

NNA JOINT COMMUNIQUE' - 2 MARCH 1990

1. The Ministers of Foreign Affairs of Austria, Cyprus, Finland, Liechtenstein, Malta, San Marino, Sweden, Switzerland and Yugoslavia met in Valletta, from 1st to 3rd March, 1990, to assess developments in Europe, to review the CSCE process, including the Vienna negotiations and the future of security negotiations, and to address the issue of a CSCE summit in 1990 and its preparation.
2. Europe is witnessing profound changes constituting an important move from confrontation towards cooperative security. This encouraging development in security and cooperation helps to overcome the long period of division of Europe. The far-reaching reforms going on in some European States conform with CSCE principles and constitute important steps towards full implementation of basic values, such as human rights and fundamental freedoms and development of pluralistic democracy, market economy and social justice.
3. The Ministers stated that the CSCE, as the only forum of all the 35 States, is the most appropriate framework for security, cooperation and peaceful change towards a common European future.
4. The encouraging perspectives for greater security in Europe and for the emergence of common values among the CSCE participating States are creating favourable conditions for all-European cooperation particularly, in areas such as economics, science and technology and the environment.
5. They noted with satisfaction that recent developments already have had a positive impact on the current negotiations on CSBM and CFE.
6. The Ministers stressed that the follow-up programme agreed upon in the Concluding Document of the Vienna Meeting should be implemented in its entirety.
7. The CSCE meetings scheduled for this year should give further impetus to European cooperation. Rapid economic recovery and development of a number of Eastern and Southern European countries will contribute to stability in Europe and facilitate the process of all European integration. Therefore, the Bonn Conference on Economic Cooperation should lead towards more coordinated joint efforts in this field. The Copenhagen Meeting on the Human Dimension should mark

a further step towards full implementation and further development of all human rights and fundamental freedoms including the standards of the Council of Europe and the right to free elections. The Meeting on the Mediterranean in Palma de Mallorca underlines the importance of the close link which exists between Security and Cooperation in Europe and the Mediterranean.

8. They also considered that the evolution in Europe should favour progress towards developing a system of peaceful settlement of disputes to which they attach particular importance, not least in view of an emerging new security structure. The 1991 Valletta meeting should contribute towards this end.

9. The Ministers believe that enhanced security and lasting prosperity in Europe requires a positive approach to the problems prevailing outside Europe, in particular in the developing countries.

10. The Ministers welcome the determination of the 23 participants in the Negotiation on CFE to reach an agreement in the course of this year. The CFE agreement and the expected substantive results at the Negotiations on CSBM will mark a historic breakthrough on the way to security and stability in Europe.

11. The Ministers stressed the importance of continued negotiations within the CSCE framework on confidence and security building in Europe. The Minister pledged their Governments' preparedness to fully participate in the future negotiations within the framework of the CSCE on security and disarmament in Europe.

12. The Ministers, while appreciating the invitation to be present as observers to the Conference on "Open Skies" in Ottawa, stressed also the importance they attach to a full participation of their countries in the next round of negotiations on an "Open Skies" Treaty, beginning on April 23 in Budapest. [The Neutral and Non-Aligned countries firmly believe that the "Open Skies" regime as a means of promoting transparency and confidence-building, should be open to all interested CSCE States].

13. The Ministers agreed that the present developments call for a Summit Meeting of the 35 participating States in the course of this year.

14. They stressed that the Summit Meeting should initiate a qualitatively new stage of the CSCE process reflecting the growing spirit of mutual confidence and cooperation in Europe and leading to appropriate CSCE structures.

15. The CSCE Summit in 1990 needs careful and timely preparation. The Foreign Ministers of the 35 participating States should take a formal decision on the holding and on the preparation of the Summit by mid-May, possibly at the end of the Budapest "Open Skies" Conference. This Ministerial decision should be prepared by early consultations at expert level. The Neutral and Non-Aligned countries

intend to initiate such consultations in the margin of the CSBM negotiations in Vienna.

16. The CSCE Summit Meeting could have the following tasks:

- reaffirm the Declaration on principles of the Helsinki Final Act and express firm determination to put them into practice;
- in accordance with the Declaration, set up guidelines for the shaping of the future relations, among the participating States;
- give guidelines regarding appropriate CSCE institutional arrangements beginning with the holding of periodic and ad hoc consultative meetings at the level of Foreign Ministers and Senior Officials;
- assess the military negotiations in Vienna and, stressing the necessity of continuity in the negotiations in the security field, launch negotiations within the CSCE framework on security and Disarmament aiming at structures contributing to a system of confidence and security for the whole of Europe with due respect to specific defence structures;
- consider the question of German unity in the context of the CSCE framework and of the specific interests of the states concerned;
- consider the question of Cyprus in the context of the CSCE framework.

Bearing in mind the traditional role of the Neutral and Non-Aligned countries in organising important CSCE events, the Ministers welcome the invitation extended by the Government of Austria to host the 1990 CSCE Summit in Vienna.

17. The next follow-up meeting in Helsinki in 1992 provides for an opportunity to assess and build upon the developments and the profound changes in Europe. The Helsinki follow-up meeting should be held at the highest political level.

18. In this time of historic opportunities, when the divisions in Europe are disappearing, the Neutral and Non-Aligned countries will resolutely and actively contribute to the establishment of a new system of security and cooperation in Europe.

19. The Ministers expressed their readiness to meet more frequently in the light of developments within the CSCE process, using also the opportunities offered by ministerial meetings of the 35 participating States.

20. The Ministers expressed their gratitude to the Government and people of Malta for the excellent organisation of the Meeting and the warm hospitality.