

Valdosta State University Model United Nations Conference International Atomic Energy Agency Background Guide

Esteemed Delegates,

Welcome to the Valdosta State University Model United Nations Conference of 2019 and the International Atomic Energy Agency. I would like to thank you for participating in this committee that will address many vital issues facing the world today. My name is Abigail Easton, and I am currently a Senior Political Science major with a minor in Philosophy at VSU. Model United Nations has developed my voice that I now use to speak for others and has inspired my enthusiasm for international relations, I hope that you use this opportunity to delve into the world of the United Nations and international diplomacy.

Hello, my name is Kiana Johnson, and I am a Senior Political Science major with a concentration in International Relations. Model United Nations has allowed me incredible opportunities to travel and see the world with an entirely new perspective, I hope that the skills you develop in this conference and in your future will give you the same opportunities that I have been granted.

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) is an independent intergovernmental organization of the United Nations that was created in 1957 in response to the deep fears and expectations generated by the discoveries and diverse uses of nuclear technology. The IAEA is the world's center for cooperation in the nuclear field, promoting the safe, secure and peaceful uses of nuclear science and technology, contributing to international peace and security and the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Though established outside the UN system, the IAEA reports to both the UN Security Council and the General Assembly.

The topics for the International Atomic Energy Agency are:

- I. Peaceful Usage of Nuclear Energy in Developing Countries
- II. Nuclear Waste Management
- III. Strengthening the Treaty of the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

This Background Guide serves as an introduction to the topics for this committee. However, it is not intended to replace individual research. We encourage you to conduct additional research, explore your Member State's policies in-depth, and examine the policies of other Member States to improve your ability to negotiate and reach consensus. Good luck at the conference, delegates, and we await your attendance this upcoming March!

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History of the International Atomic Energy Agency

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) was established in 1957, inspired by U.S. President Eisenhower's "Atoms for Peace" address to the General Assembly of the United Nations in 1953. In response to the rapid and diverse usage of nuclear technology, the IAEA was developed to ensure that the usage of the atom was both promoted and controlled. The First General Conference established the IAEA's headquarters in Vienna, Austria.

The IAEA has also two regional offices located in Toronto, Canada and Tokyo, Japan, as well as two liaison offices in New York City, United States of America and Geneva, Switzerland. The Agency additionally runs laboratories specialized in nuclear technology in Vienna and Seibersdorf, Austria, and Monaco. As of February 2019, there are 171 members in IAEA.¹ The Member States of the UN and of specialized agencies can become Member States of the IAEA by signing and ratifying the IAEA Statute, or in the case a non-UN Member State, can become a member of the IAEA by accepting the IAEA Statute and by being accepted by the General Conference.²

The mandate of IAEA is: "The Agency shall seek to accelerate and enlarge the contribution of atomic energy to peace, health and prosperity throughout the world. It shall ensure, so far as it is able, that assistance provided by it or at its request or under its supervision or control is not used in such a way as to further any military purpose."

In carrying out its functions, the Agency shall:

ARTICLE I: Establishment of the Agency

1. Conduct its activities in accordance with the purposes and principles of the United Nations to promote peace and international cooperation, and in conformity with the policies of the United Nations furthering the establishment of safeguarded worldwide disarmament and in conformity with any international agreements entered into pursuant to such policies;
2. Establish control over the use of special fissionable materials received by the Agency, in order to ensure that these materials are used only for peaceful purposes;
3. Allocate its resources in such a manner as to secure efficient utilization and the greatest possible general benefit in all areas of the world, bearing in mind the special needs of the under- developed areas of the world;
4. Submit reports on its activities annually to the General Assembly of the United Nations and, when appropriate, to the Security Council: if in connection with the activities of the Agency there should arise questions that are within the competence of the Security Council, the Agency shall notify the Security Council, as the organ bearing the main responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security, and may also take

the measures open to it under this Statute, including those provided in paragraph C of Article XII;

5. Submit reports to the Economic and Social Council and other organs of the United Nations on matters within the competence of these organs.

ARTICLE II: Objectives

The Agency shall seek to accelerate and enlarge the contribution of atomic energy to peace, health and prosperity throughout the world. It shall ensure, so far as it is able, that assistance provided by it or at its request or under its supervision or control is not used in such a way as to further any military purpose.

ARTICLE III: Functions

A. The Agency is authorized:

1. To encourage and assist research on, and development and practical application of, atomic energy for peaceful uses throughout the world; and, if requested to do so, to act as an intermediary for the purposes of securing the performance of the services or the supplying of materials, equipment, or facilities by one member of the Agency for another; and to perform any operation or service useful in research on, or development or practical application of, atomic energy for peaceful purposes;

2. To make provision, in accordance with this Statute, for materials, services, equipment, and facilities to meet the needs of research on, and development and practical application of, atomic energy for peaceful purposes, including the production

The IAEA is an independent international entity that annually reports to the UN General Assembly. In some cases, the IAEA will report to the UN Security Council in regards to instances of members' noncompliance of safeguard and security obligations.

The primary aim of the IAEA is to guarantee the peaceful use of nuclear material. Thereby, the Agency faces the challenge to advance nuclear technology and to spread knowledge on effective and sustainable usage of nuclear energy on one hand, and to prevent the usage of nuclear material for atomic weapons and non-peaceful purposes on the other hand.³

I. Peaceful Usage of Nuclear Energy in the Developing Countries

“Without significantly increasing the use of nuclear power worldwide, it will be difficult to achieve the goal of reducing harmful emissions and fighting climate change.” Cornel Feruta, Acting Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency⁴

Background Information

The production of nuclear energy is currently on the rise globally due to a realization of the many benefits of generating power by nuclear energy rather than fossil fuels. These benefits include a reduction in the emission of potentially hazardous greenhouse gases, increased competitiveness in the market in the case of an introduction of a carbon tax, and a more secure form of energy use in comparison to the nonrenewable resources that are currently being depleted.⁵ There are currently 1.4 billion individuals worldwide who have a scarcity of access to electricity, with 85% of those individuals belonging to rural areas.⁶ The production of nuclear energy in such developing areas is an environmentally friendly method by which developing states can increase the efficiency and quantity of power they produce to meet the needs of their citizens.

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) contributes heavily to the growth of peaceful nuclear energy production at a global and regional scale. These contributions include the support of both already established and newly developed nuclear programs worldwide, the invoking of innovation and improvement of the capacity of energy planning, and management of knowledge dealing with nuclear energy. The IAEA also assists by supporting the comprehensive application of nuclear technology through “research reactors and non-electric applications, as well as the development of fusion”.⁷

Current Situation

At the moment, there are currently fifty developing countries without nuclear reactors capable of producing electricity that have expressed their interest to the IAEA in acquiring a nuclear power plant.⁸ However, not all of these fifty Member States will have the capability to acquire a nuclear reactor of this caliber. In order for a country to properly sustain a large nuclear reactor, it must meet typical requirements, one of these being a gross domestic product (GDP) of at least US\$50 billion. In addition to this, a prospective nuclear-energy producing country must have electric grids with a minimum of 10 gigawatts. This is to ensure that a large nuclear reactor can be accommodated.

When the Member States with expressed interest in acquiring a nuclear reactor that do not meet those criteria are taken out of consideration, it leaves only sixteen developing countries as legitimate candidates for acquiring a nuclear reactor for the purposes of producing electricity.⁹ In order for sustainable nuclear energy to be introduced into more developing countries, such countries must experience serious economic growth, in addition to making upgrades to their power grid.

Because developing countries are not constrained by the Kyoto Protocol, greenhouse gas emission reduction is not a significant priority for those Member States. For this reason, the transition to sustainable nuclear energy use is not the economical option for the developing world. In addition to this, there is a lack of governmental funds available in developing countries to properly subsidize the growth of a sustainable nuclear energy directive. With issues such as reduction of poverty, health, and public education, nuclear energy use planning and implementation is pushed to the backburner.

With this approach toward the enhancement of peaceful nuclear energy use in the developing world, a few considerations must be made. While the goal in mind when approaching this issue is to create a plausible plan for the future with a more sustainable means of reaching that goal, it is also important to consider the implications of nuclear power. With the continual growth in research and spreading of nuclear energy use, Member States must urgently establish peaceful protocol in an effort to prevent further proliferation of nuclear weapons, and an increase in newly formed nuclear-weapons states (NWS). Protective protocol would also be needed in order to safeguard these developing countries from surrounding terrorist organizations gaining access to the fissile materials and welding them maliciously.

UN Actions to Date

There have been numerous UN actions related to the subject of sustainable nuclear power production, the majority of which have had a profound impact on the prospects of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy in developing countries:

- The Kyoto Protocol (1997) is an agreement which seeks to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The agreement stipulates that signees are to reduce emissions of specific kinds of greenhouse gases. Due to the fact that power production via nuclear energy does not result in any kinds of greenhouse gas emissions, the Kyoto Protocol has the potential to encourage Member States to increase the peaceful use of nuclear energy for electricity production. With that being said, developing countries are exempt from the greenhouse gas emissions standards set forth by the Kyoto Protocol, limiting the agreement's impacts on the expansion of peaceful use of nuclear energy in developing countries.¹⁰
- The UN General Assembly (GA) has adopted resolution *A/RES/70/1* (2015), a far-reaching and ambitious resolution which sets seventeen goals related to global sustainable development which should be reached by 2030. Of these seventeen goals, the seventh goal (SDG-7), has the most potential to impact the expansion of peaceful nuclear power generation in developing countries. SDG-7 specifically calls for the expansion of infrastructure and upgrading of technology that could be used to supply modern and sustainable energy to all developing countries by the year 2030. This has broad implications for the peaceful use of nuclear energy in developing countries, as nuclear power production is both a modern and sustainable form of power generation that could be used to provide energy for developing Member States for decades to come.¹¹
- GA resolution *A/RES/72/5* (2017), is a broad resolution which, among other things, reaffirms the importance of the IAEA and the work that it does, including the IAEA's efforts to expand and promote the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. This resolution¹² has the potential to encourage the expansion of power generation via peaceful nuclear energy in developing countries, as it encourages the IAEA's work in the expansion of peaceful nuclear energy everywhere, including developing countries.¹³
- The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), an intergovernmental body of the UN, issued a special report in 2018 on the impacts of an increase of average global temperatures by one-and-a-half degrees Celsius, as opposed to two degrees Celsius, and possible solutions which would prevent such an increase of two degrees Celsius. The

report called for an expansion of nuclear power generation, saying that there is no scenario in which the rise of average global temperatures is limited to just one-and-a-half degrees Celsius without a significant expansion of nuclear power generation. This report encourages the increased use of peaceful nuclear energy generation in areas where such energy generation is currently lacking, including developing countries.¹⁴

- The International Conference on Climate Change and the Role of Nuclear Power was held in Vienna, Austria from October 7 to 11, 2019. Organized by the IAEA, the conference discussed several topics which all related to how the expansion of the peaceful usage of nuclear energy could help lower greenhouse gas emissions and combat climate change. Attendees at the conference included representatives from Member States, energy sectors which have very low carbon emissions, international organizations, as well as other relevant partners. The conference reaffirmed not only the IAEA's, but also the entire UN's, commitment to the expansion of peaceful nuclear power production worldwide, including in developing countries, in order to decrease greenhouse gas emissions and combat climate change.¹⁵

Committee Directives

Delegates serving on this committee are encouraged to coalesce and exchange ideas as to how the peaceful usage of nuclear energy can be expanded in developing countries. How can developing Member States be encouraged to expand energy generation via nuclear power in their countries? How can developing Member States which would like to expand their nuclear energy production, but are currently unable to due to economic unviability be made economically ready to expand nuclear energy production in their states? How can developing countries that wish to expand their nuclear power production, but currently cannot due to lack of infrastructure be built up in a quick, sustainable, and economically realistic way so that nuclear energy generation can begin in those countries? What steps can be taken to help developing countries expand their power grids so that nuclear energy production can be viable in those states? How can nuclear technology being used in developing Member States be safe guarded so that it does not fall into the hands of entities which wish to use the technology for nefarious purposes? What can be done to increase public approval of nuclear power production and combat the negative stigma that nuclear technologies have around the world, and in developing countries in particular?

II. Nuclear Waste Management

*“I strongly encourage countries with existing nuclear power programmes, and experience of the back end of the fuel cycle, to share their experience with newcomer countries to ensure that best practice is implemented everywhere...” IAEA Former Director-General Yukiya Amano*¹⁶

Background Information

Radioactive waste, also known as nuclear waste, is a byproduct from fuel processing plants, it is most commonly associated with nuclear reactors, processes of fission, and deactivation of

nuclear reactor. Radioactive waste has two common classifications: high level waste and low-level waste. High level waste (HLW) is produced from the burning of uranium fuel in a nuclear reactor. It contains the fission products and transuranic elements generated in the reactor core. HLW is extremely radioactive and hot and requires shielding and cooling. The amount of time it takes for the radioactivity of particular radionuclides to decrease to levels that are considered non-hazardous for people and the environment is different depending on the short and long-lived components. Low-level waste (LLW) is generally a product of hospitals and industry, but can also come from nuclear fuel cycles. It is comprised of paper, rags, tools, clothing, filters, etc. which contain small amount of short-lived radioactivity.¹⁷

Nuclear waste is accumulated in poorly maintained piles across the world, nearly 90,000 metric tons of nuclear waste are in need of proper disposal. Nuclear energy harnesses the intense heat released from nuclear fission where unstable atoms are split into smaller elements. The byproducts of nuclear energy are extremely damaging to living things because of the small particles being released from nuclear decay. These particles tear through tissue and damage genetic material that can lead to cancer and birth defects. Most of the radioactivity associated with nuclear power remains contained in the fuel in which it was produced. Countries like France reprocess and recycle nuclear fuel, extracting elements still capable of generating energy for use in new fuel and encasing the radioactive byproducts in solid glass logs for permanent disposal.¹⁸

The United Nations and the nuclear age were established around the same time. The horror of the nuclear blasts at Hiroshima and Nagasaki in World War II, brought home the need to address the nuclear issue. The General Assembly established its first resolution called the UN Atomic Energy Commission to deal with the problems raised by the discovery of atomic energy. And a landmark address by the United States President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953, "Atoms for Peace", led to the establishment in 1957 of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). The IAEA assists its Member States in managing spent fuel and radioactive waste in a safe and responsible means by developing international efforts in developing and implementing radioactive waste management policies and strategies. It develops safety standards for the predisposal management of radioactive waste and spent fuel and encourages Member States in applying them.

The Agency coordinates the Waste Safety Standards Committee, which is one of five IAEA Safety Standards Committees. It has the goal to provide feedback and recommendations to the Agency on its waste safety programmes. Unfortunately, in many Member States waste management is not organized in a systematic way. When the IAEA deals with issues in waste management, they urge states to have a national policy and a technical strategy. These two components are essential and should be closely coordinated. Nuclear waste disposed improperly is substantially devastating to the environment, ruining air, water, and soil quality. Delegates should remember that this situation affects everyone and work diligently to implement the proper policies and strategies.¹⁹

Current Situation

More than fifty years ago the nuclear bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki started the nuclear arms race. Today we are witnessing a nuclear arms race in reserve and nuclear weapons

are increasingly relevant. The International Atomic Energy Agency in the past six decades, has contributed to international peace and security and made a real difference to the lives of millions of people. Currently, the United Nations is focusing on the safety aspects of issues such as extending the operating life of nuclear power plants, decommissioning, the disposal of high-level radioactive waste, innovative technologies such as fast reactors and small and medium sized reactors, and the safety of radiation sources used in non-power applications. There is a clear understanding that each country is ethically and legally responsible for its own wastes, therefore the default position is that all nuclear wastes will be disposed of in each of the 50 or so countries concerned. However, it is important to keep in mind that nuclear facilities and power programmes need effective management based on robust decision-making processes, involving all stakeholders and executed by skilled and well-trained professionals. There has been a proposal to consider a multinational approach to the management and disposal of spent fuel and radioactive waste. Over 50 countries currently have spent fuel stored in temporary locations, awaiting reprocessing or disposal. Not all countries have the appropriate geological conditions for such disposal and for many countries with small nuclear programs, the financial and human resources required for the construction and operation of a geological disposal facility are daunting.²⁰

UN Actions to Date

Together, the United Nations and IAEA work collaboratively to provide a strong, sustainable and visible global nuclear safety and security framework for the protection of people, society and the environment.

After the 1986 Chernobyl nuclear accident, international cooperation in nuclear safety was significantly intensified: four international safety conventions, two Codes of Conduct, fundamental safety principles and a body of globally recognized IAEA Safety Standards were developed and implemented. In addition, the IAEA organized an International Conference on Issues and Trends in Nuclear Waste Management. The objective of the conference is to foster information exchange on current issues in the area of radioactive waste management and to promote international coherence on strategies and criteria for their resolution. The conference was organized in cooperation with the European Commission and the OECD Nuclear Energy Agency, and held in Vienna from 9 to 13 December 2002.

Within the IAEA, the conference was organized jointly by the Department of Nuclear Safety and the Department of Nuclear Energy. The conference was structured to promote discussion of certain current issues in the subject area and, where possible, to reach conclusions and recommendations on how to proceed to the resolution of the issues, especially in an international context.²¹

Committee Directive

As one can see, Nuclear Waste Management policies that were established by the United Nations are of the utmost importance. When adhered to, it allows nations around the world to prosper and live in a safer environment. As delegates of this committee you should educate yourself on the exact nature goals that are outlined by the IAEA and how Member States will achieve them.

What programs or policies could be established other than those mentioned to improve the crisis of Nuclear Waste? In what ways could the policies provided be enacted and enforced? What is the most beneficial and cost-effective way of ensuring that Nuclear Waste is disposed properly and safely?

III. Strengthening the Treaty of the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

“Some doubt that the problem of WMD terrorism can ever be solved. But if there is real, verified progress in disarmament, the ability to eliminate this threat will grow exponentially. It will be much easier to encourage governments to tighten relevant controls if a basic, global taboo exists on the very possession of certain types of weapons.” The Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon²²

Background Information

At the closure of World War II, the world was stunned by the sheer destruction that was inflicted upon Japan via the use of nuclear weapons. The fears of many countries of nuclear annihilation were made even worse as the technology used to create nuclear weapons spread to countries other than the United States, greatly increasing the likelihood of a nuclear conflict due to the rapid increase in the number of nuclear weapons in the world. Recognizing the need to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons so that a nuclear war would not be made any more likely, many steps were taken to slow down and eventually stop the erratic spread of nuclear technologies and weapons.

In 1957, the first step was taken to restrict the use and the accessibility of nuclear weapons with the creation of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). One of the most influential steps taken was General Assembly Resolution *A/RES/16/1665* (1961)²³ that called for negotiations to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons to additional states. The resolution specifically calls for countries that had nuclear weapons technology to refrain from transmitting information for the manufacturing of nuclear weapons to countries that did not possess said technology. The ideas set forth in this resolution were paramount to the creation of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT).

Following *A/RES/16/1665* (1961) was General Assembly Resolution *A/RES/19/2373* (1968)²⁴ which was the initial text draft of the NPT. The resolution passed 95 to 4 with 21 abstentions. The next influential step in the effort to limit the spread of nuclear weapons was in July 1968 when the NPT opened for signatures and was signed by the Soviet Union, the United Kingdom, and the United States. Article IX of the treaty established that the treaty's entry into force would require the treaty's ratification by those three Member States, as well as 40 additional states. However, China and France, the other two recognized nuclear-weapon states under the treaty, did not sign it initially. China argued the treaty was discriminatory and refused to sign or adhere to it. France, on the other hand, indicated that it would not sign the treaty but “would behave in the future in this field exactly as the States adhering to the Treaty.” Both states eventually acceded to the treaty in 1992.²⁵

In addition to ensuring access to nuclear technology used for safe and peaceful purposes, the NPT attempts to prevent Member States that did not already have nuclear weapons at the time the treaty came into force from acquiring them by preventing those states that did have them from communicating the technology used to create them to any other countries. The NPT also impresses upon the states possessing nuclear weapons to commitment to disarmament by reducing the number of nuclear weapons they possess. Those states having already possessed nuclear weapons at the time of the NPT's ratification were the United States, the United Kingdom, the Soviet Union, France, and China. Together, these five states make up the nuclear weapons states. All other Member States are considered to be non-nuclear weapons states, even if those states do in fact possess nuclear weapons.²⁶

The NPT entered into force in March 1970 with 46 state-parties adhering to it. In May 1975 that number had grown to 91 state-parties, and that number has since further grown to 190. In accordance to the treaty, the state-parties adhering to it met after 25 years to reassess the treaty, and as a result on May 11, 1995, the state-parties adhering to the NPT met and voted to officially extend the treaty indefinitely.²⁷ The NPT is still in force today, with 190 of the 195 United Nations Member States and Observer States being state-parties to the treaty. The five Member States which are not state-parties to the treaty are India, Pakistan, Israel, and South Sudan (which have never been state-parties to the treaty), and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, which withdrew from the NPT in 2003.

Current Situation

While the NPT has been largely successful, problems and gaps remain in the implementation of the treaty. States such as China, North Korea, and Iran are continuing to challenge the status quo, which would cause other states to respond to the increased insecurity that the actions of these nations caused.²⁸ North Korea's pursuit of nuclear weapons in particular may cause nations such as Japan and South Korea to reevaluate their security needs. The disintegrating global order is a major problem for the NPT. Both nuclear-armed countries and non-nuclear powers feel greater insecurity in an increasingly chaotic and fraying world. In regions such as the Middle East, where the situation is especially tense, the concern is particularly acute. This situation has caused faith in the NPT to diminish across the world as China, the United States, and Russia have been unwilling to cooperate on mutual disarmament, which is a major contributing factor to global insecurity.²⁹ The end of the INF Treaty and New START has put two nuclear-armed states in even greater conflict with each other and severely threatens the global nonproliferation regime.³⁰

The willingness of states to forgo the development of nuclear weapons is based in large part on security assurances made by the United States. However, the perception that the United States may reduce its foreign military presence or reduce its security commitments may encourage other states to rethink their commitment to nuclear non-proliferation or the non-development of their own nuclear weapons programs. The deterioration of relations between nuclear powers, particularly the United States, Russia, and China, has made further negotiations on nuclear disarmament difficult.

Recently, India has been rejected from membership from the NSG, a non-proliferation control regime dedicated to regulating the exports of nuclear technology for peaceful purposes. There are

currently four countries that have yet to ratify the treaty: Pakistan, India, South Sudan, and Israel. At least three of these countries have opted out of the treaty due to their security situations.³¹

Many NNWS are concerned that there is a lack of progress being made by NWS in the area of arms reduction and the eventual relinquishment of nuclear weapons, and want to see more concrete efforts made to reduce and eventually eliminate nuclear weapons. The lack of universality presents a problem for the elimination of nuclear weapons as nuclear armed states such as the United States and Russia have been lackadaisical in their efforts to reduce their nuclear stockpiles.³² So far there remains no universal regime for the total elimination of nuclear weapons such that exists with chemical weapons.

Another area of concern, particularly for NNWS, is the noncompliance by some Member States with the provision set forth by the treaty. The current regime of inspections and monitoring by the IAEA has not proved to be sufficient to ensure compliance with treaty provisions. Treaty contraventions by Iran and North Korea are of particular concerns for Non-Nuclear Weapons States.

Currently, the UN is holding preparatory committees for the 2020 NPT review conference to be held at the United Nations headquarters in New York City. The review conference is held once every ten years to review the implementation of the treaty, identify problems, and enact solutions that further the goals of nonproliferation, peaceful use of nuclear technology, and the reduction and eventual elimination of nuclear weapons.

UN Actions to Date

The Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) is the most successful and significant arms limitation and disarmament agreement that has made a lasting impact on the world. The NPT opened for signature at London, Moscow and Washington on July 1, 1968 and entered into force on March 5, 1970. A total of 191 States have joined the Treaty, including five nuclear-weapon States. This made the NPT the most ratified arms limitation and disarmament agreement in history.

There are many UN actions that have affected the strength and effectiveness of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation treaty including the following actions since the establishment of the NPT:

- On 11 May 1995, in accordance with article X, paragraph 2, the Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons decided that the Treaty should continue in force indefinitely. But there was a provision put in place that the operation of the Treaty would be reviewed every five years.³³
- General Assembly Resolution A/RES/56/24 (2001) called for the preservation of and compliance with the Treaty on the Limitation of Anti-Ballistic Missile systems.³⁴
- General Assembly Resolution A/RES/61/70 (2006) established the preparatory committee schedule for the upcoming review conference.³⁵
- The 2010 Review conference produced a document which included conclusions and recommendations for follow-on actions, including the implementation of the 1995

Resolution on the Middle East, the 2015 outcome constitutes a setback for the strengthened review process instituted to ensure accountability with respect to activities under the three pillars of the Treaty as part of the package in support of the indefinite extension of the Treaty in 1995.

- General Assembly Resolution A/RES/66/33 (2011) established the preparatory work and schedule for the committee for the upcoming review conference.³⁶
- The 2015 Review Conference of the Parties of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons ended without the adoption of a consensus.
- General Assembly Resolution A/RES/70/28 (2016) established the preparatory work and schedule for the committee for the upcoming review conference.³⁷
- Two Preparatory Committee sessions in 2017 and 2018 considered principles, objectives and ways to promote the full implementation of the Treaty, as well as its universality, and to make recommendations to the Review Conference.³⁸
- General Assembly Resolution A/RES/71/258 (2017) discussed taking forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations.³⁹
- In October 2008 the United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon proposed a five-point proposal on nuclear disarmament. The proposal combined incremental measures and more comprehensive proposals to provide a plan that could be agreeable to all Member States.⁴⁰
- The Preparatory Committee for the 2020 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) held its third session from 29 April to 10 May 2019 at United Nations Headquarters in New York. This was the third and final session prior to the 2020 Review Conference. This session was specifically mandated to produce a consensus report containing recommendations to the Review Conference (accounting for the deliberations and results of its previous sessions).⁴¹

Committee Directives

Should the IAEA require more intrusive inspections of state-parties' nuclear facilities in order to ensure compliance? How could the IAEA incentivize the non-party states to ascend to the treaty? How can the IAEA act to interrupt the illicit transfer of nuclear technology from NWS to other parties? How can the IAEA gain access to all nuclear facilities in countries and ensure states are not hiding aspects of their nuclear programs? How can the IAEA work to reduce geopolitical tensions to allay states' insecurity and thus their desire to acquire nuclear weapons? How should the IAEA respond to nations' nuclear programs that are advanced enough to become "dual use" relatively quickly?

Resources

¹Committee History of the International Atomic Energy Agency

<https://www.iaea.org/about/overview/history>

² <https://www.iaea.org/about/statute>

³ <https://www.iaea.org/sites/default/files/gc/gc63-5.pdf>

I. Peaceful Usage of Nuclear Energy in Developing Countries

⁴ <https://news.un.org/en/story/2019/10/1048732>

⁵ <https://www.amacad.org/publication/nuclear-energy-developing-countries>

⁶ <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S1364032111005491>

⁷ <https://www.iaea.org/topics/energy>

⁸ <https://www.amacad.org/publication/nuclear-energy-developing-countries>

⁹ <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S1364032111005491>

¹⁰ https://unfccc.int/kyoto_protocol

¹¹ https://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/70/1&Lang=E

¹² <https://undocs.org/en/A/RES/72/5>

¹³ <https://www.un.org/press/en/2017/ga11972.doc.htm>

¹⁴ <http://world-nuclear-news.org/Articles/UN-report-shows-increased-need-for-nuclear>

¹⁵ <https://www.iaea.org/atoms4climate>

II. Nuclear Waste Management

<https://news.un.org/en/story/2015/06/501692-un-nuclear-chief-encourages-cradle-grave-plans-managing-spent-fuel-and>

¹⁶

¹⁷ (<http://large.stanford.edu/courses/2017/ph241/hock1/>)

¹⁸ <http://sitn.hms.harvard.edu/flash/2018/looking-trash-can-nuclear-waste-management-united-states/>

¹⁹ <https://www.iaea.org>

²⁰ www.ausimmbulletin.com/feature/a-nuclear-waste-repository-for-south-australia

²¹ www.world-nuclear.org/information-library/nuclear-fuel-cycle/nuclear-wastes/international-nuclear-waste-disposal-concepts.aspx

III. Strengthening the Treaty of the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

²² <https://www.un.org/disarmament/wmd/nuclear/sg5point/>

²³ <https://www.securitycouncilreport.org/atf/cf/%7B65BFCF9B-6D27-4E9C-8CD3-CF6E4FF96FF9%7D/Disarm%20ARES1665.pdf>

²⁴ <http://legal.un.org/avl/ha/tnpt/tnpt.html>

²⁵ <https://www.armscontrol.org/print/6938>

²⁶ <http://theconversation.com/what-is-the-nuclear-non-proliferation-treaty-heres-why-its-still-important-119857>

²⁷ <https://www.un.org/disarmament/wmd/nuclear/npt/>

²⁸ <https://www.brookings.edu/research/non-proliferation-challenges-facing-the-trump-administration/>

²⁹ <https://thebulletin.org/2019/10/no-it-is-not-time-to-ditch-the-npt/>

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