

**JOINT STATEMENT ON THE UNITED STATES-BRAZIL COMMON AGENDA
FOR THE ENVIRONMENT
(OCTOBER 23, 1995)**

Recognizing the importance of cooperative efforts to promote environmental protection and sustainable development for the benefit of this and future generations of humankind, the United States and Brazil agree to pursue a common agenda for the environment, as described below.

INTRODUCTION

Recognizing the importance attributed by both countries to global efforts to promote environmental protection and sustainable development, the common agenda is intended to serve as a mechanism for consultations and cooperation between the United States and Brazil on these critical issues. The agenda is intended as a framework for policy discussions and technical cooperation in these areas.

OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the agenda include:

- a) the sharing of perspectives and positions on key environmental issues such as those on global climate change, depletion of the stratospheric ozone layer, the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, forest policy issues, desertification, ocean issues and the sound management of hazardous wastes and toxic substances;
- b) consultations on efforts of international bodies dealing with environmental protection and sustainable development, including the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development, the United Nations Environment Program and other relevant organizations;
- c) joint efforts to further the results of the 1192 U.N. Conference on Environment and Development in Rio de Janeiro and the 1994 Summit of the Americas in Miami;
- d) cooperation related to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and the conservation and sustainable management of forests and other natural resources;
- e) cooperation and information exchange related to environmentally sound technologies and their applications in the areas of urban pollution, pollution abatement and prevention, and waste management;
- f) cooperation on environmentally sound technologies and practices and their applications in the areas of energy efficiency and the use of new and renewable energy sources;

- g) cooperation and information exchange on conservation and sustainable use of fresh water resources, water treatment, and coastal management;
- h) cooperation, as mutually agreed, with the private sector, educational institutions and non-governmental organizations on relevant environmental and sustainable development programmes and initiatives, particularly in the areas of technical cooperation and the development and dissemination of environmentally sound technologies; as well as the sharing of experiences and perspectives on each Government's partnership with major groups;
- i) facilitation of scientific and technological exchanges and other joint efforts to address environmental problems of mutual concern.

CONSULTATIONS

To further the objectives of the common agenda for the environment, the United States and Brazil intend to hold regular high-level consultations, on at least an annual basis, to discuss priority issues of mutual concern in the area of environment and sustainable development. Such consultations should involve the participation of the relevant governmental agencies from both sides concerned with environmental protection and sustainable development. The two sides may decide to establish working groups where necessary to facilitate dialogue and cooperation in specific areas of mutual concern.

In addition to the high-level consultations, the two sides will endeavor to enhance consultations and cooperation at other levels, including bilateral discussions between relevant governmental agencies.