

EDITOR'S NOTE

Prepared by the *International Security Research and Outreach Program* (ISROP) of the Canadian Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT), this compendium provides a collection of documents related to the Treaty on Open Skies covering the period 1992 through 07 April 2003, end of the 30th Session of the OSCC. These include the **Treaty on Open Skies (Section I)**; those adopted **Open Skies Consultative Commission (OSCC) Decisions to the Treaty on Open Skies (Section II)**; the **Chairperson's Statements (Section III)**; and, **Additional Documents (Section IV)**. Each Section has its own Table of Contents.

The original concept for the Treaty - mutual and cooperative aerial observation - was proposed by President Eisenhower in 1955, and the Treaty itself was an initiative of former Prime Minister Mulroney and former President Bush in 1989. The Treaty was negotiated between the members of NATO and the former Warsaw Pact, with the latter dissolving during the course of the talks. Canada hosted the initial negotiations in Ottawa in 1991, and is, with Hungary, a Co-Depositary of the Treaty. The Treaty was signed in Helsinki, Finland, on 24 March 1992, and elements have been applied provisionally since then, with more than 350 trial flights taking place between 1996 and 2001. On 1 January 2002, The Treaty entered into force and the OSCC Working Groups were re-activated.

As of 07 April 2003, under the Treaty:

- there were 29 States Parties (the original signatory States plus Sweden, Finland and Latvia);
- Kyrgyzstan remained a Signatory State to the Treaty; and
- 6 OSCE Participating States (Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Cyprus, Estonia, Lithuania and Slovenia) had already deposited their letters of intent to accede to the Treaty but had not deposited their instruments of accession.

This publication contains the original text of the Treaty Articles and Annexes as signed in 1992. It also contains the original text of subsequent Open Skies Consultative Commission's Decisions and Chairman's Statements. The Treaty on Open Skies must be read in conjunction with these Decisions and Statements, as well as Open Skies Formatted Notifications issued by State Parties, as these latter documents interpret and modify the original Treaty text.

Canada recognizes the perseverance of all who worked to bring the Treaty on Open Skies into force, and is pleased to provide this reference source. The compilation is not based on any legal considerations nor does it have any legal alterations due to practical limitations. Production of this compendium is the sole responsibility of ISROP.