



OPEN SKIES CONFERENCE – CONFÉRENCE CIELS OUVERTS

The Open Skies Conference logo. It depicts the two halves of the globe at a point of convergence, encircled by an ellipse representing the flights of Open Skies.

well as working areas for the print media.

ICO will be offering a host broadcast unit, in this case the CBC, which will provide electronic coverage of the Conference and make the feed available to all other media representatives free of charge. The media services unit is also responsible for notifying the media about the Conference ahead of time, ac-

Inter-departmental cooperation important to Conference preparation

crediting them so they will be able to gain admission to the media centre, and providing briefing rooms and theatres where ICO and national delegations can keep the media informed about what is happening at the Conference.

The Task Force has been working on Conference preparations since mid-October, and even this four-month period has been tight given the range of tasks that fall under ICO's responsibility. The normal planning period for a conference of this scope ranges from six months to one year. Mr. van Staalduinen attributes ICO's ability to cope so ably with the planning challenge to the expertise and skill of his staff, and to the cooperation the Task Force has received from all involved.

An important element of Conference preparation is inter-departmental cooperation. Although the Task Force is part of EAITC, it includes representatives from a number of federal government departments and works closely with many others. As mentioned above, the RCMP and the Department of National Defence are playing a major role in providing security and transportation for the Conference. The Department of Supply and Services is involved in meeting Conference procurement and printing needs. Secretary of State Canada is providing interpreters and translators so that the Conference can be conducted in six official languages: English, French, German, Italian, Russian and Spanish. Transport Canada (responsible for the airports where the foreign ministers will be arriving) and Public Works Canada (owner of the conference and media centres) are also involved in Conference planning. In addition, ICO is in daily contact with the embassies of participating countries and is working closely with the City of Ottawa and the National Capital Commission.

ICO will probably remain in existence for a couple of weeks after the Conference, dismantling facilities, preparing the necessary reports and settling finances. After that, the staff will disband to return to their regular occupations — at least until the next time Canada plays host to a major international gathering. ■

Bild Appointed Conference Secretary General

Mr. Fred Bild, formerly Assistant Deputy Minister responsible for Political and International Security Affairs at EAITC, has been appointed Secretary General of the Open Skies Conference. As Secretary General, Mr. Bild is responsible for the preparations for and operation of the Conference. The Conference Task Force, in charge of physical and logistical preparations, and the Conference Secretariat, in charge of the operation of the meeting itself, both report to Mr. Bild.

Born in 1935, Mr. Bild was educated at Sir George Williams University in Montreal, University College in London, England and the Ecole Nationale d'Administration in Paris. Since entering the foreign service in 1961, Mr. Bild has served overseas in Tokyo, Laos, Paris and as Ambassador to Thailand. ■

Kinsman Appointed Political and International Security ADM

Mr. Jeremy Kinsman has been appointed to the position of Assistant Deputy Minister for Political and International Security Affairs at EAITC. He replaces Mr. Fred Bild, now Secretary General of the Open Skies Conference.

Born in 1942, Mr. Kinsman joined the Department of External Affairs in 1966. He has served overseas in Brussels, Stockholm, Algiers, New York and Washington. Immediately prior to his appointment, he was the Assistant Deputy Minister responsible for Cultural Affairs and Broadcasting at the Department of Communications. ■