
**2015 Review Conference of the Parties
to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation
of Nuclear Weapons**

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Main Committee III

Summary record of the 3rd meeting

Held at Headquarters, New York, on Wednesday, 6 May 2015, at 10 a.m.

Chair: Mr. Stuart (Australia)

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The meeting was called to order at 10.10 a.m.

General exchange of views (continued)

1. **Mr. Al Kaabi** (United Arab Emirates) said that his country recognized the right of every State Party to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons to the peaceful use of nuclear energy as a means of addressing climate change and energy security concerns. Nuclear power programmes should be developed in a fully transparent way, in line with the highest standards of nuclear safety, security and non-proliferation. Robust international cooperation was important to facilitate the transfer of peaceful nuclear technology and material and to strengthen nuclear safety and security, and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) played a central role in that regard.

2. The United Arab Emirates continued to make significant progress in the construction of four nuclear power reactors. In the light of the great emphasis it placed on nuclear safety, it commended ongoing IAEA efforts in that area and was committed to implementing the IAEA Action Plan on Nuclear Safety. It also fully supported the recently concluded Vienna Declaration on Nuclear Safety. IAEA safety standards should be evaluated and updated on an ongoing basis to take into consideration lessons learned. Industry efforts to continually evaluate and improve nuclear safety were welcome, as were IAEA peer review services. All States that had not yet done so should accede to international instruments in the area of nuclear safety, security, non-proliferation and liability. The Convention on Nuclear Safety was of particular importance for States with significant nuclear facilities, in particular Iran, which was the only such State not party to it.

3. Recognizing the threat posed by the existence of any unsecured nuclear material and facilities and the associated potential for nuclear terrorism, the United Arab Emirates welcomed the series of Nuclear Security Summits and their outcomes. It recognized the importance of establishing a national framework for civil liability for nuclear damage and developing a harmonized international liability regime, and welcomed the recent entry into force of the Convention on Supplementary Compensation for Nuclear Damage.

4. His country continued to support multilateral approaches to the nuclear fuel cycle. It welcomed the

progress to date on the establishment of an IAEA low-enriched uranium reserve, toward which it had already contributed several million dollars. Multilateral approaches and services on the front and back ends of the fuel cycle should be further developed.

5. An increasing number of States were expressing interest in developing the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. The current Review Conference should continue to address the promotion of the responsible development of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, the strengthening of nuclear safety and the development of a sustainable arrangement to provide assistance to countries that were newcomers in the nuclear energy field.

6. **Mr. Al-Sabah** (Kuwait) said that his delegation affirmed the inalienable right of all the Parties to the Treaty to develop research, production and use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes without discrimination and in conformity with Articles I and II of the Treaty. IAEA played a major role in preventing the diversion of nuclear energy from peaceful uses to nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices. That Agency's Technical Cooperation Programme ensured the transfer of nuclear technology for the purposes of development. He expressed his country's appreciation for the efforts of that Programme's Division for Asia and the Pacific. Kuwait had implemented a number of projects in coordination with IAEA, and a number of new projects had been approved for implementation in 2016 and 2017.

7. **Ms. Boura** (Greece) said that her country supported the universalization of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and placed particular emphasis on nuclear safety and security, which were both global challenges. However, national efforts for enhanced regional cooperation should be transparent and in full compliance with the highest international nuclear safety standards and the relevant nuclear security guidelines developed by IAEA.

8. Special attention should be attached to the protection of people and the environment from ionizing radiation released by accident or intentionally. Greece had signed and ratified the Convention on Nuclear Safety, the Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management, the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material and Nuclear Facilities,

and the Protocol to amend the Convention on Third Party Liability in the Field of Nuclear Energy.

9. The impact that a nuclear plant could have on the environment of an entire region meant that the transboundary component of nuclear facilities must be incorporated in existing or new nuclear energy operational practice. Greece had signed in 1991 and ratified in 1998 the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context.

10. In 2014, during the Greek presidency of the Council of the European Union, an agreement was reached among European Union member States on amending the European directive on nuclear safety, which was aimed at further reinforcing the nuclear safety and security framework in the European Union.

11. Nuclear power production worldwide should be in compliance with the highest international safety and security standards, an issue of particular importance to Greece, as one of the main tectonic rifts is located in the region of the Eastern Mediterranean and has been the cause of major seismic activity. Nuclear power could never be absolutely safe and had never been an option as a component of Greece's energy mix. However, given the regional interest in nuclear power, all nuclear technology developments related to energy production should be approached in a comprehensive manner by taking all necessary measures to guarantee nuclear safety, nuclear security and non-proliferation.

12. **Mr. Al-Kumaim** (Yemen) said that the right of the non-nuclear-weapon States to peaceful uses of nuclear energy should not be exploited to impose restrictions on those States in the name of non-proliferation. Signature of an additional IAEA protocol should not be a condition for assistance. Nevertheless, there were certain parties that insisted on imposing limitations such as the establishment of an international nuclear fuel bank. The IAEA comprehensive safeguards system should be universalized, but any additional commitments that States might wish to make should be voluntary. He called on all States that had not yet done so to accede to the Treaty as non-nuclear-weapon States.

13. *A number of proposals were made regarding drafting language to be included in the Chair's report.*

The meeting rose at 11.35 a.m.