

CONFIDENTIAL



10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

ALV
cc Sir PC
TG

From the Private Secretary

8 November 1988

CHLOROFLUOROCARBONS
PROPOSED INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

The Prime Minister has seen the Environment Secretary's minute of 7 November setting out the details of the proposal to hold an International Ministerial Conference next March in the United Kingdom on chlorofluorocarbons and other chemicals which affect the ozone layer.

The Prime Minister agrees that we should go ahead with an announcement of this Conference. She would be content for the Environment Secretary himself to make the announcement in whatever form he judged best. She would of course be prepared to play a role in the Conference, possibly by delivering the opening address. I suggest that you speak to the No. 10 Diary Secretary about possible dates in March which the Prime Minister could manage.

I am sending copies of this letter to the Private Secretaries to the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary and the Trade and Industry Secretary and to Sir Robin Butler.

CHARLES POWELL

Roger Bright Esq
Department of the Environment

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PRIME MINISTER

INITIATIVE ON THE ENVIRONMENT

I attach Mr. Ridley's minute fleshing out his proposal for a British initiative on the environment. He proposes an International Ministerial Conference next March on chlorofluorocarbons and other chemicals which affect the ozone layer. He envisages inviting all UN member states and the main international organisations. He recommends an early announcement, in order to pre-empt French and possible Japanese initiatives.

The questions are:

- do you agree with the proposed initiative?

- are you prepared to play a role in it, presumably the opening address?

Yes

- are you content for us to agree dates in March, compatible with your diary?

Yes

- do you wish to announce the initiative yourself? Or would you prefer Mr. Ridley to do so?

→ Yes

- if you would like to do it, should we put in in the Lord Mayor's Banquet speech?

No

CDP

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C.D. POWELL

7 November 1988