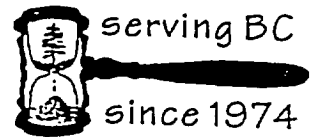


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June 19, 1998

Ms Jennifer Irish
Deputy Director
Foreign Affairs and International Trade
Environment Division
Lester B. Pearson Bldg. Tower B
125 Sussex Drive - Room B4 - 196
Ottawa, ON
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Dear Ms Irish:

**RE: Environmental NGO Representative on Eighth Session of SBSTA
and SBI; Sixth Session AG13**

The following is my report on the Eighth Session of SBSTA and SBI. I have given both comments on what happened in Bonn as well as my perspective on where Canada should go from here. I will begin with a summary of my perspective on various issues discussed at Bonn and follow that with more detail on some of the substantive technical issues.

Summary

The marked loss of momentum between Kyoto and the Eighth Session of SBSTA and SBI was disappointing. All negotiating blocs share some responsibility in this regard. To further progress it is essential for all parties to acknowledge and begin grappling with difficult issues. It should be recognized that rigid negotiating positions will prolong uncertainty – an outcome which is in no nation's interest.

- **Adequacy of Commitments.** The environmental community had hoped to see a recommendation coming from SBI that would lead to COP-4 being presented with information confirming the inadequacy of current commitments and lead to a process for considering the adequacy of commitments of all parties. Prior to Buenos Aires it is essential to explore ways of breaking the current impasse between Annex 1 Parties and G-77/China. Canada could for instance, explore the possibility of linking a review of