

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN:

Thank you very much. Our last participant this afternoon will be the Foreign Minister of the German Democratic Republic and I turn the floor now to His Excellency Oskar Fischer.

HIS EXCELLENCY OSKAR FISCHER,
MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC:

Mr. Chairman, dear colleagues, ladies and gentlemen, the world and, in particular, Europe is living, presently, through a time of historic and radical change. The peoples have risen up to fully assert their rights -- rights such as peace through disarmament, a departure from confrontation of blocs toward co-operation that will inter-link our systems. Democratic freedoms, as a condition of political and social self-determination, common efforts on an equal footing to ensure sustainable, healthy, political, economic and social development in which the stronger help the weaker, national and international challenges are now becoming intertwined. A new kind of security guarantee is required.

European states, and here I include the United States and Canada, are in the fortunate situation to have reliable sign posts on the road into the future thanks to the Helsinki Final Act and the follow-up process that has been going on now for almost 15 years. Every step on that road, though, must be well contemplated so as to maintain the necessary stability at all times.

At the present moment, it is the blocs and the military alliances that constitute the essential factor here. In the future, and this is what we aspire to, it would be to everybody's advantage to attain a new and productive stability based on co-operative structures that indeed transcend alliances. It should, after all, be possible to banish war and the risk of war from the lives of our peoples and our nations.

The CSCE nations can set an example to the world. As for the United States and the Soviet Union, whose mutual relationship is doubtless crucial to world peace, from them we expect that they continue boldly pursuing the change for the better.

A European community of security, stability and responsibility is in the fundamental interest of both German states. They are growing together through the exercise of the Germans' right to self-determination and, in collaboration with the four powers and with due regard to the interests of all European states, must constitute part of this process.

The proposal from Prime Minister Hans Modrow concerning a