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National Reporting to the Commission on Sustainable Development

Report of the Secretary-General

1. Subsequent to the seventh session of the Commission on Sustainable Development, activities related to national reporting have focused on the following elements: (a) facilitating national reporting to the eight session of the Commission; (b) preparation of guidelines for the eight session of the Commission; (b) preparation of an analytical report entitled “Sustainable agriculture and rural development: Trends in national implementation”, based on national reports, as well as preparation of background documents; (c) early preparations to facilitate reporting to the Commission at its ninth session; (d) preparations of Country Profiles for the 10-year Review in 2002; (e) updating and maintenance of the United Nations system-wide sustainable development Web site.

National reporting to the Commission at its eighth session

2. The Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 (General Assembly resolution S-19/2, annex), states, in paragraph 115, that national reports on the implementation of Agenda 21 have proved to be a valuable means of sharing information at the international and regional levels and, even more important, of providing a focus for the coordination of issues related to sustainable development at the national level within individual countries, and accordingly, in paragraph 133 (b), that national reporting should continue through voluntary national communications or reports.

3. Consistent with the agenda established in the Commission's multi-year programme of work, guidelines for national reporting were prepared by the Secretariat, in consultation with Task Managers, on the following issues: (a) Integrated Approach to the Planning and Management of Land Resources; (b) Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development; (c) Forest; (d) Finance; and (e) Trade. The guidelines were sent simultaneously in English, French, and Spanish, by mail and where possible by electronic mail to the respective permanent representatives to the United Nations in New York and to the focal points of all countries at the end of May 1999. The deadline requested was 31 August 1999.
4. By mid-March 2000, reports had been received from the following 53 countries: Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Cameroon, Chile, China, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, France, Gambia, Germany, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Israel, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Lithuania, Malaysia, Monaco, Mexico, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Norway, Pacific Islands, Panama, Paraguay, Poland, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States, and Uzbekistan.

**Analytical report on Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development:
Trends in National Implementation**

5. In its decision 7/5 of April 1999, and 6/5 of April 1998, the Commission stressed the importance of continuing to take full advantage of the information provided by Governments to the Commission, on a voluntary basis, especially in view of the comprehensive review of the implementation of Agenda 21, to take place in 2002. The Commission emphasized the need to draw more fully on the information contained in those national reports or relevant information submitted to the Commission, and requested the Secretariat to process and compile, on a sectoral basis, the information provided by Governments in accordance with the issues contained in its multi-year programme of work.
6. Consequently, the report of the Secretary-General on "Sustainable agriculture and rural development: trends in national implementation" (E/CN.17/2000/5) examines the progress made towards Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development (SARD) based on the information that Governments provided in their national reports to the Commission in 1997 and by mid-January 2000. The report analyzes a total of 133 national reports on SARD.
7. Consistent with Agenda 21 programme areas on sustainable agriculture and rural development, the report focuses on major policy trends, programmes and activities on SARD by region and sub-region.

National reporting to the Commission at its ninth session

8. The Secretariat is in the process of preparing guidelines for the ninth session of the Commission. These guidelines, which will refer to reporting on: atmosphere/energy (sectoral theme); information for decision-making and participation, and international cooperation for an enabling environment (cross-sectoral theme); and, energy/transport (economic sector/major group), should be transmitted to Governments by the end of May 2000 in English, French and Spanish.
9. The deadline requested for submitting national reports to the Secretariat will be September 2000. Should national information be available around that time frame, it will have a greater impact on the inter-sessional preparations for the ninth session of the Commission as well as on the respective analytical report of the Secretary-General.

Preparations of National Reporting for the 10-Year Review in 2002

10. As mandated in CSD decision 7/5, paragraph (f), the Secretariat is collecting inputs from member states on how to improve the guidelines for the elaboration of national reports after 2002. A report to this effect will be submitted to the Commission in 2001, as part of the preparations for the comprehensive review of the implementation of Agenda 21.
11. As mandated in CSD decision 7/5, paragraph (g), the Secretariat is in the process of preparing Country Profiles to complement those presented during the five-year review in 1997, for submission to the General Assembly for the comprehensive review of the implementation of Agenda 21 to be held in the year 2002.
12. A table summarizing the national reports that have been submitted to the Commission since 1994 is attached for reference (Annex 1).

United Nations system-wide sustainable development Web site

13. As reported at earlier sessions, the United Nations system-wide sustainable development Web site (at <http://www.un.org/esa/agenda21/natlinfo/>) contains the information provided by Governments in their national reports to the Commission, on a country-by-country and issue-by-issue basis. The Secretariat continues to update the Web site with new information as Governments submit it.

PREPARATION OF COUNTRY PROFILES FOR THE 10-YEAR REVIEW IN 2002

1. The National Information Analysis Unit is in the process of preparing Country Profiles for 2002, to complement those presented during the five-year review in 1997.
2. By 2001, draft Country Profiles will be sent to all reporting countries for their review. Upon their review, the National Information Analysis Unit will proceed to finalize and publish the 2002 Country Profiles series.
3. As we have reported at earlier sessions, the Secretariat continues to update the Web site with new information as Governments submit it.
4. Kindly address your queries to the National Information Analysis Unit, to Ms. Hiroko-Morita-Lou at (212) 963-8813, and Ms. Maria Mercedes Sánchez at (212) 963-9421.

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National Reports submitted (since 1994) to the Commission on Sustainable Development for which country profiles will be prepared for 2002.

- National information is available on the web -

1. Albania	31. Dominican Republic	61. Lithuania	91. Sao Tome and Principe
2. Algeria	32. Ecuador	62. Luxembourg	92. Saudi Arabia
3. Antigua And Barbuda	33. Egypt	63. Madagascar	93. Senegal
4. Argentina	34. El Salvador	64. Malawi	94. Singapore
5. Armenia	35. Estonia	65. Malaysia	95. Slovakia
6. Australia	36. Fiji	66. Maldives	96. Slovenia
7. Austria	37. Finland	67. Mauritius	97. South Africa
8. Bahamas	38. France	68. Mexico	98. Spain
9. Bahrain	39. Gambia	69. Monaco	99. Sri Lanka
10. Bangladesh	40. Georgia	70. Mongolia	100. Suriname
11. Barbados	41. Germany	71. Morocco	101. Swaziland
12. Belarus	42. Ghana	72. Myanmar	102. Sweden
13. Belgium	43. Greece	73. Nepal	103. Switzerland
14. Benin	44. Guinea-Bissau	74. Netherlands	104. Syrian Arab Republic
15. Bolivia	45. Guyana	75. New Zealand	105. Thailand
16. Botswana	46. Haiti	76. Nicaragua	106. The FYR of Macedonia
17. Brazil	47. Honduras	77. Niger	107. Tunisia
18. Brunei Darussalam	48. Hungary	78. Nigeria	108. Turkey
19. Bulgaria	49. Iceland	79. Norway	109. Uganda
20. Cameroon	50. India	80. Pakistan	110. Ukraine
21. Canada	51. Indonesia	81. Panama	111. United Kingdom
22. Chile	52. Iran (Islamic Rep. of)	82. Paraguay	112. United Rep. of Tanzania
23. China	53. Iraq	83. Philippines	113. United States of America
24. Colombia	54. Ireland	84. Poland	114. Uruguay
25. Costa Rica	55. Israel	85. Portugal	115. Uzbekistan
26. C [^] te d'Ivoire	56. Italy	86. Qatar	116. Venezuela
27. Croatia	57. Jamaica	87. Republic of Korea	117. Viet Nam
28. Cuba	58. Japan	88. Republic of Moldova	118. Yugoslavia
29. Czech Republic	59. Kazakhstan	89. Romania	119. Zimbabwe
30. Denmark	60. Lebanon	90. Russian Federation	

***National reports yet to be submitted by the following countries
in preparation for the 10-year review in 2002***

Note: Looking forward to receiving national information from:

1. Afghanistan	25. Grenada	49. Papua New Guinea
2. Andorra	26. Guatemala	50. Peru
3. Angola	27. Guinea	51. Rwanda
4. Azerbaijan	28. Jordan	52. Saint Kitts and Nevis
5. Belize	29. Kenya	53. Saint Lucia
6. Bhutan	30. Kiribati	54. St. Vincent & the Grenadines
7. Bosnia & Herzegovina	31. Kuwait	55. Samoa
8. Burkina Faso	32. Kyrgyzstan	56. San Marino
9. Burundi	33. Lao People's Dem. Rep.	57. Seychelles
10. Cambodia	34. Latvia	58. Sierra Leone
11. Cape Verde	35. Lesotho	59. Solomon Islands
12. Central African Republic	36. Liberia	60. Somalia
13. Chad	37. Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	61. Sudan
14. Comoros	38. Liechtenstein	62. Tajikistan
15. Congo	39. Mali	63. Togo
16. Cyprus	40. Malta	64. Tonga
17. Dem. People's Rep. of Korea	41. Marshall Islands	65. Trinidad and Tobago
18. Dem. Rep. of the Congo	42. Mauritania	66. Turkmenistan
19. Djibouti	43. Micronesia	67. United Arab Emirates
20. Dominica	44. Mozambique	68. Vanuatu
21. Equatorial Guinea	45. Namibia	69. Yemen
22. Eritrea	46. Nauru	70. Zambia
23. Ethiopia	47. Oman	
24. Gabon	48. Palau	