



news release

Date **June 15, 1994**
For release

No. 123

OUELLET DEPLORES NORTH KOREAN WITHDRAWAL FROM THE IAEA

Foreign Affairs Minister André Ouellet today deplored North Korea's withdrawal from the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

"Canada strongly regrets North Korea's refusal to comply with IAEA safeguards obligations, and now its withdrawal from the agency. This only reinforces its isolation from the international community. We intend to support international measures against North Korea, including the imposition of sanctions, which may be adopted by the UN Security Council," said Mr. Ouellet.

Canada co-sponsored the June 10 resolution by the IAEA's Board of Governors, which found North Korea in non-compliance with its safeguards obligations. Canada continues to urge Pyongyang to abide by the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT).

The Vienna-based IAEA is the UN body responsible for ensuring the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, through its safeguards system which is designed to detect diversion of nuclear material. Canada is a permanent member of the IAEA Board of Governors.

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