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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF
THE MULTILATERAL FUND FOR THE
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**REPORT BY UNEP ON THE PROGRESS MADE IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF
THE COMPLIANCE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME (CAP)**

(Submitted by UNEP DTIE)

1. This initial report outlines the progress made during the period January - June 2002 in the implementation of the newly-formulated and strategically-oriented UNEP Compliance Assistance Programme (CAP).

2. CAP was launched in broad consultations with countries, Regional Network Coordinators, UNON management, and external advisors in January 2002. The work on progress on various aspects is detailed below.

Assistance to countries

3. Through the CAP, UNEP has provided priority assistance to countries in actual or potential non-compliance. This assistance has included:

- Providing expert and speedy advice on policy and technical issues;
- Conducting "in-country" consultations with NOUs and other key government officials; and
- Organizing special help sessions during the 7 networking meetings organized during this period. Held in co-operation with the other Implementing Agencies and bilateral agencies, these sessions benefited about 30 countries through such co-ordinated consultation.

4. Other compliance assistance work in progress:

- Implementation of the strategy for 14 Pacific Island Countries, including National Compliance Plans for 8 of these countries;
- Preparation of licensing systems and policies for 24 countries;
- Preparation of CP/RMPs as National Compliance Plans for 4 countries;
- Initiated implementation of Bolivia's RMP;
- Updating the CP or RMP for 3 countries;
- Finalized IS assistance for 5 new Parties;
- Provided information clearinghouse function including web sites updates, query response service, weekly OzonNews email news service, and the publication of the April issue of the OzonAction Newsletter; and
- Organized Regional Network meetings in 7 regions.

Systems to monitor CAP

5. UNEP DTIE has undertaken a comprehensive review of the performance indicators to reflect up-to-date techniques for monitoring and reporting on the performance of capacity development and IS-type activities.

Recruitment of Staff

6. All positions requiring advertisement have been classified in accordance with UN rules and advertised by May 2002. The job interviews in the respective regions and Paris are scheduled for June/July 2002, and the job offers are expected to be sent to the selected candidates in July 2002. Most of the remaining posts should be filled by August/September 2002.

Lessons Learned

7. In this initial stage of CAP implementation, UNEP has gained some useful experience. The more significant lessons learnt so far are:

- Large and small countries differ in their perceptions and needs, and hence need different types of assistance through the CAP;
- There is a need to clarify to the countries and other stakeholders what is meant by “direct assistance” as compared to the current modality of implementation;
- Close coordination with other Implementing Agencies and bilaterals is imperative to ensure complementarity and avoidance of potential overlap in regional and country level activities. A consultative meeting is required with the other agencies on the modalities of CAP implementation; and
- Additional project funding for use by the countries themselves is needed to supplement and reinforce the assistance being provided through the CAP.

8. Further experience with the CAP must be gained before a full assessment can be made.

Conclusion

9. UNEP expects the pace of implementation of CAP to increase, as the full staff complement is on-board towards the second half of the transition phase. UNEP will continue to provide the Executive Committee with a more extensive update on progress and especially lessons learned at the Committee's 38th meeting.
