

From the Canadian point of view, the revised single negotiating text articles on preservation of the marine environment still need further refinement. Canadian efforts have made a major contribution to bringing the text to its present form, and we will continue to provide leadership in further redrafting, not only to protect Canada's own marine environment but the oceans as a whole.

The articles in the revised text on marine scientific research provide, in our view, a large measure of protection to vital coastal state interests in the economic zone and on the continental shelf, while at the same time ensuring that important international interests in promoting and co-operating in research programmes are not impeded. While there will still undoubtedly be some further revisions and changes at the next session, I believe we have a good basis for an eventual compromise on this issue. Likewise, the articles on transfer of technology provide that states shall co-operate in providing the developing countries with the scientific and technological capability they need for the utilization and management of their marine resources and the protection of the marine environment. At the same time, the text recognizes that this co-operation must have proper regard for all legitimate interests, including the rights and duties of holders, suppliers and recipients of marine technology.

In my statement to the conference on April 12, 1976, I stated that Canada supported the inclusion of comprehensive dispute settlement procedures in the convention. I also stated that these provisions must be compatible with the rights and duties of states particularly within the economic zone; similarly I stated that these provisions must be based upon a reciprocity of interests of all states and should not simply stress dispute settlement on matters of interest to one group of states.

The new Part IV of the single negotiating text on the settlement of disputes appears unduly complicated and will require refinement and simplification. Since dispute settlement was discussed for the first time in the Plenary Session of the Conference in April of this year, it remains one of the outstanding issues upon which negotiation will begin at the next session of the Conference. The Canadian Delegation will, of course, be actively engaged in these negotiations.

Canada, therefore, has good reason to be pleased with the results of the Conference. Unfortunately, the Conference was not able to conclude its work. It is encouraging, however, that a further session will be held within a relatively short space of time in New York, beginning August 2 and extending until September 17.