SJA MUN III

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Historical: IAEA 1968

Formulating International Safeguards to Prevent the Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

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Letter from the Chairs

Greetings delegates! I'm Jimin Lee, a Junior in Branksome Hall Asia, and I will be serving as your head chair of the Historical Committee in SJAMUN III. Model United Nations can offer you invaluable opportunities for developing skills in debate, diplomacy, collaboration, and leadership, but it is also a place where you can build meaningful relationships and have fun while engaging in various discussions. Whether you are a novice or an experienced delegate, I truly hope you will find this conference enjoyable and rewarding and that you can take away valuable experiences, skills, and relationships beyond the conference room. Feel free to contact us with any questions. I look forward to meeting you at the conference.
Best regards.

Hello Delegates. I am Yoohyun Emma Lee, a sophomore at Branksome Hall Asia. It is an honor to serve as your deputy chair for the Historical Committee of SJAMUN III. This is my second chairing experience, and I am delighted to share this experience with you. Model United Nations creates such amazing opportunities for growth, discussion and connection, and I will do my best to facilitate an enjoyable conference. Though MUN is a competitive environment, MUN is really about the community, perspective and fun. So whether you are a first-timer or an experienced delegate, please remember that MUN always has open arms for everyone.
I am always open for any questions, comments or concerns. See you at the conference!
Best regards.

Hello delegates of the IAEA committee! My name is William Jang, an upcoming 8th grader at Korea International School Jeju. I will be serving as your associate chair for the historical committee of SJAMUN III. This is my first time chairing a face-to-face conference, so I am excited to begin this journey with you. For me, Model United Nations was a hobby that I started in 6th grade, and I loved the experience of competing in ways that allowed me to lead, build, and create solutions that could be implemented in the real world. While MUN is sometimes viewed as just a simulation, we can take this seriously and view it as a problem that has emerged in the actual world. I hope that at the conference, you will have the opportunity to learn more about this committee, the foundation of historical committees, and how Model United Nations (MUN) can benefit your career beyond your public speaking and writing classroom.
I look forward to a fruitful debate! Good luck!

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Committee Introduction

The International Atomic Energy Agency(IAEA) addresses the issue of ethical research, distribution, and use of various nuclear technologies, including weaponry. The IAEA's mission is to support safe, secure, and peaceful uses of nuclear technologies and is actively contributing to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals(SDGs).

After World War II(1945), the concern and fear of the atomic bomb and other nuclear weapons became prevalent within the international community. As an unknown, the atomic and hydrogen bombs have been a pressing issue that terrorizes the path to international peace and security. To address this controversy, President Eisenhower of the US called for the establishment of the International Atomic Energy Agency(IAEA) in the United Nations General Assembly during his address. This led to the official birth of the IAEA on 29th of July, 1957, during the Ratification of the Statute by President Eisenhower. The IAEA was established under a statute agreed upon by 81 countries.

With headquarters located in Vienna, Austria, and branches in various locations such as Tokyo, Japan, and Toronto, Canada, the IAEA is the center of international nuclear technology collaboration. As the leading source of research papers and reports regarding nuclear technology, the IAEA is a crucial forum for establishing effective and peaceful collaboration and the secure development of such technologies. They produce papers concerning international safety standards, conference proceedings, and scientific reports. The organization has been imperative in translating nuclear science into various fields such as energy, health, environment, water, food and agriculture, and industrial uses. Nuclear energy has many practical applications that do not threaten world peace and security.

The IAEA has organized this conference in order to tackle the continuously pressing concern of nuclear proliferation and the danger that countries that possess such technologies pose to world peace. The fragile peace that has been found after WWII must be kept and prevent another tragedy like those of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Agenda Introduction

With the first nuclear weapon test and the subsequent detonation of the first nuclear weaponry in Hiroshima and Nagasaki at the end of World War II (1945), concerns regarding the diversion of technology for purposes of weapons have been raised among the international community. As more countries started the development of nuclear weaponry as a result of WWII and the subsequent emergence of a nuclear arms race, the tension between nations intensified. This eventually led to the new atomic era, which is characterized by global insecurity and the threat of mass destruction.

It is imperative that this pressing issue at hand is addressed promptly to maintain international peace and security amidst the concerns surrounding the new technology. Following the first use of nuclear weaponry in Hiroshima and Nagasaki during WWII, the international tension regarding nuclear weapon possession quickly escalated during the Cold War. While efforts toward peaceful resolution and putting an end to the current nuclear arms race have been made, the proliferation of nuclear weaponry still poses a significant threat to global security.

The aftermath of a nuclear war is catastrophic and irreversible, with consequences that extend far beyond the immediate blast zones, with its effects encompassing long-term radiation effects to the potential collapse of international systems and economies. Whether it be states with or without possession of nuclear weapons, the consequences of nuclear proliferation affect virtually all states through methods that are not limited to environmental contamination, heightened risk of conflict escalation, and the threat to global security. Thus, the international community in its entirety will have to collaborate on establishing frameworks that will prevent the proliferation, escalation, and misuse of nuclear technology.

Key Terms

Diversion
In the context of the agenda, diversion refers to the unauthorized redirection of the use of nuclear resources, including raw materials, equipment, or knowledge, for purposes other than those previously agreed upon. This typically implies the shift from a peaceful application of nuclear technology, such as energy generation, to potentially military uses.

Dual-use technology
Innovation or technology that can be utilized for both peaceful, civilian purposes as well as military purposes. Nuclear technology is also an example of dual-use technology, in which this nature raises concerns regarding the potential misuse for malicious purposes.

Horizontal proliferation
A type of nuclear proliferation in which a country that previously did not have access to nuclear technology gains nuclear capabilities or materials. Since this often involves the creation of a new NWS or a state with a similar capability to that of NWS, horizontal proliferation is generally considered to entail more risks in terms of international security. Thus, preventing horizontal proliferation would be one of the cornerstones of non-proliferation.

Non-proliferation
The prevention of the increase or the spread of nuclear arms or other related technologies, especially for states or entities that do not currently possess them. Non-proliferation is considered a key component of international security, aiming to reduce the risks of nuclear conflict and promote disarmament. Non-proliferation efforts may take various forms or measures, including international safeguards or monitoring.

Nuclear deterrence
A type of security strategy in which a nation uses its possession or the capability to use nuclear weapons to discourage other countries from attacking itself or its allies. This strategy is based on the idea that no country would attempt to initiate a nuclear conflict, given the extremely devastating consequences of a nuclear war. Historically, such strategy has been prominent during the Cold War between the US and USSR, and still remains relevant.

Nuclear weaponry
A device that releases energy through nuclear reaction, typically fission or fusion, resulting in an extremely powerful explosion. Such weapons are significantly more destructive than conventional weapons, with the capability to cause mass destruction with their explosive power as well as radioactive fallout, in which the remnants of the nuclear material contaminate the nearby environment.

Nuclear Weapon State (NWS) / Non-nuclear weapon state (NNWS)
Nuclear Weapon State (NWS) refers to a nation that has manufactured and detonated a nuclear weapon or other nuclear device. Conversely, a Non-nuclear weapon state refers to states without possession of nuclear weaponry. As of now, there are five NWS: the US, USSR, France, the UK, and China. Other nations remain as NNWS, though some nations, such as NATO member states, have access to nuclear technology through their allies.

Vertical proliferation
Advancement or the modernization of nuclear capability is taking place in a nation that previously had access to nuclear technology. While vertical proliferation does not involve the creation of a new NWS, it significantly increases the nuclear capabilities of states already with nuclear weaponry, through methods including improvement of accuracy and an increase in delivery range of existing stockpiles.

Historical Background

The establishment of the Manhattan Project (August 1942)
Led by the US government, the Manhattan Project was a top-secret government project aimed at developing and deploying the world's first atomic weaponry before Nazi Germany. The project involved thousands of scientists, engineers, and workers across multiple facilities, and later became the cornerstone of the start of the atomic age.

The Trinity Test (July 1945)
As a result of the Manhattan Project, the world's first nuclear device, the "Gadget," was successfully detonated in the New Mexico Desert. The test was rendered successful, with the detonation producing greater explosive yield than predicted, though many individuals in nearby regions faced various socioeconomic and health difficulties. Being the first ever nuclear test, the Trinity test marks the beginning of the atomic age, showcasing the destructive power that nuclear power can involve.

Detonation of the Atomic bomb on Hiroshima and Nagasaki (August 1945)
A uranium bomb called the Little Boy detonated over Hiroshima on 6 August 1945 with an explosive yield equal to 15,000 tonnes of TNT, causing approximately 140,000 deaths and destroying around 70% of buildings in the region. A slightly larger plutonium bomb called Fat Man detonated over Nagasaki three days later, leading to approximately 74,000 deaths. Survivors also faced a heightened risk of chronic illnesses due to radiation. This event marks the first instance of nuclear weaponry being used in warfare, and thereby the potential cataclysmic consequences such actions may bring about.

End of World War II and the beginning of the Cold War (1945–)
Following the surrender of Nazi Germany in May and Japan's capitulation in August, the wartime alliance between the United States and the Soviet Union quickly deteriorated into an ideological and geopolitical rivalry. Starting from the United States' use of nuclear weapons at the end of WWII, the tension between the two nations sparked an intense nuclear arms race in the subsequent years.

UN General Assembly calls for the elimination of atomic bombs (January 1946)
In its first resolution, the United Nations General Assembly called for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons and all other major weapons adaptable to mass destruction. The resolution established the Atomic Energy Commission to manage the development, use, and control of atomic energy.

Soviet Union and the United Kingdom's first nuclear testing (1949, 1952)
The Soviet Union conducted a successful nuclear weapon test code-named "First Lightning" in Kazakhstan. A few years later, the United Kingdom also successfully tested its first atomic bomb,

“Hurricane,” near the coast of Western Australia. This rendered the Soviet Union and the United Kingdom the second and third countries to possess a nuclear device.

Deployment of US weapons in NATO allies (1954)
The United States started deploying US nuclear weaponry to non-US NATO states, starting from 1954. Advocating for the policy of extended deterrence in which a state pledges to defend its ally state, the US aimed to deter potential aggressors, particularly in the context of the Cold War, using the fear of retaliation. Also referred to as the “nuclear umbrella”, the policy allowed NATO states without independent nuclear capabilities to possess access to nuclear weaponry. While this functioned as a key component of NATO’s collective security, it also posed threats to the nuclear non-proliferation agenda.

Establishment of the IAEA (July 1957)
The IAEA was created in 1957 in response to the fears and expectations generated by the usage of nuclear technology and its controversial applications. The agency was set up as the world’s “Atoms for Peace” organization, given the mandate to work with its member states and partners worldwide to promote a safe, secure, and peaceful use of nuclear technology.

France’s first nuclear test (1960)
France conducts its first nuclear test, “Gerboise Bleue” in Algeria, with a notably high explosive yield of 60-70 kilotons: a result of the nuclear-weapons program started in the late 1950s. The testing in Algeria continued until 1966, approximately 3 years after Algeria gained independence.

Detonation of the Tsar Bomba (October 1961)
The Soviet Union detonates the largest and most powerful nuclear device in history, known as the “Tsar Bomba”. The explosion yield was approximately 1570 times more powerful than the yield of the bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki combined, showcasing the unimaginable potential devastation that nuclear weaponry can cause. The test resulted in the complete annihilation of all wooden and brick buildings located within a 34-mile radius of the ground zero (aiming point), as well as intense heat and the demolition of buildings that spanned hundreds of miles.

Cuban Missile Crisis (1962)
The Cuban Missile Crisis was a tense confrontation between the United States and the Soviet Union during the Cold War, which started with the US intelligence discovering a stockpile of Soviet nuclear missiles in Cuba. With 13 days of naval “quarantine” of Cuba by the US Navy and the mobilization of both nations’ armies, the world was brought to the brink of nuclear warfare as both nations engaged in high-stakes negotiations while their military forces remained at a high state of alert. The crisis was eventually resolved when the Soviet Union agreed to remove the missiles from Cuba in exchange for the removal of American missiles from Turkiye.

China's first nuclear test (October 1964)
China conducts its first successful nuclear test in Xinjiang province: a culmination of its nuclear program initiated in the 1950s with the early support from the Soviet Union. Within this testing site, China conducts 23 atmospheric and 22 underground nuclear tests. This testing renders China the fifth country to successfully detonate a nuclear bomb, following the US, the Soviet Union, the UK, and France.

Current State of Affairs

As the 23rd year after the end of World War II and the tragedy in Japan, the world has entered another stage of tension. Under the strain of the ongoing Vietnam War and the Cold War between the US and the Soviet Union, the concern regarding nuclear weaponry threatening world peace is growing. The US and Britain contracted an alliance during WWII, benefiting both countries in national security and gathering intelligence.

Since the beginning of the 1960s, nuclear technology has shown the potential to become widespread through France and China's development of nuclear bombs. By 1968, the following 5 countries were in possession of nuclear weapons: the USA, Soviet Union, United Kingdom, France, and China. Currently, there are only 3 countries that are able to detonate nuclear bombs — the Soviet Union, the United States of America, and Great Britain — though a total of 5 countries possess them. This is due to France and China's bombs still undergoing development.

The concentration of power towards the countries holding nuclear weaponry has changed the international political landscape and the stakes of intercountry conflict. The arsenal of weaponry of major powers, especially during a period of Cold War, means that even a small conflict could trigger a devastating war. Especially after the aftermath of the World Wars. Any aggravation or war between one or more of the nuclear weapon states and any non-nuclear weapon states holds the potential to lead the world into further chaos, beyond that of the Second World War.

Though it has already been 23 years since the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, as of the date of the conference, there are no particular international guidelines or policies that exist regarding nuclear proliferation. However, there is an ongoing debate concerning a ban on the distribution of nuclear technology. This was suggested by Ireland during the General Assembly of the United Nations in 1961, and entered the stage of rigorous negotiations in 1965. The ban is currently undergoing the process of becoming an international treaty against nuclear proliferation. This treaty and any other agreements or solutions must be approached with care, as this may decide the possible further development of nuclear weaponry in other states. Delegates are encouraged to find solutions that will mitigate the arms race and prevent the misuse of nuclear weaponry in future conflicts.

Stances of Parties

Australia
Australia has previously made attempts to acquire nuclear weapons. Australia began its exploration in nuclear technology in 1956, making sporadic efforts to secure nuclear weaponry from the British with both formal and informal requests. Though negotiations with the UK continued into the early 1960s, nothing concrete was agreed upon, with concerns for jeopardizing the US-UK nuclear cooperation agreement and horizontal proliferation (transfer of nuclear weaponry to a non-nuclear weapon state). Australia still remains a non-nuclear weapon state and has not yet actively explored domestic nuclear technologies. With growing anti-nuclear sentiment fueled by the British nuclear testing on Australian soil, it is unlikely that Australia will show strong support for nuclear proliferation.

Belgium
As a member of NATO, Belgium has access to broader nuclear capabilities from its alliances. The first attempts of Belgium in developing nuclear weapons date back to the 1950s, with success in obtaining a chain reaction in the nation's first nuclear reactor. While further research for medical and industrial purposes has been conducted, there are no significant investments toward the development of nuclear weapons. Though Belgium does not possess any nuclear weaponry itself, the nation is able to host nuclear weapons from the United States as part of NATO and its nuclear-sharing agreement. As of today, Belgium remains committed to non-proliferation efforts while contributing to the collective defense through NATO.

Canada
Canada has been involved in the Manhattan Project, especially during the early stages of research and development, including the provision of Uranium and research laboratories. However, the nation has shown no explicit sign of pursuit of nuclear research, weapons development, or any form of the nation's independent nuclear capabilities despite possessing the technological capabilities to do so. As a nation that is also a part of NATO's nuclear mission, Canada advocates for non-proliferation policies with a low likelihood of plans to develop nuclear weaponry itself.

China
China is a country that has previous records of nuclear weapons testing and is recognized as a nuclear weapons state. The nation's nuclear research received modest support from the government as early as 1949, though there is no clear evidence that such research was dedicated to the development of weaponry. Further development on this technology was later initiated following the First Taiwan Strait Crisis, with the government stating to "immediately devote major efforts to developing atomic energy research for military purposes", leading to its subsequent success in nuclear testing. As such, China will likely be against the complete elimination of nuclear weaponry, if not non-proliferation itself, and prioritize policies that do not result in a disadvantage for nuclear weapon states.

France
France is one of the five nations recognized as a nuclear weapons state. With the establishment of the Atomic Energy Commission (CEA) in 1945, France began its exploration of nuclear energy with an early emphasis on energy generation but also on military issues. With the continued pursuit of nuclear technology, France was able to acquire nuclear weaponry after its testing in 1960. After its success in its first nuclear test, the nation has moved toward weaponizing and operationalizing a nuclear weapons capability. As such, France will support a complete elimination of nuclear weaponry or any restrictions that may unfairly disadvantage nuclear weapon states.

Germany
In the aftermath of WWII, Germany was separated into East and West, leading to differing stances on the agenda temporarily; the stances between the two parts of the nation remain relatively similar as of now. Though there were efforts in the nuclear research program since 1939, the pursuit of nuclear weaponry was never highly prioritized and stopped completely after WWII. West Germany, however, had started exploring nuclear technology in 1957 and negotiated a secret agreement to jointly develop nuclear weapons on French soil; the implementation of this agreement was later halted, and West Germany returned to no activity in 1958. Currently, for both East and West Germany, there has been no notable evidence of activities toward active nuclear weapons development. Thus, Germany will show commitment toward nuclear non-proliferation.

India
India has shown intentions of exploring and pursuing nuclear energy throughout the past decade. With the creation of the Atomic Energy Commission in 1948 to conduct nuclear research, India emphasized its peaceful motivation, whilst showing consistent support for a policy of developing a nuclear weapons option. Such investment toward nuclear development became more noticeable at the beginning of 1964, as the Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri authorized India's Atomic Energy Commission to develop "nuclear devices" for ostensibly "peaceful benefits." India is likely to support international nuclear safeguards only if they include comprehensive disarmament commitments from existing nuclear weapon states, rather than the imposition of selective restrictions.

Iran
As of now, Iran has not expressed any explicit interest in developing nuclear technology or weaponry, though the beginning of the nation's nuclear research program, which is claimed to be exclusively for peaceful purposes, dates back to 1958. Currently under the reign of Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi, the nation positions itself as a part of the "Atoms for Peace" program among its early beneficiaries. Given the nation's current affiliation with Western powers, Iran is likely to advocate for the peaceful use of nuclear energy, while expressing an inclination toward non-proliferation.

Iraq
With no sign of exploration or pursuit of nuclear weaponry or technology, Iraq's stance on this agenda remains rather ambiguous. The early activities from Iraq include the establishment of the Atomic Energy Commission and the acquisition of a nuclear reactor with the support of the Soviet Union, though such investments were not driven by the intent for weapon development. As of now, Iraq is likely to show support for non-proliferation efforts as a non-nuclear weapon state.

Israel
Throughout the past years, Israel has maintained an ambivalent stance without any clear, strong opinions regarding nuclear proliferation. Due to the US's contribution to Israel in the past, the country has been experiencing continuous pressure from the United States to agree to the Nuclear Proliferation Treaty currently under discussion. Though their stance remains ambiguous to the public, Israel wishes to keep the option of developing nuclear weapons in the future, mainly for the purpose of national security.

Italy
Italy is one of the leading members of the United Nations that advocates for the peaceful and ethical use of nuclear technologies. Having established the National Committee for Nuclear Research (later known as the National Committee for Nuclear Energy) in 1952, which encompasses the research and development of safe nuclear energy, Italy has been a strong advocate for the safe usage of nuclear technologies. However, Italy is the host member of the US nuclear weaponry since it is part of NATO's Nuclear Sharing agreement. Overall, Italy strongly supports nuclear non-proliferation and wishes to prevent the technology's widespread use.

Japan
In 1945, two nuclear bombs were unleashed in Hiroshima and Nagasaki by the US, resulting in extreme casualties and damage to both cities. As the sole country to have experienced the devastating effects of nuclear weaponry, Japan is extremely against nuclear proliferation and is a strong advocate for disarmament. Eisaku Sato, the Prime Minister of Japan, stated in 1967 that "My responsibility is to achieve and maintain safety in Japan under the Three Non-Nuclear Principles of not possessing, not producing, and not permitting the introduction of nuclear weapons, in line with Japan's Peace Constitution." Therefore, Japan is strongly inclined to stricter and more secure restrictions upon nuclear proliferation and, in the end, completely eliminate it from all countries.

Mexico
During the Cuban Missile Crisis, Mexico felt threatened by the close geographical proximity of the country to the potential nuclear battlefield. Furthermore, it had been part of the Soviet Union's potential strategy to attack Mexico in addition to Cuba, creating apprehension within Mexico

regarding future conflicts between major powers. This led to Mexico strongly supporting measures to disarm nuclear weapons and building a nuclear-weapon-free world. Mexico will likely support the creation of stricter and robust restrictions on nuclear proliferation.

Netherlands
The Netherlands is a part of NATO's nuclear sharing agreement, and expresses concern about its national security when the US nuclear weapons are eliminated. However, the Netherlands recognizes the importance of nuclear non-proliferation. Therefore, the Netherlands holds a highly ambiguous stance towards nuclear weaponry. The Netherlands is likely to support a solution that advocates for nuclear non-proliferation while allowing NATO to operate the nuclear sharing agreement.

Nigeria
Nigeria feels particularly strongly regarding the absolute elimination of nuclear weaponry from this world. Since they joined the UN, Nigeria has made efforts towards non-nuclear proliferation by encouraging other member nations of the UN to actively discuss and create a treaty against the proliferation of nuclear weaponry.. Nigeria demonstrates a particular passion for advocating for the safety of African countries, primarily as a member of the First Committee established in 1945, following its admission to the UN in 1960.

Norway
Though a member of NATO, Norway has not agreed to host any nuclear weapons within its borders during peacetime and is not a part of the NATO nuclear sharing agreement. Norway strongly supports the complete elimination of nuclear weaponry from all countries. It will likely support stricter and more precise guidelines regarding nuclear proliferation. Norway has a history of neutrality; however, it is a member of NATO, which breaks its historical neutrality. Due to this, Norway is often referred to as a "Neutral Ally".

Pakistan
Pakistan is one of the few countries that supports nuclear proliferation. Due to the frequent wars in the past and the growing tension between Pakistan and India, Pakistan is unwilling to give up the possibility of developing nuclear weapons. In addition, the country has shown a growing interest in creating its own nuclear arsenal, and already has a plan to begin within the next decade. Hence, to prevent restrictions on its country from developing nuclear weaponry, Pakistan is likely to argue against non-proliferation and will advocate for the right to develop nuclear weaponry.

Soviet Union

In the early 1960s, it is true that the Soviet Union/Russian Federation primarily backed its membership in the treaty regarding the security of its country. Nuclear proliferation should be valued in international politics. However, due to their current involvement in the arms race with

the United States of America, and for the reason that they want to end the race, they have shifted their viewpoint to allowing the IAEA to inspect their nuclear programs. In addition, the Soviet Union has supported multiple reactor inspections for nuclear programs, such as the INFCIRC/66 inspections, and negotiated in treaties such as Euratom. Currently, in the standards of 1968, they have ratified the non-proliferation as a nuclear weapon state with full IAEA safeguards, searching non-weapons states and constant inspections. However, the union's stance should vary due to the nation's involvement in the Cold War.

South Africa

While South Africa did not take a stance on nuclear proliferation until recently, it has taken some past actions. In 1965, it was permitted to commission the SAFARI-1. The reactor was safeguarded by the IAEA using U.S. fuel, meaning it has support from the U.S. and most of the P5 (Uranium). With this, the delegate can demonstrate its adherence to the standards of international treaties. During the mid-1960s, it was involved in the ENDC talks, and South Africa was one of the early adopters of the framework.

South Korea

Since the Republic of Korea joined the IAEA in 1957, it has taken several actions to date. In January 1968, it signed the U.S.-ROK-IAEA safeguards transfer agreement, allowing the IAEA to inspect its nuclear program (although it rarely does so in relation to weaponry standards). While South Korea lacks actions from the standpoint of nuclear energy and clean energy at this time - meaning the aquatic energy, wind energy, etc., it has been in contact with weapons of mass destruction, with the potential for nuclear weapons dropping on the border of North Korea and China during the Korean War (Suggested by General Douglas MacArthur).

Spain

Spain is an important country in the context of the IAEA safeguards towards the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and nuclear energy. However, it was still in Bilateral agreements with the IAEA. Its policy should be based on acceding to the nuclear proliferation to be transparent and denuclearized. However, during the 1960s, it had already been demonstrated that it sought to become a nuclear power, and it resisted the idea of a treaty that would distinguish between countries with and without nuclear capabilities. Therefore, Spain's stance is partially neutral; however, it is morally grounded in its efforts towards non-nuclear proliferation.

Sweden

While Sweden has demonstrated its willingness to comply with non-proliferation policies, it still undertook classified actions that preserved its freedom of action. Hence, the country worked on its defensive research for its country, in case a weapon of mass destruction were to fall into its

hands. This led them to have the technical capability to build the missiles; however, they have decided not to due to diplomatic concerns from the Security Council. In 1968, Sweden's stance should be for the disarmament of nuclear countries and to negotiate and find a way to disarm countries with WMD.

Switzerland

In the early safeguards of the IAEA standards, Switzerland did not follow the measures that were provided. They had plans to explore nuclear weapons through civilian programs, such as casting a vote to see if the population would like the atomic tests. Since they failed to follow the guidelines intended to restrict them, it was challenging for them to demonstrate their commitment to entirely shifting to nonproliferation. In addition to this, right after the end of WWII, it showed full interest in building nuclear weapons, and due to its political position, it had also made specific regard to making the weapons themselves. Due to this, it may be challenging for them to focus on renewing their program, as it is already well-developed in this agenda, given the nation's commitment to developing atomic energy. Instead, they should either focus on destroying their program for international safety, or benefit the security of their country primarily, and wait for other countries to disarm first.

United Kingdom

The United Kingdom has supported the disarmament of nuclear weapons; however, it still holds on to the program for the weapons themselves. Even though they were the key supporters, on the basis that they are still a nuclear country, they have yet to commit to the full disarmament of their weapons. Their policy approach for 1968 should be to retain the arsenal and prevent the spread of the WMDS, by expanding on their facilitation program that they have been enlarging since the start of their nuclear reign. In general, the UK stands as a nation that believes in the disarmament of weapons.

United States of America

As the United States is the first country to ever generate a nuclear weapon, it is hard to justify its stance. However, when we see the timeline, we can see that in the early years of its making, the US was very aggressive towards its nuclear program. This was primarily due to the arms race with the USSR. In these times, they faced massive retaliation from the IAEA nations since the organization was established for peaceful purposes. However, their stance is somewhat controversial. This was due to them believing that countries should promote disarmament, but the US should still have it because of its initial possession of the weapons. However, they did encourage the peaceful use of nuclear programs and started deconstructing the massive buildup of the WMDS. Their stance should be to promote disarmament and to promote peace.

Possible Solutions

Formation of a "Nuclear Umbrella"

A nuclear umbrella is a form of protection or guarantee of security through an alliance between nuclear weapon states (NWS) and non-nuclear weapon states (NNWS); the NWS involved in the nuclear umbrella would pledge to protect the NNWS through the deployment of its nuclear weaponry. By providing a credible alternative security guarantee, such systems can function as a key component of nuclear non-proliferation efforts by dissuading NNWS from developing independent nuclear capabilities. With the NATO nuclear sharing agreement being a primary example of such a system, the nuclear umbrella systems can be further expanded or formed to prevent nuclear weapon proliferation. However, note that such a system may entail risks regarding the escalation of international conflicts, as nuclear weaponry may be involved even in response to conventional attacks.

Nuclear disarmament of nuclear weapon states

Non-proliferation can also be achieved through the disarmament of the nuclear weapon state, in which states with nuclear weaponry can take steps to reduce, limit, or gradually eliminate their nuclear arsenals. Such disarmament processes can take a variety of forms, with the most notable measures being bilateral or multilateral treaties between NWS and the reinvestment of nuclear technology or resources for peaceful purposes. Nuclear disarmament is particularly effective in non-proliferation if successfully implemented, since it involves the direct reduction of existing nuclear threats, thereby decreasing the risk of conflict overall in a relatively straightforward manner. However, geopolitical tensions and ongoing political conflict, such as the Cold War, may render many NWS reluctant to nuclear disarmament, especially when the possession of nuclear weapons by itself can be used as a defense mechanism through nuclear deterrence.

Universal safeguard for non-nuclear weapon states

Alternatively, for NNWS, international safeguards to restrict nuclear weapon development may be implemented. Possible safeguards may generally include terms such as the monitoring of all nuclear facilities, regular inspections, and restrictions on the import or export of nuclear materials, though it may vary based on the circumstances of the member states. Such measures would be considered effective in preventing horizontal proliferation, as they are often intended to // However, such restrictions may receive backlash from current NNWS, as it puts them in a rather disadvantageous position compared to existing NWS.

Questions to Consider

1. Non-proliferation and the complete elimination of all nuclear weapons are distinct concepts. Does your delegation pursue non-proliferation, complete elimination, neither, or both?
2. How would your country's current possession or the lack of possession of nuclear weaponry affect its stance?
3. How should peaceful uses of nuclear technology, such as research toward energy production, be distinguished from proliferation risks?
4. What safeguards would be necessary to ensure that nuclear research initially for safe purposes is not diverted into the development of weaponry?
5. What enforcement mechanisms would be necessary to ensure that international regulations are upheld effectively?
6. What is the reason countries developed or are developing nuclear weapons? How would this affect your approach in creating solutions?

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