

BASIC PROVISIONS OF THE OPEN SKIES AGREEMENT

The member states of the Warsaw Treaty attach great importance of principle to the transition from individual confidence building measures, openness and glasnost in international affairs in general - and in the military sphere in particular - to a broad-scale policy that would become a component of a comprehensive system of international security, a vital factor in the real strengthening of confidence and the enhancing of predictability of activities of states and one of the components in the progress towards disarmament. Proceeding from this fundamental position, the member countries of the Warsaw Treaty are in agreement with the "Open Skies" concept put forward by US President George Bush on May 12, 1989, and are of the opinion that its implementation can become a real contribution to strengthening confidence between countries. They also hold that such openness cannot be selective or limited - it must be operative everywhere. For this reason, the establishment of an Open Skies regime could become part of a global system of strengthening confidence and of reducing the military threat and the risk of war - a system that would embrace not only the skies but also the land, the seas and oceans as well as space. An agreement of this kind will be the first step in the context of a broader solution to the problems of the transparency of military activities in other spheres.

II. Principles

The "Open Skies" regime should conform to the following principles:

- observation flights should be conducted on the basis of reciprocity and equality by combat unarmed aircraft;

