

tion of the countries of Eastern Europe into the global economy. We are participating actively in this constructive and beneficial initiative and are ready to contribute time, money and expertise to aid its success.

The Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe is also a vital piece of that architecture. For almost two decades the CSCE has been an extremely important instrument for countries in both East and West. It has served as the bridge, often the only bridge, from sterile disagreement to fruitful cooperation. It has facilitated in many ways the quite extraordinary changes of the past year. And it is the only institution that comprises all of the countries directly engaged in European security.

A costly lesson of the history of this century is that European security and North American security are indivisible. None of us is secure when any of us feels threatened. We support the call for a summit-level meeting of the CSCE later this year and believe we should begin preparations immediately. We believe that we should all strive to be in a position at that summit to sign an agreement on reducing conventional forces in Europe. Further, we would like to see the CSCE transformed into an institution of ongoing economic, social and political cooperation between the countries of East and West.

In these days of torrential change and telescoped timeframes, stability and predictability in security arrangements are at a premium. For 40 years, NATO has embodied the commitment of North America to European security. NATO, with its trans-Atlantic membership, has a central role to play in facilitating the orderly transition from armed confrontation to more normal and productive political and human relationships.

NATO's arms control agenda is being pursued with the same seriousness of purpose as has been applied to maintaining an appropriate military balance between East and West. And NATO

provides a basis for going beyond arms issues to verification and confidence-building.

Openness is a pre-condition of confidence and, therefore, of stability. An agreement on Open Skies is in concert with these times; it will help to consolidate the dramatic improvement in relations between East and West that has occurred over the past year. By opening our territories to virtually unrestricted surveillance by air, we will be showing the world that we have nothing to hide and less to fear.

In concluding this Open Skies agree-

ment we will make a statement of enlightened political will, capitalizing on the current climate of achievement and building on a record of recent success.

When this idea was first proposed in the fifties, the times were not right. However, a spirit of leadership and catalytic change, which we are in now, have ensured that this concept — a helpful, confidence-building measure — will receive, for the first time, fair and thoughtful consideration today. I invite all present to pursue this agreement with vision and vigour for the future well-being of mankind.

Who Was There

From NATO:

Country

Belgium
Canada
Denmark
Federal Republic of Germany
France
Greece
Iceland
Italy
Luxembourg
Netherlands
Norway
Portugal
Spain
Turkey
United Kingdom
United States

Foreign Minister

Marc Eyskens
Joe Clark
Otto Moller*
Hans-Dietrich Genscher
Roland Dumas
Antonis Samaras
Jon Baldvin Hannibalsson
Gianni de Michelis
Georges Wohlfart
Hans van den Broek
Kjell Magne Bondevik
Joao de Deus Pinheiro
Francisco Fernandez-Ordonez
Mesut Yilmaz
Douglas Hurd
James A. Baker, III

From the WTO:

Country

Bulgaria
Czechoslovakia
German Democratic Republic
Hungary
Poland
Romania
USSR

Foreign Minister

Boyko Dimitrov
Jiri Dienstbier
Oskar Fischer
Gyula Horn
Krzysztof Skubiszewski
Sergiu Celac
Eduard Shevardnadze

* representing the Minister of Foreign Affairs