

**ENERGY CHARTER
SECRETARIAT**

CCDEC 1996

19 GEN

Brussels, 13 December 1996

Related documents: CC 75, CC 81

DECISION OF THE ENERGY CHARTER CONFERENCE

Subject: Suspension of work on Nuclear Protocol

Regarding the Russian proposal the European Union mentioned that it had not had enough time to reflect on the paper and it remained at the same position it stated during the June 1996 meeting.

Kazakhstan, Armenia and Belarus supported the Russian request for a Nuclear Protocol.

Japan reiterated its opposition to a legally binding Nuclear Protocol, but expressed support for the possibility of reaching agreement on a Declaration.

The Chairman noted the willingness of the Russian Federation to set aside for now the issue of the legal nature of a Nuclear Instrument and its suggestion to discuss the text of such an Instrument.

The Conference agreed not to take any further decision on this matter at this time. It agreed that the Chairman would consult with delegations on the Russian paper.

Keywords: Nuclear Instrument