

Diskette 2 in file: Final Statement.

Closing remarks of Final Statement I
the chair -

Dear Colleagues,

C

When five days ago we started that meeting, little did we know what lay ahead. Some of us had high hopes, others were rather more skeptical. After a first day of interesting debate and discussion an incident made our work more difficult. Despite the setbacks this caused for our work and the many problems the secretariat had to overcome, the work you have been able to do in only five days is impressive. After many years of good intentions and more abstract debate, we came to the point that we started to deal with the "nitty gritty". It is obvious, that the creation of a new and permanent financial UN body has many implications, technical, financial, organizational and, of course, political.

We were able to cover quite a number of these issues. But not only that, we were able as well to converge largely on a majority of the many outstanding problems. As I have told you in a moment of uncontrolled honesty I tend to describe myself as an "optimist, tempered by realism". If you would have asked my predictions - and some of you have - and I would have responded in complete honesty and not taking into account any possible effect of such honesty, I would certainly not have predicted the progress we actually have made, both substantively and substantially. Many of you have addressed very kind indeed to me. In my mind, the progress achieved has been made only because you have been working so hard, have been able to give such wise suggestions and to make such valuable suggestions.

KIND
WORDS

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

I have at a number of occasions said that I was a tool in your hands. If the tool has carved in word the beginnings of a fine Statue, it is not the tool but the skillful hands that have created the result.

P

Beaufrand