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## THE SAFEGUARDING OF REPROCESSING PLANTS BY THE AGENCY

### Note by the Director General

1. On 17 June 1966 the Board of Governors adopted the following resolution:

#### EXTENSION OF THE AGENCY'S SAFEGUARDS SYSTEM TO REPROCESSING PLANTS

The Board of Governors,

- (a) Bearing in mind that the Agency's Safeguards System (1965) [ 1 ] is so formulated as to permit its extension to principal nuclear facilities other than reactors, which may produce, process or use safeguarded nuclear material,
  - (b) Recalling the request it made in February 1966 to a Working Group of representatives of all Members serving on the Board to prepare provisions to extend the System to reprocessing plants,
  - (c) Having considered the report of the Working Group,
  - (d) Considering that Parts I, II, III.A (in particular paragraph 29) and IV of the System are fully applicable to reprocessing plants, and
  - (e) Bearing in mind the possible need to revise the special procedures for safeguarding reprocessing plants contained in the Working Group's report in the light of experience and of any suggestions made since that report was submitted,
1. Approves provisionally the special procedures for safeguarding reprocessing plants which its Working Group has prepared as an annex to the Agency's Safeguards System (1965) [ 1 ];
  2. Affirms that they shall be subject to review at any time and shall in any case be reviewed after two years' experience of their application; and
  3. Requests the Director General to acquaint the General Conference of the Board's actions and its intention to keep the Conference informed of future developments, and to report back to it for appropriate consideration any views expressed on this subject at the Conference's tenth regular session.

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[ 1 ] INFCIRC/66.

2. In bringing this resolution to the Conference's notice, the Director General invites attention also to the special procedures for safeguarding reprocessing plants which the Board has thereby approved provisionally and which are reproduced in the following pages.

## THE AGENCY'S SAFEGUARDS SYSTEM (1965)

### ANNEX SETTING FORTH PROVISIONS FOR REPROCESSING PLANTS

#### INTRODUCTION

1. The Agency's Safeguards System (1965)<sup>1)</sup> is so formulated as to permit application to *principal nuclear facilities* other than *reactors* as foreseen in paragraph 7. This Annex lays down the additional procedures which are applicable to the *safeguarding of reprocessing plants*. However, because of the possible need to revise these procedures in the light of experience, they shall be subject to review at any time and shall in any case be reviewed after two years' experience of their application has been gained.

#### SPECIAL PROCEDURES

##### Reports

2. The frequency of submission of routine reports shall be once each calendar month.

##### Inspections

3. A *reprocessing plant* having an annual *throughput* not exceeding 5 *effective kilograms* of *nuclear material*, and the *safeguarded nuclear material* in it, may be routinely inspected twice a year. A *reprocessing plant* having an annual *throughput* exceeding 5 *effective kilograms* of *nuclear material*, and the *safeguarded nuclear material* in it, may be inspected at all times. The arrangements for inspections set forth in paragraph 50 shall apply to all inspections to be made under this paragraph.<sup>2)</sup>

4. When a *reprocessing plant* is under Agency safeguards only because it contains *safeguarded nuclear material*, the inspection frequency shall be based on the rate of delivery of *safeguarded nuclear material*.

5. The State and the Agency shall co-operate in making all the necessary arrangements to facilitate the taking, shipping or analysis of samples, due account being taken of the limitations imposed by the characteristics of a plant already in operation when placed under Agency safeguards.

##### Mixtures of safeguarded and unsafeguarded nuclear material

6. By agreement between the State and the Agency, the following special arrangements may be made in the case of a *reprocessing plant* to which the criteria in paragraph 19(d) do not apply, and in which *safeguarded and unsafeguarded nuclear materials* are present:

- (a) Subject to the provisions of sub-paragraph (b) below, the Agency shall restrict its safeguards procedures to the area in which irradiated fuel is stored, until such time as all or any part of such fuel is transferred out of the storage area into other parts of the plant. Safeguards procedures shall cease to apply to the storage area or plant when either contains no *safeguarded nuclear material*; and
- (b) Where possible *safeguarded nuclear material* shall be measured and sampled separately from *unsafeguarded material*, and at as early a stage as possible. Where separate measurement, sampling or processing are not possible, the whole of the material being processed in that *campaign* shall be subject to the safeguards procedures set out in this Annex. At the conclusion of the processing the *nuclear material* that is thereafter to be *safeguarded* shall be selected by agreement between the State and the Agency from the whole output of the plant resulting from that *campaign*, due account being taken of any processing losses accepted by the Agency.

#### DEFINITIONS

7. "Reprocessing plant"<sup>3)</sup> means a facility to separate irradiated *nuclear materials* and fission products, and includes the facility's head-end treatment section and its associated storage and analytical sections.

8. "Campaign" means the period during which the chemical processing equipment in a *reprocessing plant* is operated between two successive wash-outs of the *nuclear material* present in the equipment.

1) INFCIRC/66

2) It is understood that for plants having an annual *throughput* of more than 60 *effective kilograms*, the right of access at all times would normally be implemented by means of continuous inspection.

3) This term is synonymous with the term "a plant for processing nuclear material irradiated in a reactor" which is used in paragraph 78.