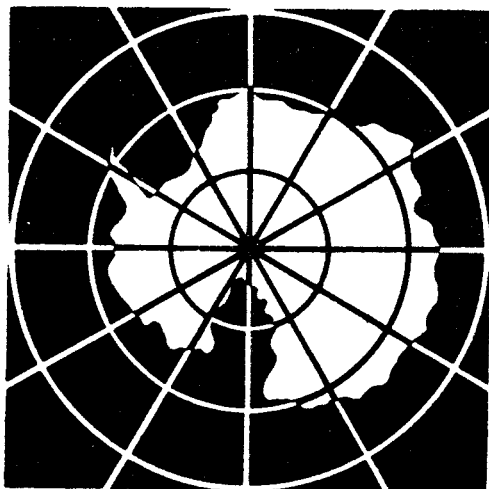
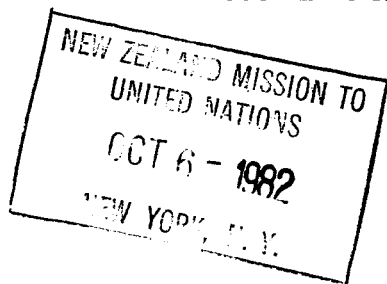


ANTARCTIC TREATY



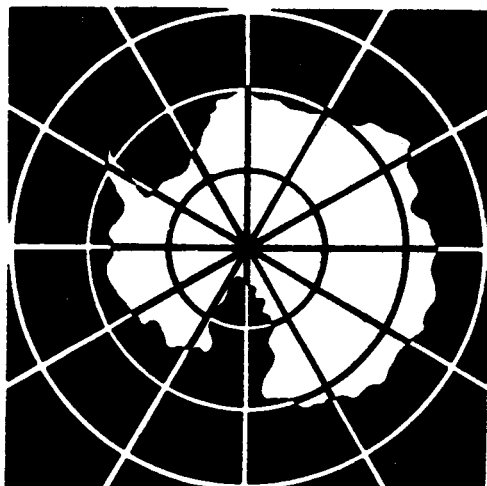
REPORT OF THE ELEVENTH CONSULTATIVE MEETING



MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND WORSHIP
BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA

1981

ANTARCTIC TREATY



REPORT OF THE ELEVENTH CONSULTATIVE MEETING

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REPORT OF THE ELEVENTH ANTARCTIC TREATY CONSULTATIVE MEETING

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1. In accordance with the provisions of Article IX of the Antarctic Treaty, Representatives of the Consultative Parties (Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Chile, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, the Republic of South Africa, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America) met in Buenos Aires from 23 June to 7 July, 1981, for the purpose of consulting together and considering measures that might be adopted to further the principles and purposes of the Treaty and, where appropriate, make recommendations to their Governments.

2. Ambassador Angel María Oliveri López of Argentina acted as Chairman pro tem of the Meeting, pending the election of the Chairman.

3. The Meeting was formally opened by H.E. the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Worship of Argentina, Dr. Oscar Camilión (Annex 1).

4. Ambassador Angel María Oliveri López was then elected Chairman of the Eleventh Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting, and Minister Carlos Rubio Reyna and Embassy Secretary Joaquín Daniel Otero (Jr.), both of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship, were appointed Secretary-General and Assistant Secretary-General of the Meeting, respectively.

5. The Opening Session was held in public. Opening statements were delivered by the Heads of Delegation. (Annex 2).

6. The Meeting adopted the following agenda:

1. Opening of the Meeting
2. Election of Officers
3. Opening addresses
4. Adoption of the Agenda
5. Twentieth anniversary of the entry into force of the Antarctic Treaty and examination of the operation of the Antarctic Treaty system
6. Antarctic resources: the question of mineral exploration and exploitation
7. Review of Recommendation X-2, par.1, relating to Antarctic marine living resources
8. Improvement of telecommunications in Antarctica and collection and distribution of meteorological data
9. Man's impact on the Antarctic environment, including the question of oil contamination of the Antarctic marine environment
10. Specially protected areas
11. Facilitation of scientific research: Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)
12. Effects of tourism and non-governmental expeditions in the Antarctic Treaty area
13. Exchange of information in accordance with the Antarctic Treaty
14. Public availability of the documents of the Consultative Meetings
15. Matters relating to the appointment of observers to the Consultative Meetings
16. Date and place of the next Consultative Meeting
17. Any other business
18. Adoption of Final Report
19. Closing of the Meeting

7. The Meeting considered in Plenary Session all the items on the Agenda and appointed two Working Groups, comprising members of all delegations wishing to participate, to facilitate a fuller debate and a detailed study of the items on the Agenda referred to them. These working groups were:

- a) A Working Group on the effects of tourism and non-governmental expeditions in the Antarctic Treaty area, exchange of information in

accordance with the Antarctic Treaty, public availability of the documents of the Consultative Meetings and matters relating to the appointment of observers to the Consultative Meetings (items 12, 13, 14 and 15, respectively, on the Agenda), was chaired by Dr. John Heap, of the Delegation of the United Kingdom.

b) A Working Group on the twentieth anniversary of the entry into force of the Antarctic Treaty (item 5) and on the use of Antarctic place names, raised under Item 17 of the Agenda (Any other business) was chaired by Minister Ricardo Pedro Quadri of the Argentine delegation.

8. A table showing the approvals given by the Governments of the Consultative Parties to the recommendations adopted at previous Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meetings is attached to this Report as Annex 6.

9. The Meeting unanimously adopted the following recommendations which are set forth in this report:

XI-1 Antarctic mineral resources

XI-2 Antarctic marine living resources

XI-3 Air disaster on Mount Erebus

Agenda item 5

10. TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THE ANTARCTIC TREATY

On the occasion of the commemoration of the twentieth anniversary of the entry into force of this important international legal instrument, concurrently with the opening of the Eleventh Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting on 23rd June last, the opening address by H.E. the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Worship of Argentina, as well as the opening statements by the Heads of participating delegations stressed the importance of this event and of the positive achievements thereunder as an example of multilateral international co-operation, which, as stated in the Argentine Foreign Minister's address, shows the "foresight and pragmatism" of the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Parties.

An address was also given by Ambassador Enrique Gajardo Villarroel, of the Delegation of Chile, who was one of those who signed the Antarctic Treaty on 1st December 1959 (Annex 3).

Following discussion of the anniversary in Plenary, further consideration was referred to a Working Group. It was decided to draw up a Statement on the occasion of the twentieth anniversary of the entry into force of the Antarctic Treaty, which appears as Part II of this Report. It was also decided to include it in the Press Release following the Meeting.

11. THE OPERATION OF THE ANTARCTIC TREATY SYSTEM

A Delegation proposed that discussion of the operation of the Antarctic Treaty System should be considered together with matters relating to Agenda items 13, 14 and 15, which was approved by the Delegations present. These matters were referred to a Working Group and the discussions are reflected in paragraphs 17 to 19 of this Report. The financial cost of the meetings was also considered, as well as the possible arrangements regarding this matter.

Agenda item 6

12. THE QUESTION OF MINERAL EXPLORATION AND EXPLOITATION IN ANTARCTICA

After a full discussion of the subject at different levels, the Plenary adopted Recommendation XI-1, which is attached in Section III of this report.

The Delegation of New Zealand conveyed an invitation by its Government to hold a first session of the Special Consultative Meeting mentioned in operative paragraph 3 of the above Recommendation in Wellington during the first part of 1982. This invitation was welcomed by other delegations.

Agenda item 7

13. ANTARCTIC MARINE LIVING RESOURCES

In considering this item, which relates specifically to the early entry into force of the Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources, the Representatives recalled the emphasis that had been placed on this subject at the Ninth and Tenth Consultative Meetings and expressed their satisfaction that the Convention had been negotiated and opened for signature on August 1, 1980. They called for its early entry into force and they emphasized the need to take all possible steps to facilitate the early operation of the bodies to be established under the Convention. A draft recommendation reflecting these points was introduced and adopted by the Plenary. It is the Recommendation XI-2.

Agenda item 8

14. TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND METEOROLOGICAL DATA

The meeting recalled Recommendation X-3 which referred this subject for consideration, not later than the XIth Consultative Meeting, noted that new stations had been established in Antarctica and that some countries had instituted improvements in their telecommunications systems and to the flow of meteorological data into the Global Telecommunications System of the World Meteorological Organization. It was also noted that the SCAR Working Group on Logistics was preparing a manual on Telecommunications which would be available at the XIth Consultative Meeting. There was considerable discussion on the need to update the diagrams attached to Recommendation X-3 and it was noted that an updated version would be made by the SCAR Working Group on Logistics for the review of this subject at the XIth Consultative Meeting.

Agenda item 9

15. OIL CONTAMINATION OF THE ANTARCTIC MARINE ENVIRONMENT

Recommendation X-7 and some other suggestions were considered by the Plenary.

With respect to Recommendation X-7, the work of SCAR was noted; in response to part I of X-7 it was agreed that SCAR should be encouraged, through its appropriate Working Groups and Groups of Specialists, to develop guidelines for a program of hydrocarbon baseline measurements, and in response to part II, to consider operating techniques and other pertinent information as part of a Logistics Symposium which will take place in Leningrad (USSR) in 1982.

With respect to part II of X-7, there was an exchange of views concerning applicable existing international conventions for prevention of pollution of the sea by oil, and concerning remedial measures which might be taken in the event of a major oil spill in Antarctica.

The following conclusions were drawn:

- a) In view of the nature of present ship operations in the Treaty area, the application of the provisions contained in existing International Conventions for prevention of oil pollution of the sea provide for the time being an adequate and sufficient basis for minimizing risks of pollution.
- b) Ship operations, especially those of tankers, always create some risk of pollution and this question should remain under continuing review by the

Consultative Parties to ensure the adoption of the most appropriate preventive measures.

c) Prevention of pollution of Antarctic waters by oil, and the best remedial measures if oil spills should occur, would be facilitated by future studies in the Antarctic and by the results of studies and experience available from elsewhere.

d) The setting up of protective walls around oil storage tanks where practical was appropriate for some areas on a voluntary basis.

It should be mentioned, further, that the Argentine Delegation submitted a document, which is attached as Annex 7.

Agenda item 12

16. TOURISM AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL EXPEDITIONS

Plenary heard with sadness the statement of the delegation of New Zealand about the air disaster on Mount Erebus on 28 November 1979 in which two hundred and fifty-seven people of several nationalities lost their lives. Wishing to express their deep sympathy with the relatives of those who died and with the people and Government of New Zealand, the Meeting welcomed the Chairman's recommendation that steps should be taken to ensure that the site where the accident took place should be declared a tomb and should be left in peace. The Meeting adopted Recommendation XI-3.

In Plenary discussion of this Agenda Item attention was drawn to the need to consider whether steps should be taken to designate Areas of Special Tourist Interest provided for in Recommendation VIII-9 and to the increasing number of non-governmental expeditions seeking help from some Consultative Parties.

Regarding Areas of Special Tourist Interest, work was begun on the principles that might be adopted if such Areas were to be designated but discussion indicated a measure of doubt as to whether it would be prudent to proceed further with the designation of such Areas. It was agreed that there should be further study of the issues raised in discussion with a view to further consideration of the topic at the Twelfth Consultative Meeting.

Regarding non-governmental expeditions the value was recognized of adopting a common response to inquiries when a Consultative Party was approached with a request for assistance from such an expedition. It was agreed that this matter should be taken up again at the next Consultative Meeting.

Agenda item 13

17. EXCHANGES OF INFORMATION

There was a full discussion covering all aspects of exchanges of information under the Antarctic Treaty. It was recognized that this was a complex subject of fundamental importance to the operation of the Antarctic Treaty system involving, *inter alia*, the provisions of the Treaty and of more than twenty previous recommendations. In view of the considerable interest in this item and the broad scope of suggestions made regarding additions to it, the time of exchanges and the obligations on those providing the information, it was agreed that this subject should be considered further at the XII Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting.

Agenda item 14

18. PUBLIC AVAILABILITY OF THE DOCUMENTS OF THE CONSULTATIVE MEETINGS

There was a full and detailed examination of the issues raised concerning the publication, dissemination and availability of the documents produced by the regular and special Consultative Meetings.

The importance was recognized of providing information on the work of the Consultative Meetings and it was concluded that further consultation should be held on this matter at the Twelfth Consultative Meeting.

Agenda item 15

19. OBSERVERS AT CONSULTATIVE MEETINGS

There was a common recognition that the questions raised by the discussion of this issue required careful thought before any conclusion could be reached. Representatives saw the need for reflection before consultations could be carried further during the XII Consultative Meeting, which there was a common readiness to pursue.

Agenda item 16

20. DATE AND PLACE OF THE NEXT CONSULTATIVE MEETING

The representatives of the Consultative Parties accepted with pleasure the invitation of the Government of Australia to hold the XII Consultative Meeting in that country. The precise date will be determined through consultations by diplomatic channels, but it will take place during the second part of 1983.

Agenda item 17

21. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The question of the use of place-names in Consultative Meeting documents was discussed under this Agenda Item. While it was proposed that a multi-language toponymia might be prepared and updated at each Consultative Meeting, it was felt that no decision on this useful but complex and possibly costly suggestion could be taken at this meeting.

Message to Scientific Stations in Antarctica:

The Eleventh Consultative Meeting agreed to transmit to all the Antarctic scientific stations of the Consultative Parties special greetings from the Representatives attending the meeting on the occasion of the twentieth anniversary of the entry into force of the Antarctic Treaty, which coincided with the opening date of the meeting. The text of the message transmitted appears in Annex 5.

II

THE TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF
THE ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THE
ANTARCTIC TREATY AND THE
FUNCTIONING OF THE ANTARCTIC
TREATY SYSTEM

The coincidence between the date on which the Antarctic Treaty entered into force and the date, twenty years later, on which this Consultative Meeting opened in Buenos Aires gave rise to reflections on the evolving system of obligations that had been undertaken by the Consultative Parties.

Prior to the Antarctic Treaty the Antarctic had been more the subject of international competition than co-operation. The International Geophysical Year, 1957-58 had shown the benefits of co-operation and the Treaty sought to establish a firm foundation for the continuation and development of such co-operation on the basis of freedom of scientific investigation in Antarctica.

The Antarctic Treaty prohibited activities of a military nature, nuclear explosions and the disposal of radioactive waste material; it aimed to promote international scientific co-operation, provided for periodic consultations on matters of common concern and ensured the observance of its provisions by establishing the right of Consultative Parties to inspect activities in all areas of Antarctica.

Before the International Geophysical Year the Antarctic had been generally looked upon as having little effect on the rest of the world. The encouragement provided by the Treaty for cooperation between scientists has enabled them to increase knowledge of Antarctica at a much faster rate than would otherwise have been possible. The importance of Antarctica as, for example, a major global climatic regulator, has become ever more apparent.

The Antarctic Treaty System of continually evolving consultative procedures has produced recommendations covering a wide variety of subjects which benefit from international co-operation. Where these recommendations touch upon scientific matters the Consultative Parties have sought the advice of Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR) through their National Antarctic Committees.

Among the system's achievements have been a unique and all embracing set of conservation measures comprising the Agreed Measures for the Conservation of Antarctic Fauna and Flora, the Convention for the Conservation of Antarctic Seals and the recently concluded Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources. In exercising their responsibility for the protection of the Antarctic environment, the Consultative Parties have taken a number of additional steps to prevent harmful human impact upon that environment.

The Antarctic Treaty System of arrangements dealing with the practical requirements for international action is the only widely accepted arrangement which exists in the area. There are now twenty-five contracting states and it was a welcome event that at the Third Special Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting earlier this year the Consultative Parties had acknowledged that the Federal Republic of Germany had fulfilled the requirements for Consultative status under the Antarctic Treaty and thus participated in the Eleventh Consultative Meeting in Buenos Aires.

III

RECOMMENDATIONS ADOPTED AT
THE ELEVENTH ANTARCTIC TREATY
CONSULTATIVE MEETING

XI-1
ANTARCTIC MINERAL RESOURCES

The Representatives

RECALLING the provisions of the Antarctic Treaty, which established a regime for international cooperation in Antarctica, with the objective of ensuring that Antarctica should continue forever to be used exclusively for peaceful purposes and should not become the scene or object of international discord;

CONVINCED that the framework established by the Antarctic Treaty has proved effective in promoting international harmony in furtherance of the purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter, in prohibiting *inter alia* any measures of a military nature, in ensuring the protection of the Antarctic environment, in preventing any nuclear explosions and the disposal of any radioactive waste material in Antarctica, and in promoting freedom of scientific research in Antarctica, to the benefit of all mankind;

CONVINCED, further, of the necessity of maintaining the Antarctic Treaty in its entirety and believing that the early conclusion of a regime for Antarctic mineral resources would further strengthen the Antarctic Treaty framework;

DESIRING, without prejudice to Article IV of the Antarctic Treaty, to negotiate with the full participation of all the Consultative Parties to the Antarctic Treaty an appropriate set of rules for the exploration and exploitation of Antarctic mineral resources;

NOTING the unity between the continent of Antarctica and its adjacent offshore areas;

MINDFUL of the negotiations that are taking place in the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea;

REAFFIRMING their commitment to the early conclusion of a regime for Antarctic mineral resources which would take due account of the respective interests of the Consultative Parties as regards the form and content of the regime, including decision-making procedures, as well as the special characteristics of the Antarctic area;

RECALLING Recommendations VII-6, VIII-14, IX-1 and X-1;

RECALLING, further, Recommendations VI-4, VII-1, VIII-11, VIII-13, IX-5, IX-6 and X-7.

Recommend to their Governments that:

1. They take note of the progress made toward the timely adoption of a regime for Antarctic mineral resources at the Eleventh Consultative Meeting and related meetings and the importance of this progress.
2. A regime on Antarctic mineral resources should be concluded as a matter of urgency.
3. A Special Consultative Meeting should be convened in order:
 - a) to elaborate a regime;
 - b) to determine the form of the regime including the question as to whether an international instrument such as a convention is necessary;
 - c) to establish a schedule for negotiations, using informal meetings and sessions of the Special Consultative Meeting as appropriate; and
 - d) to take any other steps that may be necessary to facilitate the conclusion of the regime, including a decision as to the procedure for its adoption.
4. The Special Consultative Meeting should base its work on this Recommendation and the relevant Recommendations and Reports of the Eighth, Ninth and Tenth Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meetings.

5. The regime should be based on the following principles:
 - a) the Consultative Parties should continue to play an active and responsible role in dealing with the question of Antarctic mineral resources;
 - b) the Antarctic Treaty must be maintained in its entirety;
 - c) protection of the unique Antarctic environment and of its dependent ecosystems should be a basic consideration;
 - d) the Consultative Parties, in dealing with the question of mineral resources in Antarctica, should not prejudice the interests of all mankind in Antarctica;
 - e) the provisions of Article IV of the Antarctic Treaty should not be affected by the regime. It should ensure that the principles embodied in Article IV are safeguarded in application to the area covered by the Antarctic Treaty.
6. Any agreement that may be reached on a regime for mineral exploration and exploitation in Antarctica elaborated by the Consultative Parties should be acceptable and be without prejudice to those States which have previously asserted rights of or claims to territorial sovereignty in Antarctica as well as to those States which neither recognize such rights of or claims to territorial sovereignty in Antarctica nor, under the provisions of the Antarctic Treaty, assert such rights or claims.
7. The regime should *inter alia*:
 - I. Include means for:
 - a. assessing the possible impact of mineral resource activities on the Antarctic environment in order to provide for informed decision-making;
 - b. determining whether mineral resource activities will be acceptable;
 - c. governing the ecological, technological, political, legal and economic aspects of those activities in cases where they would be determined acceptable, including:
 - the establishment, as an important part of the regime, of rules relating to the protection of the Antarctic environment; and
 - the requirement that mineral resource activities undertaken pursuant to the regime be undertaken in compliance with such rules.
 - II. Include procedures for adherence by States other than the Consultative Parties, either through the Antarctic Treaty or otherwise, which would:
 - a. ensure that the adhering State is bound by the basic provisions of the Antarctic Treaty, in particular Articles I, IV, V and VI, and by the relevant Recommendations adopted by the Consultative Parties; and
 - b. make entities of that State eligible to participate in mineral resource activities under the regime.
 - III. Include provisions for cooperative arrangements between the regime and other relevant international organizations.
 - IV. Apply to all mineral resource activities taking place on the Antarctic Continent and its adjacent offshore areas but without encroachment on the deep seabed. The precise limits of the area of application would be determined in the elaboration of the regime.
 - V. Include provisions to ensure that the special responsibilities of the Consultative Parties in respect of the environment in the Antarctic Treaty area are protected, taking into account responsibilities which may be exercised in the area by other international organizations.

- VI. Cover commercial exploration (activities related to minerals involving, in general, retention of proprietary data and/or non-scientific exploratory drilling) and exploitation (commercial development and production).
- VII. Promote the conduct of research necessary to make environmental and resource management decisions which would be required.
- 8. They promote and cooperate in scientific investigations which would facilitate the effective operation of the regime taking into account, *inter alia*, the relevant parts of the Report of Ecological, Technological and other Related Experts on Mineral Exploration and Exploitation in Antarctica (Washington, June 1979), attached as an annex to the Report of the Tenth Consultative Meeting.
- 9. With a view to improving predictions of the environmental impacts of activities, events and technologies associated with mineral resource exploration and exploitation should such occur, they continue with the assistance of the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research, to define programs with the objectives of:
 - a. Retrieving and analyzing relevant information from past observations and research programs;
 - b. Ensuring in relation to the needs for information identified by the Experts Report, that effective use is made of existing programs;
 - c. Identifying and developing new programs that should have priority, taking account of the length of time required for results to become available.
- 10. In elaborating the regime, they take account of the provisions of Recommendation IX-1, paragraph 8.

XI-2

ANTARCTIC MARINE LIVING RESOURCES

The Representatives,

Recalling the responsibilities of the Consultative Parties regarding the conservation of Antarctic marine living resources;

Recalling, further, the history of actions taken by Consultative Parties concerning protection of the Antarctic ecosystem, including in particular, Recommendations III - VIII, VIII - 10, VIII - 13, IX - 2, IX - 5 and X - 2;

Welcoming the conclusion of the Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources at a diplomatic conference held in Canberra, Australia in May 1980 and the signature of that convention, also in Canberra, Australia in September, 1980;

Noting that a meeting is to be held later this year in Hobart, Tasmania to consider steps to facilitate the early operation of the Commission, the Scientific Committee and the Executive Secretariat to be established under the Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources.

RECOMMEND to their Governments that:

- 11. They seek the earliest possible entry into force of the Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources; and
- 2. They take all possible steps to facilitate the early operation of the bodies to be established by the Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources upon entry into force.

XI-3
AIR DISASTER ON MOUNT EREBUS

The Representatives,

Recalling with respect that in the years of exploration and research many have travelled to and worked in Antarctica and not returned,

Noting that on November 28, 1979 two hundred and fifty seven people of several nationalities lost their lives when the aircraft in which they were travelling crashed into the slopes of Mount Erebus, Ross Island, Antarctica;

Aware that in spite of the determined and courageous action of members of the New Zealand and United States Antarctic expeditions the bodies of some of those who died could not be recovered;

Aware, too, that no permanent memorial may be placed on the ice slopes at the site of the tragedy;

Express their deep sympathy with the relatives of those who died and with the Government and people of New Zealand, and

Recommend to their governments that the site on the northern slopes of Mount Erebus where the accident took place be declared a tomb and that they ensure that the area is left in peace.

IV
ANNEXES

**ADDRESS BY HIS EXCELLENCY
THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND WORSHIP,
DR. OSCAR H. CAMILION,
AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF
THE ELEVENTH ANTARCTIC TREATY CONSULTATIVE MEETING**

On behalf of the Argentine government, I have great pleasure in welcoming the delegates to the city of Buenos Aires, and trust that their stay in my country will be particularly pleasant.

The Eleventh Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting is specially significant because we are commemorating today the twentieth anniversary of the entry into force of this instrument, the cornerstone of the system that, throughout the last twenty years, the consultative parties have sought to apply faithfully and to consolidate, in keeping with their terms of reference concerning matters relating to Antarctica. Today, the membership of consultative parties has increased to fourteen countries, with the incorporation of the Federal Republic of Germany, which I congratulate most particularly on this occasion.

During the twenty years of its application, the Antarctic Treaty has shown a soundness that is the result of the foresight and pragmatism that guided those who, on drawing it up, overcame difficulties in the way to the achievement of the delicate balance implied therein.

This has permitted the development of the system we know today, which is following the road opened by the work of the International Geophysical Year, celebrated in 1957-1958, and applies its guiding principles, synthesized in freedom and cooperation in scientific research, non-militarization, prohibition of nuclear tests, and the elimination of radioactive debris, conservation of the special Antarctic ecosystem, its flora and fauna, and the firm undertaking to preserve the natural laboratory which Antarctica is, exclusively for peaceful purposes.

The common concerns and goals that bind together the efforts of all the states represented here are certainly reflected in the complex and vast normative activity carried out during the ten previous consultative meetings. In this respect, I consider this to be a suitable occasion to communicate to the delegates that my government will proceed in the next few days to approve the recommendations adopted during the Tenth Consultative Meeting held in Washington in 1979, whereby Argentina will once again manifest its special interest, the importance it attributes to, and its respect for, the Antarctic question, and the measures unanimously accorded within the Treaty.

On this particular subject, it should be unnecessary to stress yet again, were it not that these words are spoken on the occasion of the twentieth anniversary of the entry into force of the Antarctic Treaty, that, on the basis of the spirit and letter of the Treaty, Argentina has maintained throughout the existence of this instrument ties of close cooperation with all the member states, and that it proposes to continue doing so. We have shared the spirit and knowledge of our researchers, we have made known the results obtained, and in all cases, we have met with an adequate response to this open disposition. Furthermore, and favoured by the closer proximity of Argentine continental territory to Antarctica, we have given our humanitarian cooperation whenever necessary to give assistance and to save lives.

Our active participation in everything concerning Antarctica must compute the considerable quantity of human resources and financial investments annually effected by Argentina in its sector. This makes the Antarctic question of the utmost importance within our national planning.

Questions like the conservation of the Antarctic environment and its flora and fauna have been the subject of constant concern for the consultative parties, which have approved numerous decisions in this respect. Later, it was the protection of seals and Antarctic living marine resources that attracted preferential attention among the member states, which adopted novel treatments that in both cases led to the adoption of specific

conventions as legal instruments appropriate to the purposes of conservation of these renewable resources.

The latest manifestation of this cooperation was the adoption in 1980 of the convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Living Marine Resources.

But today we are faced by new challenges, which in some aspects go beyond the original scope of the Treaty, and to which we must find imaginative solutions, based on its vast framework. Indeed, we cannot say that in the last twenty years there has been any change in the attitude of the original consultative parties regarding the utilization of the natural resources of Antarctica. The idea was not new in 1959, but it was then deemed that the moment was not opportune for its consideration, as it might affect the effort made to conclude the Treaty.

But during the last few years, this new trial by fire, which is the utilization of Antarctic mineral resources, has begun to be faced by the consultative parties. There is a long way still to go, but it is evident that if the same spirit of cooperation and understanding that has reigned up to now among the member parties continues to flourish, we can expect the final result to be satisfactory for all.

In this context we want to be clear. In view of the possibility of the eventual utilization of the mineral resources of Antarctica arousing ambitions on the part of those who up to now have shown no genuine interest in Antarctica, we want to state once again that such was not the purpose of the Treaty, nor the goal pursued by its original members; nor can we now or in the future—at least, as far as Argentina is concerned—allow an unbridled commercial competition to start in the region.

As a country that exercises sovereignty in a sector of Antarctica, Argentina has an interest in the region that shows itself as much in this political aspect as in the implications relating to its environment, conservation of resources, economic aspects, and, in brief, in all the activities that take place there.

In this respect, the most important and delicate question in the Agenda for the Eleventh Consultative Meeting is that of mineral exploration and exploitation in Antarctica. For years, and particularly in the last three consultative meetings, interest and concern regarding this item have increased since the priority accorded at the time to negotiations on the conservation of living resources has ceased to require the preferential attention of the consultative parties. The centre of interest has now turned to the study of the mineral regime, which I am persuaded should be provided with a sure and firm foundation in the eyes of the international community, in view of the growing interest in Antarctica, and as the point of departure for subsequent development. The fruitful labour of the last twenty years, which serves to inspire us at these consultative meetings, illustrates how, on each new occasion, our countries have raised their sights higher towards targets that have been set in view of the growing requirements of the system that stems from the Treaty. There has thus been a supplement to the latter, through specific regimes implemented autonomously when needed, but always within the framework of the Antarctic Treaty, and which show clearly the dynamic nature, vitality and pragmatism of the system, which must be constantly adapted to the concrete reality of each moment.

Undoubtedly, the question of minerals will be the greatest challenge faced up to now by the consultative parties. The attempts to draw up a regime on the matter should bring solutions to particularly critical questions, without which it will not be possible to attain the goal sought. This will demand the utmost effort and imagination and creativity of the delegates, as solutions in this respect, although complex, are becoming more peremptory. In the first place, we are urgently required to comply perfectly with the collective undertaking assumed when the Antarctic Treaty entered into force, in the sense of fully ensuring the protection of the continent's ecological system.

To this end, I consider that the future regime must be as detailed and precise as possible, conditioning and regulating all kinds of procedures and activities, in such a way as to permit an effective control of all the consultative parties at all stages of development of the operations, both before and after the activities are carried out, and in

view of their eventual effects. This question is of particular interest to countries like Argentina, with ecosystems that are extremely dependent on that of Antarctica owing to their proximity to the region.

Another question that will undoubtedly affect the viability of the regime is its political acceptance by both the consultative parties to the Antarctic Treaty and the international community. The occurrence of already existing situations and the pragmatism of those who in 1959 negotiated this legal instrument, led them to state unequivocally in its article IV concerning the reality of Antarctic policy, that there are some states that exercise sovereign rights over it. The aforesaid article likewise contemplates the existence of bases and grounds for claiming sovereignty rights for other consultative parties. This specific fact makes it advisable, in undertaking future negotiations for an eventual mineral regime, to incorporate therein a provision that states not only the principles of article IV of the Treaty but also reflects clearly that concrete reality deriving from the various positions recognized by said article and offers clear juridical and political grounds for their own existence, through such claims and grounds for claims recognized by the Treaty. The foregoing entails the clear understanding that the reservation of existings rights in article IV, which is recognized by all the consultative parties, can and must become the most powerful legal basis of a regime on minerals, with its full import for the international community.

I am sure that delegates will pay special attention to these matters, on which, to my mind, will depend the viability of the structures to be set up. Argentina is confident that these negotiating exercises will be fruitful and, to prove this, it hereby offers to host the definitive diplomatic conference at which the regime in question is adopted.

There is no doubt as to the importance of the undertaking before you during the next fifteen days. The agenda for this meeting is sufficiently explicit. Apart from the aforementioned items, many other problems requiring decisions are surely awaiting you. The facets of the problem posed by the Antarctic ecosystem in the atmosphere, on land, and in the oceans is extremely vast. Questions affecting meteorology, telecommunications, the impact of man's activities, environmental pollution, scientific facilities, expeditions, and also tourism in Antarctica, constitute examples of the magnitude of the work of this meeting which falls on the auspicious commemoration of the twentieth anniversary of the entry into force of the Treaty.

In declaring the sessions of the Eleventh Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting open, I wish you the greatest success.

2.— OPENING STATEMENT BY THE HEAD OF THE ARGENTINE DELEGATION, AMBASSADOR CARLOS LUCAS BLANCO

Mr. Chairman,

The words of my country's Foreign Minister, who opened the sessions of this Eleventh Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting, are still ringing in our ears.

I want to echo his words to the delegates of welcome to Argentina and, in particular, to greet and extend a warm welcome to those of the Federal Republic of Germany, who are attending our consultative debates for the first time.

We are likewise pleased to have with us a delegate who was present, with his knowledge and diplomatic wisdom, at the happy conclusion of the Treaty under which we are meeting today. We are referring to Ambassador Gajardo Villarroel, of the Chilean Delegation, whom I am honoured to congratulate on behalf of my delegation, while at the same time wishing him every success and thanking him for having participated in drawing up the Treaty that governs us.

I also want to congratulate you, Mr Chairman, on your election, which places us under an expert guide during our debates as was the case during the course of the Special Preparatory meeting and the Third Special Consultative Meeting.

We have a full agenda before us, as we have had at all the Consultative Meetings, with pending items and other new ones. Of them all, I think all of us present here will agree that the most interesting and, at the same time, the most difficult item, is the one on Antarctic mineral resources.

I must once again reaffirm that Argentina exercises sovereignty in Antarctica. Its rights are well rooted on a permanent occupation, which goes back 77 years, and on an outstanding, sustained and scientifically fruitful Antarctic activity, based on its privileged geographic situation as the country nearest Antarctica. This is not the time to enumerate juridical, geological, historic, or geographic titles, which have been stated at length previously on numerous occasions. Needless to mention the interest with which we Argentines examine all Antarctic activities that might affect the ecosystem of the region and our own.

In this role as a territorially-minded country, interested in Antarctica, Argentina is today imbued with the crucial importance of the question that concerns us here: the possible exploration for and exploitation of Antarctic mineral resources. The document we shall have before us, as the only one produced during the discussions of the Preparatory Meeting for this Consultative meeting, is merely a "non paper", which did not obtain a consensus because it did not satisfy the expectations aroused. It does not please our delegation because, as was stated during the February Preparatory Meeting—and I know that other delegations felt the same—it is not well balanced. It does not satisfy us, on account of what it does not say, rather than for what it says. That is, we consider it is not balanced inasmuch as it does not give the idea of "internal accommodation" which is a sine qua non for this process towards a possible and eventual regime governing minerals to be able to go ahead. The "accommodation" between countries that, like Argentina, exercise sovereignty and those that neither exercise nor recognize it, can at the same time be of special importance in giving said regime a solid foundation in the eyes of the international community, as the Foreign Minister said in his opening address.

We believe it is necessary for this accommodation to be stated as a substantial element in any one of the recommendations adopted by this meeting, very clearly stated and in the right place, that is, in the operative part of the document. It is up to us as representatives to make the necessary effort to find a formula to this end. And my delegation is quite ready to cooperate in order that the document produced by this meeting will incorporate ideas we consider necessary for the aforementioned accommodation to materialize; and this, I want to say beforehand, is an essential element for my delegation to give its approval to any draft recommendation on the matter.

On opening our meeting, Dr. Camillón, my country's Minister of Foreign Affairs and Worship, referred to the significance of the date of this conference, which happily coincides with that of the twentieth anniversary of the entry into force of the Treaty. To honour this pleasing event, my delegation will present a draft recommendation. Such a coincidence encourages us to meditate on the manner in which this Antarctic Treaty that unites us was concluded, and has functioned for 20 years, and on how very difficult circumstances were overcome thanks to the understanding and co-operation always shown by the Contracting Parties. To deal with this new trial now afflicting this instrument, I take the liberty of appealing to the traditional spirit that has always presided over our debates to guide us once again and to enable us to find solutions in the most essential items that contemplate everyone's interest, thereby preserving the mechanism and philosophy of the 1959 Treaty. I think we ought to recall here that six years ago, on discussing formally for the first time in Oslo the question of Antarctic mineral resources, the Argentine Delegation in its opening address said, and I want to repeat it here: "My delegation trusts that when we come to discuss this item we shall show the same outstanding capacity for mutual agreement with, and tolerance for, the opinions of others,

which has always been an essential feature of these meetings. Calm, dispassionate and deliberate study will certainly help us to reach solutions to this difficult problem, solutions that will, to some extent, satisfy the interests of all the states meeting on this occasion."

I offer my delegation's most sincere co-operation to these ends and, within a framework of mutual co-operation, I am sure that this meeting will be crowned with success, as already occurred during the process that ended successfully in Canberra, in May 1980, with the adoption of the Convention for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources, a laborious achievement, the conclusion of which must give us great satisfaction. Thank you very much.

**OPENING ADDRESS BY HIS EXCELLENCY MR K.G. BRENNAN,
LEADER OF THE AUSTRALIAN DELEGATION TO THE
XIth ANTARCTIC TREATY CONSULTATIVE MEETING,
GIVEN ON 23 JUNE 1981**

Mr. Chairman,

May I first offer my congratulations to you on your election to the position of Chairman of this, the Eleventh Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting. My delegation is very happy to be once again in the beautiful and vibrant city of Buenos Aires and to ask you to convey to His Excellency the Foreign Minister of Argentina the thanks of my delegation for having attended this meeting to declare it open and for the gracious words which he spoke. My delegation is delighted to be meeting again with delegations of the other Consultative Parties, under your experienced Chairmanship which recently so successfully guided the work of the Preparatory Meeting. I would also like to take this opportunity to welcome warmly the delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany which has recently become the fourteenth Consultative Party. My delegation and I look forward to co-operating with that delegation at this and future Consultative meeting.

Mr Chairman, at the Tenth Consultative Meeting, we commemorated the twentieth anniversary of the signing of the Antarctic Treaty. At this meeting, we recall that it is 20 years since that Treaty entered into force. For 20 years the activities of explorers, scientists and tourists in Antarctica have been governed by the Treaty which enshrines the spirit of co-operation and mutual assistance of the nations that participated in the International Geophysical Year of 1957-58.

Since the Treaty entered into force Consultative Parties have met regularly to discuss Antarctic issues. This is the Eleventh such Consultative Meeting and I am sure, Mr Chairman, that we all agree that they have proved to be an effective mechanism capable of dealing with the needs and issues which have arisen since 1961, many of which were not foreseen at the time of the negotiation of the Treaty. Whereas during the early years of the Treaty, the principal concerns of the Consultative Parties were essentially scientific, there is now a broad range of issues and activities to be considered, of which the most outstanding is, of course, the question of resources, and the implications of resource activities for the environment. Consultative Parties have managed to deal with these concerns as they have arisen in an innovative and co-operative manner and I am confident that they will continue to do so in the future.

An important issue which has arisen recently is the increasing interest in Antarctica from a number of quarters including non Treaty nations, and private environmental and commercial organisations. This development has been largely stimulated by a greater interest in Antarctica's resource potential and by current world economic conditions which tend to encourage the search for new resources. Consequently, Antarctic waters have attracted increased fishing activity and there are moves to assess more closely the extent of Antarctica's mineral resources.

The Consultative Parties, conscious of the implications this interest has for the Antarctic environment, have been concerned to extend the measures for its protection. Together with the Agreed Measures for the Conservation of Antarctic flora and fauna, and the Convention for the Conservation of Antarctic Seals, we have concluded the Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources. Three countries have already ratified the latter Convention and Australia, as Depositary, is hopeful that a sufficient number of countries will have completed their ratification procedures to enable the Convention to enter into force by the end of the year. We also look forward to cooperating with other signatory states at the Preparatory Meeting in Hobart in September to facilitate the establishment of the Antarctic Marine Living Resources Commission.

For some years Consultative Parties have also been considering the complex legal, political and environmental questions raised by the possible exploitation of minerals in Antarctica. We have agreed to observe a moratorium on the exploration and exploitation of minerals in Antarctica pending the adoption of agreed solutions. Unregulated activity could damage the Antarctic environment and perhaps threaten the viability of the Antarctic Treaty system.

We are committed to seeking agreed solutions to this issue that will ensure proper protection of the environment as well as providing the essential protection for those states exercising sovereignty in Antarctica and those states which neither exercise sovereignty themselves nor recognise the exercise of sovereignty by others. Australia, as a state exercising sovereignty over its Antarctic Territory, will be seeking solutions that take account of its national interests.

My delegation hopes, Mr Chairman, that this meeting will be able to agree on a Recommendation that will launch the negotiation of a regime for the exploration and exploitation of minerals. Australia believes that it is in the interests of both the Consultative Parties and the international community as a whole that the negotiations commence as soon as possible.

Mr Chairman, there is no doubt in my mind that the Antarctic Treaty is as relevant today as it was 20 years ago. In spite of our at times divergent interests the Consultative Parties continue to share the common objective of ensuring the preservation of the Treaty and all that it stands for. We are uniquely equipped by virtue of our long experience to deal with Antarctic questions. The growing acceptance of the Treaty Framework as a viable mechanism for dealing with new concerns and issues in Antarctica demonstrates that a sufficient number of States have an interest in the continuance of the Treaty, and the development of new regimes based upon it, to ensure that it will continue to play a central role in future international developments relating to Antarctica.

**OPENING STATEMENT
BY THE HEAD OF THE DELEGATION OF BELGIUM,
AMBASSADOR GEORGES TILKIN**

Mr. Chairman:

One of the reasons that bring the Belgian delegation to particularly enjoy this meeting in Buenos Aires is the existence of long-standing bonds between Argentina and Belgium in the field of activities in Antarctica.

May I be allowed, on this occasion, to recall the good will shown by Argentina toward the First Belgian Antarctic Expedition under the leadership of Adrien de Gerlache de Gomery at the end of the past century.

When the ship "Belgica" sailed southward, its last port of call was in Argentina.

The welcome extended by the Argentine Government was remarkable. It generously invited the Belgian expedition to draw from the coal depot of the Argentine navy at the bottom of Lapataia bay, near Ushuaia, the capital of the Argentine Tierra del

Fuego. And it was from that port that the "Belgica" departed in December 1897 for the Antarctic, which it was to reach after a brief stop at San Juan del Salvamento on Staten Island.

It is well and fitting to recall here that international co-operation of old, and the assistance given to the expedition which was the first to winter beyond the Antarctic polar circle.

Mr. Chairman, the present meeting is important from all standpoints.

It is important because it commemorates the twentieth anniversary of the entry into force of the Antarctic Treaty, which was an innovator, inasmuch as it was the first in affirming the non-military nature of a region of the world, the prohibition of nuclear explosions there and the complete freedom for scientific research that may be carried out there.

This meeting is equally important because its provisional agenda includes the discussion of problems linked with the elaboration of a system for prospecting and exploiting the mineral resources of the Antarctic.

It cannot be denied that these are the most difficult problems the consultative meetings ever had to face. They may, by their very nature, destroy the so-called "spirit of the Antarctic Treaty" which has been transmitted to diplomats and jurists by scientists and explorers from the participating countries, convinced by the obstacles peculiar to the polar region of the imperious need of close co-operation.

The mineral resources in the Antarctic should not lead to the destruction of this spirit. They should enhance and fortify it by expanding co-operation to new areas.

It has been undeniably established in consultative meetings that the difficult problems could always be solved. A formula acceptable to all parties has always been found.

This should continue to be so.

The importance assigned at present to mineral natural resources in the Antarctic compels us to establish a suitable system of exploitation of these resources for our common good.

This task devolves upon the consultative parties because only they, through their experience and the specific responsibility they have borne for the last twenty years, are able to carry it to a successful conclusion.

It is our duty to make every effort to carry out this task in spite of the serious legal, political and psychological obstacles that confront us.

In 1959, the representative of my country to the Washington Conference, Viscount Obert de Thieusies, stated that "those who had to overcome the same obstacles were always ready to reach an understanding".

The optimism of this aim cannot be denied.

Mr. Chairman, before I conclude I wish to congratulate you on your unanimous election and to assure you of the best intentions of the Belgian delegation.

**OPENING STATEMENT BY THE HEAD OF
THE DELEGATION OF CHILE,
AMBASSADOR FERNANDO ZEGERS SANTA CRUZ**

Mr. Chairman:

Allow me to express the pleasure of my delegation in finding ourselves in this country, our neighbour and sister, and to thank the Government of Argentina for the hospitality it has extended to this meeting.

The Eleventh Consultative Meeting of the Antarctic Treaty will be held on a solemn occasion, since it coincides with the twentieth anniversary of the entry into force of this Treaty.

During those 20 years, the Consultative Parties have applied the farsighted instrument adopted in Washington in 1959, they have administered the Antarctic for the good of mankind, preserved it as an area of peace and an ecological reservation, added to the knowledge of the frozen continent, established a system of communications with that continent and within it, and have employed their talents and perseverance to improve co-operation among nations in different latitudes and with a great variety of systems. All the above form a legal and administrative system that has met at least with the tacit approval of the international community. Thus, the Antarctic system is constantly enhanced by the scientific, legal and political efforts of its members and by their activities in this far end of the globe.

The Antarctic system has become integrated as a sub-system of the general international system. The Antarctic Treaty, drafted in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and with its principles, which established the first denuclearized peaceful zone, is open for accession by third states. Its principles have been developed and applied by the Consultative Parties, resulting in their progressive evolution.

During the two decades since the Treaty entered into force new challenges have appeared, finding expression mainly in a growing interest in the Antarctic resources and in Antarctica in general. Agreements have been generated by the Treaty, such as the conventions on the Conservation of Seals, on the conservation of the marine living resources and other related conventions such as the new Law of the Sea. At the same time, interest in Antarctica has been shown by the growing participation of new nations in the Treaty and the increase in the number of Consultative Parties. In this connection, and on behalf of the Government of Chile, I wish to extend a cordial welcome to the Delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany and to welcome the recent accession to the Treaty by Uruguay, Peru, Italy and Papua New Guinea.

World evolution since the birth of the Treaty, the conclusion of new conventions with their respective organs, the need to contemplate the utilization of resources without detriment to the ecology, the interest of States, international associations and organizations, make it advisable to update the Antarctic System and provide it with effective instruments and practices to face the new reality. The operativeness of the system should be examined as a whole and in particular at the present Consultative Meeting, without thereby modifying or affecting the Treaty itself. We have made a specific proposal in this respect and circulated a working document giving shape to the aforesaid suggestions.

We view with satisfaction what has been done during these two decades, and with optimism the future of our system, which can be said to operate more effectively than the general international system. In Chile we have endeavoured to commemorate this anniversary appropriately, appointing to our delegation one of the originators and signers of the Treaty, Ambassador Enrique Gajardo Villarroel, and preparing also a collection of commemorative stamps which will be distributed among the participating delegations.

It will also be the task of this Eleventh Consultative Meeting to give concrete steps toward the establishment of a regime for the utilization of Antarctic mineral resources within the framework of the Treaty, to follow the successful conclusion of the Convention on Marine Living Resources, which should enter into force as soon as possible and which we will ratify shortly.

As in the case of living resources, ecological considerations should be preeminent in the regime for mineral resources. The economic exploration and exploitation of the latter should not be authorised except under strict respect for the ecology of Antarctica and of the systems dependent on, or related to it, as is the case of Chilean continental territory.

The Antarctic Treaty and the System to which it has given rise should also be preserved, with all the characteristics and expressions described earlier. The political and legal equilibrium achieved in this instrument and in its application should not be affected. In this regard, it is essential that the sovereignty rights contemplated and protected by Article IV of the Antarctic Treaty be respected and held valid, considering the accommodation that may be necessary of its interests and those of mankind.

On this solemn occasion, it is fitting for me to reiterate the determined support of Chile to the Antarctic Treaty, to the System stemming from it, and of which my country actively forms part, as well as the confidence of my Government that this Meeting will perfect its adaptation to the changing conditions of the contemporary world.

Chile, a sovereign country in Antarctica, whose mainland is only a few miles from the frozen continent, and to which it is indissolubly bound by geography, Geology, history, by law, and by the now secular activity of its men, once again expresses its good will and its firm purpose of co-operating in the search for formulas to solve the problems posed by present conditions, within the fruitful framework of the Antarctic System. Thank you.

**OPENING STATEMENT
BY THE HEAD OF THE UNITED STATES DELEGATION,
MR. R. TUCKER SCULLY**

Mr. Chairman,

My delegation would like to join in extending congratulations to you on your election to preside over the Eleventh Consultative Meeting. We are indeed fortunate to have your wisdom and experience to guide us.

Let me extend through you, Mr. Chairman, the appreciation of the United States Delegation to the Distinguished Foreign Minister of Argentina, Dr. Camilion, for his words of welcome.

Let me also express our appreciation to the Government of Argentina for the quality of the arrangements and facilities which have been made available to us, as well as for organizing the preparatory work for this Consultative Meeting. It is a great pleasure to be back in Buenos Aires and to experience the warmth and hospitality of the people of Argentina.

Today —June 23, 1981— as has been emphasized, marks the Twentieth Anniversary of the entry into force of the Antarctic Treaty. Over the twenty years of its operation, the Antarctic Treaty System stands out as a uniquely successful example of international cooperation. It has ensured the use of Antarctica exclusively for peaceful purposes and that it has not become the scene of international conflict or discord. The Treaty's provisions for freedom of scientific research and for cooperation in scientific undertakings, its provisions for demilitarization and denuclearization are not only expressions of high principle but also practical guides for the actual conduct of activities in Antarctica. These provisions are as important today as they were in 1961.

The strength of the Antarctic Treaty rests upon the continuing validity of its principles and purposes. It also rests upon the ability of the Treaty System —through its Consultative Meetings— to adapt itself to new circumstances and situations.

An example of the dynamism of the Treaty System is the evolution of its ability to deal with matters relating to the Antarctic environment. Over the past twenty years, the Consultative Parties have elaborated an extensive and practical set of measures for the protection of the Antarctic environment. These measures are designed to keep pace with the level of human activity in Antarctica and to ensure that it does not result in harmful impacts upon the Antarctic environment.

Another example of the resilience of the Treaty System is its capacity to grow. The Treaty itself provides that acceding parties that demonstrate their interest in Antarctica

by the conduct of substantial scientific research there can become Consultative Parties. In this regard, I would like to warmly welcome the delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany which is participating for the first time in the consultative process. I would further like to compliment the Federal Republic of Germany for the excellent quality of its scientific work in Antarctica.

A further example of the Antarctic Treaty System to meet new challenges is the Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources. This Convention which was concluded in May 1980 and signed last September, resulted from an initiative within the consultative system. It elaborates a mechanism for ensuring the conservation of living resources prior to the emergence of large-scale activities relating to marine resources. This stands in welcome contrast to experience in other areas in the world where, all too often, regimes have been developed only after overharvesting and depletion of species has taken place.

The successful conclusion of the Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources is a good omen as we address new issues. I am confident that the creativity and will which characterized the negotiation of that Convention will remain with us and will be applied to the matters before us at this Eleventh Consultative Meeting.

Prominent among these issues is the question of the development of a regime for Antarctic Mineral Resources. By regime, we mean an international system which will have as basic purposes determination of the acceptability of mineral resource activities in Antarctica and governing any such activities determined to be acceptable. In developing our position on the regime we have been guided by three main interests: our interest in protecting the Antarctic environment; our interest in participating in mineral resource activities should they prove feasible; and our interest in maintaining the Antarctic Treaty System. I would like at this time to reconfirm the commitment of the United States to the development of a mineral resource regime within the context of the Antarctic Treaty consultative process.

Development of a regime for Antarctic mineral resources will not be easy. Difficult issues will need to be resolved and necessary international acceptance obtained. However, we do not begin work on a blank slate. We first have the Antarctic Treaty itself, including the provisions of Article IV, which must be reflected in the regime. There is also a considerable body of creative work developed at the Eighth, Ninth and Tenth Consultative Meetings, at special meetings in Paris in 1976 and in Washington last year, and at the preparatory meetings for this Eleventh Consultative Meeting. The most recent addition to this foundation were the helpful paragraphs drafted during the February-March preparatory meeting.

On this basis we look forward to working with all delegations here in Buenos Aires to develop an agreed recommendation which will set forth:

- the commitment of the Consultative Parties to negotiate a regime;
- the principles and elements upon which the regime should be elaborated;
- the general procedures for the negotiation of the regime.

Such a recommendation would constitute a good start toward development of the regime and offer a good foundation for the negotiations.

In addition to the mineral resource issue, there are a number of important items upon our agenda—some new, some hardy perennials. These matters should not be slighted but should also receive our concerted and close attention.

In closing, I would like to again thank our hosts for their welcome and for the great effort they have put forth in organizing our meetings. We have new and complex questions facing us. We also have twenty years of shared experience in resolving common problems. If we apply the spirit of the Antarctic Treaty System—its vitality and imagination—to our new challenges, I believe that twenty years from now we will be celebrating the fortieth anniversary of the Antarctic Treaty.

**OPENING STATEMENT BY THE HEAD OF THE FRENCH DELEGATION
HIS EXCELLENCY M. REMY TEISSIER DU CROS
MINISTER PLENIPOTENTIARY**

Mr. Chairman,

On behalf of my delegation, I should like to congratulate you on your appointment, I have no doubt that, under your authority and thanks to your competence, your experience, this Eleventh Meeting will enable us to achieve further progress in our co-operation. Through you I should like to thank the Minister of Foreign Affairs and the Argentine authorities for having organized this meeting and for the welcome extended to us. I would also congratulate the Secretary General.

I extend our welcome to the delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany, which is participating for the first time in a Consultative Meeting. The Federal Republic of Germany has shown its interest in the Antarctic continent, and I am sure that its contribution to our work will be important and positive.

Our meeting coincides with the twentieth anniversary of the coming into force of the Antarctic Treaty. This permits us, on measuring the progress made during these twenty years, to congratulate ourselves on what has been accomplished and on the spirit in which our membership has developed, to twelve, then to thirteen, and now to fourteen members, and on our co-operation.

But it is, certainly, towards the future that we must direct our eyes. The future is, first and foremost, continuing the task in which we are engaged, our disinterested enterprise of a scientific nature defined by the Treaty. It is also something altogether different, something more ambitious and more complex, which the negotiators of the Treaty did not anticipate.

I want to speak of the interest we have for several years felt in activities of an economic nature. At the beginning, those activities were connected with the conservation of marine fauna and flora, consequently, with the exploitation of renewable resources. Today, in a second stage, we propose to go further, to take an interest in non-renewable resources of the planet, which affect the essential interests of mankind: mineral reserves.

The context of our reflections and of our ambitions has thus notably altered. The new responsibilities we propose to assume are, compared to our present responsibilities, of a different nature and much heavier. We have been led to go beyond the scope of the Treaty, to re-invent a legal system of co-operation concerning programmes on which we find ourselves, in other parts of the world, engaged in ardent competition among ourselves, and which, furthermore, will be rapidly exposed to present-day fire. We shall also have to provide ourselves with the means of guaranteeing the protection of an original and vulnerable environment. My delegation is all the more conscious of the importance of our project under its different aspects since France exercises its sovereignty over a part of the Antarctic continent.

In brief, history repeats itself, but in different terms. Like our predecessors twenty years ago, we have before us a set of problems and we have to find the solutions, without which we shall not have succeeded in meeting the demands of our day.

In this search, the Antarctic Treaty can, furthermore, be our model in its spirit far more than in its letter. But it is above all our determination to win through that will enable us, I hope, to reach an agreement.

Our predecessors twenty years ago showed us the way as pioneers, as innovators. The same is required of us today. I want to believe that, thanks to the combination of the competent men gathered around you, Mr. Chairman, thanks also to the spirit that has inspired our meetings up to now, we shall be able to renew the success of 1961.

**OPENING STATEMENT BY MR. CHUSEI YAMADA,
REPRESENTATIVE OF JAPAN**

Mr. Chairman,

On behalf of the Japanese Delegation, I should like to join the distinguished representatives who preceded me in congratulating His Excellency on being unanimously elected as Chairman of our Meeting. I am personally very glad to see you in the chair and am confident that under your able leadership we will have a successful meeting.

I should also like to express my Delegation's deep appreciation to the Government of Argentina for the outstanding preparations it has made in hosting the preparatory meeting and also this Consultative Meeting. It is a great pleasure for my Delegation to come to this beautiful country with which my country has always enjoyed the traditional bond of friendship.

I should like to make use of this opportunity to welcome warmly the Delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany to this Consultative Meeting. I am confident that the membership of the Federal Republic of Germany will contribute a great deal in strengthening our efforts to further the objectives and principles of the Antarctic Treaty.

It is also my pleasure to inform you of the Japanese acceptance of the Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources, which was adopted at the diplomatic conference in Canberra last year. The Government of Japan deposited with the Australian Government an instrument of acceptance of this Convention on May 26 this year.

Mr. Chairman,

We are proud of the achievements the Antarctic Treaty Regime has made so far. We have closely cooperated together and successfully worked for the lofty cause of the promotion of international cooperation in scientific research and the maintenance of the natural environment of the region by securing peaceful use of the Antarctic and the freedom of scientific research.

However, I should point out that we have at hand probably the most serious issue we face since the establishment of the Antarctic Treaty Regime. This is the question of mineral exploration and exploitation. I believe that the true value of our Regime will hinge upon how successfully we could cope with this issue.

I believe that it is time we stop the futile and time-consuming exercise of simply asserting and reiterating the positions of each of us; but it is time when the Consultative Parties, who possess the knowledge, expertise and experience on Antarctica, should endeavour together to formulate a new regime on this issue, by transcending the differing interests and positions of each Party.

On this festive occasion of the twentieth anniversary of the coming into force of the Antarctic Treaty, the greatest task for us, who have gathered in the capital of Argentina, is to succeed in obtaining the basic consensus on the framework to be formulated on the question of mineral exploration and exploitation by demonstrating understanding of each other's position and by overcoming the difficult hurdles on the basis of the friendship which the Consultative Parties fostered over the past twenty years.

My Delegation intends to sweat out together with all our friends here and work towards this objective.

Although our task is not easy, I am sure that we shall succeed in our endeavour through our cooperation, and I wish to assure you of the fullest cooperation of my Delegation in tackling this common task.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman,

**OPENING STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATE OF NORWAY,
KARIN BRUZELIUS**

Mr. Chairman,

First of all I would like, on behalf of the Norwegian delegation to express our congratulations on your election as Chairman. We are looking forward to working under your guidance. The Norwegian delegation would also like to thank the Argentine Government for its warm welcome and the thorough preparations made for this meeting.

This year we are commemorating the twentieth anniversary of the entry into force of the Antarctic Treaty. In these twenty years the Treaty has served the international community well by eliminating political conflict from the Treaty area. It has proved to be a well-suited framework for practical and peaceful co-operation in the scientific field. However, the next twenty years will provide far more challenges for the Antarctic Treaty than the years put behind us. New problems are being raised due to the increasing global resource scarcity and technological advances. The Treaty makes no provisions regarding resources. However, we have proved to the outside world that the consultative system established under the Treaty can handle these new problems. The Antarctic Marine Living Resources Convention is an encouraging proof of our ability to find practical accommodating solutions to new problems while having diverse interest. We do not think any other international body, present or proposed, is better suited to handle the complex legal and political problems of the Antarctic area than the Consultative meetings.

The perhaps most pressing and difficult issue now before us concerns mineral resources and finding solutions on the bases which have successively been worked out in the previous meeting, the implications for the Antarctic Treaty if we do not succeed in this task have to be seriously considered by all governments here represented. I would here like to underline the necessity of accommodating the views and interests of the States claiming sovereignty in the Antarctic and those States neither claiming sovereignty nor recognizing the claims of other States.

The task at this meeting is to establish a firm basic framework for our negotiations. We must find a format for these negotiations which is both efficient and flexible, and which permits us to come to grips with all the real issues: political, legal, economic, environmental and practical.

In the draft agenda before us is also included a number of other items of utmost importance for the practical cooperation both in the treaty area and in this forum. We are convinced that these items are dealt with in the same serious manner as the more complex and political issues.

The Norwegian delegation comes to the Eleventh Consultative Meeting with an open mind and is prepared to discuss all proposals put before us. We also intend to work towards constructive solutions, and we hope to be able to give a useful contribution to our common efforts.

**OPENING STATEMENT BY THE HEAD OF THE DELEGATION
OF NEW ZEALAND' AMBASSADOR C.D. BEEBY**

Mr. Chairman,

I would like to offer you the congratulations of my delegation on your election to guide the proceedings of this Consultative Meeting. We must express our gratitude too to the Government of Argentina for the arrangements made for this gathering and for the reception of visiting delegations. I should also like to say how much my delegation welcomes the presence for the first time of our colleagues from the Federal Republic of Germany.

These meetings are always important gatherings, forming part as they do of the whole range of international cooperation which has been built up in Antarctica since the Treaty was signed over twenty years ago. The last Consultative Meeting, the tenth, marked the 20th anniversary of the signature of the Antarctic Treaty, and delegations took the opportunity of that important landmark to look back over the work of the Treaty up till then and to consider some of the most pressing current issues.

The leader of my country's delegation spoke then of the period since the International Geophysical Year in 1957 as the era of scientific endeavour in Antarctica. He noted that we had by then an impressive system of effective international cooperation in the scientific field, a system not matched elsewhere and one to be supported and maintained. He noted too that under the Treaty sovereign claims continued undiminished. He then spoke of two new developments. The first was a determination on the part of Treaty countries to exercise collective responsibility for the protection of the Antarctic. The other was the growing interest in resource utilisation, with all the attendant issues that that implied.

Mr Chairman, as we all know, this too is an anniversary meeting. It is fitting that we should recognise the 20th anniversary of our Treaty's entry into force, as well as of its signature. We are in a period of evolution, from the era of man's purely scientific exploration of Antarctica to a new era where the resources of Antarctica may, subject always to environmental protection and conservation, be used for man's benefit. Such evolution does not happen overnight; nor is it easy to regulate.

Nor should it be thought that the transition should be absolute. Control of resources, living or mineral, has been in our minds in one form or another for a decade or more. Scientific research will continue, indefinitely we may confidently say, even if some of the scientific work turns more specifically towards the use of resources.

This period of evolution, of which I have spoken, has, Mr. Chairman, already been a productive one. We all recall with gratification the diplomatic conference in Canberra last year held under the auspices of the Treaty system which led to the initialling and subsequent signature of the Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources. At the time of signature the New Zealand Minister of Foreign Affairs described it as a landmark in the history of international cooperation, demonstrating as it did that Treaty partners were willing and able to continue to cooperate even when confronted with difficult issues such as resources.

The living resources issue will be discussed informally here in preparation for the September meeting in Hobart. Meanwhile, not forgetting other important items on our agenda, we turn our attention to the even more complex issue of minerals. Some useful work on the topic has already been done. At this meeting we must call again on that history of cooperation of which I have spoken in order to lay the foundation for a process of negotiation which may well appear more daunting than the last.

For its part New Zealand is ready to negotiate in good faith and is confident that the Treaty system provides the best framework in which results can be achieved. My Government is convinced that for the good of Antarctica, for the interests of all parties here, and for the interest of the world as a whole it is imperative to set in place as expeditiously as possible a regime to regulate in an orderly fashion the exploitation of Antarctic mineral resources.

Such a regime should in New Zealand's view take account of the following three elements:

First, it should afford the widest possible protection to the fragile Antarctic environment. My Government, like others represented here, has always laid great stress on protection and conservation. History would forgive none of us if we transgressed this basic consideration.

Second, it should take account of the need for an accommodation between the interests of states exercising sovereignty and those that neither make nor recognise

sovereign claims. It is not realistic to think that a successful negotiation could take place if this critical aspect of it were denied; and I believe everyone here realises that.

Third, we cannot, in what we do, ignore the fact that countries not represented here are following our work with interest. The regime we negotiate should take account of that interest and should ensure that benefits are offered to the international community.

Mr. Chairman, I do not minimise the difficulties these points imply. To resolve them successfully constitutes perhaps the greatest challenge so far to the Treaty system. Yet we all wish to preserve that system and to secure our aims within it. With goodwill and determination I think we can achieve our goal.

I am optimistic enough to believe that we shall be able to make sufficient progress in our deliberations at this meeting to open the way for formal negotiations. This process might well begin, as it did in the case of marine living resources, with a Special Consultative Meeting to establish the framework for an agreement. I am happy to say, Mr Chairman, that I am able to offer on behalf of my Government, if colleagues should desire it, an invitation to Consultative Parties to attend such a meeting in New Zealand in March/April 1982.

OPENING STATEMENT BY THE HEAD OF THE DELEGATION OF POLAND, AMBASSADOR CZESLAW LIMONT

Mr. Chairman, Mr. Secretary-General,

Please accept my congratulations on the honour accorded you in electing you to such distinguished posts, and at the same time allow me to thank you for agreeing to preside over our meeting. I also welcome the Delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany; but, above all, Mr. Chairman, I would like to express the tanks of the Polish Delegation to the Government of Argentina for having organized the Eleventh Consultative Meeting of the States Parties to the Antarctic Treaty which has been inaugurated today in this hospitable land.

The deliberations which have started today coincide with the twentieth anniversary of the ratification of the Antarctic Treaty in Washington. This anniversary affords us the opportunity to reflect on the practical operation of that Treaty.

In the view of this delegation, the evaluation is positive, both quantitatively and qualitatively.

Various points of the agreement set a precedent in the search for other solutions of international law and in the negotiations, particularly in connection with the law of the sea, cosmic space, and disarmament problems.

Since Poland belongs to the group of countries of the so-called Antarctic Club, it participates and will continue to participate in the consultative meetings, and has approved all the recommendations of the Ninth and Tenth Consultative Meetings.

Notwithstanding the well-known difficulties Poland is experiencing at this time, it assigns great importance to, and shows a live interest in co-operation regarding Antarctica.

Our country permanently carries out activities at the Aretewski scientific station, and has also participated actively in the Biomas-Fibak Antarctic marine programme. This programme forms part of a national plan of the Polish Academy of Science, which refers to the knowledge and conservation of the natural environment of Antarctica, as well as to the marine and land research in this area, the preservation of natural resources, and the rational utilization of those resources.

The provisions of the Treaty, together with the recommendations and resolutions of the Consultative Meetings, are the only system on a historical and global scale which regulate the activities and co-operation in this vast continent of our planet. Although the

parties to this Treaty have different socio-economic systems, since its inception until today it has been characterized by a large unanimity, which once more confirms the equitable principle of peaceful co-existence of countries having different systems.

The Polish Delegation considers that over almost twenty years of application of the Treaty the Consultative meetings have discussed important problems of international co-operation in this continent and contributed toward finding valuable agreements referring to Antarctica.

We might mention here, as an example, the exchange of data and information, the meetings of experts, the personal exchanges, the joint activities, and the like.

An important factor of the activities in this respect is the system of control of the implementation of the definitions and recommendations of the Treaty.

The Treaty obligates the contracting parties with particular responsibility to ensure that none of the participants will perform any activities in Antarctica that are contrary to the United Nations and to the principles and definitions of the Treaty.

At this Consultative Meeting we shall continue to discuss the subject of minerals, which includes several pertinent problems. The main topic in past Consultative Meetings was limited to general preventive measures to limit the exploitation of minerals, for peaceful purposes, for the preservation of the natural environment, for organization of the system for exchanging information and supervision.

We are now entering a period of deliberation and deeper study of the subject. The Polish Delegation believes that our debates take place in accordance with the meaning and the practice of the Antarctic Treaty, taking into account the interests of all the consultative parties. One of the important topics, in the view of the Polish Delegation, connected with the exploration and exploitation of minerals must be the preservation of the unique Antarctic environment and of its ecosystem.

The Antarctic Treaty is an important factor of the world system for the preservation of peace and security. Its definitions permit the use of the continent exclusively for peaceful purposes which assure the freedom of scientific research and facilitate full international co-operation among its participants. The Treaty has undergone the test of time and has shown that it is a positive instrument for the solution of several difficult problems and various other matters.

The Polish Delegation is convinced that this important instrument of international co-operation which has passed the test during the last two decades will function effectively in the future for the cause of peace, security, and the prosperous development of mankind.

**OPENING STATEMENT BY THE HEAD OF THE
DELEGATION OF THE UNITED KINGDOM
SIR DONALD LOGAN**

It is a particular pleasure to be working with colleagues on Antarctic questions here in Buenos Aires for the third time in four years. On this anniversary of the Antarctic Treaty, it is appropriate that we should celebrate here in this city, since it was ratification by Argentina which brought it into force twenty years ago. The occasion is enhanced by the presence among us for the first time of the delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany, whom we welcome warmly.

One of the purposes of the Treaty is to widen man's understanding of Antarctica by facilitating scientific research and at the same time to conserve its unique environment. Scientific cooperation of course pre-dates the Treaty. The United Kingdom, Mr. Chairman, has a long history of cooperation with your country in Antarctica going back to W.S. Bruce, leader of the Scottish Antarctic Expedition at the beginning of the century, and to Ernest Shackleton, who carried further the work of the German explorer

Filchner. In the 1950s, one of your stations was only 400 metres from one of ours and cooperation was soundly based on the exchange of beef for Scotch whisky.

As we review the operation of the Treaty system, we shall remember the vital contribution of those who endure the Antarctic climate, those who pass a long dark winter there, those many who have returned to the Antarctic many times to devote a lifetime to its discovery, and those who went there and never returned.

During the twenty years of the operation of the Treaty, we have moved gradually towards dealing with resource questions. His Excellency the Minister for Foreign Affairs has just reminded us that as we do so increasing interest in our work is shown by the rest of the world. The world has come to realise that Antarctica exists and our work is subject to observation and scrutiny. We must explain our purposes and achievements, recognise the interest of others and avoid unnecessary secrecy.

There is much to be done at this meeting. We are to try to find an acceptable basis on which to proceed to negotiate an agreement on a minerals regime, in the course of which an accommodation will have to be found between states exercising sovereignty in Antarctica and those that do not, an accommodation which will take due account of the national interests of all the parties. I hope we shall succeed in this, and that we shall be able to take up the invitation of the New Zealand Government to begin negotiations there in the early part of next year, an invitation which is most welcome.

At this present meeting too we must make progress on all those other less dramatic subjects which provide the cement which holds together the Treaty system.

We thank the Argentine Government for the excellent facilities they have provided and for this inaugural ceremony which is most favourable to our work.

**OPENING STATEMENT BY THE HEAD OF THE DELEGATION
OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY,
AMBASSADOR HANS GUNTHER SULIMMA**

Mr. Chairman,

The Delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany would like to join the other delegations in extending warm congratulations to you on your unanimous election to the Chair of this important meeting.

Your experience, Mr. Chairman, and your diplomatic record are guarantees that this meeting will be chaired and guided excellently and efficiently.

I would be glad, Mr. Chairman, if you would extend the thanks of my delegation to H.E. the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Argentina for his important statement and for the hospitality offered to my delegation on the occasion of this meeting.

It is indeed a great pleasure for us to be in the capital of Argentina, a country with which the Federal Republic of Germany has traditionally enjoyed excellent relations of friendship.

Mr. Chairman, my delegation would like to express its gratefulness for the very warm welcome it has received by all delegations. The way in which my delegation has been welcomed in this distinguished round is a strong encouragement for an even more intensive co-operation of the Federal Republic of Germany in all fields of Antarctic activities.

Mr. Chairman, this Consultative Meeting is the first in which a delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany is taking part. On March 3rd, 1981 the III Special Antarctic Consultative Meeting under your able chairmanship acknowledged the right of my country to appoint representatives to participate in Consultative Meetings. Allow me on this occasion to thank once more all states represented here for this decision taken by the III Special Antarctic Consultative Meeting.

I also should like to use this opportunity, Mr. Chairman, to renew our commitment to the goals and principles of the Antarctic Treaty, the 20th. Anniversary of its entry into force we are celebrating this year.

The Antarctic Treaty, to which the Federal Republic of Germany acceded in 1979, is the first demilitarisation treaty after World War II and the first denuclearisation treaty and as such an important instrument for ensuring peace. The prohibition by the Antarctic Treaty of military activities of any kind provides the basis for the exclusively peaceful use of Antarctica, guaranteeing at the same time freedom of scientific research and the development of international co-operation.

Scientific research has been the guiding motivation of the German interest in Antarctica shown for more than 100 years. From the discovery of Palmerland by Dallmann in 1873 there is a tradition of German Antarctic Research leading to the establishment of the permanent research station "Georg-von-Neumayer" at Atka-Bay in February of this year. Almost all research activities were—in one way or the other— also manifestations of international co-operation. Against this background and in this sense and not only in view of the legal obligation imposed on us by the Treaty— my government is fully committed to the principle of free scientific research, of international co-operation to this end, and to the measures called for by the Treaty for the promotion of this co-operation.

Next to the principles of peaceful use, free scientific research, and international co-operation I should like to draw attention to a further principle—a very central one—to which the Federal Republic of Germany feels specially attached. I am referring to our obligation to preserve the integrity of the Antarctic ecosystem. Ours is a time in which the planet is threatened by overpopulation and excessive use of raw materials. It seems of overriding importance to us to safeguard the unique ecosystem of Antarctica. The Federal Republic of Germany will continue to pay special attention to this goal.

In this context we view with satisfaction the conclusion of the Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources last year in which we had the privilege to take part. We hope that the conference scheduled for September of this year in Hobart will yield results which will allow for an early implementation of the Convention.

Mr. Chairman, the central topic of this meeting will be the question of a regime for mineral resources of Antarctica. I do not at this moment want to embark on an elaboration of details of this issue which has occupied the forefront of interest of Consultative Parties since 1972. I should like to assure you, however, that our participation in the deliberations ahead of us will be guided by our special responsibility for the preservation of the principles and objectives of the Antarctic Treaty, a responsibility which we accepted when becoming a consultative party.

Allow me to mention, nevertheless, that it is the feeling of my government that the draft resolution prepared for this meeting is a good basis for our deliberations.

The Delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany wants to express its sincere wishes for the success of this Consultative Meeting and is prepared to participate actively in its work.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

OPENING STATEMENT BY THE HEAD OF THE DELEGATION OF SOUTH AFRICA, MR P. D. OELOFSEN

Mr. Chairman, allow me first of all to extend to you my warmest congratulations and those of my delegation on your election as Chairman of this meeting. Those of us who have been attending Antarctic Treaty meetings are well aware of your excellent qualities and your dedication to the principles and spirit of the Antarctic

Treaty and we are therefore more than confident that you will guide this meeting to a very successful conclusion.

Allow me also through you to thank on behalf of my Government the Government of Argentina for inviting us to meet in Buenos Aires for the XIth Consultative meeting as well as for hosting the Preparatory Meeting which took place here earlier this year.

Mr. Chairman, this, the XIth Consultative Meeting is indeed an historic occasion. It is of great significance, because we commemorate this year the entry into force of the Antarctic Treaty twenty years ago. For this reason, it is indeed most fitting that this meeting should take place in the capital of Argentina, one of the nations with a long and proud association with the Antarctic.

This meeting is, however, also of particular significance because the Federal Republic of Germany is participating for the first time in the activities of this forum. It gives my delegation great pleasure, Mr. Chairman, to join other delegations in welcoming the delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany to the Antarctic Treaty Consultative group. Mr. Chairman, the fact that the membership of this meeting has increased twice during the past few years is not without significance. I believe it is undisputable proof of the high regard the international community have for the principles of the Antarctic Treaty and for the achievements of the Consultative Parties.

There is a third reason for the historic significance of this meeting. Mr. Chairman, we can today for the first time officially take note of the successful conclusion and signature of the Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources which was signed in Canberra early last year. One cannot help but to recall that the successful conclusion and signature of that Convention was due entirely to the efforts of the Consultative Parties.

The success and achievements of the past should, however, not lead to complacency on the part of the Consultative Parties. It should be accepted that the coming years will be more challenging than the past 20 years. International interest in the Treaty area is increasing and time will bring increased pressure from within as well as from outside to bear on the Antarctic Treaty system. Our tasks would therefore become more difficult and the challenges greater in the coming years. The question of mineral exploration and exploitation in Antarctica is but one such challenge. At the same time we can certainly take encouragement from the way in which the Consultative Parties have dealt with the question of the Antarctic Marine Living Resources. The signature of the Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources has again demonstrated the willingness and ability of the Consultative Parties to accommodate diverse national interests in order to achieve a common goal of a higher order. If the same spirit and attitude is to prevail in the future, especially as regards the question of mineral exploration and exploitation, we believe success must be achieved.

In conclusion, may I state that my delegation is prepared to add our efforts in the immediate future to those of other delegations to develop a regime for mineral resources in Antarctica. In doing so one of the basic objectives of my delegation will be to ensure that environmentally acceptable solutions should prevail. Negotiations on this issue are not going to be easy, but we believe that the spirit of co-operation and compromise which underly the Antarctic Treaty and every thing that has been done in this forum during the past 20 years will prevail and lead to a successful solution of that problem.

OPENING STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Mr. Chairman,

Allow me, on behalf of my Delegation, to congratulate you on your election as Chairman of this XI Consultative Meeting. Also, I want to express our satisfaction at the

presence of a new member, the Federal Republic of Germany, the fourteenth member to join us at our meetings. The Federal Republic of Germany is carrying out an important scientific activity in the Antarctic and we hope it will make a constructive contribution in the search for, and definition of, decisions adopted by the Consultative Meetings. The XI Meeting opens at a solemn moment for us all: the twentieth anniversary of the entry into force of the Antarctic Treaty. That document served as the cornerstone for peaceful co-operation among different countries within the framework of an entire continent situated in the most inaccessible and inhospitable part of our planet. The principle of a peaceful utilization of Antarctica, which constitutes the basis of the Treaty of 1961, contributed, within its sphere, to the successful development of a fruitful scientific co-operation, crowned by the considerable enrichment of our knowledge of the principal laws of nature. In the eyes of all humanity, the Antarctic Treaty is a clear demonstration of the possibilities of solving complicated international problems based on a constructive criterion in search of mutually acceptable agreements.

The Soviet Union assigns great importance to the Antarctic Treaty and to the work being carried out within its framework, above all in protecting the environment. As a result of that work, during the last twenty years, a wide range of measures were drawn up for the preservation of the exceptional Antarctic environment. Those measures were reflected in a series of recommendations accepted at the Consultative Meetings and applied directly to the prevention of man's harmful activities in the Antarctic environment; the determination of sites of special scientific interest and specially protected areas; the prevention of pollution of the Antarctic marine environment caused by oil. Within the framework of the Treaty, measures were agreed on for the conservation of the Antarctic flora and fauna; the statement on the protection of the Antarctic environment was accepted; and the corresponding guide-books for tourists were prepared for persons visiting Antarctica. An important place among the documents prepared under the aegis of the Treaty belongs to the Convention for the Conservation of Antarctic Seals, which was signed in the year 1972. We are particularly satisfied with the successful conclusion in May 1980 of the work on the Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources, which was signed by all the participants at the Consultative Meeting held in September that same year. In this respect, we can report that the Soviet Government approved the aforementioned convention: the corresponding note was sent by us, as was that of Japan, to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on May 26, 1981.

The high value accorded by our government to the Antarctic Treaty, to its principles, and to the activity developed within its framework, is a consequence of the general line pursued by the Soviet Union towards the expansion of international co-operation for peaceful purposes. This noble idea found its clear interpretation in the reports of the XXVI Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. The Secretary-General of the Central Committee of the Soviet Union Communist Party, President of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, comrade L.I. Breznev said in his report to the congress: "Life requires the fruitful co-operation of all countries for the performance of the peaceful and constructive tasks that lie before all peoples and all mankind. And this co-operation is not a baseless Utopia. Its seeds, germinating discretely as yet, already exist in our time. We must know how to recognize them, appreciate them and develop them".

We are faced with different and complicated problems that require detailed discussion in the traditional spirit that presides over our Consultative Meetings and tends towards the achievement of co-ordinated resolutions. We are convinced that in the course of this debate the Consultative Parties will show, as they did at our previous meetings, a high degree of responsibility in the protection of the Antarctic environment, their concern for the continuation of scientific research, and their unanimous aspiration towards the successive consolidation of the Antarctic Treaty as the cornerstone for the resolution of all complicated problems.

In conclusion, Mr. Chairman, may I request you to convey our gratitude to the Government of Argentina for the possibility of holding the XI Consultative Meeting in

Buenos Aires, as well as our conviction that this meeting will be a further step forward in the attainment of the objectives and principles of the Antarctic Treaty.

Thank you.

3.— **STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATE OF CHILE
AMBASSADOR ENRIQUE GAJARDO VILLARROEL
SIGNER OF THE ANTARCTIC TREATY**

Twenty years ago, the Antarctic Treaty entered into force, on June 23rd., 1961, having been signed in Washington on December 1st., 1959.

Thus was born a new international system, to be applied in a continent that was inhospitable due to its natural conditions, unpopulated, but attractive to men of science for many reasons, and dangerous to peace if ill used.

Since ancient times, it had been the object of numerous explorations, from the days when on the maps of the geographer Mercator it appeared linked to the South American Continent, forming a single mass with the lands of the Kingdom of Chile, belonging to the Spanish Crown, down to the voyages of Cook, Palmer, Bellinghausen, Weddell, Gauss, Ross, Wilkes, Gerlach, Dumont d'Urville, Scott, Amundsen, the last two in their dramatic race towards the South Pole, and the more modern explorers, like Admiral Richard Evelyn Byrd.

Many sealers and whalers penetrated into the the Antarctic seas in different periods, and the majority of them soon fled, chased away by storms at sea and hurricane gales, polar cold and icebergs.

The new regime created by the Treaty entrusted the implementation of the system to the twelve countries named in the preamble, and which had shown special interest in Antarctica, in particular by establishing bases for scientific research during International Geophysical Year, which was held in 1957-1958.

On entering into force, the Antarctic Treaty solved a political problem that was creating serious concern at the time, by freezing in its article IV all territorial claims as they then stood, while recognizing their existence and protecting them.

Furthermore, and this is important, it was agreed among the Contracting Parties that there would be no further claims of sovereignty rights and that no act or activity carried out while the Treaty was in force would constitute grounds for enforcing, supporting or denying a claim of sovereignty rights in Antarctica, nor for creating any sovereignty rights in that region.

The idea of "interest" in Antarctica and in scientific research is essential, since it determines the capacity of "consultative party" or "acceding party".

The Antarctic Treaty is not exclusive. It is open to all countries for accession, but to acquire the status of "consultative party", that is, to take part in the administration of the system, it is necessary to show a real interest in the Antarctic.

This is established in paragraph 2 of article IX, which states that each country that has become a party to the Treaty by accession shall be entitled to appoint representatives to participate in the consultative meetings during such time as that Contracting Party demonstrates its interest in Antarctica by conducting substantial scientific research activity there, such as the establishment of a scientific station or the despatch of a scientific expedition.

But what the Antarctic Treaty really created, on entering into force, was a state of permanent peace when it stipulated in its article I that Antarctica shall be used for peaceful purposes only; and prohibited any measures of a military nature, such as the establishment of military bases and fortifications, the carrying out of military manoeuvres, as well as the testing of any type of weapons.

In this same spirit, it prohibited any nuclear explosions and the disposal of radioactive waste material in the area, and, likewise, to ensure the observance of these provisions for the peaceful system to be effective, it created the procedure for inspection.

Perhaps the greatest benefit the Antarctic Treaty has given to the advancement of science and to all humanity, is the creation of a spirit of solidarity and co-operation among the Consultative Parties to carry out scientific tasks successfully. The Treaty converted Antarctica into a scientific laboratory, which has received the collaboration of eminent men of science and scientific agencies such as "SCAR".

The Antarctic Treaty is a living instrument, which has not slipped into oblivion on being deposited in the Archives of the United States. It serves the cause of peace and of scientific research, and we all nourish the hope that it will also serve as the framework for drawing up other international instruments, not only for the conservation of its flora, its fauna, sites of historic and scientific interest, the fishing wealth of its seas, the Antarctic environment, and to prevent is pollution, but also to utilize all its resources to meet the needs of all mankind.

The time seems to have come, and our delegation is of this opinion, to update the Antarctic system and endow it with means in keeping with actual present-day conditions.

The debates that led to the conclusion of the Antarctic Treaty were not easy. Both the discussions in the preparatory committee that met in Washington in the months of August and September, 1958 and those in the conference itself, in October and November, 1959, were heated. But, in the end, common sense and a healthy spirit of co-operation prevailed, and the Treaty was signed in the midst of general optimism and satisfaction.

I am reminded at this moment of scenes and of the names of those who were the leading actors in those events. But there is one name above all that I wish to recall: that of Paul Daniels, Ambassador of the United States, who was in charge of the negotiations concerning the Treaty. Without his patience, his skill, his talent and his tenacity, there would have been no Treaty.

Five years ago, while talking with my friend Ambassador Daniels in Washington, I asked him how he had managed to overcome the final resistance and to make the signature of the Treaty a fact. He replied that everything was arranged at a luncheon given at the Soviet Embassy in Washington. But what he did not tell me was the extent to which vodka, caviar, Scotch whisky and Alaska salmon influenced the result of that working luncheon!

Since then I have often thought of the advisability of repeating that luncheon for the solution of present problems...

I also remember at that first Consultative Meeting at Canberra in the Parliament Room where we held our sessions, a young Japanese expert on his country's delegation. He is here today in this room, and is now the head of the Delegation of Japan.

On the occasion of the twentieth anniversary of the entry into force of the Antarctic Treaty, the Government of Chile, through me, reiterates its faith in the principles proclaimed by this international instrument and hopes it will continue to serve the cause of peace and scientific research. Thank you.

4.—

LISTA DE PARTICIPANTES

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5.— MESSAGE TO ALL ANTARCTIC STATIONS FROM THE ELEVENTH ANTARCTIC TREATY CONSULTATIVE MEETING

The delegations of the fourteen States that are Consultative Parties to the Antarctic Treaty, meeting in the city of Buenos Aires on the occasion of the Eleventh Consultative Meeting which opened on 23 June, coinciding with the twentieth anniversary of the entry into force of the Treaty, extend to all the personnel of the different stations who are carrying out their activities in the various scientific bases of Antarctica with admirable spirit and professional skill, their best wishes for the successful continuation of the effort which has contributed to a better knowledge of that frozen region of the world.

6.- APPROVAL OF CONSULTATIVE MEETING RECOMMENDATIONS (AS OF 23 JUNE 1981)

APPROVAL, AS NOTIFIED TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, OF MEASURES RELATING TO THE FURTHERANCE OF THE PRINCIPLES AND OBJECTIVES OF THE ANTARCTIC TREATY

	16 Recommen- dations adopted at First Meeting	10 Recommen- dations adopted at Second Meeting	11 Recommen- dations adopted at Third Meeting	28 Recommen- dations adopted at Fourth Meeting	9 Recommen- dations adopted at Fifth Meeting	15 Recommen- dations adopted at Sixth Meeting	9 Recommen- dations adopted at Seventh Meeting	14 Recommen- dations adopted at Eighth Meeting	5 Recommen- dations adopted at Ninth Meeting	9 Recommen- dations adopted at the Tenth Meeting
	Approved	Approved	Approved	Approved	Approved	Approved	Approved	Approved	Approved	Approved
Argentina	All	All	All	All	All	All	All	All	All	All
Australia	All	All	All	All	All	All	All	All	All	All
Belgium	All	All	All	All	All	All	All	All	All	All
Chile	All	All	All	All	All	All	All	All	All	All
France	All	All	All	All	All	All	All	All	All	All
Germany, Federal Republic of	All	All	All but 3-9	All but 4-1 through 4-14	All but 5-5,5-6	All but 8-8,8-9, 8-10	All but 7-4,7-5, 7-9	All but 8-1,8-2, 8-5,8-9	All	All
Japan	All	All	All except VIII	All except 1-19	All except 5 and 8	All except 8,9,10	All except 5	All except 1,2,5, and 9	All	All
New Zealand	All	All	All	All	All	All	All	All	All	All
Norway	All	All	All	All	All	All	All	All	All	All
Poland	All	All	All	All	All	All	All	All	All	All
South Africa	All	All	All	All	All	All	All	All	All	All
U.S.R.R.	All	All	All	All	All	All	All	All	All	All
U.K.	All	All	All	All except 12	All	All except 8 and 10 1/	All except 5 2/	All	All	All
U.S.A.	All	All	All	All	All	All	All	All	All	All

1/ 8 and 10 accepted as interim guidelines.
2/ 5 accepted as interim guidelines.

DETERMINATION OF WATER POLLUTION OF THE SCOTIA SEA, DRAKE PASSAGE, WEDDELL SEA AND BELLINGSHAUSEN SEA IN THE ANTARCTIC THROUGH OIL

Our country, through the scientific group of the Argentine Antarctic Institute, has taken 350 samples from the Weddell, Scotia and Bellingshausen seas and the Drake Passage to study water pollution through oil.

The method used was spectrofluorometry, which is highly sensitive and is described in Operational Guide N^o 7 published by UNESCO, and was studied with the assistance of Drs. E.N. Levy and Adam Zsolnay and adopted by the Integrated Global Ocean Station System (IGOSS).

This method establishes only existence of hydrocarbons with condensed benzenic groups in oil, but does not determine biogenic hydrocarbons.

In view of the existence of differences in the chemical composition of oils, the data referred to oil taken from a well in Tierra del Fuego and to chrysene. The data are expressed in microgrammes of Tierra del Fuego oil per millilitre of sea water. The values found most frequently are in the order of 0.03 microgrammes per millilitre of sea water, but in some very small areas in the Weddell Sea and the Scotia Sea, values have been established ranging between 0.10, 0.12 and 0.13 microgrammes per millilitre of sea water.

It is considered that this increase in values may be caused by the filtration of hydrocarbons through fissures in the ocean bed, since pollution caused by sea-going vessels cannot be considered for the time being.