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STATEMENT BY THE PERMANENT CHAIRMAN OF NATO'S CONFERENCE  
OF NATIONAL ARMAMENTS DIRECTORS

NATO's Conference of National Armaments Directors has just concluded its regular Autumn meeting. The highlight of the meeting was an examination by National Armaments Directors of proposals drawn up by NATO Secretary General Lord Carrington for the establishment of a NATO Conventional Armaments Planning System (NATO CAPS).

Lord Carrington attended the meeting of the CNAD for this particular item on its agenda, and he delivered a major statement summarising his proposals. He stressed their importance in the overall effort to improve NATO defence planning as well as in the context of the present imbalance of conventional forces as between NATO and the Warsaw Pact.

I note with satisfaction that National Armaments Directors held a useful and constructive exchange of views on these proposals. They agreed that a reinforced meeting of their NADREPS should be convened on November 13th so that the Secretary General could have further expert advice on some of the detailed aspects of the proposals before he submits final proposals to Ministers.

National Armaments Directors also noted with appreciation an in-depth briefing by the Major NATO Commanders on deficiencies in NATO's forces, and it was agreed that henceforth such briefings should become a regular feature of CNAD meetings.

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