

MR. CHAIRMAN:

May I now call upon the Permanent Under-Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark. And, I should say, sir, that you know you are very welcome here, but we also regret that our colleague, Raphael Yevyensen, is not able to be with us. And, we hope that you will convey to him our very warm wishes. May I now call upon Mr. Otto Moller.

MR. OTTO MOLLER,  
PERMANENT UNDER-SECRETARY OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS,  
DENMARK:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and thank you for your very kind words to my Minister. I will certainly convey them to him.

Mr. Chairman, on behalf of the Danish government, I express our gratitude to the Government of Canada for the warm welcome and for the hospitality with which we have been received here in Ottawa. I also thank the Canadian government for its offer to host this conference on Open Skies. We, for our part, highly appreciate the hard work that your hosts have done in order to ensure that this conference goes forth to a good start.

Mr. Chairman, we are meeting certainly at a time of tremendous opportunities. Relations between East and West are now better and more productive than at any time since World War II. Developments in the Soviet Union and in central and eastern Europe have contributed greatly in this regard.

Denmark welcomes this new relationship of co-operation. We urge that all others seize the moment to lay the foundation of lasting peace.

Progress has been made within all fields of the CSCE process. The process has been given new life. Apart from progress in the security field, I would like to mention economic co-operation and the human dimension of the process, both of which will be the subject of important meetings this spring and summer in Bonn and Copenhagen respectively.

A number of proposals have been made in recent months for the strengthening of co-operation structures in Europe. It is a common feature in all of them that the CASE process is accorded a prominent role. There is a need for an urgent examination of all new proposals.

The political structures which we have built in Europe since the Second World War must be seen in a new light following the dramatic developments in Central and Eastern Europe.