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STATEMENT ISSUED BY THE SOUTH AFRICAN STATE PRESIDENT

The attached text of a statement issued on 21 September 1987 by the South African State President, Mr. P.W. Botha, is being circulated at the request of the Resident Representative of South Africa.

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STATEMENT ISSUED BY THE SOUTH AFRICAN STATE PRESIDENT

'THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA IS PREPARED TO COMMENCE NEGOTIATIONS WITH EACH OF THE NUCLEAR WEAPON STATES ON THE POSSIBILITY OF SIGNING THE NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY. AT THE SAME TIME THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA WILL CONSIDER INCLUDING IN THESE NEGOTIATIONS SAFEGUARDS ON ITS INSTALLATIONS SUBJECT TO THE NPT CONDITIONS. THE NATURE OF THESE NEGOTIATIONS WILL DEPEND ON THE OUTCOME OF THE 31ST GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE IAEA WHICH IS BEING HELD IN VIENNA AS FROM 21 SEPTEMBER.'

'SOUTH AFRICA HOPES THAT IT WILL SOON BE ABLE TO SIGN THE NPT AND HAS DECIDED TO OPEN DISCUSSIONS WITH OTHERS TO THIS END. ANY SAFEGUARDS AGREEMENT WHICH MIGHT SUBSEQUENTLY BE NEGOTIATED WITH THE IAEA WOULD NATURALLY BE ALONG THE SAME LINES AS, AND IN CONFORMITY WITH, AGREEMENTS WITH OTHER NPT SIGNATORIES.'