

International Atomic Energy Agency

Important Meetings and Summits

In the last few months, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)'s Member States held important meetings and International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) representatives participated in gatherings within the United Nations (UN) system.

IAEA Meetings

The IAEA concluded the last session of its Board of Governors meetings for the year on November 30, 2012.¹ In his remarks to the Board, Director General (DG) Yukiya Amano noted the importance of the Agency's Technical Cooperation program as a means to providing Member States with access to technological advances that can improve people's standard of living.² In addition, the DG commended Iraq and Vietnam on adopting the Additional Protocol (AP) for their safeguards systems, and encouraged the remaining 13 countries party to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) without comprehensive safeguards to adopt similar measures.³ From December 15-17, 2012, the IAEA and the Government of Japan held the Fukushima Ministerial Conference on Nuclear Safety.⁴ The Conference focused on lessons learned, steps to be taken, and the implementation of the IAEA *Action Plan on Nuclear Safety*. The Vice-President of the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission notably reminded the attendees: "Strengthening nuclear safety should always be considered a work in progress."⁵ At the end of the conference, the Agency signed a *Memorandum of Cooperation* with Japan, for mutual emergency preparedness.⁶

On January 28, 2013, the IAEA held the International Experts' Meeting on Decommissioning and Remediation after a Nuclear Accident, in Vienna.⁷ Other important meetings that Member States will be looking towards in 2013 are the International Ministerial Conference on Nuclear Power in the 21st Century to be held in June, and the International Conference on Nuclear Security in July.⁸ Delegates should look at the policies of their countries in light of these future meetings.

Meetings within the United Nations System Attended by the IAEA

Addressing the UN General Assembly on November 5, 2012, Director General Amano commended the technological progress of Member States in the field of nuclear power.⁹ He cited the case of the United Arab Emirates, which has begun building its own nuclear power plant.¹⁰ Additionally, in early December, the IAEA was present at the 2012 Doha Climate Change Conference to deliver its report, *Climate Change and Nuclear Power 2012*.¹¹ The report describes the crucial role that nuclear energy has in relation to climate change. It presents nuclear energy as a cost-effective, safe, and clean alternative to electricity.¹²

Political Developments

Very high on the IAEA's agenda is the current situation with Iran. In December 2012, the IAEA continued talks with the Iranian government over Iran's illicit nuclear facility at the Parchin location, discovered seven years ago.¹³ As the IAEA DG explained in November 2012: "the Agency has information indicating that Iran constructed a large explosives containment vessel at the Parchin site...despite repeated requests, Iran has still not granted the Agency access."¹⁴ The December 2012 talks were fruitful and looked into providing Iran with incentives in exchange for the

¹ International Atomic Energy Agency, *Board of Governors Concludes November Session*, 2012.

² International Atomic Energy Agency, *Introductory Statement to Board of Governors*, 2012.

³ International Atomic Energy Agency, *Introductory Statement to Board of Governors*, 2012.

⁴ International Atomic Energy Agency, *Fukushima Ministerial Conference on Nuclear Safety Closes With Eye To Future*, 2012.

⁵ International Atomic Energy Agency, *Fukushima Ministerial Conference on Nuclear Safety Closes With Eye To Future*, 2012.

⁶ United Nations News Centre, *UN Atomic Agency and Japan's Fukushima Prefecture to Cooperate on Nuclear Safety*, 2012.

⁷ International Atomic Energy Agency, *IAEA Meetings in 2013*, 2013.

⁸ International Atomic Energy Agency, *IAEA Meetings in 2013*, 2013.

⁹ International Atomic Energy Agency, *Statement to Sixty-Seventh Regular Session of United Nations General Assembly*, 2012.

¹⁰ International Atomic Energy Agency, *Statement to Sixty-Seventh Regular Session of United Nations General Assembly*, 2012.

¹¹ International Atomic Energy Agency, *IAEA at Doha Climate Change Conference*, December 6, 2012.

¹² International Atomic Energy Agency, *Climate Change and Nuclear Power*, 2012, pp. 6-7.

¹³ BBC News, *Iran Hails Progress in Nuclear Talks with IAEA*, 2012.

¹⁴ International Atomic Energy Agency, *Introductory Statement to Board of Governors*, 2012.

country's cooperation.¹⁵ Two points of dissent are Iran's request for IAEA confidential documents, and that certain queries "be declared closed once IAEA questions had been addressed."¹⁶ This would negate the IAEA's right to revisit a claim if new suspicions arose.¹⁷ The Agency needs to evaluate whether it would be able to fulfill its nuclear security obligations in Iran if this particular request is granted. The next talks are scheduled for February 26, 2013.¹⁸ Also on the IAEA's agenda is the Democratic People's Republic of Korea's (DPRK) recent rocket launch, of December 12, 2012, which is discussed in the Topic I Update.¹⁹ In both instances, the Agency's expertise will prove crucial in advising its Member States on a course of action. Specifically, the Board of Governors, the Department of Safeguards and the International Nuclear Safety Group, a special advisory body, will play a key role.²⁰ Further developments in these two cases will be important in assessing Member States' policies in the upcoming months.

The Committee at the National Model United Nations Conference

The IAEA is an international organization and a United Nations' related organization, tasked with the promotion and protection of nuclear energy activities for peaceful purposes around the world. The IAEA comprises 158 Member States (as of November 2012), all of which are represented in the IAEA General Conference, its highest policy-making body. In addition to the General Conference, IAEA policy is overseen by a Board of Governors which meets five times per year. In addition, the IAEA Secretariat, headed by the Director-General, has six specialized departments.

Format: The IAEA is a Resolution Writing Committee.

Voting: In the IAEA each member has one vote and it does not allow for special privileges of Member States, such as veto power. All decisions are decided on by majority vote of members present for both procedural and substantive matters.

¹⁵ Reuters, *Key Issues May Persist in Iran-U.N. Nuclear Talks: Diplomats*, 2012.

¹⁶ Reuters, *Key Issues May Persist in Iran-U.N. Nuclear Talks: Diplomats*, 2012.

¹⁷ Reuters, *Key Issues May Persist in Iran-U.N. Nuclear Talks: Diplomats*, 2012.

¹⁸ Reuters, *UPDATE 3-Iran Nuclear Talks Set for Feb. 26; Signals from Tehran Mixed*, 2013.

¹⁹ Reuters, *For North Korea, Next Step is a Nuclear Test*, 2012.

²⁰ International Atomic Energy Agency, *Orientation for Diplomats 2013: The IAEA in Overview*, p. 43.

Annotated Bibliography

International Atomic Energy Agency. (n.d). *IAEA Meetings in 2013*. Retrieved January 15, 2013 from: <http://www-pub.iaea.org/iaeametings/>.

This Web site will be useful to delegates when thinking about what the priorities of the IAEA will be in 2013. The page shows all the upcoming IAEA meetings, and provides a number of links for each conference and meeting. Key events in 2013 will be the two conferences on Nuclear Safety held in June and July.

International Atomic Energy Agency. (2012, November 29). *Introductory Statement to Board of Governors*. Retrieved January 3, 2013 from: <http://www.iaea.org/newscenter/statements/2012/amsp2012n021.html>.

This statement by the IAEA Director General to the Board of Governors provides a comprehensive review of the main issues discussed at the Agency during the year. Delegates can refer to this as a source of information on the Agency's accomplishments and main priorities at the moment. It places emphasis on Technical Cooperation, dialogue with key nations and further developments on Nuclear Safety, Safeguards and Technology.

International Atomic Energy Agency. (2013). *Orientation for Diplomats 2013: The IAEA in Overview*. Retrieved February 4, 2013 from: <http://www.iaea.org/Publications/Booklets/IAEA/iaeaorientation0213.pdf>.

This document, an introductory booklet for diplomats, provides the most updated introduction to the IAEA, its functions and organization. It also explains issues of current concern for the Agency, such as Emergency Preparedness, and the role of nuclear energy in fighting cancer. The document also provides an organization chart of the Agency, explaining how its different departments are organized.

International Atomic Energy Agency. (2012, November 5). *Statement to Sixty-Seventh Regular Session of United Nations General Assembly*. Retrieved January 12, 2013 from: <http://www.iaea.org/newscenter/statements/2012/amsp2012n018.html>.

This second speech by Director General Yukiya Amano also describes some of the IAEA's accomplishments over the past year. This speech, however, talks more broadly about the IAEA's involvement with the United Nations system, mentioning important cooperation with other UN bodies. It mentions, for example, the Millennium Development Goals and the Rio+20 Conference. The speech is invaluable as it places the work of the IAEA within the UN system.

Reuters. (2012, December 19). *Key Issues May Persist in Iran-U.N. Nuclear Talks: Diplomats*. Retrieved January 12, 2013 from: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/12/19/us-nuclear-iran-iaea-idUSBRE8BI0TY20121219>.

The news report on the situation with Iran not only describes the current situation with the negotiation process, but it also provides a summary of previous interactions and the positions of some of the actors in the process. It discusses not only the main concerns regarding the Iranian nuclear program, but also Iran's requests and its position. It will be a helpful starting point for delegates wishing to understand the current state of the negotiation process with Iran.

Reuters. (2012, December 6). *Recent Hacking of UN Nuclear Agency Not First Attempt-IAEA*. Retrieved January 12, 2013 from: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/12/06/nuclear-iaea-hacking-idUSL1E8N6CQQ20121206>.

Perhaps less discussed but equally relevant, the news report about the cyber attack on the IAEA should be looked at carefully. Considering that the IAEA's databases hold very sensitive information about nuclear material, it is important for Member States to consider how future attacks might be prevented. It is crucial for the work of the Agency to maintain confidentiality over its information, and as such its protection will be of great concern to all IAEA Member States.

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Reuters. (2012, December 13). *For North Korea, Next Step is a Nuclear Test*. Retrieved January 15, 2013 from: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/12/13/us-korea-north-rocket-idUSBRE8BB02K20121213>.

Reuters. (2012, December 19). *Key Issues May Persist in Iran-U.N. Nuclear Talks: Diplomats*. Retrieved January 12, 2013 from: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/12/19/us-nuclear-iran-iaea-idUSBRE8BI0TY20121219>.

Reuters. (2013, January 11). *Lack of Deal with Iran on Nuclear Talks Alarms Russia*. Retrieved January 15, 2013 from: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/01/11/us-nuclear-iran-talks-idUSBRE90A0LV20130111>.

Reuters. (2012, December 6). *Recent Hacking of UN Nuclear Agency Not First Attempt-IAEA*. Retrieved January 12, 2013 from: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/12/06/nuclear-iaea-hacking-idUSL1E8N6CQO20121206>.

Reuters. (2012, January 11). *Syria May Hold Uranium Stash, Western and Israeli Experts Say*. Retrieved January 15, 2013 from: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/01/11/us-syria-uranium-israel-idUSBRE90A0MK20130111>.

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Reuters. (2013, February 5). *UPDATE 3-Iran Nuclear Talks Set for Feb. 26; Signals from Tehran Mixed*. Retrieved February 5, 2013 from: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/02/05/iran-nuclear-talks-idUSL5N0B55VI20130205>.

United Nations News Centre. (2012, December 17). *UN Atomic Agency and Japan's Fukushima Prefecture to Cooperate on Nuclear Safety*. Retrieved January 7, 2013 from: <http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=43786&Cr=IAEA&Cr1=#.UPWUpInjnt8>.

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I. The Nuclear Situation in North Korea

Recent Developments

On December 12, 2012, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) launched the Unha-3, a long-range rocket, which has been considered a successful, albeit alarming, launch by the international community despite having been warned by the DPRK government that this would occur in the near future.²¹ This launch, though deemed successful, is a cause of concern for the critics of the DPRK regime and even from DPRK's ally in the region, the People's Republic of China.²² The timing of the launch has also become an interesting facet of the debate as it occurred right before elections in the Republic of Korea (ROK) and Japan, following elections in the United States of America, and following the regime change in China, an event that occurs once every 10 years.²³

The successfully launched rocket on December 12, 2012 was similar to the rocket used in the failed launch attempt in April 2012.²⁴ According to the DPRK government, the purpose of the launch was to put a weather satellite into orbit, but there are concerns that the DPRK has now developed a long-range missile in defiance of United Nations (UN) Security Council (SC) resolutions 1695 and 1718.²⁵ The rocket itself was deployed at 10 AM local time with the first segment of the rocket falling into the Yellow Sea, according to Japanese officials.²⁶ Japanese officials also confirmed that the second segment of the rocket fell into the Philippine Sea.²⁷ This was followed by confirmation from the North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD) "that the nation had 'deployed an object that appeared to achieve orbit.'"²⁸ Further concern is that this three-stage rocket is "capable of carrying a nuclear-tipped warhead as far as California."²⁹ Although leaders in Japan, ROK, CHINA, and the United States of America have made statements, neither the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) nor the UN SC formally addressed the issue until January 22, 2013. However, prior to that date, statements were made condemning the launch as a violation against UN SC resolutions within the SC and by UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon.³⁰ On January 22, 2013, the UN SC unanimously passed Resolution 2087 condemning the government of the DPRK and tightening sanctions for nuclear activities.³¹ Experts have found the vote to be significant because the vote was 15-0-0, thus including the People's Republic of China, DPRK's "longtime economic benefactor and protector."³²

Reports were made on January 14, 2013 by the China Daily paper that the DPRK is planning to stage a nuclear test in the imminent future, likely before January 20, 2013, although this test did not occur by the aforementioned date.³³ The United States Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs, Kurt Campbell, issued a statement during his visit to the ROK that, 'We are very clear in our position that provocative steps are to be discouraged.'³⁴ According to officials in the ROK, the risk of UN sanctions and condemnations are not considered by DPRK when developing a nuclear program.³⁵ On February 5, 2013, United States Secretary of State John Kerry and South Korean Foreign Minister Kim Sung-whan discussed the possibility of the North Korean nuclear test and vowed further consequences if the DPRK regime does, in fact, have a nuclear test. On February 6, 2013, the spokesperson for the Chinese Foreign Ministry expressed her concern for DPRK's actions to destabilize the Korean peninsula, and went as far as to threaten cutting help to DPRK.³⁶ Despite these warnings, DPRK released a propaganda video showing the destruction of New York City in smoldering flames on that same day.³⁷ On February 12, 2013, a

²¹ The Straits Times: Asia Report, *North Korea Launches Rocket in Defiance of Critics*, 2012, p. 1.

²² Radio Free Asia, *North Korea Delays Rocket Launch*, 2012, p. 1.

²³ Radio Free Asia, *North Korea Delays Rocket Launch*, 2012, p. 1.

²⁴ Arms Control Association, *Arms Control and Proliferation Profile: North Korea*, 2012, p. 2.

²⁵ Fox News, *Defiant North Korea Releases Photos from its 'Provocative' Rocket Launch*, 2012, p. 1.; International Atomic Energy Agency, *IAEA and DPRK: UN Security Council Resolutions and Statements*, 2012, p. 1.

²⁶ Fox News, *Defiant North Korea Releases Photos from its 'Provocative' Rocket Launch*, 2012, p. 2.

²⁷ Fox News, *Defiant North Korea Releases Photos from its 'Provocative' Rocket Launch*, 2012, p. 2.

²⁸ Fox News, *Defiant North Korea Releases Photos from its 'Provocative' Rocket Launch*, 2012, p. 2.

²⁹ National Post, *North Korea's Unha-3 Long-Range Rocket: Graphic*, 2012, p. 1.

³⁰ Labott, E., *The New Diplomatic Reality of North Korea's Success*. 2012, p. 1.

³¹ United Nations Security Council, *Resolution 2087*, 2013, p. 1.

³² MacFarquhar, N., *Security Council Condemns North Korea Rocket Launching*, 2013, p. 1.

³³ China Daily, *DPRK Reported to be Planning Nuclear Test*, 2013, p. 1.

³⁴ Jagran Post, *US Diplomats warns North Korea against Nuclear Test*, 2013, p. 1.

³⁵ Chance, D., *For North Korea, Next Step is Nuclear Test*, 2012, p. 1.

³⁶ Reuters, *China says Extremely Concerned After Latest North Korea Threats*, 2013, p. 1.

³⁷ The Guardian, *North Korea Propaganda Film Depicts New York in Flames*, 2013, p. 1.

detonation at the Pungye-ri site in North Korea was detected and North Korean authorities confirmed later that day that a nuclear test had been carried out.³⁸ The test was met by protest from several heads of states and prompted an immediate reaction by the Security Council, which addressed the issue in an emergency closed-door session on the same day.³⁹ The Council said the test was a “grave violation” of previous SC resolutions.⁴⁰ IAEA Director-General Yukiya Amano echoed the Security Council and called the test “deeply regrettable”, stating: “The IAEA remains ready to contribute to the peaceful resolution of the DPRK nuclear issue by resuming its nuclear verification activities in the country as soon as the political agreement is reached among countries concerned.”⁴¹ Further statements and resolutions made by the UN SC, and those that will likely be made by the IAEA will be extremely important for delegates to follow, as they substantially impact the debate surrounding this topic and the greater nuclear security debate. The nuclear situation in the Democratic Republic of Korea is rapidly changing, and likely will continue to do so into the foreseeable future. As such, delegates should make full attention to the current situation vitally important.

³⁸ BBC News, *Obama: Nuclear test 'isolates North Korea further'*, 2013.

³⁹ UN News Centre, *Security Council and UN officials condemn DPR Korea's nuclear test*, 2013.

⁴⁰ UN News Centre, *Security Council and UN officials condemn DPR Korea's nuclear test*, 2013.

⁴¹ IAEA Press Release, *IAEA Says DPRK Nuclear Test "Deeply Regrettable"*, 2013.

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Although the response from Western powers to the DPRK rocket launch was considered provocative, this article discusses the response from the DPRK side. From this article there are links to videos discussing the rocket launch, and delegates will find the visual media interesting while doing their research. The videos show the response from the DPRK regime. Delegates can watch the video of the launch as released by the DPRK's government.

International Atomic Energy Agency. (2012). *IAEA and DPRK: Security Council Resolutions and Statements*. Retrieved January 14, 2013 from: http://www.iaea.org/newscenter/focus/iaeadprk/sc_resolutions.shtml.

If and when the Security Council issues statements and resolutions in regards to the Unha-3 launch, delegates will be able to access the resolutions and statements here. From this link, delegates can currently access the two most important resolutions about DPRK, 1695 and 1718. Delegates should monitor any resolutions that the Security Council releases regarding DPRK that will impact the debate on this topic.

Labott, E. (2012). *The New Diplomatic Reality of North Korea's Success*. Retrieved January 14, 2013 from: <http://security.blogs.cnn.com/2012/12/13/the-new-diplomatic-reality-of-north-koreas-success/?iref=allsearch>.

This post by CNN Foreign Affairs Reporter, Elise Labott, is one of the most important resources delegates can use to understand the diplomatic response to the rocket launch and how other Member States perceived the launch. Labott discusses responses by the United States Government officials, Chinese officials, and Russian officials. As the discernment of these parties will impact the debate as to whether or not sanctions and condemnations against DPRK actually occur, their opinion on DPRK's successful Unha-3 long-range rocket launch is extremely important.

National Post. (2012). *North Korea's Unha-3 Long-Range Rocket: Graphic*. Retrieved January 14, 2013 from: <http://news.nationalpost.com/2012/12/12/north-koreas-unha-3-long-range-rocket-graphic/>.

This graphic released by Canada's National Post is incredibly helpful for delegates wishing to understand the Unha-3 launch and how the launch occurs. The graphic explains the four different stages of the launch and where each segment of the launch landed. Also interesting is the orbit that the satellite launched by DPRK is on and what polar orbit path the satellite is following.

United Nations Security Council. (2013, January 2013). *Resolution 2087 (2013)*. Retrieved February 6, 2013 from: [http://undocs.org/S/RES/2087\(2013\)](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2087(2013)).

This is the most recent United Nations Security Council Resolution passed regarding DPRK, and considering that it was passed after the Unha-3 launch, it now becomes the most relevant resolution passed regarding DPRK's nuclear program. This resolution will likely steer debate on the topic, and delegates will need to look at this to help address what could potentially be debated during committee sessions. This is an absolute must read for all delegates in this committee.

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II. Improving Global Emergency Preparedness for Nuclear Crisis Situations

In light of recent nuclear crises, the IAEA has placed a heavy emphasis on disaster preparedness, holding several conferences specifically addressing the need for improved contingency plans should the worst occur. At the end of 2012, the International Experts' Meeting on Protection against Extreme Earthquakes and Tsunamis in the Light of the Accident at the Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant was held to nuclear power plant safety concerning external crises.⁴² Shortly after this meeting, Japan and the IAEA cosponsored the Fukushima Ministerial Conference on Nuclear Safety to discuss methods of improving emergency preparedness and protecting people from ionizing radiation following a nuclear crisis.⁴³

The International Experts' Meeting on Protection against Extreme Earthquakes and Tsunamis in the Light of the Accident at the Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant, held 4 – 7 September 2012, provided an opportunity for those in attendance to share experience garnered from recent extreme earthquakes and tsunamis. It also “exchange[d] information on the development of recent technologies and the results of ongoing research programmes relating to site evaluation and NPP safety that aim to provide protection against earthquakes and tsunamis.”⁴⁴ From this meeting, attendees learned cooperation and communication will be vital in implementing safety features to protect nuclear power plants from external hazards, especially those caused by earthquakes and tsunamis.⁴⁵

With 117 countries and 13 international organizations in attendance, the Fukushima Ministerial Conference on Nuclear Safety was convened on 15 - 17 December 2012 in order to discuss the lessons learned in the Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant crisis and efforts to progress nuclear safety.⁴⁶ The conference gave those in attendance a forum to discuss ways to strengthen nuclear safety and improve accident preparedness by providing them an opportunity to attend the general session and participate in three working sessions titled Lessons learned from the accident at TEPCO's Fukushima Nuclear Power Stations, Strengthening nuclear safety, including emergency preparedness and response, in the light of the accident at TEPCO's Fukushima Nuclear Power Stations, and Protection of people and the environment from ionizing radiation.⁴⁷ At the completion of the conference, the IAEA published the working session presentations and Chairpersons' summaries to highlight the work produced by those in attendance.⁴⁸

From 28 January to 1 February 2013, the IAEA hosted the International Experts' Meeting on Decommissioning and Remediation after a Nuclear Accident.⁴⁹ Following the September 2011 IAEA Action Plan on Nuclear Safety, the IAEA secretariat requested this meeting be organized in order to further work in the area of “Enhanc[ing] transparency and effectiveness of communication and improv[ing] dissemination of information.”⁵⁰ During this meeting, over 200 international experts gathered to discuss topics relating to the preparedness of Member States in managing the aftermath of a nuclear accident.⁵¹ Several themes emerged from the discussions in this meeting, including “The need for detailed frameworks to provide clear direction about which national organizations are responsible for which aspects of recovering from a nuclear accident”.⁵²

These meetings have served to highlight the severity of a nuclear crisis, be it manmade or by way of a natural disaster. It will be important for delegates to follow the work being done by the IAEA in the upcoming months in

⁴² International Atomic Energy Agency, *International Experts' Meeting on Protection against Extreme Earthquakes and Tsunamis in the Light of the Accident at the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant*, 2012.

⁴³ International Atomic Energy Agency, *The Fukushima Ministerial Conference on Nuclear Safety*, 2012.

⁴⁴ International Atomic Energy Agency, *International Experts' Meeting on Protection against Extreme Earthquakes and Tsunamis in the Light of the Accident at the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant*, 2012.

⁴⁵ Quevenco, *Experts' Meeting on Protection Against Extreme Earthquakes and Tsunamis Concludes*, 2012.

⁴⁶ Tudor, *Fukushima Ministerial Conference on Nuclear Safety Closes with Eye to Future*, 2012.

⁴⁷ International Atomic Energy Agency, *The Fukushima Ministerial Conference on Nuclear Safety*, 2012.

⁴⁸ International Atomic Energy Agency, *The Fukushima Ministerial Conference on Nuclear Safety*, 2012.

⁴⁹ International Atomic Energy Agency, *International Experts' Meeting on Decommissioning and Remediation after a Nuclear Accident*, 2013.

⁵⁰ International Atomic Energy Agency, *International Experts' Meeting on Decommissioning and Remediation after a Nuclear Accident*, 2013.

⁵¹ International Atomic Energy Agency, *International Experts' Meeting on Decommissioning and Remediation after a Nuclear Accident*, 2013.

International Atomic Energy Agency, *Experts Discuss Improvements in Decommissioning and Remediation Following Nuclear Accidents*, 2013.

⁵² International Atomic Energy Agency, *Experts Discuss Improvements in Decommissioning and Remediation Following Nuclear Accidents*, 2013.

order to have a better understanding of where the international community is at now in regards to improving nuclear safety and where it may be headed. Several additional meetings will be held in the coming year that relate to improving global emergency preparedness for nuclear crises.⁵³

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United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation. (2012). *Biological Mechanisms of Radiation Actions at Low Doses*. Retrieved January 22, 2013 from: http://www.unscear.org/docs/reports/Biological_mechanisms_WP_12-57831.pdf.

This in-depth guide provides data that has become available since 2006 on the effects of radiation at low doses. Understanding how the effects of radiation materialize will be important in developing methods of safeguarding populations and environments against it. Delegates may also find this useful in deciphering technical concepts within IAEA and other related bodies reports.

International Atomic Energy Agency. (2012, December). *The Fukushima Ministerial Conference on Nuclear Safety Chairperson Summaries*. Retrieved January 22, 2013 from: http://www-pub.iaea.org/MTCD/Meetings/PDFplus/2012/20120216/20120216_CSummaries.pdf.

The summaries contained in this document provide a detailed view of the work completed at the conference. Understanding the information produced from this conference will allow delegates to build upon safety measures currently being implemented to protect against external disasters.

International Atomic Energy Agency. (2013, January). *IAEA Meeting Schedule*. Retrieved January 22, 2013 from: <http://www-pub.iaea.org/mtcd/meetings/PDFplus/current.pdf>.

The meeting schedule of the IAEA, while lengthy, provides delegates with a clear reference on which meetings are scheduled to be held in the coming year. Delegates should keep this document in mind if they aim to develop new meetings and conferences so that the work of the IAEA is not unnecessarily duplicated. Furthermore, it provides delegates with a single reference point to continue researching the anticipated work of the IAEA.

International Atomic Energy Agency. (2012, September). *International Experts' Meeting on Protection against Extreme Earthquakes and Tsunamis in the light of the Accident at the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant*. Retrieved January 22, 2013 from: <http://www-pub.iaea.org/iaeameetings/42731/International-Experts-Meeting-on-Protection-against-Extreme-Earthquakes-and-Tsunamis-in-the-Light-of-the-Accident-at-the-Fukushima-Daiichi-Nuclear-Power-Plant>.

While this page provides logistical information to those who were in attendance of the meeting, it also provides links to the presentations given during the week. Delegates will find this useful in determining in what direction the IAEA is headed as it embraces disaster preparedness in relation to nuclear crises. Each presentation linked to the homepage of this meeting will provide delegates with a greater understanding of how the IAEA and various states seek to address this topic.

International Atomic Energy Agency. (2013, February). *Experts Discuss Improvements in Decommissioning and Remediation Following Nuclear Accidents*. Retrieved February 7, 2013 from: <http://www.iaea.org/newscenter/news/2013/iemjan2013.html>.

This link provides delegates with information relating to the most recent meeting held by the IAEA in relation to disaster preparedness in light of nuclear crises. While in depth information regarding the presentations made during the meeting are not housed in this report, the general themes are included, giving delegates an overarching view of what work has been done and what work still remains in regard to efforts in decommissioning and remediation after a nuclear accident.

⁵³ International Atomic Energy Agency, *IAEA Meeting Schedule*, January 2013

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International Atomic Energy Agency. (2012, October). *The IAEA Safeguards Analytical Laboratories*. Retrieved January 22, 2013 from: <http://www.iaea.org/Publications/Factsheets/English/safeguardslab.pdf>.

International Atomic Energy Agency. (2012, September). *International Experts' Meeting on Protection against Extreme Earthquakes and Tsunamis in the light of the Accident at the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant*. Retrieved January 22, 2013 from: <http://www-pub.iaea.org/iaeameetings/42731/International-Experts-Meeting-on-Protection-against-Extreme-Earthquakes-and-Tsunamis-in-the-Light-of-the-Accident-at-the-Fukushima-Daiichi-Nuclear-Power-Plant>.

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International Atomic Energy Agency. (2013, January). *International Experts' Meeting on Decommissioning and Remediation after a Nuclear Accident*. Retrieved January 22, 2013 from: <http://www-pub.iaea.org/iaeameetings/44453/International-Experts-Meeting-on-Decommissioning-and-Remediation-after-a-Nuclear-Accident>.

International Atomic Energy Agency. (2013, February). *Experts Discuss Improvements in Decommissioning and Remediation Following Nuclear Accidents*. Retrieved February 7, 2013 from: <http://www.iaea.org/newscenter/news/2013/iemjan2013.html>.

Quevenco, Rodolfo. International Atomic Energy Agency. (2012, September 26). *Experts' Meeting on Protection Against Extreme Earthquakes and Tsunamis Concludes*. Retrieved January 22, 2013 from: <http://www.iaea.org/newscenter/news/2012/nppprotectconcludes.html>.

Quevenco, Rodolfo. International Atomic Energy Agency. (2013, January 09). *Outlook for 2013*. Retrieved January 22, 2013 from: <http://www.iaea.org/newscenter/news/2013/outlook-2013.html>.

Tudor, Gill. International Atomic Energy Agency. (2013, January 22). *Fukushima Ministerial Conference on Nuclear Safety Closes with Eye to Future*. Retrieved January 22, 2013 from: <http://www.iaea.org/newscenter/news/2012/fukushimacnfcloses.html>.

United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation. (2012). *Biological Mechanisms of Radiation Actions at Low Doses*. Retrieved January 22, 2013 from: http://www.unscear.org/docs/reports/Biological_mechanisms_WP_12-57831.pdf.

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III. Strengthening IAEA Safeguards and the International Nuclear Security Framework

From 4 to 6 December 2012 the first International Regulators Conference on Nuclear Security was held in Washington D.C.⁵⁴ The Conference was established through the 2012 Nuclear Security Summit held in Seoul, South Korea in order to improve “the awareness and importance of comprehensive national regulatory security programs”.⁵⁵ The conference dealt with issues working towards a more holistic approach to a state’s nuclear activities. The main objectives of the conference were “to work cooperatively as an international community to advance nuclear security, [acknowledge] the need for capacity building for nuclear security and to [cooperate] at bilateral, regional and multilateral levels”.⁵⁶ This shall be done by States sharing their best practice examples of how to improve “inspection-related security techniques” with other States at the conference.⁵⁷ During the conference, IAEA Director General Yukiya Amano stated, “the ratification of the *Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Materials* was an “important area of unfinished business in nuclear security.”⁵⁸ The amendment was issued in 2005 in order to improve “measures to locate and recover stolen or smuggled nuclear material, mitigate any radiological consequences of sabotage, and prevent and combat related offences.”⁵⁹ However, the convention has not yet entered into force.

In order to improve the protection of nuclear material and the verification system, the training of skilled personnel and the efficient use of resources are of utmost importance to the IAEA.⁶⁰ Skilled safeguard inspectors support the IAEA in detecting the misuse of nuclear material by taking nuclear material samples and environmental samples that can be analyzed in the IAEA’s Nuclear Sciences and Applications Laboratories.⁶¹

The IAEA celebrated the 50th anniversary of the “Nuclear Applications Laboratories” in Seibersdorf, Austria on 28 November 2012.⁶² The Seibersdorf Laboratories have carried out three important activities so far: “applied research and development, training and capacity building, and technical and analytical services”.⁶³ As part of the Seibersdorf Laboratories complex, the Safeguards Analytical Laboratories play an important role in the training of safeguards inspectors. Training provides inspectors with the skills to take nuclear samples during verification activities from various points without risking contamination that would waste the samples.⁶⁴ The laboratories continue to be crucial to the effectiveness of safeguards: “The analytical results provide a powerful tool for supporting conclusions as to the correctness and completeness of States’ nuclear material declarations and help to inform the IAEA’s evaluation of whether a State is complying with its safeguards obligations”⁶⁵

Outlook

Safeguards have been an essential part of the IAEA’s work for the past fifty years. However, in recent years, Member States have questioned the safeguards systems with increasing calls for more information on how the IAEA wants to enhance the system before making any more concessions to it.⁶⁶ Member States are expecting a statement by Director General Yukiya Amano at one of the upcoming meetings of the IAEA regarding this question.⁶⁷ Also ahead lies the second of the three meetings planned to be held by the Preparatory Committee for the 2015 NPT Review Conference. The meeting will take place from 22 April to 3 May 2013 in Geneva.⁶⁸ Member States hope that the preparatory meetings will further help to facilitate discussions in terms of assessing the implementation of

⁵⁴ International Atomic Energy, *IAEA Chief Calls for Action to Improve Nuclear Security*, 2012.

⁵⁵ International Atomic Energy, *IAEA Chief Calls for Action to Improve Nuclear Security*, 2012.

⁵⁶ International Regulators Conference on Nuclear Security, *About the Conference*, 2012.

⁵⁷ International Regulators Conference on Nuclear Security, *About the Conference*, 2012.

⁵⁸ International Atomic Energy, *IAEA Chief Calls for Action to Improve Nuclear Security*, 2012.

⁵⁹ International Atomic Energy Agency, *International Conventions and Legal Agreements*.

⁶⁰ International Atomic Energy Agency, *The IAEA Safeguards Analytical Laboratories*, 2012.

⁶¹ International Atomic Energy Agency, *50th Anniversary of the IAEA’s Nuclear Sciences and Applications Laboratories in Seibersdorf*, 2012.

⁶² International Atomic Energy Agency Board of Governors, *Introductory Statement to Board of Governors*, 2012.

⁶³ International Atomic Energy Agency, *50th Anniversary of the IAEA’s Nuclear Sciences and Applications Laboratories in Seibersdorf*, 2012.

⁶⁴ International Atomic Energy Agency, *The IAEA Safeguards Analytical Laboratories*, 2012.

⁶⁵ International Atomic Energy Agency, *The IAEA Safeguards Analytical Laboratories*, 2012.

⁶⁶ Hibbs, *The Plan for IAEA Safeguards*, 2012.

⁶⁷ Hibbs, *The Plan for IAEA Safeguards*, 2012.; International Atomic Energy Agency, *Outlook for 2013*, 2013.

⁶⁸ United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs, *Disarmament – Selective Affairs in 2013*, 2013.

each article of the NPT and making recommendations to the Review Conference in order to further improve the Safeguards system.⁶⁹ Since the NPT was extended indefinitely in 1995, Member States are required to hold a meeting every five years to discuss the implementation of the NPT and its safeguards.⁷⁰ The review process in 2015 is aimed at improving “transparency over progress in reducing and eliminating existing nuclear arsenals, fissile material, and delivery systems” and furthering the commitment of States party to the treaty.⁷¹

⁶⁹ 2015 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), *Background Information*, 2012.

⁷⁰ United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs, *Preparatory Committee for the 2015 Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conference 30 April - 11 May, 2012 in Vienna*, 2012.

⁷¹ Duarte, S., *The Future of Disarmament and Non-Proliferation in the Perspective of the New NPT Review Cycle*, 2011

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Duarte, S., High Representative for Disarmament Affairs. (2011, November 14). *The Future of Disarmament and Non-Proliferation in the Perspective of the New NPT Review Cycle*. Retrieved February 3, 2013 from <http://www.un.org/disarmament/HomePage/HR/docs/2011/2011-11-14-Rome.pdf>.

A good overview of the development of the NPT review process and its goals. The report will help delegates to gain a first understanding of recent developments regarding the NPT and what still needs to be done to make the treaty more effective. It might also help to develop approaches to solving problems discussed at the conference. Delegates might find this short report also useful to better understand the relation between the IAEA and the UN in the area of nuclear security.

Hibbs, M. (2012, November 20). *The Plan for IAEA Safeguards*. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Retrieved January 22, 2013, from <http://carnegieendowment.org/2012/11/20/plan-for-iaea-safeguards/ekyb>.

A critical view on the current status of the IAEA safeguards system and upcoming challenges. The article summarizes the development of safeguards and some of the more difficult cases of the IAEA. Furthermore, the article analyzes a few facts that were already mentioned in the Background Guide and thus provides a quick overview of the topic. However, delegates should keep in mind that the article presents the author's opinion and should thus use the article only as one source for their ongoing research.

International Atomic Energy Agency Department of Safeguards. (2012, January 5). *Science Essential in Verifying Peaceful Use of Nuclear Material*. Retrieved January 22, 2013 from <http://www.iaea.org/newscenter/news/2012/scienceessential.html>.

The IAEA's Analytical Laboratories are not only a unique feature within the UN system, but also a crucial part to the IAEA's safeguards system. This news release offers a very short historic overview of the laboratories and their assignments. Delegates will find this information useful regarding the question of a holistic approach to nuclear security, which includes the analytical component as represented by the laboratories.

International Atomic Energy Agency Fact Sheet .(2012). *The IAEA Safeguards Analytical Laboratories*. Retrieved January 22, 2013 from <http://www.iaea.org/Publications/Factsheets/English/safeguardslab.pdf>.

A dense overview of the work of two of the IAEA's Analytical Laboratories, the Nuclear Material Laboratory and the Environmental Sample Laboratory. As an effective safeguards system requires efficient and effective technical capacities this fact sheet helps delegates to understand the need for a holistic safeguards approach to which the effective analysis of collected samples is crucial. It provides understanding of the technical implementation of the IAEA's work and can be useful to develop further mechanisms to improve the safeguards system as a whole.

International Regulators Conference on Nuclear Security. (2013). *About the Conference*. Retrieved February 6, 2013 from <http://www.nrcsecurityconference.org/about>.

The website of the International Regulators Conference on Nuclear Security provides all presentations held by participants of the conference. Delegates can thus get an insight of country specific programs concerning nuclear security as well as suggestions made by the IAEA during the conference. Researching the information provided on the website gives delegates a more practical perspective on the topic. The information given might motivate delegates to do a more in-depth research on their countries' action plans and how the activities could be shared on an international level, possibly through the IAEA, as best-practice examples.

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United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs. (2012). *Preparatory Committee for the 2015 Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conference 30 April - 11 May, 2012 in Vienna*. Retrieved February 3, 2013 from <http://www.un.org/disarmament/WMD/Nuclear/NPT2015/PrepCom2012/>.