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**COMMUNICATION OF 26 JUNE 2000 RECEIVED
FROM THE PERMANENT MISSION OF THE RUSSIAN
FEDERATION CONCERNING A STATEMENT ON STRATEGIC
STABILITY BY THE COMMONWEALTH OF INDEPENDENT
STATES**

1. The Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency has received a letter of 26 June 2000 from the Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation concerning a statement by the Heads of State of the Commonwealth of Independent States on the maintenance of strategic stability.
2. In light of the request expressed in the letter, the text of the letter and associated statement is attached hereto.

ПОСТОЯННОЕ ПРЕДСТАВИТЕЛЬСТВО
РОССИЙСКОЙ ФЕДЕРАЦИИ
ПРИ МЕЖДУНАРОДНЫХ ОРГАНИЗАЦИЯХ
В ВЕНЕ



PERMANENT MISSION
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Dear Dr. Elbaradei,

26 June 2000

I would appreciate your assistance in distributing to Member States the attached hereto Statement on Maintaining Strategic Stability made by the Heads of States of the Commonwealth of Independent States in Moscow on June 21, 2000.

Please accept, Your Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Mikhail I. KALININ
Acting Permanent Representative of the
Russian Federation to the
International Organizations in Vienna

H.E. Mr. Mohamed ELBARADEI
Director General
International Atomic
Energy Agency (IAEA)
Vienna

**Statement made by the Heads of State of the Commonwealth of
Independent States on Maintaining Strategic Stability**

The Heads of State of the Commonwealth of Independent States have considered the current situation regarding the maintenance of strategic stability in the world and the status of the international agreements on which it is based.

The Heads of States confirm their commitment to strengthening strategic stability and international security. They welcome ratification in Russia of START II, the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty and the 1997 package of agreements on anti-missile defence issues. They are counting on ratification of all these agreements in the United States of America.

The Heads of State note the historical significance of the Treaty on the Limitation of Anti-Ballistic Missile Systems of 26 May 1972 as a cornerstone of world peace, security and strategic stability, and confirm its continuing importance under present-day conditions. They are convinced that the ABM Treaty will continue to prove its worth for decades as the foundation of further strategic nuclear arms limitation in the world, an issue in which the world community is deeply interested.

The Heads of State consider that any measures eroding the aims and provisions of the ABM Treaty currently in force would have a negative impact on the security interests not only of the parties to this Treaty, but also of all members of the world community, and would undermine both global strategic stability and moves towards further limitation of strategic nuclear arms. The Heads of State support the policy of the international community to ensure the inviolability and integrity of the ABM Treaty, and call for additional efforts to preserve this Treaty by means of strict and full compliance with it so that it remains the basis of global strategic stability, international security and peace all over the world.