

Seminar on Strengthening Nuclear Security in Asian Countries

Tokyo 21-22 January 2010

Chairman's Conclusions

The Seminar was organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan and the International Atomic Energy Agency, building on the results of *the Seminar on Strengthening Nuclear Security in Asian Countries* convened in Tokyo in November 2006. Mr. Tetsuro Fukuyama, State Secretary for Foreign Affairs of Japan, welcomed the Seminar participants, approximately 65 persons from 18 countries. The objectives of the Seminar were to review the development since the November 2006 Seminar in nuclear security in the Asian region, in particular through the implementation of existing and strengthened international instruments and by enhanced cooperation within the region.

The Seminar noted with satisfaction substantial progress made in the field of nuclear security in the Asian region since the November 2006 Seminar, while recognising that there is still room for further development.

The Seminar recognised that the risk that nuclear or other radioactive material could be used in malicious acts remains high and is regarded as a serious threat to international peace and security.

The Seminar noted that the responsibility for nuclear security rests with each State. However, the Seminar also recognised the clear international dimension of nuclear security and underlined the need for States to cooperate.

The high level of interest in the Asian region in the development of nuclear power generation and the application of enhanced medical and industrial technical applications as well as the increasing role that Asia will have in supplying the nuclear technology to the rest of the world were underlined.

The Seminar noted that since November 2006, a number of States in the region have signed or acceded to the international legal instruments relating to nuclear security and have decided to implement new voluntary measures designed to reinforce the safety and security of radioactive sources. These instruments include:

- Amendment to the Convention of Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (CPPNM) adopted in July 2005
- International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism
- UNSCR 1373
- UNSCR 1540 (and UNSCR 1673 and 1810)
- The non-binding IAEA Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources

While recognising the sovereign rights of States, the Seminar recognised the importance of universal adherence to the above-mentioned international instruments, which would considerably enhance security within the region. The Seminar therefore encouraged all States to adhere to these international instruments.

The Seminar recognized that these international instruments underpin the strengthened international framework for assuring nuclear security together with those that already exist in the area of safeguards. The contribution to security of instruments in the safety area was also recognised.

It was further recognised that a mutually reinforcing system of safety, security and safeguards should be regarded as an enabler of nuclear new build and not an impediment to it.

The Seminar welcomed assistance already provided by the IAEA through the Nuclear Security Plan 2006-2009, to States in the region to meet their obligations under the international security instruments while noting that such assistance is at the request of the receiving States. The Seminar also welcomed the provision of assistance from bilateral programmes including those of the European Union, which has enabled the IAEA to enhance its cooperation with States in Asia to ensure that adequate levels of security are applied to all nuclear and other radioactive material under national jurisdictions and according to effective national systems and functions.

Given the expanding role of suppliers from Asia, the value of engaging industry and industry representatives in nuclear security was stressed. In this connection, the role of the World Institute for Nuclear Security was noted.

The participants of the Seminar welcomed the convening by President Obama of a Nuclear Security Summit in April 2010 and expressed their commitment to work together so that the Asian region will serve as a good model for other regions in promoting peaceful uses of nuclear energy while ensuring nuclear security, safety and safeguards.

The Seminar encouraged the States which participated in this seminar, particularly those advanced in the use of nuclear technology, to enhance and develop regional nuclear security cooperation and coordination networks. In this connection, participants welcomed the establishment of Malaysia's national nuclear security support centre. They encouraged other States to consider the establishment of such national facilities as appropriate and also encouraged the States in the region to work together, with the assistance of the IAEA, for the enhancement of regional cooperation, information sharing and capacity building including education and training. In this context, the need for enhancement of intra-governmental coordination within a recipient, coordination between recipients and donors as well as coordination among donors was underscored.

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