



PUBLIC STATEMENT
PLENARY MEETING OF THE NUCLEAR SUPPLIERS GROUP
BARILOCHE, ARGENTINA, 3-5 JUNE 2015

The twenty-fifth Plenary Meeting of the Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG)¹, chaired by Ambassador Rafael Mariano Grossi of ARGENTINA, was held in Bariloche, Argentina from 3 to 5 June 2015.

The Argentine Minister of Foreign Affairs, H.E. Mr Hector Timerman, made a welcome speech on behalf of the Argentine Government, in which he reaffirmed his country's unwavering support to the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and, in particular, the essential contribution that the NSG provides to this end. Mr Timerman stressed that Argentina's chairmanship will continue to focus on updating and strengthening the work of the Group while ensuring that legitimate trade and international cooperation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy will not be hindered. Mr Timerman introduced the President of the Argentine Republic, Ms Cristina Fernández de Kirchner, who addressed the Group via a live video feed from Mendoza, Argentina. In her remarks, she noted the global relevance of the work of the Group to ensure the peaceful uses of nuclear energy worldwide, and underscored the great honour for Argentina to chair the NSG for the third time in its history and for a second consecutive year. President Fernández de Kirchner emphasized Argentina's unconditional and unqualified support for non-proliferation and noted three principles related to social aspects, peaceful use and solidarity — ensuring everyone has access to the peaceful uses of nuclear energy — which are the

¹ The NSG is a Group of 48 nuclear supplier countries that seeks to contribute to the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons through the implementation of two sets of Guidelines for nuclear exports and nuclear-related exports (see www.nuclearsuppliersgroup.org). Currently the participating Governments of the NSG are Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Republic of Korea, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, the United Kingdom and the United States. The European Commission and the Chair of the Zangger Committee participate as permanent observers.

backbone of Argentina's policy.

Within the framework of the NSG's mandate, the Group expressed its concern on continued global proliferation activities and reaffirmed its determination to continue to cooperate closely in order to deter, hinder and prevent the transfer of controlled items or technology that could contribute to nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices.

The Group strongly deplored the nuclear tests conducted by the DPRK in 2006, 2009 and 2013 and expressed grave concern over the DPRK's nuclear program which undermines the global non-proliferation regime. The Group strongly urged the DPRK to abandon all its nuclear weapons and existing nuclear programs. The Group reiterated its long-standing support for full implementation of all relevant Security Council Resolutions and the 19 September 2005 Joint Statement of the Six-Party Talks. The Group reaffirmed its support for the Six Party Talks so as to achieve the complete, verifiable and irreversible denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula and called on the DPRK to respond to diplomatic efforts aimed at creating favourable conditions for the resumption of the Six-Party Talks.

The NSG noted the 2 April Lausanne Understanding on the Key Parameters for the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) reached by the E3/EU+3 and Iran, and expressed its hope that ongoing negotiations, in order to reach by 30 June a JCPOA, will be successful and will ensure the exclusively peaceful nature of the Islamic Republic of Iran's nuclear programme in accordance with its NPT obligations.

Participating Governments called upon all States to exercise vigilance and to ensure effective implementation of all UN Security Council Resolutions relevant to the work and purposes of the NSG.

At the Plenary Meeting, the NSG also:

- Maintained its focus on technical issues important to the implementation of the Control Lists, by exchanging views and agreeing on a number of proposals to clarify and update the NSG Control Lists to be published following the 2016 Plenary;
- Discussed the importance of efficient and effective processing of Government to Government Assurances to ensure that NSG Participating Governments have the necessary tools to facilitate the timely authorization of legitimate exports of nuclear material, equipment and technology pursuant to the NSG Part 1 Guidelines;
- Discussed and reaffirmed the importance of maintaining NSG confidentiality and the significance of updating the NSG Guidelines to keep pace with an evolving global security landscape and a fast paced nuclear and nuclear-related industry; and
- Decided that the Republic of Korea will assume the Chairmanship of the NSG for 2016-2017 and Switzerland in the following cycle for 2017-2018.

Outreach

- Welcomed the growing number of States that have harmonized their national export control systems with the NSG Guidelines and Control Lists;
- Discussed options for enhancing outreach such as:
 - dedicated briefing(s) for interested non-NSG partners on the work of the Group;
 - increased visibility of the NSG at appropriate international meetings to improve public awareness about the work and mission of the Group; and
 - a dedicated response to non-NSG partners seeking assistance and practical experience on developing, updating, strengthening and implementing national export control systems.
- Noted the positive reaction and expressions of interest in the Group and its work following Argentina's national statement on behalf of the NSG to Main Committee II of the 2015 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), and to the side event organized by the NSG Chair on the margins of the NPT Review Conference providing more detailed information on the work and goals of the Group;
- Shared information on all aspects of the 2008 Statement on Civil Nuclear Cooperation with India and discussed the NSG relationship with India; and
- Discussed and reaffirmed the need to balance confidentiality with transparency in NSG activities.

The NSG Plenary invited all nuclear supplier states to express their responsible approach to nuclear exports by adhering to the NSG Guidelines.
