

PRESS RELEASE

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The Department of External Affairs today announced that the North Atlantic Council has recommended to member governments the signature of an Agreement for Co-operation regarding Atomic Information. It is expected that the Agreement will be signed within the next two months when the Governments of the NATO countries have indicated their readiness to do so.

The draft agreement proposed by the Council will, when concluded, make it possible for the United States to make available to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, including its civil and military agencies and commands, atomic information which the Government of the United States of America deems necessary to the development of defence plans, the training of personnel in the employment of and defence against atomic weapons, and the evaluation of the capabilities of potential enemies in the employment of atomic weapons. The draft agreement also provides that the Parties to the North Atlantic Treaty, other than the United States, will, to the extent they deem necessary, make available to NATO information in the same categories under conditions similar to those which will apply with respect to the United States.