



International Atomic Energy Agency

## INFORMATION CIRCULAR

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# INF

INFCIRC/220

21 March 1975

GENERAL Distr.

ENGLISH

Original: ENGLISH and  
RUSSIAN

### THE JOINT ANGLO-SOVIET DECLARATION OF 17 FEBRUARY 1975 ON THE NON-PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS

A request made by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and  
the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

During the course of a meeting of the Agency's Board of Governors on 25 February 1975 the Governors from the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland requested the Director General to circulate to all Members of the Agency the text of the Joint Anglo-Soviet Declaration on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons made in Moscow on 17 February. The text is accordingly reproduced below.

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The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics will do all in their power to strengthen international peace and security, to avert the danger of war including nuclear war, to end the arms race and to attain general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control. Both Sides emphasize the importance and necessity of serious and urgent efforts directed at preventing the spread of nuclear weapons. They are convinced that this is in the interests of all mankind.

In this connection, the United Kingdom and the Soviet Union reaffirm the great importance of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons [1]. The two Sides are resolutely in favour of the strict observance of the Treaty to which the majority of states are already parties. They are also in favour of the widest possible adherence to the Treaty.

The two Sides, considering that the Non-Proliferation Treaty has created a favourable framework for broadening international co-operation in the peaceful uses of atomic energy, will continue to work together for such co-operation in accordance with the Treaty. They are convinced that further measures could be undertaken to provide nuclear materials, equipment and information for peaceful uses in non-nuclear-weapon states. However, such measures should be under effective safeguards by the International Atomic Energy Agency and should not in any way contribute to the spread of nuclear weapons. It is their hope that all suppliers of nuclear material and equipment will observe the safeguards applied by the IAEA to meet Article III of the Non-Proliferation Treaty.

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[1] Reproduced in document INFCIRC/140.

The two Sides, conscious of their obligation to ensure that potential benefits from any peaceful applications of nuclear explosions will be made available through appropriate international procedures, will continue to co-operate within the framework of the IAEA in this field.

The United Kingdom and the Soviet Union welcome the progress achieved in recent years in limiting strategic arms and nuclear weapon tests. The two Sides aim at the discontinuance of all test explosions of nuclear weapons for all time. In the meantime, till the conclusion of an appropriate international agreement for this purpose, they will work for agreements limiting the number of underground nuclear weapon tests to a minimum.

The two Sides share a common concern that nuclear materials should be carefully protected at all times and that adequate safety measures should be applied by all countries to radioactive waste.

The two Sides attach great importance to the Conference which is to meet in Geneva in May 1975 in order to review the operation of the Non-Proliferation Treaty. They believe that this review should strengthen the effective implementation of the Treaty; and it will be their joint purpose to make a success of the Conference.

The United Kingdom and the Soviet Union declare their common intention to work out means of giving effect to the objectives expressed above. They will continue to strive with a sense of urgency to further the cause of disarmament at appropriate international fora, including the United Nations and the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament.

Moscow, 17 February 1975.

For the United Kingdom of Great Britain  
and Northern Ireland

(signed) Harold Wilson

Prime Minister

For the Union of Soviet  
Socialist Republics

(signed) L. Brezhnev

General Secretary of CC CPSU