

change convention was coordinated with the ongoing work of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

The Ministerial Meeting on Atmospheric Pollution and Climatic Change was held in The Hague in April 1989 under the co-chairmanship of Canada and Malta. The Canadian delegation participated actively in the Steering Committee Meeting and was instrumental in setting up the important Noordwijk Declaration on Atmospheric and Climatic Change issued in November 1989.

The Canadian member of the International Law Commission (the official lawmaking body of the UN) worked successfully with other members of the Commission to press forward the development of international environmental law and the law of rivers. The Canadian Delegation to the United Nations General Assembly worked effectively with other delegations to obtain endorsement on these issues.

The Canadian delegation was active at the 15th Governing Council of the United Nations' Environment Program in May 1989 in Nairobi. The Governing Council made the decision to convene a UN Conference on Environment and Development, and agreed on an international definition of sustainable

development. This theme will be the main focus of the Conference. The 44th UN General Assembly agreed to convene the Conference in June 1992 in Brazil, with Maurice Strong, a Canadian, subsequently appointed to be Secretary-General of the Conference.

Marine Conservation

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Minister for International Trade and the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans jointly embarked on a diplomatic initiative to convince the European Community (EC) to comply with the quotas set for it by the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO) in international waters off the Canadian 200-mile limit.

On October 6, 1989, the government appointed J. Alan Beesley as Ambassador for Marine Conservation to coordinate efforts aimed at bringing an end to foreign overfishing in the Northwest Atlantic.

The government mounted a major public information campaign in Europe to support the Ministers' joint initiative and to bring the problem of overfishing in the NAFO area, and its consequences for Canadian fishing communities, to the attention of the public and the decision-makers in the European Community.