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TRUST FUND FOR SACEP

By **Delrine Wijeratne**
The establishment of a trust fund and ten practical environmental projects for immediate implementation was yesterday approved at the concluding session of the South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme held at the BMICH.

Among the project activities approved for immediate implementation are programmes to promote and identify fuel efficient stoves, recycling wastes, establishing an environmental education programme for South Asia, strengthening and improving environmental legislation and setting up a clearing house for environmental services in the region. The programme has also been pledged US dollars 500,000 by the UNDP for the implementation of these programmes.

The trust fund for the South Asia Co-operative Environment programme established at this meeting is to relieve lump sum contributions from member countries and contributions from interested donor countries, national and international organisations and financial institutions for organizational and programme support costs.

SALEP approves ten projects

The South Asian Environment meeting at its concluding session in Colombo yesterday approved ten practical projects for immediate implementation and established a Trust Fund.

The meeting held under the auspices of SACEP was attended by Ministerial representatives from nine South Asian countries. They were: Afghanistan, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Maldives, India, Iran, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

Among the project activities are the following: identify and promote fuel efficient stoves; recycling wastes, particularly agricultural wastes; establish an environmental education programme for South Asia; strengthen and improve environmental legislation; set up a clearing house for environmental services, and evaluate the impact of six identified development projects in the region on the environment. The UNDP has pledged \$ 500,000 for carrying out the project.