

overpopulation, migration and refugees, environmental degradation, and political and social factors such as internal oppression, terrorism and illicit trafficking in drugs. The view that security is multi-dimensional is, of course, not new nor is it a mystery to practitioners of diplomacy and foreign policy. Last July, at the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Meeting, my Indonesian counterpart, Ali Alatas, mentioned to me several of these elements, stressing, for example, global environmental threats posed by ozone depletion, deforestation, marine pollution or practices such as driftnet fishing, the challenge to economic growth posed by protectionism and the abuse of human rights.

Such factors can lead to domestic instability, ethnic or class conflict, breakdowns in social cohesion, decline in the quality of life and, in summary, a sense of popular dissatisfaction or alienation that ultimately spills over into the international arena and impairs security.

Given the myriad of problems we face, the concept of co-operative security is -- indeed must be -- multi-dimensional. It goes beyond the more limited approaches of collective and mutual defence against aggression or destabilization. I do not wish to underestimate the importance of co-operation in the traditional, military security field. As an approach to regional security, collective and mutual defence arrangements will remain central to the preservation of national sovereignty and the protection of national interests. However, the security afforded by existing defence and alliance arrangements should allow regional states to engage in, and indeed should promote, more co-operative efforts to deal with unconventional, non-military challenges that endanger regional stability and national well-being.

Co-operative security emphasizes working relationships and functional links across a broad range of issues: regular and systematic dialogue, leading to the development of a multilateral "habit of dialogue"; discussion, co-operation and compromise. As I have stated previously, our present emphasis is on developing a formula that would allow countries to find a means that would encourage informal, and yet informed, discussion on a wide spectrum of issues.

Co-operative security is by definition evolutionary. It must be developed pragmatically. Some countries may have different areas of emphasis in co-operative security dialogue and the extent of their participation in different components may vary. Individual states may decide that regional or multilateral approaches