

The Open Skies regime will put in the hands of participating countries, particularly small and medium-sized countries, means of information which have been unavailable so far.

A number of countries, including my own, can only take full advantage of the possibility of inspection if we closely co-operate with other countries, for quite obvious reasons. This is an aspect very dear to the heart of my delegation and which we intend to stress in the course of negotiations. Thus, preparatory works have already begun within the Benelux countries, and we intend to include our contribution in this framework and continue our contribution.

Luxembourg accepts to restrict originally this regime to the countries of the two alliances. Nevertheless, progressively, it should be expanded to other countries, particularly neutral and non-aligned countries in Europe.

Thus, we should take account of this throughout our work. Also, my delegation will adopt a flexible attitude, and may I express the hope that our work will continue in the spirit of conciliation and compromise.

I wish to thank the Canadian government for the most heartfelt and warm hospitality offered to all delegations, and which has made our work most enjoyable and productive.

I hope that during our next meeting in Budapest we will arrive at concrete results, fulfilling the reality of Open Skies, an important step toward peaceful and prosperous future.

Thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN:

Thank you very much, Dr. Wohlfart. I would like to call now on the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Italy, His Excellency Gianni De Michelis.

HIS EXCELLENCY GIANNI DE MICHELIS,
MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, ITALY:
(No interpretation of beginning).

The staggering political developments that have occurred have leapfrogged even the arms negotiations. And this is despite the successful directions that these are taking, holding out the opportunity for our continent to shake off its melancholy destiny, to be the focus of the greatest concentration of destructive weapons.