

IAEA Board of Governors

Record of the 1193rd Meeting
GOV/OR.1193

Nuclear Verification: (c) Report by the Director General on the application of
safeguards in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea

Board of Governors

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Record of the 1193rd Meeting

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¹ GOV/2007/49.

Attendance

(The list below gives the name of the senior member of each delegation who attended the meeting, as well as that of any other member whose statement is summarized in this record.)

Mr. PETRIČ		Chairman (Slovenia)
Mr. SAYÚS	_____	Argentina
Mr. SHANNON	}	Australia
Mr. CAMERON		Austria
Ms. GÖSTL		Belarus
Mr. MACKAY		Brazil
Mr. VALLIM GUERREIRO		Canada
Ms. GERVAIS-VIDRICAIRE		Chile
Mr. SKOKNIC	}	China
Mr. LAGOS KOLLER		Colombia
Mr. TANG Guoqiang		Croatia
Ms. QUINTERO CORREA		Cuba
Mr. MATEK		Egypt
Ms. GOICOCHEA ESTENOZ		Finland
Mr. KHALIL		France
Ms. KAUPPI		Germany
Mr. CARON	}	Greece
Mr. GOTTWALD		India
Mr. SANDTNER		Indonesia
Ms. BALANOU		Japan
Mr. SHARMA		Korea, Republic of
Mr. HISWARA	}	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
Mr. AMANO		Morocco
Mr. KIM Sung-Hwan		Nigeria
Mr. PARK Chung-Taek		Norway
Mr. GASHUT	}	Pakistan
Ms. EL ABDAOUI		Russian Federation
Mr. EDOKPA		Slovenia
Mr. AAS	}	South Africa
Mr. SKJØNSBERG		Sweden
Mr. MUNIM AWAIS		Syrian Arab Republic
Mr. BERDENNIKOV		Thailand
Mr. STRITAR		United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Mr. MINTY	}	United States of America
Ms. MOLABA		
Ms. MELIN		
Mr. OTHMAN		
Mr. ARTHAKAIVALVATEE		
Mr. SMITH		
Mr. SCHULTE	_____	

Attendance (continued)

Mr. ELBARADEI	Director General
Mr. BURKART	Deputy Director General, Department of Nuclear Sciences and Applications
Mr. SOKOLOV	Deputy Director General, Department of Nuclear Energy
Mr. ANING	Secretary of the Board

Representatives of the following Member States also attended the meeting:

Albania, Algeria, Armenia, Belgium, Burkina Faso, Dominican Republic, Holy See, Hungary, Islamic Republic of Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Latvia, Malaysia, Mexico, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Saudi Arabia, Slovakia, Spain, Switzerland, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Yemen, Zimbabwe.

Abbreviations used in this record:

ARASIA	Regional Cooperative Agreement for Arab States in Asia for Research, Development and Training Related to Nuclear Science and Technology
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
Brussels Supplementary Convention	Convention Supplementary to the Paris Convention of 29 July 1960 on Third Party Liability in the Field of Nuclear Energy
DPRK	Democratic People's Republic of Korea
EFTA	European Free Trade Association
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
HEU	high-enriched uranium
INDAG	International Nuclear Desalination Advisory Group
INLEX	International Expert Group on Nuclear Liability
INPRO	International Project on Innovative Nuclear Reactors and Fuel Cycles
Joint Protocol	Joint Protocol Relating to the Application of the Vienna Convention and the Paris Convention
LEU	low-enriched uranium
NAM	Non-Aligned Movement

Abbreviations used in this record (continued):

NEPAD	New Partnership for Africa's Development
NGO	non-governmental organization
NPT	Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons
OECD/NEA	Nuclear Energy Agency of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development
PACT	Programme of Action for Cancer Therapy
Paris Convention	Convention on Third Party Liability in the Field of Nuclear Energy
PATTEC	Pan African Tsetse and Trypanosomosis Eradication Campaign
RASSC	Radiation Safety Standards Committee
RCA	Regional Cooperative Agreement for Research, Development and Training Related to Nuclear Science and Technology (for Asia and the Pacific)
SIT	sterile insect technique
SMART	System-Integrated Modular Advanced Reactor
SMR	small and medium-sized reactor
Transport Regulations	Regulations for the Safe Transport of Radioactive Material
TRANSSC	Transport Safety Standards Committee
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
Vienna Convention	Vienna Convention on Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage (May 1963)
WHO	World Health Organization

* Speakers under Rule 50 of the Provisional Rules of Procedure are indicated by an asterisk.

5. Strengthening the Agency's activities related to nuclear science, technology and applications (continued) (GOV/2007/26 and Corr. 1)

1. Mr. MINTY (South Africa) welcomed the assistance the Agency provided to Member States in developing human resources with expertise in isotope hydrology, and in building competence in laboratories for harmonization of data handling procedures and the development of protocols for quality assurance and control. Recalling the outcome of the 4th World Water Forum and Ministerial Conference, he reiterated South Africa's commitment to meeting the safe drinking water goals of the Millennium Declaration, NEPAD and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development.
2. South Africa also remained committed to PATTEC, which contributed to the achievement of NEPAD's objectives. He thanked the Agency for its assistance with the comprehensive feasibility study on including the SIT in an area-wide integrated pest management programme aimed at creating a zone free of *Glossina brevipalpis* and *Glossina austeni* in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa. His country would be hosting a workshop later in 2007 aimed at eradicating the malaria pandemic in the area.
3. A performance evaluation report published by the FAO in July 2007 had recommended the withdrawal of funding from most of the work on livestock carried out by the Joint FAO/IAEA Division of Nuclear Techniques in Food and Agriculture at the Seibersdorf laboratory, which his country feared could result in the closure of that division. He urged Member States to draw the attention of the FAO Council to the serious implications that the closure would have for developing countries and to explore innovative measures to prevent such a step.
4. He commended the Agency on its success in implementing PACT and welcomed Member States' financial support for that programme. South Africa had contributed its share of the 2005 cash surplus to the IAEA Nobel Cancer and Nutrition Fund. In December 2006, his country had hosted a high-level special event on cancer control in Africa which had produced the Cape Town Declaration on Cancer Control in Africa. The continent's most pressing needs included cancer control planning, awareness raising, funding of adequate treatment and capacity building in the area of human resources and healthcare professionals.
5. South Africa was actively participating in INPRO and had been developing the Pebble Bed Modular Reactor since 1993. The University of Pretoria and the Pebble Bed Modular Reactor company had signed a research and development agreement to develop the technology. Research would focus on materials evaluation, supercomputing power to analyse nuclear fuels, and microbiology studies to minimize nuclear waste.
6. Mr. LAGOS KOLLER (Chile) said that the Agency's programmes in water resources management, agriculture and food, human health, protection of the environment and mining had had a major socio-economic impact in Chile, contributing to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.
7. Welcoming the inclusion of PACT in Major Programme 2, he said that cancer diagnosis and treatment in Chile had greatly benefited from technical cooperation with the Agency. As a result, the country was able to provide experts, and training for doctors in public and private institutions in radiotherapy and various nuclear medicine techniques.

8. With regard to implementation of the SIT, Chile shared other Member States' concern over the difficulties that had arisen with the purchase and international transport of gamma irradiators used in fruit fly control, a technique that had been successfully applied in Chile which had been declared a fruit-fly-free zone since 1995 and had assisted other countries in addressing similar problems. He expressed appreciation for the efforts of the Agency and the FAO to find alternative solutions. As the Chilean irradiator was reaching the end of its useful life, the technique might have to be abandoned if the country was unable to replace it.

9. He commended the Agency's response to Member States' growing interest in nuclear power, including the preparation of documents, the organization of seminars, the use of advanced modelling tools for integrated analysis of energy options and the establishment of the Nuclear Power Support Group.

10. As resources for nuclear research and development were under-utilized in some Latin American countries, Chile supported the Agency's efforts to promote collaborative use of reactors by setting up networks and facilitating contacts between universities and institutions in developed countries and reactor operators in Latin America. A forthcoming mission to Chile would seek to identify synergies and opportunities for alliances, networks and other cooperative arrangements.

11. In the context of the Global Threat Reduction Initiative, Chile was willing to assess the possibility of converting the RECH-2 reactor to low-enriched fuel. The conversion of the RECH-1 reactor had been completed in May 2006. It was anticipated that the conversion of RECH-2 could be completed more speedily, further enhancing national expertise.

12. Chile was a member of INPRO, a project which it felt could be of great benefit in the future to other, similar countries.

13. Mr. PARK Chung-Taek (Republic of Korea) said that increased commitment and more determined action on the part of Member States and the Agency were necessary to achieve the safe drinking water goals of the Millennium Declaration and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development. In that connection, the Agency had enhanced the capacity of Member State laboratories to produce reliable analytical data for addressing national and regional water resource issues, and good progress had been made in the RCA project on investigating environment and water resources in geothermal areas. He encouraged the Secretariat to intensify its efforts related to isotope analysis with a view to developing further Member States' capabilities.

14. The Agency should continue to give priority to timely implementation of PACT. Given the importance of partnerships among Member States, the Agency and other relevant parties, his country welcomed the recent progress in the establishment of PACT Model Demonstration Sites, designed to enhance region-specific cancer therapy capacities, and supported continued efforts by the Secretariat to develop that approach.

15. He noted with satisfaction the steady progress of INPRO and the growing number of participating countries. In Phase 2, 14 collaborative project proposals had been suggested to validate the INPRO methodology. The Republic of Korea had put forward one on acquisition/diversion pathway analysis for the assessment of proliferation resistance and had participated in two others. It hoped that those proposals would be finalized at the twelfth meeting of the INPRO Steering Committee in December 2007, and that other Member States would participate actively in INPRO.

16. Major components of the Republic of Korea's nuclear seawater desalination project, such as the steam generator, the main coolant pump and the control element drive mechanism, were being developed and performance tests were under way. A series of performance and safety tests for SMART reactor systems had been conducted at a high-temperature high-pressure thermal hydraulic

test facility. A one-year feasibility study had been carried out to expedite commercialization of SMART and to improve power generation and water production costs. The study had assessed the technical, safety and economic aspects of a new SMART desalination plant with increased reactor power and optimized reactor and safety systems.

17. The preservation of nuclear knowledge was an issue that would shape the world's future. The Republic of Korea had hosted the third World Nuclear University Summer Institute from 14 July to 24 August 2007 in cooperation with the Agency. His country was particularly grateful for the Secretariat's financial and non-financial support for that event.

18. Mr. SAYÚS (Argentina) said that his country, together with other Latin American and Caribbean countries, was participating in a regional project to assess the quality of the water in various rivers of the region. In the light of its own experience, Argentina recommended that the Secretariat look into the possibility of developing a standard for the assessment and international accreditation of laboratories capable of producing reliable analytical reports on water quality as well as public information for confidence-building purposes. Such accreditation should be based on internationally recognized standards and should aim at creating a network of laboratories.

19. He congratulated the Agency on the progress in the implementation of PACT, which should continue to be given high priority. In that connection, the Agency could count on the full cooperation of the Argentine National Atomic Energy Commission and other Argentine agencies and enterprises. Argentine institutes, such as the School of Nuclear Medicine and the Professor Ángel Roffo Institute of Oncology, remained ready to assist with the training of professionals at all levels and it was hoped that the recently inaugurated Nuclear Diagnosis Centre would be at the Agency's disposal in the near future.

20. Argentina shared the Agency's concern over the under-utilization of research reactors and suggested that, in addition to forging alliances among operators, the roots of the problem should be investigated. The production of radioisotopes had been one of the main reasons for the installation of research reactors and, among the various applications of radioisotopes, medical applications were seen as the most important. Recent times had seen security requirements increasing at the same time as demand for radioisotope production grew. The Agency should assist countries with research reactors to meet their population's need for high-quality radioisotopes, ensuring optimum utilization of such equipment.

21. Argentina would continue to participate in INPRO and commended the Agency on the activities carried out under the project.

22. Mr. VALLIM GUERREIRO (Brazil) said that his country supported cooperation between the Agency and the WHO on a joint programme of cancer prevention, control, treatment and research, and the missions organized within the framework of PACT. Brazil had trained a number of visitors at its reference centres for cancer therapy.

23. A new sterile insect production facility had been inaugurated in Brazil in September 2006 with the support of the Agency and the UNDP. It would initially produce some 100 million sterile medfly males per week, contributing to the expansion of commercial fruit production in the arid north-eastern region of the country. Brazil was willing to participate more actively in the Agency's SIT efforts by sharing the lessons learned in that project.

24. He welcomed the recent publication of useful documents on nuclear power plants and spent fuel management. Brazil had successfully completed the conversion of its reactors from HEU to LEU and had returned the HEU to the United States. It was willing to cooperate with other Member States in that area.

25. As the development of innovative nuclear technology could contribute greatly to meeting growing energy needs, Brazil was an active participant in INPRO and the Generation IV International Forum. It advocated enhanced cooperation and exchange of information between the two initiatives, since they had the same objectives and used the same criteria to assess innovative nuclear energy systems.

26. Reiterating the importance of nuclear energy in the management of water resources, he drew attention to the Guarani Aquifer Project undertaken by Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay with the support of the Agency, the Organization of American States, the Global Environment Facility and the World Bank.

27. Mr. OTHMAN (Syrian Arab Republic) expressed strong support for the Agency's work in the area of isotope hydrology, especially in the context of global warming, climate change and the expansion of arid and desert regions. Stressing the vital link between human development and sustainable water resources management, he welcomed Agency cooperation with other international organizations and looked forward to regular progress reports on the important projects to which they had given rise. As the Arab countries were located in a semi-arid region, they had launched a regional cooperation project with the Agency under ARASIA on the use of isotopes and geochemical techniques in the study of artificial recharge in groundwater.

28. He welcomed the priority that was being given to the PACT programme and related integrated missions to Member States. The Syrian Arab Republic had received such a mission earlier in 2007 which had reviewed the country's cancer detection, diagnosis and treatment facilities. The findings would be used to design a national anti-cancer strategy in cooperation with the Agency. His country was also keen to cooperate in the establishment of PACT Model Demonstration Sites and would make available its national facilities, including hospitals and educational institutions, for that purpose. However, limiting the implementation of basic PACT projects to such sites might diminish their benefit and discourage donors from making financial contributions or contributions in kind, especially the many countries that wished to host training courses as in-kind contributions to PACT. He expressed strong support for the building of partnerships between the Agency and international and regional organizations working to address cancer needs. His country hoped that PACT would obtain the financial support it required and that the Board would be kept informed of developments.

29. As nuclear energy was becoming a more acceptable option for meeting the world's vital need for a sustainable energy supply, he welcomed the Agency's response to the growing demand for assistance with national energy studies, especially its publication of the brochure entitled *Considerations to Launch a Nuclear Power Programme* and its meetings with and advisory missions to Member States. It was regrettable, however, that the report by the Director General on innovative means of financing nuclear power as an option in meeting the energy needs of interested developing countries, requested in General Conference resolution GC(50)/RES/13 B, had not yet been published. He urged the Secretariat to expedite its preparation.

30. The Syrian Arab Republic advocated the convening of a high-level international conference on the global energy situation and prospective developments, focusing on nuclear power. In that context, it reiterated its request to the Agency to make available financial resources to enable developing countries to participate more actively in relevant meetings and conferences.

31. Paragraph 3 of Annex 4 to document GOV/2007/26 referred to a study whose main finding was that regional approaches to energy security measures were substantially less costly than national approaches. The Arab countries were currently studying the possibility of establishing a joint regional nuclear power programme and would appreciate the Agency's assistance in that regard.

32. He expressed support for the Agency's activities aimed at the development of innovative nuclear technology, especially where they related to the fuel cycle, nuclear science and small and medium-sized reactors, and non-electrical applications of nuclear energy, in particular for seawater desalination and district heating. He also thanked the Agency for the ongoing support it gave to education and training, inter alia through its publications and brochures, which were particularly useful to developing countries.

33. Mr. HISWARA (Indonesia) expressed appreciation for the assistance the Agency provided with enhancing the capacity of Member States' laboratories to produce reliable analytical data for addressing national and regional water resource issues. He was pleased to note that the capacities of twelve Member States, including Indonesia, to carry out inter-laboratory comparison exercises and stable isotope measurement of water had been strengthened through project RAS/8/092 on investigating environment and water resources in geothermal areas.

34. Indonesia supported the Agency's activities on the use of global isotope data to gain a better understanding of, and monitor the impact of climate change on the water cycle. It would be hosting the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Bali from 3 to 14 December 2007, including the sessions of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

35. He welcomed the publication of the brochure entitled *Considerations to Launch a Nuclear Power Programme* and of a number of related technical documents. Indonesia was making preparations for its first nuclear power plant. To meet the challenge of public perception of such a move, representatives from the country would be attending a regional workshop on such issues to be held in Vilnius, Lithuania, in December 2007.

36. He commended the Agency's efforts to facilitate nuclear desalination activities in Member States, including his own country, and the work of INDAG.

37. Indonesia appreciated the assistance the Agency was providing to Member States with the conversion of research reactors from HEU to LEU and was developing techniques for small-scale indigenous molybdenum-99 production using LEU fission or neutron activation under a research agreement with the Agency.

38. His country also supported INPRO's work on common user criteria and on the development and deployment of nuclear power plants in developing countries. In July 2007 it had dispatched a cost-free expert to assist the work of the Agency in that area.

39. It was also participating in the Agency's work on the development of small reactors without on-site refuelling through a coordinated research programme, was performing benchmark analysis for Pb-Bi/Pb cooled long-life cores of small reactors and was working on optimization of their inherent and passive safety performance.

40. Mr. CARON (France) said that the report clearly highlighted the importance of the Agency's work in such essential areas as water resources management and nuclear applications for health. France gave the Agency concrete support in the field of technical cooperation, in particular with respect to combating of malaria using the SIT and combating of cancer. A high-level French delegation would attend the PACT briefings during the forthcoming General Conference with a view to continuing discussions on consolidating a privileged partnership with the Agency.

41. France also closely followed ongoing research efforts which were vital to sustainable nuclear development. International cooperation was highly important in that field, particularly in view of the renewed interest in nuclear power to meet growing world energy needs in the context of sustainable

development. In that connection, his country supported the Agency's activities under its statutory mission aimed at assisting Member States in assessing available power options.

42. France supported the Agency's activities aimed at promoting nuclear energy development while taking into account the higher safety, security, non-proliferation and environmental protection requirements which were essential for public acceptance. It had also contributed to a seminar on the introduction of nuclear power held in December 2006. It would continue to participate in the Agency's work to help countries planning to launch a civil nuclear power programme with the development of the necessary human, industrial, legal and regulatory infrastructure.

43. His country also supported the Agency's work on non-power applications of nuclear technology and participated actively in INDAG.

44. Research into the nuclear energy of the future was a challenge the international community had to face up to. Document GOV/2007/26 highlighted the importance of innovative technologies for nuclear power applications, and in particular the INPRO and Generation IV initiatives, in which France participated actively. It was currently chairing the Generation IV International Forum and was a member of the INPRO Steering Committee.

45. In view of the importance of the issue of funding for nuclear power projects around the world, he urged the Agency to step up its work in that regard and to publish the report requested for the 51st session of the General Conference as soon as possible.

46. Mr. MUNIM AWAIS (Pakistan) commended the Agency's efforts to promote the application of nuclear and isotopic techniques in the study of water resources and the aquatic environment. The dissemination of information on the potential of such techniques had generated significant interest in their application for the solution of specific hydrological problems.

47. His country welcomed the inclusion of PACT in Major Programme 2 and appreciated the efforts to develop an Agency-wide strategy for its implementation. It also appreciated the various initiatives to build partnerships with Member States and other international organizations. Pakistan would contribute to PACT by making its own facilities and institutions available for cancer training and education. It also supported the proposal to establish regional centres for multidisciplinary cancer control training to develop sustainable indigenous cancer control capacities and to promote the expansion of cancer control programmes.

48. Pakistan recognized the enormous potential of nuclear energy for sustainable socio-economic development and expected greater expansion of the peaceful uses of nuclear power technology. To meet the ever-increasing demand for electricity, his country was placing great emphasis on nuclear power resources and foresaw enhanced indigenization to reduce capital costs. It participated in INPRO and hoped that the project would receive substantial funding from the Regular Budget, as recommended by the INPRO Steering Committee, now that it had become a subprogramme.

49. Activities related to the design and development of SMRs were important for meeting the power requirements of countries with small electricity grids. A further step in the right direction would be to facilitate technical and regulatory assistance to interested developing Member States planning to introduce or to expand nuclear power as part of their energy mix.

50. Pakistan had participated actively in the Agency's programme on nuclear desalination. The demonstration thermal desalination plant coupled with the Karachi nuclear power plant was undergoing commissioning. He thanked the Agency for providing help with the safety evaluation of the project and looked forward to the publication of the results of the coordinated research project on nuclear desalination projects that would be useful for the economic evaluation of large-scale dual-purpose plants.

51. Mr. ARTHAKAIVALVATEE (Thailand) commended the role played by the Agency in the promotion of socio-economic development through the peaceful application of nuclear technology, particularly in such areas as isotope hydrology, PACT and nuclear power applications. Such activities had helped to address poverty in many developing countries, thus contributing to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.

52. Thailand attached high priority to the development and management of its water resources and had appreciated the International Symposium on Advances in Isotope Hydrology and its Role in Sustainable Water Resources Management held in Vienna in May 2007. It also hoped that the Agency would continue to support more technical cooperation projects on isotope techniques and water resources management. It welcomed the support provided by the Agency's water resources programme to the Global Environment Facility's Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel on the topic of managing aquifer recharge, and the initiation of several projects funded by the Global Environment Facility related to the adaptation of water resources management practices to the potential impacts of climate change.

53. With regard to human health, his country welcomed the progress made by the Agency in the implementation of PACT. It was pleased to note the recognition the programme was gaining from other organizations, particularly the WHO, and the collaboration between the PACT Programme Office and WHO Regional Offices, including the establishment of PACT Model Demonstration Sites and regional cancer training networks in each region. It was also encouraged by the fact that the IAEA Nobel Cancer and Nutrition Fund special events held in Bangkok and in Africa and Latin America had generated more public awareness about the global cancer burden in low- and middle-income countries.

54. Turning to nuclear power applications, he noted with interest the substantial increase in requests for assistance with national energy studies exploring nuclear energy as an option. Thailand was one of those countries and, in April that year, the National Energy Policy Council had appointed the Nuclear Power Infrastructure Preparation Committee to develop and recommend plans, measures and guidelines in preparation for a nuclear power plant in the country. Following the Director General's visit in July, the Thai Government had sent a team of Preparation Committee members to Vienna to discuss the relevant details of the planning stage with the Agency. He hoped that that ongoing interaction would yield fruitful results.

55. Mr. BURKART (Deputy Director General for Nuclear Sciences and Applications) thanked Member States for their support and constructive comments on the programmes on the use of isotope hydrology, support to PATTEC for the control and eradication of tsetse flies, and PACT. All comments would be taken into account in future work.

56. He had noted the acknowledgement by many delegations of the links and partnerships that the Agency had formed in all aspects of its work with United Nations organizations and other international, regional and national organizations. As Member States had recognized, the Secretariat also regarded such partnerships as essential for the effective promotion of nuclear technology, for increasing its socio-economic value, and for the acceptance of nuclear and isotopic techniques as key tools in mainstream applications.

57. He had also noted the encouragement and continuing support for the achievements and work of PACT. The main groundwork had been done. Awareness of the impending cancer crisis was growing and now the ambitious plans outlined by PACT needed to be implemented. Novel sources of funding and new approaches to obtaining such funding were required, but he felt confident of success with the strong support of the Board and Member States. He welcomed the offers made by Board members for future cooperation.

58. With regard to the use of the SIT for tsetse control and other activities of the Joint FAO/IAEA Division of Nuclear Techniques in Food and Agriculture, the Secretariat would follow up on the report of the independent external evaluation of the FAO. The work of the Joint Division was probably the most substantive, successful and long-standing collaboration within the United Nations system. Support for it was strong inside the FAO and the executive head of that organization would be participating in the Scientific Forum to be held during the forthcoming General Conference .

59. In addition to more information on isotope hydrology, PACT or the SIT, the Secretariat was willing to provide information to delegations on any other activities as requested.

60. Mr. SOKOLOV (Deputy Director General for Nuclear Energy) expressed appreciation for the comments made on nuclear power, the nuclear fuel cycle and nuclear science, which had generally been supportive of continued and expanded Agency efforts, confirming that they were focused on areas of importance and priority for Member States. All comments would be carefully considered.

61. High priority would continue to be given to the pursuit and expansion of nuclear knowledge management activities, building on the successful conference in June, taking advantage of existing regional knowledge networks, developing those networks further and holding additional targeted conferences and technical meetings.

62. He thanked States for the support they gave to INPRO and other activities on innovation and advanced reactors through the provision of cost-free experts, contributions to collaborative projects and direct funding. Innovation was important in the work on nuclear power and would continue to be accorded high priority.

63. With regard to the important and complex issue of innovative sources of funding for nuclear power in developing countries, meetings had been held in February and July 2007 with a view to preparing the report requested in General Conference resolution GC(50)/RES/13 B. Two further meetings with additional external experts would be held in November and December 2007. The full report would be produced as soon as possible.

64. Several speakers had expressed support for the Agency's initiatives to stimulate alliances among research reactor operators to improve utilization. He encouraged full participation in the international conference on research reactors to be held in Sydney, Australia, in November 2007.

65. He expressed appreciation for the emphasis placed by many speakers on the Agency's efforts to produce guidance and documents on the introduction of nuclear power programmes. He noted that interest in that area had increased rather steeply and the Agency had worked hard to adjust its activities in response. Scope remained for further improvement and expansion, especially as the interest was likely to continue and increase. The Agency would therefore work hard to maximize its contribution, subject to available resources, with a view to benefiting all interested Member States as much as possible.

66. The CHAIRMAN, summing up, said that several members had commended the Agency for its efforts in implementing nuclear applications in different domains contributing to achieving sustainable development and meeting needs, especially in developing countries. They had encouraged the Secretariat to intensify its efforts in those areas which were directly linked to immediate human needs. Some suggestions had been made for improvements to the report and they would be duly considered.

67. Several members had underlined the importance of further strengthening those activities with greater participation of Member States, and the importance of an increased level of technology transfer to developing countries and greater interaction among scientists of all Member States.

68. Several members had noted the substantial increase in the requests made by Member States for assistance with national energy studies exploring nuclear power as an option for their energy mix and they had encouraged the Agency's activities in that regard, including the range of technical publications that were being developed to help interested States in their understanding of the necessary infrastructure.
69. Some members had indicated that they looked forward to receiving the Secretariat's report on the issue of innovative funding for nuclear energy. Some members had emphasized the importance for the development of nuclear power of ongoing initiatives and work involving the Agency in the area of reliable fuel services.
70. Several members had noted with appreciation the Agency's involvement, coordination and cooperation with Member States in research and development activities connected with innovative small- and medium-sized reactors.
71. Several members had welcomed the increasing membership and developments in INPRO. Support had been expressed for continued cooperation between INPRO and the Generation IV International Forum.
72. Appreciation had been expressed for the efforts of the FAO/IAEA Division of Nuclear Techniques in Food and Agriculture in Vienna, which was currently responsible for over 140 national and regional technical cooperation projects with an annual expenditure of €20 million that played a critical role in addressing the socio-economic conditions prevalent in developing countries.
73. Several members had noted with appreciation that the Agency had conducted several training programmes in water resources management with a view to capacity building in Member States. They had also welcomed the different projects carried out by the Agency to enhance the use of isotope hydrology for water resources management and the dissemination of information to Member States in that regard. The Agency had been requested to continue to build and develop human resources and provide technical assistance to Member States in the field of isotope hydrology.
74. The Agency's support for the PATTEC Plan of Action had been commended and the Agency had been encouraged to continue its efforts to build technical, strategic and financial partnerships in support of PATTEC. Appreciation had been expressed for the progress made so far in the expansion of the SIT initiative to malaria, and the Agency had been requested to explore the feasibility of further expansion to address other areas of concern.
75. Several members had encouraged increased participation by national and regional resource centres in the nuclear applications activities of the Agency and stronger programmes for training and education, and had supported strengthening the coordinated research project mechanism and greater synergy between it and the technical cooperation programme.
76. The Agency had been encouraged to continue to play a proactive role in the global fora relevant to nuclear technology and to raise the public profile of the Agency's activities and promote dissemination of information on the role of nuclear technology. It had been emphasized that the Agency should work diligently to build and develop partnerships with other United Nations and international and bilateral organizations in order to increase the effectiveness of the role of nuclear techniques in sustainable development.
77. With regard to PACT, several members had welcomed the fact that the Agency and other international organizations, NGOs and partners were pooling their efforts on cancer prevention and control. They had also welcomed the Secretariat's efforts to develop an Agency-wide strategy for the implementation of PACT. Several members had expressed support for the PACT Programme Office and its efforts to ensure an effective and efficient implementation of PACT.

78. Appreciation had been expressed for the financial and other contributions and pledges made by Member States and others to PACT. The Board had called on Member States to contribute to PACT to enable the PACT Programme Office to implement its strategy and objectives. Member States had been called upon to provide the Secretariat with the required flexibility in the use of their voluntary contributions. In that connection, the inclusion of PACT as part of the human health programme under Major Programme 2, and the provision in the Regular Budget to cover a portion of the required funding for management and essential support, had been welcomed.

79. With those comments, he assumed that the Board wished to take note of Annexes 1–6 of the report contained in document GOV/2007/26 and authorize the Director General to submit it to the General Conference at its fifty-first regular session.

80. It was so decided.

6. Civil liability for nuclear damage — exclusion of small quantities of nuclear material from the application of the Vienna Conventions on nuclear liability (GOV/2007/39 (Corrected))

81. Mr. SKJØNSBERG (Norway) commended INLEX on its work in the field of civil liability for nuclear damage. He welcomed the group's decision to adjust the minimum amount of liability under the Vienna Convention and to make it dependent on the day-to-day price of gold.

82. Norway expected INLEX to continue its efforts to identify gaps in the scope and coverage of the existing liability instruments and to provide a better basis for enhancing the liability regime. It also encouraged the Secretariat and Member States to follow through on the work done by implementing the enhancements to that regime.

83. Mr. SANDTNER (Germany) commended the Director General and Secretariat on the excellent work done, the results of which were contained in the document. The current meeting marked the successful conclusion of two decades of negotiations on nuclear liability law. The Joint Protocol of 1988 and the modernization of the Vienna and Paris Conventions and the Brussels Supplementary Convention in 1997 and 2004, and the 1997 Convention on Supplementary Compensation for Nuclear Damage provided a significantly enhanced basis for a global nuclear liability regime. That regime would now be completed by the establishment of the lower limits triggering its application. The provisions of those Conventions authorized the Board and the Steering Committee of the OECD/NEA to exclude small quantities from the application of the Conventions, which helped to ensure that the severe liability principles of the Conventions only applied where appropriate, and that the use of low-risk nuclear material was not burdened by unwarranted costs.

84. The draft resolution set forth in the Appendix to the document contained the necessary amendments and formed part of international nuclear liability law. Progress towards a global nuclear liability regime could only be achieved if identical risk levels and mechanisms were in place for triggering application of the Conventions. Therefore, his country commended the Agency and OECD/NEA for considering identical limits.

85. Ms. QUINTERO CORREA (Colombia) noted that TRANSSC and RASSC had endorsed the maximum limits for exclusion of small quantities of nuclear material from the scope of the Vienna

Conventions on nuclear liability proposed in the draft resolution contained in the Appendix to the document and her country therefore supported the recommended action by the Board.

86. Mr. CAMERON (Australia) said that his country welcomed the recommendations made by INLEX on the exclusion of small quantities of nuclear material from the application of the Vienna Conventions on nuclear liability. As INLEX had noted, the Board had adopted a resolution in September 1964 which had provided that nuclear material consigned by an operator to a recipient for use could be excluded from the application of the 1963 Vienna Convention so long as such material was outside a nuclear installation and provided that the consignment, when leaving a nuclear installation, complied with the technical provision set forth in the annex to the resolution and with other relevant requirements of the then current edition of the Transport Regulations. That resolution had been updated by the Board in September 1978. The maximum limits established by the Board were no longer in line with the current edition of the Agency's Transport Regulations and it was desirable that the 1978 decision be brought up to date, as recommended by INLEX. He noted that the recommended decision involved no change in substance of the preceding decisions of the Board and had been endorsed by the Agency's safety committees. The recommended decision also allowed the same exclusions from the application of the 1997 Vienna Convention and the 1997 Convention on Supplementary Compensation for Nuclear Damage. A similar recommendation would shortly be considered by the Steering Committee of the OECD/NEA with respect to the Paris Convention. Consistency of application of such exclusions across the various conventions was clearly in the interests of all those involved in the transport of radioactive material.

87. In the light of the foregoing, his country was able to support the recommended action.

88. Mr. KIM Sung-Hwan (Republic of Korea) commended INLEX and the Secretariat for their efforts in preparing the draft resolution. Establishing maximum limits for exclusion was very important and the NEA was currently engaged in similar work for the Paris Convention which had been revised in 2004. The Republic of Korea believed that the establishment of the maximum limits for exclusion was timely and appropriate and was thus able to support the recommended action.

89. Ms. MOLABA (South Africa) said that her country appreciated the in-depth considerations undertaken by INLEX. South African experts had considered the new provisions in the context of TRANSSC and RASSC and her country was able to support the recommended action.

90. South Africa would be to hosting a regional workshop on liability for nuclear damage from 31 October to 2 November 2007.

91. Ms. MELIN (Sweden) welcomed the initiative of INLEX to recommend updating the limits for small quantities of nuclear material that might be excluded from the application of the Vienna Conventions on nuclear liability. Such limits had last been established in 1978, since when the Transport Regulations had been substantially revised, resulting in a lack of compatibility between the current edition of the Transport Regulations and the current exclusion limits. She noted that TRANSSC and RASSC had endorsed the proposed exclusion limits and that efforts were in progress to harmonize the exclusion limits under the Paris Convention.

92. Referring to the second operative paragraph of the draft resolution contained in the Appendix to the document, she expressed the hope that the need for future amendments of the exclusion limits would be kept under review with a view to preventing, as far as possible, long lead times between any significant revision of the Transport Regulations and updating of the exclusion limits.

93. The CHAIRMAN said that he took it that the Board wished to take the recommended action set forth in document GOV/2007/39 (Corrected) and adopt the draft resolution contained in the Appendix

thereto on the establishment of maximum limits for the exclusion of small quantities of nuclear material from the application of the Vienna Conventions on nuclear liability.

94. It was so decided.

7. Nuclear Verification

(a) **The conclusion of safeguards agreements and of additional protocols** (GOV/2007/52, 53 and 54)

95. The CHAIRMAN said that the Board had before it a comprehensive safeguards agreement and an additional protocol to be concluded with the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste, contained in documents GOV/2007/52 and 53 respectively, and a comprehensive safeguards agreement to be concluded with the Kingdom of Bahrain, contained in document GOV/2007/54.

96. Ms. GOICOCHEA ESTENOZ (Cuba), speaking on behalf of the Vienna Chapter of NAM, said that NAM took note of the decision of the Government of Timor-Leste to conclude a comprehensive safeguards agreement with the Agency together with an additional protocol. It also took note of the decision of the Kingdom of Bahrain to conclude a comprehensive safeguards agreement with the Agency.

97. Mr. SHANNON (Australia) congratulated the Kingdom of Bahrain on its decision to sign a comprehensive safeguards agreement. It also welcomed the decision of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste to conclude a comprehensive safeguards agreement and an additional protocol. The year 2007 marked the tenth anniversary of the Board's adoption of the Model Additional Protocol and of its signature by Australia, the first State to sign that instrument. Australia noted the reassuring number of States in its neighbourhood that had accepted the additional protocol as the new safeguards standard.

98. Australia had been pleased to host, in cooperation with the Agency, and attend regional meetings promoting safeguards cooperation, strengthened safeguards and enhanced nuclear security and safety measures. It would continue to work with partners in reinforcing nuclear non-proliferation assurances and in underpinning a safe and secure nuclear industry. In order for the Agency to provide assurances about the purely peaceful nature of States' nuclear programmes, it was essential that all States signed and brought into force additional protocols as soon as possible.

99. Ms. MOLABA (South Africa) stressed that the Agency was the only internationally recognized competent authority for verifying compliance with safeguards agreements and States' peaceful application of nuclear capabilities. The support and assistance that Member States had committed themselves to providing to the Agency to enable it to fulfil its safeguards and verification mandate derived not only from their membership of the Agency but also from the legally binding agreements they had concluded. South Africa remained concerned that some States had yet to take the first basic step required under the NPT and bring into force a comprehensive safeguards agreement with the Agency. It called on those States to fulfil their obligations as soon as possible. The additional protocol could play an indispensable role as an additional measure in providing assurances about the exclusively peaceful use of nuclear technology and the non-diversion of both declared and undeclared nuclear material. Countries with access to advanced technologies bore a greater responsibility to provide those assurances and build confidence in the peaceful nature of their programmes.

100. With those comments, South Africa welcomed the conclusion by the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste of a safeguards agreement and an additional protocol, and the conclusion of a safeguards agreement by the Kingdom of Bahrain. It urged all Member States that had not yet done so to conclude agreements with the Agency as soon as possible.

101. Mr. OTHMAN (Syrian Arab Republic) said that his country welcomed the decision of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste to conclude a comprehensive safeguards agreement and an additional protocol and commended the Kingdom of Bahrain's decision to conclude a comprehensive safeguards agreement with the Agency. Bahrain was joining other Arab countries that had already concluded comprehensive safeguards agreements, bearing witness to the importance those countries attached to Agency safeguards and to strengthening of the non-proliferation regime. It was disappointing that Israel continued to refuse to accede to the NPT and conclude a comprehensive safeguards agreement, hampering efforts to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East.

102. The CHAIRMAN said he took it that the Board wished to take the actions recommended in documents GOV/2007/52 and 53 and authorize the Director General to conclude and subsequently implement a safeguards agreement and an additional protocol with the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste.

103. It was so decided.

104. The CHAIRMAN said he further took it that the Board wished to take the action recommended in document GOV/2007/54 and authorize the Director General to conclude and subsequently implement a safeguards agreement with the Kingdom of Bahrain.

105. It was so decided.

(b) Staff of the Department of Safeguards to be used as safeguards inspectors
(GOV/2007/44, Note to Governors dated 3 September 2007)

106. The CHAIRMAN noted that document GOV/2007/44 contained proposals by the Secretariat regarding the staff of the Department of Safeguards to be used as Agency inspectors. The curricula vitae of the staff members in question had been circulated to all Board members by the Secretariat under cover of a letter dated 20 August 2007. An updated summary, by nationality, of the staff of the Department of Safeguards to be used as inspectors, had also been circulated by the Secretariat under cover of a Note to Governors dated 3 September 2007.

107. Mr. KHALIL (Egypt) said that he wished to place on record Egypt's reservations regarding the appointment of an inspector from a country that had not acceded to the NPT to undertake inspection missions in Egypt. He hoped that those reservations would be taken into account when distributing tasks among Agency inspectors.

108. Mr. POURMAND-TEHRANI (Islamic Republic of Iran)* expressed his delegation's deep concern and disappointment over the proposed designation as an Agency inspector of a staff member from Israel. The staff member in question came from a Member State that had never permitted any inspection of its nuclear facilities and had recently announced its possession of nuclear weapons. Iran had not expected the Agency to make such a proposal and hoped that the matter would be reconsidered.

109. The CHAIRMAN said he took it that the Board wished to take the action recommended in document GOV/2007/44 and authorize the Director General to use the professional staff members referred to in paragraph 1 of that document as Agency inspectors.

110. It was so decided.

(c) Report by the Director General on the application of safeguards in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea
(GOV/2007/45)

111. The CHAIRMAN drew attention to the report contained in document GOV/2007/45 on developments since the fiftieth regular session of the General Conference and since July 2007 when the Board had authorized the implementation of the ad hoc arrangement with the DPRK. The report concluded that the Agency had verified the shutdown of the Yongbyon nuclear facility and was continuing to implement the ad hoc monitoring and verification arrangement with the cooperation of the DPRK.

112. Mr. TANG Guoqiang (China) welcomed the report contained in document GOV/2007/45 which provided information on the shutdown and sealing of nuclear facilities in the DPRK under the agreement of 13 February 2007. The Agency was to be commended for the high level of professionalism and the positive and rigorous attitude it had demonstrated in monitoring and verifying the shutdown and sealing by the DPRK of its nuclear facilities.

113. It was the firm position of China and the universal expectation of the international community that the Korean Peninsula nuclear issue should be settled peacefully through dialogue with the aim of achieving the denuclearization of the region and maintaining peace and stability there.

114. The parties to the six-party talks had adopted the Joint Statement of 19 September 2005 and they had agreed on initial actions for the implementation of the Joint Statement on 13 February 2007. On July 20, a general consensus had been reached, marking important progress towards the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula. During the second meeting of the working group on the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula, the DPRK had put forward concrete proposals on full declaration and disablement which had been welcomed by the other parties. Other working groups had held in-depth discussions on related issues, such as economic assistance and energy supply, a peace and security mechanism for North-East Asia, and normalization of bilateral relations between the United States and the DPRK and between Japan and the DPRK. Preparations were well under way for the next session of the six-party talks, and for a ministerial meeting of the six parties.

115. Experience had shown that the six-party talks were an effective way of addressing the Korean Peninsula issue, and an important platform for building understanding and trust and for promoting dialogue and consultation. In order to move the denuclearization process forward, the parties should take advantage of the current momentum, increasing communication and implementing the agreements reached in a comprehensive and balanced manner and in accordance with the principle of 'action for action'.

116. China would continue to work with the parties concerned, the international community and the Agency to advance the six-party talks and achieve the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula.

117. Ms. GOICOCHEA ESTENOZ (Cuba), speaking on behalf of the Vienna Chapter of NAM, recalled the principles and priorities on disarmament and international security adopted at the 14th Summit Conference of Heads of State or Government of NAM held in Cuba on 11–16 September 2006.

118. NAM supported the six-party talks and welcomed the agreements reached at the heads of delegation meeting of the sixth round of the talks held on 18–20 July 2007 in Beijing, in particular the fact that the parties intended earnestly to fulfil the commitments made in the Joint Statement of 19 September 2005 and the agreement of 13 February 2007.

119. She noted with satisfaction that, as indicated in the Director General's report, the Agency had verified the shutdown of the Yongbyon nuclear facility and was continuing to implement the ad hoc

monitoring and verification arrangement with the cooperation of the DPRK, in accordance with the understanding reached in June 2007 between the Agency and the DPRK for implementation of the agreement of 13 February 2007.

120. NAM welcomed the announcement made by the DPRK at the 40th Ministerial Meeting of ASEAN held in Manila in July 2007 that it would earnestly implement its commitment to make a complete declaration of its nuclear programmes and disable all nuclear facilities.

121. NAM earnestly desired the total denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula and would continue to support the six-party talks with the aim of finding a long-term solution to the Korean nuclear issue through diplomacy and dialogue.

122. Finally, she emphasized that the Agency was the sole competent international authority on nuclear verification issues.

123. Mr. DUARTE (Portugal)*, speaking on behalf of the European Union, the candidate countries Croatia, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Turkey, the countries of the Stabilization and Association Process and potential candidates Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro and Serbia, the EFTA countries Iceland and Lichtenstein, members of the European Economic Area, as well as the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine, said that the European Union continued to support the common goal and political will of the six parties to achieve the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula in a peaceful manner and strongly supported the ongoing six-party talks.

124. The European Union welcomed the shutdown of the Yongbyon facilities and the implementation of the monitoring and verification measures by the Agency as important first steps towards the dismantlement of the DPRK's nuclear weapons programme. It emphasized the importance of swift and full implementation of the commitments contained in the Joint Statement.

125. The European Union looked forward to the continued and full implementation of the ad hoc monitoring and verification arrangement between the DPRK and the Agency to shut down, seal and dismantle the Yongbyon nuclear facilities in a rapid, verifiable and irreversible manner. It had agreed to explore possibilities for making a specific contribution to the Agency's monitoring and verification activities in the DPRK.

126. It was essential for the DPRK to comply fully with Security Council resolution 1718 (2006), in particular operative paragraph 6, and to return to the implementation of its comprehensive safeguards agreement under the NPT. The European Union, for its part, would continue actively to support efforts to achieve the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula and welcomed the Agency's constructive role in that regard.

127. Mr. AMANO (Japan) noted with satisfaction that the Agency had promptly started its activities in the DPRK following the Board's decision of 9 July 2007 authorizing the Director General to implement the monitoring and verification arrangement in the DPRK as foreseen in the initial actions agreement reached in the six-party talks. Japan welcomed the fact that the Agency had verified the shutdown of the Yongbyon nuclear facility and was continuing its monitoring and verification activities.

128. The initial actions were but a first step towards the complete implementation of the 2005 Joint Statement. Further work at the six-party talks was required to ensure the disablement of all existing nuclear facilities, the provision of a complete declaration of all nuclear programmes and the abandonment of all nuclear weapons and existing nuclear programmes. Japan would continue to work with the other parties to ensure the full implementation of the Joint Statement as a whole.

129. Furthermore, it was important that the DPRK comply with Security Council resolution 1718 (2006) and act strictly in accordance with its obligations under the NPT and the terms and conditions of its safeguards agreement, providing the Agency with transparency measures, including access to such individuals, documentation, equipment and facilities as was deemed necessary by the Agency.

130. Japan looked forward a significant role for the Agency in verifying the process of nuclear abandonment by the DPRK, including the ongoing monitoring and verification of the Yongbyon nuclear facility. Japan had decided to make US \$500 000 available to the Agency for monitoring and verification activities in the DPRK. It hoped that the other parties concerned, as well as other Member States, would also contribute to the Agency's activities in the DPRK.

131. Ms. GERVAIS-VIDRICAIRE (Canada) said that Canada remained deeply concerned about the DPRK's nuclear activities and, in particular, about the nuclear explosive test conducted in October 2006 which her country and others, including the Security Council, had condemned. Canada was in favour of a peaceful settlement of the DPRK nuclear issue and actively supported the six-party talks process. It welcomed the action taken under the initial actions agreement of 13 February 2007, including the shutdown of the DPRK's nuclear facilities in Yongbyon and the return of Agency staff to the DPRK for monitoring and verification activities. The visit to the DPRK of nuclear experts from China, Russia and the United States to assess disabling measures was a positive step indicating the start of the disablement process.

132. She called on all parties to implement fully the agreement of 13 February 2007 and encouraged the DPRK to take further steps, including the timely provision of a complete declaration of all nuclear programmes and the disablement of all existing nuclear facilities. She also urged the DPRK to meet its commitments under the Joint Statement of 19 September 2005, to abandon its nuclear weapons in a complete and verifiable manner, and to cooperate with the Agency in the full and effective implementation of comprehensive safeguards and in the resolution of any outstanding issues, including through the provision of access to such individuals, documentation, equipment and facilities as was deemed necessary by the Agency. The DPRK should also return to the NPT. Canada would be reviewing the scope and nature of its engagement with the DPRK as that country moved towards meeting its commitments.

133. Finally, she called for the report contained in document GOV/2007/45 to be made public.

134. Mr. SCHULTE (United States of America) commended the Agency on its efforts to implement the ad hoc arrangement, which his country supported. The return of Agency staff to the DPRK on 14 July 2007 had marked an important step in the implementation of the initial actions agreement and towards the verifiable denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula. The Agency had promptly verified the shutdown of the five nuclear facilities at Yongbyon and Techno and monitoring thereof was ongoing. He praised the efforts of the Agency staff conducting that important and, at times, dangerous work and urged the DPRK to continue to provide full cooperation to Agency staff working at Yongbyon.

135. To support further the Agency's monitoring and verification activities in the DPRK, the United States had, in addition to the half a million dollars it had already provided, transferred \$1.8 million from its voluntary contribution to help cover associated expenses. It welcomed contributions from other Member States to support the Agency's ongoing efforts.

136. The return of Agency staff to the DPRK was, however, but one step in the implementation of the February 2007 initial actions agreement and the September 2005 Joint Statement. In the next phase of the agreement, the DPRK was committed to providing a complete declaration of all nuclear programmes and disabling all existing nuclear facilities. At the six-party talks denuclearization

working group meeting held in Shenyang, China, the parties had discussed technical issues related to the disablement of the DPRK's nuclear facilities and the provision of a complete declaration of all the DPRK's nuclear programmes. The United States looked forward to an early agreement among the six parties on disablement and urged the DPRK to move quickly to begin disabling its nuclear facilities and to provide a complete declaration of all its nuclear programmes.

137. Since Security Council resolution 1718 (2006) remained in effect, all Member States should continue to abide by the provisions of that mandatory Chapter VII resolution.

138. The Agency was expected to continue to play an important role in the next phase of the initial actions agreement and the United States looked forward to working closely with it, to the continued implementation of the initial actions agreement, and to the fulfilment by all parties of the commitments made in that agreement and in the Joint Statement.

139. Mr. KIM Sung-Hwan (Republic of Korea) commended the Agency on the successful implementation of the ad hoc monitoring and verification activities under the initial actions agreement of 13 February 2007 for the implementation of the Joint Statement.

140. The Republic of Korea took note of the DPRK's positive moves in keeping with the 13 February agreement, which it hoped would eventually lead to the complete dismantlement of all nuclear weapons and nuclear programmes in that country. The DPRK had cooperated closely with the Agency, inviting teams to monitor and verify the shutdown and sealing of its nuclear facilities. His country hoped that the next phase — a complete declaration of all nuclear programmes and disablement of all existing nuclear facilities — would be implemented as early as possible and that the six parties would take further steps without delay towards the full implementation of the Joint Statement.

141. He commended the Agency on its professionalism and efficiency in conducting verification and monitoring activities in the DPRK and looked forward to its continued cooperation. The Republic of Korea had full confidence that the Board would continue to render its valuable support to the Agency's efforts and the six-party talks process with a view to the peaceful resolution of the DPRK nuclear issue.

142. Mr. OTHMAN (Syrian Arab Republic) welcomed the DPRK's cooperation with the Agency, including the visits by the Director General and by a team to verify the shutdown of the Yongbyon facility. The DPRK had granted the Agency access to its nuclear facilities and was supplying information for monitoring and verification activities. Syria paid tribute to that positive attitude and cooperation and emphasized the importance of respect for the six-party talks in order to maintain a climate of détente on the Korean Peninsula. The positive results achieved after many years of contention and problems would promote the finding of solutions to other, similar issues. The fact that the DPRK had abandoned its nuclear programme was an important step towards achieving the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula.

143. Syria called upon all countries to meet their responsibilities and commitments under international conventions. In particular it called upon Israel to abandon its nuclear programme, as it was the only State in the Middle East that had not signed the NPT, thus preventing the creation of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in that region.

144. Mr. SHANNON (Australia) said that his country had been encouraged by the increased engagement between the Secretariat and the DPRK and by the arrangement reached for monitoring and verification. It welcomed the confirmation in document GOV/2007/45 that the Secretariat had verified the shutdown of the Yongbyon nuclear facilities and the 200 MW nuclear reactor in Taechon. Those developments were particularly welcome since they represented initial, but important, concrete

steps towards the implementation of the 13 February six-party statement and, beyond that, towards the goal of the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula.

145. Australia expected to the DPRK to continue its welcome cooperation and encouraged all participants in the six-party talks to maintain the positive momentum that had been established through the full and prompt implementation of their commitments. It welcomed the constructive discussions held over the preceding month within the six-party talks working groups on implementation of the next phase of the 13 February statement. During that phase, the DPRK was to provide a complete declaration of all its nuclear programmes and disable all its nuclear facilities, and a group comprising United States, Chinese and Russian nuclear specialists was to visit the DPRK from 11 to 15 September to conduct a survey of facilities to be disabled. Australia looked forward to a positive outcome of the six-party talks plenary meeting to be held during the current month which was expected to determine a road map for implementation of the next phase.

146. His country remained committed to supporting efforts to achieve a lasting resolution of the DPRK nuclear issue, including development assistance and other steps forward in the two countries' bilateral relationship, conditional upon the DPRK continuing to implement its commitments and subject to the requirements of United Nations Security Council resolution 1718 (2006) and other relevant resolutions.

147. Mr. BERDENNIKOV (Russian Federation) said that the information contained in document GOV/2007/45 showed that progress was being made towards implementing the agreements reached in the six-party talks. He noted the Secretariat's prompt and effective work in carrying out the agreed verification work, which was an important contribution to the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula. Russia welcomed the willingness of the DPRK authorities to hold constructive discussions with the Agency and respect the commitments made in the February agreement, and hoped that further steps would be taken in that direction. The Agency's confirmation of the shutdown of the Yongbyon and Taechon nuclear facilities within the agreed time period was a positive step. At the meeting of the working group on the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula held in August 2007, Russia had expressed the hope that progress would be made towards resolving the issue through constructive interaction among all parties.

148. Ms. MOLABA (South Africa) noted with appreciation that, after the Board meeting on 9 July 2007, an Agency team had gone to the DPRK to monitor and verify the shutdown of installations at the Yongbyon nuclear facility and that, since 17 July, the Agency had continued to monitor and verify that shutdown status using appropriate measures with the full cooperation of the DPRK. A sustainable solution to the issue, and the denuclearization of the DPRK could only be achieved through continued dialogue and negotiation in good faith. South Africa acknowledged the efforts of the technical working groups and all parties involved in the six-party talks to find an acceptable modus operandi to move forward with the implementation of the Joint Statement of 19 September 2005 and the initial actions agreed upon on 13 February 2007. She called on all parties involved to build on the recent progress made and to avoid any steps that could lead to a further delay in implementation.

149. Mr. MONTEALEGRE (Philippines)*, speaking on behalf of ASEAN, said that the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula had been discussed at the 40th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting and at the 14th ASEAN Regional Forum and the Post Ministerial Conferences held in Manila in August 2007. The Regional Forum had provided an opportunity for the DPRK to hold discussions with other participants, including the heads of delegation of the countries involved in the six-party talks. One of the highlights of the Regional Forum had been the DPRK's announcement that it would meet its commitments to make a complete declaration of all nuclear programmes and to disable all nuclear facilities. The Ministers had welcomed that announcement and had also welcomed the

Agency's report verifying the shutdown of the Yongbyon nuclear facility. The Ministers had reiterated their support for the six-party talks and had welcomed the agreement reached during the sixth round of talks in July 2007 that all parties would earnestly fulfil the commitments made in the Joint Statement of 19 September 2005 and the agreement of 13 February 2007 in line with the 'action for action' principle. The Ministers had also emphasized that the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula was essential for maintaining the peace and stability of the Asia-Pacific region, and had expressed support for a peaceful resolution of the issue through dialogue and negotiation.

150. The CHAIRMAN, summing up the discussion, said that the Board had taken note with appreciation of the Director General's report contained in document GOV/2007/45.

151. The Board had recalled the Joint Statement of the fourth round of the six-party talks, set forth in document GOV/INF/2007/14, in which, inter alia, the DPRK had expressed its commitment to abandoning all nuclear weapons and existing nuclear programmes and returning, at an early date, to the NPT and to Agency safeguards.

152. The Board had also recalled and welcomed the agreement on the initial actions for the implementation of the six-party Joint Statement, contained in document GOV/INF/2007/6, which had been reached at the third session of the fifth round of six-party talks held in Beijing on 13 February 2007, in which the DPRK, inter alia, had agreed to shut down and seal for the purpose of eventual abandonment the Yongbyon nuclear facility, including the reprocessing facility, and invite back Agency personnel to conduct all necessary monitoring and verification as agreed between the Agency and the DPRK. The Board had noted the steps being taken by the States concerned to proceed with the initial actions and looked forward to the full implementation of the Joint Statement.

153. The Board had expressed the view that a successfully negotiated settlement of that longstanding issue, maintaining the essential verification role of the Agency, would be important for international peace and security.

154. The Board had recalled the ad hoc monitoring and verification arrangement agreed the preceding June between the Agency and the DPRK and had welcomed the fact that the Agency had verified the shutdown status of the five installations at the Yongbyon nuclear facility and was continuing to implement the ad hoc monitoring and verification arrangement with the active cooperation of the DPRK.

155. Several members had stated that they were already positively considering making financial contributions to the Agency's monitoring and verification activities in the DPRK. In that regard, the Board had welcomed pledges of \$500 000 from Japan and \$1 800 000 from the United States.

156. The Board had emphasized the importance of continued dialogue to achieving a peaceful and comprehensive resolution of the DPRK nuclear issue and early denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula. Support had been expressed for the common goal and political will of the parties to the six-party talks and the constructive role of the Agency in that regard. The Board had expressed appreciation for the role played by China in that process and as Chairman of the six-party talks.

157. Finally, the Board had requested the Director General to keep the Board informed as appropriate.

158. He asked whether his summing-up was acceptable.

159. The Chairman's summing-up was accepted.

(d) Implementation of the NPT safeguards agreement and relevant provisions of Security Council resolutions 1737 (2006) and 1747 (2007) in the Islamic Republic of Iran
(GOV/2007/48 and Corr.1)

160. The CHAIRMAN said that, in document GOV/2007/48 and Corr.1, the Director General reported on developments regarding the implementation of Iran's NPT safeguards agreement and relevant provisions of Security Council resolutions 1737 (2006) and 1747 (2007) since May 2007. The Director General had last issued a report to the Board on the matter on 23 May 2007. A work plan, which included understandings between the Secretariat and Iran on the modalities for resolving outstanding issues, was attached to the report. The report had been the subject of a special technical briefing provided by the Secretariat to Member States the preceding week.

161. Ms. GOICOCHEA ESTENOZ (Cuba), speaking on behalf of NAM, said that NAM's position on the Iranian nuclear issue was reflected in the statement adopted at its 14th summit, held in Havana, Cuba, on 15–16 September 2006.²

162. NAM welcomed the efforts made by Iran and the Agency Secretariat to find a way of resolving the few remaining issues and took note of those endeavours that had led to the conclusion of a work plan which was attached to document GOV/2007/48. NAM noted the general understandings set forth in section IV of that work plan. It shared the view that the work plan was a significant step forward which would facilitate negotiations between Iran and concerned parties, leading to the peaceful settlement of the issue.

163. NAM was pleased to note that, in the Director General's report contained in document GOV/2007/48, the Agency had concluded that the plutonium issue had been resolved and that it was able to verify the non-diversion of declared material in Iran and had found no indications of ongoing reprocessing activities.

164. NAM had full confidence in the impartiality and professionalism of the Secretariat and the Director General and therefore strongly rejected any undue pressure on or interference in the Agency's activities, especially in the verification process, which could jeopardize its efficiency and credibility. NAM fully supported the recent steps taken by the Director General to resolve outstanding issues on Iran.

165. Diplomacy and dialogue were the only way to achieve a long-term solution to the Iranian nuclear issue. NAM therefore encouraged all Member States to contribute positively in that regard. It also expected all concerned parties to avoid taking any measures which might put at risk the recent constructive interaction between Iran and the Agency.

166. Mr. DUARTE (Portugal)* speaking on behalf of the European Union, the candidate countries Croatia, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Turkey, the countries of the Stabilization and Association Process and potential candidates Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro and Serbia, the EFTA countries Iceland and Liechtenstein, members of the European Economic Area, as well as the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine, took note of the continued efforts by the Director General as reflected in his latest report contained in document GOV/2007/48.

167. Since December 2006, the United Nations Security Council had adopted resolutions 1737 (2006) and 1747 (2007) which reaffirmed as mandatory the suspension of enrichment-related activities

² See GOV/OR.1187, paragraph 53.

in Iran and that country's cooperation with the Agency, which were essential to build confidence in the exclusively peaceful purpose of its nuclear programme.

168. The European Union noted with concern that Iran had once again failed to take the steps required by Security Council resolutions 1696 (2006), 1737 and 1747. It urged Iran to implement the measures decided by the Security Council, in particular the suspension of all enrichment-related activities, including research and development, that had been requested for such a long time. The European Union was seriously concerned that, contrary to the decisions of the Security Council, Iran had not suspended its enrichment-related activities, had continued with operation of the Pilot Fuel Enrichment Plant and with the construction and operation of the Fuel Enrichment Plant. It was also concerned that Iran was continuing with the construction of the IR-40 reactor and operation of the heavy water production plant.

169. Since the Director General's preceding report of May 2007, Iran had fed approximately 430 kg of UF₆ into the cascades of the Fuel Enrichment Plant in Natanz and had continued its enrichment activities by installing and running four additional 164-machine cascades, bringing the total to twelve cascades. Moreover, Iran had further increased its enrichment capacities since the publication of the report. The European Union strongly urged Iran not to pursue its enrichment activities as that was yet another violation of Security Council resolutions 1696, 1737 and 1747 and went against the numerous requests of the Board.

170. The European Union deeply regretted that no progress had been made with regard to the Agency's request that Iran reconsider its announcement to suspend unilaterally implementation of the modified text of its Subsidiary Arrangements General Part, Code 3.1. Under Article 39 of its bilateral safeguards agreement, Iran could not modify the Subsidiary Arrangements unilaterally and there was no mechanism for suspension of provisions agreed to in the Subsidiary Arrangements, as had been brought to Iran's attention. The European Union called on Iran to reconsider its announcement and to permit the early provision of design information, as requested by the Agency.

171. Iran had granted access to declared nuclear material and had provided the required accountancy reports in connection with declared nuclear material and facilities, so that the Agency had been able to verify the non-diversion of such material in Iran. However, as paragraph 24 of the Director General's report indicated, confidence in the exclusively peaceful nature of Iran's nuclear programme required that the Agency be able to provide assurances regarding the absence of undeclared nuclear material and activities, through the implementation of the additional protocol and transparency measures. The European Union urged Iran to implement fully the provisions of its comprehensive safeguards agreement, to implement the additional protocol pending its ratification, and to provide the Agency with all the information and cooperation requested.

172. The European Union appreciated the Secretariat's continuing and impartial efforts to resolve the long outstanding issues relating to Iran's nuclear programme. It would follow carefully implementation of the work plan agreed upon by the Secretariat and Iran and would appreciate the provision of regular information to the Board. The European Union shared the Director General's view that the key to successful implementation of the agreed work plan was Iran's full and active cooperation with the Secretariat, and its provision to the Agency of all relevant information and access to all relevant documentation and individuals to enable the Agency to resolve all outstanding issues. Iran's full and timely implementation of the work plan would constitute a significant step forward.

173. The European Union noted that the outstanding questions regarding plutonium separation experiments were considered resolved, along with questions about the presence and origin of HEU particles at the Karaj waste storage facility. However, the European Union regretted that Iran had once again failed to provide additional information on its P-1 and P-2 centrifuge technology, It had also

failed to provide a copy of the 15-page document describing the procedures for reduction of UF₆ to uranium metal, which was important to understand the full scope of offers made by intermediaries that had provided centrifuge enrichment technology to Iran. Moreover, it had failed to provide explanations in connection with questions concerning its polonium extraction activities. The provision of such information would be a test of Iran's seriousness in implementing the work plan.

174. The European Union urged Iran to cooperate fully with the Agency, to respond to the long-standing requests related to the scope and history of its enrichment programme in a comprehensive and transparent manner so that the work plan could be fully implemented without delay, and to provide answers to the Secretariat's questions relating to all outstanding issues.

175. The European Union reaffirmed its support for the Security Council process and underlined that the Security Council had expressed its intention in resolutions 1737 and 1747 to adopt further appropriate measures under Chapter VII, Article 41 of the Charter of the United Nations if Iran further failed to suspend its enrichment activities as required by the Security Council and the Board. It called upon the Secretariat to keep the Board informed as appropriate.

176. The European Union reaffirmed its continuing support for efforts to find a negotiated long-term solution to the Iranian nuclear issue. A comprehensive package had been proposed to Iran in June 2006 and more recently which included active support to build new light water power reactors using state-of-the-art technology. The door to negotiations remained open. Iran had been consistently offered the option to re-enter negotiations with China, France, Germany, Russia, the United Kingdom and the United States. The inalienable right of Iran to the peaceful use of nuclear energy in conformity with Articles I, II and III of the NPT had been reaffirmed repeatedly by the European Union, the Board and the Security Council.

177. Ms. GERVAIS-VIDRICAIRE (Canada) said that her country had studied the work plan with considerable interest and believed that, overall, it was a step in the right direction. However Iran had to cooperate fully with the Agency to implement the work plan and resolve all outstanding issues without delay in order to address the international community's serious concerns about the nature of its nuclear programme. Furthermore, while the full and timely implementation of the work plan would be one important step towards providing the necessary assurances that its nuclear programme was entirely peaceful in nature, Iran needed to comply fully with Board and Security Council resolutions in order to rebuild the confidence that had been lost through a two-decade history of concealment. The Director General had stated that, on account of its nuclear history, Iran amounted to a special verification case. Canada noted with grave concern that Iran had not suspended its enrichment-related activities and urged it to do so, and to implement the additional protocol, in compliance with Security Council resolutions 1737 (2006) and 1747 (2007).

178. The importance of cooperation could not be underestimated. Canada was pleased that Iran had committed itself to more transparency and cooperation through the establishment of the work plan. However certain steps taken by Iran over the preceding two years, including the de-designation of inspectors, stopping provisional implementation of the additional protocol and the unilateral reinterpretation of its Subsidiary Arrangements, were not consistent with the spirit of that commitment and had only served to erode confidence further. She urged Iran to seize the opportunity to take the steps necessary to rebuild confidence and provide the required assurances that its nuclear programme was entirely peaceful in nature.

179. Finally, she requested that, until such time as the Board determined that confidence had been restored, the Director General continue to report on the issue, and that the report contained in document GOV/2007/48 be made public.

180. Mr. AAS (Norway) said that there had recently been some positive steps towards resolving the Iranian nuclear issue politically and the understandings between the Agency and Iran contained in the Attachment to document GOV/2007/48 were a step in the right direction. Norway was encouraged by the Agency's verification of the non-diversion of declared nuclear material in Iran and the resolution of the issues concerning plutonium experiments and the presence and origin of HEU particles at the Karaj waste storage facility.

181. Norway welcomed the so-called work plan, which offered the hope of resolving outstanding issues step by step. The work plan would have been even more encouraging if it had contained provisions to resolve several issues in parallel rather than in sequence. However, as it stood, the plan was the first to address all outstanding issues with Iran within an agreed time frame and it should be seen as an important step in the right direction. The key to further progress lay in Iran's willingness to implement the work plan fully and in a timely manner. There was potential for progress but a lack of full follow-up would make the situation even more serious. It was crucial for Iran to implement the work plan in a serious and urgent manner. Resolving the outstanding issues relating to the scope and nature of Iran's past nuclear activities was a major step towards reaching a politically negotiated solution, but other steps would be needed. One such important step would be for Iran to ratify and bring into force as additional protocol, as requested by the Security Council and Board.

182. Once its past nuclear activities had been clarified, Iran had to continue to build confidence with respect to the scope and nature of its present nuclear activities. Norway welcomed the fact that the Agency had obtained access to the Natanz Fuel Enrichment Plant and the heavy water research reactor in Arak. However, the only way for Iran to restore international confidence was through full implementation of the additional protocol and any additional transparency measures required. A unanimous Security Council had twice called on Iran to suspend sensitive nuclear activities, such as those relating to enrichment and the construction of a heavy water reactor in Arak. Unfortunately, those demands had still not been met. The suspension of such activities would greatly facilitate ongoing diplomatic efforts.

183. No one denied Iran the right to the peaceful use of nuclear energy in accordance with the provisions of the NPT. The international community, including Norway, stood ready to assist Iran in making use of that right as soon as a lasting solution was found.

The meeting rose at 6.05 p.m.