

We now also have the confidence to embark on ambitious negotiations touching on conventional armed forces themselves. These negotiations will take place within the framework of the CSCE process, but will be autonomous—a condition we regard as vitally necessary for their efficiency. They will not be easy. Success will depend at all stages on frankness and trust, which in turn depend, in some measure, on developments outside the arms control arena....

I should not leave this subject without referring briefly to a negotiation which will conclude before the commencement of the new negotiation on conventional arms control. The Mutual and Balanced Force Reductions talks were a pioneering attempt to arrive at conventional arms control measures in a crucial area of Europe. Much of what has been learned from the successes and failures during the many years of these talks will prove useful in the new negotiations.

Other specific elements of this Concluding Document are very important to Canada. We have achieved firm commitments that will improve the conditions under which business people and entrepreneurs can perform their central role in economic cooperation. We have sharpened our commitment to promote contacts between business people and potential buyers and end users, and to publish useful, detailed, and up-to-date economic information and statistics. These measures will expand the economic dimension of our cooperation and growing interdependence. The Conference on Economic Cooperation, with business people and experts participating, will be an important first step in this process....

We are encouraged that the importance of environmental protection has been recognized. In addition to specific commitments on air and water pollution, hazardous wastes, nuclear safety and other measures Canada supports, we welcome the essential message of this Document: the environment of Europe and the world is a common trust, in which people themselves have a critical stake and role. Governments must cooperate in its protection, but it is

above all the commitment, dedication and sacrifice of aware and concerned citizens that will ensure ultimate success.

We think the progress on tourism is important. Eliminating minimum exchange requirements makes tourism more attractive, and easing contacts between tourists and the local population (including permitting them to stay in private homes) will offer greater human contact and understanding.

In the section on principles, we have adopted a firm statement on terrorism and have made a breakthrough in acceptance of the principle of third party involvement in the peaceful settlement of disputes.

In the field of human rights and humanitarian cooperation, our achievement at Vienna has been remarkable, especially when one looks back to the days of the Ottawa Meeting of Experts. Some of the accomplishments of special interest to Canada are:

- the commitment to respect the right of all citizens to associate together and participate actively in the promotion and protection of human rights and in monitoring their government's performance. We have undertaken not to discriminate against those who exercise these rights, and to ensure that remedies are available to those who claim that their human rights have been violated. We have recognized the role of non-governmental organizations and individuals in promoting human rights.

- the undertaking to ensure freedom of religion and to allow religious communities to have places of worship, institutional structures and funding, and to participate in public dialogue and to have contacts with believers elsewhere. We have recognized the right of anyone to give and receive religious education in the language of his choice, and to obtain, possess, and use religious publications and materials.

- the commitment to protect the human rights of national minorities, to promote their ethnic, cultural, and linguistic identities and their cultural expression, and to allow contacts with counterparts elsewhere.

- we have committed ourselves to ensuring that no one is subject to arbitrary arrest, detention and exile, to improving the treatment of prisoners, and to protecting individuals from abuses of psychiatric practices.

- we have undertaken to respect the right of people to move within and between countries, including an explicit statement of the right of an individual to leave any country, including one's own, and return to one's own country, subject only to exceptional restrictions.

- we have agreed to a range of measures to remove bureaucratic obstacles to family reunification and travel, to publish laws and allow appeals, to respect the wishes of applicants regarding how long they wish to travel and where they want to go, to remove restrictions on the movement of people, to eliminate the punishment of individuals who wish to travel simply because a relative may have breached exit control regulations, to implement tight, clear-cut time limits for decisions on travel, and to resolve outstanding cases within a very short time after the conclusion of the Vienna Meeting.

- we have acknowledged the qualitative difference between the right to leave and practical commitments regarding entry policy.

- we have taken a large step toward preventing State action against an individual wishing to exercise his right to leave through the arbitrary imposition of restrictions based on national security grounds. The Vienna Concluding Document also ensures that long-term refuseniks will have the time since they were last involved in national security work retroactively credited against any limit during which any restriction will be applied.

- we have undertaken to respect the privacy and integrity of postal and telephone communications, to allow people to listen to radio from outside the country, and to receive, publish and disseminate information more freely. Scholars and teachers will be able to have more direct contacts and access to research materials.