

Canada and the Federal Republic of Germany support the principle of sustainable development as set out in the Brundtland Report.

We join with other nations in our shared concern about issues such as the depletion of the ozone layer, the destruction of tropical rain forests and desertification. Overfishing in the Northwest Atlantic is a problem to add to this list.

Canada is seeking the support of Germany in persuading the EC to support and adhere to the decisions of NAFO, the international organization responsible for managing these resources.

The overfishing problem clearly illustrates the community of interests that exists today among all our trading partners. That community touches every aspect of our lives and every field of activity be it investment, trade, technology, labour or the environment.

We face common challenges and common opportunities.

To meet those common challenges, we need to use common sense.

The German philosopher, Hegel, once wrote that the only thing we have learned from history is that people never learn anything from history.

I think it is about time that Canadians, Germans and the rest of the world prove him wrong.

Thank you.