

Analysis of Stakeholder Input to the Beijing Declaration

Summary

This paper aims to offer an analysis of the contribution of stakeholders to the Beijing Declaration. Stakeholder inputs to the Beijing Declaration were collected by Stakeholder Forum during the preparatory process of the IGR-2 and at the IGR-2 itself. Stakeholder suggestions for the Beijing Declaration were presented to governments at the IGR-2 Preparatory Meeting held in Paris in June, and to the Beijing Declaration Working Group at the IGR-2. Suggestions were also widely circulated among governments.

The analysis shows that stakeholders directly contributed nearly 20% of the text of the Beijing Declaration. In addition, stakeholders likely had an influence on a further 6% of the text, by offering suggestions which were adapted in the final Declaration. Stakeholders offered suggestions on the inclusion of numerous important issues.

Methodology

The paper compares the June version of the Beijing Declaration (prepared in advance of the IGR-2 preparatory meeting) and the final Beijing Declaration. It offers both a quantitative and qualitative analysis of the contribution of stakeholders to the final Beijing Declaration. The quantitative analysis indicates the percentage of text contributed by stakeholders, and was prepared by counting the number of new words added in the final declaration and determining the percentage of those that were drafted by stakeholders. The qualitative analysis indicates what issues suggested by stakeholders were included.

Quantitative analysis

1083 new words were added to the final Beijing Declaration
Stakeholders directly responsible for 17% (182) of these
Stakeholders influenced 6.5% of them

6582 new characters were added to the final Beijing Declaration
Stakeholders directly responsible for 17%
Stakeholders influenced 6% of them

Of 12 points included in the introduction of the Beijing Declaration, Stakeholders were directly responsible for 2 (17%) and added to 3 (25%)

Of 27 commitments included in the Beijing Declaration, stakeholders were directly responsible for 2 (7.5%) and added to/influenced 5 (18.5%)

<u>June declaration</u>	<u>Final declaration</u>	<u>Stakeholder Additions</u>	<u>Stakeholder Influenced</u>
Words - 1121	Words - 2204	Words - 182	Words - 70
Characters - 6758	Characters - 13340	Characters - 1104	Characters - 383
Paragraphs - 32	Paragraphs - 43	Paragraphs - 10	Paragraphs - 2
Sentences - 7	Sentences - 8	Sentences - 2	Sentences - 2

Qualitative analysis

The following important issues included in the Beijing Declaration were suggested by stakeholders:

- The dependence of peoples health on oceans and coasts
- The substantial increase of atmospherically transported emissions was noted.
- Recognition of the growing damage that marine environment trends are causing to people and the environment, including stress on marine ecosystems, loss of corals and wetlands, contamination of marine sources of human food and prejudice to the amenity of beaches and the health of bathing waters.
- It was noted that there is a continuing need for improved monitoring to identify threats at regional, national and local levels and to assess the impact and effectiveness of measures to address such problems.
- An acknowledgment of the important contribution of multi stakeholder partnerships
- Emphasis of the importance of use of river basins

- An action to develop and implement national plans of actions for the Global Programme of Action, in close coordination with the national integrated water resources management and water efficiency plans as set forth in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation
- Inclusion of the need to address industrial and agricultural as well as municipal wastewater, also ensuring that the effects on the environment are considered.
- A commitment to actively promote the involvement and participation of local and regional authorities, communities and other relevant stakeholders in the development and implementation of programmes of action and strategies, in particular at the local level, for the implementation of the Global Programme of Action;
- A recognition of the need to develop and strengthen scientific understanding and environmental education.

In addition, stakeholders suggested a variation of the following issues:

- To promote the effective implementation of international and regional conventions, agreements and protocols to which they are Parties, relevant to the achievement of the goals of the Global Programme of Action.
- To call upon States that have not done so, to consider becoming Parties to international and regional conventions, agreements and protocols, as appropriate, relevant to the achievement of the goals of the Global Programme of Action.