



Minister Environment Canada

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CANADA TO PHASE OUT CFCs

OTTAWA -- 20 February, 1989 -- The federal government has set as its national objective the complete elimination of controlled CFCs within the next 10 years, Environment Minister Lucien Bouchard announced today.

Mr. Bouchard also called on the rest of the world community to set as its common target a reduction of no less than 85% by no later than 1999.

The announcement was made on the opening day of a three-day International Meeting of Legal and Policy Experts on the Protection of the Atmosphere, being hosted by Canada under the auspices of the United Nations. The aim of the meeting is to advance the proposal to establish an International Law of the Atmosphere, as called for last June by Prime Minister Brian Mulroney. Delegates will seek agreement on legal principles for such an accord and develop recommendations for future action.

"I am tomorrow issuing draft national regulations to curb CFC use by more than 85%. The remaining fraction will be eliminated as soon as methods exist to safely replace these chemicals without severe social disruption and, in the case of medical and firefighting products, without endangering the lives of Canadians," Mr. Bouchard said.

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