

**NUCLEAR SUPPLIERS GROUP  
PLENARY MEETING**

**HELSINKI, 5-7 APRIL 1995**

**PRESS STATEMENT**

The 1995 Plenary Meeting of the Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG) took place in Helsinki from 5 to 7 April under the chairmanship of Ambassador Pasi Patokallio of Finland. The main objective of the Group is to facilitate the peaceful uses of nuclear energy by ensuring that nuclear trade does not contribute directly or indirectly to the proliferation of nuclear weapons.

Representatives of the 31 member States participated in the Meeting. New Zealand and South Africa were welcomed as new members.<sup>1</sup>

Representatives of Ukraine and the European Commission attended as observers. The Group noted with appreciation the intention of the Republic of Korea to adhere to the NSG guidelines and looked forward to its participation in the NSG in the near future.

The Group reviewed the Guidelines for Nuclear Transfers<sup>2</sup> on the basis of recommendations by its working groups. It considered options to update its Guidelines and Annexes which, in accordance with past practice, will be published when finalised. The Group decided to continue its efforts to ensure that exports of nuclear or nuclear-related dual use items for peaceful purposes are not diverted to nuclear explosive or unsafeguarded nuclear activities. The Group also decided to strengthen its Point of Contact.

The Group affirmed the principle of openness and agreed that members should continue to brief other countries on the aims and activities of the Group in order to increase transparency

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<sup>1</sup>Members of the Group are: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, South Africa, Slovak Republic, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom and United States of America.

<sup>2</sup>Published as IAEA Document INFCIRC/254 as amended.

and to enlarge membership.

The Group renewed its appeal to other countries to follow the international standards on nuclear export controls, including the requirement for IAEA safeguards on all current and future peaceful nuclear activities (full-scope IAEA safeguards) as a condition of supply, as called for by Main Committee II of the 1990 NPT Review Conference.

Members reiterated the importance of export controls in supporting nuclear non-proliferation which give effect to their obligations, as nuclear supplier states, under Articles I, II and III of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT). Export controls are also an important part of the environment of long-term assurance and stability that underpins peaceful nuclear co-operation. Members stressed their continuing determination to ensure that transfers can take place to facilitate the development of peaceful uses of nuclear energy in accordance with Article IV of the NPT.

The NSG as a nuclear export control regime, with its basic aim to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons, has a special interest in the upcoming NPT Review and Extension Conference. The NPT is the only global agreement that seeks both to stop the further spread of nuclear weapons and to achieve the objective of nuclear disarmament under the terms of Article VI of the Treaty, while at the same time facilitating the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. It is therefore essential that the non-proliferation regime be strengthened through assuring the continued, unrestricted and indefinite extension of the NPT. In addition, the non-proliferation regime could be further strengthened by the conclusion of a comprehensive nuclear test-ban treaty and a convention on the cessation of the production of fissionable material for weapons purposes which would be universal and verifiable.

The next Plenary Meeting of the NSG will be held in Buenos Aires in April 1996.