

LAW : AN IMPORTANT TOOL TO PROMOTE INTEGRATED APPROACHES FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

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THE ROLE OF LAW

- ➔ The science of jurisprudence has advanced the view that laws and policies are means of social control.
- ➔ In that light having in place strong and effective laws on environment is expected to effectively control the problem of environmental degradation and climate change.
- ➔ Has it?

RATIONALE FOR AN INTEGRATED APPROACH: AN EXAMPLE

- ➔ **Climate change** affects agriculture negatively and results in food insecurity.
- ➔ Action to ensure food security increases agricultural productivity which puts more stress on terrestrial ecosystem including **forests and biodiversity**.
- ➔ **Agriculture** contributes to climate change by its contribution to anthropogenic emissions of greenhouse gases and by conversion of non-agricultural land into agricultural land.
- ➔ Unsustainable expansion of agriculture contributes to **water pollution**.

SUMMARY

- ➔ **Several Environmental Problems are interconnected.**
- ➔ **Currently we have different laws regulating environment problems in silos.**
- ➔ **Extract from report of the Secretary-General prepared pursuant to General Assembly resolution 72/277**
- ➔ **Integrated solutions including integrated laws are needed for effective protection of the Environment.**

ELEMENTS OF AN INTEGRATED APPROACH?

- A strong understanding of the LINKAGES among particular environmental laws.
- A strong understanding of the interdependencies among environmental SOLUTIONS.
- A move beyond the silo TO INTEGRATED LAWS that crafted to respond to the interconnectivity, BUILD SYNERGY and promote effective promotion of the Environment.

WAY FORWARD

- ➔ Space for Resolution 73/777 should be re-focussed on promoting an integrated approach to environmental law making and governance and advocating for a binding outcome.
- ➔ Review initial draft of the global Pact to see if there are gaps in using it to promote integrated laws for environmental protection.
- ➔ Through advocacy promote an integrated approach to interpretation of the laws and instrument related to the environment.