

October 30 on mutual reduction of forces and armaments and associated measures in Central Europe. Progress in one set of negotiations out to, and no doubt will, have a favourable effect on the others as they move ahead together in the same general period of time.

We are laying the groundwork for a new kind of world -- a world which should be better than the one we have known. This is cause for encouragement, even though the challenge is daunting. But ours is only a beginning. The document before us has, in all conscience, been difficult enough to prepare, but it provides only a framework for the second stage of this conference and is not by itself any guarantee of a successful outcome. It has already been pointed out that the mandates are not final formulations. But they embody agreed concepts and express a basic balance among the interests of the states participating in this conference. As such, they form an acceptable basis for the elaboration of more detailed and substantive documents. The course which has been set is a good one; we should keep to it.

As I see it, we are assigning two principal tasks to the second stage of the conference: *first*, to establish guiding principles for future co-operation and negotiation -- both multilateral and bilateral -- in each area of the agenda; and, *second*, to work out ways and means of putting these principles into practical application. Both these elements must be present if the work this conference will do is to be meaningful for the peoples for whom we speak.

Let me now indicate briefly how Canada views the mandates and the tasks that are to be assigned to the second stage. Under the first item of the agenda, the main task will be to enunciate principles that should guide relations among states. Such principles can provide an important basis for future security and co-operation, not only in Europe but more widely in the world. Canada has a direct interest in this item because it regards Canadian security and European security as interdependent. I heartily agree with previous speakers that fundamental to all such principles is the proposition that the use or threat of force must be ruled out completely in relations among all states, regardless of their political, economic or social systems. A corollary is that national boundaries and territories should be inviolable and that disputes should be settled by peaceful means. At the same time, nothing we propose should deny or exclude the possibility of peaceful change. Evolution is in the nature of things. The history of the world provides plentiful evidence that man-made efforts to prevent it may well be not only futile but, indeed, dangerous to future peace and stability.