

as electric power plants, that are under safeguards. It is the responsibility of the country to ensure that facility operators comply with the requirements of the safeguards agreement. These requirements include proper and accurate record keeping and reporting according to an agreed format. The country must also ensure the equipment at facilities for measuring the quantity and composition of nuclear material is up-to-date. In addition, the country is responsible for ensuring that IAEA inspectors are granted all necessary access to facilities and material and for providing the support they require to carry out their duties effectively. This may include assisting the inspectors in applying containment and surveillance and other measures at nuclear facilities.

Three distinct stages occur in the verification process as defined by the IAEA:

- Examination of information provided by the country concerning installation design, nuclear material accounting records, clarifications of reports and advance notifications of international transfers.
- Collection of information by the IAEA itself through inspections.
- Evaluation of the information provided by the country and that collected by the Agency to verify the completeness, accuracy and validity of the information provided by the country.

Safeguards agreements are implemented by three IAEA operations divisions (see Figure 8), each of which has responsibility for a specific region of the world. Each division is made up of inspectors and support staff and is responsible for planning and performing safeguards inspections.

The safeguards operations divisions are supported by other organizational units within the IAEA that deal with the general development of safeguards approaches and the development of equipment for measurement, analysis and surveillance. Data processing and evaluation of inspection activities are equally important functions as are equipment maintenance and training. The IAEA also maintains a safeguards analytical laboratory for the analysis of nuclear material samples taken by inspectors. The IAEA does not, however, have the resources to operate a dedicated research and development facility and is, therefore, dependent on the support programs presently undertaken