

PAGE FOUR EEEU 2435 PROTECTED

AS DRAFTED BY THE UNCED SECT, WITH INPUT FROM INDIVIDUAL EXPERTS DRAWN FROM GOVTS AND UN AGENCIES, AGENDA 21 HAD 39 CHAPTERS AND OVER 400 PAGES OF TEXT. PRELIMINARY NEGOTIATIONS BY GOVTS HAD BEEN HELD DURING PREPCOM THREE ON LESS THAN HALF OF THE TEXT, AND EVEN THEN, PROGRESS WAS EXTREMELY LIMITED. FOR THREE OF THE KEY ISSUES - FINANCIAL RESOURCES, INSTITUTIONS AND THE EARTH CHARTER - THE UNCED SECT ELECTED NOT/NOT TO DRAFT A NEGOTIATING TEXT, LEAVING DELS TO PRODUCE THEIR OWN WHILE IN NEW YORK.

6. THE CANADIAN DELEGATION CAME PREPARED TO THIS PREPCOM WITH A COMPREHENSIVE NEGOTIATING MANDATE APPROVED BY CABINET ON ALL 39 ISSUES, BACKED UP BY DETAILED NEGOTIATING INSTRUCTIONS. NEVERTHELESS, OUR INITIAL APPROACH WAS TO SEEK A SIMPLIFICATION OF AGENDA 21, IN THE INTERESTS OF ENSURING A MANAGEABLE PROCESS. WHILE VIRTUALLY ALL OECD DELS SHARED THE SAME CONCERN, PREPCOM CHAIRMAN KOH DELIBERATELY DECIDED TO AVOID SCHEDULING ANY GENERAL DEBATE ON THE STRUCTURE AND IMPLEMENTATION OF AGENDA 21, WHICH WOULD HAVE OPENED UP FOR QUESTIONING THE SECRETARIATS APPROACH TO DRAFTING AGENDA 21. INSTEAD THE SECT ENSURED THAT THE PREPCOM STUCK TO A STRICT TIMETABLE, SCHEDULING EVERY DRAFT AGENDA 21 CHAPTER, FIRST FOR INFORMAL DEBATE, THEN REQUESTING WRITTEN COMMENTS FROM DELS, REDRAFTING EACH CHAPTER ACCORDINGLY, AND THEN SCHEDULING SMALL CONTACT GROUPS AMONG DELS THAT HAD SUBMITTED COMMENTS TO IRON OUT THE REDRAFTS. BY WEEK THREE, PREVIOUS CONSTRAINTS AGAINST HOLDING NIGHT SESSIONS, WEEK-END SESSIONS OR MORE THAN TWO MEETINGS AT A TIME WENT BY THE BOARDS. AT THE SAME TIME, THE QUOTE MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION UNQUOTE SECTIONS IN EACH CHAPTER OF AGENDA 21 WERE