

PRIME MINISTER GRO HARLEM BRUNDTLAND

CSCE Summit Meeting

Budapest, 5 December 1994

Our efforts to reinvigorate the CSCE reflect the need of all countries represented here for security, political stability and an international framework conducive to social and political progress. Let me start by saying a few words about the situation of Norway. You are familiar with the result of our referendum a week ago, where a majority voted against Norway joining the European Union. The Norwegian government stated that we regret the decision, that we will respect it, that Norway's overriding foreign policy goals will remain unchanged.

We will continue to pursue our goals with all the means available to us except the one precluded by the referendum. We will continue to be a part of the internal market through the EEA Agreement. We will continue to pursue our economic policy that is in accordance with the objective of the Maastricht Treaty. We will pursue every opportunity for active participation in international affairs, including an active role in international peace-keeping and mediation.

We will continue to the best of our means to help the creation of a truly integrated Europe. We shall relentlessly work with you in pursuing our goal that democracy, stability and eventually also prosperity can be enjoyed by us all.

In creating the new Europe, there can be no new cleavages between us as we continue to distance ourselves from the past and face a more promising future. The CSCE can now act more vigorously on all its adopted principles, knowing that we can act here together with other European and transatlantic organizations. Only such combined efforts will do.

The CSCE must continue to build down barriers among peoples. We will shoulder our responsibility and in addition concentrate particularly on the Barents region in the High North where we and Russia have been at peace for a thousand years and where our peoples need trade, communication and cooperation. The Barents Region cooperation mirrors to a large extent the Baltic Sea cooperation and also the new visions for the Mediterranean region.

The end of the Cold War has confronted also the North of Europe with the task of cleaning up after decades of environmental abuse, including those related to military activities. The problem of storage and handling of nuclear waste is taking on dramatic proportions.

At this Summit we must strengthen the operative capacity of the CSCE. The CSCE must take on a major responsibility in preventive diplomacy. We support appeals from the UN Secretary General and the view that CSCE participating

states should try to achieve a peaceful settlement of their disputes through the CSCE before referring them to the UN. This does not imply bypassing the UN.

The CSCE should also be prepared to undertake peace-keeping operations. It should draw upon the experience of the United Nations. The CSCE should, where appropriate, make full use of the offer made by NATO to assist in such operations.

The CSCE finds itself confronted with massive violations of human rights, ethnic strife, racism and even war within its own region. Continued violations of basic CSCE principles threaten their very basis of credibility.

The commitments we have undertaken within the human dimension apply in their entirety. We cannot accept zones of lesser humanity.

The future success of the CSCE will rest heavily on our ability and political will to make more effective use of the CSCE instruments of preventive diplomacy like the High Commissioner on National Minorities, the CSCE missions and the Moscow mechanism.

The CFE Treaty is a cornerstone in European security. Full implementation of the Treaty in all its aspects must be the point of departure for future arms control within the CSCE area.

CSCE states must do more to prevent proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. We also urge all CSCE member states to support the indefinite and unconditional extension of the Non-Proliferation Treaty. We welcome the decision of Ukraine to adhere to this treaty as a non-nuclear state. We recognize the historic importance of the entry into force of the START 1 Treaty made possible today as a further step towards nuclear disarmament.

The need for a CSCE-peacekeeping operation in Nagorno-Karabakh to consolidate the political process towards peace is obvious and should be supported by all member states. Norway will be ready to contribute to such an operation subject to parliamentary approval.

We are alarmed at the deteriorating situation in Bosnia, in particular in and around Bihac. We must insist on a negotiated settlement. We attach the greatest importance to the continued efforts of the Contact Group and the Co-chairmen.

My hope for this summit is that we can agree on effective steps towards a truly integrated, stable and prosperous Europe, bound together by common democratic values.

Finally, I wish Hungary every success in its important task as it now assumes the Presidency of the CSCE.