COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED FROM MEMBERS REGARDING THE EXPORT OF NUCLEAR MATERIAL AND OF CERTAIN CATEGORIES OF EQUIPMENT AND OTHER MATERIAL

Further communications dated 3 October 1974

1. On 7 October 1974 the Director General received a letter dated 3 October 1974 from the Resident Representative of the United States of America to the Agency referring to his two letters of 22 August regarding the export of nuclear material and of certain categories of equipment and other material[1]. In the light of the wish expressed at the end of that letter its text is reproduced below as Letter A.

2. On the same day, the Director General also received a letter from the Resident Representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, dated 3 October 1974, dealing with the same subject. The text of that letter is reproduced below as Letter B.

Letter A

I have the honour to refer to my letters of 22 August 1974, concerning procedures of my Government in relation to exports of source and special fissionable material and of equipment and material especially designed or prepared for the processing, use or production of special fissionable material.

Deliveries to the European Atomic Energy Community and to its Members of source and special fissionable material and of equipment and material especially designed or prepared for the processing, use or production of special fissionable material, under contracts made pursuant to existing agreements between the United States of America and the European Atomic Energy Community will continue to be made, in the light of our expectation that the agreement between the International Atomic Energy Agency, the European Atomic Energy Community and certain of its Member States[2], signed on 5 April 1973, will enter into force in the very near future.

"With respect to paragraph 3 of each of the memoranda transmitted on 22 August [3], I wish to note that the representative of the Government of the United States has placed on the record of meetings of the Board of Governors of the Agency held on 1 March 1972 and on 12 June 1974 the understanding inherent in all of the bilateral agreements for co-operation to which the Government of the United States is a party, that the use of any material or equipment supplied by the United States under such agreements for any nuclear explosive device is precluded; and the understanding inherent in the safeguards agreements related to such co-operation agreements, that the Agency would verify, inter alia, that the safeguarded material was not used for any nuclear explosive device. It was further noted by the United States representative that the continued co-operation of the United States with other countries in the nuclear field is dependent on the assurance that these understandings will continue to be respected in the future.

"I shall be grateful if you will bring this information to the attention of all Members of the Agency."

Letter B

"The Soviet Union is scrupulously fulfilling its obligations under the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT)[4], Article I of which, as we know, provides inter alia that nuclear-weapon States party to the Treaty must 'not in any way …. assist, encourage or induce any non-nuclear-weapon State to manufacture or otherwise acquire nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices'. This obligation applies in full to the supply to any non-nuclear-weapon State of the equipment and materials mentioned in Article III. 2 of the Treaty, which may not be used in those countries for the manufacture of nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices.

"In connection with the entry into force of the safeguards machinery referred to in Article III. 2 of NPT, we deem it necessary to emphasize once more the importance of the speediest possible completion of the process of accession to the Treaty by the countries members of the European Atomic Energy Community which have signed it, and of the entry into force of the appropriate Safeguards Agreement with the Agency."

---