

Ancram
MP

21st October 1981

Thank you for your letter of 20th October concerning the Mexico Summit.

The Government has welcomed the Brandt Report. It contains a great deal with which it agrees. The Government shares its concern for the difficulties facing developing countries and particularly accepts its important message that we live in one world and that we cannot hope to prosper irrespective of conditions in developing countries.

Your constituents may like to see the enclosed copy of the opening speech in the House of Commons Debate on the Brandt Report on 24th July.

This gives in some detail the Government's position on the Report and shows the extent to which we are contributing to a wide range of action designed to help developing countries. The Government certainly intends to play a full part in the forthcoming summit meetings in Cancun. It accepts that the problems of the world economy are such as to deserve consideration at the highest level and believes that the Mexico Summit can set relations between the developed and developing countries on a new and constructive course. Four needs have been identified for discussion: namely food, energy, trade and finance. All these are areas of vital concern to the developing world. The Government hopes that progress can be made. It is, of course, important not to exaggerate what a Summit of 22 countries can achieve in two days, but a meeting of minds amongst the participants would be an important step forward and provide an impetus for development in other fora.

The Government will do all that it can to contribute to a successful outcome.

Ian Gow
Parliamentary Private Secretary

Michael Ancram Esq MA LLB MP

From: Michael Ancram, M.A., LL.B., M.P.



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

20.10.81

Dear Ian,

Rather than bother your office with a vast amount of almost identical correspondence on the forthcoming Mexico Summit all asking for the P.M. to be informed of their views and wishing to know the nature of her reply, I thought I would drop you a line.

I understand the P.M. has kindly written a very good letter to a number of my colleagues (which I have seen) and wondered if I could receive one also to copy to my constituents. Their line is of course pressing for greater aid and specific commitments.

I hope this is not cutting corners but is in an effort to avoid loading you with too much paper.

Yours ever
Michael