

III Canadian nuclear relations until 1974

Canada was one of the three states that participated in the November 1945 "Agreed Declaration on Atomic Energy". Throughout the years that followed, Canada played an active and significant role in efforts to define an international régime which would serve the twin principles set forth in the Declaration. Hence Canada participated both in the drafting of the IAEA's Statute between April 1955 and October 1956 and in the Preparatory Commission appointed to make arrangements for the first sessions of the IAEA's General Conference and of its Board of Governors. Canada has had continuous representation on the Board of Governors since the founding of the IAEA and has strongly supported the Agency's efforts on nuclear safeguards. Canadian representatives were also involved in the negotiations of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.

While participating in the efforts to define an international non-proliferation régime, Canada's policy on horizontal proliferation evolved. This evolution reflected both international developments and the emergence of Canada's own nuclear technology.

At the end of the Second World War, Canada shifted its efforts from the weapons-oriented Manhattan Project to research and development for peaceful applications, to radionuclide production, and to the development of a commercial nuclear reactor for the generation of electricity. The Canadian government pledged voluntarily that it would not develop nuclear weapons. As knowledge, experience and awareness of nuclear technology increased in Canada and elsewhere, and as vertical proliferation took place through the 1950s and early 1960s, successive Canadian governments revised Canada's policy to minimize the risk that Canadian nuclear co-operation would contribute to nuclear proliferation.

Early in the 1945-1974 period Canada's interactions with other countries on nuclear matters were in two main areas: uranium exports and continuing technical co-operation with its wartime partners. However, as its reactor technology developed, Canada entered into agreements with several other countries for the transfer of that technology and related material and equipment. By 1974, Canada had exported research reactors to India and Taiwan, power reactors to India and Pakistan, and