



## Report of the Nuclear Safety and Security Group L'Aquila, 8-10 July 2009

1. At the Kananaskis Summit, the G8 Leaders agreed to establish the G8 Nuclear Safety and Security Group (NSSG). The NSSG, that reports to G8 Leaders, provides technically informed strategic policy advice on issues that could impact on safety and security in the peaceful use of nuclear energy. We are committed to continuing to consider nuclear safety and security issues and to promoting cooperation with relevant international organizations in this area.
2. We welcome the strengthening of an internationally acceptable global nuclear safety and security framework and we will continue to further promote its development, while addressing existing and emerging challenges and establishing partnership relations on this issue.

### Chernobyl Commitments

3. We have continued to closely monitor the ongoing projects at Chernobyl, managed on behalf of the donor community by the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), to convert the destroyed reactor unit into a stable and environmentally safe state and to make available facilities necessary for the safe decommissioning of the shut down reactor units.
4. In addition to a liquid radwaste treatment facility which will be operational in 2010, the two major projects still in progress, the completion of the Interim Spent Fuel storage facility (ISF-2), funded by the Nuclear Safety Account (NSA), and the New Safe Confinement (NSC), as part of the Shelter Implementation Plan (SIP), funded by the Chernobyl Shelter Fund (CSF), are expected to move into the construction phase in 2009 and are scheduled to be completed by 2012. There is



concern that both projects could suffer significant delays. The need for additional financial resources, as from mid-2010, for both the NSA and the CSF, will be better defined when the ongoing design work is completed and a final comprehensive assessment of all costs has been carried out.

5. In 2008 the G8 chair, together with Ukraine, led efforts to raise further funds for the ISF-2 which resulted in an additional commitment of the G8 and other donors of more than €70 million. We are grateful to the EBRD shareholders for approving a grant of €135 million for the NSC and ISF-2 projects.
6. Recognizing the need for further contributions for the completion of NSA and CSF programmes, the G8 will continue to lead the process to raise the necessary funds in line with commitments under previous G7/G8 summit declarations and memoranda. To this end, it is of paramount importance that project parties cooperate to achieve transparent cost-effective solutions and reliable schedules and that the Government of Ukraine works closely together with the EBRD to provide the framework within which these complex projects can be delivered in a timely and effective fashion.

### **Improving the safety of NPPs in operation**

7. We continue to encourage Armenia to undertake further upgrades necessary to ensure that Medzamor Nuclear Power Plant (NPP) operates in a safe manner until it can be shut down and decommissioned. We also continue to pay attention to the ongoing modernization activities and safety reviews in operating NPPs in Ukraine. We note the progress made and the efforts of international cooperation in both countries.

### **Earthquake and Nuclear Safety**

8. We further promote the exchange of knowledge and expertise on how to address seismic issues for nuclear power plants, taking into consideration recent experience and lessons learned. We welcome efforts of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) currently under way in this



field to review and update seismic safety standards accordingly and support the newly established International Seismic Safety Centre (ISSC).

### **Strengthening of International Nuclear Safety and Security**

9. To provide a basis for the continuous improvement and development of national nuclear safety and security frameworks, we continue to promote international instruments on nuclear safety and security, including the Convention on Nuclear Safety, the Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management, and the amended Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material and Nuclear Facilities. We call upon all States to join and implement, as appropriate, international safety and security Conventions.
10. We encourage broad commitment to and implementation of the IAEA Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources, as well as the IAEA Guidance on the Import and Export of Radioactive Sources. We continue to promote IAEA nuclear safety standards and security guidance. We highlight the importance and effectiveness of the IAEA services.
11. In spite of the improvements achieved in recent years, we note with concern recurrent incidents regarding radioactively contaminated material. We call upon all States to enhance controls in this field.

### **Multilateral Approaches to the Nuclear Fuel Cycle**

12. We will continue to pay close attention to the several proposals put forward so far related to Multilateral Approaches to the Nuclear Fuel Cycle, with a view to considering the relevant safety and security aspects.

### **Global Nuclear Safety and Security Network (GNSSN)**

13. We will continue to follow ongoing activities to develop the Global Nuclear Safety and Security Network (GNSSN), which are based on the



co-operation of international organizations, particularly the IAEA and the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development/Nuclear Energy Agency (OECD-NEA) and the Member States of those organizations. The enhancement by the IAEA of the GNSSN is expected to contribute to maintaining and consolidating competence in nuclear safety and security matters, and to promote the sharing of experience and best practices.

### **International Initiative on 3S-based Nuclear Energy Infrastructure**

14. Great attention continues to be paid to the importance of 3S (nuclear non-proliferation safeguards, safety and security) in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. Under the initiative, activities were started at the NSSG<sup>1</sup>, which include sharing good practices and lessons learned in the implementation of 3S-related activities to support infrastructure development in countries that have expressed their interest in nuclear energy.

### **Nuclear Education and Training/ Institutional Capacity Building**

15. We reaffirm the importance of a government role in ensuring qualified human resources in the field of safety and security. As part of the International Initiative on 3S-based Nuclear Energy Infrastructure, we pay special attention to the issue of education and training, as an essential tool to promote capacity-building at the institutional level in countries embarking on nuclear power, thus contributing to the safe and secure implementation of their nuclear programmes and maintaining high levels of safety and security worldwide.

---

<sup>1</sup> G8 NSSG members that participate in this initiative are carrying out their activities taking into account the document “International Initiative on 3S-Based Nuclear Energy Infrastructure.”