



**Friends of
the Earth
International**

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Preliminary Statement on the Compilation text
New York, April 1st 2002**

Corporate Accountability

Friends of the Earth International (FoEI)

- Calls for 18(l) to read: "Secure corporate economical, social and environmental accountability through agreements, which include measures on right to know, human rights and liability". At a minimum, the amendment by Switzerland in 18(l) should be included.
- Also supports 5(g,bis) provided it reads "secure corporate responsibility and accountability".
- Supports the Swiss amendment of 5(l), if it is made clear that voluntary initiatives do not constitute an alternative to global liability and accountability regimes.

Globalization and Trade

- Supports 18(c bis)
- Supports 18(c ter) and suggests it is amended to read "... the principles of no hierarchy, mutual supportiveness and deference to MEAs, reaffirm the authority and autonomy of MEAs, ensure that the objectives, principles and provisions of MEAs are not subordinated to trade rules, ..."
- Supports 18(c quat)
- Supports 18 (c quinte)
- Supports 18 (j)
- Calls on 18(d) to be amended to read: "Secure world trade rules that support sustainable development ...". Therefore, delete "Encourage WTO members to implement the outcome of the Fourth WTO Ministerial Conference, held in Doha, Qatar, from 9 to 14 November 2001".
- Amend 24(b-sept) to read "requiring the private sector" rather than "encouraging the private sector".
- 24(f): Delete "Implement the outcomes of the Doha Ministerial Conference and".
- Supports 24 (h)
- Supports 24 (i)

Changing unsustainable patterns of consumption and production

- Welcomes that environmental justice concerns have been incorporated into the text and therefore supports 4(bis) and 5(ter).
- Calls for further international and national resource use reduction targets to be based on the limited carrying capacity of ecosystems acknowledged in 5(ter).

Governance

- Amend 4(e) to read "Secure a social and environmental assessment of the current trade regime, and thereby, develop policies that reduce the harmful effects of trade policies".



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- Add "MEAs' secretariats" after the text reading "organisations of the UN system..." in Paragraph 12.
- Add to 12 c) after "... financial institutions, and reaffirm the authority and autonomy of MEAs, ensuring that the objectives, principles and provisions of MEAs are not subordinated to trade rules."

Ecological debt

Friends of the Earth International asks governments to note that external debt fuels the depletion of natural resources, thus increasing the ecological debt, that Northern countries have towards developing countries. The current text suggests the opposite, seeing debt as a leverage for the north to encourage sustainability in the South, when in fact debt drivers unsustainable development in the developing world.

FoEI calls

- On developed countries to recognize their ecological debt towards developing countries at Johannesburg
- On governments to acknowledge that the ecological debt is caused by unsustainable consumption and production patterns and lack of corporate control.

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