

pliers unilateral declarations indicating that, as a matter of national policy, they would insist on the level of safeguards required by the consensus. This was a major breakthrough, both because the NPT is not specific in the precise nature of safeguards and other controls to be applied to nuclear exports and because not all suppliers who joined in the consensus are NPT parties.

The position reached by suppliers reflected much, but not all, of the Canadian policy announced in 1974. Like Canadian policy, it stipulated that safeguards should apply to items for their useful life and for the life of any items produced thereby. It also noted that technology for sensitive nuclear activities should be transferred only if the nuclear material produced by means of such activities was safeguarded. The consensus required the observance of strict measures to guard against nuclear terrorism. It also drew attention to the desirability of requiring mutual agreement between supplier and recipient states on arrangements for reprocessing and enrichment, as well as storage or retransfer, of plutonium and highly-enriched uranium, both of which are readily usable in nuclear weapons. The problems of nuclear terrorism and the stockpiling of weapons-usable material for electricity-generation thus attacked by suppliers are not dealt with by the NPT and hence the suppliers' positions represent important advances.

Suppliers failed to reach consensus on several problems that are important for an international non-proliferation régime. International modalities for the reprocessing, enrichment and storage of weapons-usable material (e.g., a temporary moratorium on further commercial development of facilities for these activities, or the restriction of such activities to multinational fuel-centres) were not settled. Nor was it stipulated that safeguards would need to be applied to the full nuclear program of a recipient country.

Despite the lack of supplier-consensus on a full-scope safeguards requirement, the Canadian Government decided, in December 1976, that future Canadian nuclear exports would

be approved only if the recipient state had either ratified the NPT or otherwise made a binding commitment to nuclear non-proliferation and had accepted the application of safeguards to its entire nuclear-fuel cycle. Canada is doing its best to persuade other suppliers to follow its lead in this area. The step is significant not only because Canada is the first major supplier to make such a decision — thereby placing itself at a commercial disadvantage — but also because the NPT review conference urged suppliers to review their practice in this regard. Though Canada has been accused of weakening the NPT by imposing additional safeguards requirements on parties to the treaty, it is the first country that, in this respect, has ensured that the safeguards it requires of non-NPT parties are as stringent as those required of parties to the NPT.

Outer-space law

During the past year, Canada continued to participate actively in the work of the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and in the work of its legal subcommittee.

In an attempt to keep pace with rapidly-advancing technology, the legal subcommittee continued in 1976 to consider the following subjects as matters of high priority: the draft treaty relating to the moon; the elaboration of principles governing the use by states of artificial earth-satellites for direct television broadcasting; and the legal implications of "remote-sensing" of the earth from space.

There was little progress on the draft moon treaty. In the course of its previous sessions, the subcommittee could reach no agreement on questions of the scope of the treaty, information to be made available on missions to the moon, and the natural resources of the moon. At the fifteenth session of the subcommittee, priority was again given to the question of the moon's resources, since many delegations believed that a resolution of this problem would facilitate agreement on the remaining two issues. Basic differences remained, however, between those countries that