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International Atomic Energy Agency

COMMUNICATION RECEIVED FROM THE PERMANENT MISSION OF AUSTRIA REGARDING THE PROVISION OF CERTAIN ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON PRODUCTION, INVENTORIES AND INTERNATIONAL TRANSFERS OF NUCLEAR MATERIAL AND ON EXPORTS OF CERTAIN RELEVANT EQUIPMENT AND NON-NUCLEAR MATERIAL

1. The Director General received a note verbale of 13 June 1996 from the Permanent Mission of Austria regarding the provision of certain additional information on production, inventories and international transfers of nuclear material and on exports of certain relevant equipment and non-nuclear material.

2. In the light of the request at the end of the note verbale, the text of the note verbale is annexed hereto.

NOTE VERBALE

The Permanent Mission of Austria to the International Atomic Energy Agency presents its compliments to the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency and has the honour to refer to the discussion by the Board of Governors in June 1992 on the strengthening of Agency safeguards and to the Director General's letter of 7 July 1992 inviting the Government of Austria to provide, on a voluntary basis, certain additional information on production, inventories and international transfers of nuclear material and on exports of certain relevant equipment and nonnuclear material, in order to assist the Agency in the discharge of its safeguards responsibilities.

The Government of Austria shares the resolve of its European Community partners and of the Board of Governors to take all appropriate measures which could lead to a more effective safeguards system and, after discussion with its European Community partners and the Commission of the European Community, has decided to assist the Agency by providing, on a regular basis, the information set out below. The Government expresses its expectation that the Agency's other Member States will give similar support.

Nuclear Material

With respect to concentrates of uranium and thorium and any material further processed from them which has not reached a composition and purity suitable for fuel fabrication or for isotopic enrichment, the Government of Austria will provide the following information:

I. Notifications on all imports and exports for peaceful purposes to and from countries outside the European Community.

These will be provided to the Agency as quickly as possible after the transfer has been completed;

II. Notifications at six-monthly intervals on total production of these materials of nuclear grade purity for civil purposes.

The Government of Austria has arranged with the Commission of the European Communities that both these notifications will be provided on the Government's behalf by the Commission, in conformity with Community laws and procedures.

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With respect to the Director General's request for additional information on imports, exports and inventories of other nuclear material, the Government of Austria has decided to meet this request in the fullest manner possible. To this end, the Government of Austria has arranged with the Commission of the European Community that the Commission will provide the Agency, in conformity with Community laws and procedures and on the same timetable as other reports to the Agency, information which is collected under Regulation 3227/76 Euratom, but which is not required to be provided to the Agency under the terms of the Safeguards Agreement between the Government of Austria, the Agency and Euratom.

Nuclear Equipment and Non-Nuclear Material

With respect to the request for information on the exports of certain nuclear equipment and specialised non-nuclear materials, the Government of Austria will provide regular notifications to the Agency, within 60 days of the end of each quarter setting out, subject to national law and any confidentiality requirements that may apply, the items listed in Annex B to INFCIRC/254/Rev.1/Part 1/Mod.2, a license for whose export to a country outside the European Union has been approved, together with the country of destination, the name of the consignee, and the declared end-use. The Government of Austria will also inform the governments of the countries of destination mentioned of the issues of those licenses.

The information to be provided will cover the period beginning on 1 January 1995.

The Government of Austria would be grateful for the Director General's confirmation that:

- Information provided to the Agency in consequence of this offer will not be regarded as supplied under the terms of the Safeguards Agreement between the Government of Austria, the Agency and Euratom;
- Information supplied in consequence of this offer will not therefore be subject to routine verification under the terms of the Safeguards Agreement between the Government of Austria, the Agency and Euratom (INFCIRCs/193/263/290);
- Information supplied in consequence of this offer will be treated with the same confidentiality as information supplied under a Safeguards Agreement.

The Government of Austria requests the Director General to circulate the text of this Note to all Member Governments for their information and as a demonstration of continuing support by the Government of Austria for the Agency's non-proliferation objectives and safeguards activities.

The Permanent Mission of Austria avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency the assurances of its highest consideration.

Vienna, 13 June 1996