

Following on its previous actions on the crisis in Nagorno-Karabakh, the CSCE foreign ministers, meeting for the first three days of the review conference, decided to send the Czech Foreign Minister (also the President of the CSCE) to the area to attempt to negotiate a ceasefire with the intention of holding a peace conference in Minsk as soon as possible thereafter. In addition, there was general agreement that the CSCE should have the ability to make decisions calling for the use of peacekeeping forces. Four working groups on institutions, security problems (arms control), human rights, and economics and the environment began work to establish the principles for the new blueprint.

The review conference concluded with a summit meeting of the leaders of CSCE states on 9-10 July 1992. A day prior to the summit, agreement was reached to suspend Yugoslavia from CSCE meetings until October. This agreement represented a compromise between Russia and the US. The US sought an indefinite suspension of Yugoslavia but was opposed by Russia. The time limit on the suspension means that a consensus will be required in October to renew the suspension. In exchange for this concession Russia agreed to language in the final document of the conference which called for quick agreement on the timeframe for troop withdrawals from the Baltic states.

The CSCE summit meeting gave final approval, by consensus, to the blueprint developed by the working groups in the previous three months. Titled *The Challenges of Change*, the document gives the CSCE the right to use peacekeeping troops and resources drawn from members of NATO and the former Warsaw Pact to monitor ceasefires, troop withdrawals and the delivery of humanitarian aid in cases of conflict within or among CSCE states. The purpose would be to maintain peace and stability while a political solution was pursued. The document emphasized that troops would not be sent in the absence of a ceasefire and would not be used for enforcement operations.

The document also established a new high commissioner for national minorities, a post that is intended to act as a kind of early warning system for potential conflicts in the region. In addition, a forum for economic cooperation aimed at helping the newest 18 members from Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union in their transition to democracy and free market economies was established.