

greater openness and predictability regarding military activities. Convinced that contacts at the military level should be extended in order to improve our understanding of each others military thinking, we will propose as well an organized exchange of views on military doctrine.

These Confidence- and Security-Building Measures will be put forward with a view to effecting an increased openness about military matters; they will seek to dispel the suspicion which is a cause of tension between East and West.

In the Negotiation on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe, our proposals will seek to promote enhanced stability through a reduction in the capability of states to mount surprise attacks and large-scale offensive actions. To this end, we will propose an overall limit on the total holdings of armaments in Europe which most threaten us, such as tanks, artillery and armoured troops carriers. These weapons systems are capable of rapid mobility and high fire-power and are central to the seizing and holding of territory. They must be reduced and limited, with equal numbers on each side. As well, we will propose limits on the quantity of those armaments held by any one country, both on its own territory and stationed on the territory of others. No one country should be permitted to dominate Europe by force of arms.

A critically important aspect of these negotiations will be agreement on effective verification measures. Acceptance of verification of compliance as an essential element in the arms control and disarmament process has been formally registered through the adoption of consensus resolutions at the UN General Assembly.

Arms control verification has its own distinct and specific characteristics. It is not equivalent to unilateral monitoring by national means. Neither can it be equated to the observation of unilateral measures under conditions determined by one or more countries without benefit of negotiation. Real verification measures must be a product of negotiation. They must be acceptable to, and equally applicable to, all parties to an agreement. International experience with the negotiation and implementation of such verification measures is still scarce. However, in the bilateral area, the INF agreement is pointing the way, and multilaterally, the implementation of Confidence- and Security-Building Measures under the Stockholm Agreement is providing valuable experience.

Here in Vienna, our negotiators must draw on their experiences in both bilateral and multilateral contexts to develop an effective verification régime, capable of providing confidence in compliance. It will not be sufficient to work