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COMMUNICATION RECEIVED FROM CERTAIN MEMBER STATES
REGARDING GUIDELINES FOR THE EXPORT OF NUCLEAR MATERIAL,
EQUIPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY

Nuclear Transfers

1. The Director General has received notes verbales dated 17 October 1996 from the Representatives to the Agency of Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Republic of Korea, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Romania, the Russian Federation, the Slovak Republic, South Africa, Spain, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America relating to the export of nuclear material, equipment and technology. The Director General has received a similar note verbale dated 30 July 1997 from the Representatives to the Agency of Brazil.
2. The purpose of the notes verbales is to provide further information on the proposed Guidelines for Nuclear Transfers.
3. In the light of the wish expressed at the end of each note verbale, the notes verbales is enclosed. The attachment to these notes verbales is also re enclosed.

²/ INFCIRC/254/Rev.2/Part 2/Mod.1 contains Guidelines for Transfers of Nuclear-related Material and related Technology.

The Permanent Mission of [Member State] presents its compliments General of the International Atomic Energy Agency and has the honour to information on its government's nuclear export policies and practices.

The Government of [Member State] has decided that the current Paragraph Guidelines should be deleted, since it is redundant on the grounds that the current Paragraph 16 is covered by Paragraph 11 - Non-proliferation Principles.

Developments in nuclear technology have brought about the need to amend parts of the Trigger List which is incorporated in Annexes A and B currently published in document INFCIRC/254/Rev. 2/Part 1.

In the interest of clarity, the complete text of the Guidelines included is reproduced in the attachment.

The Government of [Member State] has decided to act in accordance with for Nuclear Transfers so revised.

In reaching this decision, the Government of [Member State] is fully contribute to economic development while avoiding contributing in any way proliferation of nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices, and non-proliferation assurances from the field of commercial competition.

[The Government of (Member State), so far as trade within the European Union concerned, will implement this decision in the light of its commitments as Union¹.]

The Government of [Member State] would be grateful if the Director this Note and its attachment to the attention of the Members States of the

The Permanent Mission of [Member State] avails itself of this opportunity Director General of the Atomic Energy Agency the assurances of its highest c

¹ This paragraph is included in notes verbales from members of the European Union

1. The following fundamental principles for safeguards and export controls should apply to transfers for peaceful purposes to any non-nuclear-weapon State and, in the case of retransfer, to transfers to any State. In this connection, suppliers have defined:

Prohibition on nuclear explosives

2. Suppliers should authorize transfer of items or related technology identified in paragraph 1 only if formal governmental assurances from recipients explicitly excluding uses which would result in a nuclear explosive device.

Physical protection

3. (a) All nuclear materials and facilities identified by the agreed trigger list should be under effective physical protection to prevent unauthorized use and handling. The level of physical protection to be ensured in relation to the type of materials, equipment and facilities should be agreed by the suppliers, taking account of international recommendations.
- (b) The implementation of measures of physical protection in the recipient country is the responsibility of the Government of that country. However, in order to ensure consistency agreed upon amongst suppliers, the levels of physical protection on which the agreed trigger list is to be based should be the subject of an agreement between supplier and recipient.
- (c) In each case special arrangements should be made for a clear definition of the trigger list items for the transport of trigger list items.

Safeguards

4. (a) Suppliers should transfer trigger list items or related technology to a non-nuclear-weapon State only when the receiving State has brought into force an agreement with the supplier for the application of safeguards on all source and special fissionable material used for peaceful activities.
 - (b) Transfers covered by paragraph 4 (a) to a non-nuclear-weapon State without such an agreement should be authorized only in exceptional cases when they are deemed necessary for the safe operation of existing facilities and if safeguards are applied. Suppliers should inform and, if appropriate, consult in the event that they intend to deny such transfers.
 - (c) The policy referred to in paragraph 4 (a) and 4 (b) does not apply to agreements drawn up on or prior to April 3, 1992. In case of countries that have adhered to INFCIRC/254/Rev. 1/Part 1 later than April 3, 1992, the policy only applies to agreements drawn up after their date of adherence.
 - (d) Under agreements to which the policy referred to in paragraph 4 (a) does not apply (including paragraphs 4 (b) and (c)) suppliers should transfer trigger list items or related technology only when covered by IAEA safeguards with duration and coverage provisions in accordance with IAEA doc. GOV/1621. However, suppliers undertake to strive for the effective implementation of the policy referred to in paragraph 4 (a) under such agreements.
 - (e) Suppliers reserve the right to apply additional conditions as a matter of national policy.
5. Suppliers will jointly reconsider their common safeguards requirements, whenever necessary.

10. (a) Suppliers should transfer trigger list items or related technology, included under paragraph 6, only upon the recipient's assurance that in the case of
- (1) retransfer of such items or related technology,
 - or
 - (2) transfer of trigger list items derived from facilities originally transferred or with the help of equipment or technology originally transferred by the recipient of the retransfer or transfer will have provided the same assurance required by the supplier for the original transfer.
- (b) In addition the supplier's consent should be required for: (1) any retransfer of trigger list items or related technology and any transfer referred to under paragraph 10 (a) which does not require full scope safeguards, in accordance with paragraph 6 of the Guidelines, as a condition of supply; (2) any retransfer of the facilities, components, or technology described in paragraph 6; (3) any transfer of critical components derived from those items; (4) any retransfer of heat usable material.
- (c) To ensure the consent right as defined under paragraph 10 (b), governments' assurances will be required for any relevant original transfer.

Non-proliferation Principle

11. Notwithstanding other provisions of these Guidelines, suppliers should authorize the transfer of trigger list related technology identified in the trigger list only when they are satisfied that the transfer will not contribute to the proliferation of nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices.

SUPPORTING ACTIVITIES

Physical Security

12. Suppliers should promote international co-operation on the exchange of information, physical protection of nuclear materials in transit, and recovery of stolen nuclear materials.

Support for effective IAEA safeguards

13. Suppliers should make special efforts in support of effective implementation of IAEA safeguards. Suppliers should also support the Agency's efforts to assist Member States in strengthening national systems of accounting and control of nuclear material and to improve the effectiveness of safeguards.

Similarly, they should make every effort to support the IAEA in increasing further the effectiveness of safeguards in the light of technical developments and the rapidly growing number of nuclear reactors and to support appropriate initiatives aimed at improving the effectiveness of safeguards.

Sensitive plant design features

14. Suppliers should encourage the designers and makers of sensitive equipment to design and manufacture in a way as to facilitate the application of safeguards.

15. (a) Suppliers ~~sho~~ maintain contact and consult through regular channels on matters with the implementation of these Guidelines.
- (b) Suppliers should consult, as each deems appropriate, with other Governments in specific sensitive cases, to ensure that any transfer does not contribute to international instability.
- (c) In the event that one or more suppliers believe that there has been a breach of supplier/recipient understandings resulting from these Guidelines, particularly in the event of an explosion of a nuclear device, or illegal termination or violation of a transfer to a recipient, suppliers should consult promptly through diplomatic channels with the recipient and assess the reality and extent of the alleged violation.

Pending the early outcome of such consultations, suppliers will not act in a way that would prejudice any measure that may be adopted by other suppliers concerning transfers to that recipient.

Upon the findings of such consultations, bearing in mind Article XII of the Statute, suppliers should agree on an appropriate response and possible action which may include the termination of nuclear transfers to that recipient.

16. Unanimous consent is required for any changes in these Guidelines, including any changes arising from the reconsideration mentioned in paragraph 5.

TRIGGER LIST REFERRED TO IN GUIDELINES

GENERAL NOTE

The object of these controls should not be defeated by the transfer of component parts. The manufacturer should take such actions as it can to achieve this aim and will continue to seek a workable design, which could be used by all suppliers.

TECHNOLOGY CONTROLS

The transfer of "technology" directly associated with any item in the List will be of scrutiny and control as will the item itself, to the extent permitted by national law.

Controls on "technology" transfer do not apply to information "in the public domain" or "basic scientific research".

DEFINITIONS

"Technology" means specific information required for the "development", "production" or "distribution" of an item contained in the List. This information may take the form of "technical data", or "know-how".

"Basic scientific research" - Experimental or theoretical work undertaken primarily to acquire new knowledge of the fundamental principles of phenomena and observable facts, not primarily for any specific practical aim or objective.

"development" - is related to all phases before "production" such as:

- design
- design research
- design analysis
- design concepts
- assembly and testing of prototypes
- pilot production schemes
- design data
- process of transforming design data into a product
- configuration design
- integration design
- layouts

"in the public domain" - "In the public domain, "as it applies herein, means technology that is available without restrictions upon its further dissemination. (Copyright restrictions do not prevent technology from being in the public domain.)

- production means all production phases such as:
- construction
 - production engineering
 - manufacture
 - integration
 - assembly (mounting)
 - inspection
 - testing
 - quality assurance

"technical assistance" - "Technical assistance" may take forms such as: instructi knowledge, consulting services.

Note: "Technical assistance" - may involve transfer of "technical data".

"technical data" - "Technical data" may take forms such as blueprints, plans, dia engineering designs and specifications, manuals and instructions written or rec devices such as disk, tape, read-only memories.

"use" - Operation, installation (including on-site installation), maintenance (che refurbishing.

1. Source and special fissionable material

As defined in Article XX of the Statute of the International Atomic Energy Agency

1.1. "Source material"

The term "source material" means uranium containing the mixture of isotopes (uranium depleted in the isotope 235; any of the foregoing in the form of compound, or concentrate; any other material containing one or more of the concentration as the Board of Governors shall from time to time determine; and the Board of Governors shall from time to time determine.

1.2. "Special fissionable material"

- i) The term "special fissionable material" means plutonium-239; uranium-233; enriched in the isotopes 235 or 233; any material containing one or more such other fissionable material as the Board of Governors shall from time to time determine; but the term "special fissionable material" does not include source material.
- ii) The term "uranium enriched in the isotopes 235 or 233" means uranium containing 235 or 233 or both in an amount such that the abundance ratio of the sum of the isotopes 235 and 233 to the isotope 238 is greater than the ratio of the isotope 235 to the isotope 238 in its natural state.

However, for the purposes of the Guidelines, items specified in subparagraph (a) of source or special fissionable material to a given recipient country, with quantities below the limits specified in subparagraph (b) below, shall not be included:

- (a) Plutonium with an isotopic concentration of plutonium-238 exceeding 80%.

Special fissionable material in quantities or less as a sensing component of instruments; and

Source material which the Government is satisfied is to be used only in the production of alloys or ceramics;

- (b) Special fissionable material in quantities in excess of:

Natural uranium	500 kilograms;
Depleted uranium	1000 kilograms; and
Thorium	1000 kilograms.

2. Equipment and Non-nuclear Materials

The designation of items of equipment and non-nuclear materials ~~controlled by the Government~~ is as follows (quantities below the levels indicated in the Annex B being regarded for practical purposes):

- 2.1. Nuclear reactors and especially designed or prepared equipment and components (see Annex B, section 1.);
- 2.2. Non-nuclear materials for reactors (see Annex B, section 2.);
- 2.3. Plants for the reprocessing of irradiated fuel elements, and equipment especially designed or prepared therefor (see Annex B, section 3.);
- 2.4. Plants for the fabrication of nuclear reactor fuel elements, and equipment especially designed or prepared therefor (see Annex B, section 4.);
- 2.5. Plants for the separation of isotopes of uranium and equipment, other than instruments, especially designed or prepared therefor (see Annex B, section 5.);
- 2.6. Plants for the production or concentration of heavy water, deuterium and deuterium compounds, and equipment especially designed or prepared therefor (see Annex B, section 6.);
- 2.7. Plants for the conversion of uranium and equipment especially designed or prepared therefor (see Annex B, section 7.).

- (1) "Major critical components" are:
 - (a) in the case of an isotope separation plant of the gas centrifuge type: g corrosion-resistant to UF
 - (b) in the case of an isotope separation plant of the gaseous diffusion type:
 - (c) in the case of an isotope separation plant of the jet nozzle type;
 - (d) in the case of an isotope separation plant of the vortex type: the vortex
- (2) For facilities covered by paragraph 6 of the Guidelines for which no major described in paragraph 2 above, if a supplier nation should transfer in the fraction of the items essential to the operation of such a facility, together construction and operation of that facility, that transfer should be deemed to or major critical components thereof".
- (3) For the purposes of implementing paragraph 6 of the Guidelines, the following deemed to be "of the same type (i.e. if their design, construction or operation the same or similar physical or chemical processes)";

Where the technology transferred is such as to make possible the construction of the recipient State of a facility of the following type, or major critical components thereof:

- (a) an isotope separation plant of the gaseous diffusion type..... any other isotope separation plant using the gas centrifuge process.
- (b) an isotope separation plant of the gas centrifuge type..... any other isotope separation plant using the gas centrifuge process.
- (c) an isotope separation plant of the jet nozzle type..... any other isotope separation plant using the jet nozzle process.
- (d) an isotope separation plant of the vortex type..... any other isotope separation plant using the vortex process.
- (e) a fuel reprocessing plant using the solvent extraction process.....any other fuel reprocessing plant using the solvent extraction process.
- (f) a heavy water plant using the exchange process..... any other heavy water plant using the exchange process.
- (g) a heavy water plant using the electrolytic process..... any other heavy water plant using the electrolytic process.
- (h) a heavy water plant using the hydrogen distillation process.....any other heavy water plant using the hydrogen distillation process.

Note: In the case of reprocessing, enrichment, and heavy water facilities whose or operation processes are based on physical or chemical processes other than those listed above, a similar approach would be applied to define facilities "of the same type" whose major critical components of such facilities might arise.

- (4) The reference in paragraph 6 (b) of the Guidelines to "any facilities of the same type (including those constructed or operated during an agreed period in the recipient's country" is understood to refer to facilities (including those constructed or operated during an agreed period in the recipient's country) whose major critical components thereof), the first operation of which commences within a specified period (to be agreed) years from the date of the first operation of (1) a facility which has been transferred major critical components or of (2) a facility of the same type and utilizing the same technology. It is understood that during that period there would be a conclusion that no other facility of the same type utilizing transferred technology. But the agreed period would be the duration of the safeguards imposed or the duration of the right to identify facilities constructed or operated on the basis of or by the use of transferred technology. See paragraph 6 (b) of the Guidelines.

ANNEX B
CLARIFICATION OF ITEMS ON THE TRIGGER LIST
(as designated in Section 2 of Part A of Annex A)

1. Nuclear reactors and especially designed or prepared equipment and components t

1.1. Complete nuclear reactors

Nuclear reactors capable of operation so as to maintain a controlled self-sustaining fission reaction, excluding zero energy reactors, the latter being defined as reactors with a net rate of production of plutonium not exceeding 100 grams per year.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

A "nuclear reactor" includes the items within or attached directly to the reactor vessel, which controls the level of power in the core, and the components which normally contain or come in contact with the primary coolant of the reactor core.

It is not intended to exclude reactors which could reasonably be capable of modification to produce more than 100 grams of plutonium per year. Reactors designed for sustained operation at significant power capacity for plutonium production are not considered as "zero energy reactors".

EXPORTS

The export of the whole set of major items within this boundary will take place only in accordance with the Guidelines. Those individual items within this functionally defined boundary which are not in accordance with the procedures of the Guidelines are listed in paragraphs 1.2 to 1.10. The Commission has the right to apply the procedures of the Guidelines to other items within the functionally defined boundary.

1.2. Nuclear reactor vessels

Metal vessels, or major shop-fabricated parts therefor, especially designed or prepared for use as the core of a nuclear reactor as defined in paragraph 1.1 above, as well as related components defined in paragraph 1.8 below.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The reactor vessel head is covered by item 1.2. as a major shop-fabricated part of a reactor vessel.

1.3. Nuclear reactor fuel charging and discharging machines

Manipulative equipment especially designed or prepared for inserting or removing fuel from the reactor as defined in paragraph 1.1. above.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The items noted above are capable of on-load operation or of employing technically sophisticated features to allow complex off-load fueling operations such as those in which direct viewing of the fuel is normally available.

1.4. Nuclear reactor control rods and equipment

Especially designed or prepared rods, suspension structures therefor, rod drive mechanisms or rod guide tubes to control the fission process in a nuclear reactor as defined in paragraph 1.1. above.

1.5. Nuclear reactor pressure tubes

Tubes which are especially designed or prepared to contain fuel elements and to be used in a nuclear reactor as defined in paragraph 1.1. above at an operating pressure in excess of 100 kg/cm².

1.6. Zirconium tubes

Zirconium metal and alloys in the form of tubes or assemblies especially designed or prepared for use in a reactor as defined in paragraph 1.1. above, and in which the ratio of zirconium to fuel is less than 1:500 parts by weight.

1.7. Primary coolant pumps

Pumps especially designed or prepared for circulating the primary coolant in a reactor as defined in paragraph 1.1. above.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Especially designed or prepared pumps may include electrically driven pumps, canned-driven pumps, and pumps with inertial mass systems. This definition encompasses pumps meeting IAEA or equivalent standards.

1.8. Nuclear reactor internals

"Nuclear reactor internals" especially designed or prepared for use in a nuclear reactor as defined in paragraph 1.1 above, including support columns for the core, fuel channels, top and bottom core grid plates, and diffuser plates.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

"Nuclear reactor internals" are major structures within a reactor vessel which have one or more functions: supporting the core, maintaining fuel alignment, directing primary coolant flow, providing radiation shielding, and guiding in-core instrumentation.

1.9. Heat exchangers

Heat exchangers (steam generators) especially designed or prepared for use in a reactor circuit of a nuclear reactor as defined in paragraph 1.1 above.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Steam generators are especially prepared to transfer the heat generated in the reactor (primary side) to a secondary loop (secondary side) for steam generation. In the case of a liquid metal fast breeder reactor, if a liquid metal coolant loop is also present, the heat exchangers for transferring heat from the liquid metal coolant circuit are understood to be within the scope of control in addition to the steam generators. This entry does not include heat exchangers for the emergency cooling system or the decay heat exchanger.

Epecially designed or prepared neutron detection and measuring instruments for flux levels within the core of a reactor as defined in paragraph 1.1 above.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The scope of this entry encompasses in-core and ex-core instrumentation which measure flux typically from 10^4 neutrons per cm^2 second to 10^{14} neutrons per cm^2 second or more. Ex-core refers to the instruments outside the core of a reactor as defined in paragraph 1.1 above, but located within

2. Non nuclear materials for reactors

2.1. Deuterium and heavy water

Deuterium, heavy water (deuterium oxide) and any other deuterium compound in deuterium to hydrogen atoms exceeds 1:5000 for use in a nuclear reactor as defined above, in quantities exceeding 200 kg of deuterium atoms for any one recipient of 12 months.

2.2. Nuclear grade graphite

Graphite having a purity level better than 5 parts per million boron equivalent greater than 1.5% of use in a nuclear reactor as defined in paragraph 1.1 and exceeding 30 metric tons for any one recipient country in any period of 12 months.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

For the purpose of export control, the Government will determine whether or not the exports of specifications are for nuclear reactor use.

Boron equivalent (BE) may be determined experimentally or is calculated as the sum of BE_{carbon} since carbon is not considered an impurity) including boron, where:

BE_Z (ppm) = $CF \times$ Concentration of element Z (in ppm);

CF is the conversion factor divided by A_Z ;

σ_B and σ_Z are the thermal neutron capture cross sections (in barns) for naturally occurring boron and element Z respectively and A_B and A_Z are the atomic masses of naturally occurring boron and element Z respectively.

3. Plants for the reprocessing of irradiated fuel elements, and equipment especially prepared therefor

INTRODUCTORY NOTE

Reprocessing irradiated nuclear fuel separates plutonium and uranium from intensely radioactive transuranic elements. Different technical processes can accomplish this separation. However, the most commonly used and accepted process is the PUREX process. PUREX involves the dissolution of irradiated fuel in nitric acid, followed by separation of the uranium, plutonium, and fission products by solvent extraction with tributyl phosphate in an organic diluent.

PUREX facilities have process functions similar to each other, including: irradiated fuel element dissolution, solvent extraction, and process liquor storage. There may also be equipment for thermal denaturation of plutonium nitrate to oxide or metal, and treatment of fission product waste liquid for long-term storage or disposal. However, the specific type and configuration of the equipment performed differ between PUREX facilities for several reasons, including the type and quantity of fuel reprocessed and the intended disposition of the recovered materials, and the safety and security features incorporated into the design of the facility.

A "plant for the reprocessing of irradiated fuel elements" includes the equipment and components which normally come in direct contact with and directly control the irradiated fuel and the major nuclear material streams.

These processes, including the complete systems for plutonium conversion and plutonium metal production, are identified by the measures taken to avoid criticality (e.g., by geometry), radiation exposure hazards (e.g., by containment).

EXPORTS

The export of the whole or part items within this boundary will take place only in accordance with the Guidelines.

The Government reserves to itself the right to apply the procedures of the guidelines to other items defined by the boundary as listed below.

Items of equipment that are considered to fall within the meaning of the phrase "especially designed or prepared" for the reprocessing of irradiated fuel elements are:

3.1. Irradiated fuel element chopping machines

INTRODUCTORY NOTE

This equipment breaches the cladding of the fuel to expose the irradiated nuclear material. The most commonly employed equipment, although advanced equipment, is the use of specially designed metal cutting shears.

Remotely operated equipment especially designed or prepared for use in a reprocessing plant as identified above and intended to cut, chop or shear irradiated nuclear fuel assemblies are:

INTRODUCTORY NOTE

Dissolvers ~~ably~~ receive the chopped-up spent fuel. In these critically safe vessels, the irradiated fuel is dissolved in nitric acid and the remaining hulls removed from the process stream.

Critically safe tanks (e.g., small diameter, annular or slab tanks) especially use in a reprocessing plant as identified above, intended for dissolution of irradiated fuel which are capable of withstanding hot, highly corrosive liquid, and which can be maintained.

3.3. Solvent extractors and solvent extraction equipment

INTRODUCTORY NOTE

Solvent extractors both receive the solution of irradiated fuel from the dissolvers and the uranium, plutonium, and fission products. Solvent extraction equipment is normally designed for the following parameters, such as long operating lifetimes with no maintenance requirements or adaptability, simplicity of operation and control, and flexibility for variations in process conditions.

Especially designed or prepared solvent extractors such as packed or pulse column, centrifugal contactors for use in a plant for the reprocessing of irradiated fuel must be resistant to the corrosive effect of nitric acid. Solvent extractors must meet extremely high standards (including special welding and inspection and quality control techniques) out of low carbon stainless steels, titanium, zirconium, and other materials.

3.4. Chemical holding or storage vessels

INTRODUCTORY NOTE

Three main process liquor streams result from the solvent extraction step. Holding or storage vessels for further processing of all three streams, as follows:

- (a) The pure uranium nitrate solution is concentrated by evaporation and passed to a denitrification stage where it is converted to uranium oxide. This oxide is re-used in the nuclear fuel cycle.
- (b) The intensely radioactive fission product solution is normally concentrated by evaporation and stored as a concentrate. This concentrate may be subsequently evaporated and converted to a form suitable for disposal.
- (c) The pure plutonium nitrate solution is concentrated and stored pending its transfer to a final destination. In particular, holding or storage vessels for plutonium solutions are designed to avoid cracking from changes in concentration and form of this stream.

Especially designed ~~membrane~~ holding or storage vessels for use in a plant for the reprocessing of irradiated fuel. The holding or storage vessels must be resistant to the corrosive effect of nitric acid. The holding or storage vessels are normally fabricated of materials such as low carbon stainless steel, titanium or zirconium, or other high quality materials. Holding or storage vessels for remote operation and maintenance and may have the following features for criticality:

- (1) walls or internal structures with a boron equivalent of at least two per cent
- (2) a maximum diameter of 175 mm (7 in) for cylindrical vessels, or
- (3) a maximum width of 75 mm (3 in) for either a slab or annular vessel.

3.5. Plutonium nitrate to oxide conversion system

INTRODUCTORY NOTE

In most reprocessing facilities, this final process involves the conversion of the plutonium dioxide. The main functions involved in this process are: process feed storage and adjustment, solid/liquor separation, calcination, product handling, ventilation, waste management, and process control.

Complete systems especially designed or prepared for the conversion of plutonium dioxide, in particular adapted so as to avoid criticality and radiation effect hazards.

3.6. Plutonium oxide to metal production system

INTRODUCTORY NOTE

This process, which could be related to a reprocessing facility, involves the fluorination of plutonium dioxide, from which, with highly corrosive hydrogen fluoride, to produce plutonium fluoride which is subsequently reduced with calcium metal to produce metallic plutonium and a calcium fluoride slag. The main functions involved are: fluorination (e.g., involving equipment fabricated or lined with a precious metal), metal reduction, slag recovery, product handling, ventilation, waste management and process control.

Complete systems especially designed or prepared for the production of plutonium metal, in particular adapted so as to avoid criticality and radiation effects and to minimize toxic hazards.

1. Plants for the fabrication of nuclear reactor fuel elements, and equipment especially prepared therefor

INTRODUCTORY NOTE

Nuclear fuel elements are manufactured from one or more of the source or materials mentioned in Part A of this annex. For oxide fuels, the most common for pressing pellets, sintering, grinding and grading will be present. Mixed glove boxes (or equivalent containment) until they are sealed in the cladding, hermetically sealed inside a suitable cladding which is designed to be the protection for the fuel so as to provide suitable performance and safety during reactor operation. Precise control of processes, procedures and equipment to extremely high standards is required in order to ensure predictable and safe fuel performance.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Items of equipment that are considered to fall within the meaning of the phrase "and equipment especially prepared" for the fabrication of fuel elements include equipment which:

- a. normally comes in direct contact with, or directly processes, or controls, the production of fuel elements;
- b. seals the nuclear material within the cladding;
- c. checks the integrity of the cladding or the seal; or
- d. checks the finish treatment of the sealed fuel.

Such equipment or systems of equipment may include, for example:

- 1) fully automatic pellet inspection stations especially designed or prepared for checking for defects of fuel pellets;
- 2) automatic welding machines especially designed or prepared for welding end caps onto the pins (or rods);
- 3) automatic test and inspection stations especially designed or prepared for checking the pins (or rods).

Item 3 typically includes equipment for: a) x-ray examination of pin (or rod) end cap welds, pressurized pins (or rods), and c) gamma-ray scanning of the pins (or rods) to check for corrosion inside.

Items of equipment that are considered to fall within the meaning of the phrase "analytical instruments, especially designed or prepared" for the separation include:

5.1. Gas centrifuges and assemblies and components especially designed or prepared centrifuges

INTRODUCTORY NOTE

The gas centrifuge normally consists of a thin-walled cylinder(s) of between 75 mm (3 in) and 400 mm (16 in) diameter, contained in a vacuum environment and spun at high peripheral speed of the order of 300 m/s or more. In order to achieve high speed the materials of construction for the rotating components, and hence its individual components, have close tolerances in order to minimize the unbalance. In contrast to other centrifuges, the enrichment is characterized by having within the rotor chamber a rotating disc-shaped baffle arrangement for feeding and extracting the UF₆ gas and featuring at least 3 separate channels, scoops extending from the rotor axis towards the periphery of the rotor chamber. Also contained in the environment are a number of critical items which do not rotate and which although they are expensive to fabricate nor are they fabricated out of unique materials. A centrifuge facility of these components, so that quantities can provide an important indication of end use.

5.1. Rotating components

(a) Complete rotor assemblies:

Thin-walled cylinders, or a number of interconnected thin-walled cylinders one or more of the high strength to density ratio materials described in NOTE to this Section. If interconnected, the cylinders are joined together by rings as described in section 5.1.1(c) following. The rotor is fitted with end caps, as described in section 5.1.1.(d) and (e) following, if in final complete assembly may be delivered only partly assembled.

(b) Rotor tubes:

Especially designed or prepared thin-walled cylinders with thickness of 12 mm and diameter of between 75 mm (3 in) and 400 mm (16 in), and manufactured from the high strength to density ratio materials described in the EXPLANATORY NOTE to this Section.

(c) Rings or Bellows:

Components especially designed or prepared to give localized support to join together a number of rotor tubes. The bellows is a short cylinder (0.12 in) or less, a diameter of between 75 mm (3 in) and 400 mm (16 in), and manufactured from one of the high strength to density ratio materials described in the EXPLANATORY NOTE to this Section.

(d) Baffles:

Disc-shaped components of between 75 mm (3 in) and 400 mm (16 in) diameter, especially designed or prepared to be mounted inside the centrifuge rotor tube, in or out of chamber from the main separation chamber and, in some cases, to assist circulation within the main separation chamber of the rotor tube, and manufactured from the high strength to density ratio materials described in the EXPLANATORY NOTE to this Section.

Disc-shaped components of between 75 mm (3 in) and 400 mm (16 in) diameter designed or prepared to fit to the ends of the rotor tube, and so contain the rotor tube, and in some cases to support, retain or contain as an integrated upper bearing (top cap) or to carry the rotating elements of the motor (bottom cap), and manufactured from one of the high strength to density materials described in the EXPLANATORY NOTE to this Section.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The materials used for centrifuge rotating components are:

- (a) Maraging steel capable of an ultimate tensile strength of 2.05×10^9 N/m² (300,000 psi) or more
- (b) Aluminium alloy capable of an ultimate tensile strength of 0.46×10^9 N/m² (67,000 psi) or more
- (c) Filamentary materials suitable for use in composite structures and having a specific modulus greater and a specific ultimate tensile strength of 0.3×10^6 m or greater ('Specific Modulus' in N/m² divided by the specific weight in N/m³; 'Specific Ultimate Tensile Strength' in N/m² divided by the specific weight in N/m³).

5.1.1. Static components

- (a) Magnetic suspension bearings:

Especially designed or prepared bearing assemblies consisting of an annular magnet within a housing containing a damping medium. The housing will be manufactured from UF6-resistant material (see EXPLANATORY NOTE to Section 5.2.). The magnet will be fitted with a pole piece or a second magnet fitted to the top cap described in section 5.1.1.(c). The magnet may be ring-shaped with a relation between outer and inner diameter of 1.6:1. The magnet may be in a form having an initial permeability of 0.1 (CGS units) or more, or a remanence of 98.5% or more, or an energy product of 100 kJ/m³ (107 gauss-oersteds). In addition to the usual material properties the deviation of the magnetic axes from the geometrical axes is limited to 0.1 mm (lower than 0.1 mm or 0.004 in) or that homogeneity of the material of the magnet called for.

- (b) Bearings/Dampers:

Especially designed or prepared bearings comprising a pivot/cup assembly mounted on a damper. The pivot is normally a hardened steel shaft with a hemisphere on its end. The means of attachment to the bottom cap described in section 5.1.1.(c) at the pivot may however have a hydrodynamic bearing attached. The cup is a pellet with a hemispherical indentation in one surface. These components are often supplied as a damper.

- (c) Molecular pumps:

Especially designed or prepared cylinders having internally machined or extruded helical grooves and internally machined bores. Typical dimensions are as follows: 400 mm (16 in) internal diameter, 10 mm (0.4 in) or more wall thickness, and a groove width to or greater than the diameter. The grooves are typically rectangular in cross-section, 1 mm (0.08 in) or more in depth.

(d) Motor Stators:

Epecially designed or prepared ring-shaped stators for high speed multiphase (reluctance) motors for synchronous operation within a vacuum in the frequency range of 2000 Hz and a power range of 50 - 1000 VA. The stators consist of multi-laminated low loss iron core comprised of thin layers typically 2.0 mm (0.078 in) thick.

(e) Centrifuge housing/containers:

Components especially designed or prepared to contain the rotor tube as a centrifuge. The housing consists of a rigid cylinder of wall thickness up to 1.5 mm (0.06 in) with precision machined ends to locate the bearings and with one or more flange machined ends are parallel to each other and perpendicular to the cylinder within 0.05 degrees or less. The housing may also be a honeycomb type to accommodate several rotor tubes. The housings are made of or protected by materials resistant to corrosion by UF₆.

(f) Scoops:

Epecially designed or prepared tubes of up to 12 mm (0.5 in) internal diameter for extraction of gas from within the rotor tube by a Pitot tube action (that is, facing into the circumferential gas flow within the rotor tube, for example, a radially disposed tube) and capable of being fixed to the central gas extraction tubes. The tubes are made of or protected by materials resistant to corrosion by UF₆.

5.2. Especially designed or prepared auxiliary systems, equipment and components for enrichment plants

INTRODUCTORY NOTE

The auxiliary systems, equipment and components for enrichment plant are the systems of plant 1 feed UF₆ to the centrifuges, to link the individual centrifuges to each other to form cascade progressively higher enrichments and to extract the product 'centrifuges,' together with the equipment required to drive the centrifuges or to control the plant.

Normally UF₆ is evaporated from the solid using heated autoclaves and is distributed in gaseous form by way of cascade header pipework. The 'product and tails' flowing from the centrifuges are also by way of cascade header pipework to cold traps (operating at about 203 K (- 70 °C)) where they onward transfer into suitable containers for transportation or storage. Because an enrichment thousands of centrifuges arranged in cascades there are many kilometers of cascade header thousands of welds with a substantial amount of repetition of layout. The equipment, component fabricated to very high vacuum and cleanliness standards.

5.2. Feed systems/product and tails withdrawal systems

Especially designed or prepared process systems including:

Feed autoclaves (or stations), used for the passing of UF₆ cascades at up to 100 (15 psi) and at a rate of 1 kg/h or more;

Desublimers (or cold traps) used from the UF₆ cascades at up to 3 KPa (0.5 pressure. The desublimers are capable of being chilled to 203 K (- 70 °C (70 °C));

'Product' and 'Tails' stations used for containing UF₆

This plant, equipment and pipework is wholly made of or lined with UF₆-resistant materials (see EXPLANATORY NOTE to this section) and is fabricated to very high vacuum and cleanliness standards.

5.2. Machine header piping systems

Especially designed or prepared piping systems and header systems for handling centrifuge cascades. The piping network is normally of the 'triple' header system connected to each of the headers. There is thus a substantial amount of repetition wholly made of UF₆-resistant materials (see EXPLANATORY NOTE to this section) fabricated to very high vacuum and cleanliness standards.

5.2. UF₆ mass spectrometers/ion sources

Especially designed or prepared magnetic or quadrupole mass spectrometers capable of analyzing samples of feed, product or tails from UF₆ and having all of the following characteristics:

1. Unit resolution for atomic mass unit greater than 320;
2. Ion sources constructed of or lined with nichrome or monel or nickel plated
3. Electron bombardment ionization sources;
4. Having a collector system suitable for isotopic analysis.

5.2.1 Frequency changers

Frequency changers (also known as converters or invertors) especially designed motor stators as defined under 5.1.2.(d), or parts, components and sub-assembly changers having all of the following characteristics:

1. A multiphase output of 600 to 2000 Hz;
2. High stability (with frequency control better than 0.1%);
3. Low harmonic distortion (less than 2%); and
4. An efficiency of greater than 80%.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The items listed above either come into direct contact with the UF₆ or they control the centrifuges passage of the gas from centrifuge to centrifuge and cascade to cascade.

Materials resistant to corrosion by UF₆ include stainless steel, aluminium, aluminium alloys, nickel 60% or more nickel.

INTRODUCTORY NOTE

In the gaseous diffusion method of uranium isotope separation, the main technological assembly diffusion barrier, heat exchanger for cooling the gas (which is heated by the process of control valves, and pipelines. Inasmuch as gaseous diffusion technology requires equipment, hexafluoride pipeline and instrumentation surfaces (that come in contact with the gas) must be made of material contact with UF₆ gaseous diffusion facility requires a number of these assemblies, so that an important indication of end use.

5.3. Gaseous diffusion barriers

- (a) Especially designed or prepared thin, porous filters, with a pore size (angstroms), a thickness of 5 mm (0.2 in) or less, and for tubular forms, (1 in) or less, made of metallic, polymer or ceramic materials, and resistant to UF₆.
- (b) especially prepared compounds or powders for the manufacture of such compounds and powders include nickel or alloys containing 60 per cent aluminium oxide, or UF₆-resistant fully fluorinated hydrocarbon polymers 99.9 per cent or more, a particle size less than 10 microns, and a high uniformity, which are especially prepared for the manufacture of gaseous diffusion barriers.

5.3. Diffuser housings

Especially designed or prepared hermetically sealed cylindrical vessels greater than 900 mm (35 in) in length, or rectangular vessels of which have an inlet connection and two outlet connections all of which are greater than 90 mm in diameter, for containing the gaseous diffusion barrier, made of or lined with material resistant to UF₆ and designed for horizontal or vertical installation.

5.3. Compressors and gas blowers

Especially designed or prepared axial, centrifugal, or positive displacement blowers with a suction volume capacity of 100 m³ or more and with a discharge pressure of up to several hundred kPa (100 psi), designed for long-term operation with or without an electrical motor of appropriate power, as well as separate assemblies and gas blowers. These compressors and gas blowers have a pressure ratio between 1 and 10, are made of, or lined with, materials resistant to UF₆.

5.3. Rotary shaft seals

Especially designed or prepared vacuum seals, with seal feed and seal exhaust on the shaft connecting the compressor or the gas blower rotor with the driver, providing a reliable seal against in-leaking of air into the inner chamber of the compressor. Such seals are normally designed for a buffer gas in-leakage rate of less than 10 cm³/min (60 l/min).

5.3. Heat exchangers for cooling UF₆

Especially designed or prepared heat exchangers made of stainless steel (except stainless steel) or with copper or any combination of those metals, and intended for a change rate of less than 10 pa (0.0015 psi) per hour under a pressure difference of less than 1000 pa (14.7 psi).

INTRODUCTORY NOTE

The auxiliary systems, equipment and components for gaseous diffusion enrichment plants are those to feed UF_6 to the gaseous diffusion assembly, to link the individual assemblies to each other to allow for progressively higher enrichments and to extract from the diffusion cascades UF_6 . Because of the high inertial properties of diffusion cascades, any interruption in their operation leads to serious consequences. Therefore, a strict and constant maintenance of vacuum is automatic protection from accidents, and precise automated regulation of the gas flow is of diffusion plant. All this leads to a need to equip the plant with a large number of special controlling systems.

Normally UF_6 is evaporated from cylinders placed within autoclaves and is distributed in gaseous by way of cascade header pipework. The "product" or "tails" flowing from exit points are passed by way of cascade header pipework to either cold traps or to compression stations where it is transferred onward into suitable containers for transportation or storage. Because a gaseous diffusion plant consists of a large number of gaseous diffusion assemblies arranged in cascades, there are many header pipework, incorporating thousands of welds with substantial amounts of repetition of components and piping systems are fabricated to very high vacuum and cleanliness standards.

5.4. Feed systems/product and tails withdrawal systems

Especially designed or prepared process systems, capable of operating at pressure or less, including:

Feed autoclaves (or systems), used for the gaseous UF_6 diffusion cascades;

Desublimers (or cold traps) used from diffusion cascades;

Liquefaction stations, where from the cascade is compressed and cooled to form UF_6 ;

"Product" or "tails" stations used for containing UF_6 .

5.4. Header piping systems

Especially designed or prepared piping systems and header systems for handling gaseous diffusion cascades. This piping network is normally of the "double" header cell connected to each of the headers.

5.4. Vacuum systems

(a) Especially designed or prepared large vacuum manifolds, vacuum headers and having a suction capacity of $1.5 \text{ m}^3/\text{min}$ or more.

(b) Vacuum pumps especially designed for service at 10^{-5} mm Hg or less, made of, or lined with, aluminium, nickel, or alloys bearing more than 60% nickel. These pumps are rotary or positive, may have displacement and fluorocarbon seals, and working fluids present.

5.4. Special shut-off and control valves

Especially designed or prepared manual or automated shut-off and control valves made of UF_6 -resistant materials with a diameter of 40 to 1500 mm (1.5 to 59 in) for use in auxiliary systems of gaseous diffusion enrichment plants.

Especially designed or prepared magnetic or quadrupole mass spectrometers can handle samples of feed, product or gas stream and having all of the following characteristics:

1. Unit resolution for atomic mass unit greater than 320;
2. Ion sources constructed of or lined with nichrome or monel or nickel plate;
3. Electron bombardment ionization sources;
4. Collector system suitable for isotopic analysis.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The items listed above either come into direct contact with the process gas or indirectly control the flow within the cascade. All surfaces which come into contact with the process gas are, or are made of, or are lined with, materials. For the purposes of the sections relating to gaseous diffusion items the materials include stainless steel, aluminium, aluminium alloys, aluminium oxide, nickel or alloys containing UF₆-resistant fully fluorinated hydrocarbon polymers.

INTRODUCTORY NOTE

In aerodynamic enrichment processes, a sixfold light gas (hydrogen or helium) is compressed and passed through separating elements wherein isotopic separation is accomplished by the centrifugal forces over a curved-all geometry. Two processes of this type have been successfully developed: the cyclone process and the vortex tube process. For both processes the main components of a separator are the vessels housing the special separation elements (nozzles or vortex tubes), gas compressors and the heat of compression. An aerodynamic plant requires a number of these stages, so that an important indication of end use. Since aerodynamic processes use high speed and instrumentation surfaces (that come in contact with the gas) must be made of materials that remain stable in contact with the process gas.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The items listed in this section either come into direct contact with the process gas or control the flow with the cascade. All surfaces which come into contact with the process gas are wholly made of or coated with materials. For the purposes of the section relating to aerodynamic enrichment items, the materials include copper, stainless steel, aluminium alloys, nickel or alloys containing 60% or more fully fluorinated hydrocarbon polymers.

5.5. Separation nozzles

Epecially designed or prepared separation nozzles and assemblies thereof. The separation nozzle consists of slit-shaped, curved channels having a radius of curvature less than 0.05 mm), resistant to corrosion by UF₆. A knife-edge within the nozzle that separates the gas flowing through the nozzle into two fractions.

5.5. Vortex tubes

Epecially designed or prepared vortex tubes and assemblies thereof. The vortex tube is cylindrical or tapered, made of or protected by materials resistant to corrosion by UF₆, having an inner diameter between 0.5 cm and 4 cm, a length to diameter ratio of 20:1 or less and with one or more inlets. The tubes may be equipped with nozzle-type appendages at either or both ends.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The feed gas enters the vortex tube tangentially at one end or through swirl vanes or at numerous points around the periphery of the tube.

5.5. Compressors and gas blowers

Epecially designed or prepared axial, centrifugal or positive displacement compressors and gas blowers made of or protected by materials resistant to corrosion by UF₆. Volume capacity of 2 m³/min or more of carrier gas (hydrogen or helium) mixture.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

These compressors and gas blowers typically have a pressure ratio between 1.2:1 and 6:1.

5.5. Rotary shaft seals

Epecially designed or prepared rotary shaft seals, with seal feed and seal return, sealing the shaft connecting the compressor rotor or the gas blower rotor with the process chamber to ensure a reliable seal against out-leakage of process gas or in-leakage of air into the process chamber of the compressor or gas blower which carries the process gas mixture.

5.5.5. Heat exchangers for gas cooling

Epecially designed or prepared heat exchangers made of or protected by materials resistant to corrosion by UF

5.5.6. Separation element housings

Epecially designed or prepared separation element housings, made of or protected by materials resistant to corrosion by UF, containing vortex tubes or separation nozzles.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

These housings may be cylindrical vessels greater than 300 mm in diameter and greater than 500 mm in length, or may be rectangular vessels of comparable dimensions, and may be designed for horizontal or vertical installation.

5.5.7. Feed systems/product and tails withdrawal systems

Epecially designed or prepared process systems or equipment for enrichment protected by materials resistant to corrosion by UF

(a) Feed autoclaves, ovens, or systems used for the enrichment process;

(b) Desublimers (or cold traps) used for the removal of UF₆ from the enrichment process for subsequent transfer upon heating;

(c) Solidification or liquefaction stations used for the removal of UF₆ from the enrichment process by compressing and converting UF₆ to liquid or solid form;

(d) 'Product' or 'tails' stations used for transferring UF₆

5.5.8. Header piping systems

Epecially designed or prepared header piping systems, made of or protected by materials resistant to corrosion by UF₆ handling in the aerodynamic cascades. This piping network normally of the 'double' header design with each stage or group of stages connected to two headers.

5.5.9. Vacuum systems and pumps

(a) Especially designed or prepared vacuum systems having a suction capacity of more than 1000 m³/hour, consisting of vacuum manifolds, vacuum headers and vacuum pumps, and service in inert atmospheres,

(b) Vacuum pumps especially designed or prepared for service in inert atmospheres and made of or protected by materials resistant to corrosion by UF₆. These pumps may use fluorocarbon seals and special working fluids.

5.5.10. Special shut-off and control valves

Epecially designed or prepared manual or automated shut-off control valves protected by materials resistant to corrosion by UF₆ with a diameter of 40 to 1500 mm for installation in main and auxiliary systems of aerodynamic enrichment plants.

5.5.11.UF₆ mass spectrometers/ion sources

Epecially designed or prepared magnetic or quadrupole mass spectrometers capable of analyzing 'product' gas streams and having all of the following characteristics:

1. Unit resolution for mass greater than 320;
2. Ion sources constructed of or lined with nichrome or monel or nickel plate;
3. Electron bombardment ionization sources;
4. Collector systems suitable for isotopic analysis.

5.5.12.UF₆/carrier gas separation systems

Epecially designed or prepared process systems for carrier gas (Hydrogen or helium).

EXPLANATORY NOTE

These systems are designed to reduce the UF₆ concentration in the carrier gas to 1 ppm or less and may include the following equipment such as:

- (a) Cryogenic heat exchangers and cryoseparators capable of temperatures of -120 °C or less, or
- (b) Cryogenic refrigeration units capable of temperatures of -120 °C or less, or
- (c) Separation nozzle or vortex tube units for the separation of UF₆ from carrier gas, or
- (d) UF₆ cold traps capable of temperatures of -20 °C or less.

INTRODUCTORY NOTE

The slight difference in mass between the isotopes of uranium causes small changes in chemical properties which can be used as a basis for separation of the isotopes. Two processes have been successfully used: chemical exchange and solid-liquid exchange.

In the liquid-liquid exchange process, immiscible liquid phases (aqueous and organic) are contacted to give the cascading effect of thousands of separation stages. The aqueous phase consists of a hydrochloric acid solution; the organic phase consists of an extractant containing uranium. The contactors employed in the separation cascade can be liquid-liquid exchange columns (such as sieve plates) or liquid centrifugal contactors. Chemical conversions (oxidation and reduction) are used in the separation cascade in order to provide for the reflux requirements at each end. A major problem is the contamination of the process streams with certain metal ions. Plastic, plastic-lined (in some cases with polymers) and/or glass-lined columns and piping are therefore used.

In the solid-liquid exchange process, enrichment is accomplished by uranium adsorption/desorption on a fast-acting, ion-exchange resin or adsorbent. A solution of uranium in hydrochloric acid is passed through cylindrical enrichment columns containing packed beds of the adsorbent. For a continuous process, a system is necessary to release the uranium from the adsorbent back into the liquid flow so that it can be collected. This is accomplished with the use of suitable reduction/oxidation chemical agents in separate external circuits and that may be partially regenerated within the isotopic separation process. The presence of hot concentrated hydrochloric acid solutions in the process requires that the equipment be made of special corrosion-resistant materials.

5.6.1 Liquid-liquid exchange columns (Chemical exchange)

Countercurrent liquid-liquid exchange columns having mechanical stirrer input (such as sieve plates, reciprocating plate columns, and columns with internal turbulence) are used for uranium enrichment using the chemical exchange process. Because of their resistance to concentrated hydrochloric acid solutions, these columns and their components are protected by suitable plastic materials (such as fluorocarbon polymers) or glass. The residence time of the columns is designed to be short (30 seconds or less).

5.6.2 Liquid-liquid centrifugal contactors (chemical exchange)

Liquid-liquid centrifugal contactors especially designed or prepared for uranium enrichment using the chemical exchange process. Such contactors use rotation to achieve dispersion of the aqueous streams and then centrifugal force to separate the phases. For use with concentrated hydrochloric acid solutions, the contactors are made of or are lined with corrosion-resistant materials (such as fluorocarbon polymers) or are lined with glass. The stage residence time of the centrifugal contactors is designed to be short (30 seconds or less).

5.6.3 Uranium reduction systems and equipment (chemical exchange)

(a) Especially designed or prepared electrochemical reduction cells to reduce uranium from a higher valence state to another for uranium enrichment using the chemical exchange process. The materials in contact with process solutions must be corrosion resistant to concentrated hydrochloric acid solutions.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The cell cathode compartment must be designed to prevent re-oxidation of uranium to its higher valence state. To keep the uranium in the cathodic compartment, the cell may have an impervious diaphragm or be lined with a material of special cation exchange material. The cathode consists of a suitable solid conductor.

(3) Especially designed or prepared systems at the product end of the cascade of the organic stream, adjusting the acid concentration and feeding to reduction cells.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

These systems consist of solvent extraction equipment from the stripping stream into an aqueous solution, evaporation and/or other equipment to accomplish solution pH adjustment pumps or other transfer devices for feeding to the electrochemical reduction cells. To avoid contamination of the aqueous stream with certain metal ions. Consequently, for the process stream, the system is constructed of equipment made of or protected by suitable glass, fluorocarbon polymers, polyphenyl sulfate, polyether sulfone, and resin-impregnated

5.6.4 Feed preparation systems (Chemical exchange)

Especially designed or prepared systems for producing high-purity uranium chloride chemical exchange uranium isotope separation plants.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

These systems consist of dissolution, solvent extraction and/or ion exchange equipment for producing cells for reducing the uranium to U^{+3} . These systems produce uranium chloride solutions having or parts per million of metallic impurities such as chromium, iron, vanadium, molybdenum and other valent cations. Materials of construction for portions of the system are glass, high-purity U polymers, polyphenyl sulfate or polyether sulfone plastic-lined and resin-impregnated graphite.

5.6.5 Uranium oxidation systems (Chemical exchange)

Especially designed or prepared systems for oxidation of the uranium isotope separation cascade in the chemical exchange enrichment process.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

These systems may incorporate equipment such as:

- (a) Equipment for contacting chlorine and oxygen with the aqueous effluent from the isotope and extracting the resultant U^{+4} into the stripped organic stream returning from the product
- (b) Equipment that separates water from hydrochloric acid so that the water and the concentrated acid may be reintroduced to the process at the proper locations.

5.6.6 Fast-reacting ion exchange resins/adsorbents (ion exchange)

Fast-reacting ion-exchange resins or adsorbents especially designed or prepared for enrichment using the ion exchange process, including porous macroreticular resin structures in which the active chemical exchange groups are limited to a coating on an inactive porous support structure, and other composite structures in any suitable particles or fibers. These ion exchange resins/adsorbents have diameters of 10 to 100 microns and must be chemically resistant to concentrated hydrochloric acid solutions as well as so as not to degrade in the exchange columns. The resins/adsorbents are especially designed for very fast uranium isotope exchange kinetics (exchange rate half-time of less than 10 minutes) and are capable of operating at a temperature in the range of 100 °C to 200 °C.

5.6. Ion exchange columns (ion exchange)

Cylindrical columns greater than 1000 mm in diameter for containing and support ion exchange resin/adsorbent, especially designed or prepared for uranium enrichment process. These columns are made of or protected by materials (such as fluorocarbon plastics) resistant to corrosion by concentrated hydrochloric acid capable of operating at a temperature in the range of 100 °C to 200 °C and pressure (102 psi).

5.6.8 Ion exchange reflux systems (Ion exchange)

- (a) Especially designed or prepared chemical or electrochemical reduction system of the chemical reducing agent(s) used in ion exchange uranium enrichment process
- (b) Especially designed or prepared chemical or electrochemical oxidation system of the chemical oxidizing agent(s) used in ion exchange uranium enrichment process

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The ion exchange enrichment process may use, for example, trivalent cerium (Ce^{+3}) as a reducing agent in which case the reduction system would regenerate Ce^{+4} by reducing Ti^{+4}

The process may use, for example, trivalent iron (Fe^{+3}) as an oxidizing agent in which case the oxidation system would regenerate Fe^{+2} by oxidizing Fe^{+3}

5.7. Especially designed or prepared systems, equipment and components for use in enrichment plants.

INTRODUCTORY NOTE

Present systems for enrichment processes using lasers fall into two categories: those in which atomic uranium vapor and those in which the process medium is the vapor of a uranium compound. The nomenclature for such processes include: first category - atomic vapor laser isotope separation (AVLIS) and chemical reaction by ionization (CRISLA). The systems, equipment and components for laser enrichment plants embrace (a) devices to feed the vapor of a uranium metal (for selective photo-ionization) or devices to feed the vapor of a uranium compound (for dissociation or chemical activation); (b) devices to collect enriched and depleted uranium metal; first category, and devices to collect dissociated or reacted compounds as 'product' and 'tails'; second category; (c) process laser systems to selectively excite the uranium-235 species; and (d) product conversion equipment. The complexity of uranium atoms and compounds may require incorporation of a number of available laser technologies.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Many of the items in this section come into direct contact with uranium metal vapor or liquid or with a mixture of uranium metal and other gases. All surfaces that come into contact with uranium metal or liquid or protected by corrosion-resistant materials. For the purposes of the section relating to the materials resistant to corrosion by the vapor or liquid of uranium metal or uranium alloys and tantalum; and the materials resistant to corrosion by uranium metal or liquid, the materials resistant to corrosion by uranium metal or liquid are stainless steel, aluminum, aluminum alloys, nickel or alloys containing 60 % or more nickel and fluorinated hydrocarbon polymers.

5.7. Uranium vaporization systems (AVLIS)

Especially designed or prepared uranium systems which contain high-power scanning electron beam guns with a delivered power on the target of more than 200 W.

5.7.2. Liquid uranium metal handling systems (AVLIS)

Especially designed or prepared liquid metal handling systems for molten uranium consisting of crucibles and cooling equipment for the crucibles.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The crucibles and other parts of this systems that come into contact with molten uranium or uranium metal or liquid are protected by materials of suitable corrosion and heat resistance. Suitable materials include graphite coated with other rare earth oxides (see INFCIRC/254/Rev. 1/part 2, item 2.7) or mixtures of suitable materials.

5.7.3. Uranium metal 'product' and 'tails' collector assemblies (AVLIS)

Especially designed or prepared 'product' and 'tails' collector assemblies for solid form.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Components for these assemblies are made of or protected by materials resistant to the heat and corrosion of uranium metal or liquid (such as yttria-coated graphite or tantalum) and may include pipes, valves, flanges, heat exchangers and collector plates for magnetic, electrostatic or other separation methods.

5.7.4 Separator module housings (MLIS)

Epecially designed or prepared cylindrical or rectangular vessels for contain vapor source, the electron beam gun, and the 'product' and 'tails' collectors.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

These housings have multiplicity of ports for electrical and water feed-throughs, laser beam connections and instrumentation diagnostics and monitoring. They have provisions for opening and refurbishment of internal components.

5.7.5 Supersonic expansion nozzles (MLIS)

Epecially designed or prepared supersonic expansion nozzles for cooling mixture of gas to 150 K or less and which are corrosion resistant to UF₆

5.7.6 Uranium pentafluoride product collectors (MLIS)

Epecially designed or prepared uranium pentafluoride product collectors consisting of filter, impact, or cyclone-type collectors, or combinations thereof, and which operate in the UF₆ environment.

5.7.7 UF₆/carrier gas compressors (MLIS)

Epecially designed or prepared compressors for UF₆ mixtures, designed for long operation in a UF₆ environment. The components of these compressors that come into contact with process gas are made of or protected by materials resistant to corrosion by UF₆

5.7.8 Rotary shaft seals (MLIS)

Epecially designed or prepared rotary shaft seals, with seal feed and seal gas, for sealing the shaft connecting the compressor rotor with the driver motor so as to prevent against out-leakage of process gas or in-leakage of air or seal gas into the compressor which is filled with a gas mixture.

5.7.9 Fluorination systems (MLIS)

Epecially designed or prepared systems for fluorinating UF₆

EXPLANATORY NOTE

These systems are designed to fluorinate powder directly or subsequent collection in product container or for transfer as feed to MLIS units for additional enrichment. In one approach, the fluorination is accomplished within the isotope separation system to react and recover directly off the 'product' stream. In another approach, the powder may be removed/transferred from the 'product' collectors into a suitable fluidized-bed reactor, screw reactor or flame tower) for fluorination. In both approaches, transfer of fluorine (or other suitable fluorinating agents) and recovery of product and transfer of

Epecially designed or prepared magnetic or quadrupole mass spectrometers ca line' samples of feed, 'product' ~~gas streams and~~ having all of the follc characteristics:

1. Unit resolution for mass greater than 320
2. Ion sources constructed of or lined with nichrome or monel or nickel plate
3. Electron bombardment ionization sources;
4. Collector system suitable for isotopic analysis.

5.7.11. Feed systems/product and tails withdrawal systems (MLIS)

Epecially designed or prepared process systems or equipment for enrichment protected by materials resistant to ~~including~~ by UF

- (a) Feed autoclaves, ovens, or systems used for ~~the enrichment~~ process
- (b) Desublimers (or cold traps) used ~~from the enrichment~~ process for subsequ transfer upon heating;
- (c) Solidification or liquefaction stations ~~used in the enrichment~~ process by compressing and converting a UF liquid or solid form;
- (d) 'Product' or 'tails' stations used ~~for transferring~~ UF

5.7.12. UF_6 /carrier gas separation systems (MLIS)

Epecially designed or prepared process systems for ~~separating~~ UF gas. The carrier gas may be nitrogen, argon, or other gas.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

These systems may incorporate equipment such as:

- (a) Cryogenic heat exchangers or cryoseparators capable of temperatures of -120 °C or less, or
- (b) Cryogenic refrigeration units capable of temperatures of -120 °C or less, or
- (c) UF_6 cold traps capable of temperatures of -20 °C or less.

5.7.13. Laser systems (AVLIS, MLIS and CRISLA)

Lasers or ~~laser systems~~ specially designed or prepared for the separation of uranium

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The lasers and laser components of importance in laser-based enrichment processes include th or INFCIRC/254/Rev. 1/Part 2. The laser system for the AVLIS process usually consists of tw laser and a dye laser. The laser system for MLIS ~~usually consists of a CO multi-pass optic cell with revolving mirrors at both ends. Lasers or laser systems for both processes re stabilizer for operation over extended periods of time.~~

5.8. Especially designed or prepared systems, equipment and components for use separation enrichment plants.

INTRODUCTORY NOTE

In the plasma separation process, a plasma of uranium ions passes through ²³⁵U through the electric field to which is made by ionizing uranium vapor, is contained in a vacuum chamber with a high-strength by a superconducting magnet. The main technological systems of the process include the uranium system, the separator module with superconducting magnet (see item 3.10 of INFCIRC/254/Rev. removal systems for the collection of 'product' and 'tails'.

5.8. Microwave power sources and antennae

Especially designed or prepared microwave power sources and antennae for production and having the following characteristics: greater than 30 GHz frequency mean power output for ion production.

5.8.2 Ion excitation coils

Especially designed or prepared radio frequency ion excitation coils for frequency kHz and capable of handling more than 40 kW mean power.

5.8.3 Uranium plasma generation systems

Especially designed or prepared systems for the generation of uranium plasma high-power strip or scanning electron beam guns with a delivered power on the order of kW/cm.

5.8.4 Liquid uranium metal handling systems

Especially designed or prepared liquid metal handling systems for molten uranium consisting of crucibles and cooling equipment for the crucibles.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The crucibles and other parts of this system that come into contact with molten uranium or uranium vapor are protected by materials of suitable corrosion and heat resistance. Suitable materials include graphite coated with other rare earth oxides (see INFCIRC/254/Rev. 1/Part 2, item 2.7) or mixtures of these materials.

5.8.5 Uranium metal 'product' and 'tails' collector assemblies

Especially designed or prepared 'product' and 'tails' collector assemblies for uranium metal. These collector assemblies are made of or protected by materials resistant to corrosion of uranium metal vapor, such as yttria-coated graphite or tantalum.

5.8.6 Separator module housings

Cylindrical vessels especially designed or prepared for use in plasma separation containing the uranium plasma source, radio-frequency drive coil and the collector assemblies.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

These housings have a multiplicity of ports for electrical feed-throughs, diffusion pump connections, diagnostics and monitoring. They have provisions for opening and closure to allow for maintenance components and are constructed of a suitable non-magnetic material such as stainless steel.

INTRODUCTORY NOTE

In the electromagnetic process, uranium metal ions produced by ionization of (typically) U^{235} are accelerated and passed through a magnetic field that has the effect of ions of different isotopes to follow different paths. The major components of an isotope separator include: a magnetic field for ion-beam diversion/separation; an ion source with its acceleration system, and a collection system for the separated ions. The major systems for the process include the magnet power supply system, the ion source high-voltage system, the vacuum system, and extensive chemical handling systems for recovery, cleaning/recycling of components.

5.9. Electromagnetic isotope separators

Electromagnetic isotope separators especially designed or prepared for the separation of uranium isotopes, and equipment and components therefor, including:

(a) Ion sources

Especially designed or prepared single or multiple uranium ion sources consisting of an ion source, ionizer, and beam accelerator, constructed of suitable materials such as stainless steel, or copper, and capable of providing a total ion beam current of 100 A or greater.

(b) Ion collectors

Collector plates consisting of two or more slits and pockets especially designed for the collection of enriched and depleted uranium ion beams and constructed of suitable materials such as graphite or stainless steel.

(c) Vacuum housings

Especially designed or prepared vacuum housings for uranium electromagnetic isotope separators constructed of suitable non-magnetic materials such as stainless steel and aluminum, and capable of operating at pressures of 0.1 Pa or lower.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The housings are specially designed to contain the ion sources, collector plates and water-cooling systems for diffusion pump connections and opening and closure for removal and reinstallation of these components.

(d) Magnet pole pieces

Especially designed or prepared magnet pole pieces having a diameter great enough to maintain a constant magnetic field within an electromagnetic isotope separator, and capable of withstanding the magnetic field between adjoining separators.

5.9. High voltage power supplies

Especially designed or prepared high-voltage power supplies for ion sources having the following characteristics: capable of continuous operation, output voltage of 100 kV or greater, output current of 1 A or greater, and voltage regulation of better than 0.01% over 1000 hours.

3.3. Magnet power supplies

Especially designed or prepared high-power, direct current magnet power supply following characteristics: capable of continuously producing a current output voltage of 100 V or greater and with a current or voltage regulation better than 8 hours.

6. Plant for the production or concentration of heavy water, deuterium and deuterium and equipment especially designed or prepared therefor

INTRODUCTORY NOTE

Heavy water can be produced by a variety of processes. However, the two processes that have proved viable are the water-hydrogen sulphide exchange process (GS process) and the ammonia-hydrogen exchange process.

The GS process is based upon exchange of hydrogen and deuterium between water and hydrogen sulphide in two exchange towers which are operated with the top section cold and the bottom section hot. Water flow is upwards and hydrogen sulphide gas circulates from the bottom to the top of the towers. A series of perforated trays provide for intimate mixing between the gas and the water. Deuterium migrates to the water at low temperatures and to the gas at high temperatures. Gas or water, enriched in deuterium, is removed from the first stage to the next stage, hot and cold sections and the process is repeated in subsequent stage towers. The product of the first stage, which is about 30% in deuterium, is sent to a distillation unit to produce reactor grade heavy water; i.e. 99.75% in deuterium.

The ammonia-hydrogen exchange process can extract deuterium from synthesis gas through contact in the presence of a catalyst. The synthesis gas is fed into exchange towers and to an ammonia plant. In the ammonia plant the gas flows from the bottom to the top while the liquid ammonia flows from the top to the bottom. Deuterium is stripped from the hydrogen in the synthesis gas and concentrated in the ammonia. The ammonia is then cracked at the bottom of the tower while the gas flows into an ammonia converter at the top. The conversion takes place in subsequent stages and reactor grade heavy water is produced through final distillation. Feed can be provided by an ammonia plant that, in turn can be constructed in association with a hydrogen exchange plant. The ammonia-hydrogen exchange process can also use ordinary water to produce reactor grade deuterium.

Many of the key equipment items for heavy water production plants using GS or the ammonia-hydrogen exchange processes are common to several segments of the chemical and petroleum industries. This is particularly true of plants using the GS process. However, few of the items are available "off-the-shell". The processes require the handling of large quantities of flammable, corrosive and toxic fluids. Accordingly, in establishing the design and operating standards for plants and equipment use attention to the materials selection and specifications is required to ensure long service life. The choice of scale is primarily a function of economics and need. Thus, most of the equipment is prepared according to the requirements of the customer.

Finally, it should be noted that, in both the GS and the ammonia-hydrogen exchange processes, individually are not especially designed or prepared for heavy water production can be assembled. The catalyst production system used in the ammonia-hydrogen exchange process and water distillation systems used for the final concentration of heavy water are examples of such systems.

The items of equipment which are especially designed or prepared for the production of heavy water using the water-hydrogen sulphide exchange process or the ammonia-hydrogen exchange process include the following:

6.1. Water - Hydrogen Sulphide Exchange Towers

Exchange towers fabricated from fine carbon steel (such as ASTM A516) with diameters from 1.5 m (5 ft) to 9 m (30 ft), capable of operating at pressures greater than or equal to 1.0 MPa (150 psi) and corrosion allowance of 6 mm or greater, especially designed or prepared for heavy water production utilizing the water-hydrogen sulphide exchange process.

6.2. Blowers and Compressors

Single stage, low head (i.e., 0.2 MPa or 30 psi) centrifugal blowers or compressors for hydrogen sulphide gas circulation (i.e., gas containing up to 75% H₂S) especially designed or prepared for heavy water production utilizing the water-hydrogen sulphide exchange process. The blowers and compressors have a throughput capacity greater than or equal to 100,000 S.C.F.M. while operating at pressures greater than or equal to 1.0 MPa (260 psi) suction and discharge. Wet service.

6.3. Ammonia-hydrogen Exchange Towers

Ammonia-hydrogen exchange towers greater than or equal to 35 m (114,3 ft) in height of 1.5 m (4.9 ft) to 2.5 m (8.2 ft) capable of operating at pressures greater than or equal to 3 MPa (43.5 psi) especially designed or prepared for heavy water production utilizing the ammonia process. These towers also have at least one flanged, axial opening of the cylindrical part through which the tower internals can be inserted or withdrawn.

6.4. Tower Internals and Stage Pumps

Tower internals and stage pumps especially designed or prepared for tower production utilizing the ammonia-hydrogen exchange process. Tower internals designed stage contactors which promote intimate gas/liquid contact. Stage pumps designed submersible pumps for circulation of liquid ammonia within a contactor stage towers.

6.5. Ammonia Crackers

Ammonia crackers with operating pressures greater than or equal to 3 MPa (43.5 psi) designed or prepared for heavy water production utilizing the ammonia-hydrogen exchange process.

6.6. Infrared Absorption Analyzers

Infrared absorption analyzers capable of "on-line" hydrogen/deuterium ratio analysis of heavy water concentrations are equal to or greater than 90%.

6.7. Catalytic Burners

Catalytic burners for the conversion of enriched deuterium gas into heavy water especially designed or prepared for heavy water production utilizing the ammonia-hydrogen exchange process.

6.8. Complete heavy water upgrade systems or columns therefor

Complete heavy water upgrade systems, or columns therefor, especially designed or prepared for the upgrade of heavy water to reactor-grade deuterium concentration.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

These systems, which usually employ distillation to separate heavy water from light water, are especially prepared to produce reactor-grade heavy water (i.e., typically 99.75% deuterium oxide) from lesser concentration.

INTRODUCTORY NOTE

Uranium conversion plants and systems may perform one or more transformations from one uranium to another, including: conversion of uranium ore concentrates to UO_2 , conversion of uranium oxides to UF_4 , conversion of UO_2 to UF_4 , conversion of UF_4 to UO_2 , conversion of UO_2 to uranium metal, and conversion of uranium fluoride to uranium metal. Many of the key equipment items for uranium conversion plants are several segments of the chemical process industry. For example, the types of equipment employed include: furnaces, rotary kilns, fluidized bed reactors, flame tower reactors, liquid-liquid extraction columns. However, few of the items are available "off-the-shelf"; according to the requirements and specifications of the customer. In some instances, special considerations are required to address the corrosive properties of some of the chemicals (uranium fluorides). Finally, it should be noted that, in all of the uranium conversion processes, the equipment is not especially designed or prepared for uranium conversion and can be assembled especially designed or prepared for use in uranium conversion.

7.1. Especially designed or prepared systems for the conversion of uranium ore concentrates to UO_2

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Conversion of uranium ore concentrates to UO_2 is performed by first dissolving the ore in nitric acid to produce purified uranyl nitrate using a solvent such as tributyl phosphate. Next, the uranyl nitrate concentration and denitration or by neutralization with gaseous ammonia to produce ammonium diuranate, followed by filtering, drying, and calcining.

7.2. Especially designed or prepared systems for the conversion of UO_2 to UF_4

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Conversion of UO_2 to UF_4 can be performed directly by fluorination. The process requires a source of chlorine trifluoride.

7.3. Especially designed or prepared systems for the conversion of UO_2 to UF_4

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Conversion of UO_2 to UF_4 can be performed through reduction with cracked ammonia gas or hydrogen.

7.4. Especially designed or prepared systems for the conversion of UF_4 to UO_2

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Conversion of UF_4 to UO_2 can be performed by reaction with hydrogen fluoride gas (HF) at 300-500°C.

7.5. Especially designed or prepared systems for the conversion of UF_4 to UO_2

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Conversion of UF_4 to UO_2 is performed by exothermic reaction with fluorine gas. The fluorine is condensed from the UF_4 hot effluent gases by passing the effluent stream through a condenser. The process also requires a source of fluorine gas.

7.6. Especially designed or prepared systems for the conversion of UF_4 to uranium metal

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Conversion of UF_4 to uranium metal is performed by reduction with magnesium (large batches) or calcium (small batches). The reaction is carried out at temperatures above the melting point of uranium.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Conversion of UF₆ to UO₂ can be performed by one of three processes reduced and hydrolyzed to UO₂ using hydrogen and steam. In the second process, UF₆ is hydrolyzed by solution in water, ammonia is added to precipitate ammonium diuranate, and the diuranate is reduced to UO₂ on the third process, gaseous UF₆ and NH₃ are combined in water, precipitate ammonium uranyl carbonate, ammonium uranyl carbonate is combined with steam and hydrogen at 500-600

UF₆ to UO₂ conversion is often performed as the first stage of a fuel fabrication plant.

7.8. Especially designed or prepared systems for the conversion of UF₆

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Conversion of UF₆ to UO₂ is performed by reduction with hydrogen.

INDEX C
CRITERIA FOR LEVELS OF PHYSICAL PROTECTION

1. The purpose of physical protection of nuclear materials is to prevent unauthorized handling of these materials. Paragraph 3(a) of the Guidelines document contains recommendations among suppliers on the levels of protection to be ensured in relation to the equipment and facilities containing these materials, taking account of the recommendations.
2. Paragraph 3 (b) of the Guidelines document states that implementation of minimum physical protection in the recipient country is the responsibility of the Government. However, the levels of physical protection on which these measures have to be based should be the subject of an agreement between supplier and recipient. In this context, the same standards should apply to all States.
3. The document INFCIRC/225 of the International Atomic Energy Agency entitled "Minimum Requirements for the Protection of Nuclear Material" and similar documents which from time to time are developed by international groups of experts and updated as appropriate to account for changes in the art and state of knowledge with regard to physical protection of nuclear material should be the basis for guiding recipient States in designing a system of physical protection and its procedures.
4. The categorization of nuclear material presented in the attached table or diagram shall be updated from time to time by mutual agreement of suppliers and shall serve as the basis for designating specific levels of physical protection in relation to the equipment and facilities containing these materials, pursuant to paragraph 3 of the Guidelines document.
5. The agreed levels of physical protection to be ensured by the competent national authorities for the use, storage and transportation of the materials listed in the attached table should include minimum protection characteristics as follows:

CATEGORY III

Use and Storage within an area to which access is controlled.

Transportation under special precautions including prior arrangements among supplier and carrier, and prior agreement between entities subject to the jurisdiction of the supplier and recipient States, respectively, in case of international transportation, and procedures for transferring transport responsibility.

CATEGORY II

Use and Storage within a protected area to which access is controlled, i.e., an area with surveillance by guards or electronic devices, surrounded by a physical barrier, a number of points of entry under appropriate control, or any area with an equivalent physical protection.

Transportation under special precautions including prior arrangements among supplier and carrier, and prior agreement between entities subject to the jurisdiction of the supplier and recipient States, respectively, in case of international transportation, and procedures for transferring transport responsibility.

Materials in this category shall be protected with highly reliable systems use as follows:

Use and storage within a highly protected area, i.e., a protected area as defined above, to which, in addition, access is restricted to person whose trust determined, and which is under surveillance by guards who are in close contact with appropriate response forces. Specific measures taken in this context shall be objective the detection and prevention of any assault, unauthorized access and removal of material.

Transportation under special precautions as identified above for transportation of Category I and III materials and, in addition, under constant surveillance by escorts which assure close communication with appropriate response forces.

6. Suppliers should request identification by recipients of those agencies which bear responsibility for ensuring that levels of protection are adequately met and for internally co-ordinating response/recovery operations in the event of handling of protected materials. Suppliers and recipients should also desire within their national authorities to co-operate on matters of out-of-country and other matters of mutual concern.

TABLE: CATEGORIZATION OF NUCLEAR MATERIAL

Material	Form	Category	
		I	II
1. Plutonium*	Unirradiated*	2 kg or more	Less than 2 kg but
2. Uranium-235	Unirradiated* - uranium enriched to 20% - uranium enriched to 10% less than 20% - uranium enriched above natural, but less than 10% ²³⁵ U	more 5 kg or more	Less than 5 kg but 10 kg or more -
3. Uranium-233	Unirradiated*	2 kg or more	Less than 2 kg but
4. Irradiated fuel			Depleted or natural low-enriched fuel (content [f])

[a] As identified in the Trigger List.

[b] Material not irradiated in a reactor or material irradiated in a reactor but unshielded.

[c] Less than a radiologically significant quantity should be exempted.

[d] Natural uranium, depleted uranium, and thorium and quantities of uranium enrichment in accordance with prudent management practice.

[e] Although this level of protection is not intended, it could be open to States, upon evaluation of physical protection.

[f] Other fuel which by virtue of its original fissile material content is classified as low-enriched fuel while the radiation level from the fuel does not exceed 1000 Bq/g unshielded.