

BETTER EAST-WEST RELATIONS GENERALLY, ARE DEPENDENT ON THE GROWTH OF MUTUAL CONFIDENCE, AND THAT AN ESSENTIAL PRECONDITION TO THE ACHIEVEMENT OF THIS CONFIDENCE IS A SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE IN EAST-WEST HUMAN CONTACTS. MAKING PROGRESS ON HUMANITARIAN MATTERS WOULD BE MORALLY COMPELLING EVEN WITHOUT REFERENCE TO ANY POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS, BUT IF THERE IS SOME OBSERVABLE RESPONSE TO OUR CONCERNS ABOUT THESE ASPECTS OF THE FINAL ACT THERE WILL, I AM SURE, BE GREATER READINESS TO ENTER INTO COOPERATION IN MANY AREAS. FAR-REACHING PROPOSALS HAVE BEEN MADE, FOR EXAMPLE, IN THE AREA OF ARMS CONTROL AND SECURITY. PROGRESS IN THIS FIELD OBVIOUSLY REQUIRES A CERTAIN MINIMUM LEVEL OF MUTUAL CONFIDENCE. HOW, CANADIANS MAY ASK, CAN THAT CONFIDENCE BE ACHIEVED AMONG STATES IF, AT A MUCH MORE MODEST LEVEL, SOME GOVERNMENTS WILL NOT ALLOW THEIR CITIZENS TO RECEIVE FREELY CANADIAN RELATIVES OR FRIENDS, OR TO VISIT FAMILY MEMBERS AND FRIENDS IN CANADA? HOW CAN THEY PLACE CONFIDENCE IN DISARMAMENT PROPOSALS IF EXISTING OBLIGATIONS IN THE AREA OF HUMAN CONTACTS ARE NOT HONOURED? HOW CAN THE OFT-PROCLAIMED GOAL OF FRIENDSHIP AMONG PEOPLES BE ACHIEVED IF THE FREE MOVEMENT OF PEOPLES IS THWARTED BY SUSPICION AND MISTRUST?

MR. CHAIRMAN, WE RECOGNIZE THAT THIS MEETING MAY PROVE DIFFICULT. SOME PARTICIPATING STATES MAY FIND ASPECTS OF OUR SUBJECT MATTER SENSITIVE. ALL OF US ARE LIKELY TO HAVE SOME DOMESTIC LEGAL OR ADMINISTRATIVE PROBLEM IN TREATING THE ISSUES BEFORE US, OR IN FULFILLING ALL OUR OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE FINAL ACT. WE APPRECIATE THAT, BUT ALSO BELIEVE THAT IF THIS MEETING IS TO BE MEANINGFUL AND USEFUL, WE MUST BE FRANK AND HONEST IN