

The UN General Assembly decided in 1989 to convene a UN Conference on Environment and Development in Brazil in 1992. The chief organizer of the Conference is Mr Maurice Strong from Canada who became the first executive director of UNEP in 1972. The Conference will pay close attention to the protection of soil, of seas, and a Global Climate Convention might also be on the agenda.

As its preparatory step was held in May 1990 in Norway the so-called Bergen Conference with the participation of environmental ministers, scientists, businessmen as well as the representatives of voluntary environmental movements and youth organizations from Europe, the United States and Canada. At the Conference two documents were accepted: a Joint Agenda for Action and a Ministerial Declaration.

The Joint Agenda for Action stated that future economic development should not be based on an increased consumption of energy and raw materials, but instead must stress greater efficiency and reduced inputs. It should take into account a profound interdependence of North and South in using the earth's resources so as to establish our common future.

In order to assure that future generations are provided with natural resources, knowledge, skills and