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24 December 1987

Original: ENGLISH

Second meeting of national focal points
on the development of an action plan for
the protection and management of the
South Asian Seas region

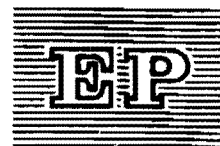
Bangkok, 7-11 December 1987

REPORT OF THE MEETING

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INTRODUCTION

1. In May 1982 the UNEP Governing Council adopted decision 10/20 requesting the Executive Director of UNEP "to enter into consultations with the concerned States of the South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP) to ascertain their views regarding the conduct of a regional seas programme in the South Asian Seas".
2. In response to that request the Executive Director appointed a high level consultant to undertake a mission to the coastal States of SACEP in October/November 1982 and February 1983. The report of the consultant was transmitted by UNEP to the Governments of the South Asian Seas region in May 1983, and the recommendations of the Executive Director were submitted to the Governing Council at its eleventh session.
3. By decision 11/7 of 24 May 1983, the UNEP Governing Council noted "the consultations carried out in accordance with Council decision 10/20 of 31 May 1982" and requested "the Executive Director to designate the South Asian Seas as a region to be included in the Regional Seas Programme, in close collaboration with the South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme and Governments in the region, and to assist in the formulation of a plan of action for the environmental protection of the South Asian Seas".
4. As a follow-up to the decision 11/7 of the Governing Council, the Executive Director convened, in co-operation with SACEP, a meeting of national focal points of the States of the region in order to seek their views on how to proceed in developing a comprehensive action plan for the protection and management of the marine and coastal environment of the South Asian Seas region (Bangkok, 19-21 March 1984).
5. The meeting discussed possible steps leading to the adoption of an action plan and reached consensus on the items to be considered in the further development of the action plan ^{1/}.
6. The meeting recommended that the Governments, with the assistance of UNEP and other organizations, as appropriate, should prepare country reports reviewing their:
 - national environmental problems defined as priority areas of regional concern;
 - activities which may usefully be carried out under the action plan to resolve or mitigate these problems; and
 - national institutional and manpower resources which are, or may be, involved in dealing with these problems, including the identification of the need to strengthen their capabilities.
7. The meeting called upon UNEP to prepare, in co-operation with SACEP and other organizations, as appropriate:
 - a draft overview report based on the country reports reviewing the environmental problems of the region defined as priority areas;
 - a document addressing the essential legislative aspects relevant to the action plan; and
 - a draft action plan reflecting the conclusions of the country and regional reports.

^{1/} Report of the Meeting of National Focal Points on the Development of an Action Plan for the Protection and Management of the South Asian Seas Region, UNEP/WG.105/5.

8. It was also recommended that UNEP convene a meeting of experts to review and revise, as appropriate, the documentation listed above prior to their submission to the second meeting of national focal points for the development of the action plan for the South Asian Seas region.

9. The preparation of the documents requested by the meeting of national focal points (Bangkok, 19-21 March 1984) has been accomplished with the co-operation of the national focal points, SACEP and a number of international and intergovernmental organizations.

10. The meeting of experts on the South Asian Seas regional programme was convened by the Executive Director, in co-operation with SACEP (Bangkok, 2-5 December 1986) ^{2/}.

11. The meeting of experts:

- reviewed the five country reports and the draft overview on the environmental problems of the South Asian Seas, and provided comments and additional information used in the preparation of the final version of the overview;
- reviewed the draft action plan proposed by the secretariat and prepared its revised version;
- reviewed the possible legal framework for the action plan and recommended that a meeting of legal and technical experts be convened by UNEP to examine the suitability of legal arrangements proposed by UNEP, IMO and IUCN;
- reviewed the institutional and financial arrangements which may be needed to support the implementation of the action plan; and
- recommended the initiation of six priority projects prior to the formal adoption of the action plan.

12. The meeting of experts also recommended SACEP to prepare draft proposals covering various aspects of the trust fund and the proposed secretariat to the action plan (UNEP/WG.153/8, paragraph 40d). The preparation of these documents has been accomplished with the co-operation of UNEP.

13. The Executive Director of UNEP, in co-operation with SACEP, convened the second meeting of national focal points on the development of an action plan for the protection and management of the South Asian Seas region in order to:

- take note of revised overview of the marine and coastal environmental problems of the region (UNEP, Regional Seas Reports and Studies No. 82);
- review the progress in the implementation of the recommended priority activities (UNEP(OCA)/SAS WG.1/5);
- review and revise, as appropriate, the draft action plan (UNEP/WG.153/8, Annex IV);
- recommend concrete institutional and financial arrangements which may be suitable for the implementation of the action plan, taking into account document UNEP/WG.153/7 and UNEP(OCA)/SAS WG.1/6; and

^{2/} Report of the meeting of experts on the South Asian Seas regional programme, UNEP/WG.153/8).

- recommend future activities leading to the adoption of the action plan.

14. The United Nations, UNCTAD, UNDP, ESCAP, UNCHS, UNDRO, ILO, FAO, UNESCO, WHO, WMO, IMO, UNIDO, IAEA, WTO, IOC, Greenpeace, IUCN and SACEP ^{3/} were invited to send their observers to the meeting.

15. The meeting was held at the Impala Hotel in Bangkok, Thailand, 7-11 December 1987.

16. This document is the report of the meeting. The complete list of participants is presented in annex I to this report.

Agenda item 1: Opening of the meeting

17. On behalf of the Executive Director of UNEP, the meeting was opened by Mr. Stjepan Keckes, Director of Oceans and Coastal Areas Programme Activity Centre of UNEP. He welcomed the participants, briefly reviewed the events leading to the meeting and invited the participants to examine and revise, as appropriate, the documents prepared for the meeting. He informed the meeting that regrettably due to staff shortages the convening, in 1987, of the meeting of legal and technical experts which was expected to examine and propose legal arrangements and their suitability in the context of the South Asian Seas action plan, had to be postponed to 1988. However, despite this fact, he stressed that the recommendations of this meeting were expected to form the basis for the adoption of the action plan, including the supporting institutional and financial arrangements, by an intergovernmental meeting of the South Asian States during early 1988.

18. Mr. Nay Htun, Director of UNEP Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, also addressed the participants of the meeting and reiterated UNEP's readiness to assist the countries of the region in the development of an action plan. He requested the focal points to advise UNEP how communications with countries could be speeded up, so that the secretariat can provide better co-ordinating assistance and utilize the limited resources more effectively.

19. Mr. Mohammad Jafer Kazem, Director of SACEP, addressed the meeting and expressed his organization's continued interest in the development of the South Asian Seas action plan and readiness to co-ordinate its implementation as the secretariat of the action plan.

Agenda item 2: Organization of the meeting

20. The secretariat proposed to apply mutatis mutandis, the rules of procedure of UNEP Governing Council (UNEP/IG.(SSC)/3) for the conduct of the meeting. The meeting agreed to this proposal.

^{3/} United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD); United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP); United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (UNCHS); United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator Office (UNDRO); International Labour Organization (ILO); Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO); United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO); World Health Organization (WHO); World Meteorological Organization; International Maritime Organization (IMO); United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO); International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA); World Tourism Organization (WTO); Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC); International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN); South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP).

21. The meeting elected the following officials:

Chairman: Mr. H.S.D. Jamy (Pakistan)

Vice-Chairmen: Mr. L.U. Joshi (India)
Mr. M. Ali (Maldives)

Rapporteur: Mr. W.M.A. Wijeratna Banda (Sri Lanka)

22. The secretariat proposed, and the meeting agreed, to carry out its work in plenary session with the support of ad hoc working groups which may be established during the meeting.

23. The meeting was conducted in English only.

Agenda item 3: Adoption of the agenda

24. The provisional agenda (UNEP(OCA)/SAS WG.1/1) was introduced by the secretariat with reference to the provisional list of documents (UNEP(OCA)/SAS WG.1/INF.1). The meeting considered the proposed agenda and adopted it without any modifications. The adopted agenda, as well as the final list of documents, are presented as annex II and annex III to this report.

Agenda item 4: Environmental problems of the South Asian Seas region

(a) Environmental problems of the South Asian Seas region

25. The secretariat introduced the final report on the environmental problems of the South Asian Seas region (UNEP Regional Seas Reports and Studies No. 82), which has been prepared on the basis of the five country reports and finalized after incorporating all comments received during and after the meeting of experts on the South Asian Seas regional programme (Bangkok, 2-5 December 1986).

26. The Chairman invited the meeting to take note of the report and on the basis of the "recommendation for priority action" contained in the report (pages 27-31), identify areas of immediate concern which could be addressed through the action plan on a priority basis.

27. In the ensuing discussion the delegates commended the report as properly reflecting the general environmental problems of the South Asian Seas region and identified specific problems which could be addressed through the action plan.

28. The representative of Sri Lanka emphasized the importance of proper land-use planning as the key to the solution of most of the coastal environmental problems, such as deforestation, soil erosion and concomitant sedimentation and siltation, destruction of corals and mangroves, protection of endangered species, etc. Over-exploitation of fisheries resources, the unrestrained use of agrochemicals and the release of untreated industrial waste into the sea were mentioned as the country's serious problems. The intentional and accidental oil pollution from tanker traffic passing the southern tip of the country is causing a serious problem which could be mitigated by early ratification of international agreements intended to control oil pollution, by development of national and regional contingency plans for oil pollution emergencies, and by creation of non-discharge zones. A considerable part of the country's coral reefs and mangroves have been destroyed, contributing to the destructive force of episodic events, such as tidal waves, and to the negative impact of the expected effects of climatic changes.

29. The representative of Pakistan expressed special concern about the destruction of the mangrove ecosystems in his country.

30. While recognizing the existence of environmental problems in his country, the representative of India emphasized that through a well developed institutional infrastructure, as well as research, monitoring and development programmes, India is making good progress in controlling its coastal and marine environmental problems.

31. The representative of the Maldives identified the potential threats to the coral reefs. Pollution from sewage and garbage have threatened the reefs, particularly around Malé. Over-exploitation of certain marine resources may arise, in particular, sand or coral extraction. However, environmental protection measures are being gradually brought in. The potential effects of expected sea level rise may become the major threat to the Maldives.

32. Several amendments and corrections were suggested to the report on the environmental problems of the South Asian Seas region, issued as UNEP Regional Seas Reports and Studies No. 82. The secretariat agreed to issue a corrigendum, containing all specific comments received in writing by 31 January 1988, and to insert them in the copies of the present report which will be distributed after that date.

(b) State of the marine environment in the South Asian Seas region

33. The secretariat recalled that, as a contribution to a global scientific review on the state of the marine environment, sponsored by UNEP through GESAMP ^{4/}, preparation of regional reviews was initiated by UNEP in 1986 in all regions covered by the Regional Seas Programme. The review relevant to the South Asian Seas region is being prepared by a Task Team of scientists from the South Asian Seas region, working under the technical co-ordination of IOC and with assistance of FAO and UNEP. Information on the preparation of the global and regional reports was brought to the attention of the meeting of experts on the South Asian Seas regional programme in Bangkok, 2-5 December 1986 (paragraph 44 of UNEP/WG.153/8).

34. The Rapporteur of the Task Team (Mr. R. Sen Gupta) in charge of the production of the regional report on the state of the marine environment in the South Asian Seas region was unable to present personally the final draft of the report of the Task Team (UNEP(OCA)/SAS WG.1/3). Therefore, the final draft was presented to the meeting by his representative (Mr. M. D. Zingde) who reviewed the major findings and conclusions of the report.

35. The Chairman invited the meeting to comment on the report and to make suggestions, if any, for corrections and amendments, so that they could be conveyed to the Task Team and thus assist in the finalization of the report which is planned to be printed and distributed by UNEP, in co-operation with IOC and FAO.

36. A number of general and specific comments were offered by the participants of the meeting. They included the following:

- statements in the report should be substantiated by proper references to the original source of information;
- while data from India seems to be covered adequately, efforts should be made to complete the report with data from other countries;

^{4/} IMO/FAO/UNESCO/WMO/WHO/IAEA/UN/UNEP Joint Group of Experts on Scientific Aspects of Marine Pollution.

- the national focal points for the South Asian Seas action plan should have been used as a source of information, as they are ready to provide data relevant to the report;
- the ongoing pollution research and monitoring programmes of all countries should have been identified and their results incorporated in the report;
- the missing factual information (e.g. length of coastline) should be completed and updated in most cases; and
- section of the report on "Regional Agreement" and "Trends and Forecasts" should be written more clearly.

37. The representative of India noted that, in order that it be successful, the South Asian Seas action plan should contain issues on which there is consensus among the participating countries. It was neither appropriate nor useful to discuss political issues of a contentious nature. In this context, the representative of India expressed his Government's strong objection to sub-paragraph 6, of section 9 of document UNEP(OCA)/SAS WG.1/3, and called for its deletion before the report is finalized.

38. The secretariat brought to the meeting's attention that the document UNEP(OCA)/SAS WG.1/3 has not been prepared as part of, or contribution to, the South Asian Seas action plan. The document is the final draft of a report prepared by a group of scientists acting in their personal capacity and using only scientific criteria in analyzing and documenting the state of the marine environment in the South Asian Seas region. The document was brought to this meeting's attention only for "comments and suggestions, if any, for corrections and amendments" (paragraph 23 of UNEP(OCA)/SAS WG.1/2). Consequently, the comments and opinions expressed in paragraphs 36-37 above will be conveyed by the secretariat to IOC and to the Task Team in charge of the report, with request to consider them in finalization of the report.

(c) Implications of expected climatic changes in the South Asian Seas region

39. Recognizing that the problems related to the potential effects of expected climatic changes may prove to be in the near future among the major coastal environmental problems for a number of States, the Governing Council of UNEP requested the preparation of studies on the possible ecological and socio-economic implications of expected climatic changes. Such studies could be used by the interested Governments in defining policy options which may mitigate or avoid the negative impact of expected climatic changes.

40. As a response to the request of the Governing Council referred to above, the secretariat initiated the preparation of several regional studies in regions covered by the Regional Seas Programme. The studies are being prepared by task teams of scientists from the relevant regions with the following terms of reference:

- to examine the possible effects of the sea level changes on the coastal ecosystems (deltas, estuaries, wetlands, coastal plains, coral reefs, mangroves, etc.);
- to examine the possible effects of temperature elevation on the terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems, including the possible effects on economically important species;
- to examine the possible effects of climatic, physiographic and ecological changes on the socio-economic structures and activities;
- to determine areas or systems which appear to be most vulnerable to the above changes; and
- to prepare a comprehensive, well documented report reflecting the points above. The report should also include several detailed case studies, which would constitute the substantive annexes of the report.

41. IOC was invited, in mid-1987, to assist UNEP in the establishment of a Task Team to prepare the regional study covering the marine and coastal environment of the States participating in the South Asian Seas action plan, according to the terms of reference indicated in the preceding paragraph. In consultation between IOC and UNEP, Mr. G. S. Quraishee, Director of the National Institute of Oceanography of Pakistan, was selected and designated as the Co-ordinator of the Task Team.

42. The report on the present status of the preparation of the study on the implications of expected climatic changes (UNEP(OCA)/SAS WG.1/4) was introduced by the representative of IOC and supplementary information was provided by the Co-ordinator of the Task Team about his plans to accomplish the report.

43. The meeting took note that the study will be prepared on the assumptions adopted by the Villach conference (9-15 October 1987), i.e. expected temperature increase of 1.5 - 4.5° C and sea level rise of 20-140 cm before the end of the 21st century. For the time being temperature elevation of 1.5° C and sea-level rise of 20 cm by the year 2025 will be considered with the understanding that these estimates may have to be revised on the basis of regional scenarios yet to be developed.

44. The Task Team is expected to be composed of experts from the South Asian Seas region and the following profile of experts is considered desirable:

- physical oceanography (on sea-level, storm surges, circulation);
- biology and ecology (marine and terrestrial for the regional conditions);
- existing coastal area resources (e.g. fisheries, aquaculture, non-living);
- hydrology;
- meteorology;
- economics;
- social structures; and
- selected case studies.

Experts from outside of the region will be involved in the work of the Task Team only if the required expertise does not exist in the region.

45. The participants of the meeting welcomed the initiative of UNEP to prepare the regional study on the possible impact of climatic changes on the region intended to be covered by the South Asian Seas Regional Seas Programme. It was understood that the study, once completed, will be presented to the relevant Governments in order to assist them in formulating their policy options relevant to the problems which may be connected with climatic changes. Several participants emphasized that historic records are proof that changes in sea level occurred in the region's distant past and are also occurring at present. The addition of a geologist to the Task Team was considered necessary. The impact of sea-level rise on coastal human habitats and infrastructure (roads, harbours, etc) was expected to be covered in the study. Ongoing monitoring and research in several countries, relevant to the expected output of the Task Team, was brought to the meeting's attention by several participants, with the suggestion that the information and results gained through such national programmes should be used by the Task Team in preparing their study.

46. It was recommended that Maldives should be considered for a specific in-depth case study analyzing the full ecological and socio-economic implications of expected climatic changes as well as the management and policy options available to mitigate or avoid the negative effects of these implications.

47. The meeting strongly recommended the involvement of national focal points for the South Asian Seas action plan in selection of experts in order to ensure the access of the Task Teams to data and other relevant information available in different countries. As the best way to achieve it, the meeting recommended that UNEP should approach in writing the national focal points with

information on the preparation of the regional study and with request to propose several experts who would be considered for membership in the Task Team. From among the proposed experts, the Co-ordinator of the Task Team, in consultation with IOC and UNEP, would select the members of the Task Team, bearing in mind the necessary distribution of expertise (see paragraph 44).

48. The secretariat and the Co-ordinator of the Task Team welcomed the proposed procedure for the establishment of the Task Team with the understanding that the members of the Task Team would serve in their personal capacity and would not formally represent any national authority while acting as members of the Team.

Agenda item 5: Progress in the implementation of the recommended priority activities

49. The secretariat briefly referred to the priority activities identified by the meeting of experts on the South Asian Seas regional programme, Bangkok, 2-5 December 1986 (UNEP/WG.153/8, paragraph 37 and annex V) and introduced the document UNEP(OCA)/SAS WG.1/5 on the progress in the implementation of the recommended priority activities.

50. Where applicable, the representatives of the implementing organizations, identified in each activity, provided additional information on the status of the relevant project.

Coastal environmental management plan (CEMP) for Pakistan

51. The secretariat reminded the meeting that this project proposal is intended to be ESCAP's contribution to the development of the South Asian Seas action plan. On the basis of the information submitted to UNEP, the meeting was informed that the project proposal was being formulated and the Government of Pakistan had set up an Interagency Co-ordinating Committee in order to maintain liaison with ESCAP and co-ordinate the implementation of the project at the national level. However, due to the financial constraints and prior commitments ESCAP could not initiate the project in 1987.

52. The representative of ESCAP informed the meeting that as an integral part of the ESCAP regional project on the protection of marine environment, several country-specific coastal environmental management plans (CEMP) have been and are being developed as inter-sectoral and site-specific studies undertaken by national and regional experts, in close co-operation with ESCAP secretariat. The studies are based on available data, including those which are unpublished and in raw form, supplemented by brief field surveys. The CEMP in Pakistan will be based on the methodology used in Sri Lanka and Bangladesh. The emphasis will be on the use of national experts to the maximum extent possible. The project co-ordination will be the responsibility of the Inter-ministerial Co-ordination Committee, in co-operation with ESCAP. The subject areas of the study will be based on the prevailing situation of the study area, as well as sectors of development likely to have impact on the coastal environment. An ESCAP mission is proposed for early 1988, to initiate the CEMP studies in Pakistan and discuss the terms of reference, scope and other aspects of the study.

SAS-3: Development of a system of protected areas in the South Asian Seas region

53. The secretariat informed the meeting that the original project proposal formulated by IUCN was finalized with the co-operation of UNEP and after its approval at UNEP, the project document was signed by UNEP and IUCN. The agreed workplan and timetable of the project is shown in annex IV of this report.

54. The representative of IUCN reported that it is the intention of IUCN to depend on the expertise available within the region to hold workshops on the classification of coastal and marine biotopes, the distribution of significant species (crocodiles, sea turtles, dugongs, cetaceans, colonial-nesting birds, and selected fish), and the system of protected areas required to conserve them. Additional support from the Norwegian Agency for Development (NORAD) is being sought to enhance the cartographic

dimension of the project. The first workshop is planned to be held in Sri Lanka in mid 1988, with subsequent workshops in India and Pakistan.

SAS-4: Assessment of levels and effects of marine pollution in the South Asian Seas region - phase I

55. The secretariat informed the meeting that the implementing organization, Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC), in collaboration with WHO and IAEA is in the process of formulating the project proposal. In view of the complexity of the project proposal, involvement of three international organizations in its implementation and relatively large budget (proposed budget of US \$404,000 for phase I), the formulation of the project document has involved considerable correspondence and relatively longer time. However, it is expected that by early 1988, the project document will be cleared by the organizations concerned and subject to availability of funds the project could start in early 1988.

56. The representative of India emphasized that most of the work envisaged by the project is already being carried out in his country. On 8 high sea stations, 45 off-shore stations and 69 coastal stations environmental samples are collected quarterly and analyzed for 25 parameters. The representatives of Sri Lanka and Pakistan indicated that, to a limited extent, work relevant to the project is also underway in their countries.

57. The meeting was informed that, due to financial constraints, the secretariat intends to focus the initial phase of the project on a few items only. They would most probably include:

- identification of existing national programmes and capabilities relevant to the project;
- initiation of a limited programme for monitoring oil pollution with methods and at locations which could provide the basis for assessment of the present status and trends of oil pollution in the region;
- initiation of a limited programme for monitoring chlorinated hydrocarbons, as part of the global "mussel watch" (see also paragraph 90); and
- organization of intercalibration and training for participants in the two programmes described above, as well as provision of equipment to those in need of it.

The participants in the project would be national institutions, selected in consultation with IOC, UNEP and the relevant national focal points for the South Asian Seas action plan.

SAS-5: Development of an operational regional contingency plan for responding to marine pollution

58. It was brought to the meeting's attention that the project proposal, initially formulated by IMO, was finalized with the co-operation of UNEP. The approved project document has been signed by IMO and UNEP, and IMO has informed UNEP that the implementation of the project will commence in January 1988.

59. The representative of IMO reiterated the information provided by the secretariat and added that according to the project's workplan and timetable (annex IV) the consultant responsible for collection of data and preparation of an overview on the national capabilities will start his mission in January 1988, by visiting Pakistan first.

60. The representative of India informed the meeting that India has formulated its national contingency plan for implementation by the Indian Coast Guard. The formulation of similar plans is in progress in Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

SAS-6: Survey of land-based sources of marine pollution and formulation of guidelines and proposals for environmentally sound waste management technologies and policies

61. The secretariat informed the meeting of the complex nature of this project. The formulation of the project proposal, as well as its implementation, requires close contacts, collaboration and co-ordination with a large number of international organizations and national institutions. In order to facilitate the task of SACEP, which has been identified as the implementing organization for this project, UNEP has provided SACEP with funds for the services of a consultant who is expected to formulate a detailed project proposal. The selection of the consultant was concluded with the assistance of UNEP's Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific and his work is underway.

62. The Director of SACEP informed the meeting that the consultant had visited Maldives, Sri Lanka and Pakistan, and within the next month would conclude his discussions with the remainder of the focal points and the international organizations. The consultant has also submitted a preliminary outline of the project proposal for SACEP's comments.

SAS-7: Environmental education and promotion of public awareness for South Asian countries in connection with the South Asian Seas programme

63. The initial project proposal submitted to UNEP by SACEP was not in conformity with standard requirements and SACEP was asked to revise the proposal, keeping in mind that UNEP will be unable to process the proposal until UNESCO's participation in the project is clarified. In order to assist SACEP in securing UNESCO's co-operation, UNEP has also solicited UNESCO's participation in the project (without results until now).

64. The Director of SACEP indicated his intention to contact the regional office of UNESCO in Bangkok in order to elicit UNESCO's early response to the invitation for co-operation on the project.

65. The representative of Sri Lanka stressed the importance of the project and the involvement of UNESCO in it. He also informed the meeting that, in co-operation with UNESCO, a project on public education was recently implemented in Sri Lanka. The experience and results of this national project were offered as Sri Lanka's specific contribution to SAS-7.

Agenda item 6: Draft action plan for the protection and management of the marine and related coastal environment of the South Asian Seas region

66. The secretariat presented the latest version of the draft action plan for the protection and management of the marine and coastal areas of the South Asian Seas region (UNEP WG.153/8, Annex IV) and reviewed the background of its formulation.

67. The Chairman invited the participants to offer their general comments on the draft and afterwards the draft was reviewed and discussed, paragraph by paragraph. The major comments and points discussed are reflected in paragraphs 68-75.

68. The draft action plan was considered as a sound basis for defining the framework of co-operation between the countries of the South Asian Seas region on the protection and management of their marine and coastal environment.

69. The definition of the geographic area covered by the action plan was considered quite vague but pragmatic and serving well the purpose of the action plan.

70. The delimitation of the maritime zones of individual countries, though important for certain activities envisaged by the action plan, should be resolved in the general framework of UNCLOS.

71. An early agreement, suitable and in concordance with the practices of the region, should be reached on the way in which the decisions of the States participating in the action plan will be made. Voting was generally considered as the least favoured solution. Suggestion was made that all major decisions should be taken unanimously.

72. The present reference in several paragraphs of the draft action plan to the development of a legal framework for the action plan was considered inadequate. It was understood that the nature and contents of the legal framework will have to be developed through a meeting of government legal and technical experts, with due regard to the need for and suitability of such framework, and its suitability ascertained by the national focal points before its submission for approval to an intergovernmental meeting of the States participating in the action plan.

73. The need for a decentralized, but well co-ordinated network of national data banks was unanimously agreed upon. The data banks should be used for management of all data relevant to the action plan and should be compatible with the national data banks linked in networks in regions adjacent to the South Asian Seas region.

74. The need for a secretariat of the action plan, as a separate organization, was questioned, but it was clarified that should SACEP be designated as the secretariat of the action plan (and of the regional legal framework), the action plan will be considered as one of the regional programmes serviced by SACEP.

75. The financial arrangements proposed as supporting the action plan were decided to be discussed under agenda item 7.

76. On the basis of the review of the action plan, and taking into account the comments and suggestions made during this review, the draft action plan was revised and the agreed new text of the draft is attached, as annex V, to this report.

Agenda item 7: Institutional and financial arrangements required for the implementation of the action plan

77. The secretariat introduced the UNEP document describing different options deemed suitable and relevant to the implementation of the South Asian Seas action plan (UNEP/WG.153/7). In its review, the secretariat referred to UNEP's experience in the organization and setting-up of institutional and financial arrangements required for nine other action plans adopted in the framework of the UNEP Regional Seas Programme.

78. The representative of SACEP, after referring to the recommendations of the meeting of experts on the South Asian Seas regional programme (UNEP/WG.153/8, paragraph 40d), presented the document prepared by his organization (UNEP(OCA)/SAS WG.1/6) containing proposals for institutional and financial arrangements which may be suitable for the implementation of the South Asian Seas action plan. He reviewed the four components of the document which contained proposals for (a) the establishment of a trust fund (including a proposal for the scale of contribution to the trust fund); (b) the management of the trust fund (terms of reference for the trust fund); (c) the terms of reference for the secretariat of the action plan and for the meetings convened under the action plan; and (d) the common costs of the action plan.

79. The Chairman invited the meeting to review the various options proposed by the secretariat and SACEP and to agree on those which should be recommended for adoption by the intergovernmental meeting that will be called to adopt the action plan.

80. After several informal consultations and lengthy debate, the meeting agreed to recommend the following:

- (a) through regular periodic intergovernmental meetings of high ministerial level, government representatives from Bangladesh, India, Maldives, Pakistan and Sri Lanka should be the sole and highest authority to determine the content of the regional programme, to review its progress and to approve its programme (workplan) and budget;
- (b) in order to achieve efficient and well co-ordinated co-operation at both the national and the regional level, a national focal point for the regional programme should be established at high level in each of the States participating in the programme;
- (c) a high level national committee, chaired by the national focal point whenever feasible, should be established in every State participating in the programme, in order to enhance the co-ordination of the programme at national level and to facilitate the mobilization and participation of national institutions in the programme;
- (d) national institutions (such as research centres, laboratories, government services, universities), nominated by the national focal points, should provide the institutional basis for carrying out the projects agreed as part of the regional programme;
- (e) the need was recognized for secretarial support for the technical co-ordination and management of the activities and the resources agreed by intergovernmental meetings as part of the regional programme and it was agreed that SACEP should become the secretariat of the regional programme, after its adoption by an intergovernmental meeting, (at present, on an interim basis, UNEP is performing the secretariat functions supporting the preparatory phase of the regional programme);
- (f) the costs of SACEP, functioning as the secretariat of the regional programme, should be kept at minimum by full use, as appropriate and possible, of existing institutional infrastructure of SACEP;
- (g) the costs of SACEP, derived from its functioning as the secretariat of the regional programme, should be shared by the States participating in the action plan and these costs should be considered as the common costs of the regional programme; the level, structure and sharing of the common costs of the regional programme should be jointly and voluntarily agreed during intergovernmental meetings by the States participating in the regional programme;
- (h) the programme costs of the regional programme, i.e. the costs of the projects agreed during intergovernmental meetings to be implemented as part of the programme, should be covered through:
 - (i) regular cash contributions from all States participating in the regional programme according to a scale to be agreed by intergovernmental meetings (direct programme costs to all States participating in the programme);
 - (ii) voluntary cash contributions made in addition to (i) above from the States participating in the regional programme;
 - (iii) cash contributions from States supporting the regional programme but not participating in it;
 - (iv) contributions in cash and kind from organizations of United Nations system;
 - (v) contributions in cash and kind from other international intergovernmental and regional organizations, as well as donor agencies;

- (vi) in kind contributions to specific project (most frequently in the form of staff time, services, use of premises and equipment, etc.), i.e. indirect programme costs to States participating in a specific project; and
 - (vii) any other source of funding agreed to by the States participating in the regional programme.
- (i) a Fund providing for the cash requirement of the common costs and part of the programme costs, as defined in (g) and (h) above, should be established by the States participating in the regional programme; one delegation expressed its reservation on the contribution to the Fund covering project costs and stated that such costs should be met on a cost sharing basis between the participating States;
 - (j) the level of the Fund, the contributions from each State participating in the regional programme and the terms for the administration of the Fund should be jointly and voluntarily agreed by the States participating in the regional programme; and
 - (k) SACEP should be entrusted with the management of the Fund.

81. A general agreement was reached to recommend covering the costs of the secretariat, i.e. the common costs of the regional programme (see paragraph 80 g), estimated at about US \$70,000 annually, from the Fund. However, no agreement was reached on the scale of individual country contributions to that part of the Fund, although a number of proposals, reflected in annex VI were discussed.

82. No general agreement was reached to recommend covering the direct programme costs (see paragraph 80 h(i)) from the Fund. One delegation expressed its reservation to the Fund covering the programme costs. It stated that the programme costs should be met on a cost sharing basis between the States participating in specific projects. The secretariat estimated that the direct programme costs, which may have to be covered in cash by the governments participating in the regional programme, through the Fund, would amount to about US \$ 500,000 for the biennium 1990-1991. This estimate was based on the biennial cash requirements of the priority projects endorsed by the meeting of experts (about US \$ 1 million) the activities envisaged by the draft action plan, and experience of the secretariat in other Regional Seas Programmes.

83. On the basis of recommendations contained in the preceding paragraphs, the meeting examined and revised the institutional and financial arrangements proposed in documents UNEP(OCA)/SAS WG.1/6 and UNEP(OCA)/SAS WG.1/6 Add.1. The revised text of these arrangements, as agreed by the meeting are reflected in annex VI to this report, with the understanding that the text remains only a draft cleared at the level of this meeting and would require further refinements before it is proposed for adoption by an intergovernmental meeting of the States participating in the regional programme.

84. The meeting noted with satisfaction that, according to the recommendation of the meeting of experts on the South Asian Seas regional programme, national committees for the action plan were established in Sri Lanka and Pakistan. The meeting also noted that the National Environmental Committee of Maldives will likely function as the national committee for the action plan, and that the APEX Committee on Marine Pollution co-ordinates in India the work related to the action plan and performs the functions of the national committee for the action plan. Information on the status of the national committee in Bangladesh is expected to be provided to the secretariat soon.

85. The secretariat reiterated its earlier request to receive, from the focal points for the action plan, the names and addresses of the members of the national committees for the action plan in order to provide them, on a regular basis, with information on the development of the action plan and on other subjects related to that development. However, it was understood that the national focal points will remain the only channel of official communication between the secretariat and the States participating with the action plan on all matters related to the action plan. The names and addresses of the focal points are listed in annex VII to this report.

86. The secretariat reiterated UNEP's continuing commitment to the development and implementation of the action plan provided that the participating States also clearly express and demonstrate their long-term political and financial commitment to the action plan. It was emphasized that UNEP's support would be primarily available for programme activities, on a project funding basis. UNEP's contribution to the common costs of the programme would have to be terminated with the transfer of secretarial functions to SACEP. Thereafter, UNEP would support only specific projects falling within the framework of UNEP's programme priorities as defined by its Governing Council. UNEP's financial support to the action plan will depend on the level of contributions to the Environment Fund, the allocations approved by the Governing Council for the Oceans and Coastal Areas Programme, on the demands placed upon these allocations by other regions covered by the Programme and on availability of matching funds from the States participating in the action plan. UNEP's support to programme activities would have to be phased out gradually, within 4-5 years after the formal adoption of the action plan, and replaced by Government contributions expected to be channelled through the Fund.

87. The representative of the Executive Director summarized his understanding of the major recommendations of the meeting requiring follow-up action:

- (a) UNEP should continue co-ordinating the development of the action plan and performing the secretarial functions for the action plan;
- (b) the six priority activities, recommended by the meeting of experts on the South Asian Seas regional programme in Bangkok, 2-5 December 1986 (paragraph 37 and annex V of UNEP/WG.153/8), should be implemented, taking into account the comments and suggestions made at this meeting of national focal points (paragraphs 51-65 and annex IV of the report);
- (c) a meeting of legal and technical experts should be convened by the Executive Director, as recommended by the meeting of experts on the South Asian Seas regional programme in Bangkok, 2-5 December 1986 (paragraph 36 of UNEP/WG.153/8);
- (d) the results of the meeting referred to above should be brought to the attention of the national focal points for the action plan and their guidance for the further course of action should be sought;
- (e) taking into account the outcome of the meeting of legal and technical experts and subject to the concurrence of concerned governments, the Executive Director should convene a high level intergovernmental meeting or a conference of plenipotentiaries of the States expressing readiness to participate in the action plan, in order to adopt:
 - the action plan;
 - the legal framework of the action plan (if so decided by the governments concerned);
 - the institutional and financial arrangements supporting the action plan (and its legal framework, if appropriate); and
 - the programme and budget for a forthcoming biennium.

Agenda item 8: Other business

88. The secretariat provided information on two forthcoming meetings related to the problems of marine mammals. The first meeting, the administrative meeting on Indian Ocean Sanctuary will be held in Canberra, 18-20 May 1988, as a follow-up to the scientific meeting on Indian Ocean Sanctuary, held in Seychelles, 27-28 February 1987 (UNEP(OCA)/SAS WG.1/INF.4). The second is a conference on the use of non-lethal techniques to estimate cetacean populations (La Jolla, 29 April - 4 May 1988).

89. Environmental impact assessments (EIA) have been extensively used over the last fifteen years. Experience gained through their use varies widely, as does the legal framework regarding their preparation. On the request of the Governments, through a series of meetings of Government experts, UNEP has formulated the minimal goals and principles for EIA, which were adopted and recommended for use by Decision 14/25 of UNEP Governing Council in 1987 (document UNEP(OCA)/SAS WG.1/INF.6). In addition, procedures and guidelines for EIA were prepared, suitable for application in situations when relatively quick management decisions may have to be made without sufficient background information. The secretariat informed the meeting that through a series of national and regional workshops/seminars the Regional Seas Programme is trying to verify the usefulness and applicability of the UNEP principles, procedures and guidelines for EIA.

90. The concern over the increasing use of biocides in tropical and southern hemisphere regions, in particular the levels of organochlorine pesticides in the nearshore and coastal marine environment and their possible implications for human health, use of marine resources and changes in the ecosystems, resulted in the initiation of a project on "Global Sentinel Organisms Monitoring System - Mussel Watch" by UNEP, in close co-operation with IOC. The secretariat presented the details of the planned implementation of the "mussel watch" (UNEP(OCA)/SAS WG.1/INF.5) which will be based on broad, worldwide participation of suitable research centres, and expressed the intention to involve also research centres from the South Asian Seas region in this global programme (see paragraph 57).

91. Taking into account the present status of the five Regional Seas action plans in the Indian Ocean region ^{5/} and the activities sponsored by UNEP and other organizations in the same region, the Executive Director intends to convene in the second half of 1989, in co-operation with the interested international and regional organizations, a conference on environmental problems of the Indian Ocean. UNESCO was invited by UNEP to take a leading role in organizing the Conference. The conference is intended to provide the forum for a high level dialogue between scientists, managers, and policy makers on a wide range of issues related to the protection and development of the marine and coastal environment of the States bordering the wider Indian Ocean. The conference is also expected to discuss possible fields of co-operation between the five UNEP sponsored action plans in the region. The first formal announcement about the conference, including detailed information on its scope and invitation for participation, is planned to be widely distributed (in March 1988) to individuals, organizations and government bodies involved or potentially interested in the South Asian Seas action plan.

92. The meeting was informed that the letter, addressing the recommendation contained in paragraph 47 of this report, was sent by UNEP on 10 December 1987, to all South Asian Seas national focal points, with copy to all participants in this meeting, indicating February 1988 as the deadline for identification of experts who could be considered as members of the Task Team in charge of the preparation of the study on effects of expected climatic changes in the South Asian Seas region.

93. The meeting requested the secretariat to plan the convening of the meeting of legal and technical experts on dates not conflicting with dates of meetings convened under UN Convention on the Law of the Sea.

^{5/} Action plans for East African region, Kuwait region, East Asian Seas region, Red Sea and Gulf of Aden region and South Asian Seas region.

94. In relation to paragraph 37, the representative of Bangladesh noted that the draft report UNEP(OCA)/SAS WG.1/3, prepared by a group of scientists using only scientific criteria in analysing and documenting the state of the marine environment in the South Asian Seas Region, has correctly incorporated the reference to the adverse effects of Farakka Barrage on the economy of Bangladesh. He further stated that the possible ecological and socio-economic implications of the climatic changes due to the Farakka Barrage have been wide-spread and deletion or omission of sub-paragraph 6 in Section 9 of the report would make the report unscientific and impair its fairness and objectivity. In view of these facts that sub-paragraph should be retained in the report and the views of the Bangladesh Government on adverse effect of Farakka Barrage should be conveyed by the secretariat to IOC and to the Task Team in charge of the report, for inclusion in the final report.

95. The representative of India re-iterated his Governments strong objection to sub-paragraph 6 of section 9 of document UNEP(OCA)/SAS WG.1/3, as detailed in paragraph 37 of this report. The Farakka Barrage is an internal matter of India. The statement in the above sub-paragraph is invalid and unsubstantiated and therefore rejected by his Government. The South Asian Seas forum was not the appropriate forum to deal with contentious issues of this nature and his Government regretted that it had been discussed. In view of this he again called for the paragraph in question to be deleted before the report is finalized.

96. The secretariat indicated that the statements contained in paragraphs 94 and 95 as well as the whole section of this report relevant to agenda item 4(b) will be treated according to the procedure outlined in paragraph 38. He also invited both parties concerned to substantiate their statements with factual information.

Agenda item 9: Adoption of the meeting's report

97. The Rapporteur presented the draft report and its annexes to the meeting and they were adopted, with slight amendments, as they appear in this document.

Agenda item 10: Closure of the meeting

98. Mr. S. Keckes and Mr. Nay Htun, in their closing remarks, expressed some disappointment with the results of the meeting. In their opinion the meeting did not contribute to the development of a consolidated approach to the future institutional and financial arrangements needed for supporting the action plan, and in fact made a step backwards in that it did not support the recommendation of the meeting of experts (Bangkok, 2-5 December 1986) for establishment of a Trust Fund supporting the common (secretarial) and project costs of the action plan. The deletion of the reference to "a general agreement of the meeting about the desirability of a [legal] framework" for the action plan from the draft report of the meeting is casting a serious doubt on the willingness of the States to negotiate such a framework and thus signify their long-term commitment to the action plan. The turning of a statement in the report prepared by scientists, acting in their personal capacity, into a major political issue of the meeting was noted with grave concern. The results of the meeting will be carefully analyzed and presented to the Executive Director who will decide on the eventual follow-up of the recommendations made by the meeting, taking into account that UNEP's scarce resources should be utilized for activities supported by clearly expressed and demonstrated long-term political and financial commitment of the governments' concern.

99. Both representatives of UNEP thanked the Chairman for the tactful and skillful conduct of this difficult meeting and praised the efforts of those participants who endeavoured to approach constructively and in the spirit of regional co-operation the problems expected to be resolved by the meeting.

100. Mr. L. U. Joshi, on behalf of the participants, thanked the Chairman and the secretariat for the way in which the meeting was organized and conducted.

101. The meeting was closed, at 5.30 p.m. on 11 December 1987, by Mr. H. Jamy, the Chairman, who expressed his thanks to the participants and to the secretariat for the support given to him during the meeting.

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AGENDA

1. Opening of the meeting
2. Organization of the meeting
 - (a) Designation of officers
 - (b) Organization of work
3. Adoption of the agenda
4. Environmental problems of the South Asian Seas region
5. Progress in the implementation of the recommended priority activities
6. Draft action plan for the protection and management of the marine and related coastal environment of the South Asian Seas region
7. Institutional and financial arrangements required for the implementation of the action plan
8. Other business
9. Adoption of the report
10. Closure of the meeting

LIST OF DOCUMENTS

Working documents

- UNEP(OCA)/SAS WG.1/1 Provisional agenda.
- UNEP(OCA)/SAS WG.1/2 Annotated provisional agenda.
- UNEP(OCA)/SAS WG.1/3 Report on the state of marine environment in the South Asian Seas region (final draft).
- UNEP(OCA)/SAS WG.1/4 Report on the preparation of a study on the implications of expected climatic changes in the South Asian Seas region.
- UNEP(OCA)/SAS WG.1/5 Progress in the implementation of the recommended priority activities.
- UNEP(OCA)/SAS WG.1/6 Proposals for institutional and financial arrangements which may be suitable for the implementation of the South Asian Seas action plan.
- UNEP(OCA)/SAS WG.1/6 Add.1 Proposals for institutional and financial arrangements which may be suitable for the implementation of the South Asian Seas action plan.
- UNEP(OCA)/SAS WG.1/7 Report of the meeting.
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- UNEP(OCA)/SAS WG.1/INF.2 Provisional list of participants.
- UNEP(OCA)/SAS WG.1/INF.3 Information document on activities within the IOC programme on global investigation of pollution in the marine environment (GIPME) and its marine pollution monitoring system (MARPOLMON), and related matters.

- UNEP(OCA)/SAS WG.1/INF.4 Report of the scientific meeting to review the Indian Ocean Sanctuary (Seychelles, 27-28 February 1987).
- UNEP(OCA)/SAS WG.1/INF.5 Global sentinel organisms monitoring system - mussel watch.
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- UNEP/WG.153/6 Regional agreements on co-operation in combating marine pollution.
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- IUCN/UNEP 1985 b Management and conservation of renewable marine resources in the South Asian Seas Region. UNEP Regional Seas Reports and Studies No. 62.

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Regional Seas Programme.

Annex IV

WORKPLANS AND TIMETABLES OF INITIATED PROJECTS

(as they appear in the project documents)

SAS-3: Development of a system of protected areas in the South Asian Seas region

| <u>Activities</u> | <u>Timetable</u> | <u>Responsibility</u> |
|--|-----------------------------------|---|
| Identify relevant local experts. | August - October 1988 | IUCN and Governments in the region in consultation with UNEP |
| Hold regional workshop in Sri Lanka for 20 participants on system for classifying habitats | November 1987 | IUCN in co-operation with SACEP and in consultation with UNEP |
| Map coastal and marine habitats in all 5 countries on basis of classification system | September 1987 - February 1988 | IUCN |
| Hold regional workshop in India for 20 participants on critical habitats of dugongs, sea turtles, crocodiles, cetaceans and fish | April 1988 | IUCN in co-operation with SACEP and the Governments in the region and in consultation with UNEP |
| Draft review on conservation needs of important species in SAS region submitted to UNEP for clearance | July 1988 | IUCN |
| Review on conservation needs published | September 1988 | UNEP |
| Prepare draft systems review assessing degree of protection of critical habitats, mapping all existing protected areas in the region, and recommending priorities for action on establishing additional protected areas in all five countries. | June - September 1988 | IUCN |
| Hold regional workshop in Pakistan for 20 participants on planning, and management of coastal and marine protected areas | October 1988 | IUCN in co-operation with SACEP and the Governments in the region and in consultation with UNEP |
| Review of protected areas system published | December 1988 | IUCN in co-operation with UNEP |

SAS-5: Development of an operational regional contingency plan for responding to marine pollution

| <u>Activities</u> | <u>Timetable</u> | <u>Responsibility</u> |
|--|----------------------------------|---|
| | <u>Phase I</u> | |
| Data collection and preparation of updated overview of national capabilities | November 1987 - February 1988 | IMO |
| Expert advisory missions to selected countries | November 1987 - February 1988 | IMO |
| Preparation of draft regional contingency plan and technical background information | February 1988 - April 1988 | IMO in consultation with UNEP |
| | <u>Phase II</u> | |
| Administration arrangements for organization of workshop | April 1988 - May 1988 | IMO in co-operation with UNEP and the host country |
| Workshop convened for approximately 15 participants. IMO responsible for secretariat functions and provision of lecturers. Conference facilities and related services to be provided by host State | June 1988 | IMO in co-operation with UNEP and the host country |
| Publication of report and agreed regional contingency plan (in English) | August 1988 | IMO in consultation with UNEP |

Annex V

DRAFT ACTION PLAN FOR THE PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE MARINE
AND RELATED COASTAL ENVIRONMENT OF THE SOUTH ASIAN SEAS REGION

INTRODUCTION

1. With the formation of the South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP), the interest of South Asian coastal States in the Regional Seas Programme of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) was revived and at the request of these States the "South Asian Seas" has been designated by the Governing Council of UNEP ^{1/} as an area in which UNEP, in close collaboration with SACEP and the Governments concerned, should assist in the formulation of a plan of action for the environmental protection of the region within the framework of the Regional Seas Programme.

2. The following preparatory work contributed to the development of this action plan:

2.1 a mission to the States of the region in October/November 1982 and February 1983 to ascertain the views of Governments regarding a regional programme in the South Asian Seas;

2.2 Meeting of National Focal Points on the Development of an Action Plan for the Protection and Management of the South Asian Seas Region (Bangkok, 19-21 March 1984);

2.3 Meeting of Experts on the South Asian Seas Regional Programme (Bangkok, 2-5 December 1986); and

2.4 Second Meeting of National Focal Points on the Development of an Action Plan for the Protection and Management of the South Asian Seas Region (Bangkok, 7-11 December 1987).

3. For the purposes of this action plan, the South Asian Seas region covers the marine and related coastal environment of the following states:

Bangladesh
India
Maldives
Pakistan
Sri Lanka.

4. All components of the action plan are interdependent and provide a framework for comprehensive action which should contribute to both the protection and the continued development of the region. No component is an end in itself. Each activity is intended to assist the Governments of the region to strengthen the process through which environmental management policies are formulated and to improve the quality of the information on which these policies are based.

^{1/} Decision 11/7 of 24 May 1983

5. The objective of the action plan is to protect and manage the marine environment and related coastal ecosystems of the region. This objective includes the promotion of sustainable development and sound management of regional marine and coastal resources by:

- (a) establishing and enhancing consultations and technical co-operation among the States of the region;
- (b) emphasizing the economic and social importance of the resources of the marine and coastal environment; and
- (c) establishing a regional co-operative network of activities concerning concrete subjects/projects of mutual interest for the whole region.

6. The general goals of the action plan are:

- (a) to promote policies and management practices, including appropriate legislation for the protection and development of the marine and coastal environment on a national and regional level;
- (b) to prevent deterioration of the region's marine and coastal environment originating from activities within the States of the region;
- (c) to provide for protection and rational development of the marine and coastal living resources of the region, which are a natural heritage with important economic and social values and potential, through the preservation of habitats, the protection of species and the careful planning and management of human activities that affect them;
- (d) to strengthen and encourage, through increased regional collaboration, the activities of institutions within the region involved in the study of marine and coastal resources and ecosystems;
- (e) to improve training, technical assistance and exchange of scientific and statistical data at all levels and in all fields relating to the protection and development of the marine and coastal environment; and
- (f) to stimulate the growth of public awareness at all levels of society of the value, interest and vulnerability of the region's marine and coastal environment.

7. More specifically, the activities of the action plan should aim at:

- (a) assessment and evaluation of the causes, magnitude and consequences of environmental problems, in particular the assessment of marine pollution and the study of activities and social and economic factors that may influence or be influenced by environmental degradation;
- (b) promotion of methods and practices for the management of social and economic development activities that safeguard environmental quality and utilize resources rationally on a sustainable basis;

- (c) promotion of national legislation for the protection and development of the marine and coastal environment and development of an acceptable legal framework which will facilitate mutual collaboration and operational efficiency of the action plan, having due regard to the need for and suitability of such framework; and
- (d) strengthening of institutional machinery and adoption of financial arrangements required for the successful implementation of the action plan.

8. A general description of the main components of the action plan is given below. These components and related activities are not listed in order of priority.

A. ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

9. To ensure the effectiveness of the action plan it is necessary to provide for continuous and systematic assessment of the main factors influencing the environmental quality of the region. This is particularly important as the present assessment of the environmental processes in the region is incomplete, and any sound action requires an understanding of the links between development and the environment. Among the tasks that should be carried out are:

- 9.1 assessment of national and regional capabilities to investigate and manage environmental problems, including scientific and administrative institutions, manpower, research facilities and equipment together with identification of institutions with potential to serve as "regional activity centres" in particular disciplines, and as regional or subregional activity centres co-ordinating specific inter-State projects;
- 9.2 strengthening of national capabilities in marine science and for monitoring and assessing the state of the marine and coastal environment and the condition of living resources, including training of scientists and technicians from the region in methods and techniques related to the assessment and evaluation of marine pollution and participation of such scientists in intercalibration exercises;
- 9.3 encouragement of collaboration among regional scientists and technicians and their institutions through the establishment of a co-ordinated regional marine pollution monitoring programme, based on intercomparable methods, for the study of the various processes occurring in the coastal areas and open ocean of the region and the assessment of the sources and levels of pollutants and their effects on marine life and human health;
- 9.4 survey and assessment of present social and economic activities, including development projects, that may have an impact on the quality of the marine and coastal environment;
- 9.5 compilation of an inventory of the sources and amount of pollutants reaching the coastal waters of the region from land-based and maritime sources;
- 9.6 collection, analysis and dissemination of data on resource potential and resource utilization in relation to competing demands for such resources;
- 9.7 preparation of a comprehensive classification of coastal and marine habitats and mapping of critical habitats; and

- 9.7 preparation of a comprehensive classification of coastal and marine habitats and mapping of critical habitats; and
- 9.8 establishment of national data bases on the status and trends in the quality of the marine and coastal environment, linked into regionally co-ordinated network, compatible with similar networks in adjacent regions.

B. ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

10. Sustainable, environmentally sound development depends upon the rational management of natural resources. Such management should take into account the goals of development as defined by national authorities, the assimilative capacity of the environment, and the economic feasibility of proposed policies. The following activities should serve to strengthen the ability of the Governments to adopt appropriate environmental management policies:

- 10.1 strengthening of national capabilities to prevent, control and combat marine pollution and co-operation in implementing and enforcing existing international agreements related thereto;
- 10.2 strengthening of national capabilities, co-operation and co-ordination in responding to marine pollution emergencies which pose a threat of pollution to the marine and coastal environment;
- 10.3 promotion and harmonization of national and regional strategies for preventing and mitigating the damages and adverse impacts caused by natural disasters;
- 10.4 formulation of regionally and locally applicable guidelines and standards for management and control of domestic, agricultural, industrial and other wastes, including the development of principles governing treatment and disposal of such wastes;
- 10.5 strengthening or expanding of the relevant on-going development activities that demonstrate sound environmental management practices;
- 10.6 development of integrated coastal environmental management plans for specific coastal areas with a view to promoting environmentally sound utilization of coastal resources and preventing environmental degradation;
- 10.7 strengthening of national capabilities for the environmental impact assessment of development proposals and promoting the inclusion of environmental impact assessments and integrated development approaches in the planning stages of all major development activities;
- 10.8 studies of the environmental, social and cultural effects of tourism, and elaboration of environmentally sound strategies for tourism development. Particular attention should be given to the health aspects of tourism developments in coastal areas;
- 10.9 co-operation in devising where necessary, alternatives to present land-use practices, coral and sand mining procedures, waste disposal into coastal waters and other development activities which may lead to environmental degradation;

- 10.10 formulation and harmonization of policies on the management of natural habitats, wildlife and genetic resources;
- 10.11 co-operation in the establishment and management of national protected coastal and marine habitats, in the establishment of a regional network of protected areas, in joint activities to protect coastal ecosystems and wildlife, and in the training of technical and managerial personnel in the conservation of wildlife and habitats; and
- 10.12 co-operation in conservation and protection of marine living resources from pollution and over-exploitation.

C. ENVIRONMENTAL LEGISLATION

- 11. National legislation and regulations pertaining to the protection and development of the marine and coastal environment should be reviewed, and when necessary, expanded, updated or strengthened. The enforcement of national regulations related to marine and coastal resources should be improved.
- 12. National legislation and regulations for the protection and development of marine and coastal resources should be harmonized whenever regional uniformity is required to meet the objectives of such legislation: e.g., legislation concerning the protection and management of migratory marine species within the region.
- 13. An up-to-date compilation of national laws of the States of the region related to the protection of the marine and coastal environment should be maintained.
- 14. The ratification and implementation of existing international agreements concerning the prevention and control of marine pollution and the protection of living resources should be encouraged.
- 15. Technical assistance and advice on the drafting of national legislation for the effective implementation of relevant international agreements should be provided upon request.

D. INSTITUTIONAL AND FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

- 16. In carrying out the action plan, the national capabilities available in the region and the capabilities of regional and international organizations and co-ordinating bodies, as well as their existing programmes, should be used to the greatest possible extent.
- 17. The agreed programme should be executed primarily through existing national institutions and capabilities. Where necessary, they should be strengthened so that they may participate actively and effectively in the various projects. For some of the projects technical assistance and experts from outside the region may be requested whenever such assistance and experts are not available from within the region.

18. To ensure the harmonious and integrated evolution of each of the components of the action plan, SACEP is designated as the secretariat of the action plan to assume responsibility for its technical co-ordination with the support and close co-operation of UNEP, especially during the initial phase of activities. In discharging its functions, SACEP should seek the co-operation and assistance of national, regional and international organizations and institutions; these bodies should also be invited to extend all possible support to SACEP in the implementation of the action plan.

19. The overall authority over the action plan should be vested in the governments of the region. Through periodic meetings of their representatives, the governments should review the progress in the implementation of the action plan and decide on the priorities for future activities, as well as on financial and institutional arrangements supporting these activities.

20. A national focal point should be designated by each Government to facilitate the work of, and communication with, the regional secretariat and to co-ordinate activities within the State concerned related to the action plan.

21. The activities agreed upon as part of the implementation of the action plan should be financed principally by contributions from Governments, international and regional organizations and non-governmental organizations. Initially, support may be provided by the United Nations system on the assumption that this financial contribution will progressively decrease as the governments themselves assume financial responsibility for the programme.

E. SUPPORTING MEASURES

22. The ultimate aim should be to make the proposed regional programme self-supporting, not only by developing institutional capabilities to perform the required tasks, but also by providing training, equipment and other forms of assistance from within the region.

23. As support for the activities of the regional co-operative programme:

23.1 training programmes should be organized for personnel from the region. These programmes should be carried out through existing national, regional or international institutions ready to offer their facilities; and

23.2 campaigns should be organized on a national and regional basis to create public awareness of national and regional issues relating to the action plan. Special efforts should be made to prepare materials which may be used to bring environmental concerns and activities of the regional co-operative programme to the attention of target populations.

24. Education in the principles of protection and development of marine and coastal resources should be provided as part of the ordinary educational curricula at primary, secondary and university levels, through training of special instructors or specialized training of general educators, and through seminars and courses offered to the general public.

Annex VI

DRAFT INSTITUTIONAL AND FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

1. The efficient implementation of the Action Plan will be mutually dependent upon action at the national, sub-regional and regional levels. It is, therefore, important to identify the lines of authority and communication for both policy and technical working levels and to develop appropriate institutional capabilities and co-operative mechanisms for each.

OVERALL AUTHORITY AND POLICY GUIDANCE

2. Until such time as a legal framework for the Action Plan is entered into force by the participating Member States, the regular periodic meeting of the Governments (Intergovernmental Meetings) would be the sole overall authority in determining the content, review, progress and approval of the workplan of the regional programme. The purview of the Intergovernmental Meeting would also include the financial implications of the regional programme. Once a legal framework is entered into force the meeting of the contracting parties to the framework would provide the appropriate forum for the review and direction of the activities of the regional programme.

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR INTERGOVERNMENTAL MEETINGS

3. The meetings of Governments of Bangladesh, India, Maldives, Pakistan and Sri Lanka shall be held every two years.

4. The chairmanship of the meeting shall be given to each Member State, in turn, in alphabetical order. The chairmanship shall be for a period of two calendar years.

5. It shall be the function of the meetings of the Governments to keep under review the implementation and execution of the Action Plan and should make policy decisions concerning all substantive and financial matters and, in particular, should:

- (i) review the progress achieved in implementing the programme since the previous meeting;
- (ii) careful evaluation of the results achieved;
- (iii) adopt a workplan for the implementation of the programme in the subsequent two year period;
- (iv) provide the policy guidance for the procedures to be followed in the implementation of the programme;
- (v) approve the budgetary resources required to support the workplan and their allocation for a two year period; and

- (vi) agree upon the means for financing activities of the programme, including firm pledges for contributions to be made by Governments.
6. The Rules of Procedure of SACEP Governing Council will be applied mutatis mutandis, for the conduct of the meetings.
 7. Intergovernmental meetings of participating States will be held normally at Ministerial level.
 8. The South Asia Co-operative Programme, which is the secretariat for the Action Plan, shall make all arrangements for the conducting of all the meetings at a suitable venue as decided by the meeting of Governments.
 9. A consultative committee comprising of the diplomatic representatives of the Member States of the South Asian Seas in Sri Lanka would meet quarterly at the SACEP secretariat.
 10. The functions of the consultative committee would be mainly:
 - (i) to review the progress achieved in implementing the Action Plan; and
 - (ii) to deliberate on the activities which require immediate attention.

NATIONAL FOCAL POINTS

11. The active participation and co-operation of the South Asian Sea States in the programme are basic prerequisites for its success. In order to achieve efficient and well co-ordinated co-operation at both the national and regional levels, a national focal point should be established (or an existing structure should be designated) at a high level in each of the participating Governments to harmonize, on the national level, all matters concerning the regional programme.

12. The role of the national focal points should be:

- (i) that they should act as the only official channel of communication with the Member States;
- (ii) to co-ordinate, as appropriate, the participation of national institutions and agencies in the agreed programme; and
- (iii) to consult with all relevant organizations concerned in their respective Governments on the activities and progress achieved in implementing the Action Plan.

NATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

13. National institutions to be selected and designated by the national focal points (such as research centres, laboratories, government services, universities) should provide the institutional basis for carrying out the technical work of the programme's activities. They should be the principal executing or implementing agencies of the project activities.

14. In order to allow for complete and effective participation in agreed activities, technical and managerial assistance (such as equipment and training) should be provided through the Action Plan to strengthen, when necessary, the capabilities of national institutions participating in the programme.

NATIONAL CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE

15. Experience has shown that a higher degree of efficiency and mobilization of national institutions can be achieved by the establishment, in each of the participating States, of a national committee for the regional programme composed of representatives of the most important national institutions (ministries, government services, universities, other research centres, etc.). Such a committee, to be set up by each country, can play a crucial role in mobilizing support within each State, for the activities of the regional programme. In proposing the establishment of such a committee, it is clear that it is left to the discretion of each Government to review its national administrative structure and to decide whether such a committee could usefully serve to promote and strengthen its national participation in the regional programme.

NETWORKING

16. In principle, for any one activity of the regional programme it is likely that several national institutions will be nominated to become participants in that activity. The national institutions working on the same activity should be linked in a regional network of co-operating institutions through the secretariat.

17. Regional institutions and sub-regional institutions participating in an activity may also be considered as members of the activity's institutional network.

18. Governments may in certain cases consider identifying one member of a network to assume a lead role (the role of a regional activity centre) for that network and to be responsible for co-ordinating the activity for which the network was established.

19. Several options (not mutually exclusive) are available for the type of operational links on technical matters that may be established between participants in the network:

- (i) first option foresees the establishment of direct links between the secretariat and each national institution designated by the relevant national focal point, as well as the sub-regional and regional institutions participating in the programme;
- (ii) a second option foresees the establishment of links between the secretariat and a UN specialized body or a regional and sub-regional institution, which would in turn establish direct links with national institutions designated by their national focal points to participate in a particular activity; and
- (iii) a third option relies on the identification of a national institution which would, with the approval of the Governments of the region, assume the role of a regional activity centre (RAC), each RAC having special expertise or facilities enabling it to deal competently with a particular subject area. In such a case, the secretariat would establish links principally with the RAC, which would in turn co-ordinate the work of other institutions pursuing the same activity.

20. In all cases of approved activities the national focal points should be kept regularly informed (through copies) of the contacts (correspondence) between their national institutions and the secretariat, or any international, regional or sub-regional organization.

SECRETARIAT

21. The foregoing establishes the need for a secretariat, which will be responsible for the overall co-ordination and continuous monitoring of the implementation of the Action Plan.

22. Taking into consideration the fact that UNEP's contacts with the Governments concerned during the preparatory stages leading to the adoption of the Action Plan showed a strong support for designating the South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP) as responsible for the secretariat functions of the regional programme, the meeting of experts on the South Asian Seas regional programme held on 2-5 December 1986, recommended that the South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP) should be considered as the secretariat of the Action Plan once it is adopted.

23. It is recommended that the secretariat be kept to a minimal size in order to ensure that the maximum amount of available funds may be used to achieve the programme goals, set forth in the Action Plan.

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE SECRETARIAT

24. The secretariat would be responsible for the overall technical management and co-ordination of the activities carried out under the regional programme, including the administration and management of the programme, its project activities, budget as adopted or modified by the Intergovernmental meetings and the management of South Asian Seas Trust Fund.

The general functions of the secretariat shall be to:

- (i) formulate project documents for specific activities agreed upon as part of the regional programme;
- (ii) negotiate and co-ordinate the execution of regional projects through the network of national institutions as well as international, regional and sub-regional organizations;
- (iii) collect, collate and analyze results obtained through the project activities and disseminate relevant and related information as appropriate;
- (iv) organize expert, focal point and intergovernmental meetings to be held in connection with the regional programme, including preparation of reports and other documents for the meetings; and
- (v) keep the national focal points and the Consultative Committee regularly informed of the progress achieved in carrying out the work programme, the results achieved and problems encountered; and
- (vi) manage the financial resources available for the implementation of the Action Plan.

25. The secretariat will not be expected to conduct field research and execute projects, since such research and project execution will have to be undertaken primarily by the national institutions, if necessary, with the co-operation and assistance of international and regional organizations. The secretariat would serve as a co-ordinating centre providing information, identifying experts and institutions to aid participating States in solving specific environmental problems, facilitating information exchange and co-operation among these experts and institutions and promoting project activities identified by the Governments.

Personnel/Staff

26. The composition and expertise of the staff of the secretariat will depend upon the activities and the magnitude of the programme adopted by the Governments. It is proposed as a long term objective that the secretariat for the regional programme should gradually develop into a small unit comprising of two to three professional officers and the necessary support staff to be recruited from the region.

27. For tasks that require specific expertise, the secretariat will be assisted by consultants recruited from the region as far as possible.

Cost of Secretariat

28. The costs of the operation of the secretariat are related to the co-ordination of the activities agreed to within the framework of the adopted programme and includes the costs of servicing the meetings and the financial management of projects carried out under the programme. The estimated annual cost for the secretariat of the South Asian Seas Regional Programme is given in Appendix I.

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

29. The meeting of experts on the South Asian Seas regional Programme held from 2-5 December 1986, in Bangkok, recommended that a Fund supporting the Action Plan should be established and SACEP should be entrusted with its management. The ultimate aim of this decision is that the implementation of the regional programme be financially self-supporting and the Governments of the South Asian Seas region, through a Fund or some other mechanism are expected to assume gradually increasing financial responsibility.

30. A South Asian Seas Regional Fund should be established to receive:

- (i) contributions to cover the expenses related to common costs;
- (ii) contributions to cover costs of projects (activities) agreed upon as of common interest; and
- (iii) contributions to specific projects (activities) as well as special allocations to cover expenses related to common costs listed in (i) above.

Note: One participating State expressed its reservations about contributions to cover project costs being made to the Fund. It was of the view that project expenditure should be met on a cost-sharing basis by the participating States.

31. Contributions to the Fund are expected to come primarily from contributions of the participating States. Contributions to the Fund might also be sought from States supporting the objectives of the regional programme but not participating in it.

32. Contributions from the United Nations systems may be expected primarily on a project funding basis. UNEP, subject to the availability of funds, would make every effort to continue to make financial contributions towards the South Asian Seas Regional Programme in its initial implementation phase, provided that the participating Governments agreed to establish and contribute to a regional Fund. It should also be understood that while UNEP's contribution may initially be allocated to cover some of the costs of the programme, such support would have to be phased out gradually. Thereafter, UNEP's support would be allocated for supporting specific project activities within the framework of its programme priorities as defined by its Governing Council.

33. Financial support for the activities of the regional programme may come from general sources:

- (i) regular contributions from participating South Asian Seas States according to a scale to be agreed upon by the Governments concerned at their regular meetings;

Note: One participating State stated that it was its understanding that regular contributions would be sought only to meet the institutional costs of the South Asian Seas regional programme.

- (ii) voluntary contributions made in addition to (a) above from the South Asian Seas States;
- (iii) contribution from States supporting the regional programme but not participating in it;
- (iv) Support from the United Nations organizations on a project funding basis;
- (v) support from the regional and international organizations which are not part of the United Nations system, in most cases on a project funding basis; and
- (vi) any other source of funding agreed to by the Member States.

34. Contribution to the regional programme may be both in cash or in kind (staff time, experts, training facilities, services, etc.). Although contributions in kind may be of great importance, a fixed minimum level of cash contributions is essential for the smooth implementation of the regional programme.

PROPOSED SCALES OF CONTRIBUTION TO SAS FUND ,

35. There are many possible ways to determine the level of contributions to the Fund. Considering both United Nations (UN) Scale of Assessment and that of the South Asian Association for Regional Co-operation (SAARC), the following alternatives may be applicable to the South Asian Seas region:

SCALES OF ASSESSMENT

| <u>South Asian Seas Member States</u> | <u>UN Scale of Assessment</u> | <u>SAARC Scale of Assessment</u> |
|---|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| BANGLADESH | 0.02 | 0.1135 |
| INDIA | 0.35 | 0.3210 |
| MALDIVES | 0.01 | 0.0500 |
| PAKISTAN | 0.06 | 0.2385 |
| SRI LANKA | 0.01 | 0.1135 |
| | ----- | ----- |
| | 0.45 | 0.8365 |

ALTERNATIVES FOR DETERMINING LEVELS OF CONTRIBUTION TO THE
SOUTH ASIAN SEAS FUND ^{1/}

Alternative 1

All participating States should contribute to the South Asian Seas Fund according to the same ratios as applied in the UN Scale of Assessment agreed upon by the General Assembly of the United Nations

Table 1

| <u>CONTRIBUTOR</u> | <u>A</u> | <u>B</u> |
|--------------------|----------|----------|
| BANGLADESH | 0.02 | 4.45 |
| INDIA | 0.35 | 77.78 |
| MALDIVES | 0.01 | 2.22 |
| PAKISTAN | 0.06 | 13.33 |
| SRI LANKA | 0.01 | 2.22 |
| TOTAL: | 0.45 | 100.00 |

COLUMN A: Percentage contribution to the UN budget (A/40/1066, United Nations 1985)

COLUMN B: Percentage contribution to the proposed Fund based on UN Scale of Assessment (B = A multiplied by 222.222)

^{1/} Alternatives 1-5 were proposed in document UNEP(OCA)/SAS WG.1/6 prepared by the secretariat of SACEP; alternatives 6-7 were proposed by the delegation of India.

Alternative 2

All participating States should contribute to the South Asian Seas Fund according to the same ratios in the SAARC scale of assessment as agreed upon by SAARC Member States, where the maximum contribution from a Member State is 35% whilst the minimum contribution to be 5%.

Table 2

| CONTRIBUTOR | A | B |
|-------------|-------|--------|
| BANGLADESH | 11.35 | 14.50 |
| INDIA | 32.10 | 35.00 |
| MALDIVES | 5.00 | 6.50 |
| PAKISTAN | 23.85 | 29.50 |
| SRI LANKA | 11.35 | 14.50 |
| TOTAL: | 83.65 | 100.00 |

COLUMN A: Percentage contribution to the SAARC secretariat

COLUMN B: Contribution to the proposed South Asian Seas Fund based on A with a maximum contribution being 35% and minimum being 5%.

Alternative 3

A fixed percentage of the Fund (for example 50%) to be covered by the participating States in equal shares. The remaining percentage (50%) to be contributed according to the same ratios as applied in the SAARC assessment scale.

Table 3

| CONTRIBUTOR | A | B | C |
|-------------|------|-------|--------|
| BANGLADESH | 10.0 | 7.25 | 17.25 |
| INDIA | 10.0 | 17.50 | 27.50 |
| MALDIVES | 10.0 | 3.25 | 13.25 |
| PAKISTAN | 10.0 | 14.75 | 24.75 |
| SRI LANKA | 10.0 | 7.25 | 17.25 |
| TOTAL: | 50.0 | 50.00 | 100.00 |

COLUMN A: 50% of the total contribution to the South Asian Seas Fund to be equally shared by all States

COLUMN B: 50% of the contribution to be shared according to the SAARC Scale of Assessment (B = B from table 2 divided by 2).

COLUMN C: Percent of the total contribution to the proposed Fund (C = A + B)

Alternative 4

A fixed percentage of the Fund (for example 50%) to be covered by the participating States in equal shares. The remaining percentage (50%) to be contributed according to the same ratios as applied in the UN assessment scale.

Table 4

| CONTRIBUTOR | A | B | C |
|-------------|------|-------|--------|
| BANGLADESH | 10.0 | 2.22 | 12.22 |
| INDIA | 10.0 | 38.89 | 48.89 |
| MALDIVES | 10.0 | 1.11 | 11.11 |
| PAKISTAN | 10.0 | 6.67 | 16.67 |
| SRI LANKA | 10.0 | 1.11 | 11.11 |
| TOTAL: | 50.0 | 50.00 | 100.00 |

COLUMN A: 50% of the total contribution to the Fund to be equally shared by all States

COLUMN B: 50% of the total to be shared according to UN Scale of Assessment (B = A from table 1 multiplied by 111.11)

COLUMN C: Percent of the total contribution to the proposed Fund (C = A + B)

Alternative 5

All States contribute according to the same ratios as applied in the UN assessment scale, with the application of "the maximum contribution of any one State should not exceed 25% of the total" principle.

Table 5

| CONTRIBUTOR | A | B |
|-------------|------|--------|
| BANGLADESH | 0.02 | 25.00 |
| INDIA | 0.35 | 25.00 |
| MALDIVES | 0.01 | 12.50 |
| PAKISTAN | 0.06 | 25.00 |
| SRI LANKA | 0.01 | 12.50 |
| TOTAL: | 0.45 | 100.00 |

COLUMN A: Percent of contribution on UN Scale of Assessment.

COLUMN B: Proportional modifications introduced to keep the maximum contribution at the level of 25%.

36. The alternatives above are offered merely as possible ways to determine the relative contributions to a regional Fund. If none of the alternatives appear suitable to the needs of the region, States may propose other assessment scales that may more accurately reflect the real capacity of each Government to contribute to a regional Fund or the benefits to be gained by each participant from the activities of the regional programme, taking into account the participants impact on, and the use of, the marine and coastal environment.

37. The following two proposals were submitted by the delegate of India:

Alternative 6

All States contribute on a voluntary basis, the contributions to be announced for a two-year period during the biennial intergovernmental meetings.

Alternative 7

All States contribute a fixed minimum amount, to be agreed upon, towards the institutional costs.

Appendix I

ESTIMATED COST FOR THE SECRETARIAT
OF SAS REGIONAL PROGRAMME

(Expressed in US \$)

| | | <u>1st Yr</u> | <u>2nd Yr</u> | <u>3rd Yr</u> | <u>4th Yr</u> | <u>5th Yr</u> |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| 1. <u>Personnel</u> | | | | | | |
| | <u>International:</u> | | | | | |
| | 1. Co-ordinator | - | | | | |
| | 2. Consultant | - | | | | |
| | <u>Local:</u> | | | | | |
| | 1. Programme Officer | 1 | 6,000 | | | |
| | 2. Secretary | 1 | 1,000 | | | |
| 2. <u>International Travel</u> | | 10,000 | | | | |
| 3. <u>Equipment</u> | | | | | | |
| | - Microprocessor | 10,000 | - | - | - | - |
| | - Telex | 3,000 | - | - | - | - |
| | - Furniture | 1,500 | - | - | - | - |
| 4. Rental and Maintenance | | 1,000 | | | | |
| 5. Administration costs | | 10,000 | | | | |
| 6. Meetings | | 20,000 | | | | |
| 7. Documents | | 2,500 | | | | |
| 8. Contingencies | | 5,000 | | | | |
| | Total: | 70,000 | | | | |
| | Recurrent: | 55,500 | 61,000 | 67,000 | 74,000 | 82,000 |
| | Capital: | 14,500 | - | - | - | - |

Annex VII

NATIONAL FOCAL POINTS FOR THE
SOUTH ASIAN SEAS REGIONAL PROGRAMME

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