

understandings, as well as the multilateral arrangements concluded within the OECD. These arrangements have proved to be of considerable benefit to agencies in both countries. In 1977, U.S. Attorney-General Bell and Canadian ministers reached agreement on general principles that would expand these understandings and were intended to guide Canadian and U.S. officials in developing notification and consultation procedures for further reducing the possibility of jurisdictional conflicts. However, U.S. anti-trust proceedings during the year relating to international uranium-marketing arrangements revealed new areas of difficulty in this area.

Nuclear law

Throughout the year, Canada continued negotiations with its nuclear clients with a view to concluding agreements on safeguards in line with the high Canadian standards announced in 1974 and 1976. Agreements were signed with Sweden and Romania in 1977, and it was expected that agreement would be reached with Euratom and Japan early in 1978.

In 1977, 15 major nuclear-supplier states, including Canada, decided individually to inform the Director-General of the International Atomic Energy Agency of the minimum safeguards standards they had decided to apply to nuclear exports. The minimum standards adopted by the suppliers reflected much, but not all, of the Canadian policy announced in 1974. Like Canadian policy, these minimum standards stipulated that safeguards should apply to items for the term of their useful life and for the life of any items produced thereby. Furthermore, technology relating to certain sensitive nuclear activities could be transferred only if the nuclear material produced by means of such activities was safeguarded, but reactor technology was not covered as it was by Canadian policy. The minimum standards also required observance of strict measures to guard against nuclear terrorism and to draw attention to the desirability of requiring mutual agreement between supplier and recipient states on arrangements for the reprocessing and enrichment, as well as the storage or retransfer, of plutonium and highly-enriched uranium—both readily employable in nuclear weapons.

While Canadian policy announced in December 1976 provided that future Canadian nuclear exports to a non-nuclear-weapon state would be approved only if it had either ratified the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons or had otherwise made a binding commitment to nuclear non-proliferation, and if it had accepted the application of safeguards to its entire nuclear-fuel cycle, suppliers failed to reach consensus on the need to apply safeguards to the full nuclear program of a recipient country. Canada has been continuing its efforts to persuade other suppliers to follow its lead on this matter, in order to ensure that the safeguards required of non-NPT parties will be as stringent as those required of parties to the treaty.

Outer-space law

As a country with communications satellites in geo-stationary orbit and an active program in the field of remote-sensing, Canada has had a direct interest in the rational and progressive development of international law relating to outer space. The United Nations has provided a focal-point for this process through its Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and its Legal Subcommittee.

In 1977, the subcommittee continued to consider, as a matter of high priority, the elaboration of principles governing the use by states of artificial earth-satellites for direct television broadcasting. The major remaining question facing the subcommittee in 1977 was whether agreement of a receiving state was a prerequisite to the establishment of a direct television-broadcasting service directed at it. At the sixteenth session, Canada and Sweden, continuing their long-standing co-operation in this field, jointly introduced two working papers. The first paper contained a suggested preamble to the draft principles and the second was a revised draft principle entitled "Consultation and Agreement", which linked the legal framework of the International Telecommunication Union to a general principle on agreement. This text, which was consistent with earlier joint proposals, ensured that establishment of an international direct television-broadcasting service by satellite could take place only with the agreement of the receiving states. This text represented, in the Canadian view, a responsible and workable balance between the need to further orderly development of an important new area of technology and the need to protect the