



Amano during his meeting UAE Foreign Minister (Photo credit: WAM)

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In Focus: IAEA Director General visits UAE

IAEA Director General Yukiya Amano made an official visit to United Arab Emirates from 28 - 30 January 2013.

During the visit, the Director General visited UAE's first Nuclear Power Plant construction site at Barakah to review the progress of the country's nuclear power programme. The Director General held a number of meetings with high-level Government officials to discuss issues of mutual interest, as well as UAE's ongoing cooperation with the Agency.

On Tuesday, 29 January 2013, the Director General met with UAE Foreign Minister, H.H Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan. They discussed the latest developments in the UAE's peaceful nuclear programme and steps taken by the UAE Government in relation to adoption of lessons learned from Fukushima Daiichi accident.

They further discussed Agency's efforts to advance nuclear safety globally and its activities in supporting non-proliferation.



Mr. Yukiya Amano, IAEA DG and Foreign Minister Sheikh Abdullah Bin Zayed Al Nahyan (photo credit: ENEC)

The Director General praised the UAE for its successful and transparent efforts in developing nuclear power programme. "The UAE plays a leading role among the nations which are developing new programs", Mr. Amano commented.
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IAEA DG Yukiya Amano during his visit to Barakah Nuclear Power Plant (left), Ambassador Hamad Alkaabi (center), ENEC CEO Mohamed Al Hammadi (right), photo credit: ENEC

The Director General along with the IAEA officials also visited the construction site of the Barakah Nuclear Facility, where the delegation was received by Ambassador Hamad Alkaabi, UAE Permanent Representative to the IAEA, and Mohamed Al Hammadi, the Chief Executive Officer of the Emirates Nuclear Energy Corporation (ENEC).

During the visit to Barakah site, the delegation was provided with a comprehensive update on the development of the construction of the Unit 1 and achieved key milestones by senior officials of ENEC and the Korean Electric Power Corporation (KEPCO), UAE's



A group photo with Yukiya Amano (center), Ambassador Alkaabi (right) and ENEC officials during the visit to Barakah NPP construction site. (Photo credit: ENEC)

prime contractor to build and operate its nuclear power plant.

"The UAE is making safe and consistent progress in the development of the peaceful nuclear energy program," said Yukiya Amano. "The IAEA delegation would like to thank the UAE government for providing us with the opportunity to visit Barakah and assess the development of the project. We are very satisfied with the quality of the information we have received," he added.

Ambassador Alkaabi highlighted, "The visit of the IAEA delegation headed by Director General Yukiya Amano is an important milestone to the UAE peaceful nuclear energy program." "The UAE has been working in close cooperation with the IAEA and has followed IAEA's guidance, policies and procedures to develop the national nuclear program. Our policy continues to guide our work in a transparent and committed manner where the IAEA is a close partner in the program," he added.

The Director General expressed the hope that the UAE would support other developing nations on peaceful uses of nuclear applications noting that "The UAE's safe and consistent progress in the introduction of nuclear power can serve as a model for other countries considering a nuclear power program."



Integrated Work Plan to advance UAE Nuclear Power Programme

First of its kind coordination meeting on *Integrated Work Plan (IWP)* was held in the framework of IAEA support to nuclear power introduction in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) from 15 to 16 January 2013 at the IAEA Headquarters in Vienna, Austria.

The objective of this meeting was to finalize the IWP for next 5 years (2013-2017) as the framework for implementation of activities using all IAEA mechanisms available for Member States.

Within the framework of IAEA support to nuclear power introduction in the UAE, two days consultation meeting discussed the progress of the NPP in UAE and finalized an Integrated Work Plan for the Nuclear Power Infrastructure of the country. This Integrated Work Plan includes benefiting all IAEA services including Technical Cooperation in support to UAE efforts.

This meeting provided opportunity for senior officials from the Federal Authority for Nuclear Regulation (FANR), the Emirates Nuclear Energy Corporation (ENEC), the Khalifa University and the Permanent Mission to the IAEA to discuss the necessary actions and activities needed including the support from the IAEA to carry forward the UAE's national nuclear power programme.

IRRS Team Leaders meet in Vienna to Share Experience

The UAE joined a network of experts from regulatory bodies of Member States to foster information exchange on the Integrated Regulatory Review Service (IRRS) in order to further improve the implementation of the service.

Technical Meeting of the *Integrated Regulatory Review Service Team Leaders for Sharing Experience and Improving the Implementation of the Service* assembled international experts at the IAEA's Headquarters in Vienna, Austria, from 28 to 31 January 2013.

Mr. John Loy, Director for Radiation Safety of the Federal Authority for Nuclear Regulation (FANR) shared UAE's experience and lessons learned from the IRRS mission conducted in the UAE in 2011.

More details on UAE IRRS mission is available on: <http://www.iaea.org/newscenter/pressreleases/2011/prn201131.html>

Member States meet to Address Current and Emerging Cyber Threats in Security Planning

Cyber-security threats have now emerged as the defining global information security challenges. The IAEA and its Member States are now seized by the issue of Cyber-security.

In accordance with the IAEA guideline on *Physical Protection of Nuclear Material and Nuclear Facilities*, the Agency made available for Member States the Design Basis Threat (DBT) tool and recommends development of a notional DBT. DBTs contain sensitive or classified information. Thus, it is crucial for national authorities balance information protection with the need to share information with operators and other security organizations.

Recognizing the importance assigned to the DBT tool a number of IAEA Member States requested the Agency to provide technical assistance to present a methodology for developing, maintaining, and using a DBT concerning cyber security.

On the basis of this mandate, the Agency organized consultancy meeting on *Addressing Current and Emerging Cyber Threats in Security Planning*, held from 21 to 25 January 2013 at the IAEA headquarters in Vienna.

UAE participated along with other Governments and nuclear regulatory officials from Member States to review current cyber threats assessment strategies from other countries to identify good practices, challenges, and lessons learned that could be used as a basis from implementing and validating computer security controls.

The use of a Cyber DBT is to date not universally practiced but it is the only strategy used by facilities to develop and verify cyber security controls.

Since last year's meeting several countries have worked toward developing a methodology for developing a cyber DBT. This year, officials of the Federal Authority for Nuclear Regulation (FANR) joined the meeting to learn and leverage from their experiences in this effort.



More information is available on: http://www.pub.iaea.org/MTCD/publications/PDF/Pub1386_web.pdf