



news release

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CANADA CONTRIBUTES \$5 MILLION TO 1992 UN
CONFERENCE ON ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

-- 27 July 1990 -- The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Right Honourable Joe Clark and Environment Minister Robert R. de Cotret today announced that Canada will contribute \$5 million to preparations for the 1992 UN Conference on Environment and Development.

The Conference, scheduled for June, 1992 in Brazil, will provide an opportunity for 159 countries to reach an understanding on a number of environmental concerns that have become urgent global preoccupations. Among the main issues the Conference will address are climate change, the destruction of ecosystems and marine pollution. Participants will explore the way in which the environment is linked to poverty, debt, population growth and other development questions.

"The 1992 Conference must be successful in arriving at a new global bargain between industrialized and developing countries to ensure economic development becomes environmentally-sustainable," stated Mr. Clark. "The Conference will have to set an agenda for action that will take us well into the next century."

Mr. de Cotret said, "Our contribution to the preparation for the 1992 Conference is another indication that the Government is acting on pressing environmental issues. Internationally, we supported the establishment of a multilateral fund for the protection of the ozone layer at the recent London meeting on the Montreal Protocol. Domestically, we are moving rapidly forward with the Green Plan. And in preparing for this important 1992 Conference, we intend to involve a wide range of Canadian interest groups."

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Canada's contribution of \$5 million will be used to help fund the Conference international preparatory process, to assist NGOs by playing a role in the process, and to support various activities necessary to ensure that the Brazil Conference is a success. Canadian businessman and diplomat, Mr. Maurice Strong, has been named Secretary-General of the Conference and will head the international preparatory process.

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