

AUSTRALIA
IAEA Board of Governors Meeting
3-7 March 2014

**Agenda Item 5 (a) : The Conclusion of Safeguards Agreements and of
Additional Protocols**

Thank you, Mr Chairman.

Australia welcomes the intent of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to conclude a Protocol Additional to the Agreement with the Agency for the Application of Safeguards in connection with the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.

Mr Chairman

Australia considers a Comprehensive Safeguards Agreement together with an Additional Protocol as the current verification standard pursuant to Article III.1 of the NPT, for all activities in support of nuclear facilities, operations and research. The conclusion of an Additional Protocol allows the Agency to establish a broader conclusion to verify a State's nuclear activities are entirely for peaceful purposes. We encourage those States using nuclear materials and technologies without concluding and implementing an Additional Protocol to do so.

Australia continues to work through the Asia-Pacific Safeguards Network to promote greater cooperation amongst safeguards authorities in the Asia-Pacific region. We look forward to engagement with Laos on nuclear safeguards cooperation.

Mr Chairman

Australia is pleased to join others in authorizing the Director General to conclude with the Lao People's Democratic Republic, and subsequently implement, the Additional Protocol.