

Canada and Egypt strongly advocate the pursuit of peace, and Canada will continue to support Egypt's role in the Middle East peace process. Both countries are committed to the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons. In order to demonstrate that commitment, both countries have ratified the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and have placed all their nuclear facilities, current and future, under international safeguards applied by the International Atomic Energy Agency. The Agreement recognizes this important mutual commitment and carries a provision for the continuing application of safeguards in the event that the Agency is no longer able to carry out its safeguarding functions. The Agreement also contains provisions for the retransfer of nuclear items, the reprocessing of spent fuel and the application of adequate levels of physical protection to nuclear facilities and nuclear fuel.

Each Government views this Agreement both as a further element strengthening the bilateral relationship and as an expression of the mutual interest in economic and industrial development. These economic and industrial advances will be assisted by the greater availability of energy resources developed through cooperation between Canada and Egypt.

Following his stay in Ottawa, Mr. Abaza will visit Canadian nuclear facilities in Toronto and the Bruce nuclear installation near Kincardine, Ontario. He will then travel to Alberta and British Columbia to view the Syncrude plant at Fort McMurray and a hydro electric installation in B.C.

Copies of the Nuclear Agreement are available from the External Affairs Press Office.