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From the Private Secretary

20 December 1988

The Prime Minister has noted your Secretary of State's minute of 19 December proposing that President Moi of Kenya should be invited to speak at the opening ceremony of the Ozone Layer Conference on 7 March. She has asked whether it would not be more appropriate to get a Head of Government from a tropical forest area. I would be grateful if you would consult Mr. Ridley about this.

I am copying this letter to Stephen Wall (Foreign and Commonwealth Office) and to Sir Robin Butler.

(C. D. POWELL)

Roger Bright, Esq.,
Department of the Environment

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Could not be for
someone from a hospital
forum area?



Prime Minister
Agree?

CDD 19/xii

Following your agreement to speak at the closing session of the Ozone Layer Conference on 7 March, I have been considering whom we might invite to give the keynote speech at the opening ceremony.

A major Third world figure would in my view be the best option, given the emphasis we are placing at the Conference on the particular problems facing developing countries in pursuing a non-CFC path. My conclusion is that President Moi of Kenya, as a signatory of the Vienna Convention on Protection of the Ozone Layer and as host to the Nairobi-based United Nations Environment Programme (which is supporting our Conference and has responsibility for the Convention), would be particularly appropriate. President Moi would be a powerful attraction to other developing countries, not least from the Commonwealth. I understand that FCO colleagues are enthusiastic and see no problems over protocol.

If you are content, Geoffrey Howe could take immediate soundings through our High Commissioner in Nairobi. If Moi showed himself willing in principle, a formal letter of invitation from you would be the next step. Officials could also consider what else could be arranged to make Moi's visit a useful one.

I am copying this minute to Geoffrey Howe and Sir Robin Butler

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19 December 1988