

To sum up, the Canadian delegation is neither discouraged about the state of our present preparedness for the Third Law of the Sea Conference nor pessimistic about the prospects for the Third Law of the Sea Conference. In these circumstances, we are fully prepared to support the holding of two further sessions of the Seabed Committee in the spring and summer of 1973, the convening of the organizational session of the Law of the Sea Conference in the fall of 1973 and the commencement of the substantive work of the Conference early in 1974. We are pleased also to express our appreciation to the Governments of Chile and Austria for their offers to host the Conference, and we fully endorse the convening of the first session of the Conference in Chile, to be followed, if necessary, by a further session either in Chile or in Austria.

May I conclude by expressing also our warmest congratulations to the Chairman of the Seabed Committee and to the respective Chairmen of the three sub-committees, all of whom have laboured hard to make our work a success? We, for our part, will continue to co-operate to the utmost in seeking new solutions to problems, both old and new, concerning the future Law of the Sea.

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