

points of view have now come close to agreement on the new conception of the economic zone -- which is neither territorial sea nor high seas -- as the key to an accommodation between the interests of the coastal state, on the one hand, and the distant-water fishing states, on the other, while taking into account at the same time the interests of landlocked states and those "disadvantaged" states that are not able, because of their geographical location, to claim a 200-mile zone.

Canada's position has always been that the economic zone must be "exclusive" in that a coastal state must have complete management rights in the economic zone, coupled with the right to reserve to itself as much of the allowable catch as it has the capacity to take, including the right to take up to 100 per cent of the allowable catch of certain stocks. At the same time, the economic zone must be a "shared" resource zone, in the sense that the coastal state should allow other states to harvest stocks surplus to its needs under coastal-state control and regulation. We have insisted that such matters as conservation measures and the quotas allocated to foreign fishermen up to the "optimum" sustainable yield must be determined wholly by the coastal states. The advice of appropriate international organizations would be taken into account by the coastal state, but the decision-making would fall to the coastal state. We were among the first states to take this position in the Seabed Committee and the Law of the Sea Conference, and it is with considerable satisfaction that we now see the basis of agreement emerging on just these principles. We consider the position a reasonable one, and an equitable one.

The economic zone as it has emerged from this conference includes the fundamental coastal-state fisheries jurisdiction, which I have mentioned. It also includes, however, the equally important sovereign rights of the coastal state over the seabed out to 200 miles. This development is of great importance to coastal states that do not have a continental shelf that extends as far as 200 miles seaward. Indeed, the economic-zone conception has been criticized as favouring the coastal states at the expense of the international community. This allegation is sheer nonsense. Coastal states comprise the major part of the international community both in numbers and population. Something over 90 per cent of the people of the world live in coastal states. This is not to suggest, however, that we should ignore the needs of those states that will not benefit from the resource rights included in the economic-zone conception. This is a point to which I should like to return.

The economic zone also includes coastal-state jurisdiction for the purpose of preserving the marine environment. Canada has long sup-