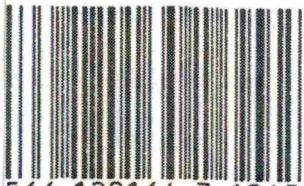


Conclusion

The next session of the Conference convenes in New York from May 23 to July 8, 1977. Between now and then, intensive inter-sessional discussions are expected particularly on deep seabed mining, the issue which has deadlocked the Conference. The President of the Conference has expressed a hope that the sixth session will produce an informal single composite text on the basis of which the Conference could attempt to prepare a draft convention.

In summary, given the magnitude and complexity of its mandate, the Conference has made substantial progress but, if it is not to founder, a further major effort will be required to overcome the differences which still exist on the few remaining contentious issues, particularly on the regime for the deep seabed. Canada remains firmly committed to the realization of a new constitution of the oceans and will play an active part in efforts to achieve that objective.



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