DEFENSE TREATY INSPECTION READINESS PROGRAM · READINESS THROUGH AWARENESS

BI-WEEKLY TREATY REVIEW

22 September 2009 – 05 October 2009

DTRA

BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION (BWC)

Experts Disagree over Lead Agency for Labs, Classification System

Global Security Newswire, 25 September 2009, http://www.globalsecuritynewswire.org/
Federal officials and independent experts this week prodded Congress to consolidate government oversight of the nation's disease research laboratories but offered divergent views about which agency should take the lead role. *(1,185 words)* ***Click here for full text.***

CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION (CWC)

Court Denies Colorado Bid for Chemical Destruction Deadline

Global Security Newswire, 25 September 2009, http://www.globalsecuritynewswire.org/
Colorado has lost a bid to force the Army to complete chemical weapon destruction at a Pueblo-area facility by a 2017 deadline set by Congress, the Associated Press reported. *(242 words)* ***Click here for full text.***

House Panel Becomes Flash Point for Chemical Bill

CongressDaily, 29 September 2009, http://www.globalsecuritynewswire.org/
A major lobbying battle has heated up over legislation that would establish new security standards for facilities across the country that store or process chemicals, pitting some of the nation's largest business groups against environmental and labor organizations. *(567 words)* ***Click here for full text.***

COMPREHENSIVE NUCLEAR TEST-BAN TREATY (CTBT)

U.S. Faces UN Pressure on Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty

Associated Press (AP), 23 September 2009, http://news.google.com/
This time around, U.S. Senate skeptics who killed the nuclear test-ban treaty a decade ago must take into account a new, one billion dollar verification network underpinning the pact, the treaty chief said Wednesday. *(517 words)* ***Click here for full text.***

back to top

News articles and publications found on the DTIRP website are compilations of open source current news articles and commentary concerning significant arms control treaty and related national security issues. The publications aim to give a balanced representation of how the public, other government organizations, and the media may view these arms control and threat reduction programs and issues. They are intended to serve the informational needs of Department of Defense (DoD) officials in the continuing assessment of defense policies, programs and actions. Further reproduction or redistribution for private use or gain is subject to original copyright restrictions. The views and opinions expressed in these articles are not necessarily those supported by DoD, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, or the DTIRP.

COMPREHENSIVE NUCLEAR TEST-BAN TREATY (CTBT)

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Becomes the 150th Country to Have Ratified the Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT)

CTBTO, 23 September 2009, http://www.ctbto.org

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines ratified the Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT) on 23 September 2009. *(428 words)* **Click here for full text.**

On-Site Inspection Exercise on Noble Gas Detection

CTBTO, 02 October 2009, http://www.ctbto.org

Experts from more than 15 States will participate in this specialized exercise …The exercise focuses on all aspects of noble gas detection during an inspection. *(331 words)*
Click here for full text.

INTEGRATED SAFEGUARDS

IAEA Chief Addresses Historic UN Security Council Meeting

IAEA, 24 September 2009, http://www.iaea.org/

The role of the IAEA in nuclear nonproliferation and nuclear disarmament was the theme of an address given by IAEA Director General Mohamed ElBaradei at a historic UN Security Council meeting … *(286 words)* **Click here for full text.**

DOE Deputy Secretary and Rosatom Director Visit Y-12, Oak Ridge National Laboratory during First Meeting of U.S.-Russian Nuclear Energy and Nuclear Security Working Group

Department of Energy, 29 September 2009, http://energy.gov/

The Department of Energy today announced that Deputy Secretary of Energy Daniel Poneman and Director General of the State Atomic Energy Corporation "Rosatom" Sergei Kiriyenko held the first meetings of the joint U.S.-Russian Nuclear Energy and Nuclear Security Working Group *(286 words)* **Click here for full text.**

back to top

News articles and publications found on the DTIRP website are compilations of open source current news articles and commentary concerning significant arms control treaty and related national security issues. The publications aim to give a balanced representation of how the public, other government organizations, and the media may view these arms control and threat reduction programs and issues. They are intended to serve the informational needs of Department of Defense (DoD) officials in the continuing assessment of defense policies, programs and actions. Further reproduction or redistribution for private use or gain is subject to original copyright restrictions. The views and opinions expressed in these articles are not necessarily those supported by DoD, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, or the DTIRP.

NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY (NPT)

Gordon Brown Considers Cut in Nuclear Warheads as Part of "Global Bargain"

London Guardian, 23 September 2009, http://www.guardian.co.uk/

The [British] government is considering cutting the number of warheads in its nuclear arsenal, a much more significant move than the plan to reduce the number of new Trident submarines, officials said today. *(302 words)* ***Click here for full text.***

Security Council Adopts Nuclear Weapons Resolution

Washington Post, 24 September 2009, http://www.washingtonpost.com/

The UN Security Council unanimously adopted a U.S-drafted resolution Thursday morning that affirms many of the steps President Obama plans to pursue as part of his vision for an eventual "world without nuclear weapons." *(639 words)* ***Click here for full text.***

STRATEGIC ARMS REDUCTION TREATY (START)

Russia, U.S. to Slash Nuclear Delivery Vehicles—Medvedev

RIA Novosti, 24 September 2009, http://en.rian.ru/

Russia and the United States are discussing the possibility of slashing the number of nuclear weapon delivery vehicles by over 67 percent, Russian President Dmitry Medvedev said Thursday [September 24]. *(457 words)* ***Click here for full text.***

Nunn-Lugar Program August Update

Senator Lugar, 28 September 2009, http://lugar.senate.gov/nunnlugar/

U.S. Senator Dick Lugar announced the accomplishments for the Nunn-Lugar Cooperative Threat Reduction program in August. *(329 words)* ***Click here for full text.***

FULL TEXT OF BI-WEEKLY ARTICLES FOLLOWS:

back to top

News articles and publications found on the DTIRP website are compilations of open source current news articles and commentary concerning significant arms control treaty and related national security issues. The publications aim to give a balanced representation of how the public, other government organizations, and the media may view these arms control and threat reduction programs and issues. They are intended to serve the informational needs of Department of Defense (DoD) officials in the continuing assessment of defense policies, programs and actions. Further reproduction or redistribution for private use or gain is subject to original copyright restrictions. The views and opinions expressed in these articles are not necessarily those supported by DoD, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, or the DTIRP.

Experts Disagree over Lead Agency for Labs, Classification System

Global Security Newswire, 25 September 2009, http://www.globalsecuritynewswire.org/

Federal officials and independent experts this week prodded Congress to consolidate government oversight of the nation's disease research laboratories but offered divergent views about which agency should take the lead role.

"There needs to be, clearly, somebody, in overall charge," Jean Reed, deputy assistant to the defense secretary for chemical and biological defense and chemical demilitarization, told the Senate Judiciary Terrorism and Homeland Security Subcommittee on Tuesday.

An influx in recent years of billions of dollars for biodefense activities led to rapid expansion of disease research facilities. With that came concerns about accidents and the potential misuse of lethal disease materials.

A number of incidents have provided fuel for those worries. The federal government last year levied a $1 million fine against Texas A&M University when it failed to notify authorities that researchers had been exposed to—and in one case, infected by—infectious agents. Meanwhile, the FBI last year identified the perpetrator of the 2001 anthrax mailings as a researcher from the Army biodefense site at Fort Detrick, Maryland.

Senators Joseph Lieberman (I-Connecticut) and Susan Collins (R-Maine) this month introduced legislation that would require the U.S. Homeland Security Department to establish security standards for laboratories that handle the most dangerous disease materials.

On Tuesday, subcommittee Chairman Benjamin Cardin (D-Maryland) decried the gaps in government oversight, saying about 15 federal departments work with biodefense laboratories but "no one agency has primary or full responsibility" for overseeing their safe operations. Those departments include Defense, Homeland Security, and Health and Human Services.

He said most people would turn to the Homeland Security Department as the "logical place" to have responsibility over facilities working with disease materials. The lawmaker did not elaborate.

When DHS compliance assurance program manager Brandt Pasco said the agency only had authority over the 42 sites it funds, Cardin replied, "That's clearly inadequate."

That same day Cardin said he would call for legislation to select a lead agency to oversee security measures at high-containment laboratories and establish uniform guidelines for those sites, including background checks of researchers, according to a statement from his office.

back to top

News articles and publications found on the DTIRP website are compilations of open source current news articles and commentary concerning significant arms control treaty and related national security issues. The publications aim to give a balanced representation of how the public, other government organizations, and the media may view these arms control and threat reduction programs and issues. They are intended to serve the informational needs of Department of Defense (DoD) officials in the continuing assessment of defense policies, programs and actions. Further reproduction or redistribution for private use or gain is subject to original copyright restrictions. The views and opinions expressed in these articles are not necessarily those supported by DoD, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, or the DTIRP.

The Pentagon's framework for safeguarding select agents—pathogens or biological toxins declared to pose a severe threat to human or animal health—consists of prevention of accidents, active methods to avert biological terrorism or other disease breakouts, ensuring personnel are vetted, and accounting for all sensitive materials, according to Reed. The measures are derived from protocols originally designed to protect nuclear and chemical weapons materials, he said.

Therefore, "they might not constitute the basis for best practices and procedures for the nation as they could discourage participation by critical organizations and could be limiting to medical and other life sciences research programs," Reed told the panel.

For example, the use of "single-scope" background investigations precludes foreign nationals and people with money troubles from working with select agents, he said. The investigations are also "time intensive and expensive," according to Reed.

He said one way to strengthen laboratory security would be to have the National Security Council use its interagency policy committee process, with input from industry and academia, to review the recommendations from several upcoming reports on facility security and develop an approach that "optimizes the balance of science and security."

However, another witness sharply disagreed with that solution.

"I think having an interagency task force do this is a big mistake. I think putting it in the National Security Council is a big mistake," said Michael Greenberger, director of the Center for Health and Homeland Security at the University of Maryland. "No blame to the national security adviser, but he has a lot of things on his plate," he told the panel. "There must be somebody in the federal government that assumes overall responsibility."

Greenberger complimented Reed for noting that Defense Department measures likely could not apply to university facilities.

"It's impossible to apply military precision and security to a university laboratory" due to the lack of resources at many schools and the "element of openness" on most campuses, he said. Instead, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention should take the lead, according to Greenberger. "In all candor, you'd have to say the ... CDC has the superior record" in terms of supervising researchers at sites that receive federal funds, he said.

Greenberger said he did not know if the Atlanta-based health agency had enough resources to handle the job as it grapples with the H1N1 flu epidemic, but "they should be the single agency

back to top

News articles and publications found on the DTIRP website are compilations of open source current news articles and commentary concerning significant arms control treaty and related national security issues. The publications aim to give a balanced representation of how the public, other government organizations, and the media may view these arms control and threat reduction programs and issues. They are intended to serve the informational needs of Department of Defense (DoD) officials in the continuing assessment of defense policies, programs and actions. Further reproduction or redistribution for private use or gain is subject to original copyright restrictions. The views and opinions expressed in these articles are not necessarily those supported by DoD, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, or the DTIRP.

setting up standards—both safety standards [and] security standards—for all those laboratories, having the entire inventory, being responsible for having evidence of mishaps and setting up an accreditation process."

Nancy Kingsbury, the managing director of applied research and methods at the Government Accountability Office, said instead that oversight should be put "at the HHS level." The Health and Human Services Department is the parent agency to the Centers for Disease Control.

Meanwhile, the congressionally created Commission on the Prevention of Weapons of Mass Destruction Proliferation and Terrorism recommended that Health and Human Services, in coordination with the Homeland Security Department, lead an "interagency effort to tighten government oversight of high-containment laboratories," said former Senator Bob Graham (D-Florida), who chairs the panel.

Also testifying before the subcommittee, he said Health and Human Services should ultimately assume oversight of the facilities that handle the most sensitive disease agents.

In addition, the WMD panel recommended the national security adviser—in consultation with the heads of the Health and Human Services, Agriculture, Defense, and Homeland Security departments, and other executive agencies—identify a single entity to conduct a "periodic strategic evaluation" of high-containment laboratories, Graham told the committee. He did not elaborate on how to circumscribe the focus for such a review.

The witnesses Tuesday also split over whether the biological research community should adopt a tiered security system based on the level of danger posed by material.

Lieberman's bill establishes a tiered system for pathogens under research at U.S. facilities, which was recommended by the WMD commission.

Tier one would consist of "about eight agents," according to Graham. It would contain those pathogens that are "most readily weaponized," he said without citing specific diseases.

The second tier would include pathogens that potentially could be weaponized, while the third tier would be "everything else," the former lawmaker told the committee.

Reed said that a tiered system would "quite possibly be something one might choose to employ" but stopped short of endorsing the idea.

back to top

News articles and publications found on the DTIRP website are compilations of open source current news articles and commentary concerning significant arms control treaty and related national security issues. The publications aim to give a balanced representation of how the public, other government organizations, and the media may view these arms control and threat reduction programs and issues. They are intended to serve the informational needs of Department of Defense (DoD) officials in the continuing assessment of defense policies, programs and actions. Further reproduction or redistribution for private use or gain is subject to original copyright restrictions. The views and opinions expressed in these articles are not necessarily those supported by DoD, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, or the DTIRP.

"I'm not sure we know enough about the mix of pathogens in different laboratories to have a view yet of whether" a tiered system would be effective, Kingsbury said.

The proposed legislation would also mandate general security measures at facilities that work with 82 disease-causing select agents and toxins designated by Health and Human Services and Agriculture departments. It would also require the HHS secretary to set standards for personnel reliability programs and laboratory risk assessments, according to the text of the bill.

The measure also imposes a civil penalty for violating those rules in an amount not exceeding $250,000 for an individual or $500,000 for a laboratory handling a tier one agent.

back to top

News articles and publications found on the DTIRP website are compilations of open source current news articles and commentary concerning significant arms control treaty and related national security issues. The publications aim to give a balanced representation of how the public, other government organizations, and the media may view these arms control and threat reduction programs and issues. They are intended to serve the informational needs of Department of Defense (DoD) officials in the continuing assessment of defense policies, programs and actions. Further reproduction or redistribution for private use or gain is subject to original copyright restrictions. The views and opinions expressed in these articles are not necessarily those supported by DoD, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, or the DTIRP.

Court Denies Colorado Bid for Chemical Destruction Deadline

Global Security Newswire, 25 September 2009, http://www.globalsecuritynewswire.org/

Colorado has lost a bid to force the Army to complete chemical weapon destruction at a Pueblo-area facility by a 2017 deadline set by Congress, the Associated Press reported.

A federal judge determined on Tuesday that U.S. law limits the state's authority to establish dates certain for destroying mustard agent stockpiles at Pueblo Chemical Depot.

Colorado's Public Health and Environment Department had filed the lawsuit, seeking to ensure that the chemical weapons be eliminated by the congressionally mandated deadline.

The state also filed a second lawsuit recently to compel the Army to monitor more frequently its stored weapons for possible leaks. A court date has not yet been set for that case.

The Colorado plaintiff filing the deadline-enforcement lawsuit took issue this week with U.S. District Court Judge Richard Matsch's decision.

"We are disappointed with the judge's decision, since the practical effect of his decision would be to insulate the depot from enforceable schedules for waste treatment," said Jim Martin, executive director of the Colorado Public Health and Environment Department. "Clearly, the munitions are hazardous waste and are subject to requirements of our state hazardous waste law."

Martin said his department would work with the state's congressional delegation "to set—and enforce—strict time lines for cleaning up these munitions."

The ruling concerns 2,600 tons of mustard agent in assembled munitions stored at the depot. Environmental regulations forbid indefinite storage of hazardous wastes, and mustard agent is listed as a hazardous waste.

back to top

News articles and publications found on the DTIRP website are compilations of open source current news articles and commentary concerning significant arms control treaty and related national security issues. The publications aim to give a balanced representation of how the public, other government organizations, and the media may view these arms control and threat reduction programs and issues. They are intended to serve the informational needs of Department of Defense (DoD) officials in the continuing assessment of defense policies, programs and actions. Further reproduction or redistribution for private use or gain is subject to original copyright restrictions. The views and opinions expressed in these articles are not necessarily those supported by DoD, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, or the DTIRP.

House Panel Becomes Flash Point for Chemical Bill

CongressDaily, 29 September 2009, http://www.globalsecuritynewswire.org/

A major lobbying battle has heated up over legislation that would establish new security standards for facilities across the country that store or process chemicals, pitting some of the nation's largest business groups against environmental and labor organizations.

Nearly 30 industry groups sent House Energy and Commerce Chairman Henry Waxman (D-California) and ranking member Joe Barton (R-Texas) a strongly worded letter Monday opposing certain provisions in a chemical security bill making its way through Congress.

An Energy and Commerce subcommittee plans a hearing Thursday on the bill, which would reauthorize and expand authorities Congress gave the Homeland Security Department in 2006 to regulate security at chemical facilities.

The industry groups, which include the American Petroleum Institute and U.S. Chamber of Commerce, oppose provisions that could require chemical plants to use safer technologies; would allow facilities to be sued by citizens; and would allow states to adopt their own security standards.

The groups argue that requiring facilities to use "inherently safer technologies" could be costly, disruptive and overly burdensome.

"In addition, an IST mandate, if enacted, could lead to disruption in our nation's food supply," wrote the groups, which also included the National Association of Manufacturers and the American Farm Bureau Federation. "In the agriculture industry, such a directive could jeopardize the availability of lower cost sources of plant nutrient products or certain agricultural pesticides used by farmers."

Not to be outdone, a coalition of about 50 environmental, labor and public interest organizations are being equally vocal in lobbying for the bill.

"I think [the business groups] are mostly interested in either gutting or slowing down the bill or killing the bill, and everything else is an excuse to support that," said Rick Hind, legislative director for Greenpeace.

The environmental-labor coalition, which includes Greenpeace, the U.S. Public Interest Research Group and the Service Employees International Union, wrote lawmakers and President Barack Obama this month.

back to top

News articles and publications found on the DTIRP website are compilations of open source current news articles and commentary concerning significant arms control treaty and related national security issues. The publications aim to give a balanced representation of how the public, other government organizations, and the media may view these arms control and threat reduction programs and issues. They are intended to serve the informational needs of Department of Defense (DoD) officials in the continuing assessment of defense policies, programs and actions. Further reproduction or redistribution for private use or gain is subject to original copyright restrictions. The views and opinions expressed in these articles are not necessarily those supported by DoD, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, or the DTIRP.

"The price of failure could be staggering. According to a 2008 Congressional Research Service review of [EPA] data, 100 U.S. chemical plants each put 1 million or more people at risk," wrote the coalition, which also includes the United Food and Chemical Workers and the United Steelworkers.

"In 2004, the Homeland Security Council projected that an attack on a chemical facility would kill 17,500 people, seriously injure 10,000 more people and send an additional 100,000 people to the hospital," the coalition added. "The good news is that most of these hazards are preventable."

Hind noted that the bill includes a provision, backed by business groups and Republicans, that would allow chemical facilities to challenge the Homeland Security Department in court if they are required to use inherently safer technologies.

He said it is hypocritical for business groups to oppose lawsuits by citizens but support the ability of chemical companies to sue the department. Hind also disputed the notion that citizens would file frivolous lawsuits.

"No one would support doing frivolous lawsuits because it gives everyone a bad name," he said. "And really, you're talking about somebody doing this on their own nickel."

Republicans and Democrats are likely to butt heads at Thursday's hearing, just as they did when the House Homeland Security Committee considered the bill.

The Homeland Security Department's authority to regulate chemical facilities will expire Sunday. But the department expects Congress to extend the authority for a month through a continuing resolution to keep the federal government operating, a department official said.

back to top

News articles and publications found on the DTIRP website are compilations of open source current news articles and commentary concerning significant arms control treaty and related national security issues. The publications aim to give a balanced representation of how the public, other government organizations, and the media may view these arms control and threat reduction programs and issues. They are intended to serve the informational needs of Department of Defense (DoD) officials in the continuing assessment of defense policies, programs and actions. Further reproduction or redistribution for private use or gain is subject to original copyright restrictions. The views and opinions expressed in these articles are not necessarily those supported by DoD, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, or the DTIRP.

U.S. Faces UN Pressure on Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty

Associated Press (AP), 23 September 2009, http://news.google.com/

This time around, U.S. Senate skeptics who killed the nuclear test-ban treaty a decade ago must take into account a new, one billion dollar verification network underpinning the pact, the treaty chief said Wednesday.

In 1999, "the system was a blueprint," Tibor Toth said of the high-tech web of stations on alert for nuclear bomb tests. Now "I could call it a `verification Manhattan Project'," he said, referring to the all-out U.S. program that built the first bombs in the 1940s.

Toth, who heads the UN-affiliated Comprehensive Test-Ban Treaty Organization [CTBTO], spoke with The Associated Press on the eve of a conference of some 150 nations convened every other year to urge those that have not ratified the treaty, including the United States, to do so.

The two-day session will be held in parallel Thursday with a summit of the 15 UN Security Council members on the subject of nuclear nonproliferation, presided over by U.S. President Barack Obama.

After eight years in which the U.S. administration of President George W. Bush rejected it, Obama has pledged to push for Senate ratification of the treaty, known as the CTBT, which would ban all nuclear tests everywhere.

The pact, signed by the U.S. and other nations in 1996, requires ratification—that is, full government approval—by 44 nuclear-capable states before it can take effect. All but nine of those have ratified, along with the governing bodies of 115 other nations.

Besides the U.S., the holdouts among the 44 are China, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Iran, Israel, North Korea and Pakistan. Meanwhile, the U.S. and four other original nuclear powers—Russia, Britain, France and China—have observed testing moratoriums.

The treaty was defeated in 1999 in the Senate—then Republican-dominated, now with a Democratic majority—after opponents objected that the U.S. might need to test its weapons to ensure the reliability of its nuclear stockpile, and contended that the planned International Monitoring System might fail to detect secret tests by nuclear cheaters.

Since then, the CTBT agency has built up the network to more than three-quarters of its planned 320 stations, from the Arctic to the Antarctic, in all the world's oceans and on all continents. Each uses one of four technologies: seismic, sensing shock waves of an

back to top

News articles and publications found on the DTIRP website are compilations of open source current news articles and commentary concerning significant arms control treaty and related national security issues. The publications aim to give a balanced representation of how the public, other government organizations, and the media may view these arms control and threat reduction programs and issues. They are intended to serve the informational needs of Department of Defense (DoD) officials in the continuing assessment of defense policies, programs and actions. Further reproduction or redistribution for private use or gain is subject to original copyright restrictions. The views and opinions expressed in these articles are not necessarily those supported by DoD, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, or the DTIRP.

underground blast; hydroacoustic, listening for underwater explosions; infrasound, detecting the low-frequency sound of an atmospheric test; and radionuclide detection, sampling the air for a test's radioactive byproducts.

Experts of the U.S. National Academy of Sciences are studying the effectiveness of the system, along with the reliability of the U.S. nuclear stockpile without testing, and will report their findings this winter. Toth said he hoped this "nonpartisan" review will reassure enough Republicans to win the needed two-thirds ratification vote in the Senate.

It's "absolutely important" that senators are given "all the facts, all the information needed for such a judgment," the treaty chief said.

Indonesia has said it will ratify if the U.S. does, and analysts believe the Chinese would also follow suit. Most believe North Korea and Iran might be the final holdouts, and would be more deeply isolated internationally as a result.

back to top

News articles and publications found on the DTIRP website are compilations of open source current news articles and commentary concerning significant arms control treaty and related national security issues. The publications aim to give a balanced representation of how the public, other government organizations, and the media may view these arms control and threat reduction programs and issues. They are intended to serve the informational needs of Department of Defense (DoD) officials in the continuing assessment of defense policies, programs and actions. Further reproduction or redistribution for private use or gain is subject to original copyright restrictions. The views and opinions expressed in these articles are not necessarily those supported by DoD, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, or the DTIRP.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Becomes the 150th Country to Have Ratified the Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT)

CTBTO, 23 September 2009, http://www.ctbto.org

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines ratified the Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT) on 23 September 2009. The instrument of ratification was deposited with the United Nations Secretary-General in New York by Louis Straker, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Commerce and Trade. With this latest ratification, the Treaty has now reached the hallmark figure of 150 ratifications. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines signed the CTBT less than three months ago, on 2 July 2009.

Today's ratification was preceded by U.S. President Obama's statement at the United Nations General Assembly in which he specifically referred to the Treaty and its entry into force: "We will move forward with ratification of the Test-Ban Treaty, and work with others to bring the Treaty into force so that nuclear testing is permanently prohibited", Obama said. He also confirmed that U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton will be the first senior representative of the United States at the conference to promote the entry into force of the Treaty.

Foreign ministers from among over 100 countries will gather at the UN Headquarters in New York on 24 and 25 September 2009 to discuss measures that would pave the way for the Treaty´s entry into force. Participants at the Conference on Facilitating the Entry into Force of the CTBT will call on those nine States whose ratifications are needed for the Treaty to become legally binding to ratify: China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), Egypt, India, Indonesia, Iran, Israel, Pakistan and the United States.

There is currently unprecedented high-level attention on the CTBT and its entry into force. On 24 September 2009 the United Nations Security Council is to meet at Heads of State level at the UN Headquarters in New York to discuss nuclear nonproliferation and disarmament, including the CTBT and its entry into force. It is the first such high-level meeting since 1992.
Of the 33 States in Latin America and the Caribbean, 30 States have signed and 29 have ratified it. The remaining three non-signatories are Cuba, Dominica and Trinidad and Tobago. Overall, the Treaty enjoys near-universality with 181 States having signed it.

The CTBT bans all nuclear explosions on Earth. The Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO) is building a verification regime to monitor the planet for compliance with the Treaty. When complete, 337 facilities worldwide will monitor underground, the oceans and the atmosphere for any sign of a nuclear explosion. To date, close to 250 facilities have been certified and send data to the International Data Centre at the CTBTO in Vienna, Austria.

back to top

News articles and publications found on the DTIRP website are compilations of open source current news articles and commentary concerning significant arms control treaty and related national security issues. The publications aim to give a balanced representation of how the public, other government organizations, and the media may view these arms control and threat reduction programs and issues. They are intended to serve the informational needs of Department of Defense (DoD) officials in the continuing assessment of defense policies, programs and actions. Further reproduction or redistribution for private use or gain is subject to original copyright restrictions. The views and opinions expressed in these articles are not necessarily those supported by DoD, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, or the DTIRP.

On-Site Inspection Exercise on Noble Gas Detection

CTBTO, 02 October 2009, http://www.ctbto.org

The CTBTO offers journalists a unique opportunity to witness a key element of an on-site inspection—the noble gas detection technique. Experts from more than 15 States will participate in this specialized exercise only an hour away from Vienna, Austria, in nearby Slovakia, in October. The exercise focuses on all aspects of noble gas detection during an inspection. It will involve atmospheric gas sampling, borehole preparations for underground gas sampling as well as testing of sampling and analysis equipment.

The exercise provides an insight in how such highly specialized inspection activities are carried out under realistic field conditions. Participants in the exercise will not only conduct all steps required for noble gas detection, but will also observe all prescribed precautions such as wearing contamination protection suits.

During the Comprehensive Integrated Field Exercise 2008 or IFE08, noble gas sampling and analysis were performed for the first time. The exercise in Slovakia takes the development of this inspection technique a step further, taking into account the experiences made during IFE08.

On-site inspections are the ultimate measure of the CTBT verification regime to establish in a suspicious case whether a nuclear explosion has taken place. Noble gas detections can provide 'smoking gun' evidence during such an inspection.

The exercise takes place at a time of unprecedented political momentum in support of the CTBT. At a historic Security Council summit meeting on nuclear nonproliferation and disarmament on 24 September 2009 in New York, Heads of States reiterated the CTBT's importance for a world free of nuclear weapons and called on all remaining States to sign and ratify the Treaty. The same call was made by a large number o Foreign Ministers at a conference to promote the CTBT's entry into force which took place on 24 and 25 September 2009 in New York. The statement by U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton carried particular significance, as Clinton declared that her government would work on Treaty ratification by the United States and other outstanding States. . . .

back to top

News articles and publications found on the DTIRP website are compilations of open source current news articles and commentary concerning significant arms control treaty and related national security issues. The publications aim to give a balanced representation of how the public, other government organizations, and the media may view these arms control and threat reduction programs and issues. They are intended to serve the informational needs of Department of Defense (DoD) officials in the continuing assessment of defense policies, programs and actions. Further reproduction or redistribution for private use or gain is subject to original copyright restrictions. The views and opinions expressed in these articles are not necessarily those supported by DoD, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, or the DTIRP.

IAEA Chief Addresses Historic UN Security Council Meeting

IAEA, 24 September 2009, http://www.iaea.org/

The role of the IAEA in nuclear nonproliferation and nuclear disarmament was the theme of an address given by IAEA Director General Mohamed ElBaradei at a historic UN Security Council meeting during which a resolution calling on states to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons, promote disarmament and reduce the risk of nuclear terrorism was approved.

Dr. ElBaradei spoke of the current fragility and many shortcomings of the global nonproliferation regime and of the need to strengthen and empower the IAEA if it is to play a role in nuclear disarmament.

“Our verification mandate is centered on nuclear material. If the Agency is to be expected to pursue possible weaponization activities, it must be empowered with the corresponding legal authority,” he said.

Dr. ElBaradei also suggested that the international community consider moving from national to multinational control of the nuclear fuel cycle, as this would have decisive consequences for nuclear nonproliferation and nuclear security.

“Our ultimate goal should be the full multinationalization of the fuel cycle as we move towards nuclear disarmament,” he said.

Finally, Dr. ElBaradei highlighted the links between nuclear disarmament and nonproliferation, calling on nuclear weapons states to demonstrate ‘their irreversible commitment to achieving a world free from nuclear weapons’.

“I am gratified to see nuclear disarmament back at the top of the international agenda, as well as recognition of the intrinsic link between nuclear disarmament and nonproliferation,” he said.

The 6191st UN Security Council meeting was convened by U.S. President Barack Obama in his capacity as current Council Chairman. This is the fifth time in history that the Security Council has met at the level of heads of state, and the first time it has been chaired by a U.S. president.

back to top

News articles and publications found on the DTIRP website are compilations of open source current news articles and commentary concerning significant arms control treaty and related national security issues. The publications aim to give a balanced representation of how the public, other government organizations, and the media may view these arms control and threat reduction programs and issues. They are intended to serve the informational needs of Department of Defense (DoD) officials in the continuing assessment of defense policies, programs and actions. Further reproduction or redistribution for private use or gain is subject to original copyright restrictions. The views and opinions expressed in these articles are not necessarily those supported by DoD, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, or the DTIRP.

DOE Deputy Secretary and Rosatom Director Visit Y-12, Oak Ridge National Laboratory during First Meeting of U.S.-Russian Nuclear Energy and Nuclear Security Working Group

Department of Energy, 29 September 2009, http://energy.gov/

The Department of Energy today announced that Deputy Secretary of Energy Daniel Poneman and Director General of the State Atomic Energy Corporation "Rosatom" Sergei Kiriyenko held the first meetings of the joint U.S.-Russian Nuclear Energy and Nuclear Security Working Group on Monday, September 28 and Tuesday, September 29.

The meetings opened with a session hosted by U.S. Secretary of Energy Steven Chu, who met with Director Kiriyenko and Deputy Secretary Poneman to discuss a variety of issues. These included the two countries' mutual work securing vulnerable nuclear materials, efforts to increase cooperation on civil nuclear technologies, and cooperation on other nuclear security issues.

The meetings, which concluded with a plenary session co-chaired by Deputy Secretary Poneman and Director Kiriyenko this morning, were the first since the working group was established under the U.S.-Russia Bilateral Presidential Commission during the July 2009 Presidential Summit. In addition to discussions in Washington, the meetings included a visit by Director Kiriyenko and Deputy Secretary Poneman to the National Nuclear Security Administration's Y-12 National Security Complex and Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) in Oak Ridge, Tennessee.

"The United States and Russia have a long and successful track record of cooperation in the area of nuclear security," said Deputy Secretary of Energy Daniel Poneman. "These meetings and our visits to Oak Ridge National Laboratory and the Y-12 National Security Complex demonstrate how seriously our countries take our shared responsibility to promote peaceful uses of nuclear energy while combating nuclear dangers. I look forward to continuing this record by expanding our cooperation in fulfillment of our Presidents' Joint Statement."

"This visit is devoted to an in depth discussion of the issues of nuclear energy and nuclear security as stipulated by the mandate from the Presidents of the Russian Federation and the United States," said Director Kiriyenko. "We are looking forward to the expansion of our bilateral cooperation on these issues."

The Nuclear Energy and Nuclear Security Working Group was established under the U.S.-Russia Bilateral Presidential Commission during the July 2009 Presidential Summit and is co-chaired by Deputy Secretary Poneman and Director Kiriyenko. As stated in their Joint Statement

back to top

News articles and publications found on the DTIRP website are compilations of open source current news articles and commentary concerning significant arms control treaty and related national security issues. The publications aim to give a balanced representation of how the public, other government organizations, and the media may view these arms control and threat reduction programs and issues. They are intended to serve the informational needs of Department of Defense (DoD) officials in the continuing assessment of defense policies, programs and actions. Further reproduction or redistribution for private use or gain is subject to original copyright restrictions. The views and opinions expressed in these articles are not necessarily those supported by DoD, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, or the DTIRP.

on Nuclear Cooperation, President Obama and President Medvedev recognized the special responsibility of the United States and Russia for security of nuclear weapons and agreed to broaden and deepen U.S.-Russian long-term cooperation to further increase the level of security of nuclear facilities around the world.

After their meeting with Secretary Chu, Deputy Secretary Poneman and Director Kiriyenko flew to Tennessee to visit ORNL and Y-12, where they observed a joint nuclear security training exercise. At Y-12, Deputy Secretary Poneman and Director Kiriyenko also discussed nuclear materials management issues and toured the recently completed Highly Enriched Uranium Materials Facility.

During their visit to ORNL, Director Kiriyenko and Deputy Secretary Poneman received a briefing at the Radiochemical Engineering Development Center and the Spallation Neutron Source.

Photos of the visit by Deputy Secretary Poneman and Director Kiriyenko to ORNL and Y-12 are available on the NNSA website.

While Deputy Secretary Poneman and Director Kiriyenko toured ORNL and Y-12, the remaining U.S. and Russian members of the working group met in Washington to discuss a wide range of topics, including cooperation on nuclear security, nuclear safeguards, nuclear materials consolidation, nuclear emergency operations, and civil nuclear energy cooperation.

As a result of the meeting, a joint action plan formulated by the working group will be forwarded to President Obama and President Medvedev through U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov. Secretary Clinton and Foreign Minister Lavrov serve as the Bilateral Commission Coordinators.

back to top

News articles and publications found on the DTIRP website are compilations of open source current news articles and commentary concerning significant arms control treaty and related national security issues. The publications aim to give a balanced representation of how the public, other government organizations, and the media may view these arms control and threat reduction programs and issues. They are intended to serve the informational needs of Department of Defense (DoD) officials in the continuing assessment of defense policies, programs and actions. Further reproduction or redistribution for private use or gain is subject to original copyright restrictions. The views and opinions expressed in these articles are not necessarily those supported by DoD, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, or the DTIRP.

Gordon Brown Considers Cut in Nuclear Warheads as Part of "Global Bargain"

London Guardian, 23 September 2009, http://www.guardian.co.uk/

The [British] government is considering cutting the number of warheads in its nuclear arsenal, a much more significant move than the plan to reduce the number of new Trident submarines, officials said today.

As [British Prime Minister] Gordon Brown suggested that the existing four boat Trident-missile carrying fleet could be replaced by just three, there is widespread speculation in Whitehall that the government will offer to cut the number of nuclear warheads before the nonproliferation treaty (NPT) review conference in May next year. A decision could be taken shortly before a general election expected at that time.

Brown told the UN in New York today [September 23] that he was prepared to consider the move as part of a multilateral "global bargain" to reduce the risk from nuclear weapons. He told the BBC earlier that there were no proposals concerning warheads "at the moment".

However, officials in several departments say cuts in nuclear warheads are being actively considered. Britain has about 160 "operationally available" nuclear warheads, plus an unknown number in a stockpile. . . .

Officials traveling with Brown said maintaining the UK's nuclear missiles was "non-negotiable". But they argued that the submarine reduction proposed by the prime minister would send an "important political signal" in the run up to May's NPT review conference. . . .

The shadow defense secretary, Liam Fox, said : "There is nothing new in what the prime minster is saying . . . we have already said that we would consider reducing the number of submarines to three if we can maintain continuous at-sea patrols and the UK's credible nuclear deterrent with this number." . . .

Trident will be excluded from the green paper on defense, which the government plans to publish early next year, according to defense officials. However, a fierce debate is going on behind the scenes in Whitehall. . . .

back to top

News articles and publications found on the DTIRP website are compilations of open source current news articles and commentary concerning significant arms control treaty and related national security issues. The publications aim to give a balanced representation of how the public, other government organizations, and the media may view these arms control and threat reduction programs and issues. They are intended to serve the informational needs of Department of Defense (DoD) officials in the continuing assessment of defense policies, programs and actions. Further reproduction or redistribution for private use or gain is subject to original copyright restrictions. The views and opinions expressed in these articles are not necessarily those supported by DoD, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, or the DTIRP.

Security Council Adopts Nuclear Weapons Resolution

Washington Post, 24 September 2009, http://www.washingtonpost.com/

The UN Security Council unanimously adopted a U.S-drafted resolution Thursday morning that affirms many of the steps President Obama plans to pursue as part of his vision for an eventual "world without nuclear weapons."

In a first for a U.S. president, Obama presided over the 15-member meeting, joined by such leaders as Russian President Dmitry Medvedev, Chinese President Hu Jintao and British Prime Minister Gordon Brown. The meeting marked only the fifth head-of-state summit in UN history, and Obama's presence was intended to signal the importance of the issue for the administration.

Addressing the leaders, Obama said nuclear weapons pose a "fundamental threat" to the world. "Just one nuclear weapon exploded in a city... could kill hundreds of thousands of people," he said...

Obama is pressing for a new worldwide treaty to halt production of weapons-grade uranium and plutonium and strengthen the global Non-Proliferation Treaty, which has limited the spread of nuclear weapons for decades but now is in danger of fraying.
The morning session of the Security Council, whose rotating chair is held this month by the United States, comes amid a two-day UN conference that will strongly push for a worldwide ban on nuclear tests, officials said.

For the first time in a decade, a U.S. delegation will attend the biennial UN session on the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, which has been ratified by 181 countries but lacks the support of nine critical governments, including several declared and undeclared nuclear powers. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, who is leading the delegation, is expected to commit the U.S. government to trying to ratify the treaty, which was defeated in the U.S. Senate in 1999.

Obama's agenda marks a sharp departure from [prior] . . . policies . . . [reflecting the views of those who were] generally skeptical of the reliability and value of arms control treaties. Obama has said the new approach is necessary because rogue states and terrorists are trying to acquire nuclear bombs, and the spread of nuclear technology could set off arms races in volatile regions such as the Middle East.

Jeffrey G. Lewis, a nonproliferation expert at the New America Foundation, said the UN resolution would represent significant international support for Obama's nonproliferation agenda, which was first outlined in a speech in Prague in April.

back to top

News articles and publications found on the DTIRP website are compilations of open source current news articles and commentary concerning significant arms control treaty and related national security issues. The publications aim to give a balanced representation of how the public, other government organizations, and the media may view these arms control and threat reduction programs and issues. They are intended to serve the informational needs of Department of Defense (DoD) officials in the continuing assessment of defense policies, programs and actions. Further reproduction or redistribution for private use or gain is subject to original copyright restrictions. The views and opinions expressed in these articles are not necessarily those supported by DoD, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, or the DTIRP.

"It's great for the president to go and give the speech. It's a heck of a lot more powerful if the other countries with nuclear weapons . . . say, 'Okay, it's also the direction we wish to go'," Lewis said.

Countries belonging to the Non-Aligned Movement [NAM] have objected to the resolution's insistence that nuclear violators be brought to the attention of the Security Council, diplomats said. Under current practice, countries that ignore their nonproliferation obligations are first referred to the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA], which can then bring the matter before the council. White House officials said the language would give the Security Council more authority to enforce compliance with the Non-Proliferation Treaty.

Critics say the Obama administration is placing too much hope in treaties that may not win sufficient ratifications for years and may not be fully verifiable. . . .

Gaining Senate ratification of the [CTBT] will be critical to Obama's agenda, and diplomats including Ellen O. Tauscher, the undersecretary of state for arms control and international security, will use the UN conference to develop a diplomatic strategy to get other holdouts to soften their opposition, officials said.

"Other countries have said, if we ratify, they'll ratify," said a senior administration official, speaking on condition of anonymity. Such promises could make it easier to convince skeptics in the U.S. Senate that voting for the treaty is worthwhile, officials said.

Indonesia has pledged to ratify the treaty if the United States does so, and China could quickly follow suit, according to analysts. Other holdouts include Egypt, Israel, India, Pakistan, Iran and North Korea. . . .

back to top

News articles and publications found on the DTIRP website are compilations of open source current news articles and commentary concerning significant arms control treaty and related national security issues. The publications aim to give a balanced representation of how the public, other government organizations, and the media may view these arms control and threat reduction programs and issues. They are intended to serve the informational needs of Department of Defense (DoD) officials in the continuing assessment of defense policies, programs and actions. Further reproduction or redistribution for private use or gain is subject to original copyright restrictions. The views and opinions expressed in these articles are not necessarily those supported by DoD, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, or the DTIRP.

Russia, U.S. to Slash Nuclear Delivery Vehicles—Medvedev

RIA Novosti, 24 September 2009, http://en.rian.ru/

Russia and the United States are discussing the possibility of slashing the number of nuclear weapon delivery vehicles by over 67 percent, Russian President Dmitry Medvedev said Thursday [September 24].

"We are ready to move further and cut the number of delivery vehicles for strategic offensive armaments by more than three times, and this issue is now being discussed at the negotiating table with our American partners," Medvedev told the UN Security Council Summit on Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Nuclear Disarmament.

Medvedev said Wednesday after talks with his U.S. counterpart Barack Obama that a new Russian-U.S. strategic arms reduction treaty is likely be ready in time. Today he reiterated: "We are doing everything possible to sign a relevant document by December."

Medvedev and Obama agreed in July in Moscow on the outline of a deal to replace the 1991 Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START), which expires on December 5, including cutting their countries' nuclear arsenals to 1,500 – 1,675 operational warheads and delivery vehicles to 500 – 1,000.

The START treaty obliges Russia and the U.S. to reduce nuclear warheads to 6,000 and their delivery vehicles to 1,600 each. In 2002, a follow-up agreement on strategic offensive arms reduction was concluded in Moscow. The document, known as the Moscow Treaty, envisioned cuts to 1,700 – 2,200 warheads by December 2012.

According to a report published by the U.S. State Department in April, as of January 1 Russia had 3,909 nuclear warheads and 814 delivery vehicles, including ground-based intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBM), submarine launched ballistic missiles (SLBM) and strategic bombers. The same report said the United States had 5,576 warheads and 1,198 delivery vehicles.

Medvedev also said Russia was ready to work jointly with the United States on "missile proliferation challenges." "We hope all other interested countries will also join this work," he said.

Medvedev outlined a number of priorities. "First, it's necessary to continue improving and strengthening the global regime of nonproliferation and disarmament. International mechanisms, first of all, the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, remain a support here," he said.

back to top

News articles and publications found on the DTIRP website are compilations of open source current news articles and commentary concerning significant arms control treaty and related national security issues. The publications aim to give a balanced representation of how the public, other government organizations, and the media may view these arms control and threat reduction programs and issues. They are intended to serve the informational needs of Department of Defense (DoD) officials in the continuing assessment of defense policies, programs and actions. Further reproduction or redistribution for private use or gain is subject to original copyright restrictions. The views and opinions expressed in these articles are not necessarily those supported by DoD, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, or the DTIRP.

Medvedev also said the International Atomic Energy Agency's safeguards system should be developed, and said the leading countries should sign and ratify the Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty.

The Russian leader urged new nonproliferation mechanisms to be used more actively, including Resolution 1540 on nonproliferation of weapons of mass destruction (WMD), adopted on the proposal of Russia and the U.S.

Medvedev said countries should implement civilian nuclear programs while strictly abiding by nonproliferation agreements.

Obama, who chairs the UN Security Council summit, called on the world again to unite to prevent proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

The UN Security Council secretary general welcomed the steps of Russia and the U.S. on the road to nuclear disarmament, urging other countries to follow suit.

back to top

News articles and publications found on the DTIRP website are compilations of open source current news articles and commentary concerning significant arms control treaty and related national security issues. The publications aim to give a balanced representation of how the public, other government organizations, and the media may view these arms control and threat reduction programs and issues. They are intended to serve the informational needs of Department of Defense (DoD) officials in the continuing assessment of defense policies, programs and actions. Further reproduction or redistribution for private use or gain is subject to original copyright restrictions. The views and opinions expressed in these articles are not necessarily those supported by DoD, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, or the DTIRP.

Nunn-Lugar Program August Update

Senator Lugar, 28 September 2009, http://lugar.senate.gov/nunnlugar/

U.S. Senator Dick Lugar announced the following accomplishments for the Nunn-Lugar Cooperative Threat Reduction program in August:

- 1 intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) destroyed;
- 8 submarine launched ballistic missiles (SLBM) eliminated; and
- 4 nuclear weapons transport train shipments secured.

The eight SS-N-23 "SKIF" SLBMs eliminated have a range of 5,100 miles and were carried on Delta IV submarines. Initially tested with 10 independently targetable warheads, the START treaty restricts them to four warheads each.

In November 1991, Lugar (R-Indiana) and Senator Sam Nunn (D-Georgia) authored the Nunn-Lugar Act, which established the Cooperative Threat Reduction [CTR] Program. This program has provided U.S. funding and expertise to help the former Soviet Union safeguard and dismantle its enormous stockpiles of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons, related materials, and delivery systems. In 2003, Congress adopted the Nunn-Lugar Expansion Act, which authorized the Nunn-Lugar program to operate outside the former Soviet Union to address proliferation threats. In 2004, Nunn-Lugar funds were committed for the first time outside of the former Soviet Union to destroy chemical weapons in Albania, under a Lugar-led expansion of the program. In 2007, Lugar announced the complete destruction of Albania's chemical weapons.

The Nunn-Lugar scorecard now totals 7,514 strategic nuclear warheads deactivated, 755 intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBMs) destroyed, 498 ICBM silos eliminated, 143 ICBM mobile launchers destroyed, 651 submarine launched ballistic missiles (SLBMs) eliminated, 476 SLBM launchers eliminated, 31 nuclear submarines capable of launching ballistic missiles destroyed, 155 bomber eliminated, 906 nuclear air-to-surface missiles (ASMs) destroyed, 194 nuclear test tunnels eliminated, 458 nuclear weapons transport train shipments secured, upgraded security at 24 nuclear weapons storage sites, and built and equipped 18 biological monitoring stations. Perhaps most importantly, Ukraine, Kazakhstan, and Belarus are nuclear weapons free as a result of cooperative efforts under the Nunn-Lugar program. Those countries were the third, fourth and eighth largest nuclear weapons powers in the world.

Lugar makes annual oversight trips to Nunn-Lugar sites around the world.

The Nunn-Lugar program: http://lugar.senate.gov/nunnlugar/
The Nunn-Lugar scorecard: http://lugar.senate.gov/nunnlugar/scorecard.html

back to top

News articles and publications found on the DTIRP website are compilations of open source current news articles and commentary concerning significant arms control treaty and related national security issues. The publications aim to give a balanced representation of how the public, other government organizations, and the media may view these arms control and threat reduction programs and issues. They are intended to serve the informational needs of Department of Defense (DoD) officials in the continuing assessment of defense policies, programs and actions. Further reproduction or redistribution for private use or gain is subject to original copyright restrictions. The views and opinions expressed in these articles are not necessarily those supported by DoD, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, or the DTIRP.