

Ensure Compliance with NSG Guidelines and Nonproliferation Standards

- [Pressroom](#)

June 17, 2010

Dear NSG Ambassador:

In recent weeks, credible reports have surfaced that the Government of China is planning to sell two additional power reactors to Pakistan. We strongly urge that your government raise this issue at the upcoming meetings of the Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG) in Christchurch, New Zealand and make clear that such a transfer would violate NSG guidelines.

Under the guidelines of the NSG, countries other than the five NPT-recognized nuclear-weapon states—China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom, and the United States—are not eligible to receive most nuclear exports from NSG members unless they have IAEA full-scope safeguards in place.

When China joined the NSG in 2004, it had already built a power reactor at Pakistan's Chashma site. It claimed at the time that it was entitled to build a second one on the grounds that the second reactor project was covered in its existing agreement with Pakistan.

There was no declaration at that time of any intention to build additional nuclear power plants at Chashma. Chinese construction of additional nuclear power plants in Pakistan beyond what was grandfathered in 2004 would be inconsistent with NSG guidelines and China's commitments to the NSG.

We urge your government to reiterate to the Chinese government that it must not engage in nuclear trade with Pakistan in a way that violates nonproliferation obligations and norms.

The provision of uranium and/or nuclear fuel to Pakistan or India for safeguarded reactors can have the effect of increasing their respective capacity to produce enriched uranium or plutonium for weapons purposes in unsafeguarded facilities. Action 35 of the 2010 NPT Review Conference Final Document:

"... urges all States parties to ensure that their nuclear-related exports do not directly or indirectly assist the development of nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices and that such exports are in full conformity with the objectives and purposes of the Treaty as stipulated, particularly, in articles I, II, and III of the Treaty, as well as the decisions and principles and objectives ... adopted in 1995 by the Review and Extension Conference." The 1995 NPT decisions include making full-scope safeguards a condition of nuclear supply.

All UN members states are also obligated to support UN Security Council Resolution 1172 of June 1998, which calls on Pakistan and India to sign the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT), stop producing fissile material for weapons, and undertake other nuclear risk reduction measures.

Neither Pakistan nor India has full-scope safeguards in place; neither has halted fissile material production for weapons or signed the CTBT; both nations are currently expanding their respective uranium enrichment capacity.

We urge your government to oppose nuclear trade by any state with Pakistan (or any other state

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that does not meet basic nonproliferation norms) and to refrain from engaging in nuclear trade with India until such time as it complies with UNSC Resolution 1172.

Sincerely,

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