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COUNCIL OF NATURE CONSERVATION MINISTERS

EIGHTH MEETING

SYDNEY 23 APRIL 1979

COUNCIL OF NATURE CONSERVATION MINISTERSEIGHTH MEETINGSYDNEY 23 APRIL 1979MINISTERS AND OFFICIALS PRESENTNew South Wales:

Hon. D.P. Landa,
Minister for Planning
and Environment.
(Chairman).

Mr D.A. Johnstone.
Mr W.S. Steel.
Mr G.W. Reid.
Mr A. Hallett.

Mr K.C. O'Connell.
(Alternate Chairman).

Commonwealth:

Senator Hon. J.J. Webster,
Minister for Science and
the Environment.

Prof. J.D. Ovington.
Mr H.J. Higgs.
Dr R.W. Boden.

Australian Capital Territory:

Dr B.H. Pratt, representing
Hon. R.J. Ellicott,
Minister for the Capital
Territory.

Northern Territory:

Hon. P.A. Everingham,
Chief Minister and
Attorney-General.

Mr W.T. Hare.

Queensland:

Hon. T.G. Newbery,
Minister for Culture, National
Parks and Recreation.

Dr G.W. Saunders.
Dr H.J. Lavery.
Mr W.J. Chadwick.

Victoria:

Hon. W.A. Borthwick,
Minister for Conservation.

Mr J.D. Brookes.
Mr D.S. Saunders.

Tasmania:

Hon. A.B. Lohrey,
Minister for National Parks
and Wildlife.

Mr P. Murrell.

South Australia:

Dr J.R. Cornwall,
Minister designate for
Lands and the Environment.

Mr P.C. Cornish.
Mr N. Newland.
Ms S. Barker.

Western Australia:

Mr C.F. Jenkins, representing
Hon. R.J. O'Connor,
Minister for Fisheries and
Wildlife, Conservation and
the Environment.

Mr B.K. Bowen.

Papua New Guinea:

Hon. P. Kakarya,
Minister for Environment and
Conservation.

Mr S. Gorio.

New Zealand:

Mr N.S. Coad, representing
Hon. V.S. Young,
Minister for Lands, Forests and
the Environment.

Secretariat:

Mr R.E. Hogg,
Secretary to Council.

Mr D. McAllister.

AGENDA

1. Welcome and apologies.
2. Adoption of agenda.
3. Summary record of seventh meeting of Council.
4. Role and operation of Council and Standing Committee.
5. Marine parks and reserves.
6. Role of the Australian National Parks and Wildlife Service.
7. World Wildlife Fund.
8. International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources.
 - (a) Assistance for Chairman of Commission on Ecology.
 - (b) Development of criteria for selection and classification of protected areas.
 - (c) Role of nature conservation agencies in environmental education.
 - (d) Red data book of endangered Australian fauna.
 - (e) Establishment of Australian committee of IUCN members.
9. International matters.
10. Reports from Working Groups.
 - (a) Youth for Conservation Program.
 - (b) Technical Conference Program.
 - (c) Sub-professional Training.
 - (d) Law Enforcement.
 - (e) Remote Sensing.
 - (f) Endangered Fauna.
 - (g) Endangered Flora.

11. Kangaroo management.
12. Attendance of observers at Council meetings.
13. Annual statement of research projects.
14. National wetlands survey.
15. Cage standards for travelling circuses.
16. Importation of aquarium fishes.
17. Representation on Australian Forestry Council working group.
18. Submission by Institute of Foresters to Senate Standing Committee inquiry into forestry.
19. Other business.
 - (a) Australian involvement in whaling.
 - (b) Declaration of national parks and nature reserves.
20. Next meeting of Council.
21. Press statement.

Agenda Item 1 - Welcome and apologies

The Chairman, Mr Landa, opened the meeting at 9.30 am and welcomed all Ministers and their advisers, in particular Mr Kakarya from Papua New Guinea and Mr Coad from New Zealand who were attending as observers.

Mr Landa explained that he would have to be absent for part of the meeting and during that time Mr O'Connell would act as alternate Chairman.

The meeting was informed that apologies had been received from:

- Hon. R.J. Ellicott, who was being represented by Dr Pratt.
- Hon. R.J. O'Connor, who was being represented by Mr Jenkins.
- Hon. V.S. Young, who was being represented by Mr Coad.

Council noted that Mr Hogg was acting as Secretary in place of Mr R.E. Jordan.

Agenda Item 2 - Adoption of agenda

Council adopted the provisional agenda for the meeting without alteration.

Agenda Item 3 - Summary record of seventh meeting of Council

Council confirmed the revised summary record of its seventh meeting, incorporating several minor additions proposed by members, as an accurate account of the proceedings.

Council noted that in compliance with the agreed procedure the summary record, having been cleared by all Ministers who attended the seventh meeting, would be tabled in Federal Parliament in due course.

Agenda Item 4 - Role and operation of Council and Standing Committee

Council reviewed the statement on the objectives and future organisation and operation of CONCOM which had been redrafted by Standing Committee in accordance with the views expressed by Ministers at the previous meeting, and resolved that subject to the inclusion of several further amendments the statement was acceptable for adoption.

(RESOLUTION 108)

Council also reaffirmed the resolution from its January 1974 meeting that resolutions of Council and recommendations of Standing Committee would be reached by consensus.

(A copy of the agreed version of the statement on the role and operation of CONCOM is attached to this summary record).

Agenda Item 5 - Marine parks and reserves

Council reviewed in detail and amended where necessary the report on marine parks and reserves which had been prepared by Standing Committee in response to the decision by the Standing Committee of Attorneys-General to refer the whole question of marine parks and reserves to CONCOM for consideration and advice.

Following tentative agreement being reached on the respective roles of the Commonwealth and the States regarding the establishment and management of marine parks and reserves (other than in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park region), Council resolved to submit the revised report to the next meeting of the Standing Committee of Attorneys-General for consideration of the relevant legal implications.

(RESOLUTION 109)

Council also endorsed the recommendation contained in the report that formal liaison be established between CONCOM and the Australian Fisheries Council in relation to marine parks and reserves, and resolved to request advice from Standing Committee as to how this liaison might be achieved.

(RESOLUTION 110)

Agenda Item 6 - Role of the Australian National Parks and Wildlife Service

Council sought advice from the Commonwealth Minister regarding the role of the Australian National Parks and Wildlife Service following the resolution from its previous meeting that:

- (i) The ANPWS be required to conform to the role defined and agreed to by Council at its November 1976 meeting.
- (ii) The necessary amendments to the National Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act be encouraged.
- (iii) The ANPWS withdraw from all land holding activities and all parks at present under its control be returned to the appropriate State or Territory government.
- (iv) The ANPWS refrain from negotiations with Aboriginal peoples without the full knowledge, consent and involvement of the relevant State or Territory government.

Senator Webster responded by outlining the activities of the ANPWS and suggesting that any Minister who wished to propose amendments to the National Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act should correspond directly with him.

Agenda Item 7 - World Wildlife Fund

Council discussed the proposed operation of the World Wildlife Fund in Australia, noting advice from Standing Committee that:

- (i) Informal discussions had been held with Dr D.F. McMichael (who was a WWF Trustee, a member of the Executive Council and Chairman of the Conservation Program Committee) to ascertain his views on a proposal for co-operation between CONCOM and WWF, and he had agreed in principle to the need for such co-operation in examining projects seeking assistance from WWF.
- (ii) Three persons closely associated with CONCOM (Dr G.W. Saunders, Professor J.D. Ovington and Mr W.S. Steel) had been appointed to the Conservation Program Committee, the body responsible for recommending projects to the Board of Trustees for funding.
- (iii) WWF had been asked to ensure that all projects which it proposed to support were referred for comment to the responsible government agency in the State or Territory where the work was to be carried out, and confirmation had been received that this would be done as a matter of course.

In view of these developments, Council resolved to endorse the recommendation by Standing Committee that the operation of WWF and its interaction with government nature conservation agencies be monitored for a period of twelve months, and the situation be then reviewed in the light of experience gained during that time.

(RESOLUTION 111)

The Secretariat distributed copies of the WWF Australia conservation program for 1979/80 for the information of Ministers.

Agenda Item 8 - International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources

- (a) Assistance for Chairman of Commission on Ecology

Council noted that, in his capacity as current Chairman of the IUCN Commission on Ecology, Professor Ovington was expected to work on a voluntary basis and that he received no direct assistance from IUCN.

Council acknowledged that Australia had an obligation to support the work of the Commission, and accordingly resolved to endorse the recommendation by Standing Committee that the Commonwealth be requested to provide executive assistance for the Chairman and funds to cover the operating costs of his Australian office.

(RESOLUTION 112)

(b) Development of criteria for selection and classification of protected areas

Council noted difficulties which had arisen at both the national and international levels due to the range of nomenclature used by the States, the Territories and the Commonwealth to describe areas reserved for nature conservation purposes, and recognised that the introduction of uniform nomenclature for Australia as a whole would:

- (i) Facilitate the development of criteria for the selection and classification of protected areas.
- (ii) Facilitate the development of consistent management principles for protected areas.
- (iii) Assist government agencies to present a united and uniform approach regarding the objectives of nature conservation.
- (iv) Create better understanding between delegates attending interstate and international conferences and meetings.

Council therefore resolved to endorse the recommendation by Standing Committee that an ad hoc Working Group on Selection and Classification of Protected Areas be established, with terms of reference:

To report to Standing Committee by its first meeting in 1980 on:

- (i) Current nomenclature used for protected areas by member agencies in each State and Territory and the management principles applying to each category.
- (ii) Possible rationalisation of this nomenclature throughout Australia based on existing IUCN

terminology and the relevant criteria for the selection and classification of protected areas.

(RESOLUTION 113)

(c) Role of nature conservation agencies in environmental education

Council noted the proposal to establish a regional committee of the IUCN Commission on Education in Australia, and agreed upon the desirability of identifying the role of government nature conservation in relation to environmental education.

Council also noted that Standing Committee, having received a report from each member regarding the environmental education programs in which his agency was involved, was impressed with the range of activities related to environmental education currently being carried out in Australia.

Council therefore resolved to endorse the recommendation by Standing Committee that member agencies be encouraged by their governments to involve themselves in environmental education programs wherever possible.

(RESOLUTION 114)

(d) Red data book of endangered Australian fauna

Council noted that Standing Committee, following consideration of the report of the IUCN Survival Service Commission, had requested the ad hoc Working Group on Endangered Fauna to investigate the possibility of preparing a red data book of endangered Australian fauna in the format used by IUCN, similar to that covering rare and endangered species (both fauna and flora) in the USSR.

(e) Establishment of Australian committee of IUCN members

Council noted action being taken to establish a committee of all Australian Agency members of IUCN in order to promote a closer relationship between government and non-government nature conservation organisations.

Agenda Item 9 - International matters

Council noted the report summarising the current status of each existing or proposed international convention related to nature conservation.

Council also noted advice regarding the meeting to be held in Bonn in June to conclude the Convention on Migratory Species of Wild Animals, and in particular that:

- (i) The Australian delegation to the meeting would put forward the view that a federal clause should be included in the Convention.
- (ii) The question of State representation on the Australian delegation would be considered when details of the meeting had been finalised.

Agenda Item 10 - Reports from Working Groups

(a) Youth for Conservation Program

Council considered in detail the draft program, prepared at its request by the ad hoc Working Group on the Youth for Conservation Program, whereby State and Territory parks services would help relieve youth unemployment by engaging young persons for work on specific projects to which the services were already committed, and on which job skills of value to future employers and an understanding of nature conservation could be developed.

Council subsequently resolved to:

- (i) Accept in principle the concept of a youth for conservation program and request the Working Group, subject to (ii) below, to further develop the program with a view to introducing it on a trial basis.
- (ii) Request the Commonwealth to allow the transfer of funds which would otherwise be used for unemployment relief to pay participants in any such program the equivalent of the unemployment benefit, in addition to the supplementary amount proposed for payment by the State or Territory involved.

(RESOLUTION 115)

(b) Technical Conference Program

Council endorsed the mode of operation to be followed by the ad hoc Working Group on the CONCOM Technical Conference Program in collating, examining and making recommendations to Standing Committee concerning proposals for technical conferences to be sponsored by Council.

(c) Sub-professional Training

Council noted that the initial meeting of training officers from each State and Territory nature conservation agency, as recommended to Standing Committee by the ad hoc Working Group on Sub-professional Training to assist in developing nationally co-ordinated guidelines for the education and training of staff, would be convened in mid-June.

(d) Law Enforcement

Council noted that the ad hoc Working Group on Law Enforcement had met recently and had made recommendations concerning the movement of fauna between States and Territories, the export of fauna from Australia and cage standards for travelling circuses, all of which would be considered by Standing Committee at its next meeting.

(e) Remote Sensing

Council noted that the ad hoc Working Group on Remote Sensing had submitted an interim report to Standing Committee on the potential of remote sensing in the field of nature conservation, and that preparation of the final report would be commenced following a conference on the technology and uses of remote sensing to be held at Macquarie University in late May.

(f) Endangered Fauna

Council noted that the ad hoc Working Group on Endangered Fauna, in conjunction with the task of preparing an official list of endangered fauna for Australia, had been requested by Standing Committee to investigate the possibility of producing a red data book of endangered Australian fauna in the format used by IUCN.

(g) Endangered Flora

Council noted that the ad hoc Working Group on Endangered Flora, at the request of Standing Committee, had identified a number of short-term projects considered to be of significance in promoting the conservation of Australian flora, some of which were being undertaken by individual agencies.

Agenda Item 11 - Kangaroo management

Council discussed problems which were being experienced by several States with the operation of the system of carcass tags for commercially harvested kangaroos, and resolved to establish an ad hoc Working Group on Kangaroo Management to review the tagging system and make recommendations to Standing Committee as to whether it should be continued, amended or abolished.

(RESOLUTION 116)

Agenda Item 12 - Attendance of observers at Council meetings

Council considered the suggestion by Senator Mulvihill to Senator Webster that members of the Senate Standing Committee on Science and the Environment be given observer status at Council meetings, and resolved to reiterate its earlier decision that Council meetings would remain closed to outside observers.

(RESOLUTION 117)

Agenda Item 13 - Annual statement of research projects

Council noted that Standing Committee would be producing annually for the information of Ministers a statement describing in a standardised format all relevant research projects being undertaken or sponsored by member agencies.

Agenda Item 14 - National wetlands survey

Council expressed concern that, in response to its request to the Commonwealth to examine ways of financing a national wetlands survey, both the Director of the Australian National Parks and Wildlife Service and the Secretary of CSIRO had replied that additional funds would not be available from Commonwealth sources.

Council acknowledged the high priority of the national wetlands survey as a conservation objective, and accordingly resolved to urge the Commonwealth to undertake the survey over a number of years, using the resources of CSIRO, in conjunction with State agencies.

(RESOLUTION 118)

Agenda Item 15 - Cage standards for travelling circuses

Council noted that Standing Committee had considered the need for all States and Territories to adopt uniform standards for circus cages to ensure adequate accommodation for animals while enabling the circuses to travel within Australia without meeting conflicting regulations, and that it was obtaining advice from the ad hoc Working Group on Law Enforcement regarding the development of such standards.

Agenda Item 16 - Importation of aquarium fishes

Council noted advice from the Secretary of the Australian Fisheries Council, following the expression of CONCOM concern at the risk of introducing exotic plants and animals, diseases and parasites with imported aquarium fishes, regarding action being taken by that Council, in co-operation with the relevant Commonwealth authorities, to greatly reduce the number of live fishes imported into Australia.

Agenda Item 17 - Representation on Australian Forestry Council working group

Council noted advice from the Secretary of the Australian Forestry Council that, in response to the request for CONCOM representation on an appropriate working group in order to make that Council aware of the implications for wildlife of forestry operations in general and to initiate action to minimise habitat loss or degradation, the Council was prepared to:

- (i) Provide a schedule of agenda items proposed for discussion at its meetings.
- (ii) Provide only limited documentation in relation to these agenda items.
- (iii) Allow observer status on sub-committees or working parties only for discussion of specific matters of mutual interest.

Agenda Item 18 - Submission by Institute of Foresters to Senate Standing Committee inquiry into forestry

Council noted that the submission presented on behalf of the Australian Institute of Foresters to the inquiry being conducted by the Senate Standing Committee on Trade and Commerce into Australia's forestry and forest products industries contained several unsubstantiated criticisms of existing national parks policy and practice in Australia, and agreed that CONCOM should respond to the submission in order to balance the record of the inquiry.

Because of the time factor, Council resolved that the Chairman would write to the Senate Standing Committee as soon as possible, conveying the views of Council regarding the Institute of Foresters submission and offering to expand on these views at a later date if required.

(RESOLUTION 119)

Agenda Item 19 - Other business

(a) Australian involvement in whaling

Council noted advice from Senator Webster that, following consideration of the report of the Frost inquiry into whales and whaling, the Commonwealth had announced a policy of opposition to whaling and the intention of pursuing this policy both domestically and internationally.

(b) Declaration of national parks and nature reserves

Council noted advice of the declaration of Gudgenby Nature Reserve in the Australian Capital Territory and an additional thirteen national parks in Victoria to coincide with the centenary of Royal National Park in New South Wales.

Council also noted a statement tabled by Senator Webster in relation to the declaration of Kakadu National Park in the Northern Territory.

Agenda Item 20 - Next meeting of Council

Council resolved to accept the invitation issued by Mr Jenkins on behalf of Mr O'Connor to hold its next meeting in Western Australia in July 1980.

Agenda Item 21 - Press statement

Council agreed upon the attached press statement covering the major decisions of the meeting.

Mr Newbery expressed the thanks of all members to the Chairman and his staff for their hospitality and efforts to ensure an effective meeting.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 4.15 pm and thanked all participants for their co-operation.

PRESS RELEASECOUNCIL OF NATURE CONSERVATION MINISTERS

The Council of Nature Conservation Ministers (CONCOM) which comprises Ministers responsible for nature conservation from the Commonwealth, the States, the Australian Capital Territory and the Northern Territory held its annual meeting in Sydney today. Papua New Guinea and New Zealand were represented by observers.

The Council is to investigate the establishment of a "Youth for Conservation Program" in Australia.

The Council of Nature Conservation Ministers has recommended to the Standing Committee of Attorneys-General co-operative arrangements between the Commonwealth and the States for the establishment and management of marine parks and reserves.

CONCOM reviewed the problems of marine parks and supported the need for a representative system of marine parks and reserves. It undertook to examine administrative and management arrangements when responsibilities over the territorial sea were settled following the next Premiers' Conference.

The Ministers emphasised the strong justification for the establishment of a system of marine parks and reserves.

Ministers were critical of a recent statement to the Senate Standing Committee on Trade and Commerce by the Australian Institute of Foresters strongly criticising the concept of national parks. It was agreed that the Chairman of Council would write to the Senate Standing Committee expressing the concern of the meeting.

The meeting of Ministers coincided with the celebration of the centenary of the creation of Australia's first national park, the Royal National Park.

The Council considered the proposed operation of the World Wildlife Fund in Australia and decided that the operation of the fund and its interaction with government nature conservation agencies would be watched with interest during the next year.

Further matters decided by the Council included the instituting of a review of the criteria for the selection and classification of protected areas and a recommendation that member agencies involve themselves in environmental education programs wherever possible.

The difficulties experienced in kangaroo management because of the United States' embargo on the importation of kangaroo products were discussed by the Ministers.

The Council strongly endorsed the need for a national wetlands survey conducted in co-operation between the States, the Territories and the Commonwealth and urged the Commonwealth Government to provide funds to initiate the survey.

23 April 1979

COUNCIL OF NATURE CONSERVATION MINISTERS

1. Introduction

Australian plants, animals and landforms are of considerable national and international importance because of their uniqueness. Most of the species of plants and animals do not occur elsewhere in the world.

They are valuable assets and important for tourism, education, scientific study and recreation. Although some natural systems need to be manipulated and changed for productive uses, representative areas of different kinds of land and their associated plant and animal communities must be protected and managed as part of Australia's national heritage.

Custody and care of these assets rests with the responsible Ministers in the States, the Territories and the Commonwealth, co-ordinated where necessary through Council.

2. Membership of CONCOM

(a) Council

Council consists of all Commonwealth, State and Territory Ministers responsible for national parks and wildlife and the Commonwealth Minister responsible for the CSIRO.

(b) Standing Committee

Standing Committee consists of senior Commonwealth, State and Territory officers selected by the Ministers responsible for national parks and wildlife from appropriate agencies.

At the invitation of Council, Papua New Guinea and New Zealand send observers to meetings of both Council and Standing Committee.

(c) Secretariat

Council and Standing Committee are served by a Secretariat of officers provided by the Commonwealth Department of Science and the Environment. Its role is to service meetings, draft reports and undertake investigations as decided by Council or Standing Committee.

3. Objectives of CONCOM

Council advises governments on matters of national and international policy in relation to nature conservation, in particular concerning national parks and wildlife, as follows:

- (i) With respect to national policy, Council will consider those matters where it is necessary for common attitudes on the part of States, Territories and the Commonwealth to achieve an objective.

- (ii) With respect to international policy, Council will consider those matters where the exercise of both Commonwealth and State powers is needed to achieve an objective, where treaties, conventions or other international agreements are under negotiation or consideration, or where input or comment is required regarding matters under consideration by international organisations.

Within this framework, Council will provide a forum for Ministers to review current policy developments and innovations, both national and international, in the conservation and management of native fauna and flora and the establishment and management of areas for nature conservation, and examine matters of a legislative or administrative significance relevant to nature conservation in Australia. It is recognised that Council is a co-operative advisory body but does not have executive responsibility.

4. Role of Standing Committee

Standing Committee advises Council on policy matters and carries out research into and investigation of such matters as required by Council. For these purposes Standing Committee may establish ad hoc working groups.

Standing Committee also provides the opportunity for members to discuss and inform themselves on matters which may not at the time be of such importance as to warrant reference to Council.

5. Guidelines for operation of Council and Standing Committee

The following guidelines are proposed for the future operation of CONCOM:

- (i) Council to meet annually.
- (ii) Council meetings to include a field inspection.
- (iii) Chairmanship of Council and Standing Committee to rotate between the States, the Territories and the Commonwealth.
- (iv) Resolutions of Council and recommendations of Standing Committee to be by consensus.
- (v) Council to review the operation of Standing Committee from time to time.
- (vi) Standing Committee to meet approximately six weeks prior to Council meetings to review all material being submitted to Council and at other times as necessary.
- (vii) Standing Committee to propose a program of technical conferences to be considered by Council.

- (viii) Working groups to be established as required to investigate and report on matters as directed by Council, and each working group to be given a firm statement by Standing Committee detailing its terms of reference and timetable, both of which are to be strictly adhered to.
- (ix) Written material submitted to Council and Standing Committee to follow guidelines prepared and distributed by the Secretariat (based on the writing conventions adopted by the Australian Agricultural Council and the Australian Fisheries Council).
- (x) The Secretariat to monitor the findings and recommendations of parliamentary inquiries, seminars and the like in relation to nature conservation and bring to the attention of Standing Committee any matters requiring consideration.

6. A program for CONCOM

CONCOM provides an appropriate forum for the discussion of important matters in relation to nature conservation and the development of a broad understanding of Australia-wide conservation issues to assist Ministers in their decision making function.

Some matters for consideration concerning philosophies and principles applicable to the conservation of Australian fauna, flora and ecosystems (not in order of priority) are as follows:

- (i) Trafficking in fauna and flora, including:
 - Possession.
 - Obtaining and disposing.
 - Trade.
- (ii) Commercial exploitation of wildlife, including:
 - Management of populations.
 - Farming.
 - Reduction of pest species.
 - Displays.
- (iii) Hunting, including ground rules for framing laws and regulations.
- (iv) Wildlife management authority policies for non-commercial species with respect to culling populations, rescue operations, etc.

- (v) Diseases affecting or likely to affect natural communities, particularly with respect to:
 - Those not already present in Australia.
 - Methods of control and eradication in Australia.
- (vi) Requirements of staff, facilities and equipment for the basic protection of areas set aside as national parks and nature reserves, including those at present little used by people, and the effect of increasing numbers of visitors on those requirements to ensure adequate park management and maintain nature conservation values. This is required as the basis for developing philosophies, principles and practices with respect to the rate of development of these areas for public use and enjoyment.
- (vii) Adequate and relevant education and training of all staff involved in nature conservation management.
- (viii) Public awareness and understanding of the objectives and practices of nature conservation.

Each of these topics or portions of them may be considered in turn. The preparation of a document for consideration by Standing Committee could be undertaken by a working group and draft recommendations presented to Council for consideration and adoption. Such recommendations would have benefit and value to individual Ministers and their governments and could well have a significant influence on the activities and decisions of other ministerial councils in matters of joint concern.

23 April 1979