

# COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

COM(82) 208 final

Brussels, 19 April 1982

Communication from the Commission to the Council  
on Environment and Development :  
Third meeting of the Committee of International Development  
Institutions for the Environment (21-23 April 1982)

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1. It will be recalled that on 1 February 1980, a Declaration of Environmental Management Policies and Procedures relating to Economic Development for incorporating environmental considerations into development policies, programmes and projects, which was elaborated at the instigation of the United Nations Environment Programme, was signed by eight multilateral development financing institutions, as well as the Commission of the European Communities and UNEP.

The signing of the Declaration was followed by the establishment of a permanent review body called the Committee of International Development Institutions for the Environment (CIDIE) composed of representatives from each of the signatories, which meets annually.

2. The third meeting of the Committee will take place in Brussels from 21 to 23 April 1982 and will be hosted by the Commission.

Its main purpose will be to promote a more effective implementation of the Declaration. Specific attention will be focussed on :

- ways of meeting the growing environmental training and education needs of developing countries;
- assistance to developing countries in the development of suitable environmental impact assessment procedures of development projects;
- elaboration and application of guidelines for incorporating the environmental dimension into development programmes and projects.

3. Participation of the Community in this exercise is in line with the principles incorporated both in the Second Action Programme of the Community in the field of the Environment<sup>\*</sup>, in the proposed Third Action Programme<sup>\*\*</sup> and in the Lomé II Convention which foresees in particular :

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\* OJ C 139 13.6.1977

\*\* OJ C 305 25.11.1981

(a) the need to take environmental considerations into account in the definition, execution and evaluation of development projects;

(b) the formulation, in conjunction with the Community's partner ACP States, of programmes and projects in this sector.

4. In participating in the work of implementation of the above Declaration, the Commission seeks to promote within the Community a systematic approach to incorporating the environmental dimension into its policies, programmes and projects. It recognises the crucial need of dealing in a comprehensive manner with the growing emergence of environment and development issues, and problems, such as degradation of the natural resource base, deforestation and desertification with which the developing countries are being confronted, and which require in particular the sound management of natural resources.
5. The above matters are forcefully underlined in the World Conservation Strategy which was launched in March 1980 and endorsed both by the Commission and by the European Parliament\* as well as by Community member states individually.
6. The Commission, meanwhile, is already undertaking, notable within the framework of its policy document : "Towards a Plan of Action to Combat World Hunger" (COM(81)560 final) an extensive appraisal of some of the most urgent of these problems in the developing countries and will be defining certain "thematic actions" that should be implemented to help resolve them over a period of time.
7. In view of the relevance of these issues as well as the nature of the discussions scheduled to take place at the third meeting of the Committee of International Development Institutions for the Environment, it is the intention of the Commission to invite as observers to this meeting appropriate representatives from each of the Community member states as well as ACP states ( draft agenda of the meeting is attached ).

\* Resolution of 20 May 1980, OJ N°C147 of 16.6.1980

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COMMITTEE OF INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTIONS  
ON THE ENVIRONMENT

To be held at the Commission of the European Communities,

Brussels, 21 - 23 April 1982

convening at 10 a.m. on the first day \*

PROVISIONAL                      AGENDA

WEDNESDAY, 21 APRIL

OPENING CEREMONY

Meeting of Committee

1. Adoption of agenda
2. Review by members of the Committee on progress in implementing the Declaration of Principles
3. Reports of other relevant activities since the second meeting of the Committee
4. Matters arising from the second meeting of the Committee

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\* Convening 9.30 - 12.30 ; 14.30 - 17.30, except on the first day.

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THURSDAY, 22 APRIL

5. Environmental Training and Education
  - (a) Preparation of EDI course
  - (b) Role of institutions
  - (c) Exchange of training materials
6. Guidelines for Environment and Development
7. Assistance to Developing Countries with a View to Improving their Capacity to Undertake Environmental Impact Assessment of Development Projects.

FRIDAY, 23 APRIL

8. Liaison with Bilateral Aid Agencies
9. Review of Decisions and Conclusions of the Meeting
10. Place and Date of the Fourth Meeting
11. Other Business

CLOSING CEREMONY