

ANOTHER IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION WAS ALREADY MADE BY MY COLLEAGUE, THE FINANCE MINISTER: THE OECD SHOULD CONSIDER INCLUDING IN EACH COUNTRY REVIEW, CARRIED OUT BY THE ECONOMIC AND DEVELOPMENT REVIEW COMMITTEE, AN ASSESSMENT AS TO WHETHER RESOURCES ARE BEING USED IN AN ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND MANNER.

ON TUESDAY, INTERNATIONAL ENERGY AGENCY (IEA) MINISTERS ENGAGED IN A LENGTHY DISCUSSION ON ENERGY AND THE ENVIRONMENT. CANADA PROPOSED THERE THAT THE IEA WORK CLOSELY WITH THE OECD ON THESE ISSUES AND, IN PARTICULAR, CONTRIBUTE TO THE WORK OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL PANEL ON CLIMATE CHANGE.

CLIMATE CHANGE IS PERHAPS THE MOST SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUE TODAY. AN INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE MUST BE ONE OF THE TOP PRIORITIES FOR THE WORLD COMMUNITY. WE WELCOME LAST WEEK'S DECISION OF THE UNEP GOVERNING COUNCIL TO BEGIN WORK ON SUCH A CONVENTION.

CANADA HAS FOUND THE OECD CHEMICAL PROGRAM USEFUL IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF NEW ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION LEGISLATION. THE OECD SHOULD TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS EXPERTISE AND SHARE INFORMATION ON AGRICULTURAL AND INDUSTRIAL CHEMICALS WITH DEVELOPING NATIONS IN AN EFFORT TO REDUCE THE GLOBAL SPREAD OF CHEMICALLY RELATED LAND AND WATER POLLUTION.