



THE ROYAL NORWEGIAN GOVERNMENT

THE PRIME MINISTER

PRIME MINISTER'S

PERSONAL MESSAGE

Oslo, 2 October 1984

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My dear Mrs. Thatcher,

In the talks between Chancellor Kohl and myself during his recent visit to Norway, considerable attention was devoted to the harmful effects of air pollution and the need for effective national measures to reduce the acidification of the environment. As a result of our deliberations we agreed on a "Joint declaration on the preservation of clean air", stressing the need for international solidarity in this field and the responsibility of all governments concerned for achieving prompt and concrete results. Enclosed please find a copy of this declaration.

I feel confident that your Government will participate in the efforts to implement the principles and obligations laid down in the United Nations Convention of 1979 on Long Range Transboundary Air Pollution, which later have been made more specific in the commitments decided upon by a majority of the contracting parties to the Convention.

I feel convinced that improved international cooperation in this field will contribute in a significant way to enhance the possibility of reversing the present dangerous development.

*Yours sincerely
Kari Willoch*

The Rt Hon Margaret Thatcher, FRS, MP
10 Downing Street
LONDON SW 1

Encl.

"Joint declaration on the preservation of clean air".

Both Heads of Government note with satisfaction that international efforts for the speedy reduction of air pollution in Europe have been given a substantial impetus through the international environment protection conference in Munich in June 1984.

They assume that the international clean air policy that was drawn up will be put into effect without delay within the framework of the UN-ECE Convention on long-range transboundary air pollution.

Both Heads of Government would draw attention to the fact that forests, watercourses, the soils, as well as irreplaceable artistic monuments are being damaged to an increasing extent. The great necessity of reducing air pollution through long-term preservation of the natural resources, calls for a determined and active effort on the part of all governments, both east and west, to give priority to this urgent task. They note that the preservation of clean air requires new technological innovations and re-adaptation, which will also provide stimuli for the national economy and the labour markets.

18 of the states parties to the Geneva Clean Air Convention have declared themselves to be committed or ready to reduce the annual emissions of sulphur dioxide and the transboundary fluxes by at least 30 percent by 1993 at the latest.

Both in Norway and in the Federal Republic of Germany as well as in other countries, action has been taken for more extensive reductions of air pollution.

International solidarity requires that, because of the transboundary fluxes of air pollution, all states

must, through effective national measures, do their share to contribute to the speediest possible reduction of the total pollution load. Not only does this apply to permanent installations, but also to other mobile sources of pollution.

Both Heads of Government expect that further international talks will be held on the subject to reach a comprehensive consensus on the present efforts to stop the dangerous development and thereby achieve lasting protection against the damaging effects of air pollution.

The Governments of Norway and the Federal Republic of Germany will, in close cooperation with each other and with other governments, adopt further measures and efforts to reach this goal.

Oslo, 6 September 1984

Kåre Willoch

Helmut Kohl