

Opening Remarks
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Mr. Monti, Mr. Phillips, Ladies and Gentlemen. I am pleased to join DDG Chudakov in opening this 5th Joint IAEA-GIF Workshop on the Safety of Sodium-Cooled Fast Reactors on behalf of the Generation IV International Forum. In my opinion, this series of safety workshops represents the most intense collaboration between the Forum and IAEA.

I compliment the Scientific Co-Secretaries Stefano Monti and Jon Phillips and GIF Technical Director Dohee Hahn on putting together an interesting and ambitious agenda for the workshop. I look forward many interesting discussions in the next two days.

Looking around the room, I think that perhaps GIF Chairman Emeritus Sagayama and I are among the few who have participated in each of the workshops. For those of you who are new to this activity, a word about how we got here may be in order.

The first SFR safety workshop in 2010 was inspired by and followed the surprisingly large and enthusiastic 2009 IAEA conference on sodium-cooled fast reactors. That first workshop, focusing on worldwide experience, consolidated a vast array of operating data from fast reactors. Each subsequent workshop has had a unique theme. This fifth workshop will focus on safety design criteria and guidelines for implementing those criteria. Representatives of design organizations and regulatory bodies have been encouraged to participate.

I believe that the discussions we will hold here during the next two days will significantly contribute to the ambitious goal of coming to a common understanding of fast reactor safety requirements and engineering solutions.

I encourage candid, constructive conversations among the participants. Thank you for taking the time to help make this workshop a success.

With that, I return the floor to Mr. Monti for the election of a workshop chair.