

PUBLIC STATEMENT
PLENARY MEETING OF THE NUCLEAR SUPPLIERS GROUP
Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan, 20-21 June 2019

The twenty-ninth Plenary Meeting of the Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG), chaired by Ambassador Kairat Sarybay of Kazakhstan, was held in Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan, on 20 and 21 June 2019.

The NSG brings together 48 Participating Governments¹ with the European Commission and the Chair of the Zangger Committee participating as permanent observers. The Group aims to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons through the implementation, on a national basis, of export controls for nuclear and nuclear-related dual-use equipment, materials, software, and related technology, without hindering international cooperation on the peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

In his welcoming address to the Plenary the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan H.E. Mr. Kassym-Jomart Tokayev noted Kazakhstan's internationally recognized contribution to nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation that was made by the First President of the Republic of Kazakhstan H.E. Mr. Nursultan Nazarbayev. He referred to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) as the cornerstone of the global security architecture and acknowledged the significant role of the NSG in maintaining the international non-proliferation regime, while not hindering at the same time the inalienable right of every NPT Member State to use nuclear energy for peaceful purposes. Kazakhstan has a strict and comprehensive national export control system and unilaterally adheres to other international export control regimes such as the Missile Technology Control Regime, the Australia Group and the Wassenaar Arrangement, of which Kazakhstan hopes to become a member at the earliest opportunity. He assured that Kazakhstan, as Chair of the NSG, will be guided by the principles of impartial mediation, "fair brokering" and strict adherence to the key principle of consensus.

The NSG took stock of developments since the last meeting in Jūrmala in 2018.

In particular, Participating Governments exchanged information on global proliferation challenges and reiterated their firm support for the full, complete and effective implementation of the NPT as the cornerstone of the international non-proliferation regime.

The Group affirmed its interest in conducting a common exercise to reach out to interested States Parties on the margins of the 2020 NPT Review Conference to enhance understanding of the NSG and its Guidelines.

Participating Governments supported the ongoing diplomatic processes and efforts to achieve the complete denuclearization of, and lasting peace on, the Korean Peninsula, and reconfirmed their commitment to full and comprehensive implementation of the United Nations Security Council resolutions 2371(2017), 2375(2017), 2397(2017) and previous relevant UNSC resolutions, which, inter alia, reaffirm that the

¹ Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Republic of Korea, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, the United Kingdom and the United States.

Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) shall immediately abandon all nuclear weapons and existing nuclear programs in a complete, verifiable and irreversible manner. Within the framework of the NSG's mandate, the Participating Governments noted that the supply of all NSG controlled items to the DPRK is prohibited according to the above-mentioned resolutions.

Participating Governments took note of the international community's continued obligations under UNSC Resolution 2231(2015) and took note of all the concerns expressed by the Participating Governments in relation to its implementation, and urged compliance with UNSCR 2231 (2015). Since the last Plenary, the NSG continued to receive briefings from the JCPOA Procurement Working Group Coordinator, regarding the work of the Procurement Channel. Participating Governments expressed interest in receiving further briefings.

The Group noted that discussions were continuing on the requests for participation that had been submitted.

The Group noted the discussions on the issue of "Technical, Legal and Political Aspects of the Participation of non-NPT States in the NSG".

At the Plenary meeting, the NSG also:

- maintained its focus on technical issues important to the implementation of the control lists by exchanging views and agreeing on a number of proposals to clarify and update the NSG control lists, which will be published on the IAEA website as revised INFCIRC/254 Part 1 and Part 2 (as amended); the changes agreed at the 2018 NSG Plenary in Jūrmala and 2017 NSG Plenary in Bern will also be included in the revised INFCIRCs, in accordance with established NSG practice;
- discussed and reaffirmed the significance of updating the NSG Guidelines to keep pace with the evolving global security landscape and a fast-paced nuclear and nuclear-related industry;
- discussed and exchanged information and national best practices on licensing and enforcement as well as national experiences in implementing the NSG Guidelines;

Outreach

- welcomed that numerous non-NSG participants have harmonized their national export control systems with the NSG Guidelines and control lists;
- noted, with appreciation to China, the launch of the version of the NSG website in simplified Chinese during the 2019 NSG Plenary Week;
- took note of the completion and upload of the multilingual NSG explanatory video "What is the NSG" following the approval of the video text at the 2018 NSG Plenary in Jūrmala;
- took note of the report on outreach to non-NSG participants and agreed on the value of these outreach activities;
- continued to exchange views on the national practices of awareness-raising and interaction with industry as well as academic and research institutions, related to NSG controlled items;

- in line with past practice, and in view of the 2020 NPT Review Conference, agreed to update and improve its communication and information documents for the benefit of those participating in the Conference;
- supported the Chair's plans to conduct an outreach event at the 2020 NPT Review Conference;
- took note of the NSG Chair's outreach event with three organizations representing the global civilian nuclear industry on 3 April 2019, which had addressed specific issues, such as technology and industry developments in the context of NSG Guidelines and control lists;
- welcomed the NSG Chair's proposal to conduct an outreach event with industry representatives from the NSG Participating Governments;
- continued to consider all aspects of the implementation of the 2008 Statement on Civil Nuclear Cooperation with India and discussed the NSG relationship with India.

The NSG Participating Governments invited all nuclear supplier states to express their responsible approach to nuclear exports by adhering to the NSG Guidelines. The Plenary also called on all states to fully implement all UNSC resolutions relevant to the work and purposes of the NSG, to exercise utmost vigilance, and to make every effort to ensure that none of their exports of goods and technologies contribute to nuclear weapons programs.

The NSG Plenary thanked Mr. Diego Cándano of Mexico for his valuable service to the Group as Chair of the Consultative Group and appointed Ms. Mirjam Kochendörfer of Germany to serve as the new Chair of the Consultative Group.

Nur-Sultan, 21 June 2019