

SPLADW

CHOGM

PRIME MINISTER'S INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

ON THE

WORLD POLITICAL SCENE

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### SYNOPSIS

1. Introduction. Despite sadness of Mrs. Gandhi's murder, there have been changes for the better in the world scene since last CHOGM, above all resumption of arms control talks. Reference to 20 years of imaginative work by Commonwealth Secretariat. Reference to increased stability in Commonwealth Caribbean.

2. International Security. Account of East/West contacts, your meetings with Gorbachev and prospects for US/Soviet Summit. Explanation of SDI. Need to strengthen non-proliferation Treaty.

3. World Economic Issues. Encouraging signs of continuing world growth, but problems of debt and famine remain despite courageous adjustment programmes adopted by many developing countries and successes in increasing food production. Industrialised countries main contribution for the future will be to sustain the recovery and resist protectionism, as well as maintain aid levels.

4. Regional issues. This needs to cover Arab-Israel, Lebanon, Iran-Iraq, Cyprus, Afghanistan and Cambodia.

5. South Africa. Your detestation of apartheid; our goals of promoting an early end to racial discrimination and a dialogue with representatives of the black community about their future role in the political process; the need for an early end to violence; the substantial measures which the UK has already taken; our refusal to sponsor economic disruption and breakdown; the need for the Commonwealth to play a positive role in promoting dialogue.