



LONDON

Agenda Item 5.

DRAFT RECOMMENDATION ON ANTARCTIC MINERAL RESOURCES
by the Delegation of Australia

The Representatives :

Recommend to their Governments that :

They refrain from authorising or undertaking any exploration for or exploitation of the mineral resources of the Antarctic Treaty area, including the continental margin of Antarctica, pending :

- (a) the completion of the studies being undertaken at the initiative of the Consultative Parties on the environmental implications of mineral resource activities in the Antarctic Treaty area,
- (b) the establishment of the necessary environmental protection arrangements and
- (c) the establishment of appropriate machinery to supervise and administer any exploration and exploitation activities.

2. They record their understanding that the provisions of this recommendation are without prejudice to the freedom of scientific investigation as provided for in Article II of the Antarctic Treaty and in respect of which scientific observations and results are exchanged and made freely available in accordance with the provisions of Article III of that Treaty.

3. They review, after a period of five years, the operation and implementation of this recommendation in the light of progress achieved towards the completion of the studies and the establishment of the arrangements and machinery referred to in Paragraph 1 of this recommendation.