

International Atomic Energy Agency 2017:
Specialized Agency

The Republic of Paraguay

Position Papers Addressing:

Topic A: Addressing the Threat of Nuclear Terrorism

Topic B: Nuclear Energy as an Alternate Source of Energy

Topic C: Measures to Implement and Enforce the Nuclear Program in Iran



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The Republic of Paraguay

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Topic A: Addressing the Threat of Nuclear Terrorism

The Republic of Paraguay is a committed member of the International Atomic Energy Agency, being a member since 1957 and currently a member to the IAEA Board of Governors (“Conference Highlights”). Paraguay has signed many treaties and resolutions in order to achieve global nuclear security. Such treaties include: the Treaty of Tlateloco, the Arms Trade Treaty, and the Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (“View the 1540 Matrix for Paraguay”). The Treaty of Tlateloco establishes a nuclear weapon free zone. This treaty includes specific areas where no manufacturing, testing, nor acquiring of nuclear weapons are to be exercised. The Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (CPPNM) includes the protection of the transportation of nuclear material and the security of nuclear facilities (Fournier). Paraguay addressed the issue at hand during the Review Conference of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), and the Disarmament and International Security conference of 2015. Both speakers, Federico Alberto Gonzalez Franco and José Antonio Dos Santos, represented Paraguay and both implied that “a world free of nuclear weapons” was the “only way to ensure the survival of the human race” (“As Long as Possession of Nuclear Weapons” and “Speakers in First Committee”).

The Republic of Paraguay strongly agrees with the implementation of the Amendment to the CPPNM because it includes the protection and peaceful use of nuclear technology. Paraguay's main goal is to improve the welfare of the population. In order to do so members of states must agree to respect the agreement and exchange information regarding nuclear security. Paraguay wants to see commitment from other countries. For example, José Antonio Dos Santos stated that about "110 states were included in nuclear-weapon free zones, about two thirds of the United Nations membership, which showed a growing commitment to the objective of denuclearization" (As Long as Possession of Nuclear Weapons").



The Republic of Paraguay

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Topic B: Nuclear Energy as an Alternate Source of Energy

The Republic of Paraguay is ranked fifth in electricity exports, compared to the world. Paraguay's major source of energy comes from hydroelectric plants ("CIA World Factbook; South America - Paraguay"). Although 99.9% of electricity is hydroelectric, Paraguay also participates in peaceful use of nuclear energy. Paraguay is one of many developing countries in which the IAEA helps improve nuclear medicine and provided equipment for further research. The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) has a programme in Paraguay which focuses on human health using radiotherapy treatment and nuclear medicine ("Peaceful Applications of Nuclear Technology"). The Republic of Paraguay participates in IAEA fruit fly project in Latin America, which uses radiation to sterilize male flies reducing the population and increasing crop productivity (Gil). On October 18, 2016 Russia and Paraguay signed a memorandum on the "peaceful uses of nuclear energy." The document is the first bilateral document on the peaceful use of nuclear energy. The document includes the "application of radioisotopes and radiation technology in industry, medicine, and agriculture;" Russia would help Paraguay develop a nuclear power infrastructure; and the protection of nuclear and radiation technologies ("Russia and Paraguay agree to cooperate"). Argentina has recently introduced their plan to build an

uranium-dioxide plant along the border with Paraguay (Paraguay concerned with Argentine plans"). Paraguay's major concern is the risk of a nuclear accident resulting in the pollution of the Paraguay River ("Argentina's Nuclear Plans Worry Paraguay").

The Republic of Paraguay believes that if nuclear energy were to be introduced, the respective country must use the energy for peaceful purposes and take into account neighbouring countries. Paraguay is fully aware of the impending risks nuclear waste and nuclear reactors has on the population. In order to avoid any severe accidents Paraguay would like to impose strict guidelines to where nuclear reactors can be made and security measures towards the nuclear facilities.



The Republic of Paraguay

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Topic C: Measures to Implement and Enforce the Nuclear Program in Iran

The Republic of Paraguay is strongly opposed to the misuse of nuclear technology. By expressing its concern Paraguay has enacted Law No. 5 169. This law includes guidelines for safe and peaceful use of nuclear energy/technology (“Intervención de la República de Paraguay”). In addition to this law, Paraguay ratified the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons 1970. The NPT was made in order to prevent the growing numbers of nuclear weapons and technology (“Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons”).

The Republic of Paraguay understands the appeal for nuclear energy, being a developing country as well. However, the nuclear program in Iran consists of the production and testing nuclear weapons, which is not in Paraguay’s best interest. Paraguay believes that restrictions must be maintained, along with regular inspections. In order to ensure nuclear safety, alliances can be made to obtain support from one country to another. If a bilateral or multilateral relation were to be maintained there should be an agreement to whichever treaty/memorandum is established. This way the application and the mutual respect between the states will be sufficient. Paraguay seeks commitment in the protection of the population as well as the economic prosperity between countries.

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