

CANADIAN INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT
FOR DELIVERY AT TIME OF ADOPTION OF
PRINCIPLES FOR IEA ACTION ON COAL

Mr. Chairman,

Canada is pleased to associate itself with other Governing Board members in the adoption today of the Principles for IEA Action on Coal, and the Decision on Procedures for Review of IEA Countries' Coal Policies. At the last Governing Board meeting at Ministerial level in October, 1977, IEA participating countries adopted a series of Principles for Energy Policy. Principle No. 6 called for a strong coal utilization strategy and the active promotion of an expanded and reliable international trade in coal. At that time all IEA countries agreed that increased coal consumption, production and trade were essential in order to reduce the group's dependence on imported oil and thus contribute to a better world energy balance.

Events on the international energy scene since October 1977, and particularly global oil supply and price developments over the past several months, have made it even more imperative that IEA countries elaborate on the kinds of policies which will be required to bring about this enhancement of the importance of coal as an energy source. This dramatic reminder of the need for developing alternative energy sources make it particularly appropriate and timely for IEA countries to take this important collective decision on Principles for Action on Coal.