

they stressed the importance of the negotiations being conducted in Vienna on mutual reductions of armed forces and armaments in Central Europe and associated measures. They expressed their will to achieve an agreement based on the principle of undiminished security of all the countries concerned.

Both sides agreed that their representatives would continue in the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament and other appropriate forums, to contribute to efforts to achieve general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control, including both nuclear and conventional weapons. Both Ministers reaffirmed their desire to see a halt to all nuclear weapons testing, an end to the nuclear arms race, and steps of nuclear disarmament at the earliest possible date. They emphasized the vital role of the Non-Proliferation Treaty in international efforts to prevent the further spread of nuclear weapons and to facilitate wider cooperation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. Both Ministers stressed the need for all countries to adhere to the Non-Proliferation Treaty and for all parties to the Treaty, to meet fully their obligation under the Treaty.

They are convinced that further limitation of strategic armaments would help in creating an atmosphere of confidence in the world and would have a favourable influence on the efforts aimed at arresting the armaments race.

The two Ministers agreed that the establishment of a lasting and just peace in the Middle East could only be achieved on the basis of a consistent fulfilment, by all sides, of the appropriate Resolutions of the United Nations Security Council.

They exchanged views on the developments in the region and expressed conviction that negotiations involving all interested parties, including the representatives of the Palestinian people, and embracing all issues involved, should take place as soon as possible, with the object of achieving a just and lasting settlement, that would permit all peoples in the Middle East to live in peace and security.