

## **Position Paper for the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)**

The topics before the General Assembly Plenary are: the 2010 NPT Review Conference - Towards General and Complete Disarmament; Water and Nuclear Technologies; and Implementing Nuclear Energy Infrastructures without Weapon Production Threats. Sri Lanka is determined to maintain and adhere the IAEA rules and regulations and aims for stronger international collaboration and membership in order to achieve international disarmament and the dissemination of the peaceful use of nuclear technologies.

### **I. 2010 NPT Review Conference: Towards General and Complete Disarmament**

Sri Lanka accredits the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) and endorses its global application. We regard the NPT as a set of valuable norms and believe that, through its large acceptance, it has created a political win-win situation for the international community. We especially point out the three pillars on which it stands: nuclear disarmament, non-proliferation and promotion of peaceful uses of energy. We are convinced that all three pillars must stand equally next to each other and that the NPT's long-term success is critical to the adherence of these principles. Therefore, we recall every nation to engage with these three principles and the NPT as a whole. Sri Lanka strongly supports the 2000 approach of the "New Agenda Coalition" (NAC) in which the NAC outlined 13 steps to achieve complete disarmament. From our point of view, a first measurement towards achieving this goal has been made with the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT), which forbids nuclear explosion tests in the Nuclear Weapon States. Nevertheless, we want to emphasize that this is only a first step. We urge the Nuclear Weapon States to follow the NAC's recommendations and to acknowledge the necessity of international, multilateral and non-discriminatory negotiations in the Conference on Disarmament. It is Sri Lanka's utmost interest to achieve, on a global scale, the solely peaceful use of nuclear energies. As a consequence, we must install more effective ways of monitoring the compliance of NPT Member States in letter and spirit and thus call for the installation of a permanent monitoring process in order to constantly supervise the compliance of Member States to the NPT. The relevance of such a process is clearly underlined by the incidents in East Asia, where in 2006 non-peaceful nuclear activities led to the detonation of a nuclear device even after the implementation of an international development assistance organization, the Korean Peninsula Energy Development Organization, and the engagement of the United Nation's Security Council (SC). Sri Lanka points to its domestic measures of creating compliance to the NPT and, in summary, urgently calls upon states to follow the three pillars of the NPT, to follow the recommendations of the NAC and to call for the implementation of a permanent monitoring process in order to achieve compliance to the NPT and thus general and complete disarmament.

### **II. Water and Nuclear Technologies**

Sri Lanka supports the IAEA's efforts towards a worldwide, internationally integrated approach towards sustainable management of water resources. This is exemplified by our outstanding national measurements which are guided by the Sri Lankan National Water Resources Authority and which include the thorough collection of data on aquifers, e.g. in the Groundwater Resources Study (1999-2001) or the current Attanagalu-oya Water Resources Study, in which we prepare hydrogeological maps of aquifers by executing geophysical investigations. A further project is our multilateral approach with development projects in collaboration with Agencies like the Korea International Cooperation Agency and KEPPEL LAND, a Singaporean infrastructure development company. We strongly express our conscience on the importance of intelligent aquifer management and therefore endorse the IAEA's recognition of isotope hydrology as an appropriate means to achieve this goal. We acknowledge the importance of furthering knowledge around water resources and approve of the IAEA's approach with multilateral projects like the "Exchange on information, training, and cooperation with international organizations in isotope hydrology" project. We are convinced of the importance of creating links between professionals

and scientists who work in isotopic and hydrological sectors and thus support projects in collaboration with other UN agencies, e.g. the UNESCO, to advance in the achievement of this goal. Sri Lanka finds the importance of an internationally integrated approach towards sustainable water resources management under the monitoring of the IAEA especially in the context of the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDG's) one, seven and eight: end poverty and hunger, create environmental sustainability and establish a global partnership for development. We want to emphasize Sri Lanka's recognition of the important contribution by international projects like the "Nubian Sandstone Aquifer System Project" to the above-mentioned goal of creating an internationally integrated approach. We hereby want to express our wish to cooperate with the IAEA in the field of using nuclear technology and the exchange of knowledge. We point to the importance of a stronger commitment of the IAEA in Asian countries as we have seen massive degradation of water quality and critical watersheds in the region during the last three decades. With the "Decade of Water" as our backdrop, we urge Member States to follow three measurements, firstly to develop intelligent national water management strategies, secondly, to further multilateral partnerships in this field and thirdly, to strengthen links between the IAEA and the national Water Resources Authorities in order to guarantee international exchange of knowledge and experience.

### **III. Implementing Nuclear Energy Infrastructures without Weapon Production Threats**

The Sri Lankan government welcomes and supports the implementation of the Nuclear Energy Infrastructures without Weapon Production Threats. The Atomic Energy Authority (AEA) of Sri Lanka endorses the peaceful use of Nuclear Energy to facilitate the development and the growth of our country. The AEA of Sri Lanka clearly states its aim to limit the use of nuclear energy on the medical, agricultural, industrial and environmental sectors. This limitation of nuclear energy practices in Sri Lanka is clearly in-line with Article II of the Statute of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), where the objectives of the IAEA are outlined, which seek out to ensure and supervise that nuclear energy is not used for any military purpose. Sri Lanka facilitates the utilization of this technology in the above-mentioned sectors and ensures that all uses of radiation and radioisotopes are carried out according to the internationally accepted safety standards. We also ask for Member States to comply with the rules and regulations given by the IAEA, by limiting the Nuclear Energy usage on practices that promote and enhance productivity and development of each country. Moreover, we emphasize the need for greater membership and more transparency between the IAEA and Member States, by adhering to its rules and regulations and allowing the IAEA to execute inspections. The implementation of these requirements is achieved by conducting manpower development programs and demonstrating the applications of this technology to potential users. In addition to that, Sri Lanka undertakes research and development in areas of national relevance to ensure that all uses of radiation and radioisotopes are carried out according to internationally accepted safety standards that are outlined by the IAEA. On top of that, we aim that Member States should obey the functions of the Statute of the IAEA according to Article II in order to promote peace and international co-operation. Sri Lanka follows these regulations by implementing codes of practice and related procedures on radiation production for different applications, as for instance the of Sri Lanka restricts the use of Nuclear Atomic Energy if it leads to an exposure or the likelihood of a possible increase in exposure for our citizens or the surrounding environment. We would also like to urge Member States should to allow the IAEA to make provisions, in accordance with the Statute, for materials, services, equipment, and facilities to meet the needs of research. This is an important factor that affects Sri Lanka, since we highly need support in the fields of development and practical applications of atomic energy for peaceful purposes, including the production of electric power that serves our population and facilitates development improvement of our country. Finally, we recommend Member States to ensure safeguards of nuclear material and to cooperate with the International Atomic Energy Agency to ensure the IAEA's objective, which seeks to accelerate and enlarge the contribution of atomic energy to peace, health and prosperity throughout the world.