response to the JPOI is at the formative stage and so much of what is described here combines description of the current situation and planned actions. Accordingly there is little that can be said in this report about the results of the various actions.

2.1 Water and Sanitation – New Zealand Actions

JPOI 6

- (a) **Halve, by the year 2015, the proportion of the world's people whose income is less than 1 dollar a day and the proportion of people who suffer from hunger and, by the same date, to halve the proportion of people without access to safe drinking water;**

NZ International Development Assistance

Pacific WSSD Type II Partnership Initiative on Sustainable Water Management

The basis of the initiative is the Pacific Regional Action Plan on Sustainable Water Management, the overall objective of which is to achieve sustainable water and waste water management in the Pacific region, including the implementation of strategies to utilise appropriate methods and technologies for water supply and sanitation systems and approaches, and to improve the management of water resources and surface and groundwater catchments. In 2003 NZAID provided \$200,000 and have made an in principal commitment of \$300,000 pa over the next three years to support components of this initiative.

Rapid Response to Safe Water Requirements of Resettlers in Afghanistan

NZAID has provided \$250,000 towards this project, the main aim of which is to assist the Afghan Government and UNICEF to develop and pilot a programme for the provision of safe drinking water in villages that lack safe supplies, especially where refugees or displaced persons are returning or resettling. It is intended to introduce a simple water purification process, ozonation, to treat contaminated surface supplies and produce potable water to commercial bottled water standards.

Village Water Supply Upgrade, Tonga

NZAID has committed \$1,400,000 between 2003-2005 to support an upgrade of the current village water supply systems on one of the outer islands of Tonga. The project aims to improve the intakes to the water supply, the actual reticulation system and install water treatment facilities.

Village Water Supply Project, Tongatapu, Tonga

The objectives of this project are; Renewal of the pipe network to provide a 24-hour supply of unpolluted water to the villages; improvement of sanitation standards in rural villages through the preparation of guidelines, training materials and training of trainers and provision for the collection or rainwater

through the construction of household rainwater tanks and associated pipe-work. NZAID has committed \$500,000 towards this project in the 2003-05 period.

Village Water Supply, Vanuatu

NZAID has been supporting a programme of assistance to the Water Resource Sector in Vanuatu for several years. The central component of this assistance is a Village Water supplies project, which will come to completion in 2005. NZAID has committed \$800,000 to complete the project, the objective of which is to assist the local authorities to improve water supply delivery and coverage, protection and monitoring of water quality and community skills to maintain water supplies, primarily in the rural sector of Vanuatu.

Integrated Rural Development Project, Gansu Province, China

Over \$600,000 has been committed by NZAID to this project, the principle objective of which is to develop a sustainable integrated rural development approach for Gansu province. The project will develop and demonstrate improved methods for sustainable agricultural production based on water resource development and rural credit as well as improve the capacity of local authorities, technical agencies, farmers and householders to develop and maintain improved agricultural production and community development.

JPOI 7

- (a) **Halve, by the year 2015, the proportion of the world's people whose income is less than 1 dollar a day and the proportion of people who suffer from hunger and, by the same date, to halve the proportion of people without access to safe drinking water;**

Water Programme of Action

The overarching goal of the Water Programme of Action is 'adequate, clean freshwater available for all'. Water bodies will be identified as being nationally important for a range of values including industrial/municipal. Tools will be developed to secure nationally important values in those water bodies.

Under the Resource Management Act, water management is largely devolved to local authorities that have responsibility for setting and enforcing water quality objectives. The national Ministry for the Environment publishes non-binding guidelines for biochemical parameters in freshwater, (see <http://www.mfe.govt.nz/publications/water/>) and has the ability to produce national environmental standards. National Environmental Standards are 'bottom line' type regulations that apply nationally. Guidelines are used by local authorities to assist with their functions, for example a microbiological standard details protocols for informing communities of the risks related to swimming at bathing beaches.

A package of drinking water standards is being developed under the draft Health (Drinking Water) Amendment Bill, which will require suppliers to take all practical steps to comply with the standards. (Although, drinking water sources will not be

required to be considered in Regional Plans or recognised as being of national importance.) This combined with a national environmental standard covering drinking water at source, and amendments to the Building Act covering drinking water from taps will provide a multi-barrier approach to the protection of drinking water.

JPOI 25

Develop integrated water resources management and water efficiency plans by 2005, with support to developing countries.

NZ International Development Assistance

The Pacific type II partnership noted in section 1.2 incorporates a focus on this. NZ is not currently directly supporting these components but may do as the partnership develops.

JPOI 26

Develop integrated water resources management and water efficiency plans by 2005, with support to developing countries, through actions at all levels to:

- a) **develop and implement national/regional strategies, plans and programmes with regard to integrated river basin, watershed and groundwater management and introduce measures to improve the efficiency of water infrastructure to reduce losses and increase recycling of water;**

NZ International Development Assistance

Development of Stream Health Monitoring Kits, Fiji

NZAID provided \$215,000 to fund this project, the objectives of which are to allow communities to quantify and monitor stream health, raise the awareness of the value of freshwater resources and increase an understanding of how land use activities impinge on freshwater resources.

The water supply projects in both Tonga and Vanuatu, and the project in Afghanistan referred to under JPOI 6(a) incorporate capacity building and training for local monitoring and assessment of water supplies.

Elements of NZAID support to SOPAC also contribute to this objective.

Water Programme of Action

The Resource Management Act promotes the integrated management of air, land and water resources (both surface and groundwater). Local authority boundaries are largely based on watersheds and local authorities are responsible for developing plans for surface and groundwater management.

Policy and tools to improve water management in New Zealand will be developed under the Water Programme of Action for both water allocation and water quality. The water allocation projects will identify improvements to the current allocation processes that best meet cultural, economic, environmental and social outcomes.

The priority issue to be addressed in the water quality project is the impact of land use on water quality. The project will define central government expectations and produce principles for ideal outcomes in water quality management. The risks of inappropriate land use to the economy, society, culture and the environment will be identified. The principles of land use management and regulatory processes necessary to meet sustainable water quality outcomes (including issues of governance) will also be identified.

A case study approach has also been adopted under the Water Programme of Action. The first case study focuses on Lake Taupo, New Zealand's largest lake. The lake is a national treasure. The water is very clear and is threatened by nitrogen losses from both surrounding farms and urban areas. The current nitrogen losses need to be cut by 20% to maintain current water quality in the long term. The lake is a treasure of the local Maori, who own the lakebed. Protecting the water quality of the lake will safeguard the economic benefits of tourism. The benefits of protecting the lake outweigh the costs faced by the farming sector of nitrogen restrictions.

Solving this environmental and economic challenge is an opportunity for strong leadership within the New Zealand's Sustainable Development Programme of Action. Negotiations are underway to develop an enduring solution. Parties to negotiations include the local councils, farmers and landowners around the lake, local indigenous people, and central government. Elements of an effective solution for management of land use impacts on water quality of Lake Taupo are likely to include:

- Regulation at the local level to cap current levels of nitrogen loss.
- A jointly managed fund to convert some land to low nitrogen uses.
- Upgrading sewage systems and septic tanks.
- Research and advisory services to provide improved economic opportunities for landowners who continue farming under a nitrogen restriction.
- Political commitment and leadership.

JPOI 26

- b) employ the full range of policy instruments, including regulation, monitoring, voluntary measures, market and information-based tools, land-use management and cost recovery of water services, without cost recovery becoming a barrier to access to safe water by poor people, and adopt an integrated water basin approach;**

Water Programme of Action

Under the Water Programme of Action, the full range of policy instruments will be explored to improve management of allocation and use of water, and impacts of land use on water quality. Policy instruments could include:

- Economic instruments.
- Environmental Impact Assessment.
- Cost Benefit Analysis including non-market valuation tools.
- Information.
- Research.
- Land use intensification modelling.
- Risk assessment tools for predicting long term impacts.
- National Policy Statement, National Environmental Standard, national guidelines.
- Legislation.
- Incentives.

While negotiations are still underway, elements of an effective solution for management of land use impacts on water quality of Lake Taupo are likely to include:

- Regulation at the local level to cap current levels of nitrogen loss.
- A jointly managed fund to convert some land to low nitrogen uses.
- Upgrading sewage systems and septic tanks.
- Research and advisory services to provide improved economic opportunities for landowners who continue farming under a nitrogen restriction.
- Political commitment and leadership.

JPOI 26

- c) **improve the efficient use of water resources and promote their allocation among competing uses in a way that gives priority to the satisfaction of basic human needs and balances the requirement of preserving or restoring ecosystems and their functions, in particular in fragile environments, with human domestic, industrial and agriculture needs, including safeguarding drinking water quality;**

Water Programme of Action

In addition to the water allocation project outlined above, water bodies considered to have nationally important values will also be identified. Water bodies will be assessed against the following values:

- Tourism.
- Irrigation.
- Energy generation.
- Industrial/Municipal uses.
- Recreation.
- Natural heritage.
- Cultural heritage.

The processes for determining the national interest in water and achieving optimal outcomes across a range of interests will then be developed. Effective partnerships and sector participation in determining the national interest will be required. This project will develop a system to better manage competing values and priorities in managing water. Elements of this project include:

- Identifying the types of data required to make decisions and how to use it.
- Identifying the relationships between the values and examining the impact of changing one value on the other values.
- Identifying governance and decision making arrangements that provide appropriate incentives and accountability.
- How to achieve complementary and 'win-win' outcomes.

Complementary values and mutually exclusive values for each of the nationally important water bodies will then be identified. The overall list of Water bodies of National Importance and the values to be secured will be determined; and options for new tools, or changes to existing tools to secure the values of the water bodies of national importance will be developed.

JPOI 28

Improve water resource management and scientific understanding of the water cycle through cooperation in joint observation and research.

NZ International Development Assistance

Elements of NZAID support to SPREP and SOPAC contribute to this objective.

JPOI 29

Promote effective coordination among the various international and intergovernmental bodies and processes working on water-related issues.

NZ International Development Assistance

Elements of NZAID support to SPREP and SOPAC contribute to this objective.

JPOI 40

Agriculture plays a crucial role in addressing the needs of a growing global population and is inextricably linked to poverty eradication, especially in developing countries. Enhancing the role of women at all levels and in all aspects of rural development, agriculture, nutrition and food security is imperative. Sustainable agriculture and rural development are essential to the implementation of an integrated approach to increasing food production and enhancing food security and food safety in an environmentally sustainable way. This would include actions at all levels to:

- b) Develop and implement integrated land management and water-use plans that are based on sustainable use of renewable resources and on integrated assessments of socio-economic and environmental potentials and strengthen the capacity of Governments, local authorities and communities to monitor and manage the quantity and quality of land and water resources;**

NZ International Development Assistance

Integrated Rural Development Project, Gansu Province, China

Over \$600,000 has been committed by NZAID to this project, the principal objective of which is to develop a sustainable integrated rural development approach for Gansu province. The project will develop and demonstrate improved methods for sustainable agricultural production based on water resource development and rural credit as well as improve the capacity of local authorities, technical agencies, farmers and householders to develop and maintain improved agricultural production and community development.

NZAID core support of SPC and the Pacific WSSD Type II in Water and Sanitation also contribute to objectives under this paragraph of the JPOI.

Water Programme of Action

The Resource Management Act promotes the integrated management of air, land and water resources (both surface and groundwater). Local authorities are responsible for developing plans for both surface and groundwater management. Plans may be developed for allocation of water and the management of water quality (including the impacts of land use on water quality).

Policy and tools to improve water management in New Zealand will be developed under the Water Programme of Action for both water allocation and water quality. The priority issue to be addressed in the water quality project is the impact of

land use on water quality. Development of integrated land management and water use plans is likely to be required.

A case study approach has also been adopted under the Water Programme of Action. The first case study focuses on Lake Taupo, New Zealand's largest lake. The lake is a national treasure. The water is very clear and is threatened by nitrogen losses from both surrounding farms and urban areas. The current nitrogen losses need to be cut by 20% to maintain current water quality in the long term. The lake is a treasure of the local Maori indigenous people, who own the lakebed. Protecting the water quality of the lake will safeguard the economic benefits of tourism. The benefits of protecting the lake outweigh the costs faced by the farming sector of nitrogen restrictions.

Solving this environmental and economic challenge is an opportunity for strong leadership within the Sustainable Development Programme of Action. Negotiations are underway to develop an enduring solution. Elements of an effective solution for Lake Taupo are likely to include:

- Regulation through integration of land management and water plans at the local level to cap current levels of nitrogen loss.
- A jointly managed fund to convert some land to low nitrogen uses.
- Upgrading sewage systems and septic tanks.
- Research and advisory services to provide improved economic opportunities for landowners who continue farming under a nitrogen restriction.
- Political commitment and leadership.

JPOI 40

- (c) **Increase understanding of the sustainable use, protection and management of water resources to advance long-term sustainability of freshwater, coastal and marine environments;**

Water Programme of Action

Increased understanding of the nature of the values of freshwater, and the impact of changing one value on the others, will be required to develop options that are optimal across cultural, economic, environmental and social outcomes. The Lake Taupo case study is the first practical experience of implementing sustainable development principles in a catchment. Significant monitoring and research over the last thirty years show conclusively that the lake water quality is deteriorating. Development of scientific models has contributed to increased understanding of the lake and surrounding area. Three different levels of modelling have been developed and can predict:

- How nutrients move through the soil.

- Movement of nutrients across the catchment and into the lake.
- How the lake will react to different nutrient inputs over time.

In addition, open and frequent communication with landowners in the catchment over the last two years has led to increased understanding of the problem and development of potential solutions with the community.

JPOI 54

Support SIDS to develop capacity in water and sanitation systems.

NZ International Development Assistance

NZAID's core focus is on the Pacific region and both bilateral projects referred to above and our core support of SPREP, SOPAC and SPM contribute to meeting this commitment.

2.2 Water and Sanitation – linkages

As part of the Water Plan of Action New Zealand wishes to work together with other CSD members to develop advance the knowledge and practice in the following areas:

- Managing the impacts of non-point source discharges from grazing livestock on water bodies. New Zealand has particular interest in the development or adaptation of innovative policy tools/approaches that enable impacts to be reduced/managed within a catchment while retaining the ability for landowners in the catchment to continue to earn a living from the land.
- Sustainable allocation and use of both surface and groundwater. In particular, New Zealand has a strong interest in the discussing current experience with and further developing criteria-based allocation regimes that allow strategic allocation of water across a range of uses (including future uses).

CSD members with interests in further discussion and developing these areas are invited to contact the New Zealand Ministry for the Environment, a lead agency for the New Zealand Water Programme of action through Elizabeth Eastmure, the New Zealand focal point for the World Water Forum at elizabeth.eastmure@mfe.govt.nz as soon as possible.

2.3 Human Settlements – New Zealand actions

The importance of sustainable human settlements is recognised in Chapter 7 of Agenda 21, Promoting Sustainable Human Settlement Development. Domestically, New Zealand is implementing this through its Sustainable Cities programme of action. New Zealand is also providing some assistance with human settlements related issues as part of its international development assistance programme. However this assistance is difficult to clearly separate from other assistance programmes, accordingly an example of the sort of assistance provided is given under the relevant JPOI section below.

Sustainable Cities Programme

The following key outcomes for cities under the sustainable development programme of action have been identified:

- Cities as centres of innovation and economic growth.
- Liveable cities that support social wellbeing, quality of life and cultural identities.

The overarching goal for the sustainable cities programme of action is "our cities are healthy, safe and attractive places where business, social and cultural life can flourish".

The New Zealand government is working on a national level work programme as well as a regional specific programme initially focusing on the country's largest urban area, the greater Auckland region.

The *national programme* has two action points for the 03/04 year – the New Zealand Urban Design Protocol and an Urban Affairs strategy. The design protocol is a "key action by government to address how good urban design can better contribute to the development of liveable cities and what practical steps can be made to design a better future for New Zealand's urban environments". The strategy will be a statement of strategic direction for urban affairs that will prioritise work and crystallise some main themes for the government.

The *regional programme* has an initial focus on metropolitan Auckland (New Zealand's largest city) and consists of a number of projects jointly lead by central government and Auckland local government, focusing on economic development, transport, governance arrangements, social and cultural issues, and urban form and design. The projects are aimed for completion by June 2005.

Over 85% of New Zealanders live in urban areas, making the country's cities a key focus for action on sustainable development issues such as poverty, access to safe drinking water, efficient use of resources such as energy, and waste management.

New Zealand actions relating to human settlements paragraphs of the JPOI appear below:

JPOI 7

- (c) **develop national programmes for sustainable development and local and community development, where appropriate within country-owned poverty reduction strategies, to promote the empowerment of people living in poverty and their organisations. These programmes should reflect their priorities and enable them to increase access to productive resources, public services and institutions, in particular, land, water, employment opportunities, credit, education and health.**

Sustainable Cities Programme

As most New Zealanders live in cities, poverty and hardship are important urban development issues. One of the four work streams of the New Zealand

Sustainable Development Programme of Action is Investing in Child and Youth Development (lead by Ministry of Social Development). A key focus of this work programme is on improving outcomes for disadvantaged young people. Within the Sustainable Cities action plan, one of the Auckland region specific projects is also on investing in child and youth development and this links to the national programme. The project explores "how we can apply sustainable development in an urban setting that weaves in child and youth development, in the context of the national sustainable development programme on investing in child and youth development".

Other Auckland regional projects focus on sustainable communities and migrant settlement. The communities project will explore a collaborative approach to working with communities towards increased community wellbeing and sustainable development. The migrant settlement project will focus on the preparation of a regional settlement strategy.

JPOI 8

The provision of clean drinking water and adequate sanitation is necessary to protect human health and the environment. In this respect, we agree to halve by the year 2015, the proportion of people who are unable to reach or to afford safe drinking water (as outlined in the Millennium declaration) and the proportion of people who do not have access to basic sanitation, which would include actions at all levels to:

Sustainable Cities Programme

New Zealand is developing a package of drinking water standards (lead by the Ministry of Health) (see explanatory text below JPOI 7(a) under the water programme of action section).

JPOI 9

Take joint actions and improve efforts to work together at all levels to improve access to reliable and affordable energy services for sustainable development sufficient to facilitate the achievement of the Millennium development goals, including the goal of halving the proportion of people in poverty by 2015, and as a means to generate other important services that mitigate poverty, bearing in mind that access to energy facilitates the eradication of poverty.

Sustainable Cities Programme

The New Zealand Government released its National Energy Efficiency and Conservation Strategy in September 2001. The strategy fosters continuing improvement in energy efficiency and the progressive transition to renewable sources of energy. Among the strategy's 6 goals is a commitment to improve health and welfare and via energy efficient homes and it is recognised that community wellbeing will be improved by enhancing the provision of adequate energy services for everyone. A number of action plans support the strategy by outlining how the strategy goals are to be achieved. Actions related to community wellbeing include: enhanced energy efficiency requirements under the proposed new Building Act , research on the links between improved health and

residential energy efficiency measures, provision of energy efficiency retrofit grants, retrofits of 40, 000 government owned residential properties over 10 years and development of home energy rating schemes.

JPOI 21

Promote an integrated approach to policy making at the national, regional and local levels for transport services and systems to promote sustainable development including policies for land use, infrastructure, public transport systems and goods delivery networks, with a view to providing safe, affordable and efficient transport systems and goods delivery networks, increasing energy efficiency, reducing pollution, congestion and adverse health effects and limiting urban sprawl, taking into account national priorities and circumstances. This would include actions at all levels to:

- a) **implement transport strategies for sustainable development, reflecting specific regional, national and local conditions, to improve the affordability, efficiency and convenience of transportation as well as urban air quality and health and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, including through the development of better vehicle technologies that are more environmentally sound, affordable and socially acceptable;**

Sustainable Cities Programme

Vehicle congestion is linked to high levels of air pollution in certain locations in the larger New Zealand urban areas, particularly in Auckland. The New Zealand Government is undertaking a range of initiatives to reduce air pollution from vehicle emissions. Initiatives will include education of car owners about the importance of vehicle maintenance, as well as rules. The vehicle exhaust emissions rule 2003, to be phased in from early 2004 will require that all vehicles new to the New Zealand fleet meet a recognised international emissions standard. The government also plans to introduce in-service testing of vehicle emissions from mid-late 2006.

The Ministry for the Environment is currently developing a package of national environmental standards, including ones for air quality. The proposed air quality standards include ambient standards for pollutants in the outdoor air, prohibitions on activities such as landfill fires, and an emissions standard for domestic solid fuel heating appliances. The ambient standards provide an environmental bottom line level of protection for all New Zealanders that will need to be achieved by all those responsible for managing air quality.

The sustainable cities programme for the Auckland region includes a project focusing on transport and urban form. The project itself has a number of sub-projects including one fostering integration between transport and urban form (intensification of land use better linked to transport modes), school travel planning to reduce congestion, work towards reducing vehicle emissions and policies for passenger transport purchasing. Linked to the transport project is a project on urban form, design and development.

The New Zealand Transport Strategy sets out the New Zealand government's vision for an "affordable, integrated, safe, responsive and sustainable transport

system by 2010". Approximately 40% of New Zealand's carbon dioxide emissions come from vehicle transport. The New Zealand Transport Strategy contains policies to encourage use of more energy efficient modes of transport. In addition the Land Transport Management Act 2003 introduces a new focus on sustainability and integration into national regional and local transport planning.

Also related is the Auckland Transport Strategy and Funding Project, details of which will be announced shortly by the New Zealand government. This project consists of sub projects including one on network completion, which aims "to identify, and assess the costs and benefits of worthwhile further expansion of the Auckland land transport network to 2010 and beyond". Another project focuses on identifying "the mechanisms by which any required debt for the further development of the Auckland land transport network could be raised, held and allocated." Related to this there is also a project on network demand management (non-pricing). Other projects look at travel demand management pricing options for Auckland; mitigation and consents - aimed at improving "the quality, certainty and timeliness of network consents within the Auckland region", and identifying "social and economic impacts of the further development and funding of the Auckland network, and ways of increasing the positive impacts and reducing the negative impacts."

At the regional/local level, the government proposes to reform Auckland metro transport management by establishing an integrated transport agency with responsibility for all modes of transport, and planning infrastructure, travel demand management and passenger transport, with sustainable development mandate.

In addition, work is underway to upgrade policy guidance under the Resource Management Act (New Zealand's umbrella planning law) to better integrate urban landuse intensification and transport, and to present an overview of the integrated network and transport planning system.

NZ International Development Assistance

Integrated Rural Development Project, Gansu Province, China

Over \$600,000 has been committed by NZAID to this project, the principle objective of which is to develop a sustainable integrated rural development approach for Gansu province. The project will develop and demonstrate improved methods for sustainable agricultural production based on water resource development and rural credit as well as improve the capacity of local authorities, technical agencies, farmers and householders to develop and maintain improved agricultural production and community development.

JPOI 22

Prevent and minimise waste and maximise reuse, recycling and use of environmentally friendly alternative materials, with the participation of government authorities and all stakeholders, in order to minimise adverse effects on the environment and improve resource efficiency.

Sustainable Cities Programme

The New Zealand Waste Strategy was released in 2002. The strategy was developed out of a partnership between the Ministry for the Environment and Local Government New Zealand. It sets direction for local authorities for minimising the country's waste and for improving its recovery and management.

As part of this overall programme the Auckland Regional Council "Big Cleanup Campaign", has taken a national lead on waste reduction at the metropolitan level.

JPOI 56

Reduce respiratory disease and other health impacts resulting from air pollution, with particular attention to women and children by:

- b) Supporting the phasing out of lead in gasoline.**
- c) Strengthening and supporting efforts for the reduction of emissions through the use of cleaner fuels and modern pollution control techniques.**

Sustainable Cities Programme

New Zealand phased out lead in petrol in 1996/1997 and ambient lead levels are now well below guidelines to protect health.

New Zealand is also working on a programme to improve fuel quality content. The new Petroleum Fuel Specifications require gradual reductions in fuel contaminants over the next 4-5 years including benzene in petrol and sulphur in diesel, with a view to having sulphur free diesel in 2009. This will reduce emissions of contaminants from the existing fleet and allow new vehicles with cleaner technologies to be operated efficiently in New Zealand.

JPOI 131

Promote further work on indicators, in conformity with paragraph 3 of decision 9/4 of the Commission on Sustainable Development.

Sustainable Cities Programme

The fifth element of the sustainable development programme of action is called Infusing the Sustainable Development Approach. The aim is to ensure the use of sustainable development operating principles in policy development and in government decision-making at central and local level.

One of the work-streams within the infusing project is to develop an indicator reporting framework and a set of indicators for sustainable development. This work will draw on international best practice and current New Zealand examples of indicator reporting, and will aim for integration of indicator reporting at national, regional and local level.

This work is being linked to the ongoing local authority development and publication of *Indicators of the Quality of Life of New Zealand's 8 Largest Cities*.

2.4 Human Settlements – linkages

New Zealand's human settlements work is at a relatively early stage so at this point no specific linkages with work elsewhere in the CSD programme are being sought. However countries are welcome to discuss elements of the programme with the experts working on the programme and should in the first instance contact the coordinator for New Zealand's response to the CSD, Steve Vaughan at steve.vaughan@mfat.govt.nz .

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