

west coast, off the east coast, and in the Hudson Bay and Hudson Strait regions.

We of the Canadian delegation are equally concerned with the second general field of interest that I mentioned previously, the operational field, involving the manner in which exploration and exploitation operations are to be supervised and controlled. It is important to ensure that activities beyond the limits of national jurisdiction are carried out in accordance with adequate requirements in respect of safety, conservation, pollution, and the various other operational aspects. The items numbered 14 to 16 in the March 10 presentation by the distinguished representative of the United States, as well as item 19, would probably fall within this field. There is in item 14 a point of particular concern to my delegation, the prevention of pollution.

Pollution is a complex subject in itself and certainly one basic to the future wellbeing of all mankind. Already there has been too great a tendency to misuse that great heritage of mankind comprising the atmosphere, the land, and our inland water resources. We are now concerned with protecting our last frontier, our seas and oceans. Although it is clearly in the world's interest to facilitate the orderly development of what may be vast new areas of mineral resource potential beyond the limits of national jurisdiction, it is necessary at the same time to protect the vulnerable ocean environment from pollution by means of effective supervision and controls. We must be concerned with measures designed to prevent pollution from mineral resource activities not only as regards conservation of the living resources of the sea, the water itself must be protected from pollution. The ocean environment must be preserved in the interests of the multitude of people who use it and depend upon it.

There has been a tremendous advance in the field of offshore technology over recent years, due primarily to the impetus of offshore petroleum exploration. Already with recent developments in offshore drilling equipment it is possible to explore the potential of all reaches of the continental shelf. It is difficult to visualize at this point in time just what the future, even the relatively near future, will bring in the way of offshore developments. Competent supervision of offshore mineral resource operations is a complex and difficult field requiring highly specialized expertise, and on the scale that we are envisaging here this will be especially true.

Using the case of offshore oil drilling as an example, there are two primary concerns as regards the prevention of pollution: first, the drilling procedures and equipment; and secondly, the seaworthiness of the installations and vessels involved. These are also basic to ensuring the safety of personnel. With respect to the first item, drilling procedures and equipment, safety and pollution control involve a number of primary considerations with regard to each and every well, such as: design and implementation of effective casing and cementing programmes; adequate blowout prevention and related equipment; proper disposal of drilling and reservoir fluids. Each of these is in itself a complicated subject.