

7. Proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and missiles is one of the most serious threats to international peace and security. We call upon all States that have not yet done so to accede to the NPT as non-nuclear weapon states. We declare our unequivocal support for the indefinite extension of the Treaty in 1995. We underline the importance of continuing nuclear arms reduction, and confirm our commitment to achieve universal, verifiable and comprehensive Treaties to ban nuclear tests and the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons. We reaffirm our commitment for the earliest possible entry into force of the Chemical Weapons convention and welcome the Special Conference of States parties to the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention. We support full implementation of the UN Register of Conventional Arms. We agree to cooperate to prevent nuclear smuggling. We assign priority to the problems of anti-personnel landmines, including efforts to curb their indiscriminate use, halt their export, assist in their clearance worldwide. We shall work together and with others for effective export controls to ensure that trade in armaments and sensitive dual-use goods is carried out responsibly. We encourage non-proliferation efforts in the Middle East and South Asia.

8. The UN has a central role in preventive diplomacy as well as in peace-keeping, peace-making, post-conflict peace-building. It is essential that all such activities be fully mandated, effectively planned and organized, and be financed to meet the demands placed on them. All UN members have clear responsibilities in that regard and must fulfill them. Arrears must be eliminated and dues paid promptly and in full, while a more equitable scale of assessments should reflect changes in the world economy and in UN membership. The UN reform must continue in order to ensure efficiency, streamlining of functions and cost effectiveness.

Regional organizations can make a significant contribution in the field of preventive diplomacy and peace-keeping, fully consistent with the UN Charter as well as relevant CSCE documents. We stress the importance of the consent of all parties in peacekeeping operations, and reiterate the need to respect in all cases sovereignty and territorial integrity. We also emphasize that a mandate is to be sought from the UN when peacekeeping forces can be confronted with the need to use force beyond the requirements of self-defense.

The CSCE Budapest summit in December should be an important landmark in the process of enhancing the CSCE's role and capabilities.

We support the conclusion of the Pact of Stability aimed at promoting good relations in Europe.

In the Asia/Pacific area, we welcome the beginning of regional security dialogue, in particular in the ASEAN Regional Forum.