

Canada and Finland signed today in Helsinki an Agreement concerning safeguards on nuclear material, equipment, facilities and information transferred between them.

At present nuclear trade between the two countries consists largely of the sale of Canadian uranium to Finland which is developing an important nuclear power generating programme.

Both Canada and Finland are parties to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and have placed their entire nuclear power programmes under the safeguards regime of the International Atomic Energy Agency.

The present agreement is intended to satisfy the national safeguards policy of both countries on a bilateral basis, in support of their commitments under the Non-Proliferation Treaty.

Both governments see the conclusion of this agreement as a positive step in the promotion and expansion of nuclear cooperation for peaceful purposes between the two countries, and as a useful example of international understanding in this field.

Below are noted the salient elements of the agreement:

Transferred items shall only be retransferred to third states with the consent of the supplying party.

Nuclear materials covered by the agreement shall only be enriched or reprocessed with the consent of both parties.

Materials covered by the agreement shall not be used for any nuclear explosive device.

If international safeguards pursuant to NPT should for any reason cease to be applied in either country, standby safeguards mechanisms shall be implemented.

Both parties will take such measures as are necessary and which satisfy the recommendations and requirements of the International Atomic Energy Agency, to ensure the physical protection of nuclear material covered by the agreement.

Both parties shall consult annually or at any time at the request of either party, with the possible participation of the