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FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF CONCLUSIONS AGREED AT ENVIRONMENT COUNCIL ON 2 MARCH 1989.

1. THE COUNCIL STRESSES ITS CONCERN REGARDING THE PRESENT SITUATION OF THE OZONE LAYER, WHICH IS CONTINUING TO DETERIORATE ACCORDING TO THE LATEST STUDIES AVAILABLE.

2. THE COUNCIL WOULD RECALL THAT ON 14 OCTOBER 1988, IT ADOPTED A RESOLUTION ON THE LIMITATION OF CFCS.

3. THE COUNCIL NOTES THE COMMISSION'S CONCLUSIONS ON CFCS CONTAINED IN ITS COMMUNICATION TO THE COUNCIL ON 'THE GREENHOUSE EFFECT AND THE COMMUNITY' COMPRISING A COMMISSION WORK PROGRAMME TO ASSESS THE VARIOUS OPTIONS FOR DEALING WITH THE 'GREENHOUSE EFFECT'. (1).

4. THE COUNCIL ALSO NOTES THAT IN THE CONTEXT OF THE MONTREAL PROTOCOL THERE WILL BE SEVERAL MEETINGS DURING THE COMING MONTHS WITH THE AIM OF DRAWING UP GUIDELINES FOR RAPID REVISION OF THAT PROTOCOL.

5. THIS SITUATION SHOWS THE NEED, BOTH WITHIN THE COMMUNITY AND AT GLOBAL LEVEL, FOR A REDUCTION OF AT LEAST 85 PERCENT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE IN THE CURRENT LEVEL OF PRODUCTION AND USE OF THE CFCS COVERED BY THE MONTREAL PROTOCOL WITH A VIEW TO THEIR BEING ELIMINATED TOWARDS THE END OF THE CENTURY, AND FOR THE SAID PROTOCOL TO BE STRENGTHENED ACCORDINGLY.

6. THE COUNCIL NOTES THAT THE MEMBER STATES UNDERTAKE TO TAKE ALL MEASURES NECESSARY FOR A RAPID SPREAD OF SUBSTITUTE PRODUCTS, EQUIPMENT OR PROCESSES WHICH DO NOT INVOLVE DANGERS FOR MAN AND THE

ENVIRONMENT.

7. LASTLY, THE COUNCIL CALLS ON THE COMMISSION TO SUBMIT URGENTLY A PROPOSAL FOR A NEGOTIATING BRIEF FOR THE REVISION OF THE MONTREAL PROTOCOL.

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ENVIRONMENT COUNCIL: 2 MARCH
CHLOROFLUOROCARBONS

SUMMARY

1. PRESIDENCY TABLED DRAFT CONCLUSIONS CALLING FOR AT LEAST 85 PERCENT REDUCTIONS IN PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION OF CFCs BY THE END OF THE CENTURY. UK SUPPORTED PRESIDENCY TEXT. STRONG PRESSURE FROM GERMANY, FRANCE, GREECE, IRELAND AND NETHERLANDS FOR MORE SWEEPING REDUCTIONS OR PREFERABLY TOTAL ELIMINATION BY THE END OF THE CENTURY OR EARLIER. PRESIDENCY TOUR DE TABLE, AFTER PROLONGED DISCUSSION, INDICATED THAT BALANCE HAD SHIFTED SHARPLY IN FAVOUR OF TOTAL ELIMINATION BY THE END OF THE CENTURY. UK JOINED CONSENSUS BUT FINAL AGREEMENT DELAYED FOLLOWING SECOND THOUGHTS BY BELGIUM, NETHERLANDS AND GERMANY. TEXT IN MIFT FINALLY CONCLUDED.

DETAIL

2. SAENZ (PRESIDENCY) INTRODUCED DRAFT CONCLUSIONS CALLING FOR 85 PERCENT REDUCTIONS BY THE END OF THE CENTURY. SMET (BELGIUM) AND LORD CAITHNESS (UK) SUPPORTED. NIJPELS (NETHERLANDS) SAID HIS GOVERNMENT HAD OPTED FOR A TOTAL BAN BY 1996. HE WISHED TO SEE THE TEXT STRENGTHENED ACCORDINGLY AT LEAST TO 95 PERCENT BY 1995. SAENZ STRESSED THAT THE TEXT SET 85 PERCENT AS A MINIMUM. LALONDE (FRANCE) UNDERLINED THE IMPORTANCE OF SECURING GLOBAL REDUCTIONS, NOT JUST RESTRAINT BY COMMUNITY COUNTRIES. HIS PREFERENCE WAS FOR TOTAL ELIMINATION. TOPFER (FRG) ARGUED STRONGLY FOR REDUCTIONS OF AT LEAST 95 PERCENT. GERMANY, AS A MAJOR PRODUCER OF CFCs IN THE COMMUNITY, WAS READY TO MAKE THIS CLEAR COMMITMENT. DYBKJAER (DENMARK) PREFERRED TOTAL ELIMINATION. FLYNN (IRELAND) AGREED AND SAID THAT THE COMMUNITY SHOULD SHOW A CLEAR LEAD.

3. IN SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSION RIPA (COMMISSION) ARGUED THAT THE TEXT ALREADY PROVIDED FOR ENCOURAGING THIRD COUNTRIES TO REDUCE EMISSIONS TO MEET LALONDE'S CONCERN AND REQUIRED THE COMMISSION TO PREPARE A MANDATE FOR RENEGOTIATION OF THE MONTREAL PROTOCOL WHICH COULD LEAD TO EVEN TOUGHER MEASURES. VALENTE (PORTUGAL) WANTED A