

if a concluding document had been adopted, there would still have been a great deal of unfinished business. Canada will do everything in its power to improve this record here. We must all recognize, Mr. Chairman, that these issues will not go away. It is not a matter of our imposing our own ideas and values on anyone, or of stressing one element of the CSCE at the expense of others. It is a simple recognition of the fact that the Final Act is indivisible, and that confidence depends on making progress in all aspects.

Mr. Chairman, I have had occasion to speak frankly today on issues my country considers of prime importance in building confidence. But my message is one of hope. The problems are real; they cannot be wished away. But if they are faced squarely and discussed in a constructive fashion, and if recent indications from certain countries that they might be prepared to make substantial changes in their approach to key areas of the Final Act are borne out in practice, then real progress is indeed possible.

Progress can be finally measured only in deeds, not in words. But even modest improvements in implementing the Final Act and the Madrid Concluding Document would profoundly affect the lives of millions of Europeans and North Americans. A climate of confidence could be created in which bolder steps would be possible in all areas covered by the Final Act, as well as in other areas such as nuclear disarmament, superpower dialogue, and broader and deeper relations among all participating States.

The issue is confidence, and the challenge is before us. If we shun the heat and dust, we cannot win the prize. But if we keep our courage, goodwill, and above all our patience, we may yet achieve real gains that would make us worthy successors not only of the political, but of the intellectual, cultural, and spiritual giants of Europe who have walked here in generations gone by.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.