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A Japanese mission on a tour of Europe to study the possible effects of radioactive waste disposal on the fishing industry visited the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in Vienna on 16 October 1967 to obtain information on the Agency's activities and hear authoritative views on the problem.

At a special briefing arranged for them, they were informed that in view of the increasing use of the seas and the oceans for disposal of radioactive waste from nuclear facilities the IAEA's International Centre for Marine Radioactivity in Monaco, which had been engaged mainly on fundamental studies on the fate of radioactive pollutants, particularly from nuclear fallouts, might soon deal with practical problems in waste disposal. The Agency was also considering reviving a system introduced in 1960 for international registration of waste disposal to insure a safe limit to the amount that may be discharged into the sea.

The group was also given a brief review of the progress in fish preservation by nuclear irradiation.

IAEA officials and scientists who took part in the briefing were:
Dr. John A. Hall, Deputy Director General for Administration and Acting
Director General; Dr. Garman Harbottle, Director of Research and
Laboratories; Dr. Gerald E. Swindell, Acting Director, Division of Health,
Safety and Waste Disposal; Dr. Peter J. Parsons, Division of Health, Safety
and Waste Disposal; Dr. Maurice de Proost, Joint FAO/IAEA Division of Atomic
Energy in Food and Agriculture; and Mr. David A.V. Fischer, Director,
Division of External Liaison and Protocol.

The picture shows the group in the entrance hall of the IAEA's headquarters. To the extreme left is Mr. David A.V. Fischer.

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