

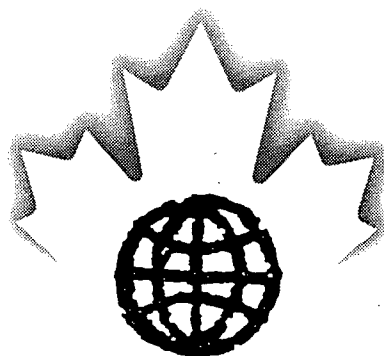
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CANADA'S ROLE AT RIO: OFFICIAL STATEMENTS



Canada and The Earth Summit

United Nations Conference on
Environment and Development
(UNCED)
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
June 3 - 14, 1992

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CANADA

Cabinet du
Premier ministre

NOTES FOR AN ADDRESS

BY

PRIME MINISTER BRIAN MULRONEY

ENVIRONMENT WEEK

CANADIAN MUSEUM OF CIVILIZATION

HULL, QUEBEC

JUNE 1, 1992

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

I want to join in welcoming you -- today's youth and tomorrow's leaders -- to the Museum of Civilization to mark Environment Week in this month and year of the Earth Summit.

This splendid museum represents the heritage of Canada and the world. The Haida canoes in the main exhibition hall are reminders of the close relationship between the first Canadians and their environment.

The Earth Day flag behind me is a magnificent symbol of the commitment of all Canadians to preserving and enhancing the environment. Signed by over 400,000 Canadians and sponsored by Canadian Tire, the Earth flag will be presented in Rio de Janeiro to Earth Summit delegates and heads of government who will be invited to sign it.

A group of you will be attending the Earth Summit on behalf of all young Canadians. Yours is the environment generation and you are concerned about the kind of world you will inherit and the kind of world you will lead. That is my concern, too.

The fundamental goal of government is to make a better world - a world that is safe from war and safe for democracy; a world that is free from deprivation and free from degradation; a world of sustainable development.

Sustainable development requires the wisdom to live in harmony with nature, so that people can both prosper economically and preserve the health of their environment. Sustainable development also requires the perspective to see the interdependence of a world in which the winds and ocean currents need no passports and recognize no boundaries. It is an issue of world-wide significance. No one is untouched by it.

It is no accident that in Canadian communities with blue boxing for waste management, participation rates run as high as 90 percent. People want to make a difference, and they must make a difference, because the problems are serious. Global warming, or the greenhouse effect, is caused by carbon dioxide emissions from everything from factories to cars. Acid rain is caused by sulphur dioxide emissions; it does not stop at the boundary between one province and the next, or the border between one country and the next, or the ocean between one continent and the next.

The only effective way these and other international issues can be addressed is through concerted international action and agreement. That is the goal of the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro under the sponsorship of the United Nations, to be attended by the heads of government of nearly 100 countries and over 30,000 people in total.

Certain facts will be staring us squarely in the face. The world's population, which was 2.5 billion people 40 years ago, when I was your age, has doubled since then. It will more than double again by the middle of the next century, in your lifetimes. In the last 30 years, global economic activity has increased by more than 300 percent. And, in the next 60 years, economic activity is projected to increase by as much as 1000 percent.

At those levels of population and economic growth, the world will have to reduce its emissions and wastes by 90 percent, just to remain at the levels they are at today. Almost all of that doubled population will live in the poorer countries of the world, some of which, such as Haiti and Bangladesh, are already living on the brink of ecological disasters.

It is imperative for the nations of the earth, all the nations of the earth, to agree on sustainable development. By now it is no longer a radical new theory, but rather simple common sense, that economic development and environmental improvements go hand in hand.

It stands to reason that if you cut down the world's forests without replanting them, sooner or later you will have no forestry industry. It stands to reason that if you overfish the world's oceans and rivers, sooner or later you will have no fishing industry.

Canada has 10 percent of the world's forests, and a \$50 billion a year forestry industry that is vital to the country's prosperity. We need international standards for forest management so we can all use our forests and save them, too. We need international rules which will bind all nations on how many fish can be caught.

Overfishing, especially off of Canada's east coast, requires the urgent attention of the world's fishing nations, particularly the nations of the European Community. We will press Canada's case at Rio and at every opportunity thereafter.

Not only is a better environment good for people, it is also good for business. It is one of Canada's, and the world's, growth industries. The world market for environmental products at the outset of this decade was estimated at US \$200 billion, and by the year 2000 is expected to grow to \$300 billion. In Canada, the market for environmental products is estimated at up to \$7 billion. That \$7 billion of environmental industries creates another \$13 billion in indirect economic activity, for a total of over \$20 billion.

Two-thirds of Canadian environmental industries are in services, with the remainder in manufacturing. These are knowledge-based industries, industries with a big future in the global economy. Altogether, some 150,000 Canadians work in this growing sector of our economy.

The environment is part of our culture; it helps to determine who we are as Canadians. We have made mistakes but we have learned from them and we are making significant progress. On acid rain, we have reached agreement with the United States for 50 percent reductions in the level of emissions; on ozone depletion, Canada will phase out all CFCs within the next three years. In broader policy terms, we are implementing the Green Plan, which touches all Canadians.

This is not to say we are doing enough in Canada -- far from it. But no country, acting alone, can meet this global challenge. We will only solve these problems by cooperating with others. That is why Rio is such an important milestone for your generation and for generations to follow.

Canada and the world should be moving, and moving quickly, after Rio and I want to suggest a five-point Agenda for the way ahead.

First, all countries need to develop their own Green Plans. Canada's Green Plan has been well received by UN agencies and suggested as a model for other countries. For our own part, we will persevere in implementing it. I will be asking the National Round Table on the Environment and the Economy to advise me by the end of this year on business opportunities for sustainable development.

Second, the agreements on preventing climate change and preserving the world's animal and plant species, which Canada will sign, will require urgent and constructive follow-up. Canada suggests that the countries at Rio establish a quick-start agenda for action, including arrangements for funding projects to prevent climate change and to preserve biodiversity in developing countries. Both agreements must be ratified as soon as possible and Canada undertakes to ratify them within this calendar year.

The bio-diversity accord is an extremely important aspect of sustainable development because it covers, quite simply, life on earth. For example, 20 years ago, only one in five children with leukaemia were successfully treated. Today, the success rate is four out of five, thanks to a strain of rosy periwinkle found only in Madagascar. It is the management of such resources for the benefit of all the world's people which will be covered under the bio-diversity agreement.

Third, and following on the previous point, the rich countries must help the poor countries make progress. There are three aspects to this -- aid, trade and debt. On international financial assistance, I believe we must seek early agreement by all on the purpose, the amount and the rules for providing new and additional funds for the world's poorer countries.

Canada has decided to commit \$25 million to the pilot phase of the Global Environment Facility and we stand ready to provide our fair share when the facility is replenished. Through the Canadian International Development Agency, Canada has allocated \$1.3 billion to sustainable development over the past five years. We will increase that allocation for sustainable development in ODA funding in the years to come. Measures to relieve the burden of debt owed to the richer countries by the poorer countries should be accelerated so they can concentrate on sustainable development. And once the current, Uruguay Round of global trade negotiations is complete, Canada will support a further round of negotiations in which environment will be a focal point.

Fourth, the UN and its agencies must also become part of the solution. The results of the Rio Summit should be endorsed this fall by the United Nations General Assembly. The creation of a Sustainable Development Commission at the UN would be an important step in ensuring that all UN agencies were sensitive to the environment.

And fifth, the idea of an Earth Charter, which slipped beyond our grasp for Rio, should be revived. Just as the Helsinki Accords set a point of reference for human rights and responsibilities, so an Earth Charter would set benchmarks for environmental rights and responsibilities. We would welcome adoption of an Earth Charter by all UNCED countries by 1995, the 50th anniversary of the United Nations.

To make sustainable development a reality for your generation, the Rio generation, the UNCED quick-start agenda would, in summary, create national Green plans; take immediate action on implementing the agreements reached at Rio; provide resources to developing countries; strengthen the environmental leadership role of the UN; and adopt an Earth Charter.

Protecting and restoring the world's environment is a complex, difficult task. No government, no country could achieve this urgent task on its own. My generation will not be able to do it alone. That is why I am so proud and so encouraged to see the dedication and seriousness with which you approach this challenge.

Together, we can make a difference. And the time to start is now.

Office of the
Prime Minister



Cabinet du
Premier ministre

NOTES

FOR AN ADDRESS BY

PRIME MINISTER BRIAN MULRONEY

EARTH SUMMIT

RIO DE JANEIRO, BRAZIL

JUNE 12, 1992

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Our generation has seen our planet from space. We know its beauty and we understand our fragility. We know that nature is part of us as we are a part of nature.

Canada's national soul breathes its life from our forests and plains and mountains and lakes. Our native peoples depend on the environment for their spiritual sustenance and material well-being. Canadians are the stewards of 10 percent of the world's forests. We are the custodians of 20 percent of the world's fresh water. And we are the guardians of the longest coast line in the world.

Ours is a history of interdependence with a vast, at times forbidding, but always beautiful and bountiful land. Ours is also a history of environmental interdependence with our neighbour, the United States, in one of the world's most successful relationships, from the Boundary Waters Treaty of 1909 to the Acid Rain Accord of 1991. The Acid Rain Accord which will cut acid rain causing emissions in half and which President Bush and I had the privilege of signing, has been called perhaps one of the most significant bilateral environmental agreements between any two countries in recent years.

For Canada, sustainable development is not a slogan; it is a prerequisite of our prosperity and a safeguard of our identity. It is also the standard of our responsibility to humanity. Our children will inherit a world of quickening population growth and accelerating economic development.

The reconciliation of economic development and environmental preservation is not only necessary, it is inescapable.

We are the leaders. We must assume our responsibilities to our own peoples, to each other and to history. We are here to commit our governments to action. The prevention of global climate change and the preservation of the world's animal and plant species is on the top of our agenda.

I am proud to sign both conventions on behalf of Canada. These agreements are welcome additions to the growing body of international environmental law. Canada supports the extension of international environmental law to cover the world's forests.

Countries have a right to manage their forest resources. And humanity has a right to expect that those management decisions will be ecologically wise. Canada wants clear guidelines, on which we all can agree, and a binding international convention which codifies our rights as well as our responsibilities.

Canada also supports the strengthening of international environmental law to prevent overfishing on the high seas. In Atlantic Canada over-fishing beyond our 200 mile zone has created an ecological crisis. This is why for Canada a global agreement to prevent over-fishing is quite simply crucial. We are gratified by the support we have received in our call for a diplomatic conference. We want that Conference urgently and we are pleased to invite like-minded nations represented here today to convene in St. John's, Newfoundland, in the Fall of this year to begin the process of establishing

rules we all can live by. In the meantime, we appeal to all states whose vessels fish our Atlantic shores to respect the conservation decisions of the North Atlantic Fishery Organization -- otherwise an extraordinary resource that has sustained Europeans and North Americans for 450 years could be permanently destroyed.

We have made good progress here but the success of Rio will not be found in the minutes of this conference or the eloquence of its leaders. Success will come from converting our agenda, Agenda 21, into concrete accomplishments.

To capitalize on the momentum of Rio, Canada advocates five crucial steps.

First, all countries need to develop their own plans for sustainable development, what we in Canada have called our Green Plan. Canada's Green Plan is a \$3 billion action plan with targets and timetables on a range of projects from the \$250 million program for water and sewage services on Indian reserves to a \$170 million program on sustainable agriculture. In response to the invitation made to Canada by the UNDP, we will participate in a pilot program with any nation represented here that wishes to benefit from our experience in this area.

Second, the agreements on climate change and biodiversity require urgent and constructive follow-up. For our part, we undertake to ratify both agreements this calendar year.

Third, the requisite resources are needed to ensure that developing countries can play their important roles. Canada has spent \$1.3 billion for sustainable development in developing countries over the past five years. We undertake today to do more in the 5 years ahead. This year once again Canada is contributing \$115 million in assistance to developing countries for forest management. The Government of Canada has also decided to eliminate the \$145 million ODA debt of Latin American countries by exchanging it for sustainable development projects. We will also contribute to the Rain Forest Pilot project initiated by Brazil and G-7 countries and to the work of the ASEAN Institute of Forest Management. We have decided to extend our own model forest program abroad to support forest management practices in developing countries. The Government of Canada announced last week its contribution of \$25 million to the pilot phase of the Global Environment Facility and we will provide our fair share when the GEF is replenished. It should not be forgotten that this meeting deals both with the environment and development. In Southern Africa, a major drought is presently creating wide-spread hunger and severe hardship for millions of people and death for untold numbers. To assist these developing nations, Canada is providing \$50 million in humanitarian assistance.

Fourth, multilateral institutions must be part of the solution. We will promote action on the results of this conference by the United Nations General Assembly this autumn and we will endorse the creation of the Sustainable Development Commission. Institutions that have a global perspective have a pivotal role to play.

With this in mind, the mandate of the acclaimed Canadian International Development Research Centre will be broadened so as to deal specifically with the environment and related concerns. I have invited the Secretary General, on behalf of the agencies of the United Nations, to propose the 10 non-Canadian board members of the IDRC, further internationalizing the IDRC and creating a new partnership between Canada and the U.N. Canada will continue to provide \$115 million annually in core funding to the Centre; over the next decade, Canada's contribution to this Agency alone will exceed \$1 billion.

As a well established organization, IDRC can be active and productive quickly, particularly in the area of research and technology transfer, in building an international network of centres of excellence and in helping developing countries create the capacity they need to follow-up on the responsibilities that will flow from the Rio Conference and assist them as they implement Agenda 21.

Fifth, the idea of an Earth Charter of environmental rights and responsibilities, which has slipped beyond our grasp at Rio, should be revived. We propose 1995, the 50th anniversary of the United Nations, as a target date for completion of the Earth Charter.

As political leaders, our job is to force the pace and stretch out the limits of international cooperation. The nations gathered here today have the human genius to create a world free from deprivation and secure from degradation. What remains is for governments to provide the leadership the world so desperately needs.

Let us find that will and marshall it to the task at hand on behalf of the 5 billion people we represent.

Our children, the Rio generation, will be our judges and our beneficiaries.

NATIONAL STATEMENT

OF CANADA

TO THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE

ON ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

GIVEN BY THE HONOURABLE JEAN CHAREST

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT

JUNE 11, 1992

Never before have the peoples of the world assembled in such numbers to discuss the future of the Earth.

We have come together under the auspices of the United Nations, the hospitality and generosity of the people of Brazil, through the leadership of Maurice Strong, and through the negotiating skills of Tommy Koh's.

We have come together at a turning point in history.

We have come together at a time when our scientists have told us that our current practices threaten life on Earth. And although the research is continuing there are many things we know absolutely.

We know CFCs deplete the ozone layer.

We know toxic chemicals are found in the breast milk of Inuit mothers in our far North. And we know these chemicals have been borne immense distances from the Americas and Eastern Europe by the winds and the ocean currents.

And we know carbon dioxide causes global warming.

We know these things because science has a seemingly infinite and never ending capacity to identify problems - to provide us with evidence of the symptoms of a sick and degraded planet.

Still it is more than science. It is our personal experience that informs us too.

In my lifetime the population of the planet has almost doubled. In my lifetime the population of the planet may double again.

Global economic activity could increase by up to ten times during the same period.

These are things we know - the challenge is in what we shall do.

Humanity has a unique genius: it has the ability to forecast its destiny and more importantly the ability to change it. And in Canada we are making that change.

An important step was the World Commission on the Environment and Development, under the inspired leadership of Gro Harlem Brundtland. It provided the diagnosis of the global condition and correctly, in the judgement of Canadians, identified the cause of the problem.

It is that we do not integrate environment and economic considerations in our decision-making.

They proposed a fundamentally different approach to economic activity - sustainable development.

A new form of development. One which would meet the needs of the

present without reducing the options for future generations.

Canada was one of four countries that the Brundtland Commission visited on fact finding missions.

Canada hasn't been quite the same since.

Canadians from all walks of life and all sectors were inspired by the Commission and its subsequent report.

A National Task Force on the Environment and the Economy was struck and provided far-reaching recommendations.

The government of Canada launched its Green Plan in 1990 as a prescription for a healthy environment and a healthy economy - an action plan for sustainable development.

The foundation of Canada's Green Plan has been transparency, accountability and inclusion.

Canadians realize that sustainable development requires fundamental change. They are also an inherently cautious, consensus seeking people who will reject abruptly imposed solutions.

The approach we have taken recognizes that change must occur throughout our society and that change must be generated from within in a way that respects the needs and ability of all.

As a consequence we have reached out to all sectors of Canadian society - to business and labour, to environment and development groups, to youth, to women, to aboriginal peoples, to the full participation of our provincial governments. To each, individually and collectively, we have asked for their help, their ingenuity and, most importantly, their commitment to work with us to make the transition to sustainable development.

They have exceeded expectations.

We have been moved and inspired by their accomplishments.

The progress we have already made is sufficient to make us feel optimistic that if we maintain the momentum, real progress will follow.

Three factors are essential to success.

Decision-making must be transparent. The accountability for solutions must be clear and evident. The process must include all sectors of society.

In our societies, no one owns air, the water, the beauty of nature.

Instead people entrust government to act for the common good. Government, in turn, establishes rights of access, enjoyment and occupation to protect the common good.

This is a relationship with clear responsibilities and one that can now only be exercised through international cooperation.

Governments as trustees must lead.

To lead effectively, they must have the moral authority to do so.

The challenge to governments everywhere in this complex, inter related and rapidly changing world is to take the decisions which put us on the path to sustainable development. Only then do they earn the right to challenge others to do the same.

In Canada we have acted.

In our Green Plan the government has committed itself to transforming its decision-making on policies and projects.

The environmental consequences of government initiatives will be presented to the public. Procedures for environmental assessment are being upgraded and enshrined in law. Government operations will be conducted according to a new code of environmental stewardship.

Current laws, programs and regulations will be reviewed against sustainable development criteria.

A new Cabinet Committee on the Environment, one of only five, has been formed to oversee these changes.

The Green Plan details targets and schedules for national policy in many areas, for example:

The emissions of greenhouse gases, not subject to the Montreal Protocol, will be stabilized at 1990 levels by the year 2000.

The manufacture of CFCs will cease at the latest by the year 1995.

We will complete our national parks system by the year 2000.

We will reduce our emissions of sulphur dioxide in Eastern Canada by 50% by the year 1994.

We will reduce our waste by 50% by the year 2000.

We have also substantially increased our funding in science and technology, monitoring and reporting systems and information and education. This represents a major investment in our future.

We have found that an approach based on results, targets and

schedules serves two purposes. Firstly, it clearly establishes the rules and the responsibilities.

Secondly, it draws on the ingenuity of people, institutions and markets.

We like to leave as much flexibility as possible as to how the target is met and none on when it is met. If the rules are clear and encourage innovation it is our experience that industry, in particular, will meet the challenge.

Although we can select from innumerable examples, the case of Northern Telecom, a major Canadian manufacturer of telecommunications equipment and cited by the Business Council on Sustainable Development illustrates the point.

As a result of the Montreal Protocol decision of 1987, this company concluded that CFCs would probably be banned. Rather than wait for tighter government regulations, they decided to eliminate CFCs from their production process by the end of 1991.

They invented new technology and met their target on schedule.

By the year 2000, they will have avoided emissions of 9000 tonnes of CFCs. At the same time they will save \$50 million. They are also making their technology free to developing countries.

With thousands of Canadians on their payroll they have found this success story a morale booster and an aid to recruiting in a competitive market place.

Canada has many progressive companies like Northern Telecom.

They have realized that the market place has gone green as a result of consumer demands. Competitive companies are now economically and environmentally competitive.

The lesson is clear for those who want to learn.

The penalties will be self-inflicted for those who don't.

Progressive companies, operating in open trading system, are important agents in the international transfer of technology and capital investment.

The willingness to experiment with new institutions is essential.

Four years ago we created our National Round Table on the Environment and the Economy. It reports directly to the Prime Minister and has representatives from labour, business, environmental groups, the provinces and aboriginal peoples, universities and research institutions. Ministers of Finance, Industry, Science and Technology, International Trade, Energy and Environment participate in their deliberations. The Round Table

played a key role in developing the positions Canada has taken at this Conference.

Provincial governments also have round tables and the experiment has spread to communities and institutions across the country.

They work on the basis of consensus.

This reflects the reality that many different interests must be reconciled honestly and openly before lasting agreements may be secured.

The resulting partnerships between government and non government sectors are vital.

Canada has a special partnership with its indigenous peoples. In our quest for sustainable development Canada sees an important role for indigenous peoples. They see the environment as a source of both their material well-being and spiritual sustenance.

They have much to teach us about living in harmony with nature and can make an important contribution towards a global shift towards sustainable development.

Canada has encouraged aboriginal peoples to record their knowledge.

We also recognize that self government and a secure land base are essential elements in their continued development.

We will continue to seek and support additional means for international cooperation amongst aboriginal peoples and to help them continue to live sustainably.

Our cities also make an important contribution. They have offered to share the experience with others.

The approach we have taken to our delegation to this Conference reflects our belief that all sectors of society should be full participants in the process. They have been inspired and challenged by the magnitude of the task that has been set by the UNCED agenda.

They, just as surely, will be key agents of change in the world of difference that will follow Rio.

We need their help to ensure that that world of difference is a better world.

Our Green Plan is a dynamic process which we will bring in line with the new standards set by this Conference.

We will have to renew and expand our cooperation with other

countries and international institutions.

Because Canada is a developed country with much of our economy dependent on natural resources, we understand many of the problems of developing countries.

We know how changes in commodity prices and market access can work against the best laid economic plans.

That is why we support a successful conclusion to the Uruguay Round of the GATT and why our Prime Minister made clear that a further round of negotiations should include the environment.

International development cooperation has been a mainstay of Canadian policy for decades. And international environmental cooperation is now 20 years old.

This UN conference has brought two separate public policy tracks irrevocably together.

As a result, the world has become more complicated, but more promising as well.

In Canada, we have heard the voices from developing countries describing their most pressing needs.

The relationship between poverty and degradation of the environment is evident.

Addressing it needs new commitments and much greater effort.

We must break the vicious downward spiral by which environmental setbacks make poor people even poorer and force them to plunder their environmental capital.

It should concern us deeply that the disparities in well-being are widening.

In the past thirty years, income disparities between the North and the South have grown from twenty times to sixty times.

This trend is simply not sustainable.

No tanks or missiles can defend against the loss of security caused by a degraded environment.

To invest in poverty eradication is to invest in our future security.

To improve the quality of life, to eradicate hunger, to foster human dignity is the best long term investment we can make.

This holds true even when we apply dispassionate economic analysis.

Debates at UNCED on water, land and the air have been part of discussions on human health, poverty and social needs.

We have also examined the economic, trade and financial dimensions of the issues.

The environment and development have become one in the course of our two-year dialogue.

This is true for governments and for international organizations.

It is equally true that as the dialogue deepened governments opened up to the views of others in ways we never explored before.

Through this process we have learned much about other countries. We have also learned much about ourselves.

The crucial role of women for the implementation of Agenda 21 has been widely acknowledged but they have been denied too long their rightful place in decision-making.

Indigenous people have shared with us their remarkable knowledge about the natural world and its sustainable use.

Parliamentarians, spiritual leaders, non-governmental groups, the business community - they have all set a new standard for contributing to this vast international process. And that will continue to grow.

They will look to us, governments and leaders, to ensure that we build on the Rio momentum.

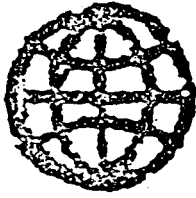
Simply speaking, in Canada and around the world they will hold us accountable for the commitments made at Rio.

They will expect to be included in the decisions that flow from Rio.

They will expect our decision-making to be transparent as a result of Rio.

It is up to us to meet those expectations and thereby build a world of sustainable development.

Thank you.



Canada and The Earth Summit

United Nations Conference on
Environment and Development
(UNCED)
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
June 1 - 12, 1992

Canada et le Sommet Planète Terre

Conférence des Nations Unies sur
l'environnement et le développement
(CNUCED)
Rio de Janeiro, Brésil
1 - 12 juin 1992

R E L E A S E

RIO DE JANEIRO, June 8, 1992 – Environment Minister Jean Charest today committed Canada to a "Quick-Start Agenda" on climate change. The Climate Change Convention is the first global sustainable development agreement that integrates environment and economy and Prime Minister Brian Mulroney has indicated Canada will sign the convention at Rio as well as undertake to ratify it by the end of 1992.

Charest characterized this Convention as a critical first step and a foundation on which to build. As such, it commits developed countries to:

- act to limit their emissions of greenhouse gases;
- report on their actions and be subject to public and international scrutiny;
- provide resources and technology to developing countries.

In Canada's view, these commitments are legally binding and render the Convention a powerful tool to combat global warming if prompt action is taken both nationally and internationally to reach effective implementation plans. To turn this convention into concrete action, Charest proposes a "Quick Start Agenda" for Canada with priority on the development of methodology and relationship of the Global Environmental Facility to the signatories of the Convention.

Specifically, Canada will:

1. Host discussions on the subject of developing methodologies for implementing a comprehensive approach to greenhouse gas limitation and submit reports to the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
2. Sponsor a meeting of officials of the GEF and countries represented on the Bureau of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC) to define their potential respective roles and the relationship and to mobilize funding for country studies in the interim.

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CANADA'S GREEN PLAN
LE PLAN VERT DU CANADA



Canada

To support these undertakings Canada also proposes to do the following:

1. Promote a practical work plan for the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) to meet the scientific needs laid out in the Convention.
2. Undertake to prepare a national report outlining and assessing the impacts of policies and measures underway and planned along with an updated inventory and projection of greenhouse gas emissions by June 1993, the first anniversary of the Earth Summit, and will urge all other signatories to do the same.
3. Contribute to enabling developing countries to achieve the capacity to meet the scientific planning and reporting criteria through bilateral and multilateral support for country studies, transfer of technology and education, training and public awareness.

For further information:

Julie Hauser
Canadian Media Centre in Rio
322-6045



Release

Date: June 12, 1992

For release: Immediate

SUPPORT FOR SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT

Prime Minister Brian Mulroney today announced, at the United Nations "Earth Summit" in Rio de Janeiro, several concrete projects to promote sustainable use of forests in developing countries.

Encouraged by the domestic support in Canada for the model forests concept, Canada will provide \$10 million to assist in establishing similar model forest projects in three developing countries in order to demonstrate first-hand effective and sustainable forest management practices and standards. The funds will be provided from the International Partnership Program of the Green Plan.

The Canadian model forests will provide educational examples of how forests can and should be managed and help to build partnerships between different levels of government, industry and the community. The level of forest management achieved in a model forest will support the forest principles sought at UNCED.

The specific sites of ten model forests in Canada, covering almost 6 million hectares of land (which is, for example, twice the size of Belgium and larger than Switzerland) will be announced in the coming days.

Canada will contribute \$16.6 million to the Rain Forest Pilot Project initiated by the G-7 countries and Brazil. The project is designed to promote conservation of the Brazilian Amazon rain forest. The Canadian contribution has the following three elements: the creation of a \$10 million Amazon Environment Project in the State of Acre designed to help the rubber tappers of the Amazon rain forest develop effective and sustainable forest management practices and encourage a more diversified

economic base in the rain forest; an offer to convert \$4.6 million of Canadian official development assistance debt held by Brazil to fund other environmental projects in the Amazon; and a \$2 million grant to the project core fund.

Canada will spend \$8 million over the next five years to continue to support the work of the ASEAN Institute of Forest Management which has become a centre of excellence in tropical forest management. The Institute applies state-of-the-art methods in resource planning, monitoring and modelling to assist national forestry agencies to introduce sustainable forest management practices at pilot sites throughout Southeast Asia. The British Columbia Ministry of Forests will be the Canadian executing agent for this project.

The last two projects will be funded by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA). CIDA provided \$115 million for forest-related projects in 1991.



Release

Date: June 12, 1992

For release: Immediate

CANADA SUPPORTS INSTITUTIONS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Prime Minister Brian Mulroney today announced at the United Nations "Earth Summit" in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, a number of measures intended to contribute to the capacity of international institutions, including the United Nations, to support sustainable development in a practical and immediate way. This will contribute to a "quick start" on implementation of the results of the "Earth Summit".

In light of the welcome support given by the United Nations Conference on the Environment and Development (UNCED) to the creation of a Sustainable Development Commission at the United Nations, Canada will formally broaden the mandate of the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) to emphasize sustainable development issues. In order to build the international network of expertise and contacts necessary for achieving sustainable development, the Canadian Government will invite the Secretary General of the United Nations and other key organizations like the World Bank to propose appointments to the Board of Governors of the IDRC, thereby establishing a new partnership with the United Nations system.

The IDRC is a well-established international institute, created by the Government of Canada in 1970, with a proven track-record in supporting research in developing countries in a range of areas, including agriculture, fisheries, forestry, water management, engineering, health, education, economics and women in development. It will dedicate itself to building research and technological capacity in developing countries.

The Prime Minister noted that greater access by the international community to the direct hands-on expertise of the IDRC would help to ensure a quick start on implementation of the UNCED Agenda 21 program. The Canadian Government provides \$115 million per year to the IDRC and intends to maintain this contribution.

In addition, Canada will double its contribution to the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) to \$11 million over the next five years to help this important agency play an ever more effective role in promoting international environmental conventions and global environmental monitoring.

In response to a request from the United Nations Development Plan (UNDP), Canada will participate in a three-year UNDP pilot project to assist developing countries to prepare national sustainable development plans. Canada's Green Plan has been well received by United Nations agencies and suggested as a model for other countries. With the \$2 million contribution from the Green Plan to the \$8 million budget of this UNDP project, Canada will make available its expertise gained in developing the Green Plan.



Release

Date: June 12, 1992

For release: Immediate

Prime Minister Brian Mulroney today committed Canada, at the United Nations "Earth Summit" in Rio de Janeiro, to a funding framework for the follow-up to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED).

World leaders have agreed that the primary mechanism for financing international commitments arising from global environmental conventions will be the Global Environmental Facility (GEF). The GEF is managed jointly by the World Bank, United Nations Development Program and United Nations Environment Program and will end its pilot phase in 1993. Canada is providing \$25 million during the pilot phase of the GEF and will pay its fair share of new and additional funds needed to place the GEF on a permanent footing.

Canada will join other major donor countries in extending and increasing funding available to integrate environment and development in the world's poorest countries through the World Bank International Development Association (IDA). Canada's contribution to the current IDA fund is almost \$830 million. Canada intends to contribute its fair share to the tenth replenishment of the IDA.

Canada has also agreed to consider providing new and additional funds for participation in a special "Earth Increment" for IDA that would be devoted to urgently needed environmental projects in the world's poorest countries, in accordance with Agenda 21 priorities. Further discussions will take place this Fall.



Release

Date: June 12, 1992

For release: Immediate

CANADA TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE FOR VICTIMS OF DROUGHT IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

Prime Minister Brian Mulroney today announced at the United Nations "Earth Summit" in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil that Canada will provide a total of \$50 million in humanitarian assistance to the victims of the drought in southern Africa. Last month, Canada pledged an interim amount of \$30 million which the Prime Minister increased in response to a joint appeal from the United Nations and the Southern Africa Development Coordinating Conference (SADCC).

The Prime Minister noted that this \$50 million contribution demonstrates Canada's strong support for the people of the drought-stricken African nations.

This assistance will be provided in addition to CIDA's regular activities in southern Africa, which include projects aimed at providing food and water to the people of these countries.



Release

Date: June 12, 1992

For release: Immediate

DEBT CONVERSION

Prime Minister Brian Mulroney today proposed at the United Nations "Earth Summit" in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, a new initiative to convert as much as \$145 million of Official Development Assistance debt held by countries in Latin America into local currency funds to help finance environment and other sustainable development projects.

For those countries wishing to take advantage of this proposal, debt conversions will be negotiated and implemented on a case-by-case basis. They will be subject to specific conditions, related in particular to the promotion of human rights and democratic principles and adherence as well to larger economic policy and financial considerations.

Countries eligible for consideration under this initiative include Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala and Peru.

BACKGROUND
DEBT CONVERSION INITIATIVE
TO PROMOTE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The International Debt Problem

The origins of the international debt problem can be traced back to the mid-1970s when the combination of oil price shocks, high commodity prices and low real interest rates led many lenders and borrowing countries to take on excessive loan obligations. In the 1980s, it became evident that many countries in the developing world were experiencing difficulties as real interest rates rose, commodity prices fell and the world entered a recession. These factors, combined with inappropriate economic policies in developing countries themselves which encouraged capital flight and the use of borrowed funds for consumption rather than investment purposes, created crisis situations in some countries. In 1982, Mexico announced it was no longer in a position to make the payments on its foreign debt.

After ten years, during which debtors and creditors alike worked together to find ways to alleviate the debt burden of developing countries and return them to economic growth and international creditworthiness, the debt crisis has receded. Nonetheless debt problems remain, particularly for certain categories of indebted countries.

According to the World Bank, the total debt stock of developing countries at the end of 1991 was estimated at US \$ 1,281 billion, unchanged from the previous year. Debt indicators of severely indebted countries in particular (debt-GNP ratio, debt-export ratio and debt service-export ratio) have shown strong improvement from their peak of 1987.

However, underlying this overall picture are important differences between country groups. The debt burden of the low income countries (countries with a GNP per capita of US \$ 610 or less in 1990), mainly sub-Saharan African countries whose debts are owed primarily to official creditors, remains unsustainably high. Lower middle-income countries (GNP per capita between US \$ 610 and US \$ 2,465), a heterogeneous group of countries that have obligations to multilateral, official bilateral and commercial bank creditors, have made progress, although a few of them appear to need special consideration. Some upper middle-income countries (GNP per capita between US \$ 2,465 and US \$ 7,620), a group which constitutes the major debtors and represented the greatest risk to the international financial system, (Mexico, Venezuela and Uruguay) have completed debt reduction agreements with their commercial banks under the Brady Plan, and have now regained access to international capital markets. Countries like Argentina and Brazil are currently negotiating such agreements with their bank creditors.

Canada and the International Debt Strategy

Canada has played a leading role in helping to shape the international debt strategy. Canada's approach has been to distinguish between the debt problems of countries at different levels of development and to develop different mechanisms to address the problems of debt-distressed countries, especially the poorest of them.

In its response in November 1990 to the House of Commons Standing Committee on External Affairs and International Trade (SCEAIT) titled Securing our Global Security: Canada's Stake in the Unfinished Business of Third World Debt, the Canadian Government stated that the objective of the debt strategy is to assist debtor countries to implement appropriate policies so as to restore their economic health, achieve sustainable development, and bring about a return to international creditworthiness.

Three of the basic principles which have guided Canada's actions have been the case-by-case approach, since each country's problems are unique, the tailoring or calibration of debt relief to the demonstrated needs of eligible countries, and their implementation of strong economic programmes.

The highlights of the Canadian actions taken in the context of the debt strategy can be summarized as follows:

In 1978, Canada forgave the Official Development Assistance (ODA) debt, totalling CDN \$ 232 million, of 13 least developed countries as a follow-up to the Paris Conference on International Economic Cooperation.

In 1986, Canada announced that all future bilateral aid would be given on a grant basis only.

In 1987, as a complement to the 1978 initiative, Canada forgave the ODA loans of Togo and Mauritania and the debts incurred by Uganda, Tanzania and Kenya for the defunct East African Community, with the total of these measures reaching CDN \$ 68 million.

Also in 1987, Canada announced at the Francophonie and Commonwealth Summits the write-off of CDN \$ 672 million of ODA loans to 13 Commonwealth and Francophonie countries in sub-Saharan Africa.

In 1988, at the Toronto Economic Summit, Canada and its G-7 partners agreed to provide concessional debt rescheduling for low income countries. Following the Summit, Canada and the other members of the Paris Club of official creditors approved the "Toronto Terms" for these countries.

In 1990, at the Canada/Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting in Barbados, Canada announced its intention to forgive CDN \$ 182 million in ODA loans owed by 11 Commonwealth Caribbean countries.

Also in 1990, Canada, again as a member of the Paris Club, approved the "Houston Terms" or "Lower Middle-Income Countries (LMICs) Treatment" providing eligible countries in this category with longer repayment periods than regular reschedulings.

In 1991, Canada agreed with the other members of the Paris Club to grant Poland and Egypt a 50 % reduction (in net present value terms) of their official external debt in consideration of the special and exceptional circumstances facing these two countries.

In 1991, Canada was among the Paris Club members which approved the "Trinidad Terms" (or "Enhanced Toronto Terms") which offer eligible countries up to a 50 % reduction on debt service payments due during a certain period of time and the possibility of a reduction of the total stock of debt after 3 or 4 years of good performance.

Debt Conversion for Sustainable Development

The debt conversion initiative announced by Prime Minister Mulroney will allow the conversion of ODA debt in Latin America into local currency to finance environment and other sustainable development projects.

Countries eligible for consideration under this initiative include:

<u>Country</u>	<u>ODA Debt Outstanding (CDN \$ millions)</u>
Honduras	33
Costa Rica	23
Peru	23
Nicaragua	18
Colombia	18
El Salvador	9
Cuba	8
Brazil	5
Dominican Republic	4
Guatemala	4
<u>TOTAL</u>	145

All conversions are fully consistent with Canada's overall approach to the debt problems of debt-distressed countries and the multilaterally agreed debt strategy. In its response to the SCEAIT Report on third world debt, the Government had already indicated that it would consider, on a case-by-case basis, the financing of high-priority development projects for the benefit of children, the poor, the environment, etc, using the debt-conversion mechanism.

In addition to contributing to reduce the debt burden of the beneficiary countries, the initiative will enable them to devote more attention and resources to the protection and conservation of their environment and the financing of policy reforms needed for ensuring sustainable development.

The Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) has gained some experience in debt swap\conversion programs in Jamaica and Costa Rica, where it contributed funds to help these countries retire a portion of their commercial bank debt in exchange for the provision of local resources by the beneficiary government for the financing of mutually agreed sustainable development projects. CIDA is currently supporting the "Debt for Development Initiative" set up by the Canadian NGO Mennonite Economic Development Associates (MEDA) to promote the debt-for-development conversion mechanism among the Canadian NGO community.

Earlier ODA debt initiatives for the Least Developed Countries, sub-Saharan Africa and Commonwealth Caribbean countries have resulted in the forgiveness of CDN \$ 1.1 billion in development assistance loans owed to Canada.

PRESS RELEASE

Embargoed for 11 a.m., 12 June 1992

UNDP LAUNCHES NEW "CAPACITY 21" PROGRAMME TO SUPPORT
DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IN PREPARING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
POLICIES AND PROGRAMMES, IMPLEMENTING THEM; CANADA FIRST PARTNER

UNDP and Canada Commit \$8 Million for Pilot Programme,
Aim for More Donors, Total \$100 Million in Funds by Year's End

RIO DE JANEIRO, 12 June 1992 --- An initiative to support developing countries in the preparation of their sustainable development strategies and in carrying out Agenda 21 programmes was announced today by William H. Draper III, Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). He was joined by Jean Charest, Minister of Environment and Canada, representing UNDP's first donor partner in the Capacity 21 Initiative. Canada and UNDP have committed an initial \$8 million for pilot programmes. UNDP will try to expand the programme to \$100 million with more donor partners by year end.

"I am very pleased that Canada responded so quickly to a UNDP invitation to help make Agenda 21 work," Mr. Draper said. "Canada has its own Green Plan which has given them valuable experience in creating the policies and building expertise needed to achieve sustainable development," he added. UNDP is also talking with other countries about joining the initiative, including the Netherlands.

The Capacity 21 Initiative emerged from UNDP country assessments made in preparation for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development. The studies showed that the lack of national capacities to make environmental policy, set sustainable management strategies and implement them, would prove to be a major bottleneck in making sustainable development work.

Capacity 21 is intended to build on and support existing initiatives in building countries' sustainable development capacities, rather than duplicating them. It will help countries do the following:

- Formulate policies and legislation.
- Train people in the areas of environment and sustainable development.
- Build institutions which support sustainable development.
- Create machinery for public participation, information flows and technology exchange.

Capacity 21 will seek to make the best possible use of UN agencies, regional institutions and other partners, including non-governmental organizations.

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PROGRAM: EMISSION:	PRESS CONFERENCE CONFÉRENCE DE PRESSE	DATE: DATE:	JUNE 13, 1992 LE 13 JUIN 1992
NETWORK/STATION: RESEAU/STATION:	RIO DE JANEIRO	TIME: HEURE:	17:00

EARTH SUMMIT

BRIAN

MULRONEY:

I have a brief statement, and then the minister and I would be happy to try and take any questions you have.

UNSEAD(?) is a very important milestone. It has brought the leaders of big and small countries to Rio from every corner of the globe to focus on the environment and development, I suppose like they never have before. There are always many details to negotiate but the net result of this conference and the preparations for it is a fundamental change in attitudes and outlook.

Last week at the Museum of Civilization in Hull I set out Canada's position going into the Rio conference. On fishing Canada wanted agreement on a diplomatic conference that would produce rules to resolve the overfishing crisis on the high seas off Newfoundland and Labrador in Atlantic Canada. The preparatory conference will meet in St. John's in the fall. And so that very important objective was achieved.

Last week I wrote to the president of South Korea and today I met with his prime minister here at the summit, to tell him that the Atlantic fishery is in crisis and that if they continue to fish there will be no fish for us or for anybody else. And as you know we have obtained agreement, I talked to the president of...the prime minister of

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Portugal and the prime minister of Spain again today. As you know, we've made progress in respect of the European Community on that point.

On forests Canada wanted agreement on the set of principles that will lead to a binding international convention. We wanted to go further than some other governments but we did get a statement of principles that is less than we sought but constitutes a very useful start.

As you know, we've been advocating a five point agenda intended to get the follow-up process after Rio off to a good start. As a first step we urged others to adopt national plans as key building blocks for sustainable development. Yesterday we accepted the UNDP's invitation to share our Green Plan experience with other countries. Second, we urged UNSEAD participants to sign, ratify and implement the conventions on biodiversity and climate change. I signed both on behalf of Canada and we intend to ratify them by the end of the year, and then to implement them.

To encourage progress on the Rio agenda we urged that assistance be given by the richer countries for the poorer countries to implement the commitments of the Rio conference. For our part I announced a number of measures, including a \$145 million debt conversion initiative for Latin America. This decision followed action that we had previously taken in sub-Saharan Africa, in the Caribbean and elsewhere, to forgive debt in excess of a billion dollars.

En fait, ç'a commencé au Sommet de la Francophonie en 87, si je ne m'abuse, à Québec, alors qu'on a commencé, on a initié une procédure d'effacement de la dette africaine qu'on a poursuivie jusqu'à ce jour, et c'est un autre volet que nous avons annoncé ici à Rio. Nous avons également annoncé plusieurs autres programmes, allant des forêts modèles aux secours humanitaires d'urgence à une Afrique australe

durement touchée par la sécheresse.

Nous reconnaissons cependant que l'aide, bien qu'utile, ne pourra jamais toute seule résoudre ces problèmes. Ultiment, la solution viendra de réformes économiques et d'un système de commerce et d'investissement international libre. La dignité humaine et la protection de l'environnement découlent toutes deux d'économies qui peuvent générer des emplois durables.

Quatrièmement, dans mon discours au Musée des Civilisations, j'ai proposé que l'ONU et ses agences soient parties prenantes au processus. Je suis heureux que la Conférence ait convenu de créer aux Nations-Unies une commission pour le développement durable. Notre offre d'internationaliser le CRDI et d'en élargir le mandat de façon à promouvoir le suivi des questions examinées ici à Rio aidera l'ONU et les pays en développement à se doter des moyens voulus de s'acquitter des responsabilités générées ici à Rio par cette conférence.

Enfin, j'ai proposé que nous cherchions de nouveau à nous entendre sur une charte de la Terre d'ici 1995. Nos négociateurs ont joué un rôle-clé dans le succès que nous avons connu, et je les en félicite. Ils seraient, je pense, les premiers à admettre cependant que notre capacité d'agir sur les événements mondiaux dépend de notre action chez nous et de l'appui des Canadiens et des Canadiennes.

Nowhere was that support more evident than from the many dedicated Canadians who made Canada's presence felt so effectively in Rio, both at the conference itself and at the global forum. Everyone involved in transforming words on a page into cleaner air and into improved economic development knows that a lot more has to be done. And with the help of all of these Canadians, we will work until we get that job done, and that includes the NGOs who were here, the premiers

representing their governments, ministers like John Ciaccia whom I see here representing the government of Quebec, volunteers of various kinds, and of course the very able Canadian delegation of public servants headed by the minister of the environment, Jean Charest, and my sherpa, Arthur Campeau, both of whom did a tremendous job. And I congratulate all involved. I'd be happy to take any questions.

MODERATOR: McElroy, Daniel Black.

Q: Mr. Prime Minister, are you disappointed or pleased with the outcome of the conference overall?

MULRONEY: I'm pleased with the outcome of the conference. I think that having attended many conferences in almost eight years as prime minister, I've come to understand some of the criteria by which this should be judged. And in the case of the environment, I was telling Gro Brundtland today that she's really responsible for us all being in Rio. But nobody would have said that 20 years ago, or 10 years ago, or five years ago. It takes an event to galvanize international cooperation, to make everybody understand its importance, and to force people to apply themselves with the necessary discipline to acknowledge the existence of the problem and the general parameters of the solution.

And I, in the weeks that preceded this conference, I can tell you that I have rarely seen such an international focus by the media, by learned publications, television and so on, and by parliamentarians around the world on a single issue. And so I suppose that would be the singular achievement of the Rio conference, the fact that it has now moved to the top of the international agenda. We are

pleased with some of the conventions, for example, on biodiversity, and we're a little less pleased with some of the provisions of the convention on global warming. We're pleased with the action on the forests and we're less pleased with the lack of specificity in regard to some undertakings by some of the industrialized countries.

But you know, you don't get everything you want in this business and I suppose some people think that we could have done better. I can't imagine who, but some people would probably think so. And so that's the way it is. And I would have to say that my guess is that when they look back on this it will have been viewed, it will be viewed as a seminal event in respect of the protection of the environment.

Q: A quick follow-up on the Canadian agenda. In your speech in Ottawa you mentioned you wanted to make the next round of GATT the environmental round but you didn't mention that in your speech here in Rio. Has there been a change or are you still---

MULRONEY: No. Just time. They cut us down. I couldn't take my usual 75 minutes to make my point. They cut us down to seven or eight minutes, so I couldn't get everything in.

MODERATOR: Daniel Black(?), je pense, et après ça, Eve Savory, après ça, M. Thivierge.

Q: M. le Premier ministre, de l'avis général, le Canada et les ONG ont beaucoup coopéré, utilement coopéré tout au long du processus qui a mené jusqu'au sommet de Rio. Cela dit, ces mêmes ONG et formes globales déplorent aujourd'hui, à la veille de la clôture

du sommet, le caractère peu contraignant des instruments, conventions et déclarations adoptés à Rio. Certains parlent d'échec ou, en tous les cas, disent qu'on a peu progressé depuis Stockholm. Pour vous, Rio 92, c'est un succès ou un demi-succès?

MULRONEY: Eh bien, je vais vous rapporter ce que je viens tout juste d'entendre. M. Strong, Mme Bruntland et les autres, à l'occasion du déjeuner, parlaient d'un succès certain, et j'ai tendance à partager ce point de vue. Je viens de vous dire que...bien sûr, dans chaque document, il y a des lacunes. J'aurais préféré et M. Charest aurait souhaité qu'on ait davantage dans tel endroit et peut-être un petit peu moins dans d'autres, mais, grosso modo, je pense que de façon objective, tout le monde en viendra à la conclusion, si on est réaliste, que la conférence de Rio s'avère un succès certain.

MODERATOR: Eve Savory.

Q: Yes, I have two questions I'd like to ask you about (inaudible)...if I may. On first principles, Malaysia, which could not probably have been further away from the Canadian position, now professes itself to be pleased. Is it possible that such an agreement that could please Malaysia can also be of value to Canada? NGOs are saying it's simply an empty and meaningless document.

MULRONEY: Well, I suppose that, you know, it's like anything else, it's in the eye of the beholder. I would just quite frankly defer to the expert opinion that I've heard around the table today. I've just come from another meeting, and people whose opinions I

value around the world with regard to the environment say this thing is a remarkable success. They're quite astonished that so much progress has been made. Now you can, you know, you can nit-pick all you want and probably with some good reason. You can prove that a certain convention didn't go far enough and another one perhaps went too far. I mean, you've heard some people, some large countries say we went too far in certain areas, biodiversity for example.

But I think I would have to say that, you know, the fact that a country that was previously over here finds itself supporting Canada or Canada supporting someone else, merely means that the dynamics of the conference have worked. This is what it's all about. We don't come to this thing in the belief that we have the answers, or all the answers, and we're going to stick to our positions. Otherwise you would have had 178 different reports and 178 different conventions on biodiversity, and 178 different forestry conventions.

So, you know, you put some water in your wine and you get together and you say all right, I'm not happy with this but if you will accept Canada's view on this perhaps we can move it along this way. And that's the way life goes. And you would have to, you know, it's like the acid rain treaty that we negotiated with the United States. To evaluate its worth you would have to contemplate its absence. And if you contemplate its absence you'll readily appreciate its value. Yeah?

MODERATOR: Yes, Eve, you had a second question?

Q: ...just another second, thank you. On the Constitution, since you are cutting your journey short, can you tell us what the next step is likely to be? And are you reaching the point at

which you may in fact take unilateral action, simply federal action with a proposal?

MULRONEY: Well, I was surprised. When I got back this afternoon somebody said that there was a report to the effect that we were cutting our trip short because of the Constitution. I specifically stated this morning that I was not doing that. I indicated this morning that we had contemplated when we came here, going back tomorrow or the next day depending on the conference.

The conference is now winding down, it's pretty clear. You know, I think if I went back on Monday I'd be criticized for being alone here tomorrow. And so we just decided to go back. Tomorrow I'm going to stop in Venezuela on the way home to see President Perez and go back. Quite frankly the time that we will be using there is going to be dedicated to the visit of President Yeltsin next week. He's coming for two days and that requires a great deal of preparation. And so I'm going to take advantage of the day that we've gained to deal with that, the preparations for that visit, which is going to be quite a substantial visit.

With regard to the Constitution, I indicated this morning that I thought that Mr. Clark was doing a tremendous job. He had the seal of approval for the government of Canada. He doesn't have to come back to me or the cabinet for instructions every other day. He has our full confidence and I am impressed with the work that he and his colleagues from the provinces have done around the table. And they seem to be working hard and working well, and my hope is that in the informal conversations that they've undertaken over the weekend, they'll bring this matter to a successful conclusion. Now it was always agreed that our

regular Tuesday P&P meeting that Mr. Clark and Benoit Bouchard would brief us all on where they are and what their recommendations are. But I want to be as clear as I can, as I was this morning I thought, that...Pardon?

Q: (inaudible).

MULRONEY: No, I understand that not everybody was there, but we... I specifically said no. Those are exactly the reasons why we're going home and we're following that timetable.

MODERATOR: M. Thivierge, ensuite Mike et le monsieur dans la troisième rangée.

Q: M. le Premier ministre, j'aurais deux questions, si vous me le permettez. D'abord, sur le sommet de Rio, je pense que c'est vrai qu'on peut prendre pour acquis qu'il y a un succès ici à Rio dans la mesure où il y a une prise de conscience internationale sans précédent, une prise de conscience des chefs politiques, mais on a quand même vu que ç'a été une négociation politique très difficile, faite de compromis dont le Canada n'a pas toujours été satisfait - en particulier, je pense aux forêts.

Mais on a eu l'impression aussi que la négociation politique a été tellement difficile qu'elle n'a pas permis véritablement d'aboutir à des engagements. Et ma question, dans le fond, je vous demanderais un peu de réagir à ce que le Premier ministre du Pakistan qui, à titre de président du groupe des 77, ce matin disait sa déception face à Rio dans le sens que le sommet n'avait pas permis et qu'on avait

échoué dans le fait d'obtenir des engagements clairs ici à Rio. Comment vous réagissez?

MULRONEY: Eh bien, il faut comprendre la position du Premier ministre du Pakistan ou un autre pays en voie de développement. S'il est venu ici avec l'idée d'obtenir un engagement ferme quant à une contribution directe de la part des Sept ou des pays de l'OCDE, des pays du Nord, il serait, je pense, déçu. Mais ce n'était pas le but recherché à Rio. Ca n'a jamais été entendu que les pays du Nord ou les autres ou le Fonds monétaire international ou la Banque mondiale ou les autres, qu'on s'engagerait pour un montant X aujourd'hui.

Mais on se comprend en ce qui concerne les principes de base, en ce qui concerne les modalités, et tout le monde autour de la table réalise que dans peu de temps, nous allons examiner la fameuse question des montants, en vertu de quel instrument international et quels montants, et ça s'en vient.

Il y a la question de Idaten(?) qui s'en vient, replenishment, additional, thereto, toutes ces questions seront débattues, et je vous gagerais ma chemise que ça va commencer, même si ce n'est pas à l'agenda, ça va commencer au sommet de Munich dans deux semaines. Ce n'est pas sur l'agenda, et tout le monde dirait qu'on n'en parlera pas, mais on va en parler à Munich et, ensuite, à l'automne, aux Nations-Unies, à un moment donné, il y aura des ententes formelles de prises.

Alors, je comprends la déception du Premier ministre; je ne partage pas du tout, du tout, parce que les objectifs étaient très clairs...et selon des critères objectifs, il faut conclure, il faut absolument conclure que le sommet fut un succès.

Q: M. le Premier ministre, la deuxième question, encore un problème canadien, si vous le permettez. La lecture qu'on fait au Canada de la situation actuelle est à l'effet qu'il y a quand même une incapacité pour tous ceux qui sont mêlés à la négociation politique de sortir avec quelque chose de précis, une entente est difficile.

Et la lecture qui semble être faite par beaucoup de gens à travers les médias, à travers les tribunes téléphoniques, c'est que c'est peut-être le temps maintenant de dire, bon, on s'en va à un référendum, ça doit être la population qui doit trancher maintenant si on ne réussit pas par le biais de la négociation politique. Est-ce qu'on doit comprendre qu'on s'en va à un référendum maintenant?

MULRONEY: Ecoutez, la négociation constitutionnelle, c'est excessivement difficile, c'est un métier qui n'est pas facile. Comme Premier ministre, j'ai obtenu à deux occasions l'unanimité des premiers ministres, la première fois dans l'histoire du Canada que ça s'est passé, et malgré cette unanimité, la transaction ou l'entente n'a pas tenu faute d'un vote, l'absence d'un vote.

Alors, il faut constater que malgré les embûches et malgré les difficultés que M. Clark et ses collègues ont fait un travail énorme, et on est face à des réalisations, au pluriel, considérables. Est-ce que c'est assez pour les autres dirigeants politiques d'exercer la volonté politique pour dire, enfin, on est presque là, allons-y jusqu'au bout, ou est-ce que ça va prendre l'application de la loi référendaire? Je ne le sais pas, mais je suis encouragé par le progrès à date, et j'ai tendance à laisser les autorités qui sont là autour de la table le régler. Ce serait mon souhait.

MODERATOR: Mike?

Q: Prime Minister, the U.S. was considered by many to be isolated at this conference because of the positions it has taken on watering down the climate convention, not signing the biodiversity. I wonder if you can comment on the president's stance here. Do you consider that the U.S. has been a spoiler at this conference?

MULRONEY: Well, you have to, you know, governments speak for their own national interest and the national interests of the United States can only legitimately be articulated by the president of the United States. I suppose you'll find a lot of Americans who would disagree with his statement or his statements. But as I've indicated, you'd probably find some Canadians who disagree with my statements. Not many, but a few. And that's the way it is.

Q: Not me, sir.

MULRONEY: I know. He's just rising to another promotion, and believe me (inaudible)...strictly a question of good judgment...[laughter]...So I think a lot of environmentalists would have, probably in the United States, would have hoped for a different statement by the president. From his point of view he takes the decisions that he wants and he defends them and he articulates them, and then he's going to have to confront the voters on it, as we all do. So I wouldn't go beyond that, Mike.

Q: Can I ask a supplementary? What do you, yourself, think of the president's position here?

MULRONEY: My exposure to this, on this, is that we had a problem on the United States. What happens in the United States is their business. What happens in the United States when it affects Canada is our business. And our major problem with the United States was on the acid rain matter. And we fought and raised Cain until we got a deal, and we are satisfied with that. We have the best deal that could be secured and we're pleased with it. We have concluded other deals with the United States in respect of the protection of the environment. Now that attitude I liked and it's really the one that concerns me the most, because it has a direct and immediate impact on Canada. That same inspiration from the American side I would hope to see translated soon into the international actions, which is why I said for example, that no one should get too exercised whether they sign the convention yesterday is kind of academic, because they're going to sign it eventually. This is just a matter of summer following spring, you can be sure of that.

MODERATOR: Over here, the gentlemen, Bernard (inaudible)...

Q: Yes, George Haugh(?), CBC. At what point in these difficult constitutional talks do you have to go to an FMC, first ministers' conference? At what point will you decide that?

MULRONEY: I don't know. Quite frankly we'd have to be guided by the recommendations that Mr. Clark put forward. I mean, and he will come forward and give us the benefit of his views and say

lookit, here are the options, A, B and C. I recommend that you take a look at B and here's why. And one of them I suppose will be a first ministers' conference. But we're not there yet.

MODERATOR: Normand Plante.

Q: M. le Premier ministre, l'application des conventions au Canada, il va falloir financer ça. Est-ce que vous avez une idée de la façon dont on va financer les décisions qui ont été prises à Rio au Canada?

MULRONEY: Oui, nous allons prendre l'argent dans vos poches pour le faire. (Rires)

Q: (inaudible)...la TPS?

MULRONEY: La TPS sera imposée sur vos poches. On va le financer comme on finance toute notre activité, à même ton avoir. Maudite bonne question que vous avez posée. (Rires)

Q: (inaudible)...

MULRONEY: Pardon?

Q: Mais à quel moment vous pourrez...?

MULRONEY: Eh bien, avec l'acceptation au niveau international, il y aura, comme je l'ai mentionné, une espèce de

politique de suivi en ce qui concerne la mise en application de chacune des décisions, et les pays seront tenus de poser, par exemple, un geste à l'intérieur de tels délais impartis.

Et le gouvernement canadien, les experts du ministère vont nous dire, cette obligation qu'on est tenus à respecter avant 1994 va nous coûter X centaines de millions de dollars. Alors, le ministre des Finances...c'est M. Charest qui va me dire ça, alors moi, je vais dire à M. Mazankowski, how do you want to finance this? It's going to cost a couple of million dollars, it has to be done by the first of January 1994, alors comment va-t-on le faire? Et ce sera dans le budget. C'est comme ça qu'on va fonctionner. C'est une question de priorités.

Q: On another domestic issue, not the Constitution. As you're probably well aware, there are two Canadians in San Paulo jails, Christine Lamonte and David Spencer. Earlier this week the justice committee studying that case recommended that the Canadian government ask the Brazilian government to send them home. I'd like your comments on that. What's the possibility of Canada doing that? Are you going to take another look at it?

MULRONEY: Well, I had a meeting with President Collor and I raised this matter. And we'll just see what happens.

Q: Do you have any personal views on this at all, their situation, what the Canadian government might do?

MULRONEY: The Canadian government has already done something. I just told you what it was.

Q: Any idea how it might respond to this recommendation of the justice committee specifically?

MULRONEY: Well, we did respond. I raised it with the president of Brazil.

Q: Did he give you any input---

MULRONEY: I can't go beyond that, but when the committee took its decision the other day, 48 hours ago, I read it and raised it with the president of Brazil. And I don't want to presume upon any decision. We'll just have to see what takes place.

Q: Can I ask this, the case, the Brazilian authorities have said that if Canada asks for their return they will take that under consideration, will likely allow that. Did the president of Brazil indicate that to you?

MULRONEY: No, not at all. And in fact the statement appears to, that you have just repeated, I mean it's not your statement. You're repeating something we've all heard. It's inaccurate. We have received no such information from the government of Brazil. They view this very seriously and they have given no commitment to anybody that that would be their reaction.

MODERATOR: Jim (inaudible)...

Q: Mr. Prime Minister, you've had the opportunity at this meeting to see in action and meet a lot of your colleagues from around the world. And one observation I had in watching a number of speeches and watching a number of the delegations work here in the last two weeks, is that some countries seem much more engaged in the important issues that have been before us than others. In part I think, mistakenly or not, I attribute that to the political leadership. To what factors do you see differences, do you see among the countries as you worked here?

MULRONEY: Same as you do, Jim, for exactly the same reasons. I think that some governments read prepared speeches and view this as window dressing and others take it seriously. And you don't have to be around too long before you can figure out which is which. And it becomes pretty clear on both sides. I mean, the people who are knowledgeable and committed and concerned. You see it not only in the action of their national leadership but their opposition parties, provincial governments and NGOs, the kind of enthusiasm. You know, in politics you can do a lot of things. The only thing you can't contrive is enthusiasm. The old expression, you can bus them in but you can't make 'em smile. Well, the same thing applies to all areas of human endeavour, including an important matter like the environment. And I agree with you. I think your assessment is right on, bang on.

MODERATOR: André Noël.

Q: Le critique du Parti libéral en matière d'environnement, Paul Martin, a souligné hier que c'est bien beau

d'entériner des belles déclarations de principe comme sur le climat, même à l'agenda 21, mais qu'une façon bien concrète de lier l'environnement et le développement serait d'inclure les questions d'environnement dans les négociations sur le libre-échange avec le Mexique, d'autant plus que ces négociations-là pourraient se poursuivre avec le Chili et le Costa Rica par la suite. Et M. Martin souligne qu'en fait, le Canada refuse d'inclure les questions d'environnement dans ces négociations-là.

Pourquoi?

MULRONEY: Eh bien, André, nous sommes en train justement de négocier une entente commerciale avec le Mexique et les Etats-Unis. Il y a bien sûr des considérations de l'environnement là-dedans. Il faut d'abord et avant tout que le Mexique puisse bénéficier du marché nord-américain et d'une nouvelle prospérité avant de pouvoir traiter de ses propres problèmes d'environnement. C'est un pays pauvre, c'est un pays en voie de développement, et c'est par le biais du commerce mondial et international que le Mexique obtiendra les fonds voulus pour poser certains gestes nécessaires dans le domaine de l'environnement.

Alors, il ne faut pas se servir non plus de l'environnement comme une entrave à la libéralisation du commerce, parce que sans cela, les Mexicains sont dépourvus d'un moyen capital pour faire avancer justement l'intérêt de leur peuple pour ensuite s'attaquer aux problèmes de l'environnement. Alors, on essaie de travailler convenablement, en respectant les deux réalités.

Mais vous savez que c'est une conférence aujourd'hui sur l'environnement et le développement, et on parle surtout de pays en voie de développement, dont le Mexique. Si, au Mexique, il n'y a pas d'argent pour nourrir les enfants, il n'y en aura sûrement pas pour la protection

de l'environnement. Alors, la priorité, elle est économique, au Mexique et dans tous les pays en voie de développement, mais axée de plus en plus sur un respect pour l'environnement. Alors, nous essayons.

J'ai rencontré le président du Mexique ce matin; il y a longuement question de cela. On a essayé d'intégrer tout ça dans nos discussions, et je pense que vous allez constater un progrès assez marqué dans ce domaine-là.

MODERATOR: Oui, après ça, on va clore.

Q: Parce que, si je comprends, M. Mulroney, c'est que vous dites que le Mexique doit d'abord se développer et ensuite faire de l'environnement. C'est un petit peu ce que vous venez de me dire. Et je comprends un peu le point de vue de M. Martin: c'est que là, il y a un risque très concret que si les lois environnementales sont moins sévères au Mexique que les compagnies, par exemple, déménagent là-bas pour ces raisons-là, parce que ça va être moins cher, et éventuellement même fassent des pressions sur le gouvernement canadien pour que les lois au Canada soient moins sévères et qu'il y ait une espèce de nivellement vers le bas sur les questions environnementales et que, finalement, l'environnement soit perdant dans ce traité-là.

MULRONEY: André, c'est un argument qui ne tient pas debout, qui ne résiste pas à une analyse sérieuse. Prenons par exemple les coûts de la main d'oeuvre - ça, c'est un autre argument en ce qui concerne les pays en voie de développement. On dit oui, mais on ne peut pas investir, il ne faut pas signer une entente avec les Mexicains parce que les Mexicains, la main d'oeuvre coûte presque rien, et, donc, les

industries vont déménager au Mexique.

Si cet argument était valable, Haïti serait la capitale internationale du développement économique et du general manufacturing. S'il fallait trouver un endroit...en Europe, si l'argument était valable, l'Espagne et le Portugal serait le centre de l'Europe dans le domaine de la production des biens et des services, alors que, effectivement, c'est en France et en Allemagne.

Pourquoi? Parce que ce ne sont pas des variables que l'on puisse isoler. On ne peut pas dire, à cause de l'environnement, telle chose va se passer, à cause de l'économie, telle chose va se passer, à cause de... Non, c'est une intégration de tout ça, et c'est effectivement de quoi on parle ici à Rio. Et l'un des bienfaits de Rio, c'est de nous forcer tous, les pays du Nord et les pays du Sud, de prendre connaissance de toutes ces réalités.

C'est fragile. Ce n'est pas étanche. On ne peut pas dire, il faut que ce soit ainsi parce que le Canada l'affirme ou il faut que ce soit ainsi parce que le Zimbabwe l'affirme. Je vous donne un exemple. Il n'y a personne qui en a fait état, la sécheresse en Afrique australe aujourd'hui, pensez-vous que, par exemple, dans le nord du Zimbabwe et au Mozambique, pensez-vous que la population est préoccupée par les questions d'environnement aujourd'hui et le sommet de Rio? Ben non, ils sont en train de crever de faim, et ce qui les intéresse, c'est l'argent, le 50 millions que le Canada donne et, j'espère, un autre 50 millions et 100 millions pour nourrir ces enfants-là.

Alors, vous avez une bonne question, je ne veux pas minimiser l'argument de mon ami Martin. Ca, je dis ça au Brésil; lundi, je vais peut-être changer d'idée. Mais je ne veux pas minimiser son argument, mais je pense que c'est un argument qui a une certaine valeur,

mais pas une valeur limpide et pas un valeur qui doit nous forcer de mettre un terme à nos politiques commerciales. Parce que...ah, j'étais pour vous parler de politique domestique, je ne le ferai pas. C'est samedi soir, je ne vous parlerai pas du Parti libéral et de leur politique internationale de commerce.

Il y en a certains qui ne veulent pas le traité. Vous voyez ça à la Chambre des Communes, les Néo-Démocrates, par exemple, ne veulent pas un traité avec le Mexique, alors que nous, nous voulons ce traité parce qu'on dit why would you persist in asking us to give them aid? Why do you always insist that we give poor countries aid when what they need is access to our markets? Why do you want to make them second-class citizens by always having them on the dole? The way that you get them off the dole is you allow them to have access to free-trade agreements, to a powerful, dynamic, growing, rich market called Canada and the United States.

And by trading their way to prosperity, that makes them...Salinas does not want any cheques from Canada. He doesn't want aid, he wants to put his country in a position where they're prosperous so that they can give assistance to other countries. And so, one of the leaders, I think it was Mitterand, je pense que c'était Mitterand aujourd'hui qui a parlé du commerce international et le rôle du commerce international dans le règlement du problème de développement. Le Président Mitterand avait tout à fait raison.

On pourrait, par exemple, accepter aujourd'hui que le Canada demain versera 0,8 pour cent de notre produit national brut à l'aide au développement, et ça ne changera pas grand'chose. Mais si nous avons, par exemple, un règlement dans le GATT...les subventions agricoles qui entravent la libre circulation des biens et services dans le domaine

de l'agriculture coûtent 300 milliards de dollars. 300 milliards de dollars pour des subventions pour des pays riches qui font quoi?

C'est des barrières contre la venue des produits de base des pays en développement. Les pays les plus pauvres n'ont que des bananes, des tomates, le blé, etc. Ils ont besoin de l'accès à nos marchés. Mais si nous autres, chaque fois qu'on se vire de bord, on donne des subventions et des subventions, les pays en voie de développement ne peuvent pas rivaliser avec les produits canadiens et les produits américains et les produits français.

Et M. Mitterrand avait tout à fait raison lorsqu'il a parlé de l'importance du commerce international dans le règlement de la pauvreté internationale. Et c'est pour ça que même si j'aurais bien voulu le faire moi-même, je ne l'ai pas fait, mais j'ai signalé dans mon petit boniment l'importance de la phrase: et développement.

Environnement et développement.

Donc, le lien commerce-environnement aide aux pays en développement. Effacement de la dette, des possibilités d'investissement, la libre circulation des biens et services et, surtout, l'accès aux marchés des pays développés, je pense que ça fait partie des éléments qui vont ultimement donner raison aux pays qui sont pauvres. Ils demandent quoi aujourd'hui?

All we want to do is get the same break that you guys have. We want access to your markets and we want to get rich ourselves, or less poor ourselves. Et c'est ça, la réalité. Et, pour conclure, parce que je sais que le ministre...il y a un party tantôt, et tu sais, les gars de Sherbrooke, they really get crankly at about ten to six.

But I think that all of these, to say nothing of some people smiling in the back of the room, that what we have to do is try.

and be consistent and follow trade policies and investment policies and aid policies and environment policies. They make a package deal. And the principal beneficiaries are the poor countries that are seeking to better the lives of their citizens. And I think quite frankly that, while not being perfect, that Rio probably surpassed expectations.

I think that the organizers of this did a tremendous job, and I can tell you as prime minister of Canada, I am very, very proud of the minister for environment, the NGOs, the public servants from all agencies and all levels who worked so hard to make what I think is really a genuine success. And I congratulate the minister as I congratulated Mr. Campeau, and all of the people with whom they work, and I think they did Canada proud. Thank you very much.

MODERATOR: Thank you.

MULRONEY: I trust that this applause will be maintained at future press conferences in Ottawa. It's a Korean tradition that I kind of like.



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