On 22 September 1986, after almost three years of negotiations, an agreement was finally reached in Stockholm. The terms of the Accord, effective 1 January 1987, included the following: notice of military activities involving more than 13,000 troops or 300 tanks must be given forty-two days in advance; host states must extend invitations to foreign observers to attend manoeuvres exceeding 17,000 men; each state has the right to request a ground and/or aerial inspection of any military activity raising doubts about compliance with agreed CSBMs, although no state is required to submit to more than three such inspections per year; aircraft for aerial inspections will be chosen by the mutual consent of the parties involved, and inspectors will furnish the monitoring equipment and specify the flight path of the aircraft in the suspected area; and calendars outlining the schedule for military activities subject to prior notification in the following year are to be exchanged by 15 November. Notice for military activities involving over 40,000 or 75,000 troops must be given by 15 November, one and two years in advance, respectively. Finally, the signatories agreed to refrain from the threat or use of force against the territory or political independence of other states in accordance with the 1975 Helsinki Final Act and the Charter of the United Nations.2

Compliance with the Stockholm Agreement since its establishment has been considered satisfactory by all involved. In the first year of the Agreement's implementation, 1987, NATO gave notice of nineteen exercises and the Warsaw Pact gave notice of twenty-five. Nine of NATO's exercises and eight of the Warsaw Pact's exercises were observed. None of the five NNA exercises notified was observed. Five challenge inspections occurred in 1987, two by NATO and three by the Warsaw Pact.

In 1988 NATO gave notice of thirteen exercises while the Warsaw Pact gave notice of twenty-one. Eight of NATO's and seven of the Warsaw Pact's exercises were observed. NATO conducted seven challenge inspections and the Warsaw Pact conducted six. The NNA gave notice of three exercises, all of which were observed. None of the NNA nations has yet conducted an inspection under the terms of the Stockholm Agreement.

For 1989, NATO forecast eleven exercises, of which seven were planned to be of observable size. The Warsaw Pact forecast seventeen exercises, with seven planned to be of observable size. The NNA forecast three exercises, of which two were planned to be observable.

The question of how to follow up the Stockholm Conference was on the agenda of the third CSCE Follow-up meeting in Vienna, which began on 19 November 1986. The working group on security discussed a proposal for two distinct negotiations on conventional arms control: one, expanding the CSBM regime agreed to in Stockholm; and the second, held within the CSCE framework but being autonomous and involving only the twenty-three nations of the Warsaw Pact and NATO, to deal with enhancing security and stability in Europe at lower levels of conventional forces. It was expected that these latter talks would replace the Mutual and Balanced Force Reduction (MBFR) talks (see Negotiations on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe (CFE), Chapter 7 of The Guide).

Canada, Department of External Affairs, Document of the Stockholm Conference On Confidence- and Security-building Measures and Disarmament in Europe Convened in Accordance with the Relevant Provisions of the Concluding Document of the Madrid Meeting of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, 1986, pp. 1-20.