

SESSION 97-07 OF COUNCIL
17 October 1997

SUMMARY RECORD

The Council, represented by the Alternate Representatives, met via teleconference on 17 October 1997 in Montreal, Canada. The agenda of the Session can be found as Annex "A". Mr. José Luis Samaniego (Mexico) chaired the meeting. Mr. Avrim Lazar and Mr. Bill Nitze represented Canada and the United States, respectively. Mr. Victor Lichtinger, Executive Director of the Secretariat, participated in the session, together with other officials.

Item 1 Opening of the session and adoption of the agenda

The Chair opened the session and, in accordance with Council Rules of Procedure (R. 9.6), the Alternate Representatives adopted the formal agenda for the session based on the provisional agenda.

Item 2 Special session of the Council

The Alternate Representatives reviewed the general program of the special session of the Council. The program will be finalized during the next teleconference call, at which time a number of factors will have been determined (i.e., availability of Minister Stewart, Administrator Browner and Mr. Maurice Strong on the evening of October 23). Mexico indicated that a draft discussion paper, to which the Council may refer for guidance during their discussion, will be faxed to the Parties and the Secretariat prior to the next teleconference of Alternate Representatives. Mexico offered to consolidate the comments from the Parties.

The Alternate Representatives also discussed the possible announcements that could be included in the communiqué of the session. They concurred that it should include the following topics: Mercury NARAP; the process for identifying candidate substances for regional action; a joint statement on Environment and Trade; and the public release of the Cozumel final factual record. The Secretariat will provide the GSC with a draft outline of the communiqué by October 21. Considering that the communiqué is issued in three languages, the Secretariat stressed the importance of having the Parties review a provisional version no later than October 23.

Item 3 Article 14 – Final factual record of the Cruise Ship Pier in Cozumel, Quintana Roo

Mexico expressed the possibility that it might vote in favor of making available to the public the final factual record of the Cruise Ship Pier in Cozumel, Quintana Roo, and advised that, at the same time, they would release to the public their own views on this subject.

Item 4 Other Business

The Parties agreed to urge their respective designees on the TEIA working group to come up with a common addendum to the Pittsburgh document —if one is necessary— by 21 October 1997, as initially agreed.

Item 5 Next teleconference

The Parties agreed to hold their next session via teleconference at 11:00 AM on October 20, 1997

The Chairperson closed the session at 1:00 PM.

Prepared by: Julie-Anne Bellefleur, Assistant to the Council Secretary
and Cristóbal Vignal, Coordinator, Global Strategies and Program Liaison

ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVES SESSION 97-07

AGENDA

Held via conference call on

Friday, 17 October 1997, from 12:00 AM to 1:00 PM (Eastern Time)

11:00 AM to 12:00 AM (Mexico Time)

CHAIR: J.L. Samaniego (Mexico)

- Item 1 Adoption of the agenda
- Item 2 Special Session of Council
- Item 3 Article 14 - Final factual record in relation to the Cruise Ship Pier in Cozumel, Quintana Roo
- Item 4 Other Business
- Item 5 Next teleconference