PREFACE

This publication is the product of a study jointly conducted by the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) and the Canadian Institute for International Peace and Security (CIIPS). It deals with one of the most hotly discussed items on the agenda of international arms control negotiations: nuclear weapon tests. The aim of the study is to give an analytical review of the complex technical and political issues involved in a possible cessation or limitation of these tests. It is intended as an informed contribution to the debate among governmental and non-governmental experts, with the view to facilitating the achievement of a meaningful arms control measure.

This monograph is the editors' summary and conclusions based on the complete study as presented in the CIIPS/SIPRI book, *Nuclear Weapon Tests: Prohibition or Limitation?* (Oxford University Press). The monograph, and the book from which it is excerpted, may also be useful to those laymen who are concerned about how to control and ultimately stop the nuclear arms race.

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