

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. A trilateral agreement was concluded in 1969 among Canada, Pakistan and the International Atomic Energy Agency for the application of Agency safeguards on the Karachi Nuclear Power Station, which is a CIDA-sponsored nuclear energy development project. Agreement was also concluded in 1969 with the United States on the transfer of small quantities (up to a net total of ten metric tons) of natural uranium from Canada to the United States, in accordance with Section 21 of the International Atomic Energy Agency's Safeguards System, which allows a cumulative amount of ten tons of uranium to be transferred without safeguards. Under this agreement, the United States guarantees that such uranium received will be used for peaceful purposes only. During the year, safeguards inspections were carried out in accordance with the provisions of Canada's 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 1969 was the increasing number of states signing and/or ratifying the Non-Proliferation Treaty, which is expected to enter into force early in 1970. Canada was among the first to sign the NPT when it was first opened for signature in 1968, and ratified the treaty on January 8, 1969.

Science

International activities relating to science are increasing steadily as a result of the growing recognition of the importance of science and science policy in foreign relations. It is the responsibility of the Department of External Affairs to assess the foreign-policy implications of Canada's scientific relations abroad and to assist Canadian science-based departments and agencies in establishing and maintaining relations with their counterparts in other countries and with international organizations such as the OECD. With regard to the OECD, the Science Secretariat of the Privy Council Office has provided Canadian representation on the Committee for Science Policy, while the National Research Council has been particularly concerned with the work of the Committee for Research Co-operation.

The Department of External Affairs was able to help make arrangements for the Senate Special Committee on Science Policy to visit a number of European countries to investigate their approach to problems similar to those faced by Canada in the field of science policy. The OECD reviews the science policies of member states as part of its regular program of work. Qualified outside experts undertook such a review of Canadian science policy with the co-operation of the Canadian science community, including the industrial, university and government sectors. The OECD report was published in December and represents a valuable contribution to an understanding of science in Canada and Canadian science policy.

International Telecommunications

During the year, the Canadian Government's plans for developing a domestic satellite-communication system went forward. TELESAT Canada, the corporation that will develop and own the system, was established by Act of