

PREPCOM GAINED MOMENTUM AS IT MOVED ALONG, AND DELEGATIONS SUCCEEDED IN NEGOTIATING EVERY ISSUE ON UNCED'S OVER-LOADED AGENDA. MANY DELS, INCLUDING OUR OWN, BELIEVED THAT AGENDA 21 AS DRAFTED WOULD BE UNNEGOTIABLE. INSTEAD, AGREEMENT WAS REACHED ON ABOUT 90 PERCENT OF THE FINAL TEXT, IN THE SAME LEVEL OF DETAIL AS IT WAS ORIGINALLY DRAFTED BY THE UNCED SECRETARIAT. THE CANADIAN DEL WAS CONCERNED THAT WE WOULD BE PRESSURED BY OTHERS TO MAKE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITMENTS BEYOND CURRENT CANADIAN POLICY AUTHORITIES. INSTEAD, WE FOUND THAT WE COULD CONCLUDE AGREEMENTS READILY WITHIN THE PARAMETERS OF OUR NEGOTIATING MANDATE. WE WERE ALSO CONCERNED THAT CANADA'S DOMESTIC ENVIRONMENTAL RECORD WOULD COME UNDER CLOSE CRITICISM FROM NGOS AND THE MEDIA IN NEW YORK. INSTEAD, THERE WAS NO/NO MEDIA COMMENT AND VIRTUALLY NO/NO NGO COMMENT ON THIS SCORE, AS BOTH GROUPS FOCUSED THEIR ENERGIES ON THE STANCE OF THE USA DELEGATION. IN THE MEANTIME, THE CDN DEL CONTINUED TO RECEIVE CREDIT FOR THE EXTENSIVE INVOLVEMENT OF NGOS, PROVINCES AND THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY, AND FOR OUR REGULAR BRIEFINGS FOR THE MEDIA.

2. THE PRINCIPAL RESULTS OF THE PREPCOM WERE THAT DELEGATIONS FINALIZED THE BULK OF AGENDA 21; PRODUCED A DRAFT TEXT FOR THE EARTH CHARTER - NOW CALLED THE RIO DECLARATION; AND DEVELOPED CREDIBLE OPTIONS FOR THE INSTITUTIONAL FOLLOW-UP OF UNCED. THE CANADIAN DEL ACHIEVED THE MAJORITY OF ITS OBJECTIVES ON THE SPECIFIC SECTORAL ISSUES; AND WE ACHIEVED A SIGNAL SUCCESS IN ISOLATING THE EC ON THE ISSUE OF OVER-FISHING AND BUILDING NEW ALLIANCES WITH OTHER COASTAL STATES FOR OUR POSITION. THE MOST DISAPPOINTING OUTCOME FOR CDN INTERESTS WAS THE MINIMAL PROGRESS