

DOCUMENTATION

A/CONF.151/PC/WG.I/L.47 and Corr.1 Adopted Agenda 21 chapter: Protection of the Atmosphere (replaces C/100/Add.14).

CANADIAN OBJECTIVES

The Canadian objectives were consistent with those proposed for previous sessions of the preparatory committee. Canada sought a refocusing of the protection of the atmosphere chapter so that it would emphasize the full range of factors contributing to atmospheric degradation, and the linkages among the atmospheric issues and with other environmental issues and with development issues. If this approach was not acceptable to the Preparatory Committee, Canada was then to encourage the adoption of those measures which are consistent with the Green Plan, the draft National Action Strategy on Global Warming, and other relevant federal policies. Modification was to be sought for those measures and targets which go beyond existing federal programmes and policies or those means of implementation which are inconsistent with positions taken by Canada in other international fora. Canada was to encourage the PrepCom to introduce a degree of flexibility into the proposed activities to allow nations to work towards implementation of agreed objectives (and activities) in a manner that is consistent with its particular environmental, social and economic circumstances. For those proposals which could not be modified in the above manners, Canada was to call for the deletion of the objectional proposal.

More specifically, Canada was to encourage maintenance, enhancement, and, where appropriate, introduction of proposals for the basis of action, objectives and activities within Agenda 21 which are consistent with the following principles:

1. An holistic approach to protection of the atmosphere which recognizes the need to also address the atmospheric issues in terms of the linkages among the atmospheric issues of climate change, transboundary air pollution, and stratospheric ozone depletion. This includes aspects of each of the atmospheric issues which are aggravated by proposed international responses to the other atmospheric, environmental and development issues and which represent an opportunity for complementary or synergistic response actions.