



European Union

Statement by

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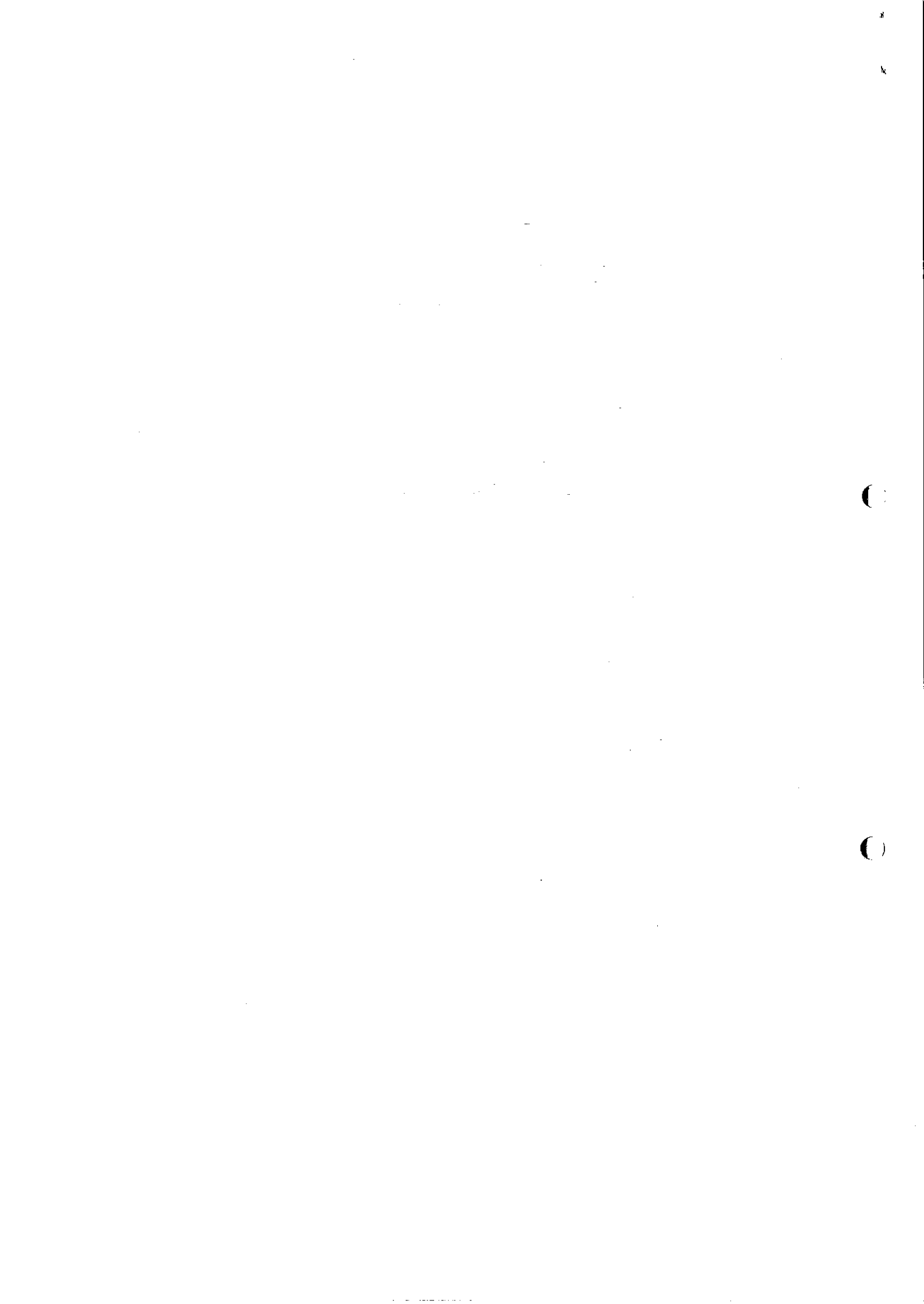
**Second Session of the Preparatory Committee to the NPT
Annual Meeting of States Parties**

(Geneva, 22 April – 3 May 2013)

Cluster II

Geneva, 26 April 2013

- CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY -



Second session of the Preparatory Committee to the NPT
Geneva, 22 April-3 May 2013
Statement by the European Union – Cluster 2

Mr. Chairman,

I have the honour to speak on behalf of the European Union.

The following countries align themselves with this declaration: Croatia^{*}, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia^{*}, Montenegro^{*}, Iceland[†], Serbia^{*}, Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova and Georgia.

The EU remains fully committed to effective multilateral action against the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. We continue to contribute actively to the global efforts to seek a safer world for all and to create the conditions for a world without nuclear weapons in accordance with the goals of the NPT, in a way that promotes international stability, and based on the principle of undiminished security for all.

The international community continues to be faced with major proliferation challenges by the DPRK, Iran and Syria: these must be addressed in a resolute way in order to maintain the credibility and effectiveness of the NPT regime. In this context, the EU underlines the primary responsibility of the UN Security Council for the maintenance of international peace and stability, including in cases of non-compliance. The EU remains committed to upholding the NPT.

The EU strongly condemns the DPRK satellite launches using ballistic missile technology conducted on 13 April and 12 December 2012 as well as the nuclear test conducted on 12 February 2013, in blatant violation of the UN Security Council Resolutions 1695, 1718 and 1874, reconfirmed in UNSC Resolutions 2087 and 2094. The EU strongly urges the DPRK to abandon all its existing nuclear and ballistic missile programs in a complete, verifiable and irreversible manner. We strongly condemn the DPRK's aggressive rhetoric, including repeated threats of the use of force. The EU also calls on the DPRK to refrain from any further provocations and to return to full compliance with the NPT and IAEA safeguards obligations. We deplore the announcement by the DPRK to restart its nuclear facilities at Yongbyon, including the 5 MW reactor and its uranium enrichment. This would be in clear violation of the relevant UN Security Council resolutions as well as of its commitments made in 2007 in the Six Party Talks to shut down these facilities. Continued breaking of its international obligations by the DPRK that threaten stability in the region will inevitably lead to an ever more united response by the international community.

^{*} Accessing Country Croatia and the Candidate countries former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia as well as potential candidate countries Albania and Bosnia and Herzegovina continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process.

[†] Candidate Country Iceland continues to be a member of the EFTA and of the European Economic Area.

In the case of Iran, the EU remains deeply concerned about their nuclear programme and continues to be engaged in renewed efforts aimed at finding a negotiated solution. Our objective remains to reach a comprehensive long-term settlement, which would restore international confidence in the exclusively peaceful nature of Iran's nuclear programme, ensuring that Iran is in compliance with all its obligations under the NPT, as well as relevant UNSC and IAEA Board of Governors resolutions, while fully respecting its right to the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. The most recent meetings of representatives of the E3+3 with Iran, led by the EU High Representative, are a clear example of our determination to work towards achieving a diplomatic solution. In line with our dual track approach we urge Iran to constructively engage on the basis of the confidence-building proposal presented by the E3+3 and to take the concrete steps that would pave the way for comprehensive negotiations and to avoid further isolation. We call on all UN Member States to support these efforts by fully implementing relevant Security Council Resolutions.

The EU continues to be deeply concerned about the continuation by Iran of enrichment and heavy water related activities, all of which are in blatant breach of six UNSC resolutions and twelve mandatory Board of Governors resolutions. There is a continued lack of progress on clarifying the possible military dimensions to Iran's nuclear programme. Iran must suspend its enrichment activities and heavy water related projects, including research and development, and implement the modified Code 3.1 of the Subsidiary Arrangements General Part to its Safeguards Agreement. Iran is required under several UNSC Resolutions to ratify and implement the Additional Protocol. Iran must also strengthen co-operation with the IAEA in order to resolve outstanding issues, including by finalizing the long sought agreement on a structured approach.

The EU deeply regrets that, despite the resolutions of the Board of Governors of the IAEA and the Syrian pledge in 2011 to the Director General to respond positively and without delay to the Agency's request to resolve all outstanding questions, Syria has yet to provide the necessary cooperation. The EU strongly urges Syria to fully comply with this resolution. The Syrian authorities remain responsible, as required by the Board's resolution, for urgently remedying their noncompliance with their NPT Safeguards Agreement and for cooperating urgently and transparently with the Agency to clarify matters with regard to Dair Alzour and the other sites, and to sign and ultimately bring into force an Additional Protocol as soon as possible.

The EU strongly supports the outcome of the 2010 NPT Review Conference on the Middle East. In this context, we regret the postponement of the Conference on the establishment of a Middle East zone free of nuclear weapons and all other weapons of mass destruction, which, in accordance with the decision of the 2010 Review Conference of the NPT was scheduled to take place in 2012. The EU remains fully committed to the objective of establishing such a zone. We continue to fully support the ongoing preparations for a successful conference with the participation of all States of the region and the tireless efforts of Ambassador Laajava to lay the groundwork in this respect, including through consultations to prepare for the conference to ensure its arrangements are freely entered into between the States of the region. We hope that the Conference will be convened as soon as possible this year. We have contributed to the process through two EU sponsored seminars on a WMD-free zone in the Middle East in July 2011 and in November 2012 and stand ready to further support the process, including through follow-up to our previous initiatives, if deemed appropriate by the Facilitator and in close coordination with the countries of the region.

The European Union fully supports the IAEA's comprehensive system of safeguards as a fundamental component of the nuclear non-proliferation regime and indispensable for the

implementation of the NPT. We would like to stress that the measures contained in the Additional Protocol form an integral part of the IAEA Safeguards system and reiterate that Comprehensive Safeguards Agreements, together with Additional Protocols, constitute the current IAEA verification standard. The EU also encourages the evolution of Safeguards to a state-level concept applicable to all states that is more objectives based and that considers all Safeguards relevant information about a state. This approach will enable the IAEA to focus its efforts where the risks of proliferation are greatest.

To support the IAEA, the EU continues to develop the partnership arrangements with the IAEA through the EU's regional System for Accountancy and Control, EURATOM Safeguards, with the objective of promoting transparency and mutual confidence. We continued to support actively the Agency's safeguards system through, inter alia, the EC Safeguards Support Programme with an average of € 3.3 million per year. Furthermore, the EU contributed € 10 million towards modernizing the IAEA Safeguards Analytical Laboratory (SAL). Via the IAEA Member State Support Programmes (MSSP), the European Union also provided the Agency with technology and expertise from the EC's Joint Research Centre and its institutes at Ispra (Italy), Geel (Belgium) and Karlsruhe (Germany) in many technical areas related to the effective implementation of safeguards verification measures

On 25 January 2013, a first senior level meeting took place bringing together officials from the EU and the IAEA to discuss enhanced cooperation and follow up steps between the two organizations.

The European Union recognizes the importance of appropriate effective export controls, in compliance with UN Security Council Resolutions 1540, 1887 and 1977 and in accordance with paragraph 2 of Article III of the NPT. In this context, it supports fully the activities of the international export control regimes, namely the Nuclear Suppliers Group, the Zangger Committee, the Australia Group, the Wassenaar Arrangement and MTCR and the full participation of EU Member States therein. The Zangger Committee and the Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG) continue to be important fora in this field to share experience and work effectively towards efficient export controls, thus contributing concretely to fighting proliferation. All States should draw on their work when drafting and implementing their respective export control legislation. The EU has committed around €5 million to assist third countries with improving of their legal framework and institutional capacities for the establishment and enforcement of effective export controls in 2010-2013 and will continue its assistance activities.

The European Union stresses the need to do everything possible to prevent the risks of weapons of mass destruction falling into the hands of terrorists. In this context, we stress the need for compliance with obligations under United Nations Security Council Resolutions 1540 (2004) and 1887 (2009), and call for improved nuclear security for high activity radioactive sources. The EU has provided support since 2004 with more than € 34.5 million in this regard. Consistent with the longstanding and significant support provided by the EU to global nuclear security efforts, the EU and its Member States have been actively contributing to the implementation of Security Council resolution 1540 and fully supports the key role of the IAEA. The EU welcomes the invitation by the IAEA to a Ministerial Conference on Nuclear Security in July 2013 and we encourage NPT State Parties to support this initiative. Preventing nuclear terrorism by continuously improving the security of nuclear materials is a global challenge that indeed requires a global platform.

The EU participates in or contributes to other initiatives such as the Proliferation Security Initiative, the G8 Global Partnership against the spread of weapons and materials of mass destruction, the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism, as well as the NSS process, and is looking forward to the preparations for the Nuclear Security Summit in The Hague, in 2014.

UN Security Council Resolution 1540 also requires that all States shall take and enforce effective measures to establish domestic controls to prevent the proliferation of WMD and their means of delivery, including controls over related materials and technology. To this end, the States shall also establish transit and brokering controls. The EU dual-use export control regime continued to be strengthened through a revised Council regulation setting up a Community regime that covers the control of exports, transfer, brokering and transit of dual use items. The European Union has provided, and will continue to provide, significant support to third countries to ensure the full implementation of UNSCR 1540. The European Union is in the process of finalizing a new Council Decision that would continue to provide support to the 1540 Committee in promoting the full implementation of resolution 1540.

The European Union is one of the main contributors to the Nuclear Security Fund through its own contributions and through the contributions of individual European Union Member States, with a level of funding around € 30 million since 2004. So far, more than 50 countries have benefited from assistance funded through European Union Joint Actions and Council Decisions and the number continues to grow. Under the European Union Instrument for Stability, nearly €300 million is being dedicated during the period 2007 - 2013 to CBRN risk mitigation, out of which about one third will be dedicated to the European Union initiative called Regional CBRN Centres of Excellence. Its objective is to strengthen the institutional capacity to counter the CBRN risk worldwide.

Thank you.