

The internal political structures in several states are under strain. The need for strengthening international co-operation is plain for all to see.

We are, therefore, very satisfied that the Soviet proposal for a CASE summit meeting have met with broad support from all sides. We now need to get on with the preparation. Thorough preparations are needed for such an ambitious conference to succeed with such short notice.

Not disregarding the complex technical problems, we must keep up the momentum at the CFE negotiations in Vienna in order that they may reach a first stage of agreement as soon as possible. The opportunities for lasting progress have never been brighter. Important political impulses to the negotiations should be given and are, in fact, being given.

We welcomed from the outset President Bush's proposal concerning stationed troops. Also in the necessary task of establishing agreed definitions on all categories of weapons and equipment covered by the negotiations new constructive proposals have been presented. This, inter alia, applies to combat aircraft.

We hope that these expressions of strong political will to bring CFE-1 to a speedy conclusion will be met with an equally constructive attitude.

Mr. Chairman, almost 35 ago President Eisenhower tabled a proposal to establish an Open Skies regime. At that time the Danish Government welcomed the proposal and declared itself ready to let such a regime encompass Danish territory, including Greenland.

Thirty-five years later, the positive view which was expressed then is still valid.

When President Bush, in May last year, took the initiative to relaunch the proposal on open skies and to expand its scope, the Danish Government immediately stated that it regarded the proposal as a very positive contribution to greater openness and confidence between East and West.

Indeed, Mr. Chairman, an open skies regime could not only help us achieve a larger degree of transparency as far as military activities are concerned, it could also as a tool in a verification context. Open skies will allow for virtually unrestricted aerial observation of the territories of North America, Europe and the Soviet Union. Thus, it will establish openness in a very concrete way, but on a very broad scale.

We must meet the challenges of the present and turn them into