

Information Circular

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Communication from the Permanent Mission of the United States of America to the Agency

1. On 3 June 2024, the Secretariat received a Note Verbale, together with an attachment, from the Permanent Mission of the United States of America on behalf of Bulgaria, Canada, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Ghana, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Moldova, the Netherlands, Poland, the Republic of Korea, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, Türkiye, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, and the United Kingdom.
2. As requested, the Note Verbale and its attachment are herewith circulated for the information of all Member States.

NOTE VERBALE

062/2024

The Permanent Mission of the United States to International Organizations in Vienna presents its compliments to the International Atomic Energy Agency and, on behalf of the Governments of Bulgaria, Canada, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Ghana, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Moldova, the Netherlands, Poland, the Republic of Korea, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, Türkiye, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, and the United Kingdom, has the honor to request that the IAEA Secretariat bring the following note verbale and the enclosed Joint Statement on Advanced Nuclear Energy Technologies to the attention of all IAEA Member States.

At the IAEA *International Conference on Nuclear Security: Shaping the Future*, the United States, as sponsor of this Joint Statement, announced that it will be open for all Member States to subscribe to the goals and commitments as described. IAEA Member States wishing to subscribe to this Joint Statement on

Advanced Nuclear Energy Technologies are encouraged to notify the United States and inform the IAEA Secretariat via note verbale, and request such official communication be circulated as an INFCIRC document to all IAEA Member States.

The Permanent Mission of the United States avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the IAEA the assurances of its highest consideration.

Enclosure:

As stated.

United States Mission to International Organizations in Vienna
May 31, 2024
Vienna, Austria.



JOINT STATEMENT ON ADVANCED NUCLEAR ENERGY TECHNOLOGIES

Strong nuclear security is one of the critical foundational elements for the successful growth of civil nuclear power globally. As nations pursue or consider the selection, development, and deployment of advanced nuclear energy technology - including advanced and small modular reactors - as part of their energy mix, it is essential that adequate non-proliferation, safety, security, and safeguards measures are in place and implemented. Prioritizing these considerations in the early stages of development at the national level helps ensure that the next generation of civil nuclear energy technologies can collectively contribute to a clean energy transition and achieve sustainable development and net zero goals, while simultaneously reducing nuclear proliferation risks.

To this end, we are committed to developing and deploying new civilian nuclear energy technologies, including advanced reactors, by taking actions that include one or more of the following:

- 1) Consider nuclear safety, security, safeguards, and emergency preparedness and response in all steps of nuclear fuel cycle, including waste disposition considerations, in the earliest phases of advanced reactor and facility design;
- 2) Recognize the need for special precautions and enhanced security regarding highly enriched uranium (HEU) and separated plutonium, and thereby undertake efforts to mitigate the security risks of such materials, either by opting for alternative fuel choices or by transitioning them into forms that are unattractive to, and inaccessible by, malicious actors;
- 3) Avoid the use of sensitive nuclear technologies that may increase the risk of nuclear material proliferation;
- 4) Protect nuclear material against theft, diversion, sabotage of facilities and other malicious acts;
- 5) Allow for the safe and secure disposal of spent nuclear fuel and high-level waste; and
- 6) Achieve high levels of safety, security, and safeguards by addressing those considerations from the early stages of facility design.

We will continue efforts to develop and deploy new types of nuclear fuels that are proliferation resistant, where technically and economically feasible.

We also encourage close and wide-ranging partnerships among our respective governments and commercial nuclear industries and are committed to working together where possible to diversify nuclear supply chains and promote a greater deployment of advanced nuclear technologies and fuels that adhere to these strong nuclear security standards.