

Me SRW

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From the Principal Private Secretary

Les Rodrie, 6 June 1988

TORONTO SUMMIT: OTHER ISSUES

This is a sweep up letter reporting the outcome for the final Sherpa meeting on "Other issues".

Environment

The text in the latest draft of the Thematic paper was agreed with one or two changes, which should not cause us trouble. The Italian Sherpa circulated the note attached with a view to its inclusion in the Thematic paper and presumably in the Declaration. No one, including my Italian colleague, understood what it meant. It got dropped. De Mita may possibly raise it again.

The Thematic paper will include text on the lines of the material attached. It does not look to cause us difficulty. The French reserve to the proposed task force reflects their opposition to any institutionalising of the Summit. answer is, of course, that the task force is not an organ of the Summit, but a gathering of experts from the Summit countries.

I doubt whether the particular ideas on the US Treasury paper, circulated before the Sherpa meeting, will be discussed in any detail at the Summit; they are matters for the task force. Nevertheless, it would be helpful if the Summit brief dealt with the main lines of the US paper, and particularly any contentious issues.

Human Frontiers Science Programme:

Our language was gratefully accepted by the Japanese and will appear in the final version of the Thematic paper.

Bioethics

The text in the Thematic paper stands. In this connection, I am attaching a letter from my Italian colleague, ever flattering, about the fifth conference on Bio Ethics.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Geoffrey Littler (HM Treasury), Tom Richardson (Foreign and Commonwealth Office) and to Trevor Woolley (Cabinet Office).

(N. L. WICKS)

Rodric Braithwaite, Esq., C.M.G., Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

ENVIRONMENT

ITALIAN PROPOSAL

"The quality of life in metropolitan areas presents pressing problems common to all governments.

While the responsability for creating more livable conditions remains mostly with each single country and city government, international cooperation in the field of Technological Innovation for the Metropolitan Environment could certainly accelerate the process of urban renewal via the exchange of information on the scientific comprehension of existing problems, on successful experiences in coping with them and via joint industrial ventures in technologically innovative projects.

It is therefore suggested that a high level group of experts be set up with the specific task of examining existing cooperation in this field and of identifying areas where further strengthening is needed and/or where new initiatives could be effectively launched.

The group should be invited to report on these matters by 31 December 1988.

Italy has offered to host the Secretariat of such high level Group".