

propose the establishment of a CSCE Assembly where parliamentary delegations from member states would meet on a regular basis to discuss issues of common concern.

In the security area, the CSCE will have a role in mandating a further round of conventional forces reduction talks. These talks should be conducted among all 35 members of the CSCE, rather than solely the members of NATO and the Warsaw Pact.

The CSCE should also increase its role in verification and confidence-building. Here, I have in mind a CSCE Verification Agency which would facilitate and co-ordinate verification and confidence-building activities mandated by the negotiations on conventional force reductions and confidence- and security-building measures. In addition, there is a potentially valuable role to be played by the CSCE in crisis prevention and conflict resolution. This could involve the creation of a mechanism whereby panels could be established to facilitate dialogue if a crisis develops involving any participating state and to conduct fact-finding investigations if required. This mechanism could recommend a strategy to resolve the crisis - whether it be mediation, arbitration or even peacekeeping. If the crisis develops into conflict, the CSCE could initiate mediation activities. These activities could be supported by a permanent Institute for the Peaceful Settlement of Disputes which would provide expertise for crisis prevention and conflict resolution activities.

Beyond the security field, the CSCE should build upon the other principles and undertakings contained in the Helsinki agreements. An early opportunity is provided by the Copenhagen Conference on the Human Dimension. The essential structures of democracy should become a common commitment of CSCE members, including the right to free elections and the rule of law. Pluralism should also be legitimized through the CSCE process, as should the rights of minorities, freedom of religion and a prohibition on hate propaganda.

In the economic dimension, the CSCE may also have a valuable role in the future, building on the tremendous success of the recent Bonn Economic Conference. It should not duplicate existing and effective economic institutions such as the OECD, the IMF and the new European Bank for Re-construction and Development. But there is room for growth in encouraging co-operation and dialogue designed to develop common principles of economic activity. I believe a permanent CSCE forum for economic dialogue, supplementing the emerging OECD work, is worth serious consideration.

One area requiring urgent attention in the East is the environment, which has been savagely disregarded and desecrated by the old regimes. One or more mechanisms might be created,