

COUNCIL FOR SECURITY COOPERATION IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC
1st Meeting of the Nuclear Energy Experts Group (NEEG)

November 9-10, 2012
Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

AGENDA

Thursday, November 8, 2012

18:30 **Welcome Reception**

19:00 **Opening Dinner**

Friday, November 9, 2012

8:30 **Registration**

9:00 **Session 1: The NEEG: Past and Present**

This session will launch the first meeting of the new NEEG and explain and assess to the achievements of the Group when it convened between 1998 and 2003 under the auspices of the Study Group on Confidence and Security Building Measures of the Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia-Pacific (CSCAP). Why was it created? What was its focus? What was discussed? What did the NEEG achieve? Why is the NEEG re-convening now? What topics should be in focus? What should the new NEEG aim to achieve?

10:30 **Coffee Break**

10:45 **Session 2: The Rationale for Nuclear Energy**

This session will focus on the rationale for nuclear energy. What are the key economic determinants for developing nuclear power programs? What are the average construction cost and time? What are the capital costs? What is the operating performance of nuclear power plants? How does it compare with other forms of energy production? What are the other associated operations and maintenance costs? What is the average lifetime of nuclear power plants? What are the decommissioning and waste disposal costs and provisions? How does insurance and liability work in nuclear power plants? How important are non-economic factors in driving the development of nuclear programs? What drives states to export nuclear technology? What are the implications?

12:15 **Lunch**

13:45 **Session 3: Overview of Nuclear Power Programs in the Asia-Pacific**

This session will give an overview of nuclear power programs in the Asia-Pacific region. What is the status of national programs? What is the rationale used for these programs? Which states are the most advanced programs? What are their unique characteristics? What is the status of emerging and planned programs, notably in Southeast Asia? What has been the impact of

the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear disaster of March 11, 2011 on Asia-Pacific's nuclear power sector?

15:15 **Coffee Break**

15:30 **Session 4: Nuclear Energy Development and the IAEA**

This session will focus on the roles and responsibilities of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in nuclear energy development. How does the IAEA assist “newcomer” states to put in place the necessary infrastructure, legislation, regulations, cadres of trained personnel, and safety culture to develop nuclear energy safely, securely, and peacefully? Are the IAEA roles and responsibility limited to nuclear energy planning assistance? Does it extend to implementation assistance? How does the IAEA interact with other relevant actors, namely governments, private firms, industrial associations, and other international organizations, on nuclear energy development? What are the requirements for the IAEA to consider a state ready to develop nuclear energy? How is the work of the IAEA perceived in the region?

17:00 **Session adjourns**

18:30 **Dinner**

Saturday, November 10, 2012

8:30 **Session 5: The Three S's: Safeguards, Safety, and Security**

This session will examine the mechanisms to maintain the “three S's”: nuclear safeguards, safety, and security. What are the key nuclear safeguards and what do they entail? What are the main provisions and requirements of nuclear safety and security conventions? What are the loopholes and how can they be overcome as nuclear energy development speeds up in the region? How can the issue of fuel storage be addressed?

10:00 **Coffee Break**

10:15 **Session 6: Nuclear Energy and Asia-Pacific Regional Organizations**

This session will look at the main regional organizations, such as the Asia-Pacific Safeguards Network, which seek to facilitate the efficient and responsible use of nuclear energy and to promote nuclear safeguards, safety, and/or security. What are these organizations? What are their focuses? What have they achieved? Where are the gaps? How can these gaps be filled? What more could be done to foster safe, secure, and sustainable nuclear energy at the regional level?

11:45 **Session 7: Wrap-Up and Future Plans for the NEEG**

This session will summarize the two-day discussions and debate the themes of the next NEEG meetings. How should the NEEG focus its efforts? What can the Group do to maximize its policy impact in the region? How can it usefully add to and feed into the work of similar initiatives?

12:15 **Meeting Adjourns**

12:30 **Lunch**

18:00 **Farewell Dinner**