

is embodied in the principles of international conduct set out in the Convention. What is needed is international acceptance of the practical measures needed to make the U.N. Law of the Sea Convention work as it was intended to.

Canada took a prominent role along with the delegations of many of the countries represented at this meeting in support of the resolution on driftnet fishing adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in December, 1989. That resolution based its decision to call for a moratorium on high sea driftnetting by 1992 on certain principles. These included the duty of all members of the international community to cooperate globally and regionally in the conservation and management of living resources of the high seas, and the responsibility to cooperate with coastal states in where overexploitation of resources in zones adjacent to coastal states might have an adverse impact on stocks.

The eight leaders who met at the Houston Economic Summit agreed with the initiative of Canada's Prime Minister Brian Mulroney, to include in the final communique of the Summit a call for international co-operation in conservation of living marine resources, recognition of the importance of regional fisheries organizations and respect for conservation regimes. Significantly, this element of the final communique was included with other elements relating to the environment and sustainable development.

During a recent visit to Canada of Soviet Fisheries Minister Nikolai Kotlyar, a joint statement was signed by him and my colleague the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans, which iterated important principles respecting fisheries on the high seas and the duty of states to cooperate in ensuring that marine living resources are protected from over-exploitation. Earlier in Minister Kotlyar's visit, I had the pleasure of spending a day with him visiting fishing communities around St. John's.

Clearly there is a need to define in practical terms the specific international management regulations that should be adhered to in order to give effect to the conservation principles embodied in the Law of the Sea Convention as it relates to high seas fisheries. International co-operation in these matters will be assisted by having agreement on what is needed to achieve effective conservation and management of living resources of the high seas.

It is because of the combination of deep concern for the serious problems in high seas fisheries and optimism that these problems can be overcome through the proper application of the U.N. Law of the Sea Convention that the Government of Canada has sponsored this conference. By itself, the conference cannot provide solutions. You can, however,