

Board of Governors

GOV/2010/70

Date: 3 December 2010

Restricted Distribution

Original: English

For official use only

Item 7 of the agenda
(GOV/2010/61)

Assurance of Nuclear Fuel Supply

Resolution adopted by the Board of Governors on 3 December 2010

The Board of Governors,¹

- (a) Recalling the Report by the Director General GOV/INF/2007/11 “Possible New Framework for the Utilization of Nuclear Energy: Options for Assurance of Supply of Nuclear Fuel”,
- (b) Recalling the Report by the Director General GOV/2009/30, “Proposal for the Establishment of an IAEA Low Enriched Uranium (LEU) Bank”,
- (c) Recalling its adoption of the Resolution GOV/2009/81 approving the “Request by the Russian Federation regarding its Initiative to Establish a Reserve of Low Enriched Uranium (LEU) for the Supply of LEU to the IAEA for its Member States”,
- (d) Recalling the “Conclusions and recommendations for follow-on actions” adopted by the May 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), in which the Conference called for States parties to “[c]ontinue to discuss further, in a non-discriminatory and transparent manner under the auspices of IAEA or regional forums, the development of multilateral approaches to the nuclear fuel cycle, including the possibilities of creating mechanisms for assurance of nuclear fuel supply, as well as possible schemes dealing with the back-end of the fuel cycle without affecting rights under the Treaty and without prejudice to national fuel cycle policies, while tackling the technical, legal and economic complexities surrounding these issues, including, in this regard, the requirement of IAEA full scope safeguards” (Action 58),
- (e) Emphasizing the continued importance of a well functioning international nuclear fuel market and noting that a number of concepts for international assurances of supply have been proposed which can complement each other to provide states additional confidence in their ability to obtain nuclear fuel in an assured and predictable manner, and that discussions on some proposals have already taken place in the Board,

¹ The resolution was adopted with 28 votes in favour, 0 against and 6 abstentions (roll call vote).

(f) Noting the proposal contained in GOV/2010/67 to establish an IAEA Low Enriched Uranium (LEU) Bank as a project of the Agency, using financial and other contributions received heretofore and in the future by the Agency from Member States and other contributors including the Nuclear Threat Initiative, and making LEU from the reserve available for purchase by Member States in accordance with the criteria in that document, including its annex 1,

Hereby,

1. Adopts the Recommended Actions contained in GOV/2010/67, paragraph 22, and requests the Director General to report to the Board about implementation at regular intervals;
2. Affirms that the establishment of the reserve of LEU and the subsequent implementation of supply agreements with Member States will be carried out in accordance with the criteria contained in GOV/2010/67, as a mechanism of last resort only and in such a way that any disturbance of or interference with the functioning of the existing fuel market is avoided;
3. Affirms that participation by Member States in making contributions to and accepting supply from the LEU bank would be voluntary and that the bank's operations would be funded exclusively through extra-budgetary contributions;
4. Affirms that the availability and operation of the IAEA LEU bank is intended to support the exercise of, and be wholly consistent with, the inalienable right of all States Parties to the NPT to develop research, production and use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, acknowledged in Article IV of the NPT; and,
5. Decides to remain seized of the matter with a view to considering, and eventually adopting at an early date, other complementary proposals to strengthen the assurances of nuclear fuel supply to interested Member States.