

The International Atomic Energy Agency

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) serves as the world's foremost intergovernmental forum for scientific and technical cooperation in the peaceful use of nuclear energy. Established in 1957 as an autonomous international organization within the United Nations system, the IAEA carries out programmes to maximize the contribution of nuclear technology to society while verifying its peaceful use. The IAEA Secretariat has been led by Director General Yukiya Amano since December 2009.

The IAEA works with its 164 Member States and multiple partners worldwide to promote safe, secure and peaceful use of nuclear energy. Through technical cooperation programmes the IAEA assists its Member States and promotes the exchange of scientific and technical information between them. The IAEA's work also includes setting the framework for cooperative efforts to build and strengthen an international nuclear safety and security regime and verifying States' fulfilment of their non-proliferation undertakings under the NPT.

The IAEA headquarters is at the Vienna International Centre in Vienna, Austria. Operational liaison and regional offices are located in Geneva, Switzerland; New York, USA; Toronto, Canada; and Tokyo, Japan. The IAEA runs scientific laboratories in Vienna and Seibersdorf, Austria and in Monaco. It also supports research centres, such as the one in Trieste, Italy.

The IAEA Secretariat is a team of some 2500 multi-disciplinary professional and support staff from more than 100 countries.

The IAEA and the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT)

The IAEA is not a party to the NPT but is entrusted with a key verification role under it. Under the NPT, the IAEA has a specific role as the international safeguards inspectorate. The IAEA serves also as a multilateral / States party to the NPT fulfil

made, " with a view to preventing diversion of nuclear energy from peaceful uses to nuclear weapon or other nuclear explosive devices."

NPT Article IV: The IAEA facilitates and provides a co-ordinating mechanism at " the further c

IAEA Safeguards

Under Article III of the NPT, each non-nuclear-weapon State party undertakes the obligation to conclude a comprehensive safeguards agreement with the IAEA. Under such agreement, the IAEA has the right and obligation to ensure that safeguards are applied on all nuclear material in all peaceful nuclear activities within the territory of the State, under its jurisdiction or carried out under its control anywhere, for the exclusive purpose of verifying that such material is not diverted to nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices.

As of the end of 2014, safeguards were applied for 180 States^{1,2} with safeguards agreements in force with the IAEA. These States³ include the five nuclear-weapon-States party to the NPT with voluntary offer agreements in force for which safeguards are applied to declared nuclear material in selected facilities or parts thereof. Twelve non-nuclear-weapon States party to the NPT had not yet brought comprehensive safeguards agreements into force as required by Article III of the NPT.⁴

Although the IAEA has the authority under a comprehensive safeguards agreement to verify the peaceful use of all nuclear material in a State (i.e. the correctness and t

relevant information. In implementing in-field activities, the Secretariat annually carries out approximately 2000 inspections and spends some 12 000 calendar-days in the field for verification.

Since the 2010 Review Conference, the IAEA has continued its effort to resolve outstanding safeguards implementation issues in three States.⁶

Peaceful Applications of Nuclear Technology

Consistent with its statutory mandate “to accelerate and enlarge the contribution of

assists Member States in these areas, upon their request, through peer reviews, advisory services, knowledge networks and capacity building activities.⁸

⁸ For further details on nuclear safety and nuclear security see Sections 4.3 and 4.4 of the background paper to the 2015 NPT Review Conference prepared by the IAEA Secretariat on Activities of the International Atomic Energy Agency relevant to article IV of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT/CONF.2015/14).