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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 27, 1993

PRESIDENTIAL DECISION DIRECTIVE/NSC-7

MEMORANDUM FOR THE VICE PRESIDENT
THE SECRETARY OF STATE
THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY
THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE
THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE
THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION
THE SECRETARY OF ENERGY
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT & BUDGET
UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE
REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES TO THE
UNITED NATIONS
CHIEF OF STAFF TO THE PRESIDENT
DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE
ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT FOR ECONOMIC POLICY
CHAIR, COUNCIL OF ECONOMIC ADVISERS
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY
THE CHAIRMAN, JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
ADMINISTRATOR, AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL
DEVELOPMENT
ADMINISTRATOR, ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY
ADMINISTRATOR, NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE
ADMINISTRATION
DIRECTOR, NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
DIRECTOR, UNITED STATES INFORMATION AGENCY

SUBJECT: Environmental Policy on Biodiversity and Global
Climate Change

This Presidential Decision Directive directs the implementation of United States policy on Biodiversity and Global Climate Change. These policies reflect our response to the concerns stated at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in Rio de Janeiro last summer, and establish a positive leadership role for the United States on both the future of the world's biodiversity and on necessary strategies to address global warming.

1. BIODIVERSITY

On April 21, 1993, I announced that the United States will sign the Convention on Biological Diversity. To implement this decision, the Secretary of State shall proceed as expeditiously as possible in his negotiations with other countries to reach agreement on an interpretation of the technology transfer and financial provisions of the treaty. The Department of State, in consultation with other appropriate U.S. agencies, should also prepare a positive signing statement elaborating U.S. views on the importance of biodiversity preservation and on the Convention issues of concern. As we proceed with these negotiations, we should keep our partners in the business and environmental communities apprised of our efforts so that our action to ratify the Convention will be widely supported.


In addition, the United States should become a full participant in the ongoing discussion under the auspices of the United Nations Environment Program on the need for and dimensions of a biosafety protocol pursuant to Article 19(3) of the Convention. While a biosafety protocol is not needed at this time, we should be prepared to join in the negotiation of such a protocol should other countries wish to proceed. Again, we should keep our business and environmental partners informed of our progress in these negotiations.

Lastly, the Secretary of State should, in consultation with other U.S. agencies, develop a full international biodiversity conservation strategy by December 31, 1993. This strategy should set clear, obtainable objectives, and should promote coordinated international assistance efforts across all U.S. agencies.

2. GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE

A key element of our strategy on the global environment involves responding to the challenge of global climate change. To this end, the United States is committed to reducing its emissions of greenhouse gases to their 1990 levels by the year 2000. A cost-effective plan must be developed by August that can continue the trend of reduced emissions.

In light of the August deadline, implementation of this policy must proceed rapidly and efficiently. The Director of the Office of Environmental Policy should coordinate the development of this plan, and should involve the National Security Council, the National Economic Council, the Council of Economic Advisors, the Office of Science and Technology Policy, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Departments of Energy, Agriculture, Transportation, Commerce, State, Treasury and others as appropriate. The plan should be coordinated with key members of Congress as well as outside interests in the business and environmental communities, as I view it as critical that our efforts in this area have the broad support of all affected constituencies.


William J. Clinton