

population and rapid industrialization, where winds and water know no borders, environmental security will only be achieved through co-operation.

That mandates an approach to the 1992 UN Conference on Environment and Development which is aggressive and innovative. It requires a realistic dialogue between the developing and developed world about environmental damage which threatens all states, rich and poor. As part of this effort, Canada will vigorously pursue the possibility of a World Forestry Convention by 1992.

A new concept of security also requires that we address more effectively the political and military tensions which persist in so many regions of the world.

While there is much to be done globally, I believe that a new focus on regional approaches to security is more necessary and more promising than ever. It is more necessary both because of the consequences of conflict arising from interdependence and because of the destructive nature of modern weapons. And it is more promising because the absence of East-West tension now frees countries and regions to pursue solutions to local problems on local terms.

Security is more than the absence of war; it is the presence of peace. That requires a shared sense on each side that the survival of the other is in its best interest. This means building trust and confidence.

Canada believes that a regional approach to confidence-building has much to offer. That approach can involve a variety of measures: dialogue itself designed to exchange perspectives and increase understanding; greater transparency in terms of military capacity; agreements to inform other members in the region of activities they might consider threatening in the absence of warning; and, eventually, institutions and processes of conflict resolution and crisis prevention.

Confidence-building is not a blueprint or a grand solution. It does not prejudge outcomes or impose solutions. It is not rigid. It is what this Organization has always done best. It is step-by-step. It is functional. It is flexible.

The success of such an approach in Europe is undeniable. Obviously specific measures taken in Europe may not apply to other regions. Those regions will require approaches tailored to their nature and requirements. But the fundamental principles of confidence-building apply.

It is for this reason that in addition to proposing new initiatives for the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe, Canada has suggested that the countries of the North Pacific region may benefit from similar approaches to confidence-building. Those might include advance notification of military