

**LETTER OF INTENT
BETWEEN
THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
AND
THE ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION OF ISRAEL
ON COOPERATION IN THE FIELDS OF NONPROLIFERATION, ARMS
CONTROL, AND REGIONAL SECURITY**

Objectives

The Department of Energy of the United States of America (DOE) and the Israel Atomic Energy Commission (IAEC) intend to continue and expand cooperative technical activities to promote nonproliferation, arms control, and regional security.

The principal areas for cooperative technical activities are:

- Verification of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) and promotion of related regional seismic monitoring cooperation;
- Assessment of international nuclear safeguards measures; and
- Assessment of monitoring technologies for regional security and cooperation.

In addition, DOE and the IAEC, in cooperation with representatives of the relevant Israeli ministries, plan to share their respective experiences in integrating former Soviet scientists into productive non-military work, particularly involving the commercialization of technology.

Contents

I. Verification of the CTBT and promotion of related regional seismic monitoring cooperation

The United States and Israel are engaged in a number of activities relating to verification of the CTBT, including regional seismic transparency.

It is intended that existing U.S. - Israeli activities in these areas continue; Specifically:

- Recognizing that On-Site Inspection (OSI) is a key component of the CTBT verification regime, DOE and the IAEC plan to convene a meeting of technical experts on OSI procedures early in the year 2000 to continue

work on the OSI operation manual and to plan additional meetings, including a possible future exercise in support of this work consistent with Treaty provisions. In addition, DOE and IAEC technical experts expect to review and analyze OSI-related methodologies and techniques in the fields of seismology, radionuclides, and geophysics, and, as appropriate, intend to consider possible future research and development collaborations in these areas.

- DOE and the IAEC also intend to continue to support on-going CTBT-related regional seismic monitoring cooperation in the Middle East, including workshops planned under the auspices of the Reduction of Earthquake Losses in the Eastern Mediterranean Region (RELEMR) project and nuclear related activities.

II. Assessment of international nuclear safeguards measures

DOE and the IAEC recognize the need for stringent and effective international nuclear safeguards, capable of demonstrating compliance with international nonproliferation commitments under a wide range of circumstances.

DOE and the IAEC plan to convene a technical experts meeting to review advanced international nuclear safeguards techniques, practices and measures, with a view towards planning joint studies or demonstrations on this subject.

III. Assessment of monitoring technologies for regional security and cooperation

DOE has a well established program at the Sandia National Laboratories Cooperative Monitoring Center (CMC) to support the application of monitoring technologies.

It is expected that DOE, through the CMC, and the IAEC will conduct an assessment of these technologies in areas such as infrastructure security and customs control. Other possible subjects of collaboration include confidence-building in such areas as sustainable land use, epidemiology, and remote monitoring. As appropriate, other organizations will be invited to participate.

Dialogue on US Programs to Engage Former Soviet Scientists

To facilitate efforts to integrate former Soviet scientists into non-military work, the IAEC, in cooperation with representatives of other relevant Israeli ministries, and DOE intend to hold an experts meeting in early 2000 to share respective experiences in this field.

Implementation

DOE and the IAEC intend to meet annually to review progress in the areas outlined above and to explore further cooperative technical activities that advance nonproliferation, arms control, and regional security.

- DOE and the IAEC plan to each appoint coordinators for the four areas of cooperation detailed in this letter. The coordinators will manage activities in their respective areas.
- Cooperative activities described herein may be expanded by mutual agreement, by an exchange of letters between DOE and the IAEC.
- DOE and the IAEC note that the security exemption for non-sensitive topics contained in Annex III of the U.S.-Israel (Energy Science and Technology Agreement, dated February 22, 2000, apply to the cooperative technical activities described in this letter.

Done in the English language at Jerusalem this 22 day of February, 2000

FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY OF THE UNITED
STATES OF AMERICA



FOR THE ATOMIC ENERGY
COMMISSION OF ISRAEL

