

Helsinki, 24 March 1992

The CSCE Declaration on the Treaty on Open Skies

The Foreign Ministers of the participating States of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe on the occasion of the signature of the Treaty on Open Skies have issued the following declaration:

- Welcoming the signing of the Treaty on Open Skies by the Foreign Ministers of the States concluding this Treaty,
- Recognizing the importance of the Open Skies régime for the security of States participating in the CSCE process,
- Assessing the Treaty as an important element in the process of enhancing security and confidence between members of the international community,
- Reiterating the importance of the principle of equal security for all their countries,
- Noting the interest expressed by a number of States not full participants in the negotiations, and believing that their adherence to the Treaty as well as signature by all the newly independent States, as mentioned in Article XVII of the Treaty, would enhance the effectiveness of the Open Skies régime,
 1. Recognize the significant contribution to the Open Skies negotiations made by a number of participants in the CSCE who are not original signatories to the Treaty on Open Skies,
 2. Recognize also that these States may participate, on the basis of the active and passive quotas they would hold as State Parties, in the implementation of the Treaty and that they may take part in discussions regarding practical arrangements for the régime which will continue in Vienna within the framework of the Open Skies Consultative Commission during the period of provisional application,

DECL-OSE

3. Acknowledge the interest of the States which are participants in the CSCE but not original signatories to the Treaty on Open Skies in information obtained through Open Skies observation flights,

4. Welcome the interest shown by States which are participants in the CSCE but not original signatories to the Treaty on Open Skies to accede to it as provided for by Article XVIII of the Treaty,

5. Call upon all Parties to the Treaty to allow the accession of such interested States as soon as possible and to act, in all matters related to it, in the spirit of co-operation which the Treaty commands.