

The proposed CBMs provided for information-sharing on military exercises, improving communications among military commanders, joint border patrolling, exchanges of delegations of armed forces; at the political level, the CBMs included reiteration of India's intent to settle disputes through peaceful means and bilateral negotiations, ceasing hostile propaganda, respecting the Line of Control, refraining from acts detrimental to maintenance of peaceful harmonious relations, and non-interference in each other's internal affairs. Since that time, the two countries have signed Agreements entitled, "Advance Notice on Military Exercises, Manoeuvres and Troop Movements," and "Prevention of Air Space Violations and Permitting Overflights and Landings by Military Aircraft"; they have agreed to a "Joint Declaration on Prohibition of Chemical Weapons," which would ban the use, production, and stockpiling of chemical weapons or assisting others to acquire a similar capability; they have established a communication channel ("hotline") between the Directors General for Military Operations; and they have agreed to exchange military visitors.

While other proposals have also been discussed, implementation of the agreed measures has not matched the speed of negotiation of agreements. As Rakesh Sood has pointed out, "while India would have preferred a speedier implementation of these CBMs with a view to building upon them, it is clear that by their very nature, the pace of CBMs cannot be forced and must reflect genuine political will on the part of the states concerned."³⁷

Relations between India and China have slowly improved following a goodwill visit to China paid by then Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi in 1988. Under an "Agreement on Peace and Tranquility along the Line of Actual Control in the India-China Border Areas" signed in September 1993, the countries have agreed to negotiate a series of CBMs, including possible reductions of military forces deployed along the border. Other CBMs agreed upon include meetings of military personnel, development of communication links, and prior notification regarding military exercises. Implementation of these measures has also been slow.

Whether these efforts at cooperative measures will be impacted by India's stance on the CTBT is unknown. Certainly India's election not to give up its nuclear option will not build confidence among its neighbors.

SSOD IV, Peace Operations, and other U.N.-Related Measures

SSOD IV

United Nations General Assembly Resolution 50/70 F called for the convening of the Fourth Special Session of the General Assembly devoted to Disarmament (SSOD IV) in 1997, if possible. In April, the Non-Aligned Movement expressed its views on the objectives of SSOD

³⁷ Rakesh Sood, "Confidence Building Measures between India and Her Neighbors," a white paper dated 29 December 1994.