



PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

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My ref:

Your ref:

C D Powell Esq  
Private Secretary to  
The Prime Minister  
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*This deals with the*

*suggestion from  
David Hart's friend - Mr. MacDonald -  
that there should be a  
separate session on  
global warming. I think  
it really is too late.*

1 February 1989

*But you will see that*

*Dear Charles, I think you should include  
Mr. MacDonald in some  
of the associated events*

#### CONFERENCE ON THE OZONE LAYER

Thank you for your letter of 25 January which I have discussed with the Secretary of State.

Now that we have circulated the outline programme for the Conference (copy attached) to over 150 countries and recruited most of our speakers, the Secretary of State believes it would be awkward to add a separate session on global warming. He has made it clear to Parliament and to the public at large that the emphasis will be - as the Conference title demonstrates - on saving the ozone layer. Nevertheless, there will be a continuous underlying theme that international action towards a CFC-free world will not only help protect the ozone layer but also take a first step in reducing the impact of CFCs as greenhouse gases. The speakers in the opening science session will cover this dual threat of CFCs and halons, and a Malaysian scientist will emphasise the Third World aspects. The dual theme will be carried forward in the World Industry session especially as Sonny Ramphal will be in the chair.

These points are covered in more detail in the enclosed background note prepared for 3 SLD questions to the Prime Minister this week.

The UK has in fact been congratulated in international gatherings for singling out the one aspect of the two global issues which can be solved reasonably swiftly. In addition, the papers for the Conference, the video we are producing, the scientific surgeries, and the DOE, DEN and ODA exhibition stands will make the ozone layer/climate change links very clear.

Apart from our invited speakers, participation will be strictly limited to Government delegations (with a maximum of 3 or 4 people on account of space limitation). We have however decided to sponsor

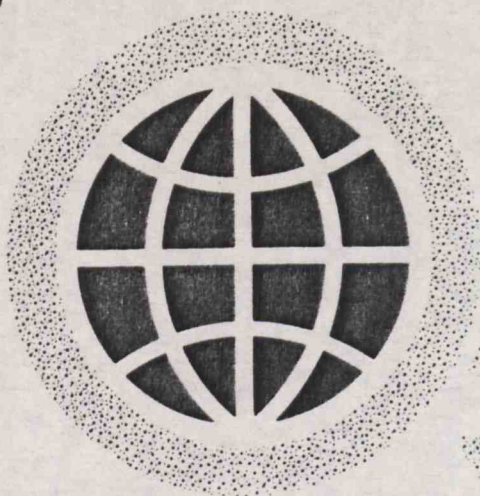


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a separate "Citizens' Symposium" which will be run by NGOs, under the auspices of the UK Committee for UNEP. The findings of this symposium will be presented to our Conference. We have passed the name of Dr Gordon MacDonald to the NGO organisers with the recommendation that they consider involving him in their event. There is already perhaps too strong an anglophone emphasis among the speakers with 3 out of 5 of the scientists and a similar proportion of industrialists coming from the UK or USA.

Yours,  
Deborah.

DEBORAH LAMB  
Private Secretary



**SAVING THE  
OZONE LAYER  
L O N D O N  
CONFERENCE**

**5 - 7 MARCH 1989**

**OUTLINE PROGRAMME**

**JANUARY 1989**  
**CONFERENCE SECRETARIAT**  
**DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT**



"SAVING THE OZONE LAYER" LONDON CONFERENCE  
QUEEN ELIZABETH II CONFERENCE CENTRE

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SUNDAY 5 MARCH

Morning

Opening Ceremony with Keynote Speech

SESSION 1: "SETTING THE SCENE"

- the history of CFCs and halons;
- ozone layer science: the history;  
the current state of knowledge;  
the dangers to human and other life.

Lunch

Afternoon

Ministerial Discussions/Statements (an opportunity for delegates to comment on the issues addressed during the Conference or to make brief statements).

SESSION 2: "THE RESPONSE OF WORLD INDUSTRY"

- existing alternatives;
- new alternatives;
- conservation and recycling;
- the customer's point of view;
- developing country aspects.

Ministerial Discussions (continued).

MONDAY 6 MARCH

Morning

SESSION 3: "SHARED AWARENESS"

- the implications of the Montreal Protocol process for signatories and non-signatories. The particular needs of developing countries and how to tackle them.

Ministerial Discussions (continued).

Lunch

Afternoon

Ministerial Discussions (continued).

SESSION 4: "OUR COMMON PURPOSE"

Synthesis of previous Sessions and Discussions. The Way Ahead.

TUESDAY 7 MARCH

Morning

Adoption of Final Message

Closing Ceremony.

Press Conference.

END

## CONSULTATION QUESTIONS

- ★†120 Mr Ronnie Fearn (Southport): To ask the Prime Minister, if she has any plans to convene an international conference on global environmental issues.
- ★†201 Mr Geraint Howells (Ceredigion and Pembroke North): To ask the Prime Minister, if she has any plans to convene an international conference on global environmental issues.
- ★†243 Mrs Ray Michie (Argyll and Bute): To ask the Prime Minister, if she has any plans to convene an international conference on global environmental issues.

\* the questions above are to be grouped and will therefore receive the same answer



CONSULTATION QUESTION NO. 11/88/89

(To take in also Questions 15 and 18)

DRAFT ANSWER

In March my rt. hon Friend and I are convening an international Conference in London to address the major global issue of saving the ozone layer. I shall play an active part in the proceedings. [HRH Prince of Wales will speak at a dinner for Heads of Delegations hosted by my rt. hon. Friend.] President Moi of Kenya, a developing country that has already ratified the Montreal Protocol, will give the keynote speech at the opening ceremony. I shall deliver the closing address immediately after a speech by Dr Tolba, Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), under whose auspices the Montreal Protocol was successfully developed.

Over 60 countries from all regions of the world have already indicated that they will be sending Ministerial delegations, and more acceptances are coming in daily.

The House is aware that the Government is calling for worldwide emissions of chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) to be reduced by at least 85% by the turn of the century. The Conference will present world governments, whether or not they have signed up to the Montreal Protocol, with firm evidence that further global action must be taken to prevent further damage to the ozone layer. It will also enable world industry to show how this can be achieved.

We aim to send a clear political message from London to Helsinki, where the parties to the Protocol will meet for the first time in May to begin the review of existing measures. It is my hope that we can persuade more countries to sign the Protocol so that truly global agreement can be reached on much stronger measures at the second meeting of the Parties which we will be hosting, on behalf of UNEP, in 1990. With its underlying theme of sustainable development, our Conference will make it clear that such action will not only protect the ozone layer but also, since CFCs and halons are greenhouse gases, represent a first and major step in tackling the closely linked issue of global warming.



Question by Mr Ronnie Fearn: To ask the Prime Minister if she has any plans to convene an international conference on global environmental issues.

Background Note

1. The Questions by Mr Fearn, and identical ones by Mr Geraint Howells and Mrs Ray Mitchie presumably reflect the latest SLD interest in green matters. Although our Conference is primarily about the ozone layer, there will be constant reminders in all sessions to the role of CFCs and halons as greenhouse gases, and to the need for world governments to work together to achieve sustainable development.
2. Most OECD countries have indicated that they will be represented at Ministerial or equivalent level, with only Japan of the major economies not yet firmly committed. Important Third World countries like Brazil, Indonesia, Malaysia, Kenya will send Ministers. China will be represented but we do not yet know at what level. Of our main target countries India and South Korea have not yet responded. It is hoped that the announcement of President Moi's involvement, details of the Prime Minister's own participation, and when we have clearance the Prince of Wales' speech, will quickly convince the waverers that this is an occasion they cannot afford to miss.
3. The draft outline programme is attached. For the science session, "Setting the Scene", we have invited a distinguished Soviet scientist to take the chair, with speakers from Britain (BAS), France, USA and Malaysia. Sonny Ramphal will chair the industry session, in which speakers will include the Chairman of ICI, Chairman or Vice Chairman of DuPont, Sir John/Lord Sainsbury, and the President (Swedish) of the International Chamber of Commerce. Dr Salim (Indonesian Minister and a Brundtland Commissioner) will chair the 3rd, mainly political, session where speakers will be Ministers from Finland, Canada, Mexico and just possibly China. The final session will take reports from the 3 session chairmen, which will be drawn together by the Conference Rapporteur, Dr Martin Holdgate, now Director General of the International Union for Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) in Geneva.
4. With Dr Holdgate's help we will draft a Chairman's Message for Mr Ridley to send to the Helsinki meeting of the Montreal Protocol. If the delegates wish this to be a Conference Message, so much the better.

5. We have given an undertaking to UNEP's Dr Tolba that our Conference is primarily about increasing political awareness - a recruitment drive for the Montreal Protocol - and that it will not attempt to pre-empt or anticipate the detailed review of the Protocol by laying down reduction targets or timetables although speakers will no doubt outline their own preferred solutions.
6. Formal international agreement on stricter global measures will not be reached until 1990, and before that the UK will have to continue to play a leading role in Europe to ensure that the Community continues to work as a team. Much hard negotiation remains to be done; will an 85% reduction in CFC emissions be enough; what to do about halons; timetables; should other ozone depleting chemicals be included; how to help developing countries; and so on.
7. Although Belgium is still trying to persuade Tolba that the 1990 meeting of the Protocol parties should be held in Brussels, he has made it clear that he has accepted the UK offer to host the meeting in London. He would agree to Brussels only if the UK withdrew. We have made it clear through diplomatic channels that we have no intention of withdrawing.

EPINT

30 January 1989