

Consideration on Safety of Nuclear Energy

By

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Excellency Mr. Chairman

Excellencies Delegates

It is my great honor and privilege to be given this opportunity to make a presentation to such high level meeting on one of the most important and timely issues, the safety of nuclear security.

The Cambodian Institute for Cooperation and Peace is the member of the CSCAP working group on promoting peaceful use of nuclear energy.

I would like to take this opportunity to share with you the outcomes of the working group as follows:

Considering resource requirements and constraints associated with the peaceful use of nuclear energy, it is important to rely and build on existing international and regional organizations and institutions rather than attempt to duplicate the requirements established by them. Accordingly, CSCAP offers the following recommendations in the interest of establishing a safe and secure framework to promote peaceful use of nuclear energy in the Asia-Pacific region:

Regional Cooperation

All ASEAN Regional Forum states should promote regional cooperation to enhance nuclear safeguards, safety, and security in the region through the following initiatives:

- Participate in the Asian Nuclear Safety Network to improve the safety of nuclear facilities.
- Promote civilian nuclear cooperation through the Regional Cooperative Agreement for Research, Development and Training Related to Nuclear Science and Technology for Asia and the Pacific.
- Promote regional information collection and dissemination capability with the goal of sharing expertise, training, and best practices for facility operations.
- Cooperate in promoting regional standardization and supporting the work of the

UNSCR 1540 Committee.

- Promote development of an international fuel reserve center to ensure reliable access to nuclear fuel in a multilateral, economically viable, non-discriminatory, and transparent manner under the auspices of the IAEA.
- Promote the development of cooperative arrangements to store, treat and dispose of used fuel and low-level waste materials.
- Promote the establishment of a comprehensive monitoring and detection mechanism, a regional emergency response capability, and an enforcement mechanism to ensure transparency and compliance with IAEA and UN directives and resolutions related to nonproliferation of WMD.
- Collaborate in the development of more proliferation-resistant nuclear power reactors.
- Promote the establishment of a regional reprocessing and enrichment free zone.

National Legislation

National legislation covering all aspects of nuclear law, including safety, security, liability, nonproliferation, and other regulatory and commercial aspects must support the peaceful use of nuclear technology. Legislation should minimize legal impediments to the safe use of nuclear energy, encourage equitable compensation of nuclear damage resulting from an accident, and facilitate international trade in nuclear materials and equipment for peaceful purposes.

All states should ensure that a comprehensive legislative framework is established to provide legal authority for the establishment of a fully independent nuclear regulatory body. This body is critical to safeguarding and sustaining operational transparency to support the safe, secure, and efficient use of nuclear energy.

National legislation should:

- Establish a regulatory mechanism to ensure adequate licensing, inspection and enforcement.
- Set forth broad institutional responsibilities to ensure safe and secure use of nuclear technology and materials.
- Make provision for regulations and guidance documents that specify adequate controls for all nuclear and related material, equipment, and technology as well as adequate technical and human infrastructure in nuclear safety, radiological protection, and waste management.

Verification and Transparency

The IAEA has the authority under the Comprehensive Safeguards Agreement to verify the peaceful use of all nuclear material in NPT member states. However, the tools available under such an agreement are limited and should be supplemented with additional measures.

All states should consider the following such additional measures:

- Adopt the IAEA Additional Protocol to increase the effectiveness of the Comprehensive Safeguards Agreement.
- Establish a Nuclear Energy Program Implementation Organization or a similar body

based on IAEA guidelines to ensure a comprehensive approach to nuclear power development is taken and complete operational transparency is maintained.

- Implement import and export control regulations for nuclear and nuclear-related equipment and technology similar to the Nuclear Suppliers Group Guidelines for Nuclear Transfers. CSCAP Memorandum No. 14, Guidelines for Managing Trade of Strategic Goods provides specific recommendations to help ensure an effective control regime is established.
- Take all possible practical steps to provide for adequate financing for the IAEA to ensure resources for technical cooperation, inspection, and enforcement activities are sufficient, assured, and predictable.

Outreach and Capacity Building

The IAEA is the world's focal point for building capacity, improving nuclear safety and security, and promoting scientific and technical cooperation in nuclear energy.

Countries with expertise in nuclear energy should help develop and implement regional and national strategies on nuclear energy to include areas such as resources, facility safety and security, and proliferation risks in accordance with relevant international agreements, including the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty.

Countries producing or contemplating the use of nuclear energy should:

- Promote capacity building through technical cooperation in emergency response to nuclear related incidents, safety and security for waste management, and research partnerships to establish common evaluation and facility standards.
- Strengthen the IAEA Technical Cooperation program through assisting other states in the development of peaceful uses for nuclear energy;
- Promote human resources capacity development focusing on nuclear reactor operators and nuclear engineering and regional coordination of emergency responses to nuclear incidents.
- Promote development of human resources capacity, institutional capacity, and technical and managerial capabilities through technical, scientific cooperation via lab-to-lab and facility-to-facility exchanges, research and development, education and training in nuclear, radiation, transportation, and waste management safety, and nuclear security.
- Promote sharing and development of best practices in the areas of nuclear safety and security, including involvement of the nuclear industry and private sector as necessary.
- Support and promote the IAEA's International Low Enriched Uranium (LEU) Fuel Bank.

International Regime Compliance

All member states should consider signing or otherwise complying with enhanced nuclear safeguards, safety, and security as specified in the following documents, consistent with their international commitments and obligations:

- Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty
- IAEA Comprehensive Safeguards and the Additional Protocol
- Global Initiative to Counter Nuclear Terrorism
- United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1540

- Convention on Nuclear Safety
- Convention on the Early Notification of a Nuclear Accident
- Convention on Assistance in the Case of a Nuclear Accident or Radiological Emergency
- Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management.
- IAEA Vienna Convention on Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage and its amendments
- IAEA Convention on Supplementary Compensation for Nuclear Damage
- Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (CPPNM) and its amendment
- International Convention on the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism
- All states in a position to do so should make additional contributions to the International Atomic Energy Agency's Peaceful Uses Initiative.
- All states should identify best practices for national implementation of UNSC Resolution 1540 and assist other countries to meet the highest international standards.

Thank you Excellency Mr. Chairman!

Phnom Penh, 25 May 2012