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Subseries: Global Climate Change Files - Conferences/Meetings

OA/ID Number: 62056
Folder ID Number: 62056-003

Folder Title:
White House Conference on Science and Economics research relating to Global Change [2 of 2] [1989]

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

October 12, 1989

MEMORANDUM FOR JOSEPH W. HAGIN, II

FROM:

D. ALLAN BROMLEY

DABa

SUBJECT:

Proposed Meeting with President to Discuss
G-7 Science Ministers Meeting

John Sununu has suggested that I contact you to request fifteen minutes on the President's schedule on Monday, October 16 or Tuesday, October 17, for discussion of a possible meeting of the Science Ministers of the G-7 nations that I might host in March or April of next year. The purpose of this meeting would be to work toward an international program of research, drawing on the unique expertise and resources of the member countries to address gaps and uncertainties in our understanding of the science and underlying the entire spectrum of questions involved in the global environment. The goal would be that of evolving an international coordinated program of research comparable to the national U.S. program that the President made public at the Paris Summit meeting.

To the extent that we are successful in arriving at such an international research program on the global environment, it might constitute an agenda item for a subsequent Heads of State meeting at which the Heads of State might commit their respective nations and resources to participation in it.

I enclose a copy of a relevant earlier memorandum to the President, and a schedule proposal.

Attachments

cc: Governor Sununu

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

SCHEDULE PROPOSAL

October 12, 1989

TO: JOSEPH W. HAGIN, II
Deputy Assistant to the President
for Appointments and Scheduling

FROM: D. ALLAN BROMLEY *DAB*

REQUEST: To meet with the President.

PURPOSE: To discuss a possible meeting of the Science
Ministers of the G-7 nations in March or
April of 1990.

BACKGROUND: In followup to the President's announcement
in Paris of the U.S. national research
program on the global environment, the goal
of a meeting of G-7 Science Ministers would
be to evolve an international coordinated
program of research comparable to the U.S.
program.

PREVIOUS
PARTICIPATION: Follow-on to the President's environmental
initiative at the Paris Summit last July.

DATE AND TIME: Monday, October 16 or Tuesday, October 17

DURATION: 15 minutes.

LOCATION: The Oval Office

PARTICIPANTS: Governor Sununu, D. Allan Bromley

OUTLINE OF EVENT: Governor Sununu and Dr. Bromley arrive for
discussion with President.

REMARKS REQUIRED: None.

MEDIA COVERAGE: None.

RECOMMENDED BY: D. Allan Bromley

OPPOSED BY:

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 20, 1989

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: D. ALLAN BROMLEY *daB*

SUBJECT: HEAD OF STATE MEETING ON THE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT

I know that you are currently considering how best to follow-up on your discussions at, and before, the Paris Economic Summit regarding a Head-of-State meeting focused on the global environment.

I recognize that you will necessarily weigh many factors in reaching your decision but want, in this memorandum, to make a few comments and a specific suggestion from my science and technology vantage point.

First, I believe that it would be a mistake to plan any such Head-of-State meeting too closely in time to the scheduled February 1990, IPCC meeting to be held here in Washington because the latter is rather focussed on global warming and this is only a part, albeit a highly public part, of the more general global environmental change question. Too close a coupling would, in my opinion, give undue emphasis to the global warming problem to the exclusion of others such as ocean pollution, biodiversity, and a whole host of other topics.

Second, I would argue that it would be important that the necessary preparatory work be done so that you would be in a position at the Head-of-State meeting to sign, with your fellow Heads of State, an agreement having very solid content.

To that end, I would propose - and have discussed very briefly with Governor Sununu - the possibility that in, say, April 1990, I host, here in Washington, a meeting of the Science Ministers or their equivalent from the seven nations involved in the Economic Summit in which we might try to agree upon a set of environmental change issues of international importance (including global warming, of course) and focus on the state of our current scientific knowledge of the phenomena underlying them. Having identified at least some of the most important gaps in such knowledge, we could then at least attempt to evolve a coherent, integrated plan, involving the scientific and technological communities of these seven nations, to address these gaps.

If we were successful, then such a plan might provide an appropriate environmental centerpiece upon which the Heads of State could formally agree and to which they might be prepared to commit their respective countries for action.

I make this suggestion, Mr. President, for the additional reason that it would allow you to maintain the strong leadership role that this country has earned and that you so effectively demonstrated at Paris.

... The possibility of including a broader spectrum of nations is one that I have rejected, not because they do not have essential contributions to make but rather to keep this initial discussion within manageable bounds. To the extent that we are successful initially we certainly would wish to spread our net rather early to include much broader representation.

I would welcome your guidance and comments.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

October 18, 1989

MEMORANDUM FOR JAMES W. CICCONI

FROM: D, ALLAN BROMLEY *AB*
SUBJECT: G-7 DISCUSSION WITH THE PRESIDENT

Herewith the promised material. Sorry that you didn't have it sooner. I had assumed that Joe Hagin would channel my request for time with the President through your office.

Yesterday I sent you the twelve letters you had requested for the President to send to PCAST members. Since the President will very probably ask me today where PCAST stands I would appreciate a call from you, at your convenience, prior to the 2:45 p.m. meeting today.

I shall be tied up with the Medal of Science and Technology matters from 11:00 to 11:45 and from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.

Thanks for your help.

Attachments

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 18, 1989

MEETING WITH THE PRESIDENT TO DISCUSS G-7

Date: October 18, 1989
Location: Oval Office
Time: 2:45 p.m.
From: D. ALLAN BROMLEY

I. PURPOSE

To receive Presidential guidance concerning a possible meeting of the G-7 Science Ministers in Washington in March or April 1990 prior to a Head of State meeting on the global environment.

II. BACKGROUND

The U.S. science and technology communities have in the past, and continue to provide the lion's share of understanding underlying global environmental questions. But major gaps and uncertainties remain. Since these questions transcend all national boundaries it is essential that the expertise, resources, and data of at least a major fraction of the world's countries be mobilized to minimize these uncertainties and work toward closing these gaps. The goal of the proposed meeting would be that of evolving an international coordinated program of research comparable to the national U.S. program that the President made public at the Paris Summit meeting.

To the extent that we are successful in arriving at such an international research program on the global environment, it might constitute an agenda item for a subsequent Heads of State meeting at which the Heads of State might commit their respective nations and resources to participate in it.

I enclose a copy of a relevant earlier memorandum.

III. PARTICIPANTS

The President
Governor Sununu
Dr. D. Allan Bromley

IV. PRESS PLAN

N/A

V. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

N/A

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

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I would welcome your guidance and comments.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 4, 1989

MEMORANDUM FOR ALLAN BROMLEY
MICHAEL BOSKIN
BOB GRADY

FROM: STEPHEN I. DANZANSKY
Deputy Assistant to the President
and Director of Cabinet Affairs

As you know, as a result of some rather frenetic activity prior to his departure last week, the President took with him an options paper reflective of the Global Change Working Group's latest deliberations on the issue of hosting an environmental conference in fulfillment of his campaign pledge.

The President decided to announce two initiatives at the Malta Meeting after consultations with Mr. Gorbachev, and to reserve a third possibly for later announcement.

In accord with the draft press statement attached hereto, the President announced today that the U.S. would host negotiations for a framework on global climate change to begin after the ICC completes its work in November of 1990 in the spring of 1991.

He also announced that his chief science and economic advisors would convene a meeting next spring to advance the quality and understanding of the analytical tools necessary to confront international environmental problems. A copy of the press release from Brussels with the relevant environmental portions is also affixed.

The third option, to convene a conference on the conservation of nature for the fall of 1990 was tabled for later consideration.

In light of these two initiatives, I think it would be useful for us to get together informally to begin discussions on the scope and logistics of the spring science/economic meeting.

We will be in touch with your schedulers to discuss a mutually convenient time.

cc: David Q. Bates
Dick Schmalensee
Nancy Maloley
Juanita Duggan
Barry McBee

DRAFT STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

I am announcing today two initiatives intended to focus and mobilize international action on the important matter of global climate change.

The United States has been an active participant (along with the Soviet Union) in the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, known by its acronym as the IPCC. I had previously made clear that the U.S. fully expected the deliberations of that body to lead, upon completion of the reports, to negotiation of a framework convention on climate change and to that end, earlier this year, the U.S. hosted a workshop to begin discussion of the likely elements of such a framework.

I discussed these matters with General Secretary Gorbachev and told him of two initiatives which I had decided to undertake. First, the United States intends to offer to host negotiations for a framework convention on global climate change to begin after the IPCC completes its work in November of 1990.

However, we must be certain that we understand what our very best scientific and economic analyses are telling us about the subject as we move toward a solution.

We must also understand the full implications of any international agreements which we may undertake so that these agreements are both meaningful and sustainable for all nations over the longer term. The United States is a nation of laws with deep respect for its commitments; we do not lightly sign our name to binding documents.

Therefore, in light of the need for better information on the scientific and economic issues related to this and other important international problems, I have asked my chief science and economic advisors to convene a White House meeting next spring to be attended by international delegations composed of their counterparts from around the world and each nation's top environmental official. The purpose of the meeting will be to advance the quality and understanding of the analytical tools we have available to confront international environmental problems, including global climate change, which is among the least understood.

The result of this White House meeting will be a sharing of analytical techniques and research as well as movement toward the development of a common integrated approach for use in future negotiations and deliberations. The U.S. in FY 1990 is spending over \$ 1/2 billion on scientific research for global change and is expected to increase this amount in FY 1991. Our program is designed to enhance both space and earth-based observation of the

earth's many climate-related systems. We will continue to ask other nations to join us in this vitally important mission.

It is hoped that these two initiatives will help further our understanding of and sharpen our response to the environmental problems confronting our shared planet.

FACT SHEET

- President Bush discussed global climate change with General Secretary Gorbachev, telling him of two initiatives which he has decided to undertake. First, the United States intends to offer to host negotiations for a framework convention on global climate change to begin after the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) completes its work in November of 1990.
- Second, in light of the need for better information on the scientific and economic issues related to this and other important international problems, the President has asked his chief science and economic advisors to convene a White House meeting next spring to be attended by international delegations composed of their counterparts from around the world and each nation's top environmental official.
- The purpose of the meeting will be to advance the quality and understanding of the analytical tools which are available to confront international environmental problems, including global climate change, which is among the least understood. The result of this White House meeting will be a sharing of analytical techniques and research as well as movement toward the development of a common integrated approach for use in future negotiations and deliberations.
- The President pointed out that, despite scientific uncertainties, the U.S. is proceeding with a number of unilateral initiatives which although merited for other reasons will have the effect of substantially reducing greenhouse gas emissions.
- These include:
 - a proposed program in the Clean Air Act to substantially reduce sulfur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide, volatile organic compounds, and air toxic emissions. The President's program explicitly rewards conservation as a means for achieving these reductions.
 - a program to enhance earth and space-based observation of climate-related systems and to improve the analysis of any data gathered.
 - a new fee on the production of CFCs which will have the effect of substantially reducing CFC emissions even beyond those levels required by the Montreal Protocol.

an increase in the Corporate Average Fuel Efficiency (CAFE) standard for automobiles to 27.5 mpg, which will reduce carbon dioxide emissions from automobiles.

- o The U.S. has also supported in international forums a world-wide phase-out of CFCs by the year 2000.
- o The President raised the environmental issue because of its importance globally and because the U.S. and the Soviet Union are working closely together in the IPCC process.
- o The IPCC is an offshoot of the UN Environmental Programme (UNEP) and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO). It was set up in 1988 to provide a central forum to discuss global climate change.
- o The IPCC has three working groups: the Soviet Union chairs the working group assessing the impacts of climate change and the U.S. chairs the working group tasked with identifying strategies to respond to climate change; the working group on science is chaired by the U.K.
- o Both the U.S. and the Soviet Union believe the IPCC process is working well; the leaders reaffirmed their support for the IPCC's work and look forward to the next IPCC meeting to be held in Washington, D.C. in February.
- o Scientific uncertainties about global climate change remain: we understand that increased emissions of certain gases, called greenhouse gases (carbon dioxide, CFCs, methane, etc.), may cause global warming but existing scientific models cannot predict precisely how the global climate system will respond because of the many variables involved, including cloud cover, ocean temperature and rainfall.
- o Given these uncertainties, our approach must be flexible enough to allow changes to be made as our understanding increases; we believe a framework convention setting overall policy goals with associated protocols for specific reductions and timetables, to be negotiated at a later date, is the best approach. This format was used successfully in the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer and its associated Montreal and Sofia Protocols.
- o More scientific research is needed to address these uncertainties. The United States proposes to invest \$500 million in global climate change research during the coming year; we hope others will join our efforts.

Shannon: Please release.

PRESIDENT'S AFTERNOON INTERVENTION
ON THE FUTURE OF EUROPE

INTRODUCTION

- THIS MORNING I REVIEWED MY DISCUSSIONS WITH PRESIDENT GORBACHEV AT MALTA AND WE HEARD FROM PRIME MINISTER ANDREOTTI AND PRIME MINISTER MULRONEY ABOUT THEIR RECENT MEETINGS WITH HIM.
- I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY THIS AFTERNOON TO TALK ABOUT A SUBJECT OF EVEN BROADER SCOPE: THE FUTURE SHAPE OF THE NEW EUROPE AND THE NEW ATLANTICISM.

A TIME OF CHOICE

- WHEN WE LAST MET IN MAY, OUR SUMMIT DECLARATION DESCRIBED THE SETTING AS A "JUNCTURE OF UNPRECEDENTED CHANGE AND OPPORTUNITIES." IN THE LAST SIX MONTHS, WE HAVE WITNESSED EVENTS THAT HAVE FINALLY BEGUN TO MATCH OUR HOPES THESE FORTY YEARS. OUR DREAMS FOR AN HISTORIC TRANSFORMATION OF EUROPE FROM A DIVIDED CONTINENT INTO A CONTINENT WHOLE AND FREE ARE COMING TRUE.
- THE ALLIANCE WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1949 TO PROVIDE THE BASIS FOR PRECISELY THE EXTRAORDINARY EVOLUTION WHICH IS OCCURRING IN EASTERN EUROPE TODAY.
- THIS YEAR THE PEOPLE OF THE EAST MADE FUNDAMENTAL CHOICES ABOUT THEIR DESTINY, AND GOVERNMENTS THERE BEGAN TO HONOR THE CITIZEN'S RIGHT TO CHOOSE. WHAT THESE CHANGES AMOUNT TO IS NOTHING LESS THAN A PEACEFUL REVOLUTION.
- THE TASK BEFORE US IS TO CONSOLIDATE THE FRUITS OF THIS PEACEFUL REVOLUTION AND PROVIDE THE ARCHITECTURE FOR CONTINUED PEACEFUL CHANGE. GREAT CHOICES ARE BEING MADE, AND GREATER OPPORTUNITIES BECKON.

THE FIRST PRINCIPLE FOR EUROPE'S FUTURE: OVERCOMING THE DIVISION OF EUROPE THROUGH FREEDOM

- IN ANY TIME OF GREAT CHANGE, IT IS GOOD TO HAVE FIRM PRINCIPLES TO GUIDE OUR WAY. OUR GOVERNMENTS COMMITTED THEMSELVES AGAIN IN MAY TO SEEK AN END TO THE PAINFUL DIVISION OF EUROPE. WE HAVE NEVER ACCEPTED THIS DIVISION. THE PEOPLE OF EVERY NATION HAVE THE RIGHT TO DETERMINE THEIR OWN WAY OF LIFE IN FREEDOM.
- OF COURSE, WE HAVE ALL SUPPORTED GERMAN REUNIFICATION FOR FOUR DECADES. AND IN OUR VIEW, THIS GOAL OF GERMAN UNIFICATION SHOULD BE BASED ON THE FOLLOWING PRINCIPLES.
- FIRST, SELF-DETERMINATION MUST BE PURSUED WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO ITS OUTCOME. WE SHOULD NOT AT THIS TIME ENDORSE NOR EXCLUDE ANY PARTICULAR VISION OF UNITY.

- 2 -

Regional Issues

Expressed disappointment with Soviet policy on Central America, noting it was out of step with the new Soviet direction domestically in Eastern Europe and in arms control. Nicaragua/Cuba remains the single most disruptive factor in the relationship.

Arms Control

1. Speeding achievement of a chemical weapons ban by offering to end U.S. production of binary weapons when the multilateral convention on chemical weapons enters into force, in return for Soviet acceptance of the terms of our UN proposal to ban chemical weapons.
2. Proposing to sign an agreement at the 1990 Summit to destroy U.S. and Soviet chemical weapons down to 20 percent of the current U.S. level.
3. Suggesting joint U.S.-Soviet support for a CFE Summit to sign a CFE treaty in 1990.
4. Accelerating the START process in order to resolve all substantive issues and to conclude a treaty, if possible, by the 1990 Summit. To this end, the President suggested that Secretary Baker and Foreign Minister Shevardnadze concentrate on resolving at their January meeting three of the outstanding START issues: ALCMs, non-deployed missiles, and telemetry encryption.
5. Completing work on the Threshold Test Ban Treaty (TTBT) and the Peaceful Nuclear Explosions Treaty (PNET) for signature at the 1990 Summit.
6. Proposing that the Soviet Union join efforts to constrain missile proliferation more effectively by observing the limits developed by the U.S. and its allies in the Missile Technology Control Regime.

Military Openness

Making public more information on military programs. The President suggested that the Soviet Union make public the details of its military budget, force posture, and weapons production figures, just as the United States now does.

Olympics

Suggesting joint U.S.-Soviet support for Berlin as the site of the 2004 Olympic Games.

Environment

1. Hosting a conference next fall to negotiate a framework treaty on global climate change, after the working groups of

AVENUE Page 01
treaty on global climate change, after the working group of the UN-sponsored Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change submit their final report.

2. Convening an international meeting at the White House next spring for top level scientific, environmental, and economic officials to discuss global climate change issues. The President expressed hope that the Soviets will join us by sending their top officials in the field.

Student Exchanges

Increasing significantly university exchanges so that an additional 1,000 American and 1,000 Soviet college students are studying in each other's country by the beginning of the 1991 school year.

* * *

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Memo

12/6/89

To: D. Allan Bromley
From: Nancy G. Maynard
Subject: Draft Summary of 12/6 Meeting on White House
Science/Economics/Environment Conference

Issue:

A decision on the timing, participation, objectives, and structure of the White house Science/Economics/Environment Conference is needed.

Background:

Following the last meeting of the DPC Working Group on Global Change and prior to his departure to meet with President Gorbachev in Malta, the President was briefed on the Working Group's deliberations and presented with the environmental conference options identified by the group. After his discussions with Gorbachev, the President chose to announce two initiatives. One of those is an international meeting at the White House next spring, to be attended by each government's chief science, economics, and environmental official. The general purpose of the meetings will be to advance the quality and understanding of the analytical tools necessary to confront international environmental problems, including global change. The conference will have the specific goal of sharing analytical techniques and research in an effort to develop a common integrated approach for response to global change that takes into account the best information on the scientific, economic and environmental aspects of the issue.

Meeting Summary:

On 12/6/89, Dr. Bromley convened a small task force on the White House Conference to develop proposals on the objectives, timing, participants, and structure of that meeting for consideration by the Global Change Working Group. A summary of that meeting follows.

The following points were agreed upon at the meeting:

1. The conference should be in the spring of 1990, preferably as early in April as possible, and should be set up so that it does not conflict with other meetings, Presidential events, etc.

2. It is important to invite the right combination of countries. F. Bernthal is reviewing this for the group. Of particular importance is the establishment of clear defensible selection criteria for use in discussion with countries that are not selected and wish to join.

3. It is important to focus on the specifics of the analytical tools available for addressing the issue of global change - and the interdependence of the sci/econ/enviro factors. Specifically, this conference should, from its outset, eschew discussion of policy.

4. This conference should not duplicate any other conferences such as IPCC/Bruntland/Hague - must have its own clear purpose and products

There was considerable discussion on many of the specific aspects of the conference. A summary of these discussions follows below together with actions required in each of the major categories. (actions are starred):

Major Issues Addressed:

1. DATE: As early in April as possible - specific date to be determined by group.

Discussion:

- . Other international meetings already scheduled:

- . February 5-8: IPCC Plenary - Washington, DC
- . June 18-30: Bush-Gorbachev Summit
- . April 22: Earth Day (note: 20th anniversary)
- . May 8-16: Conference on Bruntland Report, Bergen
- . July 9-11: G-7 Economic Summit, Houston, TX
- . Sept-Dec: UN General Assembly
- . Nov: 2nd World Climate Conference, Geneva

Action:

- . Final review of the President's schedule (OCA)
- . Final review of the international meeting schedule (FB)
- . Finalize the dates of conference

2. COUNTRY PARTICIPATION: To be determined

Discussion:

- . Since one of the main objectives of this conference is to build leadership and good will for the President and US in the international global change arena, it will be essential to avoid mistakes and diplomatic blunders in the initial selection of countries for participation.
- . Several lists of countries were considered but, in each case, there appeared to be important nations omitted.
- . Initial lists included G-7 countries, USSR, E. European reps, developing country reps (China, Mexico, Brazil, e.g.), Korea, Poland, Indonesia, Australia, Japan, Zimbabwe, Egypt, Scandanavian reps

*** Action:

- . Analysis by F. Bernthal of appropriate list of countries
- . Have clear understanding/statement of selection criteria

3. SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES AND DELIVERABLES OF CONFERENCE

Discussion:

- . Agreed that should focus on specifics of analytical tools available for addressing issue of global change
- . Should attempt to get real data/models on table
- . Could be a way to obtain agreement on what (common) assumptions should be used when making decisions regarding responses to global change (e.g., CO2 equivalencies, emissions trading)
- . Should provide important input to G-7 Summit and toward 2nd World Climate conference
- . Should not duplicate IPCC/Hague/Bruntland/etc conferences - i.e., should have unique and clear purpose/product
- . Suggestions for increasing focus of conference:

(1) after the President's letter of invitation to the conference has gone out, a questionnaire containing requests for specific information could be sent to all participants

e.g., what are major uncertainties, major gaps in info and what is new in each field, what is level of activity in each country. Identify chief scientist, chief economist, chief environmentalist

(2) Assign certain people to prepare short papers and

to present talks

*** Action:

- . Decide on specific products/deliverables to be obtained from conference
- . Do we work toward a conference concensus report or,
Do we prepare a chairman's summary as at Noordwijk, and ask for a general approval
- . Who is audience for the product?
- . What can be derived from combination of sci/econ/envt "tools" to address global change
- . What would be most useful for input to:
 - . G-7 Summit
 - . 2nd World Climate Conference
- . Prepare questionnaire to be sent out in advance
- . Assign selected people to prepare short papers and to present talks

4. CONFERENCE ARRANGEMENTS/STRUCTURE

Discussion

- . Agreed that it was essential to put in place a full-time, experienced conference coordinator as soon as possible to coordinate and oversee all preparatory work for the conference
 - . Need intellectual content coordinator
 - . Need logistics coordinator (suggested that contractors could be hired as with IPCC Plenary in Feb by DOS)
- . Agreed that conference would involve:
 - 1. Day 0
 - a. Registration of participants at conference hotel
 - . Which one
 - . In or out of Washington
 - . Should we consider a conference center
 - b. Reception for delegates
 - 2. Day 1
 - a. Opening plenary session
 - b. Three separate working groups
 - . science
 - . economics
 - . environmentEach with a keynote address to set the stage for discussion
 - c. Lunch - where?
 - d. 1st Day Plenary Session - 4 pm
 - . Review presentations from each working group

. Focus on unanswered and unresolved questions
f. Reception and Banquet at State Dept.

- . Use questionnaires topics/info as basis for initial discussions

3. Day 2

- a. Mixed working groups - Set 1 - 0900-1100
- b. Mixed working groups - Set 2 - 1100-1300
- d. Lunch - 1300-1500 Where?
- e. Plenary Session - 1500-1700
- f. Reception and Banquet at Air and Space Museum?

*** Action:

- . Decide on specifics of conference coordination
 - . scientific/intellectual content
 - . logistics
- . Decide on specifics of all conference-associated activities (see above)
- . Set up specific outline of conference organization and procedures

5. OTHER TOPICS REQUIRING DISCUSSION AND AGREEMENT

- ** A. Method of invitation
(suggested letter from President inviting sci/econ/enviro minister)
- ** B. Length of conference
- ** D. President's speech and involvement in briefings
- *** E. Funding of Conference *****
 - . How do we finance
 - . Coordination
 - . Conference
 - . Do we charge a conference fee

Attendees: D.Allan Bromley, Thomas Ratchford, William Reilly, Fred Bernthal, Steve Danzansky, Mike Boskin, Bob Grady, David Bates, Nancy Maynard

*Distributed might be for only by 20
to prepare group for 12/12 mtg*

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 11, 1989

MEMORANDUM FOR DAVID BATES
FRED BERNTHAL
MICHAEL BOSKIN
✓ ALLAN BROMLEY
MICHAEL DELAND
BOB GRADY
WILLIAM REILLY

FROM: STEPHEN I. DANZANSKY

SUBJECT: Planning for Washington Conference on Science,
Economics and the Environment

Given the nascent state of our planning to date, I was reluctant to reduce anything to paper at this early stage. However, obedient to the group's direction, I am enclosing a rough draft issues paper based upon our first meeting, plus specific objectives supplied by the three component disciplines.

The purpose of tomorrow's 8:00 a.m. meeting will be to add substance to this outline, refine our goals and objectives, and fill in the interstices. The next step would logically be the presentation of a plan (with or without options) for discussion and approval by the DPC Working Group on Global Change.

cc: Dick Schmalensee
Nancy Maloley
Nancy Maynard
Thomas Ratchford
Steve Hart
Juanita Duggan
Barry McBee
Ken Yale

December 11, 1989

I. ISSUE

A decision on the timing, participants, objectives and structure of the White House Science/Economics/Environment Conference is needed.

II. BACKGROUND

Following the last meeting of the DPC Working Group on Global Change and prior to his departure to meet with President Gorbachev in Malta, the President was briefed on the Working Group's deliberations and presented with the environmental conference options identified by the group. After his discussions with Gorbachev, the President chose to announce two initiatives. One of those is an international meeting at the White House next spring, to be attended by government science, economics and environmental officials. The general purpose of the meeting will be to advance the quality and understanding of the analytical tools necessary to confront international environmental problems, including global climate change. The conference will have the specific goals of sharing analytical techniques and research in an effort to develop a common integrated approach that takes a balanced account of scientific, economic and environmental factors.

III. PROPOSALS

Decisions must be made in four areas: dates of the conference; participation; objectives to be achieved; and structure for the deliberations. A representative task force convened by Dr. Bromley has developed the following proposals for consideration by the Working Group.

A. Timing

In his announcement of the conference, the President specified that the meeting would be held next spring. The following events on the international environmental calendar were considered in making a recommendation on the dates for the meeting:

February 5-8 - Plenary session of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) in Washington.

April 22 - Earth Day 1990 (its 20th anniversary; events are also scheduled for several days before and after that day in Washington and throughout that nation).

work of the IPCC, particularly the working groups dealing with science and effects, or other international bodies, such as the Bergen conference or the Noordwijk process; the conference must have its own very clearly formulated purpose which is not issue-specific and produce defined products that will not be developed by any of the other forums.

The specific objectives in the science, economics and environment areas are as follows:

(1) Science

The scientists will focus on the largest gaps and uncertainties in current understanding of global warming and greenhouse phenomena and on such topics as:

- (a) The range of predicted temperature changes from the current major world climate models, the uncertainties in these predictions, and the primary sources of these uncertainties; this will make possible greater awareness of these uncertainties among the participant economists and environmentalists;
- (b) The relative sensitivity of the climate models to their input parameters and the most critical new experimental measurements required to address gaps and uncertainties in current understanding and predictions;
- (c) The global impacts to be expected for different global warming scenarios in such areas as agricultural and oceanic productivity, sea level change, vegetation patterns and migration, changes in storm patterns and severity, occurrence of droughts, etc.;
- (d) The availability and inter-comparability of national data bases pertinent to environmental research;
- (e) Improvement of current climate and weather models to at least begin to address regional changes on a larger time horizon than is currently possible;
- (f) The possibility of developing an integrated, coherent international plan of research that would build upon the expertise, experience and relevant data available in the participant countries. Such a plan could form a structure within which the contributions of all interested nations could be used with greatest effectiveness and form the basis for coordinated resource allocation and implementation;
- (g) The development of greater awareness on the part of participating scientists of the economic aspects of global change and the relative economic value of

improved understanding and predictive capability in different areas.

(2) Economics

The participation of economists should enhance four useful information flows:

(a) Best-practice methods of estimating the costs of inaction and of various sorts of action, along with the latest estimates of costs; discussions of this topic should serve to advance the state of the art, to lead to a greater standardization of methods and to enhance awareness of robust results.

(b) Greater familiarity on the part of economists with the actual state of scientific knowledge, increasing their ability to render it more faithfully in their modeling.

(c) Greater awareness on the part of environmentalists of the benefits to both the economy and the environment of adopting flexible, market-based response strategies; this typically grows slowly but does grow when cultivated.

(3) Environment.

The sole objective with respect to the environmental officials at the conference will be to expose them to the scientific and economic issues discussed, thus providing them with greater familiarity with and sensibility to those factors when considering environmental issues. This is consistent with the need for this conference to have a clear purpose and defined products distinct from policy decisions considered in other forums.

D. Structure

The actions prior to the conference and the structure of the event itself should serve the objectives discussed above.

Proposal

(1) Pre-Conference Actions.

(a) To give greater visibility to the conference, the invitations to government officials will come directly from the President.

(b) To refine the scope of the conference, a questionnaire requesting specific information (e.g.,

major uncertainties in the areas, major gaps in existing information and new developments) will be sent to all participants.

(c) Assignments for the preparation of a limited number of short papers will be made among the participants, with the authors presenting the papers at the conference as keynote talks to initiate discussion.

(2) Conference Activities.

(a) To ensure full discussion of the issues, the conference will extend over [] days.

(b) The conference will begin with an opening plenary session, the participants then breaking into groups of science, economic and environmental officials. The results of the questionnaires circulated prior to the conference will serve as the basis for initial discussions. To ensure cross-pollination (one of the essential purposes of the conference), the groups will later be mixed to expose each of the groups to members from the other disciplines. At the end of the conference, all participants will reconvene for summary discussions.

(c) Presidential involvement will be another key factor in heightening the visibility of the conference, and will also serve to fulfill his campaign pledge. [The President will address the opening plenary session and participate in the concluding session and perhaps one or two discussion meetings during the conference.]

(d) To ensure that the conference is a success, a full-time White House coordinator will be designated through detail or otherwise; another professional to coordinate the logistics of the conference is also needed, either through detail or contract.

Memo

12/6/89

To: D. Allan Bromley
From: Nancy G. Maynard
Subject: Draft Summary of 12/6 Meeting on the White House
Conference on Scientific and Economic
Research on the Environment

Issue:

A decision on the timing, participation, objectives, and structure of the White house Conference on Scientific and Economic Research on the Environment is needed.

Background:

Following the last meeting of the DPC Working Group on Global Change and prior to his departure to meet with President Gorbachev in Malta, the President was briefed on the Working Group's deliberations and presented with the environmental conference options identified by the group. After his discussions with Gorbachev, the President chose to announce two initiatives. One of those is an international meeting at the White House next spring, to be attended by each government's chief science, economics, and environmental official. The general purpose of the meetings will be to advance the quality and understanding of the analytical tools necessary to confront international environmental problems, including global change. The conference will have the specific goal of sharing analytical techniques and research in an effort to develop a common integrated approach for response to global change that takes into account the best information on the scientific, economic and environmental aspects of the issue.

Meeting Summary:

On 12/6/89, Dr. Bromley convened a small task force on the White House Conference to develop proposals on the objectives, timing, participants, and structure of that meeting for consideration by the Global Change Working Group. A summary of that meeting follows.

The following points were agreed upon at the meeting:

1. The conference should be in the spring of 1990, preferably as early in April as possible, and should be set up so that it does not conflict with other meetings, Presidential events, etc.
2. It is important to invite the right combination of countries. F. Bernthal is reviewing this for the group. Of particular importance is the establishment of clear defensible selection criteria for use in discussion with countries that are not selected and wish to join.
3. It is important to focus on the specifics of the analytical tools available for addressing the issue of global change - and the interdependence of the sci/econ/enviro factors. Specifically, this conference should, from its outset, eschew discussion of policy.
4. This conference should not duplicate any other conferences such as IPCC/Bruntland/Hague - must have its own clear purpose and products

There was considerable discussion on many of the specific aspects of the conference. A summary of these discussions follows below together with actions required in each of the major categories. (actions are starred):

Major Issues Addressed:

1. DATE: As early in April as possible - specific date to be determined by group

Discussion:

- . Other international meetings already scheduled:

- . February 5-8: IPCC Plenary - Washington, DC
- . June 18-30: Bush-Gorbachev Summit
- . April 22: Earth Day (note: 20th anniversary)
- . May 8-16: Conference on Bruntland Report, Bergen
- . July 9-11: G-7 Economic Summit, Houston, TX
- . Sept-Dec: UN General Assembly
- . Nov: 2nd World Climate Conference, Geneva

*** Action:

- . Final review of the President's schedule (OCA)
- . Final review of the international meeting schedule (FB)

- . Finalize the dates of conference
- . Is this conference intended to satisfy the President's commitment to host an international conference on the environment

2. COUNTRY PARTICIPATION: To be determined

Discussion:

- . Since one of the main objectives of this conference is to build leadership and good will for the President and US in the international global change arena, it will be essential to avoid mistakes and diplomatic blunders in the initial selection of countries for participation.
- . Several lists of countries were considered but, in each case, there appeared to be important nations omitted.
- . Initial lists included G-7 countries, USSR, E. European reps, developing country reps (China, Mexico, Brazil, e.g.), Korea, Poland, Indonesia, Australia, Japan, Zimbabwe, Egypt, Scandanavian reps

*** Action:

- . Analysis by F. Bernthal of appropriate list of countries
- . Have clear understanding/statement of selection criteria

3. SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES AND DELIVERABLES OF CONFERENCE

Discussion:

- . Agreed that should focus on specifics of analytical tools available for addressing issue of global change
- . Should attempt to get real data/models on table
- . Could be a way to obtain agreement on what (common) assumptions should be used when making decisions regarding responses to global change (e.g., CO2 equivalencies, emissions trading)
- . Should provide important input to G-7 Summit and toward 2nd World Climate conference
- . Should not duplicate IPCC/Hague/Bruntland/etc conferences - i.e., should have unique and clear purpose/product
- . Suggestions for increasing focus of conference:
 - (1) after the President's letter of invitation to the conference has gone out, a questionnaire containing requests for specific information could be sent to all participants

e.g., what are major uncertainties, major gaps in info and what is new in each field, what is level of activity in each country. Identify chief scientist, chief economist, chief environmentalist

- (2) Assign certain people to prepare short papers and to present talks

*** Action:

- . Decide on specific products/deliverables to be obtained from conference
- . Do we work toward a conference consensus report or,
Do we prepare a chairman's summary as at Noordwijk, and ask for a general approval
- . Who is audience for the product?
- . What can be derived from combination of sci/econ/envt "tools" to address global change
- . What would be most useful for input to:
 - . G-7 Summit
 - . 2nd World Climate Conference
- . Prepare questionnaire to be sent out in advance
- . Assign selected people to prepare short papers and to present talks

4. CONFERENCE ARRANGEMENTS/STRUCTURE

Discussion

- . Agreed that it was essential to put in place a full-time, experienced conference coordinator as soon as possible to coordinate and oversee all preparatory work for the conference
 - . Need intellectual content coordinator
 - . Need logistics coordinator (suggested that contractors could be hired as with IPCC Plenary in Feb by DOS)
- . Agreed that conference would involve:
 1. Day 0
 - a. Registration of participants at conference hotel
 - . Which one
 - . In or out of Washington
 - . Should we consider a conference center
 - b. Reception for delegates
 2. Day 1
 - a. Opening plenary session
 - b. Three separate working groups
 - . science
 - . economics

- . environment
 - Each with a keynote address to set the stage for discussion
- c. Lunch - where?
- d. 1st Day Plenary Session - 4 pm
 - . Review presentations from each working group
 - . Focus on unanswered and unresolved questions
- f. Reception and Banquet at State Dept.
- . Use questionnaires topics/info as basis for initial discussions
- 3. Day 2
 - a. Mixed working groups - Set 1 - 0900-1100
 - b. Mixed working groups - Set 2 - 1100-1300
 - d. Lunch - 1300-1500 Where?
 - e. Plenary Session - 1500-1700
 - f. Reception and Banquet at Air and Space Museum?

*** Action:

- . Decide on specifics of conference coordination
 - . scientific/intellectual content
 - . logistics
- . Decide on specifics of all conference-associated activities (see above)
- . Set up specific outline of conference organization and procedures
- . Reserve State Dept. and Air & Space Museum rooms and begin arrangements
- 5. OTHER TOPICS REQUIRING DISCUSSION AND AGREEMENT
- ** A. Method of invitation
 - (suggested letter from President to Head of State inviting their sci/econ/enviro ministers)
- ** B. Length of conference
- ** D. President's speech and involvement in briefings
- *** E. Funding of Conference *****
 - . How do we finance
 - . Coordination
 - . Conference
 - . Do we charge a conference fee

Attendees: D. Allan Bromley, William Reilly, Michael Deland, Michael Boskin, David Bates, Stephen Danzansky, Bob Grady, Fred Bernthal, Nancy Maloley, J. Thomas Ratchford, Nancy Maynard

*Distributed at 12/12 mtg. -
Has DAB's corrections/additions
to an earlier Darg. memo.*

December 11, 1989

I. ISSUE

A decision on the timing, participants, objectives and structure of the White House Conference on Scientific and Economic Research on the Environment.

II. BACKGROUND

Following the last meeting of the DPC Working Group on Global Change and prior to his departure to meet with President Gorbachev in Malta, the President was briefed on the Working Group's deliberations and presented with the environmental conference options identified by the group. After his discussions with Gorbachev, the President chose to announce two initiatives. One of those is an international meeting at the White House next spring, to be attended by government science, economics and environmental officials. The general purpose of the meeting will be to advance the quality and understanding of the analytical tools and data necessary to confront international environmental problems, including global climate change. The conference will have the specific goals of sharing analytical techniques and research in an effort to develop a common integrated approach that takes a balanced account of scientific, economic and environmental factors.

III. PROPOSALS

Decisions must be made in four areas: dates of the conference; participation; objectives to be achieved; and structure for the deliberations. A representative task force convened by Dr. Bromley has developed the following proposals for consideration by the Working Group.

A. Timing

In his announcement of the conference, the President specified that the meeting would be held next spring. The following events on the international environmental calendar were considered in making a recommendation on the dates for the meeting:

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April 22 - Earth Day 1990 (its 20th anniversary; events are also scheduled for several days before and after that day in Washington and throughout that nation).

May 8-16 - Bergen Conference on Action for our Future (the follow-up session to a conference previously held under the auspices of Norwegian Prime Minister Bruntland).

June 18-30 - Reserved for dates of summit meeting between Presidents Bush and Gorbachev.

July 9-11 - G-7 Economic Summit in Houston, Texas.

Proposal

To avoid conflicts with the events noted above, hold the meeting [in early April, most likely April -].

B. Participants

The conference was announced by the President as international in nature, without any elaboration as to invitees. It bears emphasis from the outset that he intends this to be a scientific and economic conference focussing on problems of the environment. To that end, it will be important that all nations having demonstrated scientific and economic research accomplishments in this area and/or environmental situations of sufficient magnitude to impact global consideration should be included. It is the President's intent that national delegations at the conference comprise the senior scientist, the senior economist, and the senior environmentalist in the governments of the participating countries.

Proposal

Invite the following nations: [State Department to provide list].

C. Objectives

The objectives of the conference are both general and specific.

Proposal

The conference should have several general objectives:

- 2) (1) To ~~produce~~ ^{review} actual products or deliverables, including real data and models, in both science and economics, taking account of their interrelationships in environmental policy-making;
- 1) (2) To identify gaps and uncertainties in the understanding of the science and economics relating to environmental matters together with their relative importance and the priorities that should be attached to their resolution.

(3) To seek agreement on common assumptions that can be used when making decisions regarding responses to global change, such as CO2 equivalencies.

(4) To provide background and guidance for ~~the 6-7 Economic Summit and the Second World Climate Conference~~ scheduled for Geneva in November. *and other international forum*

(5) To increase general awareness of the scientific and economic parameters impacting national and international policy making in environmental areas.

(6) To ensure that it expands but does not duplicate the work of the IPCC, particularly the working groups dealing with science and effects, or other international bodies, such as the Bergen conference or the Noordwijk process; the conference must have its own very clearly formulated purpose which is not issue-specific and produce defined products that will not be developed by any of the other forums.

The specific objectives in the science, economics and environment areas are as follows:

(1) Science

The scientists will focus on the largest gaps and uncertainties in current understanding of global warming and greenhouse phenomena and on such topics as:

(a) The range of predicted temperature changes from the current major world climate models, the uncertainties in these predictions, and the primary sources of these uncertainties; this will make possible greater awareness of these uncertainties among the participant economists and environmentalists;

(b) The relative sensitivity of the climate models to their input parameters and the most critical new experimental measurements required to address gaps and uncertainties in current understanding and predictions;

(c) The global impacts to be expected for different global warming scenarios in such areas as agricultural and oceanic productivity, sea level change, vegetation patterns and migration, changes in storm patterns and severity, occurrence of droughts, etc.;

(d) The availability and inter-comparability of national data bases pertinent to environmental research;

(e) Improvement of current climate and weather models to at least begin to address regional changes on a larger time horizon than is currently possible;

*Domestic
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work plan
IPCC*

(f) The possibility of developing an integrated, coherent international plan of research that would build upon the expertise, experience and relevant data available in the participant countries. Such a plan could form a structure within which the contributions of all interested nations could be used with greatest effectiveness and form the basis for coordinated resource allocation and implementation;

(g) The development of greater awareness on the part of participating scientists of the economic aspects of global change and the relative economic value of improved understanding and predictive capability in different areas.

(2) Economics

The participation of economists should enhance four useful information flows:

(a) Best-practice methods of estimating the costs of inaction and of various sorts of action, along with the latest estimates of costs; discussions of this topic should serve to advance the state of the art, to lead to a greater standardization of methods and to enhance awareness of robust results.

(b) Greater familiarity on the part of economists with the actual state of scientific knowledge, increasing their ability to render it more faithfully in their modeling.

(c) Greater awareness on the part of environmentalists of the benefits to both the economy and the environment of adopting flexible, market-based response strategies; this typically grows slowly but does grow when cultivated.

(d) Greater interaction among economists with scientists working in areas where resolution of scientific uncertainties will have the greatest impact on economic modelling and costs.

(3) Environment.

The sole objective with respect to the environmental officials at the conference will be to expose them to the scientific and economic issues discussed, thus providing them with greater familiarity with and ~~sensitivity~~ *sensitivity* to those factors when considering environmental issues. This is consistent with the need for this conference to have a clear purpose and defined products distinct from policy decisions considered in other fora.

D. Structure

The actions prior to the conference and the structure of the event itself should serve the objectives discussed above.

Proposal

(1) Pre-Conference Actions.

(a) To give greater visibility to the conference, the invitations to government officials will come directly from the President.

(b) To refine the scope of the conference, a questionnaire requesting specific information (e.g., major uncertainties in the areas, major gaps in existing information and new developments, activities in both science and technology relating to the environment in the recipient country, and identification of the proposed national delegation members) will be sent to all participants.

(c) Assignments for the preparation of a limited number of short papers, with the authors presenting these papers at the conference as keynote talks to initiate discussion.

(2) Conference Activities.

(a) To ensure full discussion of the issues, the conference will extend over [] days.

(b) The conference will begin with an opening plenary session, the participants then breaking into groups of science, economic and environmental officials. The synthesis of the responses to the questionnaires circulated prior to the conference will serve as a basis for initial discussions. To ensure cross-pollination (one of the essential purposes of the conference), the groups will, at intervals, be mixed to expose each of the groups to members from the other disciplines. At the end of the conference, all participants will reconvene for summary discussions.

(c) Presidential involvement will be a key factor in heightening the visibility of the conference, and will also serve to fulfill his campaign pledge. [The President will address the opening plenary session, participate in the concluding session, and host the conference reception and banquet in the State Department.]

(d) To ensure that the conference is a success, a full-time White House coordinator will be designated through detail or otherwise; another professional to coordinate the logistics of the conference is also required, either through detail or contract.



United States Department of State

*Bureau of Oceans and International
Environmental and Scientific Affairs*

Washington, D.C. 20520

December 11, 1989

UNCLASSIFIED

TO: OES - Frederick M. Bernthal
FROM: OES/EGC - Frances Li, Acting
SUBJECT: Proposed White House Environmental Conference:
Timing and Participants

Timing

In view of the preparation time required, the proposed White House Conference should take place no earlier than April 1990. As the attached calendar of planned international environmental meetings and conferences indicates, there are fewer events planned in April than in May or June.

Earth Day, Monday, April 23, provides a logical time frame in which to consider holding the proposed conference. Because the U.S. Congress will host an interparliamentary environmental conference starting April 29, the White House may want to schedule its event during the week of April 15. In this case, it would serve as a scene setter for Earth Day, which is a domestic observance. (The rest of the world observes Earth Day on June 5.) Alternatively, we could link the two events directly by scheduling the White House conference for the weekend before Earth Day (April 21-22) or during the observance itself.

Given the high level of participants to be invited, the conference should last no more than two days. It will be very difficult to assemble the chief science, economic and environment officials from the number of nations proposed for a longer period.

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Participants

Delegations led by the chief science, economic and environment officials of each invitee should be limited to 8 persons in order to keep the conference manageable. Foreign participants would thus total 168. To focus the meeting and ensure that it will be productive, we suggest participation be limited to 21 delegations from the following countries:

Europe: UK, France, FRG, Netherlands, Italy, EC, Norway, Poland, USSR

Asia: India, Indonesia, Australia, China, Japan

Africa: Nigeria, Egypt, Saudi Arabia

Americas: Canada, USA, Mexico, Brazil

This list includes our G-7 partners, as well as the EC, and a representative sample of other developed and developing countries. The G-7 provides a natural grouping given the expectation that this year's economic summit should have a heavy environmental agenda.

In Europe, in addition to G-7 countries, the Netherlands is included because of its firmly asserted role in promoting the Hague Declaration and the recent Noordwijk Environmental Ministerial (Noordwijk Declaration). Norway developed the concept of sustainable development in the Brundtland Report and has followed up by developing the Bergen Conference, which it will host May 8-12. (Sweden's role as an environmental activist could be recognized by inviting Dr. Bert Bolin in his role as Chairman of the IPCC.)

The USSR should be invited in light of the Malta Summit and the fact that the USSR chairs Working Group II of the IPCC. Poland is an appropriate Eastern European participant because of its desire to clean up its numerous, badly polluted industrial centers, a project the President strongly supports. (We should bear in mind, however, that thanks to another Presidential initiative, the U.S. is also working with Hungary to develop what will be a new regional environmental center in Budapest.)

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Drafted:OES/EGC:SSKinney
EGC#131:12/8/89
647-3078

Clearance: OES/E: WNitze
OES: PdeVos

International Environmental/Economic Meetings - March/April 1990

Feb. 26 - Mar 2	IPCC Working Group I, lead authors drafting session for science report, London
March (?)	(tentative) IPCC Working Group II meeting, Moscow (?)
March 1-2	International Energy Agency, Committee on Research and Development meeting, Paris
March 5-9	Second Bergen Conference Preparatory Committee meeting, Geneva
March 6	International Energy Agency, Governing Board meeting, Paris
March 14-15	International Energy Agency, Standing Group on Long-Term Cooperation meeting, Paris
March 23-25	(tentative) Preparatory meeting for July G-7 Economic Summit
late March/ early April	(tentative) IPCC Working Group III Subgroups on Energy and Industry, Agriculture and Forestry, and Resource Use Management, final report drafting sessions, Geneva
April 24-26	OECD Environment Committee meeting, Paris
April 29-May 2	U.S. Senate-sponsored Interparliamentary Conference on the Global Environment, Washington

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International Environmental/Economic Meetings - May..1990

May (?)	(tentative) U.N. Environment Program Governing Council Special Session, Nairobi
May 1-3	IPCC Working Group III Subgroup on Coastal Zone Management, final drafting session, the Hague (?)
May 8-16	ECE Ministerial Conference on the Environment, Bergen
May 16-17	International Energy Agency, Governing Board meeting, Paris
May 16-23	8th Council Session of the International Tropical Timber Organization, Indonesia
May 18-20	(tentative) Preparatory meeting for July G-7 Economic Summit
May 23-29	Ministerial Conference on the Environment in Asia and the Pacific, Kuala Lumpur or Bangkok
May 23-25	Meeting of IPCC Working Group I to adopt report on science, London
May 29-June 1	ECE Working Group on Volatile Organic Compeunds, Geneva

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International Environmental/Economic Meetings - June 1990

early June	Meeting of IPCC Working Group II to adopt report on impacts, Moscow
June 4-8	Meeting of IPCC Working Group III to adopt report on response strategies, Geneva
June 11-23	World Meteorological Organization Executive Committee, Geneva
June 15-17	(tentative) Preparatory meeting for July G-7 Economic Summit
June 20-29	Second Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol, London,
June 25-26	Meeting of IPCC Bureau, Geneva
June 27-July 7	Conference of the Parties, Convention on Wetlands of International Importance, Montreaux

Preliminary Draft of Press Release

President Bush today released details of his Global Conference on Scientific and Economic Research on the Environment, first announced as part of the Malta Initiatives on December 4, 1989. The general purpose of the meeting will be to advance the quality and understanding of the scientific, economic, and environmental analytical tools and data necessary to confront international environmental problems, including global change.

The conference will have the specific goal of sharing among nations analytical techniques, data, and research in an effort to develop a common integrated approach for response to global change, taking into account the best information available on the scientific, economic, and environmental aspects of the issue. It is the President's intention that the conference address a wide range of environmental issues such as global warming, ocean pollution, biodiversity, clean air, pure water, and conservation of natural resources, and that it give serious consideration to market-oriented responses to such issues.

Noting that he had promised to convene a global conference on the environment at the White House within his first year in office, the President commented that he and his top advisors have been studying global environmental issues carefully over this first year in order to insure that this key conference is scheduled so that it will (1) provide the most effective forum for new information exchange, and (2) not duplicate any of the other ongoing, international efforts. He stated that the conference will address the gaps and uncertainties in the present scientific and economic understanding of global change, its impacts on the environment, and the predicted economic costs of potential global change and responses to it.

The President also said that he is pleased to see global environmental issues assuming an increasingly important place on the agenda of meetings of Heads of State. The President looks forward to detailed discussions of global environmental issues at the forthcoming G-7 Economic Summit in Houston in June 1990, and he has offered to host the first negotiating session of an International Framework Convention on Global Change following the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report late in 1990. He noted that the US continues to work closely with number of other countries in ongoing studies of different aspects of the global change issue.

A fundamental objective of the White House Conference is that of bringing together, for the first time, the senior scientific, economic, and environmental representatives of the participant countries to cross-fertilize their discussions and research on environmental issues and to begin planning for an integrated, coherent attack on environmental issues drawing upon the expertise experience and data available world wide.

The conference will be held in Washington, D.C. beginning on Earth Day, April 22, 1990. Invited participant nations will include our G-7 partners, the European Community, and other countries - both developed and developing - with a demonstrated record of scientific and economic research activities on environmental issues and/or environmental situations of such magnitude that they impact global environmental considerations.

GLOBAL WARMING

December 12, 1989

8:00am

ATTENDEES:

Michael Deland
Nancy Maynard
David Bates
Bill Reilly
Steve Danzansky
Bob Grady
Fred Bernthal
Tom Ratchford
Dick Schmalensee (for Boskin)
Nancy Maloley

(Cannot attend: Michael Boskin)

Document Originally
Attached to
Following Page

DPC Working Group on
Global Change

December 11, 1989

I. ISSUE

A decision on the timing, participants, objectives and structure of the White House Science/Economics/Environment Conference is needed.

II. BACKGROUND

Following the last meeting of the DPC Working Group on Global Change and prior to his departure to meet with President Gorbachev in Malta, the President was briefed on the Working Group's deliberations and presented with the environmental conference options identified by the group. After his discussions with Gorbachev, the President chose to announce two initiatives. One of those is an international meeting at the White House next spring, to be attended by government science, economics and environmental officials. The general purpose of the meeting will be to advance the quality and understanding of the analytical tools necessary to confront international environmental problems, including global climate change. The conference will have the specific goals of sharing analytical techniques and research in an effort to develop a common integrated approach that takes account of scientific, economic and environmental factors.

III. PROPOSALS

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July 9-11 - G-7 Economic Summit in Houston, Texas.

Proposal

To avoid conflicts with the events noted above, hold the meeting [in early April, most likely April -].

B. Participants

The meeting was described by the President as international in nature, without any elaboration as to invitees. Rather than inviting all nations, a smaller group of invitees[, specifically those nations that have identifiable government science, economic and environmental officials, will be invited. These nations are also those that have been most involved in developing models for dealing with global environmental problems. It will also be important to include representatives from the developing world.]

Proposal

Invite the following nations: [State Department to provide list].

C. Objectives

The conference will have several specific objectives:

(1) To produce specific products or deliverables, such as real data and models, in science and economics, taking account of the interrelationships in environmental policy-making;

(2) To seek agreement on common assumptions that can be used when making decisions regarding responses to global change, such as CO2 equivalencies.

(3) To provide input for the G-7 Economic Summit and the Second World Climate Conference, scheduled for Geneva in November.

(4) To ensure that the conference does not duplicate the work of the IPCC, particularly the working groups dealing with science and effects, or other international bodies, such as the Bergen conference or the Noordwijk process; the conference must have its own very clearly formulated purpose which is not issue-specific (i.e., solely devoted to global

change) and produce defined products that will not be developed by any of the other forums.

In interrelating scientific, economic and environmental factors and concerns, the objectives in each area are as follows:

(1) Science

The scientists will focus on the largest gaps and uncertainties in current understanding of global warming and greenhouse phenomena and on such topics as:

(a) The range of predicted temperature changes from the current major world climate models, the uncertainties in these predictions, and the primary sources of these uncertainties; this will make possible greater awareness of these uncertainties among the participant economists and environmentalists;

(b) The relative sensitivity of the climate models to their input parameters and the most critical new experimental measurements required to address gaps and uncertainties in current understanding and predictions;

(c) The global impacts to be expected for different global warming scenarios in such areas as agricultural and oceanic productivity, sea level change, vegetation patterns and migration, changes in storm patterns and severity, occurrence of droughts, etc.;

(d) The availability and inter-comparability of national data bases pertinent to environmental research;

(e) Improvement of current climate and weather models to at least begin to address regional changes on a larger time horizon than is currently possible;

(f) The possibility of developing an integrated, coherent international plan of research that would build upon the expertise, experience and relevant data available in the participant countries. Such a plan could form a structure within which the contributions of all interested nations could be used with greatest effectiveness and form the basis for coordinated resource allocation and implementation;

(g) The development of greater awareness on the part of participating scientists of the economic aspects of global change and the relative economic value of improved understanding and predictive capability in different areas.

(2) Economics

The participation of economists should enhance four useful information flows:

(a) Best-practice methods of estimating the costs of inaction and of various sorts of action, along with the latest estimates of costs; discussions of this topic should serve to advance the state of the art, to lead to a greater standardization of methods and to enhance awareness of robust results.

(b) Greater familiarity on the part of economists with the actual state of scientific knowledge, increasing their ability to render it more faithfully in their modeling.

(c) Greater awareness on the part of environmentalists of the benefits to both the economy and the environment of adopting flexible, market-based response strategies; this typically grows slowly but does grow when cultivated.

(3) Environment.

The sole objective with respect to the environmental officials at the conference will be to expose them to the scientific and economic issues discussed, thus providing them with greater familiarity with and sensibility to those factors when considering environmental issues. This is consistent with the need for this conference to have a clear purpose and defined products distinct from policy decisions considered in other forums.

D. Structure

The actions prior to the conference and the structure of the event itself should serve the objectives discussed above.

Proposal

(1) Pre-Conference Actions.

(a) To give greater visibility to the conference, the invitations to government officials will come directly from the President.

(b) To refine the scope of the conference, a questionnaire requesting specific information (e.g., major uncertainties in the areas, major gaps in existing information and new developments) will be sent to all participants.

(c) Assignments for the preparation of a limited number of short papers will be made among the participants, with the authors presenting the papers at the conference as keynote talks to initiate discussion.

(2) Conference Activities.

(a) To ensure full discussion of the issues, the conference will extend over [] days.

(b) The conference will begin with an opening plenary session, with the participants then breaking into groups of science, economic and environmental officials. The results of the questionnaires circulated prior to the conference will serve as the basis for initial discussions. To ensure cross-pollination (one of the essential purposes of the conference), the groups will be mixed to expose each of the groups to members from the other disciplines. At the end of the conference, all participants will reconvene for summary discussions.

(c) Presidential involvement will be another key factor in heightening the visibility of the conference, and will also serve to fulfill his campaign pledge. [The President will address the opening plenary session and participate in the concluding session and perhaps one or two sessions during the conference.]

(d) To ensure that the conference is a success, a full-time White House coordinator will be designated through detail or otherwise; another person to coordinate the logistics of the conference is also needed, either through detail or contract.

Memo

12/12/89

To: D. Allan Bromley
From: Nancy G. Maynard
Subject: Notes from 12/12/89 meeting on the White House
Conference on Scientific and Economic Research
on the Environment

On 12/12/89, Dr. Bromley convened the second meeting of the task force on the White House Conference on Scientific and Economic Research on the Environment to address the timing, participation, objectives, and structure of the conference. Several documents were distributed for discussion, including an issues paper, a State Department paper on the timing and participants, notes from the last (12/6) meeting, and a draft press release.

The task group agreed upon the following points:

- . The dates of the conference should center around Earth Day, April 22, 1990
- . It will be important do alot of homework prior to the conference (including, questionnaires and assigned papers) to insure focussed discussions and specific deliverables
- . The objectives for the science, economics, and environment, as listed in the issues paper, were generally accepted with a few changes which will be incorporated into the next draft of the issues paper.
- . The need to have a clear focus on the specifics of the analytical tools available for addressing the issue of global change, gaps and uncertainties in available data, common assumptions, as well as an analysis of the interdependence of the scientific/economic/environmental factors was reemphasized. (and that the conference should avoid major discussion of policy)

The following major points need resolution:

- * . Is this conference intended to fulfill the President's campaign promise of a global environmental conference within the first year
- * . What countries should be invited and what are the criteria to be used to determine participants
 - . Fred Bernthal will have a second analysis done on this issue and report back
 - . Steve Danzansky will check with NSC for an analysis
- * . Who pays

Some of the remaining issues to be resolved/actions to be taken:

- . Strong statement of purpose
- . Decide upon deliverables
 - . Conference consensus report
 - . Chairman's summary
 - . Other
- . Decide on conference coordination
 - . logistics
 - . content
- . Structure/operations
 - . How can the conference be structured so that the participation by ministerial level officials will be most educational and cost-effective (time/content)
 - . Final review of the President's schedule (OCA)
 - . Finalize dates/duration of conference
 - . Consider content/prepare questionnaires
 - . Assign short papers and presentations
 - . Reserve State Department and Air and Space Museum special rooms

Attendees: D. Allan Bromley, William Reilly, Michael Deland, David Bates, Stephen Danzansky, Steve Hart, Dick Schmalensee, Fred Bernthal, Nancy Maloley, J. Thomas Ratchford, Juanita Duggan, Barry McBee, Nancy Maynard