

international organization were to be established to perform the overflights, the organization would simply be instructed by the Parties not to undertake overflights of certain countries on behalf of certain others.

Such an approach might be necessary in that it would recognize the fact that there are several ongoing disputes in the region. It may thus not be possible, or even desirable to create a regime in which each nation has the right to request overflights of every other nation in the region. The creation of a central organization which can undertake only those overflights which are agreed seems a reasonable approach to this problem.

Of course, an Open Skies regime in the region may only be required to assist in the development of a new relationship between certain countries. It may be, for example, that only a limited number of countries would want an Open Skies regime. In this case, only certain countries in the region would be involved, and the questions of who would be subject to overflights from whom would be correspondingly simplified.

Turning to the question of sensors, the terrain, vegetation and weather of the region would make aerial observation particularly useful and effective. Indeed, the effectiveness of aerial observation might be such that it may be necessary in the first instance to forego the use of any sensors, and rely purely on human observation, possibly involving passengers from the observing and the observed state aboard the aircraft. This approach would follow the pattern established by the majority of UN aerial observation missions.

If sensors are used, it seems clear that an agreed standard of resolution will be required, and that such a standard will have to be capable of permitting the detection of potentially dangerous military build-ups, without endangering sensitive sites to a great extent. In the final analysis, a political decision as to how much information could be released in the name of confidence-building would be required. Obviously, the operational component of the regime would have to be structured in such a way as to ensure that the agreed sensor resolution was not exceeded. In particular, the altitude at which the aircraft was allowed to fly would depend upon the resolution of the sensors in use at the time. This is the case in the current Open Skies Treaty.

Should fears of too great an exposure of national secrets remain, despite efforts to alleviate them by adopting sensors of lower resolution capability than are available, it might be possible to have the organization performing the