



Country: The Commonwealth of Australia
Committee: International Atomic Energy Agency
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1, Addressing the Threat of Nuclear Terrorism

Nuclear Terrorism is an ever-growing threat in the world, not only is there the chance of terrorist groups such as the Al-Qaeda and the ISIS obtaining such devastating weapons and launch disastrous attacks; the peace-loving countries in the world should also be worried about nuclear threats made by states such as Iran and North Korea. Of course, by so far, no terrorist nuclear attacks has been conducted anywhere around the world, however, if some terrorist groups can overcome numerous difficulties, it would result in catastrophic consequences.

Australia is significantly impacted by this issue: Australia does have a number of nuclear infrastructures and presently, at least one domestic group is targeting Australia's nuclear plants. Although Australia lacks land border for infiltration through land, it has bustling ports and thriving cities along the coast, in addition to Australia's geographical position, it is likely to be targeted by terrorist groups in relatively weak-governed countries in Southeast Asia, where nuclear security culture has not been reinforced and experiencing rapid growth of nuclear infrastructure.

The government of Australia is working with experts and governments inside Australia and around the world to improve the security level. As a permanent member of the IAEA Board of Governors in Vienna and the highest score on the Nuclear Threat Initiative (NTI) Nuclear Materials Security Index, Australia considers it crucial to fulfil the expectations of international societies and its people - namely, working with the US to reduce nuclear dangers domestically and abroad by encouraging other states to provide security briefings that outline their security risks.

Australia is a country relying on its sea trade routes, it considers it important to raise the security level of the countries that it is trading with. Therefore, cooperating with other states to address mutual vulnerabilities and close loopholes should be—and has been—a national priority.

2, Nuclear Energy as an Alternate Source of Energy

Nuclear energy is a powerful new type of energy which currently contribute to about 15% of international electricity generation, the supporters assert it is safe, clean and sustainable; its opponents worry about its potential dangers to human and the environment. Past incidences in Chernobyl, Three Mile Island and Fukushima has aroused suspicions around the world, that nuclear energy may be unsafe and harmful to the environment.

Australia has 33% of the world Uranium deposits, although historically Australia's abundance of coal and natural-gas reserves has prevented it from adopting nuclear as the a major fuel for power generation, the Liberal Party of Australia has been advocating for the development of nuclear energy and infrastructure in Australia since the 1950s.

Australia has always been practising the international standard for nuclear safety and has the most stringent regulations, under these regulations, Australian nuclear industry has achieved a satisfactory performance. Australia considers that nuclear energy has fewer health and environmental impacts than orthodox methods of electricity generation, according to a study by External costs of Energy (ExternE), nuclear energy cost 90% less than coal. Australia seeks collaboration in further education of nuclear scientists and engineers.

In conclusion, Australia has its interest in expanding its nuclear industries but also support more stringent regulations internationally to prevent further nuclear disasters like those happened at Chernobyl, Three Mile Island and Fukushima.

3, Measures to implement and enforce the nuclear program in Iran

Iran has been researching on nuclear technology and possibly, nuclear weapons since the Shah period in the mid 20th century, experiencing a lot of twists and turns, it still remains a problematic issue to the global community. The negotiations between Iran and western states began at Aug. 2002, but failed to provide a long-term solution. Recent developments including Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), which came into force in July, 2015, has forced Iran to give up some critical elements to the development of its nuclear weapons.

Australia implements all four sets of UNSC sanctions on Iran, including the export of any weapons, nuclear resources, software for integrating industrial processes and travel ban to the Iranian regime. However, monitoring Iran's adherence to the nuclear agreement and amending Australia's sanctions accordingly will be an ongoing process.

The Australian government welcomes progress towards a comprehensive agreement over Iran's nuclear program, following the establishment of a framework agreement between permanent members of the Security Council and Germany (P5+1) and Iran. The JCPOA provides the best opportunity to ensure Iran's nuclear program is and remains exclusively for peaceful purposes.

Australia supports the draft resolution put forward to the Board by the E3/EU+3 as a further step along the path foreseen in the JCPOA. Australia will continue to support strongly the Agency taking such a central role.