Preface

THE UNITED NATIONS Environment and Development UK Committee (UNED-UK) is the successor to the United Nations Environment Programme UK, first established as UNEP's National Committee in 1987.

In the run up to the Rio Summit UNEP-UK co-ordinated the official consultation process in the UK for the non government side. Its Round Tables, conferences and publications laid the ground work for the current activities of UNED-UK.

After the Rio Summit the organization decided to review its role and its future. This resulted in a decision that the organization would continue, but with a new role, name, and structure.

UNEP-UK changed its name to reflect the integration of environment and development concerns inherent in the concept of 'sustainable development'. This change has also allowed the organization to broaden its relations with UN agencies. We have continued to act as UNEP's National Committee in the UK, and have now become the first northern focal point for the work of the United Nations Development Programme. We aim to build strong relations with all of the UN bodies which have responsibility for important aspects of achieving sustainable development.

*Agenda 21*, the main text to come out of the Rio Summit, recognizes nine major groups of civil society with a vital role to play in implementing the programme areas it outlines: women; children and youth; indigenous people and their communities; non governmental organizations; local authorities; workers and their trade unions; business and industry; the scientific and technological community; and farmers.

The organization has elected or appointed representatives of most of these different major groups on to the Executive. It recognized in addition the media, education community, social groups and the religious community. To date over 120 organizations have joined UNED-UK as members.
UNED-UK has as its primary objective "the promotion of global environmental protection and sustainable development, particularly through support of the UN Environment Programme, the UN Development Programme, the UN Commission on Sustainable Development, and all other relevant UN and inter-governmental institutions". Such commitments have been most fully expressed in Agenda 21 and the Rio Declaration, both agreed at the UN Conference on Environment and Development in Rio de Janeiro in 1992.

Since that Summit, the UN has made the necessary arrangements for a high level Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD), which has taken Agenda 21 as its rubric. The CSD is thus the UN body which co-ordinates and promotes internationally the work which UNED-UK has set itself, whilst Agenda 21 constitutes the most comprehensive expression to date of sustainable development and environmental protection as urgent issues for the world to address before the millennium.

UNED-UK continues to have close relationships with both UNDP and UNEP, and will foster these links over the coming year.

We aim to carry out the support of UN institutions and processes, as detailed above, through the following means:

- dissemination of information;
- UN events in the UK;
- arranging for visits from UNDP, UNEP, and UNCSD representatives.

Other objectives include:

- helping to mobilize the UK political process, particularly through national and local government, the voluntary sector and the commercial and industrial sector, in order to promote sustainable development in the work of the UN institutions both nationally and internationally;
- facilitating input from the membership of UNED-UK to the policy-making processes of UNEP, UNDP, UNCSD, and other inter-governmental institutions;
- contributing to the preparation and implementation of a national strategy for Agenda 21 and supporting the work of UNCSD including its reviews of national strategies;
- encouraging other activities that result in a multi-sectoral approach to the promotion of environmental protection and sustainable development.
Chairman's Introduction

WE ARE NOW coming to the end of the present series of UN Conferences and Summits. The last in the series – the Habitat II Conference, or 'Cities Summit' – will occur in June 1996 in Istanbul. The degree to which the UN and national governments integrate the outcomes from these global events into their policies and work plans will give the only true measure of how successful they have been.

Notwithstanding a certain amount of 'conference fatigue' I believe we will come to look back at the last three years as a crucial time in the 20th century when far reaching decisions were taken, and processes set in motion. In an increasingly insecure world, these may turn out to be vital in ensuring we take the right path towards sustainable development.

The degree to which the UN and national governments integrate the outcomes from these global events into their policies and work plans will give the only true measure of how successful they have been.

The 1995 UN Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) for instance, shall certainly be seen as a major event on the road from Rio. The agreement by the CSD to set up an Inter Governmental Panel on Forests is very important. If the CSD can help us find a way for the vexed debate on forests in both north and south to progress, and to unravel the problems that dogged discussions at Rio, then that will be a considerable achievement.

It would be wrong to see the Commission as just a forum for environment. After all, the Rio Summit was a conference on environment and development. UK Secretary of State for the Environment John Gummer's speech at the CSD high level segment concerning debt relief indicates that Ministers recognize the importance of integrating social and economic concerns with environmental issues.

This year the CSD discussed new financial mechanisms for funding sustainable development. Given widespread aid cuts in many different countries we need to be imaginative and look for additional ways to find the $125 billion aid flow from north to south required to fund Agenda 21. If governments and established patterns of development assistance can no longer be relied upon to support developing countries' efforts in this respect we must look to new ways of providing secure financing for such activities. The so-called 'Tobin Tax' on international currency speculation and other proposals for alternative revenue sources raised considerable interest among government delegations at the CSD session.

This debate is a pivotal one for future global co-operation. We have an opportunity at present to work through the UN to address the issue of financing for sustainable development but this will not last forever. There is an urgent need for a full and frank consideration by all those involved of options for long term funding for all the programmes and priorities outlined in Agenda 21. I hope that UNED-UK can play its part in furthering this debate.
Over the next year the UK Government will be promoting discussion on the concept of an Inter-Governmental Panel on Oceans and Seas, as put forward by The Prime Minister's Advisory Panel on Sustainable Development, chaired by Sir Crispin Tickell. Momentum is already building in favour of the idea.

It is important to realize that the process which now exists to involve the so-called Major Groups at the CSD is unique. Other UN Commissions have not as yet allowed new NGOs/Major Groups to become involved with the follow up to the other conferences. There is a distinct possibility that the current review of arrangements for NGO accreditation to the UN Economic and Social Council will place greater restrictions on NGO access to these processes, and on the role NGOs can play in such fora. I firmly believe that such limitations are totally incompatible with the message of Agenda 21, and I hope that the review will place the role of NGOs in the UN system on a firm footing which can be further strengthened and built upon in the years ahead.

Part of UNED-UK's work over the last year has been to organize Round Tables on Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development and on the health aspects of Agenda 21. Both produced reports which were given to the Government and the UN Task Manager.

The Round Tables are a crucial aspect of our work. They bring together the different Major Groups and offer an opportunity to keep the momentum from Rio going. They also offer serious analysis and ideas to Government and the UN on the way forward.

The Health and Environment Round Table is UNED-UK's longest running Round Table. It was with great sadness that many of us heard of the death of Lord Ennals, chair of the Round Table, earlier this year. David Ennals was one of those indomitable campaigners whose breadth of interest spanned many causes. We were honoured that one of these was the work of UNED-UK and we will miss him greatly.

UNED-UK has also been active in other areas. The UK Government gave us responsibility for organizing input from Major Groups to the World Summit for Social Development. This included organizing training for those attending the Summit as well as producing some detailed input to the agreed programme of action. We were delighted that Ambassador Somavfa, Chairman of the Summit was able to speak to our annual conference last December. UNED-UK's work on the Social Summit will continue as we monitor and promote the very important follow up work to the Summit.

UNED-UK also organized a seminar looking at the outcomes of the International Conference on Population and Development under the title 'The Global Family: Northern Responses and Responsibilities'. The seminar looked creatively at how we reconcile the rights and interests of the individual with our collective responsibilities towards global equity and sustainability.

Throughout the past two years we have been working on the Habitat II Conference. The papers from workshops held at the UNED-UK Conference last year have been published as the 'Habitat II Papers' and were handed out at the Habitat II Preparatory meeting in May.

Over the coming year UNED-UK will be preparing for the 1997 Special Session of the General Assembly which will review implementation of Agenda 21 and discuss future arrangements. This will be another important staging post for all of us who are concerned to see sustainable development placed at the heart of international co-operation.

I have been involved with UNED-UK as Chair for the past two years, and previously with UNEP-UK. I believe that we have built firm foundations during that time, and that the organization is doing important
work that no other body could have done in ensuring that the agreements from Rio and other related conferences are both monitored and properly followed up. UNED-UK’s membership includes companies, voluntary organizations, local authorities, pressure groups, educational bodies, research institutions, small grassroots organizations, multinationals and individuals. Many more have been involved with some aspect of our work. I cannot think of another organization that has such a wide membership. As I now finish my term as Chair of UNED-UK I feel sure it will continue to grow in numbers and influence in the coming years.

Jonathon Porritt
UNDP is the world's largest multilateral grant donor in the field of development co-operation, spending upwards of $1,800 million on people-centred development every year. About 90% of UNDP's core financial resources are allocated to the low income developing countries, in the form of grants. UNDP has been very involved in the run up to the World Summit for Social Development emphasizing that development is an integral part of building a more secure and peaceful world community.

UNDP have international programmes that support research in areas including food crop production, biological pest control, development of new and renewable energy resources, prevention and control of tropical diseases, ways of combating HIV/AIDS and their consequences, and safe motherhood.

UNDP's priority programme areas are:

- capacity building;
- poverty eradication, job creation, social development;
- governance and management;
- the advancement of women;
- working to sustain the environment.

In addition UNDP manages the following programme areas:

- UN Capital Development Fund;
- UN volunteers;
- UN Development Fund for Women;
- Global Environmental Facility (implementing agency).

Until recently UNDP has been predominately known in the north for its Human Development Reports. To help increase knowledge in northern countries of its operation UNDP asked UNED-UK to produce a guide on how to set up northern 'focal points'. This will help them in the creation and support of equivalents to UNED-UK in other countries. This will be done under the title of 'UNDP Human Development Partnerships'.
Background – After a series of meetings between UNED-UK staff and representatives from UNDP’s European Office the following proposals for a more formal relationship between the two organizations have been drawn up. A meeting was held on 5th June at which the partnership was discussed by a putative steering group. Many of the practical arrangements for the operations of the Partnership were discussed.

Objectives – For UNDP the principal purpose is to foster a supporting and advocacy constituency in the UK. This would be the first such body in a donor country and could constitute a replicable model.

For UNED-UK the enhanced link with UNDP will serve to bolster our ability to promote national follow up to the Rio Summit, the Social Summit, and other relevant international processes. It will also enable UNED-UK more effectively to carry out its constitutional commitment to support and promote awareness of the work of UNDP in the UK.

The opportunity to develop a close working relationship between the UNDP European Office and UNED-UK will have considerable benefits to both through enhanced access to information, and the presence of a partner organization whose expertise can be called upon as necessary.

Further details on the Human Development Partnership are available from the UNED-UK Secretariat.

World Summit for Social Development

In 1992, the General Assembly called for the Convening of a World Summit for Social Development the aim of which was to:

"further the objectives of the United Nations, as stated in Article 55, to promote 'higher standards of living, full employment, and conditions of economic and social progress and development', and 'solutions of international economic, social, health, and related problems', with particular focus on social development aspects. (...)"

UNED-UK’s work for UNDP over the last year has concentrated on promoting the UN World Summit for Social Development.

The General Assembly specified that the Summit should address in creative ways the interaction between the social functions of the state, market responses to social demands and the imperatives of sustainable development. A major theme of the Summit would be the emphasis that social development is essential for sustainable development, international security and human security. The three core issues at the Summit would be

- enhancing social integration;
- reducing poverty;
- expanding employment.

In December 1994 the Foreign and Commonwealth Office gave UNED-UK a grant to enable us to service NGOs/Major Groups in preparation for the World Summit for Social Development. In the three months prior to the Summit our work was in the following areas:
**WSSD Newsletter**

UNED-UK continued to promote the Social Summit through our publication ‘Connections’ and produced two issues of a WSSD Newsletter. The newsletter looked at the main issues to be addressed in Copenhagen, what different governments’ positions were and what the different NGOs/Major Groups were saying in their statements as WSSD approached. The newsletter was extensively distributed.

**WSSD Web Site**

To help publicize the Summit UNED-UK took up a World Wide Web Site on the BBC Web Pages. On the Site we distributed UNED-UK’s Summit Newsletter and any other information put out by UNED-UK in relation to the Copenhagen Summit.

**WSSD Training**

When it became clear that few of the non-government delegates to the Summit had any knowledge of how the UN operates, we organized training on what happens at a Preparatory Meeting for a UN Conference and produced a briefing on this. We also organized a briefing before the Summit to explain how a Summit works and ways groups could operate effectively there.

We then arranged for information concerning accreditation and accommodation to be available to those who were intending to go to Copenhagen or the Preparatory Meeting. UNED-UK also ensured that information concerning the NGO Forum was available which included details on how to book rooms for meetings.

**PrepCom 3**

By the time our contract for this work started in December 1994 two Preparatory Meetings for WSSD and a special session of the General Assembly had already occurred. This meant that much of the Declaration and Programme of Action had already been agreed. The impact and amount of UK input to the final Preparatory Meeting was therefore limited.

UNED-UK’s own input to PrepCom 3 was based on its role as a Major Groups Forum. We outlined proposals for institutional follow up at the UN level, and advocated close links between such arrangements and those already in place for monitoring and implementing agreements reached at the Rio Summit. Recommendations for the inclusion of sections similar to those in *Agenda 21* were promoted. UNED-UK with help from the TUC, the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions and the Local Government Management Board, wrote equivalent sections to the nine chapters of *Agenda 21* regarding Major Groups. This work was faxed to key Ambassadors in New York. A new paragraph [100] was subsequently promoted by Ambassador Razali of Malaysia to link the role of Major Groups as defined in *Agenda 21* to the outcomes of the Social Summit.

**In Copenhagen**

Tom Bigg and Tony Colman from UNED-UK were at the Summit. The Government agreed to fund two breakfast meetings at WSSD. These were on:
Employment issues: speakers were Anne Grant (UK Mission to the UN), Bill Brett (Institute of Professionals, Managers and Specialists), Linda Gray (Scottish Education Action for Development), and Maria Elena Hurtado (Consumers International).

Institutional follow up: Baroness Chalker was the principal speaker, and was followed by Patricia Feeney (Oxfam), Tony Colman (UNED-UK/Merton Council/Low Pay Unit), Jens Martens (German NGO Forum for Environment and Development) and John Sewell (US Overseas Development Council).

Post WSSD Seminar In May we held a major seminar to review what had happened at the Summit and consider options for local, national and international follow up. The event was addressed by Alan Doss (UNDP Director for Europe), and was attended by over 70 people from a very wide range of organizations.

WSSD Report UNED-UK is producing a report on the Social Summit which reviews the outcomes from the Summit and some of the key contributions made. This will be out by the end of 1995.
"UNEP needs to be seen as the world's environmental voice, for unless we are able to make it the world's environmental voice then the environment will have no effective voice. To do that we need to enable UNEP to focus more sharply on its role of monitoring the state of the planet, identifying the emerging issues, initiating global responses and enhancing the ability of the nations to respond, while continuing to act as our environmental rudder in the key role of shaping the environmental aspect of the CSD."

Rt Hon John Gummer UK Secretary of State for the Environment.

THE EIGHTEENTH session of the Governing Council of UNEP was held this year. The work programme for UNEP for the next two years was agreed. The main priority areas will be:

- the sustainable management and use of natural resources;
- sustainable production and consumption;
- a better environment for human health and well-being;
- globalization trends and the environment.

Other areas that will be dealt with will include the further development of UNEP’s Cleaner Production Programme and the possible elaboration of an internationally binding legal instrument for the application of prior informed consent procedure for hazardous chemicals in international trade.

UNED-UK’s work this year has concentrated on two areas:

**International Children’s Conference**

We have been acting for UNEP as their representative on the board of the International Children’s Conference in Eastbourne (October 1995). The Conference is being sponsored by British Airways and is for 10-12 year olds. 800 children from 85 countries around the world will attend.

**Clean and Green Guide**

Felix Dodds was asked to be on a review panel in Nairobi for a new publication UNEP are considering. The Clean and Green Guide is aimed at southern community groups to help them understand some of the main issues and what they can do to campaign on them. We have called together a focus group of UK community and national groups to review the second draft of the book.
Commission on Sustainable Development

The CSD’s Mandate

- To monitor progress on the implementation of Agenda 21 and activities related to the integration of environmental and developmental goals by governments, NGOs, and other UN bodies;
- To monitor progress towards the target of 0.7% GNP from developed countries for Overseas Development Aid;
- To review the adequacy of financing and the transfer of technologies as outlined in Agenda 21;
- To receive and analyses relevant information from competent NGOs in the context of Agenda 21 implementation;
- To enhance dialogue with NGOs, the independent sector, and other entities outside the UN system, within the UN framework;
- To provide recommendations to the General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC);

This past year the CSD has continued to have an enlightened leadership. Ambassador Razali handed over to the German Environment Minister Dr Klaus Töpfer. In addition to building on the work that Ambassador Razali had done Dr Töpfer established a close working relationship with the NGO/Major Groups International Steering Committee (ISC), meeting with the Committee’s representatives every two months and with the German link committee every month.

This year there were over 140 governmental and Major Group intersessional meetings on topics to be discussed at the 1995 CSD. The largest group of meetings was on the issue of forests. As Dr Töpfer indicated in his acceptance speech at the last CSD he has been pushing for a new initiative on forests during his chairmanship.

Maurice Strong, the Secretary General of both the Stockholm and Rio Conferences, said after Rio:

“The real message of success will be what happens now, after Rio, when government leaders and citizens alike have returned to their countries, to their organizations, to their immediate preoccupations. It is up to all of us to build on the foundations laid by the Rio Summit to ensure that the decisions that have been taken at the global level be translated into national politics and practices at all levels.

“A new world order, as we move towards the 21st Century, must unite us all in a global partnership – which always recognizes and respects the transcending sovereignty of nature, of our only one Earth.”

The CSD is working hard to fulfill that challenge.

CSD ’95

In preparation for the 1995 session of the CSD, UNED-UK continued to encourage organizations to submit case studies on their work to the Major Groups focal point within the Commission. We also submitted reports on poverty and sustainable agriculture and rural development from our Round Tables:
In April 1994 UNED-UK brought together representatives of different Major Groups who were involved with sustainable agriculture and rural development to discuss and review the relevant chapters of Agenda 21. Four working groups were set up:

- Production Systems;
- Involvement of Rural Communities;
- Genetic Resources;
- The ‘international footprint’ of the UK.

A draft report was produced and presented at a seminar in September 1994 which Timothy Aldington, the UN Task Manager from the Food and Agricultural Organization addressed.

The seminar was chaired by UNED-UK’s two Vice Chairs Sir Hugh Rossi and Fiona McConnell. Among the participants were:

- Timothy Aldington (FAO);
- David Dawson (MAFF);
- Charlie Watkins (Gloucestershire CC);
- Michael Scott (ODA);
- Oliver Doubleday (National Farmers’ Union)

The findings from the seminar were added to the report which was handed in to the government and UN Task Manager as a UK Major Groups submission on progress towards the objectives outlined in chapters 10 and 14 of Agenda 21. The report was also sent to the Ambassadors of countries on the CSD bureau and released to NGOs at the CSD.

Poverty

The UNED-UK Health Round Table reviewed the health part of the Poverty Chapter of Agenda 21. A series of recommendations was prepared and submitted to the UK Government in advance of the World Summit for Social Development and the CSD Task Manager for the Agenda 21 chapter on poverty. Among the issues addressed in the report was the requirement for the UK to develop an indicator of poverty, as stipulated at the Rio Summit and also the WSSD.

Forests

The Tropical Forest Forum brought together groups interested in the CSD under the auspices of their CSD working group. Meetings were organized jointly with the Government before the CSD Intenessional, the FAO Ministerial Meeting and the CSD itself.
On Government delegation

Felix Dodds was on the delegation for the first and third weeks of the 1995 CSD. Other non-governmental representatives on delegation were Barry Coates (WWF), Joanne Hill (Action Aid) Vernon Smith (Local Government International Bureau) and Tony Hams (Local Government Management Board).

The UK is one of a growing number of governments to have NGOs/Major Group representatives on their official delegation. The relationship is thought to have been productive by all those involved.

For the third year running, at the request of the UK delegation, Felix Dodds organized a meeting for UK Major Group representatives with Secretary of State John Gummer. They discussed the outcomes of the CSD and hopes for the 1996 and 1997 meetings. The UK had already announced their intention to push for an Inter Governmental Panel on Oceans and Seas to be set up at CSD '96.

CSD NGO/Major Groups Intersessional Steering Committee

The major problem over the last year for the CSD Major Groups Steering Committee has been to find funds to enable it to employ a staff member to help with the considerable work it has taken on. In addition to meeting with the chair of the CSD, the Steering Committee Co-Chairs have also met the CSD Secretariat. Their views on the programme of the 1995 CSD have been sought and acted upon.

As the European Focal Point over the past year Felix Dodds has tried to use ‘The Network', magazine of the Centre for Our Common Future, to keep NGOs/Major Groups in touch. Now that the Centre has closed, information will have to be sent directly to those involved in the CSD over the coming year. One of the major roles Felix has played over the last year has been to fund raise for a staff member for the ISC. At the CSD the Ford Foundation interviewed a delegation from the Steering Committee and has now agreed to release $50,000 a year for two years. Negotiations with two countries are continuing to see if this can be supplemented.

At the CSD Felix Dodds chaired the first two NGO/Major Groups sessions with the new Chair of the CSD, Ambassador Cavalcanti from Brazil. He also played an active role in the work of the ISC. He was elected to serve another year on the Committee as the Focal Point for Europe.

Who was there UK Major groups representatives attending: Felix Dodds (UNED-UK), Ruth West (UNED-UK), Stanley Johnson (UNED-UK), Simon Callow (UNED-UK), Jackie Roddick (SANGEC / UNED-UK), Juliette Williams (EIA), Steve Trent (EIA), Barry Coates (WWF), Francis Sullivan (WWF), Richard Tapper (WWF), Alex McGillivray (NEF), Andy Whiteman (Reforesting Scotland), Bill Ritchie (Scottish Crofters), Tony Juniper (Friends of the Earth), Jo Hill (Action Aid), Maria Elena Hurtado (Consumers International), Vernon Smith (Local Government International)
UNED-UK has started work on a number of the issues to be addressed at the fourth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development in 1996. We are organizing Round Tables and Task Force Groups on the following:

**Forests**

In response to requests from a number of organizations UNED-UK has set up a Task Group to monitor the work of the Inter Governmental Panel on Forests (IPF). The Task Group will try to help those groups that want to contribute to the work of the IPF.

**Oceans**

UNED-UK set up a Round Table to review chapter 17 of *Agenda 21* in February 1995, meetings of which have been hosted by the TUC. The Department of Environment and the IMO attend the meetings of the Round Table.

**Education**

The Round Table has worked in four Working Groups:

- Integrated Management and Sustainable Development of Coastal & Marine Areas; Strengthening International Co-operation;
- Marine Environmental Protection; Strengthening International Co-operation;
- Sustainable Use and Conservation of Marine Living Resources of the High Seas and Under National Jurisdiction;
- Critical Uncertainties for the management of the Marine Environment and Climate Change.

**Health and Atmosphere**

UNED-UK set up a Task Force to look at the proposal that the ‘Education Community’ be designated the tenth Major Group. This Task Force has produced a draft chapter which could be added to *Agenda 21* for consideration by the CSD. This includes the concept of an ‘Education 21’, which is a challenge to all those involved in formal and informal education to place sustainability at the heart of all learning.

Lord Ennals the Chair of the UNED-UK Round Table on Health passed away earlier this year, to the great sadness of many people. Mike Cooke the Director of the Charted Institute of Environment Health has taken over as Chair of the Round Table. A Conference is planned to consider the health implications of atmospheric pollution.

The Round Table is also organizing a consultation on behalf of the Department of Environment on their Environmental Health Action Plan, which they are producing for the World Health Organization. At present both the Department of Health and the Department of the Environment sit on the Round Table.
Annual Conference

UNED-UK Conference 1994
‘Sustainable Human Development and the Urban Agenda’

UNED-UK’s Annual Conference was an attempt to bring together the themes of two forthcoming UN conferences: the World Summit for Social Development and the Habitat II Conference, or ‘Cities Summit’.

The day was split into two halves to address the two UN conferences. The morning session was opened by Thierry Lemaresquier from UNDP. He outlined UNDP’s contribution to sustainable human development in all its operations. Ambassador Somavia, convener of the Social Summit, gave the keynote speech. He spoke of the possibility the Summit offered to make absolute poverty morally unacceptable throughout the world, just as slavery had been deemed unacceptable in the 19th century.

Anne Widdecombe MP (Minister of State for Employment) presented the official Government line on the Social Summit. She refuted suggestions that free market economics were detrimental to the well-being of the poor, and that trade liberalization may adversely affect the living standards of many in developing countries.

The rest of the morning was taken up with workshops on:

**Social Integration:**
- **Presenter:** Suzanne Long (United Nations Association)
- **Rapporteur:** Imtaz Farookhi (CE Leicester City Council)
- **Chair:** Lord Dubbs (Director of the Refugee Council)
- **Major Groups:** Caroline LeQuesne (Oxfam)

“It is estimated that fewer than 10% of the world’s population participates fully in the political, economic, social and cultural institutions that shape their lives.” Suzanne Long (UNA)

**Employment Creation:**
- **Presenter:** Tim Jenkins (Friends of the Earth)
- **Rapporteur:** Harold Dunning (United Nations Association)
- **Chair:** Peter Morgan (former Director of Institute of Directors)
- **Major Groups:** Richard Bate (Director International Chamber of Commerce)

“Job creation is not only central to the theory of sustainable development but that there exists a real potential for substantial employment gains across a number of key sectors.” Tim Jenkins (FoE)

**Governance:**
- **Presenter:** Vernon Smith (Local Government International Bureau)
- **Rapporteur:** Lucy Bailey (Charter 88)
- **Chair:** Geoff Mulgan (Director DEMOS)
- **Major Groups:** Cllr Tony Colman (Leader of Merton Council)

“Local authorities operate most effectively when they recognize that they are only one of a number of potential actors in the local community and that there is a need for positive partnership between all sectors and services rather than an authoritarian style implying municipal dominance.” Vernon Smith (LGIB)
**Education and Skills:**
Presenter: Christine Blackmore (Open University)
Rapporteur: Margaret Flenley (Council for Environmental Education)
Chair: Douglas Bourn (Director Development Education Association)
Major Groups: Ken Webster (WWF)

"Sustainable social development and environmental sustainability require changes in the way many of us live our lives. Education and training are seen by many as agents of that change and ways of reducing social inequality." Christine Blackmore (Open University)

**Basic Social Services/Safety Net:**
Presenter: Chris Pond (Director Low Pay Unit)
Rapporteur: Jan Pahl (National Institute for Social Work)
Chair: Cllr Richard Leese (Deputy Leader Manchester Council)
Major Groups: Ruth McLeod (Director Homeless International)

"There is an alternative: it is to pursue a strategy designed to create quality employment, with economic activity based on high wages and high productivity, a partnership approach to industry and the provision of secure and well rewarded jobs that encourage flexibility and willingness to adapt to the changing circumstances of a modern economy. As part of an overall strategy to create full employment, such a policy could deliver both economic prosperity and social justice." Chris Pond (Director Low Pay Unit)

**Financing:**
Presenter: Pat Conaty (UK Social Investment Forum)
Rapporteur: Gavin Grant (Body Shop)
Chair: David Boyle (New Economics Foundation)
Major Groups: Maria Elena Hurtado (Consumers International)

"The major UK banks have turned their backs on the local economy needs of everyday neighbourhoods. Their principal market is the 'hot money' global one where earnings have less to do with banking and much more to do with insurance, equity investment, currency speculation and stock broking." Pat Conaty (UK Social Investment Forum)

UNED-UK published a report based on the papers given and the workshops as the ‘Social Summit Papers’ and distributed it at the third Preparatory Meeting for the Social Summit in January 1995.

**Jorge Wilheim** (Deputy Secretary-General, Habitat II) opened the afternoon by outlining the two central themes of Habitat II: Shelter for All and Sustainable Human Settlements. He referred to the need for examples of good practice from urban contexts to flesh out the theories to be considered in Istanbul, including examples of urban planning and co-operation within communities to establish common goals and long term targets.

**Viscount Ullswater** (Minister of State for Environment) emphasized the UK Government’s commitment to play a leading role in Habitat II. His concluding remark was that “an effective UK input requires that all actors, including local authorities, NGOs and the private sector are involved”.

The workshops on Habitat II were:

**Transport and Cities:**
Presenter: Stewart Boyle (International Institute for Energy Conservation)
Rapporteur: Cathy MacKenzie (Lancaster University)
Chair: Kieran Seale (London Transport)

"The unrelenting growth of transport has become possibly the greatest environmental threat facing the UK, and one of the greatest obstacles to achieving sustainable development." Transport and the Environment Royal Commission for Environmental Pollution 1994
Sustainable Cities:
Presenter: Chris Church (United Nations Association)
Rapporteur: Herbert Girardet (Footprint Films)
Chair: John Davidson (Director Groundwork Trust)
Major Groups: Richard Sandbrook (Director International Institute for Environment and Development)

“There is little consensus as to the nature of a sustainable city, or indeed whether such a thing is actually possible.” Chris Church (UNA)

Poverty alleviation and employment generation:
Presenter: Jane Brooke (Glasgow City Council)
Rapporteur: Brian Whitaker (IBM)
Chair: Dr David Gibbs (Manchester Metropolitan University)
Major Groups: Ruth McLeod (Director Homeless International)

“The globalization of trade is having strong negative impacts in the south and the north. Cities in the south grow as people attempt to escape rural poverty. But immigration routinely outstrips the supply of secure jobs with decent working conditions and the availability of very cheap labour perpetuates low paid, dangerous jobs. Those without jobs support themselves as best they can — refuse picking, begging, prostitution.” Jane Brooke (Glasgow City Council)

Financing shelter and urban development:
Presenter: Steve McCann (Birmingham City Council)
Rapporteur: Graham Pinfield (Lancashire County Council)
Chair: David Hall (Director Town and Country Planning Association)
Major Groups: Rebecca Dale (Oxfam)

“By the year 2000 there will be 50 cities with populations of 15 million or above, 40 of which will be in the Third World. In many areas of the world the inability of traditional agricultural economics to sustain populations is leading to large scale migration to urban centres leading to housing deficits, employment problems, transport difficulties and a host of other problems, which adversely impact on social economic and environmental conditions.” Steve McCann (Birmingham City Council)

Trade and ethical investment and innovative financing mechanisms:
Presenter: Peter Webster (Director Ethical Investment Research Service)
Rapporteur: Peter Madden (Christian Aid)
Chair: Ken Webster (WWF)
Major Groups: Maria Elena Hurtado (Consumers International)

“We should make it a clear legal requirement on all financial advisers to ask investors whether they have any wider ethical concerns that should be reflected in the advice given.” Peter Webster (EIRIS)

Decentralization and City Management:
Presenter: Paul Durkin (Harlow City Council)
Rapporteur: Nick Wilson (Chartered Institute of Environmental Health)
Chair: Keith Melton (Nottingham Trent University)
Major Groups: Cllr Tony Colman (Leader of Merton Council)

“For decentralization to have a political dimension there must be devolution of power and local decision making and accountability.” Paul Durkin (Harlow City Council)

We produced a report on the workshops which included the papers given and rapporteurs’ reports. This was called ‘The Habitat II Papers’ and was given out at the Second Preparatory Meeting for Habitat II in May 1995.
Habitat II

"The vision of sustainable cities has to gain more ground. That is why the upcoming UN Conference on Human Settlements, Habitat II, in 1996 in Istanbul, has to be make this vision more clear and translate it into political action at the highest level."

Klaus Töpfer Federal Minister for Regional Planning Building and Urban Development Federal Republic of Germany

Habitat II

Aims and objectives

Habitat II is the last of the present series of UN Conferences and Summits. The overall goal of the Conference is to make the world's cities, towns and villages healthy, safe, equitable and sustainable. The two overall themes of the Conference are:

- Adequate shelter for all;
- Sustainable human settlements development in an urbanizing world.

The Global Plan will address the issues facing us during the next two decades, focusing particularly on immediate action in the first five years (1996-2000). New partnerships with other urban actors have been initiated and will be strengthened. These actors include local authorities, NGOs, civic and community groups, professionals and academics as well as business and industry.

National Council

The Department of the Environment facilitated the setting up of a National Council for Habitat II. This is being run by Homeless International. UNED-UK sits on the National Council.

PrepCom Two (24th April - 5th May 1995)

Felix Dodds led a UNED-UK delegation to the Second Preparatory Meeting for Habitat II. This included Peter Jackson from Hertfordshire County Council and Howard Price from the Chartered Institute for Environmental Health.

At the meeting UNED-UK released copies of the Habitat II Papers to all governments and most NGOs. We facilitated the setting up of an International Facilitating Committee based on the model used at the Commission on Sustainable Development. We also held an election to elect a Focal Point for Europe.

Urban Sustainability Node

UNED-UK have been asked by Habitat II to act as an Urban Sustainability Node for Northern countries. The aim is to:

- bring into the process those committed to urban sustainability;
- review text of the Global Plan of Action to consider its relevance to Urban Sustainability;
- organize seminars on the cutting edge of urban sustainability;
- organize a series of Round Tables at the final Preparatory Meeting on the major urban sustainability issues.
Biodiversity Convention

"The objectives of the Convention, to be pursued in accordance with its relevant provisions, are the conservation of biological diversity, the sustainable use of its components and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of generic resources, including by appropriate access to generic resources and by appropriate transfer of relevant technologies, taking into account all rights over those resources and to technologies, and by appropriate funding."

Population Seminar

UNED-UK organized a breakfast meeting to address Indigenous Peoples' concerns at the first meeting of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity. The meeting was put together by UNED-UK executive member Ruth West, funded by the UK Government and chaired by UNED-UK Vice Chair Fiona McConnell. We have been lobbying for a representative from an Indigenous Peoples' organization to be added to the staff of the Secretariat for the Biodiversity Convention.

UNED-UK organized a seminar in December 1994 entitled 'The Global Family: Northern Responses and Responsibilities' to review the outcomes from the UN International Conference on Population and Development. The seminar was sponsored by ODA and IPPF and looked at the needs and demands of growing populations, and the difficulties of reconciling the rights and interests of the individual with collective responsibility towards global equity and sustainability.

The event was opened by Jonathon Porritt with key note speeches by Richard Ottaway MP (member of UK delegation at ICPD), Dr David Nabarro (Health and Population Division ODA) Edda Ivan Smith (Action Aid – NGO representative on UK delegation), Paul Harrison (author and population consultant), Sunetra Puri (Director of IPPF) and Jessica Woodroffe (Christian Aid).

Workshops were held on

- Is it how many feet, or how those feet tread?;
- Choices and children;
- Women’s rights – Cairo & Beijing;
- What is sustainable consumption, and who should be consuming sustainably?;
- Sustainable cities North and South.

Open-Ended Working Group on Review of Arrangements for Consultation with NGOs

"The battle for people-centred and sustainable development will be won or lost not in the corridors of Governments, but in every hamlet and home, in every village and town, in the daily enterprise of every member of the global community and every institution of civil society. The Charter of the United Nations begins with a pledge by "We the Peoples...." It is the people, on whose behalf we all act, who are the true custodians of the emerging new vision of development. It is for them that we must work to achieve a new framework for development co-operation and the revitalization of the United Nations system."

Boutros Boutros-Ghali UN Secretary-General – Agenda for Development 1995

UNED-UK Annual Report 1994-5

20
Over the last year a special Working Group of the UN Economic and Social Council has been reviewing the accreditation arrangements for NGOs/Major Groups. This has been an attempt to bring back some uniformity to the processes that have developed in ECOSOC over the last few years.

UNED-UK has lobbied for a progressive approach to accreditation, to draw upon the principles for involvement of civil society established at Rio and translated into procedural arrangements in the work of the CSD. Of particular concern has been the right of organizations which focus predominantly or exclusively at the national level to participate in UN processes. Discussions on the freedom for organizations which are national affiliates to international confederations to attend ECOSOC meetings in their own right, rather than being represented by the international body was one contentious aspect of this debate.

There has also been considerable resistance to the widespread application of the concept of ‘Major Groups’ to all ECOSOC fora. This resistance has come from governments, NGOs working in other areas of ECOSOC, and many within the UN who see considerable practical problems in changing the way the UN relates to civil society so substantially.

This year we have had to run a rearguard action to ensure that organizations did not lose their access to UN meetings. There have been attempts to use the Open Ended Working Group process to restrict NGO/Major Group access, despite the fact that the mandate given to the Group was to translate the new relationships between the UN and NGOs/Major Groups into procedural arrangements.

This resistance has led to impatience among many who fear that the UN may miss an opportunity to create more open procedures. At the ECOSOC Governing Council in May the Chilean Government delegate said that ‘NGOs enrich the work of the UN enormously and the review should be approached in that light, aiming to facilitate the presence of civil society rather than to block it. The increasing importance of national NGO participation in UN debates should be built upon, as they have a direct link back to where international agreements are implemented. Their knowledge of the local and national scene are what make their interventions so useful’.

Jonathon Porritt wrote to all the Embassies represented on the Working Group. Amongst the replies was a letter from David Hannay, UK Permanent Representative to the UN, in which he welcomed ‘the closeness with which UNED-UK is following this important process. Only a joint effort between NGOs and Member States will succeed in bringing up-to-date ECOSOC’s rules in this area. Help us keep up the pressure on those who seem not to have noticed how the world has changed since 1968.’
An important role of UNED-UK is to disseminate information. One of the principal means is UNED-UK’s newsletter ‘Connections’. The newsletter comes out four times a year and is the only British publication which addresses domestic and international follow up to the Rio Summit and other relevant UN processes.

In particular ‘Connections’ is designed to keep its readers up to date with relevant developments within the UN Commission on Sustainable Development and other UN Conferences and Conventions as well as developments within UNDP and UNEP.

The magazine goes to over 3000 organizations and key individuals from local government, business and industry, women’s groups, youth groups, non-governmental organizations, academics and educationalists, trade unions, civil servants and politicians in this country and abroad and key people in the UN.

Over the past year we have extended the mailing list for ‘Connections’ to include more people in developing and Eastern European countries. This is a service we would like to continue and extend. We have agreed a deal with the UNEP Industry Office to include Cleaner Production with ‘Connections’ twice a year. Caroline Jobson from the International Chamber of Commerce has continued to produce the Industry pages of ‘Connections’ and Jane Morris from the Local Government Management Board has provided material on local government. We have been fortunate in having some key volunteers who have helped put together ‘Connections’ over the last year.

Three Years since the Rio Summit – the Commission on Sustainable Development by Felix Dodds and Tom Bigg (June 1995) £7.50 inc p&p

Now that the CSD has met three times we have revisited the process of setting up the CSD to remind and inform people what the CSD is there to do and what the bodies associated with it are for. The report also reviews the record of the CSD and looks in more depth at the most recent session. A must for anyone interested in sustainable development.
UNED-UK Report to the CSD on Poverty by Ruth West and the Health Round Table £3.50 inc p&p

This report is produced by UNED-UK's Health and Environment Round Table. It was initially produced as an input to the World Summit for Social Development and then revised for the third session of the Commission on Sustainable Development. It includes some key recommendations which the Round Table will continue to lobby on.

Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development by UNED-UK Round Table on SARD £5.00 inc p&p

The report was produced after a series of Round Table and working group meetings during 1994 and included recommendations from the SARD Seminar held in September. The report had some key recommendations which were lobbied on by NGO representatives at the CSD.

Values for a Sustainable Future edited by Gilbert West and Julia Brown £6.50 including p&p

A record of the Papers presented at the UNED-UK Symposium on ‘Values for a Sustainable Future’ with the workshop discussions has been produced. The papers included are by Professor Marquand on Governance and Democracy, Professor Redclift on Society and Culture, John Wybrew of Shell on Business and Wealth Creation and Robyn Williams of the Australian Commission for the Future on Science and Technology. Also included are presentations by Sir Crispin Tickell, Professor Robert Worcester of MORI, Ms Elizabeth Dowdeswell, Executive Director of UNEP, and Jonathon Porritt. The symposium was organized to celebrate World Environment Day 1994 and was funded through a Department of Environment grant and the support of WWF and the Royal Society of Arts.

Social Summit Papers edited by Gilbert West £5.00 inc p&p

The first half of UNED-UK’s 1994 Conference focused on the World Summit for Social Development. ‘The Social Summit Papers’ presents a collection of presentations to the six workshops by Christine Blackmore (Open University and Education for Sustainability Forum) on education and training, Suzanne Long (UN Association), on social integration, Tim Jenkins (Friends of the Earth) on employment creation, Vernon Smith (Local Government Management Board) on governance, Chris Pond (Low Pay Unit) on basic social services, and Pat Conaty (Social Investment Forum) on financing.

Habitat II Papers edited by Felix Dodds £5.00 inc p&p

The second half of the UNED-UK Conference was on the Urban Agenda in preparation for the Habitat II Conference in June 1996. The Habitat II Papers is a collection of the Papers given in the six workshops and the outcomes from the discussions. The workshop presentations were given by Stewart Boyle (IIEC) on transport and cities, Chris Church (UN Association) on sustainable cities, Jane Brooke (Glasgow City Council) on poverty alleviation and employment generation, Steve McCann (Birmingham City Council) on financing shelter and urban development and Peter Webster (EIRJS) on trade and ethical investment and innovative financing mechanisms.
UNED-UK Executive Committee

The following have served as members of UNED-UK’s Executive Committee (1994/95):

Executive Chair: Jonathon Porritt
Vice Chairs: Fiona McConnell; Sir Hugh Rossi (UNA)

Executive Committee: Christine Blackmore (Education for Sustainability Forum); Andrew Blaza (Individual member - World Travel and Tourism Environment Research Centre); Barry Coates (World Wide Fund for Nature UK); Anthony Colman (Local Agenda 21 Steering Committee - Merton Borough Council); Margaret Feneley (Youth Joint Action Group - Council for Environmental Education); John Gordon (Individual member); Laura Kelly (Action Aid); Robert Lamb (Television Trust for the Environment); Caroline LeQuesne (Oxfam); David Lea (Trade Union Congress); Geoffrey Lean (Independent on Sunday); Angela Mawle (Women’s Environment Network); Brian McLaughlin (National Farmers’ Union); Jane Morris (Local Government Management Board); Fiona Reynolds (Council for the Protection of Rural England); Jackie Roddick (Individual member - Scottish Academic Network for Environmental Change); Richard Sandbrook (International Institute for Environment and Development); Philippe Sands (Foundation for International Environmental Law and Development); Peter Scupholme (International Chamber of Commerce UK - British Petroleum); Ruth West (Individual member).

Observers: Strike Mkandla (UN Environment Programme); Alan Doss (UN Development Programme); Kevin Dunion (Scottish Environment Forum); Caroline Jobson (ICC UK); Peter Unwin (Department of the Environment); Jon Wonham (International Maritime Organization).

Staffing

General
Felix Dodds Co-ordinator
Tom Bigg Administrator
Catriona Pike Conference and Seminar Organizer (up to May 1995)
Gilbert West WSSD Organizer (up to May 1995)

World Environment Day
Julia Brown (World Environment day Co-ordinator) (up to September 1994)
Sue Tibbals (and Population Seminar) (up to January 1995)
Gillian Harvey (Values Symposium) (up to September 1994)

‘Connections’
Harold Stern (design) Caroline Jobson (ICC) Jane Morris (LGMB)

Volunteers
Frank Wuggening (General) Taju Karimu (Connections) Salam Sharif (Connections)
Philip White (Connections) Louise Jutsum (Membership and Habitat II)

Habitat II
Roger Mostyn Andrea Coleman
Membership
(up to June 30th 1995)

Organizations: Increased from 77 to 123
Individuals: Increased from 57 to 70

Corporate Members of UNED-UK

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Individuals</th>
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<td>Council for National Parks</td>
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<td>Dian Fossey Gorilla Foundation</td>
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<td>Division of Environment Sciences, University of Hertfordshire</td>
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<td>Economic and Social Research Council Research Council</td>
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<td>Fire Brigades Union</td>
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<td>West Midlands Regional Health Authority</td>
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**Associate Membership**

Bedfordshire County Council  
Biffa Waste Services  
Brighton Borough Council  
Bromsgrove District Council  
Brunel University Geography Dept  
Building & Social Housing Foundation  
Christian Fellowship Trust  
City of Cardiff  
Dundee University Economics Dept  
East Dorset District Council  
Exeter City Council  
Gillingham Borough Council  
Groundwork Ogwr  
Groundwork Rossendale  
Keele University Politics Dept  
Kirklees Metropolitan Council  
Lancashire County Council  
Lewes District Council  
London Borough of Islington  
London Borough of Sutton  
London Environment Centre  
London Lighthouse  
Luton Borough Council  
Mole Valley LA21 Steering Group  
National Coasts and Estuaries Advisory Group  
Newcastle Central Library  
Newcastle City Council  
Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council  
Plymouth City Environmental Services  
Plymouth Diocesan Justice & Peace Commission  
Queen’s University Law Faculty  
Rivers Club  
Shrewsbury and Atcham Borough Council  
Suffolk County Council  
Surrey County Council  
Tools for Self Reliance  
UN Association Swanage  
World Action Secretary

**Individual Members of UNED-UK**

Richard Adam  
Shirley Ali Khan  
Klaus Armstrong Braun  
Prof R. Berry  
Ian Bird  
Christine Blackmore  
Andrew Blaza  
Richard Burnett-Hall  
John Button  
Jas Chanay  
Eliane Chorley  
R. Cope  
Naomi Dyckhoff  
Mark Edwards  
Dr GK Elliott  
Raymond Fricker  
Dr Douglas Garvie  
Herbie Girardet  
Dr Hugh Gordon  
John Gordon  
Arthur de Graft-Rosenior  
Malcolm Grimston  
Prof John Guillebaud  
Stephen Gundry  
Philip Hainsworth  
Dr David Hall  
Kenneth Hall  
Sir Peter Harrop  
Donald Hughes  
Franciska Isaka  
Stanley Johnson  
Fiona Johnston  
Dr Bob King  
John Lawrence  
Dr Richard Lawson  
Alan Mayne  
Fiona McConnell  
Dr Wendi Momen  
Roger Mostyn  
Fanny Lines  
Lisa Loughlin  
Prof James Lovelock  
Dorothy MacKenzie  
Dulce Maltez  
David Murphy  
Felicity Norman  
Prof Timothy O’Riordan  
Dr Olu Olojugba  
Jonathon Porritt  
Joyce Pickard  
Cathy Priddey  
Murad Qureshi  
Donna Rispoli  
Dr Jackie Roddick  
John Rowley  
Penny Shepherd  
James Skinner  
Graham Smith  
Judith Steiner  
Stephen Sterling  
AD Thomas  
Hilary Thompson  
Sir Crispin Tickell  
R E Tringham  
Sir Ralph Verney  
Stephen Vincent  
Tina Wheeler  
H Wigmore  
Tracy Worcester  
Stephen Young

UNED-UK Annual Report 1994-5
Report of the Auditors to the members of the United Nations Association of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

We conducted our audit in accordance with Auditing Standards issued by the Auditing Practices Board. An audit includes an examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgments made by the Executive Committee in the preparation of the financial statements, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the Association’s circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming our opinion we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

Opinion

In our opinion the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of the Association’s affairs as at 30th of June 1995 and of its deficit for the year then ended.

Gane Jackson Scott
Registered Auditor
Chartered Accountants
Holborn Hall
100, Grays Inn Road
London WC1X 8AY

Notes

1) The UNED-UK accounts are incorporated within the UN Association UK’s accounts.
2) The World Environment Day project has been accounted separately and is therefore presented that way.
3) The WSSD Foreign Office contract is shown in the Conference line of income

UNED-UK Accounts for the year 1994-1995

UNED-UK year runs from July 1st to June 30th.

General

Income

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<td>Publications</td>
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<td>Conference</td>
<td>£28,888</td>
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<td>Total</td>
<td>£92,144</td>
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UNED-UK Annual Report 1994-5
### Expenditure

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<td>Printing, postage and stationary</td>
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<td>Telephone and fax</td>
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<td>Travel</td>
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<td>Conferences</td>
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<td>Other</td>
<td>£4,521</td>
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<td>Total</td>
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Surplus for the year  

\[ £1,619 \]

### World Environment Day

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<td>Expenditure</td>
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</table>

Surplus for the year  

\[ £3,031 \]

**Surplus for 1994/95**  

\[ £4,650 \]

**Less deficit brought forward 1993/94**  

\[ £5,267 \]

**Overall deficit for the year**  

\[ £617 \]

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**Sources of Funding**

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