

## INTERNATIONAL LEGAL INSTRUMENTS AND MECHANISMS

### **SUMMARY**

This issue in the mind of many countries, including Canada, was a simple, straightforward issue of marginal importance. Negotiations based on the text prepared by the Secretariat prior to the PrepCom would have been simple.

However, the G-77 produced their own version of the document (L.30) and insisted that their document serve as the basis for negotiation. This useless procedural debate, added to the differences that emerged among developed countries on the issues of dispute settlement and the proposal for a convention, complicated and extended unduly the negotiations and made it difficult to arrive at an acceptable text.

Negotiations were carried out on the basis of a text, prepared by the vice-chair of the working group, which was a blend of the original Secretariat text, comments and additions proposed by delegations, and elements of the G-77 text. At the end of the fourth week of PrepCom IV, the negotiated text was left with many important brackets. Fortunately many of these got deleted by the small drafting group which met during the last week of the PrepCom.

The document agreed to during the Plenary session still contains some brackets, some of which may prove difficult to negotiate. Those refers to trade barriers; [compliance] in addition to implementation mechanisms; dispute [prevention] in addition to dispute settlement, technological assistance [on fair and equitable terms], the development of a "safety nuclear convention" and references to the role of the International Court of Justice for dispute settlement.

### **DOCUMENTATION**

A\CONF. 151\PC\WG.III\L.32 Adopted Agenda 21 chapter:  
International Legal Instruments and Mechanisms

A\CONF.151\PC\WGIII\CRP.4 Draft Proposal by the Chairman

### **CANADIAN OBJECTIVES**

- Continue to develop progressive standards in the field of Environment International Law.

- Agree with the establishment of a group of legal experts that would explore ways to improve the efficiency of existing legal instruments in the field of Environmental Law and identify areas where law could be further