

commercially-available sensor technologies.

Negotiators are now fleshing out the means by which this framework can be put into practice. They are specifying the characteristics of the approved sensors, the procedures to be followed for approving visiting or host-country aircraft, the quotas of overflights given and received, scheduling, transit arrangements, equipment-pooling possibilities and financial aspects, among others.

Countries are already beginning to make plans for implementing the agreement. Both in Eastern and Western Europe feelers are being reported about the kind of pooling arrangements that would be practical and desirable under the agreement.

Canada is gratified to have its early work in launching the Open Skies negotiations repaid by the prospect of an early, successful outcome. The agreement will be useful to all participants, but perhaps most of all to smaller countries that otherwise have little access to this type of data. During the latest round, European neutral and non-aligned countries have been able to participate as observers in all aspects of the negotiations and are demonstrating an active concern.

The primary objective of Canada is to assist the negotiations to reach a successful conclusion. In pursuit of this goal, the Canadian delegation is developing proposals and options to cover difficulties that arise, and to provide for contingencies. It is also ensuring that Canadian interests in the procurement, processing and sharing of data are fully met.

Canadian negotiators are building on Canada's extensive experience in the remote sensing field to create a better understanding among other delegations of remote sensing's potential, and of the best means for using it in Open Skies. As well, Canada and Hungary are making plans for a trial Hungarian overflight of Canada, scheduled to take place January 13 to 18. This is a reciprocal flight to one conducted by Canada over Hungary in January 1990. As with the earlier trial, the goal is to gain practical experience about the administrative and operational procedures expected to form part of an Open Skies regime. ■

CSBM Update

The success of the confidence- and security-building measures (CSBMs) outlined in the November 1990 Vienna Document has been impressive. The Vienna Document CSBMs, which came into force January 1, 1991, have increased transparency about military organization and predictability about military behaviour among the 38 CSCE participating states.

Under the provisions of the Vienna Document, Canada, along with the other CSCE states, has exchanged information on military forces, budgets, and plans for the deployment of major weapon and equipment systems. Canada has also exchanged with the CSCE states annual calendars of military activities for 1992 and 1993. In addition to increased exchanges of information, the Vienna Document encourages increased military contacts. Under this provision, Canada participated in visits to air bases in Sweden and the Netherlands in 1991, and is planning to host a similar visit at Canadian Forces Base Lahr in Germany in the spring of 1992.

The Vienna Document also contains measures to ensure compliance and to allow for verification. Under these provisions, Canada conducted an inspection from September 5 to 7 in the Leningrad Military District of the former USSR. The Canadian inspection team confirmed that the Soviet notification of a reduction in its planned military exercise in this district did, in

fact, occur. In addition, the Canadian inspectors reported that the high level of cooperation between the Soviets and the Canadian team set a positive tone for future inspections and evaluations.

To facilitate the transmission of messages relating to both CSBM and CFE issues, the CSCE participating states have established a communications network. Canada's expertise in telecommunications allowed us to contribute to the development of this network, which became operational November 1. The network complements the existing use of diplomatic channels.

To review the implementation of agreed CSBMs, the Vienna Document calls for an annual meeting to be held at the CSCE Conflict Prevention Centre, located in Vienna. The first such meeting was held from November 11 to 13. Discussion extended to clarification of questions arising from implementation and operation of agreed measures, and implications for the process of confidence- and security-building in the CSCE framework.

Canada actively participated in the development of the Vienna Document. In the current CSBM negotiations, which will continue through to the CSCE Helsinki Follow-Up Meeting beginning in March 1992, Canadian representatives are discussing proposals for improvements to the Vienna Document as well as for new CSBMs. Canada's experience in verification ensures that we will continue to play an important role in the negotiations and in the confidence-building process as a whole. ■

Canada Expects Ukrainian Compliance

Further to Canada's recognition of Ukraine as an independent state on December 2, a Canadian delegation visited Kiev in early December to begin negotiations on establishing diplomatic relations. Among other things, the delegation sought assurances regarding the secure control of nuclear weapons, Ukrainian compliance with existing arms control and disarmament agreements, and adherence to and implementation of all commitments embodied in the Helsinki Final Act, the Charter of Paris and other CSCE documents.

Ukraine has stated that it will respect and implement international agreements entered into by the former USSR, in particular START and CFE. Ukraine has stressed its commitment to the earliest possible elimination of all nuclear weapons from its territory and to the accession of Ukraine to the Non-Proliferation Treaty as a non-nuclear-weapons state. It has also said that all nuclear weapons in Ukraine will remain under a single unified control. Canada welcomes these commitments. ■