

Global Threat Reduction Initiative

International Partners' Conference

Summary of the Proceedings and Findings
Of the Conference

18-19 September 2004
Vienna, Austria

Introduction

The Global Threat Reduction Initiative (GTRI) International Partners' Conference took place in Vienna, Austria, from September 18-19, 2004. More than [590 representatives](#) from 100 International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Member States attended the GTRI International Partners' Conference on September 18-19, 2004, in Vienna, Austria. Representatives from ten non-governmental and international organizations were also present during the conference. The Governments of the United States and the Russian Federation co-sponsored the International Partners Conference, with support from the International Atomic Energy Agency.

The purpose of the International Partners' Conference was to build and broaden international support for efforts by national authorities to identify, secure, recover, and/or facilitate the disposition of high-risk nuclear and radioactive materials that pose a potential threat to the international community.

Opening Session

The Opening Session of the Conference was highlighted by keynote addresses by U.S. Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham and Alexander Rumyantsev, Director of the Federal Atomic Energy Agency of the Russian Federation. Secretary Abraham noted that there are four elements to the GTRI. The first is to repatriate all Russian-origin fresh HEU by the end of 2005. The second is to accelerate and complete the repatriation of all US-origin research reactor spent fuel from existing locations within a decade. Third is to convert the cores of targeted civilian research reactors to LEU fuels in the US and around the world. He noted the many accomplishments of these three elements, including the creation of the Office of Global Threat Reduction to consolidate existing programs in DOE and to focus exclusively on implementing the initiative. The Secretary described the fourth and final leg of the initiative: to identify and secure other nuclear and radiological materials and related equipment not yet covered by existing threat reduction efforts; as critical and perhaps the most challenging. He described the first task in this regard as creating an official inventory of high risk materials worldwide, including materials that could be used in a Radiological Dispersal Device (RDD).

In his keynote speech, U.S. Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham announced a new contribution to the IAEA in support of technical cooperation projects that address the objectives of GTRI. Secretary Abraham also highlighted a new funding arrangement announced by the Government of Australia for regional radioactive source security efforts in the Asia-Pacific Region as an example of how all states can contribute to enhancing nuclear and radioactive source security worldwide, as defined by the established goals of GTRI. Secretary Abraham called upon other States to commit resources, whether it be through commitment of funding, technical expertise, or in-kind assistance for efforts that support implementation of the GTRI related objectives.

Director Rumyantsev focused on the new challenges and threats from international terrorism facing the international community. GTRI and the GTRI International Partners' Conference, according to Rumyantsev, are timely and necessary steps to prevent potential acts of nuclear

terrorism. Rumyantsev also stressed that recent IAEA efforts had resulted in the discovery of a widely distributed, highly organized clandestine network of trade in nuclear materials and technologies that had been in operation for a numbers of years. Rumyantsev assured conference participants that Russia is ready to take an active part in all aspects of the Global Threat Reduction Initiative.

The IAEA's Deputy Director General for Safeguards, Pierre Goldschmidt, provided remarks on behalf of Director General ElBaradei and noted that many Member States have requested assistance in the area of nuclear security through the IAEA's technical cooperation program and hoped that the increased resources to be made available through GTRI would increase the IAEA's ability to respond to these requests.

In their respective addresses, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Chairman Nils Diaz and Acting Chairman of the of the Nuclear, Industrial, and Environmental Authority of Russia, Andrey Malyshev, highlighted the significant contribution that nuclear regulatory authorities can, and should, make for radiological safety, security and preparedness. They also pointed out that nuclear regulators have a primary responsibility to provide consistent and unmistakable protection from radiological hazards, including those capable of being used in terrorist acts, while preserving the benefits that countries accrue from their peaceful civilian uses.

Serban Valeca, President of Nuclear Agency of Romania, presented a letter to the Conference from Romanian Prime Minister Adrian Nastase, highlighting Romania's long term commitment to addressing the threat to global security by vulnerable nuclear and other radioactive material, and reaffirmed Romania's determination to "participate in the international effort to mitigate that threat."

One of the significant outcomes of the International Partners Conference was reaching agreement on the [Findings of the Conference](#) by participating Member States that outlined a broadly shared opinion of participating Member States on efforts to reduce the potential threat posed by vulnerable, unsecured nuclear and other radioactive material. It is hoped that this document can be used as a framework to consolidate, expand, and accelerate domestic, regional, and IAEA programs that address unsecured vulnerable nuclear and radioactive materials, as deemed necessary by Member States.

Main Session

Professor Alec Baer from Switzerland, a former member of the Board of Governors of the IAEA and a former Chairman of the Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG), moderated the Main Session. During this session, The U.S. department of Energy's Deputy Administrator for Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation , Paul Longworth, and Seregy Antipov, Head of the Directorate for Decommissioning of Nuclear and Radiation Hazardous Facilities, Federal Atomic Energy Agency of the Russian Federation delivered presentations on U.S. and Russian activities under GTRI.

Representatives from the IAEA's Office of Nuclear Security and the Departments of Nuclear Energy and Technical Cooperation delivered in-depth presentations on IAEA activities currently has underway that address issues consolidated under GTRI, including Reduced Enrichment for Research and Test Reactors (RERTR) and Radiological Security Partnerships.

During the second half of the Main Session, specific participating Member States delivered presentations outlining and highlighting recent national and regional threat reduction activities in their individual countries. Some participating Member States also delivered remarks from the floor following the conclusion of the Main Session. These presentations highlighted individual participation by Member States in programs consolidated and expanded under GTRI including the Reduced Enrichment for Research and Test Reactors (RERTR), the U.S. Foreign Research Reactor Spent Nuclear Fuel (FRRSNF) Acceptance program, the Russian Research Reactor Fuel Return (RRRFR) program, and the Tripartite Initiative on radiological security, and the Radiological Security Partnership program, and offered support for expanding cooperation to address material and issues no currently covered under existing programs.

Closing Session

In his closing remarks, Secretary Abraham highlighted the broad support developed during the conference, as exemplified by the level and extent of participation and the final Findings of the Conference. He also encouraged participants to follow through with substantive actions aimed at reducing the threat posed by under-secure nuclear and radiological materials. Director Rummyantsev also noted that one of the primary objectives of the conference was to build international support for national programs to identify, secure, and/or facilitate the disposition of high-risk radioactive material, was accomplished as evidence by the level participation during the conference. Director Rummyantsev also called upon all states to take an active part in GTRI.

As a first step, participating members states urged the international community to note additional opportunities to further build support for activities related to GTRI. In particular, the following upcoming conferences and meetings were highlighted:

- [The International Meeting on Reduced Enrichment for Research and Test Reactors in Vienna, Austria, from November 7-12, 2004;](#)
- The Asia-Pacific Conference on Nuclear Safeguards and Security, in Australia from November 8-9, 2004;
- [The March 2005 IAEA Conference in London, United Kingdom on Nuclear Security: Global Directions for the Future;](#)
- The Research Reactor Fuel Management (RRFM) Meeting, organized by the European Nuclear Society, in cooperation with the IAEA in Budapest, Hungary, April 10-13, 2005;
- [The June 27 - July 1, 2005 IAEA International Conference on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources in Bordeaux, France, as a follow-on to the March 2003 International Conference the Security of Radioactive Sources.](#)

At the conclusion of the conference, Dr. Baer announced that the [findings of the conference](#), as presented in the Main Session, accurately represented a broadly shared opinion of [participating Member States](#) of the need for national authorities to address, in a timely and urgent manner, the potential threat posed by vulnerable, high-risk nuclear and other radiological material around the world.



Global Threat Reduction Initiative
International Partners' Conference
September 18-19, 2004

Findings of the Conference

The Global Threat Reduction Initiative International Partners' Conference took place in Vienna, Austria, from September 18-19, 2004. The conference was co-sponsored by the Government of United States of America and the Government of the Russian Federation and was supported by the International Atomic Energy Agency. The purpose of the conference was to build international support for national programs to identify, secure, recover and/or facilitate the disposition of high-risk nuclear and other radioactive material that pose a potential threat to the international community. These efforts should be undertaken in compliance with all relevant international obligations and with the national laws and regulations of each country.

The Conference resulted in a number of important findings to promote greater international cooperation with regard to activities related to the Global Threat Reduction Initiative. While expressing concern that unsecured, high-risk nuclear and other radioactive materials pose a threat to the international community, the Conference acknowledged that all States share the objective to help reduce that threat through common but differentiated efforts.

The Conference acknowledged the importance of full implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1540. While striving to ensure that Member States enjoy the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, the Conference recognized the responsibility of States to identify, secure, recover and/or facilitate the disposition of these unsecured high risk nuclear and other radioactive materials with a view towards preventing their theft, diversion, or use for terrorist purposes.

The Conference recognized that some States may require assistance in identifying, securing, recovering or dispositioning of these nuclear and other radioactive materials.

The Conference expressed support for international cooperation in accelerating existing programs and in creating new programs where necessary to identify, secure, recover and/or facilitate disposition of unsecured nuclear and other radioactive materials that are not currently covered under existing threat reduction programs and that pose a potential threat to the international community.

This should be done without adversely affecting existing funding arrangements.

The Conference supported international efforts to assist, upon request, national authorities to secure and facilitate the disposition of fresh and spent civilian high enriched uranium (HEU). The Conference also supports efforts to convert, where feasible, civilian research reactors from the use of HEU to low enriched uranium (LEU) fuel with appropriate financial and technical assistance to States that require assistance for these purposes while sustaining research and radioisotope production for peaceful purposes.

The Conference fully supported international efforts in the field of repatriation of fresh and spent HEU nuclear fuel of civilian research reactors.

The Conference encouraged all States to adhere to and strengthen the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (CPPNM) and take the IAEA recommendations on the physical protection of nuclear material (INFCIRC/225/Rev.4) into account when securing nuclear material.

The Conference encouraged all States to follow the guidance contained in the IAEA Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources and the IAEA Guidance for the Import and Export of Radioactive Sources.

The Conference encouraged all States to participate actively in the Global Threat Reduction Initiative, through agreement to return, recover, secure, or dispose of materials, through financial and technical contributions, or through in-kind assistance, on a voluntary basis or as circumstances and national resources permit. Contributions under the Global Threat Reduction Initiative may also count towards the G8 Global Partnership, and the Global Threat Reduction Initiative is consistent with the G8 Global Partnership.

The Conference noted that, as a follow-on to the Global Threat Reduction Initiative International Partners' Conference, there are additional opportunities to further build support for activities related to the Global Threat Reduction Initiative. In particular, the following upcoming conferences and meetings were highlighted:

The International Meeting on Reduced Enrichment for Research and Test Reactors in Vienna, Austria, from November 7-12, 2004;

The Asia-Pacific Conference on Nuclear Safeguards and Security, in Australia from November 8-9, 2004;

The March 2005 IAEA Conference in London, United Kingdom on Nuclear Security: Global Directions for the Future;

The Research Reactor Fuel Management (RRFM) Meeting, organized by the European Nuclear Society, in cooperation with the IAEA in Budapest, Hungary, April 10-13, 2005;

The June 27 - July 1, 2005 IAEA International Conference on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources in Bordeaux, France, as a follow-on to the March 2003 International Conference the Security of Radioactive Sources.

The Conference recommends that Member States work with the IAEA to coordinate a mechanism to address opportunities for implementing Global Threat Reduction Initiative related projects and programs, consistent with the activities relevant to the Global Threat Reduction Initiative and as approved by the IAEA Member States.

Participant list

IAEA Member States in attendance during the GTRI International Partners' Conference:

Albania	Guatemala	Poland
Algeria	Holy See	Portugal
Argentina	Hungary	Republic of Korea
Armenia	Iceland	Republic of Moldova
Australia	India	Romania
Austria	Ireland	Russia
Azerbaijan	Israel	Saudi Arabia
Belarus	Italy	Senegal
Belgium	Japan	Serbia and Montenegro
Bolivia	Kazakhstan	Slovakia
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Kenya	Slovenia
Bulgaria	Kuwait	Spain
Cameroon	Latvia	Sri Lanka
Canada	Lebanon	Sweden
Chile	Liberia	Switzerland
China	Libya	Tajikistan
Colombia	Lithuania	Tanzania
Croatia	Luxembourg	Thailand
Cyprus	Mali	Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
Czech Republic	Malta	Tunisia
Denmark	Mexico	Turkey
Ecuador	Mongolia	Ukraine
Egypt	Morocco	United Arab Emirates
El Salvador	Namibia	United Kingdom
Estonia	Netherlands	United States
Finland	New Zealand	Uzbekistan
France	Nigeria	Vietnam
Georgia	Norway	Yemen
Germany	Paraguay	Zambia
Ghana	Peru	
Greece	Philippines	

IAEA Member States who participated in the GTRI International Partners' Conference as Observers:

Indonesia	South Africa	Venezuela
Malaysia	Burkina Faso	