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## STATEMENT ISSUED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

The Soviet Government issued the following statement on 29 September:

"The results of a special session of the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency which has ended in Vienna have been welcomed with a feeling of deep satisfaction in the Soviet Union. The problems of safety in the nuclear power industry were examined there in an atmosphere of mutual understanding and responsibility.

"The elaboration, by collective effort, of conventions on notification and assistance in the event of nuclear accidents within such a short time, their approval by the IAEA General Conference and their signing by a large number of States are a striking example of the joint and effective resolution of pressing contemporary problems.

"This is what guides the Soviet Union when it proposes moving further along the path of creating an international safety regime for the nuclear power industry. The essence of a programme which it has submitted in this connection for consideration by the community of States lies in guaranteeing the use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes against mistakes and fortuitous events fraught with grave consequences for the life and health of people.

"The conventions signed in Vienna and the Stockholm accords disprove the view, which is still widespread, that no agreements on security issues are possible.

"In Vienna, the new approach to achieving mutual understanding, trust and openness in State-to-State relations has again triumphed. This has been reflected, in particular, in the recognition of the need to notify all cases of nuclear accidents, including those involving nuclear weapons and nuclear testing.

"The Soviet Union is firmly convinced that, given political will and political realism, it is possible to reach practical accords to end nuclear testing and ultimately to free the planet of nuclear weapons altogether. It counters confrontation and the nuclear arms race with proposals for broad international co-operation among States in the peaceful exploration and use of outer space, peaceful nuclear power generation, effective environmental protection and improving people's living standards the world over."