



IAEA Board of Governors

4 March 2014

Agenda Item 5(c): DPRK

Mr Chairman

Australia welcomes the Director-General's comments on DPRK-related developments in his opening statement.

We share the widespread concern for the DPRK's nuclear and missile programs and its proliferation of sensitive technologies, which continue to threaten international security and the stability of our region and challenge the nuclear non-proliferation regime.

In particular, we note with serious concern that the DPRK has followed through with its April 2012 announcement that it would restart its five megawatt plutonium reactor at Yongbyon. This action demonstrates that the DPRK is intent on continuing to defy IAEA and UNSC Resolutions.

We call on the DPRK to return to constructive engagement with the international community and take concrete steps to implement the previous commitments it has made to cease its nuclear weapons program and abandon its uranium-enrichment activities. We also call on the DPRK to cease development of its dangerous weapons programs, including its long and short range missile projects.

In view of the importance of this issue to international security, we support the Agency in continuing to maintain its readiness to play a key role in verifying the DPRK's nuclear program and request that the Director-General continue to report to the Board of Governors on the implementation of nuclear safeguards in the DPRK.