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International Atomic Energy Agency

**GENERAL CONFERENCE**GENERAL Distr.  
Original: ENGLISHThirty-ninth regular session  
Item 15 of the provisional agenda  
(GC(39)/1)**THE CONVENTION ON NUCLEAR SAFETY****Preparations for implementation of the Convention****Report by the Secretariat<sup>\*/</sup>**

1. The Convention on Nuclear Safety was adopted in Vienna on 17 June 1994 and opened for signature on 20 September 1994.<sup>1/</sup> As provided for in Article 34, the Director General of the Agency is the Depositary of the Convention.

2. As of 15 June 1995, the Convention had been signed by the following 58 States: Algeria, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, China, Croatia, Cuba, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, the Republic of Korea, Lebanon, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mali, Mexico, Morocco, the Netherlands, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, the Russian Federation, the Slovak Republic, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, the United Kingdom and the United States.

3. Six of those States - Japan, Norway, Poland, Romania, the Slovak Republic and Turkey - have deposited instruments of ratification or acceptance of the Convention.<sup>2/</sup> In addition, a number of States have indicated that their ratification processes are under way.

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<sup>\*/</sup> This report is an updated version of a report submitted to the Board of Governors in March 1995. A list of States which have signed and accepted or ratified the Convention has been added (see Attachment 2).

<sup>1/</sup> The text of the Convention is reproduced in the Annex to document INFCIRC/449.

<sup>2/</sup> Paragraph 1 of Article 31 ("Entry into Force") of the Convention states that the "Convention shall enter into force on the ninetieth day after the date of deposit with the Depositary of the twenty-second instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval, including the instruments of seventeen States, each having at least one nuclear installation which has achieved criticality in a reactor core". Two of the above-mentioned six States (Japan and the Slovak Republic) have at least one such nuclear installation.

4. In order to ensure the timely availability of the background documents needed for the preparatory meeting of the Contracting Parties provided for in Article 21, and in the light of the wish - expressed by many signatory States - for a rapid ratification process and for the Convention's early entry into force, the Agency's Secretariat recently convened an informal meeting of representatives of signatories of the Convention and other interested States for a preliminary discussion of options and alternatives regarding matters to be submitted to the preparatory meeting of the Contracting Parties. The informal meeting, chaired by Mr. Carlton Stoiber (United States of America), took place in Vienna from 8 to 10 March 1995. A further meeting is scheduled for 13 - 15 November 1995.

5. For the information of Member States, the Secretariat is herewith transmitting the report of the Chairman (Attachment 1)<sup>3/</sup>.

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<sup>3/</sup> Copies of the Working Papers referred to in the report of the Chairman can be made available on request.

Meeting on Preparations for the  
Implementation Activities of the  
Convention on Nuclear Safety

1995-03-10

Vienna, 8-10 March 1995

### **Report of the Chairman**

1. The Convention on Nuclear Safety provides that not later than six months after its entry into force a "preparatory meeting" of Contracting Parties is to be held which shall adopt Rules of Procedure and Financial Rules and establish, inter alia, guidelines regarding the form and structure of the reports to be submitted to the "review meetings", as well as the process for reviewing such reports.
2. In order to ensure a timely availability of the documents needed for the "preparatory meeting", and in light of the expectations of many States of a rapid ratification process and entry into force of the Convention, the Secretariat convened an informal meeting of representatives of signatories and other interested States for preliminary discussion of options and alternatives on matters which might be submitted to the "preparatory meeting" of the Contracting Parties, as appropriate.
3. The meeting took place from 8-10 March 1995 in Vienna and was attended by 102 participants from 48 countries and two intergovernmental organizations.
4. The meeting was opened by Mr. Morris Rosen, Assistant Director General, Division of Nuclear Safety. The meeting agreed that Mr. Carlton Stoiber (United States) would chair its work.
5. The participants took positive note of the fact that the Convention had now been signed by 55 States and that 3 States (Norway, Slovakia and Turkey) had ratified it. Many delegations reported on the status of their ratification process, with a number indicating that they expected to ratify the Convention before the end of 1995.
6. After adopting the agenda, the meeting agreed to structure its discussions along the lines of a proposal submitted by the Chairman (Working Paper #1), as follows: general statements; matters pertaining to the meeting of Contracting Parties; national reports; and the initial review process.

7. During the meeting a number of delegations submitted working papers:
- Working Paper #2: Argentina, "Summary or Possible Table of Content";
  - Working Paper #3: United Kingdom, "Convention on Nuclear Safety - Proposal for Review Process";
  - Working Paper #4: Japan, "Resume of Provisional Japanese Report submitted pursuant to Article 5 of the Convention on Nuclear Safety";
  - Working Paper #5: Japan, "Proposal on Contents of Contracting Party's Report, Procedure for Review Meetings and Financial Rules";
  - Working Paper #6: France, "Non-paper Convention on Nuclear Safety";
  - Working Paper #7: Germany, "Elements of the Reports required under Article 5";
  - Working Paper #8: Finland, "Fulfilment of the Obligations of the Convention on Nuclear Safety in Finland".
8. The participants conducted a detailed discussion of the Conventions' implementation process based on the text of the Convention, the background documentation and the working papers submitted. The discussion identified a range of options and alternatives as to implementation of the Convention which would need further consideration by Governments.
9. It was agreed that this informal meeting had been useful and that further work would help to assure timely preparation of the "preparatory meeting". It was agreed to request the Chairman to prepare, on the basis of a joint paper by the delegations of Japan and Germany, in co-operation with interested delegations, preliminary draft guidelines regarding national reports as provided under Article 22.1(i) of the Convention. These draft guidelines should be distributed to the signatories and other interested States well in advance of the next meeting. Many participants indicated that a second meeting on preparations for the implementation activities of the Convention on Nuclear Safety should be held in approximately 6 months.

It was requested that the Secretariat make this report available to signatory and other interested States.

**CONVENTION ON NUCLEAR SAFETY**

<u>State</u>	<u>Date of signature</u>	<u>Means and date of expression of consent to be bound</u>
Algeria	20 Sept. 1994	
Argentina*	20 Oct. 1994	
Armenia	22 Sept. 1994	
Australia	20 Sept. 1994	
Austria	20 Sept. 1994	
Belgium*	20 Sept. 1994	
Brazil*	20 Sept. 1994	
Bulgaria*	20 Sept. 1994	
Canada*	20 Sept. 1994	
Chile	20 Sept. 1994	
China*	20 Sept. 1994	
Croatia	10 April 1995	
Cuba	20 Sept. 1994	
Czech Republic*	20 Sept. 1994	
Denmark	20 Sept. 1994	
Egypt	20 Sept. 1994	
Finland*	20 Sept. 1994	
France*	20 Sept. 1994	
Germany*	20 Sept. 1994 and 5 Oct. 1994	
Greece	1 Nov. 1994	
Hungary*	20 Sept. 1994	
India*	20 Sept. 1994(*)	
Indonesia	20 Sept. 1994	
Ireland	20 Sept. 1994	
Israel	22 Sept. 1994	
Italy	27 Sept. 1994	
Japan*	20 Sept. 1994	12 May 1995 (accepted)
Jordan	6 Dec. 1994	
Rep. of Korea*	20 Sept. 1994	
Lebanon	7 Mar. 1995	
Lithuania*	22 Mar. 1995	
Luxembourg	20 Sept. 1994	
Mali	22 May 1995	
Mexico*	9 Nov. 1994	
Morocco	1 Dec. 1994	
Netherlands*	20 Sept. 1994	
Nicaragua	23 Sept. 1994	
Nigeria	21 Sept. 1994	
Norway	21 Sept. 1994	29 Sept. 1994 (ratified)

