

FIRE DA

10 DOWNING STREET LONDON SWIA 2AA

From the Private Secretary

4 January 1989

Thank you for your letter of 30 December about the Ozone Layer Conference on 7 March. I have discussed this with the Prime Minister who now agrees that we should invite President Moi to deliver the opening address. She also agrees that we should invite Mrs. Brundtland to the opening ceremony. I should be grateful if you could put action in hand on both points as soon as possible.

I am copying this letter to Stephen Wall (Foreign and Commonwealth Office) and to Sir Robin Butler.

(C.D. POWELL)

Roger Bright, Esq., Department of the Environment.

cega o Agree to with Revieller 2 MARSHAM STREET Noi to deliver to LONDON SW1P 3EB 01-276 3000 My ref: thin or us Your ref: C D Powell Esq 10 Downing Street London 30 December 1988 SWI Thank you for your letter of 20 December about our Ozone Layer

Conference on 7 March.

I have consulted my Secretary of State on the Prime Minister's question about inviting a Head of Government from a tropical forest country. Mr Ridley has asked me to reply that his recommendation of President Moi was taken after very careful scrutiny of Third World alternatives, but was in the end virtually self-selecting. Other well known Heads of Government (such as Mr Ghandi) were ruled out because their countries have not signed up to either the parent Vienna Convention or to the Montreal Protocol. Others were disregarded for political reasons (Israel, Argentina) or insignificance (Burkina Faso). We are also concerned to ensure that the conference concentrates on the ozone layer rather than on climate change: to introduce the separate topic of tropical rain forests would probably divert the conference from the single theme of phasing out CFCs. Mr Ridley hopes therefore that the Prime Minister will agree to an approach being made to President Moi who will, we believe, prove a powerful attraction for African delegations particularly if, as we hope, Kenya will have ratified the Montreal Protocol before March.

Mr Ridley has also commented that as the Conference will be linking protection of the ozone layer with the concept of sustainable development, we should also consider inviting Mrs Brundtland to the opening ceremony. He believes that we might be criticised for not offering her the opportunity to make a supportive statement. I should be grateful if you could let us know whether the Prime Minister would be in favour of an approach to Mrs Brundtland.

I am copying this letter to Stephen Wall in Sir Geoffrey Howe's office and to Sir Robin Butler.

Private Secretary

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