

Conversely, if proliferation can be checked, through general acceptance of the proposed Treaty, the nuclear powers can face more confidently the task of reducing nuclear armaments in accordance with their declared intention.

Fundamental to the effectiveness, acceptability and implementation of the Treaty would be its safeguards provisions in Article III, which will not only serve to ensure that the Treaty is being observed by all parties (making it a credible and durable instrument) but to extend and consolidate international safeguards procedures, thereby facilitating exchanges and co-operation in the peaceful nuclear sphere. While the Canadian preference was for safeguards to apply to nuclear as well as non-nuclear parties, we believe that the recent unilateral undertakings by the United States and the United Kingdom to accept the same international safeguards as non-nuclear parties will help to establish balanced and equitable safeguards procedures.

It is also our view that the fears expressed by some that the draft Treaty may entail economic inequities have little foundation. On the contrary, the development of nuclear energy for peaceful uses and the trade in nuclear material could be stimulated by the very international confidence and co-operation the Treaty would inspire. The undertakings in Article IV constitute a kind of charter of rights in the sphere of nuclear science and technology for developing countries which does not exist now and which would be of great potential benefit to them.

The only restriction of any significance on non-nuclear countries in the field of peaceful use would be the prohibition of