

For example, Canada strongly believes that we cannot afford a "ten-year timeframe" to deal with the current problems affecting the living marine resources, as suggested in paragraph 19 of PC/42/Add.6.

Since we last met there have been several important international conferences and meetings which have a bearing on our work here today. Of particular note are the Halifax Intergovernmental Meeting on Land-based Sources of Marine Pollution in May and the July ACOPS International Conference on Land-based Sources of Marine Pollution in Brussels. Ocean environmental issues were also discussed at the UNEP Governing Council in May and at the G-7 Economic Summit in London in July.

As well a meeting of legal experts was convened recently in New York by the UN office for Ocean Affairs and Law of the Sea to discuss problems affecting the conservation of living marine resources and to develop effective management guidelines.

Many of us attended the Halifax meeting which was called for by the First PrepCom. As requested by the Second PrepCom, I am tabling the Halifax results here today in the form of the Meeting Statement, Conclusions and Recommendations, and Annexes on the four Working Group discussions. I would like to briefly outline its main conclusions and recommendations.

- First, land-based sources of marine pollution should be seen within the context of a broad, overall concern for the health of our oceans and seas.
- Second, we must adopt a comprehensive, sequential and coordinated approach based on action at the global, national, regional and local levels.
- Third, in developing ocean management strategies, there is a continuing need for scientific information, but deficiencies in scientific understanding should not limit our actions.
- Fourth, States should adopt, individually or jointly, and in accordance with their capabilities, precautionary measures to prevent, reduce and control pollution from land-based sources.
- Fifth, point-source pollution should be reduced and controlled at source rather than at the point of environmental release.
- Sixth, the reduction and control of non-point source pollutants requires broad changes in sewage and waste management, and practices in agriculture, mining, construction and transportation. Although not mentioned in