

The Path towards Strengthened Safeguards: Experiences in Iraq, South Africa, and North Korea

This video series is a collection of dialogues centered on the immense role played by the IAEA, and in particular how the Agency supports nuclear nonproliferation through the practice of safeguards. This current update is a chronicle of events during the 1990s, Iraq, South Africa, and North Korea, that led to the development of the Additional Protocol.

7.19 DPRK

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Rich: DPRK – all these things were coincident in time. It became very important not for the reasons people typically think. There was a special board meeting in March of 93. In that meeting the Secretariat chose to go to the Board and make a case to the Board to request a special inspection, and that's why people remember that meeting. Because they wanted the political support of the Board for that decision. People remember it for that reason. But something much more important happened at that Board. And that was it was the first time that 3rd party information was presented to the Board; from that point forward, it was understood that the Secretariat would accept and receive 3rd party information as a routine aspect of safeguards. Before that, the Board had always taken the position that the Secretariat should not receive and make use of information that all states were not in a position to provide. That was really a much more important outcome than gaining political support for an action that the Secretariat already had the authority to do.