

2005 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

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Outcomes statement of the Asia-Pacific Nuclear Safeguards and Security Conference held in Sydney, Australia, on 8 November 2004

Report submitted by Australia

Ministers or their representatives participating in the conference were from Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Canada, China, Fiji, Indonesia, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, the United States of America and Viet Nam. Also attending the conference were representatives of France, Myanmar, the Russian Federation, Timor-Leste, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the International Atomic Energy Agency and the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat.

The meeting recognized that a strong nuclear safeguards and security framework was essential to realizing the benefits of the peaceful use of nuclear energy. It noted that effective nuclear safeguards and security measures were vital not only for countries with nuclear power programmes or research reactors, but also for those where radioactive materials are used for medical, industrial and scientific purposes.

The meeting identified two types of threat to nuclear security: the proliferation of nuclear weapons among States, and the potential for terrorist acts involving nuclear facilities and nuclear and radioactive materials. It noted that terrorist groups were known to be interested in acquiring weapons of mass destruction and that nuclear and radiological terrorism posed potentially grave consequences for public health, the environment, economic prosperity, and public confidence. The meeting recognized that nuclear non-proliferation, nuclear disarmament and the peaceful uses of nuclear technology were closely interrelated.

The meeting agreed that participants would work together in a sustained and comprehensive effort to expand and enhance the nuclear safeguards and security framework. It identified the following priorities:

- **Implementing globally the strengthened safeguards system of the International Atomic Energy Agency** as the current safeguards standard under the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons. The meeting

took note of offers of assistance with the conclusion and implementation of the Additional Protocol.

- **Strengthening the protection of nuclear materials and facilities.** The meeting supported early finalization of work to strengthen the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material. It encouraged wide adherence to that Convention and the Convention on Early Notification of a Nuclear Accident, the Convention on Assistance in the Case of a Nuclear Accident or Radiological Emergency, the Convention on Nuclear Safety and the Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management and other relevant international instruments and regulations.
- **Ensuring the effective control and protection of radioactive sources, consistent with their safe use.** The meeting encouraged early adherence to the guidelines in the IAEA Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources. It welcomed the Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation's regional outreach and assistance programme on the security of radioactive sources, and the IAEA Model Project to Upgrade National Radiation Protection Infrastructures.
- **Implementing effective domestic controls on nuclear and radioactive materials and relevant equipment and technology, including export controls.** The meeting considered that effective domestic controls on sensitive materials, equipment and technology, including trans-shipment and transit measures, were all the more essential in the light of known terrorist interest in acquiring weapons of mass destruction. In this regard, the meeting encouraged action on a harmonized basis in accordance with the IAEA Guidance on the Import and Export of Radioactive Sources, and recognized the importance of the provisions of the Additional Protocol related to the export and import of nuclear equipment. It welcomed the assistance provided by regional Governments, notably Japan, Australia and the United States, on strengthening of export controls and State systems of nuclear material accountancy and control.
- **Ensuring effective national nuclear security capability, including technical capacity for the detection of illicit trafficking of nuclear and radioactive materials and relevant equipment and technology.** The meeting noted the importance of regional and international cooperation on preventing illicit trafficking, including enhanced information-sharing and technical assistance. It recognized the value of cooperation with relevant international bodies and with other countries in strengthening their respective national institutions where necessary.
- **Early and comprehensive implementation of Security Council resolution 1540 (2004).** The meeting welcomed Security Council resolution 1540 (2004) as an important step in combating the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, in particular to non-State actors, and thus reducing the risk of nuclear and radiological terrorism. It noted the importance of providing international assistance to States lacking the legal and regulatory infrastructure, implementation experience and/or resources to fulfil the resolution's requirements. The meeting acknowledged the call in resolution 1540 (2004) for States "... in accordance with their national legal authorities

and legislation and consistent with international law, to take cooperative action to prevent illicit trafficking in nuclear ... weapons, their means of delivery, and related materials". The meeting also noted the need for the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004), the Counter-Terrorism Committee and IAEA to strengthen cooperation in order to bring their respective expertise into full play in a coordinated approach.

- **Making effective use of the extensive IAEA assistance available in relation to the security of nuclear and radioactive materials.** While noting that responsibility in this area rests entirely with States, the meeting acknowledged the important contribution of IAEA in assisting States in meeting appropriate safety and security standards.
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