



**James Martin Center for
Nonproliferation Studies**
Monterey Institute of International Studies
An Affiliate of Middlebury College

** FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE **

CNS Experts Comment on Amano Taking Helm at IAEA

Today, Yukiya Amano became the fifth Director-General of the International Atomic Energy Agency. Amano, a career Japanese diplomat and lawyer and an established nonproliferation expert, takes charge as the IAEA faces significant challenges, including stalled investigations into Iran and Syria's nuclear programs, the need to gain universal acceptance of additional inspection rights that would help expose clandestine nuclear facilities, and a budget that is not commensurate with the agency's growing responsibilities.

Experts at the James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies (CNS) provided the following comments on Amano's appointment:

Dr. William Potter, Director of the James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies

CNS has had the privilege to work closely with Ambassador Amano for many years. He was a visiting scholar at CNS, in both the Washington, D.C. and the Monterey offices from fall 2001 to spring 2002. While in residence at CNS, he published an article, "[A Japanese View on Nuclear Disarmament](#)," in the *Nonproliferation Review*, which carefully analyzed Tokyo's nuclear disarmament policy. He also was actively engaged in educational and research activities.

I previously worked closely with Ambassador Amano when he represented Japan as a member of the Group of Governmental Experts for the United Nations Study on Disarmament and Nonproliferation Education (I was an adviser to the group of experts). He contributed significantly to the successful conclusion of the UN Study on Disarmament and Nonproliferation Education that was unanimously adopted at the 2002 UN General Assembly. The study contained 34 practical recommendations to promote disarmament and nonproliferation education.

Although the challenges facing the IAEA are formidable, Ambassador Amano has demonstrated the knowledge and fortitude to address them on an impartial and sustained basis.

Email or call Dr. Potter at wpotter@miis.edu or phone # (831) 647-4154

Leonard Spector, CNS Deputy Director and Director of Washington D.C. Office

Amano needs to confront stonewalling by Syria and gain access to sites and information that will provide a complete picture of Syria's clandestine nuclear program. Amano should start immediately to build a case for conducting a special inspection in that country, using authorities under the IAEA statute that his predecessor declined to exploit.

Email or call Mr. Spector at leonard.spector@miis.edu or 202-842-3100 ext. 302

Dr. Lawrence Scheinman, CNS Distinguished Professor

Ambassador Amano faces formidable challenges the most important of which strengthening the safeguards system upon which the international community relies to ensure that nuclear cooperation intended for peaceful uses is not diverted to military ends. Close behind is the challenge of ensuring adequate budgetary resources to enable the Agency to fulfill its responsibilities not only with respect to safeguards but to security, safety and facilitating access to peaceful uses of atomic energy as well. DG Amano's background and experience in the nuclear energy and nonproliferation field, including as Director-General for Disarmament, Nonproliferation and Science in Japan's foreign ministry, and as Japan's representative to the IAEA gives him a strong foundation from which to proceed.

Email Dr. Scheinman at lscheinman@miis.edu

Dr. Chen Kane, CNS Senior Research Associate

Ambassador Amano will be faced with the challenge of managing a technical agency that covers highly political charged issues. It is a challenge that the departing DG tackled in a less than satisfactory way. Amano will have to find the right balance between sustaining the IAEA's credibility in the area of safeguards and mending the growing rift between the West and the Non Aligned Movement on issues of nuclear energy, proliferation and disarmament.

Email or call Dr. Kane at ckane@miis.edu or 202-842-3100 ext. 303

*Please note that *The Nonproliferation Review* published by CNS conducted an interview with Ambassador Amano after he chaired the 2007 session of the Preparatory Committee (PrepCom) for the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) 2010 Review Conference, see "[Making the Agenda Stick: Lessons Learned from the 2007 NPT PrepCom,](#)"

The James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies of the Monterey Institute of International Studies is the largest nongovernmental organization in the United States devoted exclusively to research and training on nonproliferation issues. For more information please visit CNS' website at www.cns.miis.edu.