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**COMMUNICATION OF 26 JUNE 1995 RECEIVED FROM
THE PERMANENT MISSION OF ECUADOR
TO THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY**

1. On 27 June 1995, the Director General received a communication dated 26 June 1995 from the Permanent Mission of Ecuador transmitting a Statement of 22 June 1995 issued by the Rio Group concerning the resumption of nuclear testing by France.
2. As requested by the Permanent Mission of Ecuador, the text of the Statement is being circulated for the information of Member States of the Agency.

STATEMENT OF THE RIO GROUP ON THE
FRENCH GOVERNMENT'S DECISION TO RESUME NUCLEAR TESTS

Quito, 22 June 1995

The countries of the Rio Group express their deep concern at the decision of the French Government to resume nuclear tests at the Mururoa atoll and appeal to it to reconsider its decision and cancel the nuclear tests.

This decision was taken soon after the indefinite extension of the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), during the negotiations on which an appeal was addressed to the Conference on Disarmament to complete the negotiations on an international Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty.

The countries of the Rio Group reiterate their concern at the potential adverse impact of nuclear tests on the environment and human health, which assets it is our duty to preserve.

The Rio Group, as a mechanism for political consultation and co-ordination in Latin America and the Caribbean, the world's first nuclear-weapon-free zone, appeals to all nuclear-weapon States to suspend all nuclear tests by unilateral or agreed moratoria pending the entry into force of a Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty.