

“The Implementation of Principle Nine, dealing with Co-operation Among States.”

November 15, 1977.

My delegation approaches the principle on co-operation in basically the same way as we have approached the other principles. That is, rather than enter into a debate on possible interpretations that can be given to the text of this principle, we prefer to see in it concrete possibilities for actively promoting different sorts of co-operation

What are these possibilities about which Principle Nine speaks? The second sentence says that, in developing their co-operation, participating states will place special emphasis on the fields as set forth within the framework of the CSCE, with each of them making its contribution in conditions of full equality. This sentence makes it explicit that we are all committed to pushing ahead with the various types of co-operation elaborated in the second and third chapters of the Helsinki Final Act. These chapters offer an impressive range of possibilities for co-operation — be they economic, scientific, technological, social, cultural or humanitarian. It would be quite impossible, as well as unnecessary, to try to itemize them here. Suffice it to say that in the relevant working bodies we have rightly been reviewing all the possibilities for co-operation contained in the text of the Final Act to determine what obstacles are still obstructing their progressive implementation. And we should recall that these obstacles can be removed *only* if the appropriate action is taken by each state, either unilaterally or in concert with other participating states on a bilateral or multilateral basis. It may sound strange to speak of unilateral action in the context of co-operation but, as the Helsinki Act makes clear, unilateral action is called for — and logically so, in view of the need to bring into balance uneven practices in our countries.

The Ninth Principle states that participating states should take steps to promote conditions favourable to making the benefits of co-operation available to all. This is an important idea, as it suggests that, if co-operation is to be truly worth while, the advantages should not simply be the facilitation of the work of certain state organs, for the benefit of a chosen few, but should