



IAEA Board of Governors

Meeting on 24 January 2014

Report by the Director General on monitoring and verification in Iran

Mr Chairman

The Australian delegation welcomes your decision to convene the Board of Governors today to discuss monitoring and verification in the Islamic Republic of Iran in relation to the Joint Plan of Action agreed between the P5+1 and Iran on 24 November.

We are grateful to the Director General for his reports on this important issue on 17 and 20 January, and appreciate his close consultation with the Board.

Mr Chairman

Australia welcomes the information in the Director General's reports of 17 and 20 January, including that Iran has: ceased enriching uranium above 5% U-235; ceased operating cascades in an interconnected configuration; begun diluting UF₆ enriched up to 20% U-235; and stopped advancing its activities at the Natanz Fuel Enrichment Plant, Fordow Fuel Enrichment plant and the IR-40 reactor at Arak.

The Director General has advised that Iran also agreed in writing that, over the first six months of the Joint Plan of Action, Iran will not establish any new locations for enrichment, nor engage in reprocessing or reconvert uranium oxide enriched up to 20% U-235 back into UF₆ enriched up to 20% U-235.

Taken together, these reports confirm Iran has taken the initial steps it committed to as part of the Joint Plan of Action and triggered the implementation of the Joint Plan of Action on 20 January.

In response, the P5+1 has started to provide Iran the relief it agreed in the Joint Plan of Action. Australia welcomes these developments.

The Joint Plan of Action is an important first step in addressing the long-standing international non-proliferation and security concerns presented by Iran's nuclear program. In Australia's view, this Board should encourage the parties to take advantage of this opportunity to reach a comprehensive solution to the Iranian nuclear issue

Mr Chairman

Over the next six months, proper implementation will be critical to building confidence in the Joint Plan of Action and supporting negotiations towards a final

agreement. Australia strongly supports the Agency taking a central role in monitoring and verification of Iran's commitments under the Joint Plan of Action.

Australia appreciates monitoring and verification of Iran's commitments will be resource-intensive and recognises the additional burden this will place on the Agency. The Agency will need to be supported accordingly. Australia will consider positively an additional contribution to the Agency to support these activities and we hope others will do the same.

Mr Chairman

While encouraged by recent developments, we need to remember this is the beginning not the end of the road. The Joint Plan of Action is important, but it is only a first step to address the international community's concerns about the possible military dimensions of Iran's nuclear program. And we cannot lose sight of the need for Iran to press ahead in implementing its commitments to the Agency under the Framework for Cooperation agreed on 11 November.

Many of the questions that we, and others, have raised in this Board about Iran's nuclear activities remain valid. We encourage Iran to seize this chance to demonstrate its nuclear program is for exclusively peaceful purposes.

And we urge all parties to the Joint Plan of Action to continue constructive discussions with a view to achieving the long-term, comprehensive solution that was foreshadowed in their November 2013 agreement.

Mr Chairman

Australia welcomes the Director General's decision to provide monthly updates on the Agency's findings and looks forward to discussing this issue again at the March meeting of the Board of Governors.

Thank you.