100 bw Lite.C, ANNEX I 100% DRAFT SPEAKING NOTE PRESS CONFERENCE

This conference has exceeded all my expectations.

The attendance of 118 countries has been a truly magnificent response to a serious global problem - the depletion of the ozone layer.

So is the announcement by 20 countries

to sign the Montreal Protocol and

by another 11 to seriously consider

doing so. This conference has thus

increased the number of Parties to

the Protocol by 50%.

also

This conference has thus:

- greatly increased the awareness of
the need to preserve the ozone
layer across the five continents;

and most important

generated positive action in defence of this vital protection of man's environment. I have got the clearest possible

impression from moving among the

delegates how much they have

appreciated the UK Government's

action in calling the conference.

As I have indicated in my speech the action does not end here.

We want to encourage many more countries to sign the Protocol.

We must harness the scientific resources of the world to the effective solution of this problem.

We must enable the Third World steadily

to advance its standard of living

while at the same time improving

rather than damaging the

environment. As I have said, we in

the UK will give greater emphasis

to environmental needs in

allocating aid.

We must work through established institutions like the UNEP.

The next step is the Second World

Climate conference next year.

The Inter-governmental Panel on

Climate Change, inaugurated last

year by the UNEP and the World

Meteorological Organisation is

preparing a report for that

conference.

We in the UK are playing a leading role
in the Inter-governmental Panel,
chairing one of the three working
groups and participating in the
other two, one as a core member.

We are aiming for further international action next year in line with soundly based recommendations from the IPCC.

My aim is to keep up the momentum.

My impression from this conference is

that that is exactly what the many
countries represented want to see.

Any Questions?

## BRIEFING FOR PRESS CONFERENCE - 7 MARCH 1989

- Q. When would it be sensible to buy a new refrigerators?
- A. European manufacturers of domestic refrigerators and freezer have agreed to reduce the CFC content of appliances by 45% by the end of this year. New chemicals to replace the CFCs used as refrigerants and in the foam insulation should be available early in the 1990s, subject to toxicology testing.
- Q. What do you think about the European Commissioner's suggestion that we phase out CFCs by 1996?
- A. We want to see the end of CFCs as quickly as possible. I will be absolutely delighted if we can do this earlier than the end of the century. We have heard from industry what they are doing to achieve a full range of alternatives.
- Q Should the EC ban trade in CFCs with countries who have not signed the Protocol?
- A. The Protocol Parties have already decided to ban imports of CFCs from non- signatories by the end of this year.
  - Exports of CFCs to countries who have not signed will leave less available for use within Europe. We don't want to encourage them to build new CFC factories.
- Q. What about trade in products made with CFCs?
- A. The Protocol already has provision to control this trade if necessary, but we very much hope that it won't be.
- Q. What is the latest number of signatories to the Protocol?
- A. A number of countries have announced during the Conference that they will join the Protocol. This increases the number of Parties by \_\_over 50\_7 per cent. \_\_See attached list - which may need updating\_\_7. Other delegations have said that they will recommend signature to their governments.



CONFERENCE SEGRETARIAT DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT ROOM AG 11 RONNEY HOUSE 43 MAISHAM STREET LONDON SWIP JAY

DIRECTLINE ENQUIRIES TELEFAX TELEX

(+44.1) 276 (+44.1) 276 d516 (+44.1) 276 d581 22221 DOEMARG

Countries announcing they will become Protocal Parties: (as at 1500 hours 6 March)

Austria

Hungary

Malaysia

Philippines

Zanbia

Trinidad & Tobago

Iceland

Poland

Gambia

Turkey

Ghana

Tongo

Chile

Brazil

Ethiopia

Senegal

Nepal

Tunisia

18

## SUBSTITUTES FOR CFCS IN REFRIGERATION

## Line to take

 A substitute for the most dangerous CFCs (HCFC 22) is already available for use in many commercial refrigeration and air conditioning applications.

Its effect on the ozone layer is only one twentieth of the damage done by the controlled CFCs, and we are encouraging its use where possible until fully ozone friendly substitutes are available.

2. Domestic refrigerators still need to use the old CFCs, but a new chemical, HFC 134a, which does not damage the ozone layer at all, should be available in the next few years, once it is fully tested for any toxic side-effects.

/cont..

- 2 -

## Background

The different requirements of domestic and commercial refrigeration and air conditioning mean that different chemicals have to be used as refrigerants. At present, domestic refrigeration uses CFC12, one of the substances covered by the Montreal Protocol. ICI and Du Pont have both announced plans to produce by 1991 HFC 134a, which will be fully ozone-benign, but which has yet to complete toxicological testing.

In most commercial applications, HCFC 22 can be used, and is being used increasingly. It causes only 5% of the ozone depletion of CFC12, and we have supported its use as an interim measure, pending the development of an ozone-benign substitute. It may be possible to use HCFC 22 in very large domestic refrigerators and freezers.