

realized. They reaffirmed that the respect, by all of them, for human rights and fundamental freedoms in all their aspects is of fundamental importance and constitutes an essential basis for substantial improvement of their mutual relations. They expressed their resolve fully to comply with their international commitments and obligations in this field. In so doing, they will act in conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

In this respect, they recalled the right of everyone to work, the equal and effective participation of women in political, economic, social and cultural life, the free exercise of the profession and practice of a religion or belief included in the number of rights and liberties recognized by all. They also expressed the hope that all participating States will consider the possibility of acceding to the International Covenants on Human Rights and to the Optional Protocol thereto.

Having reaffirmed the desire of their States to respect and give effect to refraining from the threat or use of force in their mutual relations as with all other States, they have convoked, in conformity with the mandate contained in the Final Act and according to the proposal made to this effect by the Government of Switzerland to convene at Montreux on October 31, 1978, a meeting of experts charged with pursuing the examination and elaboration of a generally acceptable method for peaceful settlement of disputes aimed at complementing existing methods.

Condemning all acts of terrorist violence, the participating States declare their intention to reinforce international collaboration aimed at elaborating effective measures designed to prevent the taking of hostages.

They will also do their best to assure to all official representatives and persons who participate on their territories in activities within the scope of mutual co-operation between States necessary security, as well as favourable conditions for their stay and their work.

#### IV

The representatives of the participating States noted that, while there had been important differences in the manner in which confidence-building measures had been implemented, there had been some progress in strengthening confidence as a result of the implementation by all States of the minimum requirements set out in the Final Act. They observed that a number of States had implemented certain provisions liberally, especially by notifying their smaller-scale manoeuvres, by giving observers ample opportunity to follow