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10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

11 November 1986

*From the Private Secretary*

International Conference on Private Sector Initiatives

Thank you for your letter of 11 November. The Prime Minister will be most grateful to the Paymaster General for finding the time to attend this Conference on 26 November. I gather that there is a reasonable prospect that the Chief Secretary, Treasury and the Minister of State, DTI (Mr. Shaw) may also be able to attend on the earlier days.

I should be grateful if the DTI would take on the task of encouraging senior figures in industry to attend. They might say that the Prime Minister has expressed the hope that the United Kingdom will be well represented.

I am copying this letter to Mike Gilbertson (DTI), Alex Allan (HM Treasury), Jill Rutter (Chief Secretary's Office), Colin Budd (Foreign and Commonwealth Office) and Trevor Woolley (Cabinet Office).

CHARLES POWELL

Nick Baxter, Esq.,  
Department of Employment.



ceblg

Caxton House Tothill Street London SW1H 9NF

Telephone Direct Line 01-213..6460.....  
Switchboard 01-213 3000 GTN Code 213  
Facsimile 01-213 5465 Telex 915564

11 November 1986

C D Powell Esq  
Private Secretary to the  
Prime Minister  
10 Downing Street  
London  
SW1A 2AA

Dear Charles

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON PRIVATE SECTOR INITIATIVES

When I wrote to you on 7 November <sup>at Harp</sup> about Ministerial representation from this Department at the above conference, I promised to write again once the situation had become clearer.

I am pleased to say that the Paymaster General has indicated that he will make the necessary adjustments to his diary to enable him to attend for the final day of the conference on the 26th. We have telexed our Ambassador in the US to arrange for a formal invitation to be sent to him and to explain that Lord Young had not received his own invitation. Lord Young, whom we have contacted in China, has regretfully decided that his long-standing diary commitments do not permit his attendance at the conference.

We have also now received a personal letter to Lord Young from Sir Antony Acland (copied to you and others), in which he asks Lord Young to contact senior figures (such as David Nixon, the CBI Chairman) to encourage participation in the conference. Lord Young will clearly not be able to pursue this until his return from China on the 18th, by which time it might be too late to have the desired effect. Sir Antony also suggested, however, that a telephone call from No. 10 might do the trick. I wonder, therefore, if I could leave it with you and Ministerial colleagues to pursue this option if you think it worthwhile.

I am sending copies as before.

Yours sincerely  
Nick Baxter.

NICK BAXTER  
Private Secretary

ERON POL - Private Investment  
Overseas - 1/84



London House, 100, Whitechapel Road, London, E1 1RN  
Telephone: 0770 311111  
Telex: 251111 ERON POL

COMPANIES

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CF ~~Depc~~ (2)

Caxton House Tothill Street London SW1H 9NF

Telephone Direct Line 01-213 6460.....  
Switchboard 01-213 3000 GTN Code 213  
Facsimile 01-213 5465 Telex 915564

7 November 1986

C D Powell Esq  
Private Secretary to the  
Prime Minister  
10 Downing Street  
London  
SW1A 2AA

*Handwritten notes:*  
The Americans have  
very badly. But  
Employment Ministers  
are willing to  
rally round.  
I will press  
OTI  
CDP

Dear Mr Powell

**INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON PRIVATE SECTOR INITIATIVES**

I am replying to your letter of 6 November about the above conference in John Turner's absence on a visit to China with the Secretary of State.

We have checked our records and consulted widely with officials in the Department, and I can confirm that we did not receive an invitation for Lord Young to attend the Private Sector Initiatives conference. This is unfortunate, as I am sure that Lord Young would have wished to attend, if he had known about the conference. As you will appreciate, his diary for the dates in question is now very full and he has some commitments which it would be extremely difficult to break. In particular he will be hosting an important EC conference on training and new technology on 25 November.

We have made arrangements to telex Lord Young in China to inform him of the position and establish how he wishes to proceed. We understand that the Paymaster General might be able to attend for the final day of the conference on the 26th and his office is consulting him in Brussels over the weekend. I shall keep you informed of progress.

I am copying this letter to the recipients of yours.

Yours sincerely  
Nick Baxter  
(PRIVATE SECRETARY)

Private Direct Investment

Overseas; RECON. A.C.

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