



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

15 May 1989

efk
(2)
Prime Minister

CD 1575

Dear Charles

British Environmental Initiatives

- afflat!
Following your letter of 3 May, conveying the Prime Minister's agreement to the idea of a framework Convention on Climate Change, Sir Crispin Tickell launched the proposal, together with some ideas on strengthening existing institutions, in a speech to ECOSOC in New York on 8 May. The speech had good coverage both in the British and New York press. You will have seen the New York Times editorial, which I sent you last week, drawing pointed comparisons between the activity of HMG and the US Administration. The Environment Secretary gave further publicity to the idea of a press conference on 11 May. From a publicity point of view, we have taken the spotlight away from the meeting in Paris last week to follow up the The Hague Conference.

The next step is to produce our ideas on what such a convention should contain. FCO and DOE Legal Advisers and officials are now working on a text, which we propose to discuss first with the US and Canadian Governments. We would then seek support from countries that participated somewhat reluctantly in the Rocard process, such as Australia and Japan. We shall also explore what scope there is for cooperation with the Russians. Meanwhile, Lord Caithness and the UK Delegation to this week's meeting of the Government Council of UNEP in Nairobi will be able to promote our ideas with other delegations - these ideas will also include some of the thoughts about strengthening institutions which Sir Crispin floated in his speech.

We are also considering how to present our proposals at the Summit, CHOGM and at this autumn's UN General Assembly.

We will report further on international reactions as our programme proceeds.

/I am



I am copying this letter to the Private Secretaries
of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Secretaries of State
for the Environment, Energy, Trade and Industry and
Transport, and Sir Robin Butler.

Tansler

R N Peirce

(R N Peirce)
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq
10 Downing Street

Env. Affairs

and Rain & Pt 10

