

relationships, for it enables an equal access to information.

Poland advocated the lifting of the curtain on those spheres of national military activities which arouse distrust and suspicion as to the credibility of declared intentions. On our part, we are consistently declassifying information and making it available to our public and to other states in a spirit of good-neighbourly relations.

We have just published a White Book on Defence. This document was presented to the participants of the seminar on military doctrines staged last month in Vienna.

Poland advocates the extension and consolidation of the principle of openness as a standard practice in European relations. It is from such a viewpoint that the Government of the Republic of Poland approaches the proposals put forward during the disarmament negotiations. All ideas which serve the openness and the building of confidence can count on our support. We are ready to open our airspace under the forthcoming agreement.

Distinguished delegates, my country represents the view that the Open Skies regime be based on principles which would make it an indispensable component of a new concept of European security.

These principles are as follows:

First, it should be a regime that would not exclude other measures, would supplement them and amplify their functioning. Not only should the Open Skies regime lead to the transparency of military activities, but it should make the verification of disarmament agreements easier.

Second, it should be a democratic regime which means that its participants will be individual sovereign states. Those states should benefit in an equal degree from the Open Skies regime, regardless of their size and technical capabilities, while the agreement itself could be made accessible to some non-participants in the present Conference, though that matter still requires very careful consideration.

Third, the regime should be operationally effective. After all, it is not just a political symbol of the new times that we are seeking. The balance of cost and profit is the measure of effectiveness. This should be a cost-effective regime. Its effectiveness further means that collisions and complications should be eliminated, and there must be respect for the rules of air-traffic safety, and for the interests of transit states.

Above all, however, we should enhance the sense of security of all participating states.