

possibly affiliated with the CSCE, to provide expertise and serve as clearing houses for programs and information concerning the state of the European environment and efforts to clean it up.

In designing a new role for the CSCE, we must avoid duplication and new bureaucracies. The goal is concrete progress, not talkathons. In this connection, if the CSCE is to assume an activist role in the new Europe, it may well have to modify, perhaps on a selective basis, the current principles of unanimity in its decision-making process.

NATO and the CSCE are two complementary institutions in building the new Europe. But there is another institution - the European Community - which is central to Europe's future identity and prosperity.

The European Community is now a welcome and fundamental pillar of the international system. It is one of the great achievements of the post-war era, and has served as a magnet and model for the reforming countries of Eastern Europe. A uniting Europe is an engine of prosperity and a trigger to enhanced trade. Increasing co-operation in the political and, eventually, the security fields will ensure European consensus and co-ordination in ways which can only enhance international stability. The EC was founded to subsume past conflicts in the common interest; that mission remains valid for the future.

But as I noted in February in Montreal, a wall dividing Europe cannot be supplanted by a wall around Europe. Two impermeable blocs cannot be replaced by one new bloc which, whether in trade or security or political matters is less open to dialogue and co-operation than it is today. The new Europe must be an open Europe, open to the West and open to the East.

Canada has a particular interest in the evolution of an open, united Europe. Of course, we are not members of the European Community. Nor do we exert the sort of power which would ensure their sensitivity to our concerns. But we are traders. And we have a profound interest in the questions of foreign policy which are increasingly the subject of European Political Co-operation.

It is for this reason that Canada is now proposing a new phase in the development of Canada-EC political relations. This relationship should become more regular and more institutionalized. We are proposing regular meetings between the Prime Minister of Canada and the President of the European Council. These should be supplemented by regular in-depth discussions between the Canadian Foreign Minister and the Foreign Minister of each incoming Presidency. There should also be regular meetings between Canadian officials and experts on issues of common concern. In addition, we propose that there be an