

every year since the inception of the Agency and has given the Agency active support in all of its activities. Mr. J.A. McCordick, the Canadian Ambassador in Austria, serves as Canada's representative on the Board and provides the principal channel of communication from the Agency to the Department of External Affairs and other departments and agencies of the Government interested in atomic energy matters. As in past years, Canada continued to provide qualified atomic energy experts to serve on the Agency's staff and to assist the Agency in its technical assistance activities.

Canada's bilateral atomic energy relations with other countries also continued to develop during the year and there have been visits and exchanges of atomic energy specialists with several countries. The expected growth in uranium sales continued throughout the year and Canadian uranium-mining industries announced arrangements to sell substantial amounts to foreign customers. A Canadian-designed nuclear-power station is attracting growing interest in other countries contemplating the construction of nuclear reactors to generate electrical energy, and Canadian industries are active in international competitive bidding in this field. Of particular significance in 1968 were the arrangements made between Atomic Energy of Canada Limited and the French Commissariat à l'Energie Atomique providing for the sale, under appropriate safeguards, of plutonium from Canada to France for use in the French civil nuclear programme pertaining to the development of plutonium-burning, fast-breeder, nuclear-power reactors. Atomic Energy of Canada Limited and the French Commissariat à l'Energie Atomique also concluded an agreement to extend the co-operation between them in research and development information relating to nuclear-power reactors moderated by heavy water. The agreement, however, does not provide for the exchange of full design details of specific nuclear-power stations.

Canada continues to attach the greatest importance to the development of adequate international safeguards to ensure that nuclear materials and equipment for peaceful purposes are not used to make nuclear weapons. All Canada's general bilateral agreements relating to the transfer of nuclear equipment and materials provide for such safeguards. During the year safeguards inspections were carried out in accordance with the provisions of our bilateral agreements, and consultations on safeguards matters were held with a number of governments and with the European Atomic Energy Community. Of particular importance in the development of international safeguards during 1968 was the opening for signature of the Non-Proliferation Treaty, which has been signed by over 80 countries including Canada.

Science

During 1968, the Department continued to act in a liaison capacity in the field of science policy and international scientific co-operation, in keeping with the Government's active interest in the development of science and the role it plays in national and international development. The Department serves largely as a channel of communication between international scientific organizations such as the scientific committees of the OECD and Canadian agencies such as the Science Council of Canada, the Science Secretariat of the Privy Council Office, the National Research