

Specifically, the problem we face is to devise a system that will allow the dissemination of the benefits of nuclear energy without at the same time contributing to the spread of nuclear weapons. The international community has attempted to devise a system to cope with this problem. Canada has been very active in this endeavour. But the system could be strengthened further.

We have developed a valuable system of nuclear-power generation and we believe that nuclear power should not be withheld from those whose energy needs can best be met by this method. We are deeply committed to the cause of international development but equally we are anxious to avoid contributing to the proliferation of nuclear weapons.

In addition to our requirements, and subject to security and resource limitations, we want to make our nuclear-power generating system available to other countries. However, until more adequate internationally agreed measures are instituted, Canada intends to satisfy itself that any country using Canadian supplied nuclear technology or material will be subject to binding obligations that the technology or material will not be used in the fabrication of nuclear explosive devices for whatever purpose. To this end Canada attaches special importance to the role of nuclear safeguards applied by the International Atomic Energy Agency.

The need for truly effective anti-proliferation measures fully accepted and applied by the international community is pressing. The nuclear technology involved is no longer beyond the reach of a growing number of countries. The costs of developing a nuclear explosive device are no longer prohibitive. The principal problem is to obtain the necessary materials. Every day more and more of these materials are being developed throughout the world and the problem of controlling their movement, as well as their use, is becoming proportionately greater.

The phenomenon of proliferation is, in political terms, something like a nuclear chain-reaction. With the successful explosion of a nuclear device by each newcomer to the ranks of the nuclear powers, the greater grows the desire of other countries "to go nuclear". In a world without truly effective safeguards they feel their national existence threatened. If each new nuclear-weapon state prompted its neighbour to follow its example, all concerned would find their security quickly undermined.

We believe that it is the very existence of nuclear explosive devices that presents the hazard to humanity, and it increases in proportion to the number of countries possessing them. One need