



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

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David Andrew

with USF

Prime Minister's UNGA speech on the Environment

In his letter to you of 1 November Roger Bright enclosed a revised draft speech for the Prime Minister. We think the redraft is a significant improvement on earlier texts. Sir Crispin Tickell has seen it and you already have his drafting suggestions. In addition we suggest the following:

- (a) An opening paragraph along the following lines:

Mr President,

It gives me great pleasure to return to the podium of this Assembly. When I last spoke here four years ago, on the 40th anniversary of the United Nations, the message that I and others like me gave was one of encouragement to the Organisation to play the great role allotted to it. Of all the challenges faced by the world community in those four years, one has grown clearer than any other in both urgency and importance. I shall take the opportunity of addressing the General Assembly to speak on that subject alone.

At the end of the speech, the Prime Minister need say no more than "Thank you, Mr President".

- (b) Page 9, paragraph 3:

We suggest it would help broaden the justification for our view that everyone (and not just industrialised countries) is responsible for tackling climate change by inserting in line 5 a reference to other practices which have unwittingly contributed to it. We suggest "agricultural practices and in other ways" be inserted after "industrialisation".

/(c)



(c) Page 12, paragraph 1:

The current thinking, especially in the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, is that we should aim to have a Convention ready a year after negotiations begin. If this rather optimistic timetable is met, the Convention should be ready before 1992. To reflect this, we suggest lines 2 and 3 be amended to read "adoption at the latest by the time of the UN Conference on Environment and Development in 1992."

I am copying this letter together with comments from Sir C Tickell to Roger Bright (Department of the Environment) and to John Gieve (HM Treasury), Stephen Hadrill (Department of Energy), Roy Griffiths (Department of Transport), Neil Thornton (Department of Trade and Industry), Andy Lebrecht (MAFF) and Myles Wickstead (ODA).

Yours ever

R N Peirce

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