

***Delegation from  
Libya***

***Represented by  
ESSEC Business School***

***Position paper for the Committee International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)***

The topics on committee's agenda are the following: Application of IAEA Safeguards in the Middle East, Improving Science and Technology Activities through, Technical Cooperation, Nuclear Waste Management. The delegation from Libya is looking forward to discuss about these burning issues that are directly linked to the Middle East. Indeed, since 1963, Libya has been an active member of the IAEA and has always wanted to foster technological and institutional cooperation between countries so that the access to this great energy can be shared. Telling examples are the fact that Libya agreed to sign an Additional Protocol to its Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) safeguards in agreement in 2004 and dismantle all nuclear weapons infrastructures, and our cooperation with France in 2006 that seem to underscore our good will on the issue.

**I. Application of IAEA Safeguards in the Middle East**

In the Middle East and North Africa, the need for cheap and clean energy is becoming fiercer every day, and for some countries it could require the development of nuclear infrastructures and facilities. Still the use of nuclear energy needs to be controlled in order to limit the development of its military applications and preserve peace in the region. The State of Libya strongly believes that any unauthorized and non UN-supervised nuclear weapons infrastructure should be dismantled, as Libya did in 2003 with oversight from the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

The State of Libya wishes to eliminate all materials, equipment, and programs aimed at the production of nuclear or other internationally proscribed weapons in the Middle East. The State is concerned by the grave consequences, endangering peace and security, of the presence in the Middle East region of nuclear activities not wholly devoted to peaceful purposes. It urges Member States to support the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone (NWFZ) as referred to in resolution GC(XXXVII)/RES/627, and the implementation of resolution GC(58)/RES/16 regarding the application of comprehensive Agency safeguards covering all nuclear activities in the region of the Middle East. Safeguards systems consist in a reliable means of verification of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, and could be a long term solution to ensure safety as well as promoting economic stability.

**II. Improving Science and Technology Activities through**

On the one hand, the State of Libya is willing to participate in the current cooperation within the science community. We are aware that, nowadays, scientists and engineers that are working in Libya are mostly foreign workers. Still, there are also local engineers that can provide great ideas and make progress within the scientific community. A relevant example is the The University of Garyounis at Benghazi that is offering courses of science and engineering. On the other hand, improving science and technology within the Libya is a major concern. Indeed, one of the key factors for becoming a developed country is and will remain the good

level of education of the citizens. Many examples tend to prove that fostering science and technology leads to the implementation of industries that help the country to become more autonomous. Libya is looking forward to develop partnerships with other countries, especially developed countries that can handle the atomic technology or other countries in the region that know how to use this technology (Iran for instance).

Furthermore, it could be a great opportunity to make our country less dependent from the oil resources. Still, such statements need to have impact, that's why cooperation needs to be the first priority on this particular topic. It's in our great interest but also in the interest of other countries to help us develop such technology. As a matter of fact, Libya can play centre stage in providing stability in the region.

### **III. Technical Cooperation, Nuclear Waste Management**

Whether it comes from nuclear weapon decommissioning, medical uses, or energy facilities, radioactive wastes can have a direct impact on health and the environment through exposure to ionizing radiation, if the storage isn't properly managed.

The State of Libya has dealt before with such an issue, by making efforts to develop and implement a sufficient and effective radioactive waste management. For now, the Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management 'provisions only govern transport, location, and operation of storage facilities. The State of Libya therefore urges Member States to support a long term solution for the storage of those hazardous wastes (for example storing it in space, or transmuted it into harmless materials).

Furthermore, as a country that belongs to Africa, Libya is really sensitive to environmental issues that represent a real threat for the good development of the continent. For our country, a sustainable development should be preferred as it's our responsibility to limit the detrimental consequences of climate change. On this particular point, the State of Libya would like to mention that to have a real impact we must cooperate. Especially with developed countries that should help us, technologically and economically, to implement measures in order to handle nuclear waste properly.