



BI-WEEKLY TREATY REVIEW



30 December 2008 – 12 January 2009

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CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION (CWC)

Two Officials Want to Keep Anniston CW Disposal Site Open

Global Security Newswire, 6 January 2009, <http://www.globalsecuritynewswire.org/gsn/>

Two local officials believe that the chemical weapons disposal plant in Anniston, AL, should not be shuttered when it finishes destroying the site's stockpile of lethal warfare materials, the Associated Press reported last week. (243 words) [Click here for full text.](#)

Progress Continues toward Chemical Weapons Disposal in Colorado

Global Security Newswire, 9 January 2009, <http://www.globalsecuritynewswire.org/gsn/>

Progress continues to be made in preparing for disposal of chemical weapons stored at the Pueblo Chemical Depot in Colorado, two officials said Sunday [January 4] in a commentary in the Pueblo Chieftain. (223 words) [Click here for full text.](#)

INTEGRATED SAFEGUARDS

2008 in Review: Changing Nuclear Perspectives

IAEA Staff Report, 29 December 2008, <http://www.iaea.org/>

Looking back on 2008, the IAEA's future drew close attention, alongside some longstanding dynamic nuclear issues. (967 words) [Click here for full text.](#)

2009 Look Ahead: Nuclear Prospects, Transitions

IAEA Staff Report, 29 December 2008, <http://www.iaea.org/>

Nominations for the post of IAEA Director General are due to the IAEA Board, which is considering candidates for selection by mid-2009. (1,018 words) [Click here for full text.](#)

The President Approves Ratification of the U.S.-IAEA Additional Protocol

Office of the Spokesman, 31 December 2008, <http://www.state.gov/>

On December 30, 2008, the President signed the instrument of ratification for the Protocol Additional to the Agreement between the United States of America and the International Atomic Energy Agency for the Application of Safeguards in the United States of America ("The Additional Protocol"). (161 words) [Click here for full text.](#)

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INTEGRATED SAFEGUARDS (CONT.)

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U.S. Additional Protocol Enters into Force

IAEA, 7 January 2009, <http://www.iaea.org/>

An Additional Protocol to the nuclear safeguards agreement (AP) between the IAEA and the United States entered into force on January 6, 2009. (144 words) [Click here for full text.](#)

White House Voices Concern on North Korea and Uranium

Washington Post, 8 January 2009, <http://www.washingtonpost.com/>

The White House yesterday [January 7] raised anew the possibility that North Korea has an active program to enrich uranium, an issue the administration had played down in recent years as it sought to persuade Pyongyang to give up its nuclear programs. (531 words)

[Click here for full text.](#)

PROLIFERATION SECURITY INITIATIVE (PSI)

Poland, United States Sign Deal against Radioactive Smuggling

BBC Worldwide Monitoring, 8 January 2009, accessed via Lexis Nexis

A memorandum on counteracting illegal transfer of radioactive materials between the U.S. Energy Department and Poland's finance and internal affairs ministers was signed in Warsaw on Thursday [January 8], the foreign ministry wrote in a communiqué. (205 words)

[Click here for full text.](#)

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Two Officials Want to Keep Anniston CW Disposal Site Open

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Two local officials believe that the chemical weapons disposal plant in Anniston, AL, should not be shuttered when it finishes destroying the site's stockpile of lethal warfare materials, the Associated Press reported last week.

Nearly 1,000 jobs would be lost when the U.S. Army's Anniston Chemical Agent Disposal Facility completes operations, according to Calhoun County Commission Chairman Eli Henderson. "We have all those people out there, experts on hand, resources and money tied up in it," Henderson, whose county houses the plant, told the Anniston Star.

The incinerator began operations in 2003 and last month completed destruction of all nerve agent weapons stored at the Anniston Army Depot. It is set next to begin eliminating mustard blister agent.

The plant has experienced no major mishaps and could be used to process blister agent stored at other U.S. sites, Henderson said. Such chemical materials would pose no greater threat than other materials that today are moved along U.S. roadways, he argued.

Anniston Mayor Gene Robinson supports Henderson's position, which is opposed by Alabama Governor Bob Riley and other officials.

Federal and state environmental rules and hazardous waste permits would have to be revised to allow the transportation. Putting the material on the road opens the door to shipping mishaps, air quality troubles and stigmatization of the Anniston area, according to Calhoun County Commissioner Robert Downing.

"I can't understand why we would want to continue to suffer the negative perception of our community," he said.

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Progress continues to be made in preparing for disposal of chemical weapons stored at the Pueblo Chemical Depot in Colorado, two officials said Sunday [January 4] in a commentary in the Pueblo Chieftain.

The site in October received the final permit needed for construction of the disposal facility, according to Bechtel Pueblo Team manager Paul Henry and Gary Anderson, Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives program manager at Pueblo.

"The landscape of the construction site was altered each and every day [in 2008] as new buildings and structures emerged from the ground," they wrote.

There are now 417 people working on preparing the site to begin chemically neutralizing of 2,611 tons of mustard agent held in 780,000 munitions.

Due to funding and cost issues, disposal operations at Pueblo could begin as late as December 2016 and be completed in 2020, according to reports from late 2008. However, Congress has demanded that all U.S. chemical weapons be eliminated by 2017. A report is expected this month on strategies for meeting the deadline.

The Chemical Weapons Convention requires that the United States finish off its stockpile by April 2012.

The Pueblo officials said they expect to receive word early this year on decisions regarding funding, increasing the pace of work and whether wastewater produced through the neutralization process would be treated on-site or shipped to another location.

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2008 in Review: Changing Nuclear Perspectives

IAEA Staff Report, 29 December 2008, <http://www.iaea.org/>

Looking back on 2008, the IAEA's future drew close attention, alongside some longstanding dynamic nuclear issues. Below are selected highlights from January to December 2008, from the pages of *IAEA.org*.

January 2008

- The US Congress allocates \$50 million toward creation of a international nuclear fuel bank under the auspices of the IAEA.
- An IAEA delegation headed by Director General ElBaradei visits Iran for talks on the implementation of nuclear safeguards.

February

- An IAEA team assists Nigerian authorities to recover stray radiation sources in three locations around the country.
- A follow-up report underlines nuclear safety issues arising from the July 2007 earthquake in Japan that led to the shutdown of the Kashiwazaki-Kariwa nuclear power plant.
- More atomic sleuths - scientists with expertise in what's known as nuclear forensics—are needed to reinforce the world's nuclear security, IAEA officials and scientists report.

March

- Feature stories highlight lessons from the tragic 1987 Goiânia accident in Brazil, which alerted the world to the dangers of abandoned radiation sources and led to strengthened international safety standards.
- IAEA Director General ElBaradei reports to the Agency's Board of Governors on nuclear safeguards in Iran, including the status of outstanding issues.
- Russia's radiation legacy draws the attention of emergency-response teams in Murmansk, the site of aging Soviet-era nuclear submarines and stored nuclear waste.

April

- A high-level review panel assessing the IAEA's future receives a background report on Agency programs and priorities to the year 2020.
- More than 500 delegates from 61 countries conclude an extensive peer review on the safety of nuclear power plants.
- Kenya's progress in applying nuclear techniques for developing new and hardier varieties of wheat is feeding its goals of food security.

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May

- Delays and denials of shipments involving regulated radioactive materials used in medicine and industry are of growing concern to safety and industry experts.
- Tanzania's cancer institute receives a new radiotherapy machine through the IAEA's Programme of Action for Cancer Therapy (PACT), to help treat the country's rising number of cancer patients.
- The United States ratifies a key treaty that governs global civil nuclear liability in the event of a nuclear accident.
- IAEA-supported research finds that patients in developing countries often need to have X-ray examinations repeated so that doctors have the image quality they need for useful medical diagnosis.

June

- Studies report that uranium resources are adequate to supply the fuel needs of nuclear power plants for the rest of the century - at present consumption levels.
- The IAEA's future is clouded by political and financial issues influencing its global roles, reports the high-level panel assessing the Agency's future to 2020.
- At a time of rising interest in nuclear electricity generation, the Republic of Korea marks 30 years of nuclear power development.
- IAEA-supported training and equipment help China recover radioactive sources lost in the debris of an earthquake.

July

- Specialists from seven countries in Africa are trained to improve control of radiation sources at a workshop in Morocco.
- Vietnam's battle to help cancer patients gains valuable ground through the IAEA-supported PACT partnership.
- The IAEA works to raise awareness of radiation risks to heart surgeons from medical uses of X-ray imaging systems.

August

- The IAEA Board approves a new safeguards agreement with India covering the country's civilian nuclear facilities.
- China and the IAEA work closely as part of overall security preparations for the Olympic Games, opening this month in Beijing.
- The IAEA projects a steady increase in the nuclear generation of electricity over the next decades, reflecting expansion plans in Asia and other parts of the world.

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September

- In a joint project with the European Space Agency, the IAEA studies the use of satellite networks for monitoring nuclear installations and materials under international safeguards.
- The IAEA releases updated data on illicit nuclear trafficking incidents confirmed since December 1993.
- Delegates from more than 100 countries face far-reaching decisions in Vienna on nuclear issues and the IAEA's work at the annual General Conference.
- The World Nuclear Security Institute is launched in Vienna.
- The IAEA's future to the year 2020 is examined in the context of recommendations issued by a high-level panel that call for greater funding and legal authority for the Agency.

October

- The process of appointing the IAEA Director General for four years beginning 1 December 2009 begins.
- A successful "Atoms for Food" partnership of the IAEA and Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) stands in the balance.
- A new diagnostic kit is announced to help revolutionize the global fight against the feared "bird flu" virus and other such diseases.
- World health and safety experts meet in Buenos Aires at the International Congress on Radiation Protection.

November

- Potential nuclear "newcomers" join experienced nuclear operators at an international conference in India on topical issues of nuclear plant safety.
- The IAEA Board moves to conclude November meetings, taking decisions related to nuclear safeguards, technical cooperation, and nuclear safety.
- Issues of global warming and nuclear power draw close attention in Poland, at the UN Climate Change Conference.

December 2008

- The IAEA calls for increased investment in a plant breeding technique that could bolster efforts aimed at pulling millions of people out of the hunger trap.
- The European Union (EU) pledges Euro 25 million (\$32 million) towards the nuclear fuel bank proposed for placement under IAEA auspices.
- Young professionals are selected for the next class of the World Nuclear University, set to take place at the University of Oxford in England in summer 2009.
- The IAEA marks the 50th anniversary of its extensive standards for nuclear and radiation safety, which today number more than 200 and underpin international legal conventions in the nuclear field.

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January 2009

- Nominations for the post of IAEA Director General are due to the IAEA Board, which is considering candidates for selection by mid-2009.
- Rising demands for freshwater resources for food and energy production frame an international conference in India sponsored by the IAEA.
- Global leaders including IAEA Director General ElBaradei meet in Davos at the World Economic Forum, where the world financial crisis and economic growth are top themes.
- Ghana kicks off a series of IAEA regional seminars on the handling of information related to nuclear trafficking.
- In the United Arab Emirates, energy, environmental, and governmental leaders meet at the World Future Energy Summit, where nuclear prospects are part of debates.

February

- At a conference in Spain, international experts aim to lower chances of uncontrolled radioactive sources ending up in scrapyards.
- Scientists review IAEA-supported research on exposure to toxic elements of women of childbearing age in developing countries.
- Iraqi and other experts receive training in Australia as part of international support to an IAEA nuclear decommissioning project in Iraq.
- The IAEA joins to support World Cancer Day on 4 February, through a global partnership and technical projects to fight the disease.
- Nuclear communicators from Europe and other regions meet in Edinburgh, Scotland, at the European Nuclear Society's conference on public information.

March

- Starting 2 March in Vienna, the IAEA Board meets on issues of nuclear safeguards, safety, and technology.
- The premier international symposium on nuclear waste brings together technical and industry experts in Phoenix, Arizona.
- At the IAEA and elsewhere, the world marks International Women's Day on 8 March.
- In Istanbul, the 5th World Water Forum opens on 16 March.
- Special events highlight World Water Day 22 March, this year focusing on transboundary lake and river basins that cover nearly half of the Earth's land.
- Global efforts to strengthen the security of nuclear and radiological materials take centre stage at the International Symposium on Nuclear Security in Vienna.
- The 5th academic course on nuclear safeguards and non-proliferation opens in Italy, organized by the IAEA and European Safeguards Research and Development Association.

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April

- Issues of energy security, climate change, and electricity costs frame themes at the International Ministerial Conference on Nuclear Energy in the 21st Century, held in Beijing, China.
- The economic competitiveness of the nuclear fuel cycle and nuclear energy are key topics at the World Nuclear Fuel Cycle 2009 sessions in Sydney, Australia.
- Medical authorities review technological advances in radiation oncology for cancer treatment, especially in poorer countries, at an international symposium in Vienna.
- The IAEA's program and budget is reviewed by a committee of the Agency's Board.
- The IAEA and US Department of Energy host an international training course on the physical protection of nuclear material and nuclear facilities.
- In France, technical experts in radioactive waste management meet on the IAEA's centers of excellence network.

May

- The IAEA hosts the 3rd review of the Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel and Radioactive Waste Management, which has 46 contracting parties.
- The run-up to the next review conference of the global Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty continues at preparatory meetings in New York starting 4 May.
- Scientists review advances in using particle accelerators for strategic and applied research, and applications in fields of safety and security, environmental protection, and industry.
- Systems for desalting seawater are technically reviewed at a workshop of the IAEA and International Centre for Theoretical Physics in Trieste, Italy.
- The United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation holds its 57th session in Vienna.

June

- Kazakhstan hosts an environmental conference on remediating lands contaminated with residues of radioactive materials.
- The IAEA Board's mid-year meetings open in early June in Vienna.
- Risks and opportunities of the "livestock revolution" in agriculture are reviewed in Vienna by scientists and policymakers at an FAO/IAEA symposium.
- Scientists, geologists, engineers, and nuclear power operators join to assess the changing dynamics of uranium and the nuclear fuel cycle.
- The prospects for an Integrated Energy Agenda Beyond 2020 are debated in Vienna, Austria. The event is co-organized by the IAEA, the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA), the Austrian Development Cooperation (ADC) and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO).

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July

- The 2009 Summer Institute of the World Nuclear University opens at the University of Oxford in England.
- The annual meeting of the Institute of Nuclear Materials Management opens in Arizona, USA.
- Meeting in Canada, scientists present advances in the production and use of radiopharmaceuticals in medicine.

August

- The IAEA convenes electronic engineers and scientists to improve training in nuclear instrumentation for applications of science and technology.
- The annual summer session at the International School of Nuclear Law takes place in Montpellier, France.

September

- The IAEA General Conference of Member States meets in Vienna starting 14 September, preceded by meetings of the Agency's Board the week before.
- The World Nuclear Association opens its annual symposium in London.
- The 2009 Workshop of the School of Nuclear Knowledge Management opens at the ICTP in Italy.

October

- Specialists review the design and development of water-cooled nuclear plants to help meet this century's electricity demands.
- Scientists at laboratories that use nuclear techniques to monitor pollution, among other applications, examine ways to improve quality assurance.

November

- The IAEA Board's Committee for Technical Cooperation meets at sessions starting 23 November. The full IAEA Board's meeting starts 26 November.
- Research results are reviewed on the use of neutron-based techniques for detecting explosives and illicit materials.
- The International Nuclear Safety Group, an advisory body to the IAEA, meets in Vienna.

December 2009

- In Vienna, the International Conference on Fast Reactors targets future directions of nuclear power.
- In South Africa, an IAEA conference focuses on effective systems of nuclear regulation, building upon 2006 sessions.
- In Copenhagen, world governmental leaders meet at the UN Conference on Climate Change to set the course beyond the Kyoto Protocol to combat CO2 emissions.

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Office of the Spokesman, 31 December 2008, <http://www.state.gov/>

On December 30, 2008, the President signed the instrument of ratification for the Protocol Additional to the Agreement between the United States of America and the International Atomic Energy Agency for the Application of Safeguards in the United States of America ("The Additional Protocol"). Ratification will be completed with deposit of the instrument with the IAEA in Vienna next week.

Additional Protocols with non-nuclear weapon states improve the IAEA's capability to detect clandestine nuclear weapons programs by providing it with increased information about and access to nuclear fuel cycle activities. By adopting an Additional Protocol for the United States, the President has underscored the U.S. commitment to combating nuclear proliferation.

The President's action gives us a stronger foundation from which to encourage other states to adopt the Protocol. The President has spearheaded international efforts to bring about universal adoption of the Additional Protocol. To date, 118 countries have signed an Additional Protocol and 89, including the United States, have ratified it.

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Candidates for IAEA Director General Nominated

IAEA, 2 January 2009, <http://www.iaea.org/>

The governments of Japan and South Africa have submitted candidates for IAEA Director General to the Agency's Board. Japan has nominated Ambassador Yukiya Amano and South Africa has nominated Ambassador Abdul Samad Minty.

The two candidates were nominated in line with a process announced by the Board in October 2008. IAEA Director General Mohamed ElBaradei's term of office expires on 30 November 2009. He has served as Director General since 1997 and has stated that he is not available for a fourth term of office.

At the October 2008 Board meeting, Chair Taous Feroukhi informed Governors that the closing date for submitting nominations had been set for 31 December 2008.

In order to be appointed a candidate must secure a two-thirds vote of the 35-member IAEA Board of Governors. If a two-thirds majority is not achieved, the nomination process begins again.

The Board intends to make an appointment by June 2009. The appointment will then be submitted for approval at the IAEA General Conference in September 2009.

Background

Dr. ElBaradei is the IAEA's fourth Director General since 1957. He was first appointed to the office effective December 1997, and reappointed in 2001 and 2005. He follows Hans Blix, IAEA Director General from 1981 to 1997; Sigvard Eklund, IAEA Director General from 1961 to 1981; and Sterling Cole, IAEA Director General from 1957 to 1961.

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IAEA, 7 January 2009, <http://www.iaea.org/>

An Additional Protocol to the nuclear safeguards agreement (AP) between the IAEA and the United States entered into force on January 6, 2009.

U.S. Ambassador Gregory Schulte formally handed over the notification of the completion of the U.S. ratification procedures to IAEA Director General Mohamed ElBaradei, marking the effective date for the entry into force of the AP for the country.

With the entry into force of the U.S. AP, all five nuclear-weapon States party to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) have fulfilled their undertaking, assumed at the time of approval by the IAEA Board of Governors of the Model Additional Protocol in 1997, to conclude such an AP.

The entry into force of the U.S. AP brings the number of States with an AP to 89 and contributes to efforts aimed at achieving universal application of the Additional Protocol.

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White House Voices Concern on North Korea and Uranium

Washington Post, 8 January 2009, <http://www.washingtonpost.com/>

The White House yesterday [January 7] raised anew the possibility that North Korea has an active program to enrich uranium, an issue the administration had played down in recent years as it sought to persuade Pyongyang to give up its nuclear programs.

With just 12 days left in the Bush administration, national security adviser Stephen J. Hadley made the allegation in a speech reviewing the president's foreign policy legacy. Warning that North Korea will be "an early challenge" for the incoming Obama administration, Hadley said that there can be no progress if North Korea does not agree to a verification plan on its nuclear claims.

"This is especially true because some in the intelligence community have increasing concerns that North Korea has an ongoing covert uranium-enrichment program," Hadley added.

In 2002, the administration accused Pyongyang of running a secret uranium program and demanded it be dismantled at once. But the accusation about the alleged uranium program backfired, sparking a series of events that ultimately led to North Korea's first nuclear test—using another material, plutonium—in 2006. Then in 2007, intelligence analysts backed off the claim that North Korea had an active, full-scale program, saying they had only "mid-confidence" that such a program existed.

Administration officials said the new concerns were largely based on in-depth scientific analysis of enriched uranium traces that were discovered on smelted aluminum tubes and reactor documents that had been provided by North Korea in an effort to rebut allegations that it had a uranium program. The Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA) in particular has pressed this case, backed by the vice president's office and some parts of the CIA, but the Energy Department (DOE) has opposed it, officials said.

David Albright, a former U.N. weapons inspector and president of the Institute for Science and International Security, said he had been briefed recently on the findings by government officials. He said "very few particles" had actually been discovered on the documents and the tubes, and that the DIA was basing its analysis on a single particle that, through age-dating techniques, was believed to be about 3 1/2 years old.

The dating could be significant because Pakistan has acknowledged providing North Korea with a sample centrifuge kit for uranium enrichment in the early 1990s. Many analysts have speculated that the tubes and the paper had been contaminated with enriched uranium from the

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Pakistani equipment. The DIA argued that a particle just 3 1/2 years old could only have been processed in North Korea.

The Energy Department disputed that, saying that the evidence did not exclude the possibility that the traces came from the Pakistani equipment. DOE analysts described the single particle cited by the DIA as an "outlier" from the other particles that were found, Albright said.

Albright said it was "irresponsible and inflammatory" for Hadley to highlight the concerns of just a segment of the intelligence community. "It fans the flames of controversy and hands Obama a hot potato."

Many North Korea experts have criticized the administration for overselling the original intelligence, handing North Korea an opportunity to restart its reactor facilities—at the time frozen under a 1994 agreement—and thus obtain the materials needed to make nuclear weapons.

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BI-WEEKLY TREATY REVIEW



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Poland, United States Sign Deal against Radioactive Smuggling

BBC Worldwide Monitoring, 8 January 2009, accessed via Lexis Nexis

A memorandum on counteracting illegal transfer of radioactive materials between the U.S. Energy Department (DOE) and Poland's finance and internal affairs ministers was signed in Warsaw on Thursday [January 8], the foreign ministry wrote in a communiqué.

Under the memorandum, Polish border guards, customs services and other services concerned will receive U.S. support in acquiring state-of-the-art equipment for detecting radioactive sources as part of the U.S. Second Line of Defense program to tighten inspections on border points and important transit points.

The foreign ministry wrote in the communiqué that Poland joined the program when the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) recorded a growing number of illegal transfers of radioactive materials and when the possibility of a nuclear terrorist attack was identified as one of most serious threats to the state security. The value of the memorandum should also be perceived in the context of tightening of EU's Schengen area eastern border to which Poland belongs since December 2007.

Polish-U.S. cooperation and international cooperation in preventing the proliferation of mass destruction weapons started in 2003 via Poland's participation in the Proliferation Security Initiative (PSI) and Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism. Besides, as of 2006 Polish ports and cargo terminals joined the Container Security Initiative (CSI), the ministry wrote.

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