



REINFORCING COOPERATION ON NUCLEAR ENERGY FOR PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT

A JOINT STATEMENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY AND THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION

The International Atomic Energy Agency (the "IAEA") and the European Atomic Energy Community ("Euratom") celebrated their respective fiftieth anniversaries in 2007.

The IAEA's and Euratom's extensive scientific and technological co-operation has been ongoing for many years. The Co-operation Agreement between the IAEA and Euratom, in force since 1 January 1976, provided a formal basis for the collaboration of the two organizations.

With the objective of fostering the use of nuclear energy in a peaceful, safe and secure manner, both institutions have cooperated in the establishment of high level safety standards to protect people and the environment, as well as in the effective and efficient implementation of safeguards.

In view of concerns about security of energy supply, climate change and higher energy prices a diverse portfolio of energy sources will be needed in the 21st century to allow access to sustainable energy and electricity resources in all regions of the world. A number of developed and developing countries have therefore decided or are considering to build new or extend the operational lifetime of existing nuclear power capacity. Ways and means that would enable countries to make full use of nuclear technology to meet their socio-economic needs should continue to be explored. At the same time it is important to continue to promote high standards of nuclear safety, security and non-proliferation.

The IAEA and the European Commission currently participate in various areas of activities. In the field of safeguards, cooperation in the application of safeguards provided for under the safeguards agreements, and additional protocols thereto, concluded between Member States of the European Union, Euratom and the IAEA, has been very fruitful. In this connection, the New Partnership Approach (NPA), agreed in 1992, resulted in closer and more efficient cooperation between the two organisations. Support to the IAEA for safeguards research and development, through Euratom's Joint Research Centre, the support by the European Commission to the work of the IAEA to enhance nuclear safety in a number of European countries, the European Union's financial support to the IAEA Nuclear Security Plan, and the support given by the IAEA for cooperating on fusion energy research are some outstanding examples of the effectiveness of this cooperation.

At the European Council of 8/9 March 2007, the European Commission submitted to the Heads of State and Governments its Communication on "An Energy Policy for Europe" which calls for a reinforced cooperation with the IAEA.

The IAEA and the European Commission are determined to undertake further efforts to reinforce their cooperation. Accordingly, building on the Cooperation Agreement, the IAEA and the European Commission agree to the present Joint Statement, the main purpose of which is to highlight their mutual determination to significantly reinforce the quality and intensity of their cooperation, including through identifying specific priority areas and synergies.

1. PRIORITY FIELDS OF COOPERATION

1.1. Both sides have identified the following areas of cooperation:

- Nuclear safety; including safety standards, installation safety, regulatory issues, safe management of spent fuel and radioactive waste, safe transport of radioactive material and safe decommissioning;
- Radiation protection; including the International Basic Safety Standards, emergency preparedness and mutual assistance;
- Enhancement of national infrastructures, as needed, in countries wishing to launch new nuclear power programmes;
- Verification, safeguards and non-proliferation;
- Nuclear security; including the secure management of radioactive and nuclear materials, and measures to prevent, detect and respond to incidents of illicit trafficking;
- Supply of nuclear material, equipment and services;
- Technology and scientific research, including Generation IV (GIF); INPRO; ITER;
- Fostering the use of relevant nuclear techniques in the fields of human health; agricultural productivity and food security, water resources management; environmental protection, and sustainable energy development;
- Nuclear data for applications;
- Training and
- Legal affairs and Legislative Assistance.

1.2. Both sides may identify additional fields for cooperation in line with the Cooperation Agreement.

2. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE REINFORCED COOPERATION BETWEEN THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION AND THE IAEA

- 2.1. The IAEA and the European Commission will examine concrete steps to significantly increase the quality and intensity of their cooperation in the above priority areas.
- 2.2. The reinforced cooperation between the IAEA and the European Commission will be pursued in the light of the common objectives as reflected in this Joint Statement, with due regard to their respective mandates and responsibilities and their respective institutional frameworks, on the basis of the Cooperation Agreement.
- 2.3. As and when required and appropriate, practical implementing modalities for the effective and efficient implementation of the reinforced cooperation between the IAEA and the European Commission will be included in specific arrangements to be mutually agreed upon in accordance with Article V of the Cooperation Agreement.
- 2.4. As regards the implementing modalities relating to cooperation in the area of safeguards, both sides will continue to pursue their work in a complementary manner by taking due account of the effectiveness of each other's safeguards system, while allowing both organizations to satisfy their respective obligations to reach their own independent conclusions and required assurances. The Liaison Committees established in the Safeguards Agreements will continue to be the forum to discuss and agree on safeguards implementation matters.
- 2.5. In order to facilitate the present and future cooperation activities, there will be annual joint meetings of senior representatives of the IAEA Secretariat and of the European Commission services. Such meetings will, inter alia, provide guidance and make recommendations for the achievement of the objectives of the reinforced cooperation and identifying actions as required.

Brussels, this 7th day of May 2008

FOR
THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY

FOR
THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION

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