[Editor's Note: See today's Votes and Proceedings.]

[English]

ENVIRONMENT

SIXTH REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

Hon. David MacDonald (Rosedale): Madam Speaker, I have the honour to present the sixth report of the Standing Committee on Environment, in both official languages, in relation to the appointment by the United Nations of Elizabeth Dowdeswell to the position of Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Program, UNEP. Elizabeth Dowdeswell is the third person and the second Canadian to hold this prestigious position, succeeding Dr. Mostafa D. Tolba from Egypt who in turn replaced the original director, Maurice Strong.

The challenges facing Ms. Dowdeswell are daunting. The problems facing humanity can no longer be categorized as simply environment or economical or only affecting a country or a single continent. The solutions are complex and transgress international borders and cultures, ultimately affecting every human being.

It is a tribute to Canada that of the three UNEP executive directors two have been Canadians.

Our committee has worked closely with Ms. Dowdeswell during the course of its series entitled "Our Changing Atmosphere" as well as in the activities leading up to and including the earth summit. Members have been impressed by her thoroughness, determination and judgment, qualities which will serve her well in her new position.

We therefore wish to congratulate Ms. Dowdeswell on her election to this most senior international position in the environmental field. We wish her, on behalf of all Canadians, courage and success in what might very well be the most challenging times facing our global environment.

Routine Proceedings

GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES RESTRAINT ACT, 1993 NO. 2

MEASURE TO ENACT

Hon. John McDermid (for Minister of Finance) moved for leave to introduce Bill C-113, an act to provide for government expenditure restraint.

Madam Deputy Speaker: Pursuant to Standing Order 68(2), the motion is deemed adopted.

Mr. McDermid (for Minister of Finance) moves that the bill be now read the first time and printed.

Pursuant to Standing Order 69(1), the motion is deemed adopted.

Bill read the first time and printed.

MEAT IMPORT ACT

MEASURE TO AMEND

Mr. Ken Hughes (Macleod) moved for leave to introduce Bill C-406, an act to amend the Meat Import Act.

Madam Deputy Speaker: Pursuant to Standing Order 68(2), the motion is deemed adopted.

Mr. Hughes: Madam Speaker, this bill proposes that Canada amend its Meat Import Act to increase our control over offshore imports and consequently defend our industry against possible U.S. trade sanctions.

I am introducing this bill after speaking with many beef producers who want the government to defend our industry against this potential threat. It is really a defensive measure. By doing so this bill recognizes that the Canadian and American beef market is becoming a single market. Harmonization of certain standards, procedures and import regimes will reduce the risk of trade conflict between our two nations and the industries of those two nations.

Madam Deputy Speaker: Mr. Hughes moves that the bill be now read the first time and printed.

Pursuant to Standing Order 69(1), the motion is deemed adopted.

Bill read the first time and printed.