

Communication Received from France Concerning its Policies regarding the Management of Plutonium

Statements on the Management of Plutonium and of High Enriched Uranium

1. The Director General has received a note verbale dated 14 June 2012 from the Permanent Mission of France to the IAEA in the enclosures of which the Government of France, in keeping with its commitment under the Guidelines for the Management of Plutonium (contained in INFCIRC/549¹ of 16 March 1998 and hereinafter referred to as the “Guidelines”), and in accordance with Annexes B and C of the Guidelines, has made available annual figures for holdings of civil unirradiated plutonium and the estimated amounts of plutonium contained in spent civil reactor fuel as of 31 December 2011.
2. The Government of France has also made available a statement of its annual figures for holdings of civil high enriched uranium (HEU) as of 31 December 2011.
3. In light of the request expressed by the Government of France in its note verbale of 28 November 1997 concerning its policies regarding the management of plutonium (INFCIRC/549 of 16 March 1998), the note verbale of 14 June 2012 and the enclosures thereto are attached for the information of all Member States.

¹ A modification to this document was issued on 17 August 2009 (INFCIRC/549/Mod.1).

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Vienna, Thursday 14 June 2012

No. 172

The Permanent Mission of France to the United Nations Office and the international organizations in Vienna presents its compliments to the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency and, in accordance with Annexes B and C of the Guidelines for the Management of Plutonium (INFCIRC/549), has the honour to send him the figures for holdings of civil plutonium and civil high enriched uranium in France as of 31 December 2011.

The Permanent Mission of France to the United Nations Office and the international organizations in Vienna takes this opportunity to assure the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency of its highest consideration.

[stamp of the Permanent Mission of France to the United
Nations Office, Vienna]

Enc.: 3 pages

ANNEX B:**ANNUAL FIGURES FOR HOLDINGS OF CIVIL
UNIRRADIATED PLUTONIUM**

| | <u>As of 31 December 2011</u> (2010 figures in brackets) Rounded to 100 kg plutonium with quantities less than 50 kg reported as such | |
|---|---|---------------|
| | <u>National total in tonnes</u> | |
| 1. Unirradiated separated plutonium in product stores at reprocessing plants | 43.5 | (47.0) |
| 2. Unirradiated separated plutonium in the course of fabrication; plutonium contained in unirradiated semi-fabricated or unfinished products at fuel fabrication plants (or other facilities) | 6.6 | (5.5) |
| 3. Plutonium contained in unirradiated MOX fuel or other fabricated products at reactor sites or elsewhere | 29.1 | (27.1) |
| 4. Unirradiated separated plutonium held at facilities other than those stated in lines 1 and 2 * | 1.1 | (0.6) |

* Line 4: covers estimated amounts of plutonium in process at reprocessing plants and estimated amounts of separated plutonium held at research facilities (CEA or universities).

| | | |
|---|------------------|--------------------|
| (i) Plutonium included in lines 1–4 above belonging to foreign bodies | 22.8 | (24.2) |
| (ii) Plutonium in any of the forms in lines 1–4 above held in locations in other countries and therefore not included above | <50 kg | (<50 kg) |
| (iii) Plutonium included in lines 1–4 above which is in international shipment prior to its arrival in the recipient State | 0 | (0) |

ANNEX C:

**ESTIMATED AMOUNTS OF PLUTONIUM CONTAINED IN
SPENT CIVIL REACTOR FUEL**

| | <u>As of 31 December 2011</u> (2010 figures in brackets) Rounded to 100 kg plutonium with quantities less than 500 kg reported as such | |
|--|--|----------------|
| | <u>National total in tonnes</u> | |
| 1. Plutonium contained in spent fuel at civil reactor sites | 107.0 | (104.6) |
| 2. Plutonium contained in spent fuel at reprocessing plants | 139.8 | (133.2) |
| 3. Plutonium contained in spent fuel held at facilities other than those stated in lines 1 and 2 above | 6.4 | (6.4) |

Definitions:

- Line 1: covers estimated amounts of plutonium contained in fuel discharged from civil reactors;
- Line 2: covers estimated amounts of plutonium contained in fuel received at reprocessing plants but not yet reprocessed;
- Line 3: covers estimated amounts of plutonium located at research centres as well as discards.

**ANNUAL FIGURES FOR HOLDINGS OF CIVIL
HIGH ENRICHED URANIUM**

| <u>National total in kilograms</u> | <u>As of 31 December 2011</u> (2010 figures in brackets) Figures rounded to nearest kg | |
|--|--|---------------|
| 1. High enriched uranium stored at enrichment plants | | |
| 2. High enriched uranium in the course of fabrication at enrichment plants | | |
| 3. Unirradiated high enriched uranium at fuel fabrication or processing plants | 913 | (979) |
| 4. Unirradiated high enriched uranium at civil reactor sites | 1838 | (1845) |
| 5. Unirradiated high enriched uranium not located at enrichment plants, fuel fabrication or processing plants, or civil reactors (for example: laboratories, research centres) | 425 | (423) |
| 6. Irradiated high enriched uranium at civil reactor sites | 167 | (174) |
| 7. Irradiated high enriched uranium held at locations other than civil reactor sites | 1295 | (1217) |