

Moreover, the Minister noted, the NPT set out a guiding framework for the reduction of nuclear arsenals.³

Mr. Clark emphasized that Canada was not only an early party to the Treaty but also an advocate of universal adherence to it. Expressing concern over the fact that a number of states with advanced nuclear capabilities had declined to accede to the NPT, the Minister pointed out that in June he had instructed Canadian embassies to inform those states who had not yet ratified the Treaty of the importance Canada attached to all states becoming full parties to it.⁴ Mr. Clark also expressed satisfaction with super-power developments in the area of nuclear arms control and disarmament; developments in conformity with the objectives of the NPT. Recognizing that deep reductions in nuclear arsenals constituted a central Canadian objective, the Minister stated that efforts to prevent the proliferation of such weapons were equally important. Expressing the hope that significant progress toward both goals would materialize before the 1990 Review Conference, Mr. Clark concluded by praising the past contributions of the NPT to non-proliferation, and noting that it would continue to represent a vital factor strengthening international security in future.⁵

PARLIAMENTARY COMMENT

On 7 June 1989, Liberal Member Sheila Copps raised questions pertaining to Canada's export of nuclear technology and its obligations under the NPT. Referring to remarks made by the Minister of Energy in *Science and Government Bulletin* concerning the sale of CANDU reactors, Ms. Copps stated:

... the Minister of Energy said that in his attempt to sell the CANDU reactor he was going to review all the regulations regarding the sale of nuclear elements out of Canada, including a review of Canada's position in the 1970 (NPT) treaty.... To quote the Minister he said...."Some people are putting China forward as a potential area for sales. Obviously the NPT becomes an issue."⁶

Ms. Copps then asked the Minister if he would renounce the "dangerous policy review" he had undertaken, particularly in light of the recent political turmoil in China.⁷ Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources Jake Epp replied:

... the article to which the Hon. Member referred and subsequent articles which have been written deal with the examination of the AECL's work. The regulations refer to the joint partnerships that the AECL at the present time has difficulty entering into. At no time did I refer to the NPT to say that I

³ Department of External Affairs *Communique* No. 160 (28 July 1988), p. 1.

⁴ *Ibid.*

⁵ *Ibid.*, pp. 1-2.

⁶ *Commons Debates*, 7 June 1989, p. 2710.

⁷ *Ibid.*, p. 2711.