Overview of global and regional nuclear developments

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LATEST SANCTIONS AGAINST IRAN

1. Latest UN sanctions against Iran

2. Latest U.S. sanctions against Iran

3. Latest EU sanctions against Iran

Iran Nuclear Issues & Talks
October 2010 | By Common Space Initiative

This Special Edition of External Challenges maps the key Iranian nuclear negotiations, provides a comprehensive chronology of developments and agreements, and reflects on Iranian perspectives of this critical global issue.

Iranian expert, Dr Talal Artisi of the Lebanese University in Beirut provides an overview and analysis of how regional and international powers treat and perceive the Iranian Nuclear Program; and at the same time provide insight into the Ira" strategy and policy-making processes. The maps and tables on pages 2-5 and 8 were compiled by the Common Space research team. The facts presented in this report have been collected and edited by the Common Space Initiative. Material presented in this study is based on publicly available sources, which are referred to in footnotes. Though the Common Space Initiative endeavours to make the best of its abilities to provide materials free from error, mistakes or omissions, it cannot take on liability for the content offered. The opinions of Dr Artisi are his personal viewpoints and does not reflect the official position of the Common Space Initiative.
The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and other nuclear safeguards organizations own a large number of nuclear facilities around the world. In many instances, nuclear safeguards are performed in collaboration with other agencies, such as the US Department of Energy (DOE) and the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). In addition, the IAEA's nuclear safeguards activities are supported by international organizations, such as the United Nations, the European Union, and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW). Nuclear safeguards are essential to ensure that nuclear materials are not diverted for terrorist or other unauthorized purposes. Nuclear safeguards also help to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons and prevent the use of nuclear materials for weapons or other unauthorized purposes. The IAEA's nuclear safeguards activities are conducted in accordance with the provisions of the NPT and related international agreements. Nuclear safeguards are an important component of the global nuclear non-proliferation regime and are vital to maintaining international security and stability.
Iran signs the IAEA Additional Protocol, submits required reports to the agency, and suspends all uranium enrichment activities.

Iran fully cooperates with the IAEA to fulfill the commitments made during the negotiations since October 2003, and the parties signed the Paris Agreement in November 2004.

In November 2005, EU-3 agrees to resume talks on the condition that Iran discloses proposals to maintain a civilian nuclear program.

On 17 May 2010, Iran, Turkey and Brazil sign the Tehran Declaration with Iran to swap 2,000 tons of low-enriched uranium (LEU) for 0.5 tons of highly-enriched uranium for the TRR over the period of a year. The declaration does not prevent Iran from continuing enrichment operations and also depends on the assent of the Vienna Group and on Turkey taking possession of the LEU and guarantees its delivery to Iran if the deal fails through.

The final communiqué indicated that leaders pledged to work toward safeguarding all nuclear activities, high capacities for comprehensive and long-term cooperation on regional security and global cooperation on civil aviation, telecommunications and other areas, between the United States, EU, and Iran.


On 23 November 2010, the Iranian President Ahmadinajad declared that "World summits being organized these days are intended to humiliate human beings. There is no other reason for these meetings. The Iranian President Ahmadinajad declared that "World summits being organized these days are intended to humiliate human beings. There is no other reason for these meetings."

The Vienna Group rejects the proposal, perceiving the June 2010 agreement to be an attempt to stall the negotiations process. It is now being considered as a significant part of the Iranian stockpile as it once did.

The August 2005 proposal by the EU stimulates some favorable reactions and promotes the process towards the full return of Iran.

The nuclear fuel exchange is instrumental in initiating cooperation in different areas, especially with regard to peaceful nuclear cooperation including nuclear power plant and research reactors construction.

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uranium enrichment.

Iran for failure to halt


April 2010: International Conference on Nuclear Disarmament and Non-proliferation in Tehran; President Ahmadinejad calls for more rigorous action toward the elimination of all nuclear weapons, than the steps outlined by the Nuclear Security Summit in Washington.

Sept. 25, 2009: IAEA says Iran has informed it of a second enrichment plant.

May 28, 2008: IAEA says Iran’s alleged research into nuclear warheads is a matter of serious concern.

Dec. 3, 2007: U.S. National Intelligence Estimate (NIE) says Iran is planning for holding negotiations with Security Council members plus Germany (the Group 5+1 (The five permanent UN signatories. Only four countries have not signed the treaty: India, North Korea and Pakistan.)

Oct. 6, 2010: Russian contractor of Bushehr nuclear power station later in October.

Iran in the near future.

President Ahmadinejad at the United Nations General Assembly (Sept. 2010): “Note what some of the permanent members of the Security Council and nuclear bomb holders have done: They have equated nuclear energy with the nuclear bomb, and have distanced this energy from the reach of most of nations by establishing monopolies and pressuring the IAEA. (...) We have announced that we stand ready for a serious and free debate with the American Statement to express our transparent views on issues of importance to the world in this very venue.”

Statement by IAEA Director General Yukiya Amano at the IAEA Board of Governors (Sept. 13, 2010): “As noted in my report, Iran’s repeated objection to the designation of inspectors with experience in Iran’s nuclear cycle and facilities hampers the inspection process. I call upon Iran once again to reconsider its decision of 16 January 2007 to request the Agency to withdraw the designation of 38 inspectors.”

Iran and China’s Qinshan Nuclear Power Company as well as China Reactor Deal (September 2006)

U.S. approves Shah’s plans for uranium enrichment and plutonium reprocessing facilities.

Iranian Revolution; nuclear activities halted.

June 2003: IAEA states Iran has not met its obligation under the Non-Proliferation Treaty to account for nuclear material, report on its processing and use, and to declare facilities where the material is stored and processed.

Oct. 2001: Iran begins tests on a 164-centrifuge cascade at Natanz. Iran agrees to suspend enrichment activities, after talks with France, Germany, and the UK (EU-3).


Dec. 2004: Iran signs the Paris Accord with the EU-3 promising a suspension of enrichment activities in exchange for security, political, and economic assurances.

Nov. 2004: Iran announces plans to convert 40 tons of uranium hexafluoride (UF6) to separative work units (SWUs) at Natanz.

July 2004: Agreement on implementation of the Paris accord, including increase of nuclear safety standards.


Dec. 20, 2005: Mexico and Iran sign an agreement for Mexican technological and scientific assistance in the nuclear field.


Jan. 2002: President George W. Bush labels Iran, Iraq and North Korea “the Axis of Evil”.

July 1968: Iran signs the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT).

[The NPT has currently 189 signatories. Only four countries have not signed the treaty: India, North Korea and Pakistan.]

July 1979: 1967-“Eurodif” joint venture between Belgium, France, Iran, Italy, and Spain. Idea was to place an enrichment facility in one country (France) and deliver enriched uranium to the co-financing partners.

1973: Iran begins uranium conversion experiments.

1980: Iran begins uranium conversion.

1981: Iran opens nuclear research center at Isfahan with Chinese assistance.

2002: Iran launches the first Iranian nuclear fuel.


2004: Iran announces plans to convert 40 tons of uranium hexafluoride (UF6) to separative work units (SWUs) at Natanz.

2005: Iran resumes its uranium conversion program at the Isfahan nuclear complex.

2006: The U.S. and Iran announce an agreement on uranium enrichment.

2007: Agreement on Iran, Turkey and Brazil nuclear fuel swap.

2009: Iran signs the Paris Accord with the EU-3 promising a suspension of enrichment activities in exchange for security, political, and economic assurances.

2010: Russian contractor of Bushehr nuclear power station.

2011: Iran announces it will begin loading fuel into the nuclear power station later in October.

2012: Iran launches the first Iranian nuclear fuel.

2013: Iran begins uranium conversion experiments.

2014: Iran opens nuclear research center at Isfahan with Chinese assistance.

2015: Iran launches the first Iranian nuclear fuel.

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