

In adapting to the new era in Europe and in striving to develop cooperative structures of security for a Europe whole and free, the Alliance will continue to perform its enduring basic missions. Today we have issued a separate statement setting out these core security functions of the Alliance. They will provide an essential basis from which the Allies will be able to take full advantage of new opportunities in building the new Europe.

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1. A transformed Atlantic Alliance constitutes an essential element in the new architecture of an undivided Europe; we are agreed that the Alliance must have the flexibility to continue to develop and evolve as the security situation dictates. An important basis for this transformation is the agreement of all Allies to enhance the role and responsibility of the European members. We welcome efforts further to strengthen the security dimension in the process of European integration and recognize the significance of the progress made by the countries of the European Community towards the goal of political union, including the development of a common foreign and security policy. These two positive processes are mutually reinforcing. The development of a European security identity and defence role, reflected in the strengthening of the European pillar within the Alliance, will reinforce the integrity and effectiveness of the Atlantic Alliance.

2. We are agreed, in parallel with the emergence and development of a European security identity and defence role, to enhance the essential transatlantic link that the Alliance guarantees and fully to maintain the strategic unity and indivisibility of security of all our members. We will continue, in particular, to ensure the Alliance's capability to fulfil its essential functions. The Alliance is the essential forum for consultation among its members and the venue for agreement on policies bearing on the security and defence commitments of Allies under the Washington Treaty, as expressed in the statement on NATO's core security functions accompanying this communique. We all agree that the military dispositions necessary to ensure the collective defence of the Allies must

be maintained. This applies in particular to the integrated military structure for the Allied countries that participate in it.

3. Recognizing that it is for the European Allies concerned to decide what arrangements are needed for the expression of a common European foreign and security policy and defence role, we further agree that, as the two processes advance, we will develop practical arrangements to ensure the necessary transparency and complementarity between the European security and defence identity as it emerges in the Twelve and the Western European Union, and the Alliance. There will be a need, in particular, to establish appropriate links and consultation procedures between them in order to ensure that the Allies that are not currently participating in the development of a European identity in foreign and security policy and defence should be adequately involved in decisions that may affect their security.

4. Allies are convinced that arms control and confidence-building measures will continue to shape and consolidate a new cooperative order in Europe in which no country need harbour fears for its security. The CFE Treaty is the keystone for such a stable and lasting peace on the continent. In our separate statement yesterday, we expressed our hope that a binding agreement can soon be reached to resolve the problems which had arisen with respect to the Treaty, allowing it to move forward to early ratification and entry into force and full implementation. Once concluded, such an agreement will open the way for us to make new proposals on military manpower in Europe without delay in the CFE 1A Negotiation now taking place in Vienna. In the CSBM Negotiations, we will seek further to strengthen openness and stability. Work within the Alliance is moving forward in preparation for new negotiations on conventional arms in Europe, open to all CSCE members, after the Helsinki CSCE Follow-up Meeting in 1992. We look forward to informal preparatory consultations on this

subject with CSCE partners in the autumn.

5. The Allies attach high importance to the earliest possible establishment of an Open Skies regime as an essential contribution to transparency among all participants. We have recently made fresh proposals to that end, and we call on all participants to join us in a prompt resumption of productive negotiations.

6. In the Strategic Arms Reduction Talks, Allies support the United States' efforts to reach a final agreement that will provide a framework for strategic stability into the next century. Preparations among the Allies concerned are advancing on an arms control framework for USA-Soviet negotiations on the reduction of their short-range nuclear forces.

7. Allies have worked for many years to advance progress in the fields of non-proliferation and disarmament on a regional and global basis. The Gulf crisis demonstrated what we have long recognized: the proliferation of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons and of missiles capable of delivering them, and excessive transfers of conventional arms undermine international security and increase the risk of armed conflict throughout the world. To meet this challenge, we have renewed our commitment to the earliest possible achievement of advances in the international

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fora dealing with specific proliferation issues. We fully endorse the goal of concluding a global, comprehensive and effectively verifiable chemical weapons convention by mid-1992 and support President Bush's initiative of 13th May to that effect. We will also seek in September 1991, at the Third Review Conference on the Biological Weapons Convention, to strengthen that Convention and to encourage further accessions to it. We will urgently pursue efforts in the United Nations and elsewhere to