

ROUGH TRANSLATION

FROM: Signor Bettino Craxi, President of the Italian Council
of Ministers.
TO: The Rt. Hon. Margaret Thatcher, MP
Date: Rome, 8th November, 1984.

PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. T1864/84

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Subject: ITALY
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"Dear Prime Minister,

You will recall that on the occasion of the summit of the major industrialized countries, held in London last June, I proposed to convene an international conference on the theme: "Technological innovation and creation of new jobs", offering to organize it in the course of 1985.

Comforted by the favour with which the proposal was met, I gave immediate instructions that a study be got under way, within the Italian Government, on the organization of the conference and on the analysis of the possible topics of discussion.

As for the organizational aspects, the Italian Government has thought it appropriate to favour the participation of all the members of OECD, as well as other international organizations more directly interested in the problem, among which OECD itself, the United Nations, the EEC and ILO. We believe that a wide comparison of the specific national experiences will foster a deeper understanding of the options available, to make the process of technological and industrial innovation compatible with the aim, shared by us all, to defend and promote employment levels in our countries.

We have already made arrangements for the conference to be held in Venice on 11 and 12 April, 1985. I myself will attend by delivering the introductory address. As for the agenda and the specific topics to be debated, we are planning to send to your Government the Italian Government's preliminary proposals at the earliest.

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We believe that the conference should be held at ministerial level. The members of the Italian Government who will take part, and contribute to its preparation, are the Minister for Employment, the Minister for Industry and the Minister for Scientific and Technological Research. We believe moreover that it would be helpful if the conference were attended also by representatives of the employers, trade unions and scientists in the form and in the terms to be agreed. The delegation representing your country can therefore include representatives of said categories.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs will naturally ensure the necessary links in order to facilitate the preparator stage of the conference, whilst my Office will attend to the co-ordination of the event.

I am confident that you will agree with me in recognizing the fundamental interest and particular importance of the topics to be debated at the conference, especially in the present phase of transition in our societies and economies.

In view of this we attach great importance to the contribution that your country will be able to give to the successful outcome of this initiative.

In the hope of receiving confirmation of your Government's participation in the conference, and notification of the members of the delegation who will be attending, I send you my warmest regards.

Signed: Bettino Craxi."