

financial and human resources of the IAEA, improving its mandate and authority, and extending the coverage of its safeguard provisions.

Fifth, the Group suggested that Canada do more to encourage accelerated progress in arms control and disarmament. Some urged that particular attention be given to measures aimed at curbing vertical proliferation, so as to ensure fulfilment by nuclear weapon states of the *quid pro quo* the NPT offers for nuclear abstinence by others.

Finally, while many participants were supportive of efforts aimed at promoting the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, others advocated de-emphasizing nuclear power in favour of the study and development of other, potentially safer, energy alternatives. Some suggested that Canada eventually cease all promotion of the uses of nuclear energy and encourage other countries to do the same.

Discussion at the meeting was enhanced by the presence of several experts in the non-proliferation field from Canadian universities, research centres and the Atomic Energy Control Board. Officials from EAITC, Energy, Mines and Resources Canada and the Department of National Defence also participated in the consultation. ■

Four Views of the NPT

Ambassador for Disarmament Peggy Mason: "Canada attaches the highest importance to maintaining and...strengthening the NPT, including striving toward the goal of universal adherence. The NPT not only represents the best guarantee against the horizontal spread of nuclear weapons; it is also the best guarantee that conventional arms control, chemical weapons control and the control of the nuclear powers' nuclear weapons will proceed apace...[S]tates will be willing to sign other arms control agreements only if they know that parties to those agreements will be inhibited from acquiring nuclear weapons by a strong non-proliferation regime. Commitment to arms control and disarmament must, almost by definition, mean commitment to the NPT."

Mr. Don McPhail: "[T]he NPT is a truly essential treaty for the world in the nuclear age. Without it, proliferation dangers would magnify, and nuclear commerce and cooperation would be less fruitful and less secure. The NPT is a balanced instrument in encouraging both international nuclear cooperation and disarmament. But its overriding value lies in creating legal barriers against horizontal proliferation, a normative presumption in favour of curtailing the further spread of nuclear weapons and broad obligations relating to the application of IAEA safeguards."

Dr. Ashok Kapur: "The most important action that national leaders can take is to relax their position on the nuclear proliferation issue and to put it on the back burner...The NPT is a freak event in modern international relations. Non-proliferation has lasted for a while because non-proliferators were able to create a mirage of future international security and a great world bargain between the nuclear-haves and the have-nots. This approach rested on workable misunderstandings of the 1960s which are no longer available."

Mr. Ben Sanders: "I contend that the NPT has indeed helped to deter the spread of nuclear weapons...[E]ven if the Treaty has not yet met each of its initial purposes as effectively as might have been hoped originally...it has certainly served some of its intended purposes and has come also to operate in ways that might not have been foreseen in the beginning. The NPT is the only multinational instrument now in place pursuing those aims. In the foreseeable future there is no way to replace it by anything more effective and more acceptable to the international community at large without jeopardizing all that has been achieved so far." ■

Canada Marks NPT's Twentieth Anniversary

March 5, 1990 was the twentieth anniversary of the NPT. The Treaty was opened for signature on July 1, 1968, and entered into force on March 5, 1970. To mark the occasion, Secretary of State for External Affairs Joe Clark strongly affirmed Canada's continuing support for the Treaty. "The NPT remains an agreement of major importance because it provides for legally binding commitments to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons, and facilitates international cooperation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy," stated Mr. Clark. "It also encourages parties to the Treaty to pursue negotiations aimed at reducing stockpiles of nuclear weapons."

Canada, one of the earliest signatories of the NPT, is a major advocate of universal adherence to the Treaty. "I call upon all states that have not done so to formally accede to the NPT," said Mr. Clark. "Strong support by the international community for this important Treaty remains critical, particularly in the current climate of unprecedented change around the world."

Some 141 countries are currently party to the NPT. However, a number of states with advanced nuclear capabilities have declined to sign the Treaty. ■