

However, the Law of the Sea does contain important precepts calling on the coastal state and states operating distant water fleets to cooperate toward the goal of conservation and responsible resource management of fish stocks that straddle the 200-mile zone. Canada will continue to seek to have that international legal framework under the Law of the Sea work through NAFO.

If the existing international framework cannot be made to work in spite of our best efforts, then Canada will be seeking to achieve acceptance by the international community of nations of a more clear and effective set of rules for this purpose.

That, while a longer term and by no means certain undertaking, is an important part of Ambassador Beesley's new responsibilities.

In conclusion, let me reiterate the two developments I have announced today:

- First, the appointment of Alan Beesley as Ambassador for Marine Conservation, with responsibility for co-ordinating Canada's efforts toward ending foreign overfishing.
- Second, Canada's public information campaign, which I will begin next week in London, to press the European Community to correct their conduct outside 200 miles which is irresponsible internationally and damaging to all nations that rely on the resource. It is also contrary to the EC's commitment to sustainable development.

For the Prime Minister, myself, Joe Clark, Tom Siddon and the Government of Canada, ending the threat of foreign overfishing is and will continue to be a national priority.