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EXECUTIVE OFFICE
OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Note to the Secretary-General

**ASSESSMENT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FRAMEWORK FOR
COOPERATION BETWEEN THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN AND THE
INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY**

10/22/14

1. Between 8 and 9 February, the Islamic Republic of Iran and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) met in Tehran to resume their talks on resolving the remaining outstanding issues previously identified by the IAEA. During the meeting, the two sides reviewed the implementation of the Joint Statement on a Framework for Cooperation, signed by Iran and the IAEA on 11 November 2013. The November framework included six measures to be implemented by Iran, including the provision of increased and more frequent information about its current and possible future nuclear facilities as well as managed access to the Gchine uranium mine in Bandar Abbas and to the Heavy Water Production Plant in Arak.

2. Further to that agreement, on 9 February the two sides reached agreement on seven additional measures, to be implemented by Iran by 15 May 2014, including:

(1) Providing mutually agreed relevant information and managed access to the Saghand uranium mine in Yazd; (2) Providing mutually agreed relevant information and managed access to the Ardakan uranium ore concentration plant; (3) Submission of an updated Design Information Questionnaire for the IR-40 heavy water reactor at Arak; (4) Taking steps to agree with the Agency on the conclusion of a Safeguards Approach for the IR-40 reactor at Arak; (5) Providing mutually agreed relevant information and arranging for a technical visit to Lashkar Ab'ad Laser Centre; (6) Providing information on natural source material,¹ which, including imports of such material and on Iran's extraction of uranium from phosphates; and (7) Providing information and explanations for the Agency to assess Iran's stated need or application for the development of Exploding Bridge Wire detonators.²

Assessment

3. Of the seven new measures, only the two points involving the heavy water reactor at Arak directly relate to the implementation of NPT safeguards. The points involving uranium mining, extraction and processing as well as the laser technology center, would primarily be useful in providing the IAEA with a better overall picture of Iran's nuclear activities and capabilities.

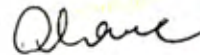
4. The seventh point importantly marks the first time under the November 2013 framework that Iran has agreed to address aspects of the IAEA's investigation of past activities by Iran which suggested a possible military dimension to its nuclear

¹ Material which has not reached the composition and purity suitable for fuel fabrication or for enrichment.

² Used to detonate implosion-style nuclear explosives, but which can also have conventional military and industrial applications.

programme. The IAEA had previously described its possession of documents alleging that Iran had developed exploding bridge wire detonators in the period 2002–2003, which could be used in a nuclear explosive. In 2008, Iran informed the IAEA that it had developed this technology for civil and conventional military purposes. While the IAEA accepted that there were such purposes for the technology, it considered their development to be a matter of concern in light of high explosive experiments conducted by Iran, ostensibly for civil applications, but which could have also been relevant for the development of a nuclear weapon, as well as in light of various other alleged studies.³

5. The implementation of the above measures could provide a better overall picture of Iran's nuclear activities and capabilities, thereby contributing clarity and confidence in its intentions. At the same time, the bulk of the unresolved issues pertaining to the "possible military dimension", including the alleged hydrodynamic experiments at the Parchin military site, remain to be addressed. Nonetheless, the February agreement constitutes an important, albeit incremental, step forward in settling the Iran nuclear dossier.



Angela Kane
10 February 2014

³ See GOV/2011/65 of 8 November 2011.