

Board of Governors

GOV/INF/2010/5

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Communication dated 19 February 2010 received from the Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran concerning the supply of fuel for the Tehran Research Reactor

The Secretariat has received a note verbale dated 19 February 2010 from the Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Agency transmitting a letter dated 18 February 2010 from the Resident Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Director General concerning the supply of fuel for the Tehran Research Reactor. As requested by Iran, the aforementioned letter is herewith circulated for the information of the Board of Governors.

In the name of God



بِسْمِ اللَّهِ

Permanent Mission of
ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN
to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)

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H.E Mr. Yukiya Amano
Director General,
IAEA, Vienna

No. 020/2010

18 February 2010

Excellency,

Following our letter No. 047/2009, dated 02.06.2009, concerning the status of Tehran Research Reactor (TRR) fuel, you are kindly informed that TRR had been constructed by the General Atom Company of the United States, which was made operational in 1967.

The reactor is MTR type and its initial fuels were 93% enriched. The following fuels during its lifetime were supposed to be supplied by the United States in accordance with the relevant contract. A fresh fuel was expected to be delivered in accordance with the contract made with US in late 70s. Since the contractual obligation was not fulfilled and the fuel was not delivered, therefore we had to look for another supplier. Eventually, with the assistance of the Agency, a contract between the Islamic Republic of Iran and Argentina for LEU fuel was concluded in 1987 (Please refer to GOV/2363 dated 7 Sept.1988). The reactor core was then converted from HEU to LEU in 1994 using then newly received LEU fuels.

Due to the fact that TRR fuel lifetime is approaching its end, and that the Agency is required, in accordance with the Article 3 of the Statute, "*to make provision for materials, services, equipment, and facilities*"; I would like to inform the Agency, on behalf of my government, that the Islamic Republic of Iran is still seeking to purchase the required fuel in cash.

However, if the Agency is not able to fulfill its duty under Article 3 of the statute, then Iran is ready to exchange the TRR required fuel assemblies (~19.95%) with the LEU material (~3.5%) produced at Natanz (IRN-), simultaneously in one package or several packages in the

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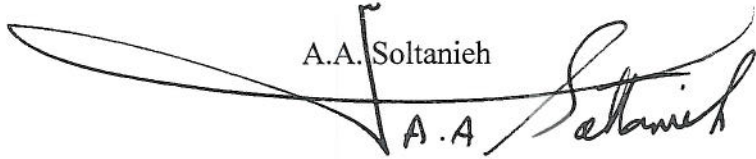
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territory of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Accordingly, I request the IAEA to reflect the matter to those potential nuclear fuel supplier states, and inform us the result.

The Agency's assistance in facilitating the receipt of the required fuels for the TRR is appreciated in advance.

Accept, Sir, the assurance of my highest considerations.

A.A. Soltanieh


Ambassador and Resident Representative