

India, who were concerned at the loss of time for discussion that this recess represented. The Committee recessed on March 23.

During the recess, intensive discussions of the NPT took place among NATO members. When the session resumed on May 9, it was generally understood that the gap between the positions of the Co-chairmen had been reduced to the point where it was not unduly optimistic to expect the early tabling of at least a partial draft treaty. However, this optimism was unwarranted; the period of expectation for the Committee was to last until nearly the end of August. In the three-month period between May 18 and August 24, the Co-chairmen met regularly to try to bridge the gap between them. Even in May there had been a very small area of disagreement (if one excepts the question of international control), but it took three more months for them to table an agreed text. The separate but identical Russian- and English-language texts of a draft treaty on the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons were tabled on August 24. The drafts were incomplete, however, for Article III (on International Control), on which the Co-chairmen had not reached agreement, was left blank.

The draft Non-Proliferation Treaty as introduced by the Co-chairmen aims at preventing the spread of nuclear weapons by prohibiting transfers of nuclear weapons or explosive devices, or control over them, or the technology to make such weapons or devices. The first two articles of the Treaty deal respectively with the obligations of the nuclear and of the non-nuclear weapon states party to the Treaty. Article IV deals with the right of all nations to the benefits of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. Article V concerns itself with amendment and review procedures. Article VI deals with the ratification procedure and Article VII with the duration of and withdrawal from the Treaty. Finally, Article VIII establishes as equally authentic the texts in the five official United Nations languages.

Reception of Draft Treaty

The tabling of the Draft Treaty on Non-Proliferation was warmly welcomed in the ENDC, and not least by Canada. While regretting that Article III had been left blank, the Canadian delegation expressed strong support for the draft Treaty. The Canadian representative, Lieutenant-General E. L. M. Burns, stated that the Canadian Government found this text "satisfactory for the accomplishment of the main purposes of the Treaty — that is to say, the prevention of the acquisition of nuclear weapons by other states than the existing five nuclear powers".

A week after the tabling of the draft Treaty by the Co-chairmen, the Swedish delegation tabled a draft text for Article III. This draft article on international control proposed that International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) safeguards apply to all nuclear energy activities of the non-nuclear-weapon signatories and to the peaceful nuclear energy activities of nuclear-weapon