



Intervention by UAE

NPT PrepCom May 9th 2012 - Cluster 3- General Issues

Delivered by H.E. Ambassador Hamad Al Kaabi,
Permanent Representative of the UAE to the IAEA

Mr. Chairman,

UAE continues to make significant progress towards the development of its peaceful nuclear energy program in accordance with the highest standards of nuclear safety, security and non-proliferation. We are of the view that nuclear energy will continue to play a major role in the global energy sector.

The Accident of Fukushima has brought the issue of nuclear safety back to the discussion at the highest political levels. UAE is committed to the implementation of IAEA nuclear safety plan, and has already taken steps towards this goal. We have successfully concluded INIR and IRRS missions in 2010 and 2011 respectively.

My delegation believes that the IAEA has a central leading role in harmonizing Member States' actions ^{and} with regard to enhance nuclear safety, and acknowledge with appreciation all concrete steps taken by the IAEA so far for this purpose, specifically, those aimed at promoting peer review services and strengthening safety standards.

All member states should work closely and with the IAEA in drawing the right lessons from Fukushima and implementing the adopted IAEA Nuclear Safety Action Plan. I also note here the importance of the international instruments in the area of nuclear safety, such as the Convention of Nuclear Safety. We encourage all States that have not yet done so to become party to the Convention on Nuclear Safety, especially those states with significant nuclear facilities.

The accident in Fukushima has also brought further attention to the issue of nuclear liability and the importance of having in place effective and coherent nuclear liability mechanisms. The NPT review process should address nuclear liability issue and aim to highlight the importance of harmonized and efficient nuclear liability frameworks.

The IAEA has a central and crucial role to play in the development of multilateral approaches to the nuclear fuel cycle, including development of mechanisms for assurance of nuclear fuel supply, as well as multilateral schemes dealing with the back-end of the fuel cycle. These mechanisms are designed to support the expansion of peaceful uses of nuclear energy. We welcome the steps taken ^{to} ~~to~~ ^{the} establishment of the IAEA fuel bank and encourage further efforts in this area. The UAE has pledged USD 10 million to the establishment of the IAEA Fuel bank.

Mr Chairman,

An increased number of states expressed interest in developing peaceful uses of nuclear energy. The preparatory committees and the review conference should continue to address issues related to promotion of responsible development of peaceful uses of nuclear energy, strengthening nuclear safety and the development of sustainable arrangements of assistance to new comer countries in the nuclear energy field.