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STATEMENT BY SECRETARY GENERAL MANFRED WÖRNER

In reply to questions about the speech by Chancellor Kohl on German reunification, Secretary General Manfred Wörner said today:

"At the May 1989 NATO Summit, the Allies expressed their determination to move beyond the post-war period and to overcome the painful division of Europe. They agreed on the goal of achieving a state of peace in Europe in which the German people regains its unity through free self-determination.

"I think that the approach outlined by Chancellor Kohl is in basic agreement with this goal. It links the development of the German future to the larger process of building Europe, and to the existing institutions of the West. Central to this process will be close cooperation with the Federal Republic's allies.

"As the Chancellor pointed out, he has not established a detailed plan with fixed goals and time-table. Rather, he has proposed the elements of a step-by-step process, linked to free elections, deepening reform, and self-determination, based on stability and security."