

then irradiating them to ensure complete sterility. The supplies are safe from any infection until the moment when the packages are opened -- and, of course, this can be at the moment they are needed for use. I believe this technique is ready for immediate adoption in developing countries. It is best if the choices can be made in the developing countries themselves -- by their own scientists and economists, their own entrepreneurs. To do this they must have their own centres of excellence where innovators are encouraged and where proper evaluations can be made in relation to local needs and local priorities.

We have come to Geneva to discuss the silver lining of the nuclear cloud, a happy circumstance that does not permit us to disregard the cloud itself. The achievements and possibilities of the peaceful uses of atomic energy on which I have touched this afternoon justify a sense of pride and hope. Nevertheless, we are discussing a force that, if misused, has a destructive capacity difficult for any of us, scientist or layman, to comprehend fully.

Meeting here in this ancient and free city where so many of mankind's hopes for peace have centred, you constitute a body of expertise on nuclear questions that is unique. As I wish you well in your discussions of peaceful nuclear technology I urge you to keep in mind your special responsibility to all mankind, and above all to the rising generations born into a nuclear world they did not make.

Today there is an equilibrium between the great nuclear powers, the United States and the Soviet Union. These powers are now seeking ways to limit the nuclear arms race; I hope to find an equilibrium at a lower and less menacing level. I have suggested to you that China may soon be a nuclear power to be reckoned with. This will call for a new equilibrium, and the sooner China comes fully into the councils of the world, the better for us all.

So I leave with you this thought. The peoples of the world need the energy and other benefits that nuclear science has to offer. They accept reluctantly the mutual balance of nuclear deterrence that offers them a measure of security. But many of those without the special knowledge and expertise you enjoy look upon nuclear energy as inherently dangerous and threatening, like a half-domesticated beast. You, ladies and gentlemen, as the managers of nuclear knowledge and technology, are uniquely equipped to bring home to your governments, directly and by moulding world public opinion, their responsibility to see to it that the beast is fully domesticated and kept at useful work for the benefit of all.