

Global Partnership Update

Russian Presidency Edition

WHAT IS THE GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP?

The G8 Global Partnership Against the Spread of Weapons and Materials of Mass Destruction was announced at the June 2002 G8 Summit in Kananaskis, Canada. The G8 countries pledged to raise \$20 billion over 10 years to reduce the risk of weapons or materials of mass destruction falling into the hands of terrorists or states, with work beginning in Russia. In the nearly four years since Kananaskis, pledges have fallen short of the \$20 billion goal (now tallied at over \$17 billion), and the bulk of promised funding has not yet been translated into projects. Thirteen additional donor countries have joined the partnership and Ukraine joined Russia as a recipient. Global Partnership projects are coordinated in periodic meetings of the G8 Global Partnership Working Group.

Russia chairs the G8 in 2006. In this issue, we publish an interview with Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Sergei Kislyak outlining Russia’s views on the Global Partnership and its G8 leadership. We also include new developments from the past several months of Global Partnership activities, information about recent consortium partner publications such as the “Global Partnership Guidebook” published by the PIR Center and the SIPRI Report on EU nonproliferation assistance. This newsletter is produced by the Strengthening the Global Partnership (SGP) project, a consortium of 24 research institutes in 19 countries working to build support for the G8 Global Partnership. The SGP is based at the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) in Washington. The SGP website now hosts a page devoted to the Russian G8 Presidency: www.sgproject.org.

New Developments:

A number of Global Partnership advances have taken place in recent months to turn “pledges into projects.” Progress has been made on establishing legal frameworks for GP work with Russia. Global Partnership work in Ukraine is gearing up-- a bilateral Cooperative Threat Reduction agreement to protect vulnerable biological pathogens facilities was reached between the U.S. and Ukraine last fall, and important strides have been made in identifying priorities for nuclear-related work. While these developments are significant, unresolved liability and access questions concerning efforts continue to pose obstacles to plutonium disposition programs and progress on upgrading nuclear material security in Russia.

*In October 2005, **Canada** announced an additional C\$55 million (US\$46 million) to finance the procurement of new equipment for the second main destruction building (MDB-2) at the Shchuch'ye chemical weapons destruction facility. Canadian funds, which are flowing through the second Canada-UK MoU, are being used to purchase specified Russian-built equipment needed to destroy nerve agent munitions. This new equipment will double the CW destruction capacity of the Shchuch'ye facility.

***Canada** has contributed C\$9 million to support the U.S.-led project to shut down the last weapons grade plutonium producing nuclear reactor in Zheleznogorsk, Russia.

***France** and Russia concluded two intergovernmental implementing agreements to facilitate Global Partnership cooperation in March 2006. One is based on the MNEPR framework to cooperate on nuclear-powered submarine dismantlement, spent fuel and radioactive waste disposal, and nuclear safety projects. The second facilitates work on chemical weapons elimination. The first related project will be installation of an environmental monitoring system at Shchuchy'e.

***France** began work in October 2005 on the remediation of the Gremikha nuclear submarine base after the last

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INTERVIEW: SERGEI KISLYAK

Sergei Kislyak is Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation and is leading nonproliferation discussions in the G-8 context during Russia's G-8 Presidency this year. The SGP consortium partner, the PIR Center, interviewed Mr. Kislyak for the GP Update.

Sergei Ivanovich, what role will Russia give the Global Partnership (GP) at the upcoming summit in St. Petersburg and in the course of this year as G8 President?

The G8 Global Partnership Against the Proliferation of Weapons and Materials of Mass Destruction (WMD) as established in 2002 in Kananaskis, is one of many themes under the Russian G8 Presidency in 2006, and, as you understand, not unimportant.

How do you view the "interaction" between Russia's declared priorities, questions of energy security and the fight against infectious diseases, and the Global Partnership—or with broader G8 policies in the nonproliferation field?

Neither of the priorities have a relationship to the Global Partnership or nonproliferation. The problem of the fight against infectious diseases will be discussed during special meetings (at the level of G8 ministers of health). The question of energy security will be reviewed in the framework of the appropriate forums.

The goals of the Global Partnership were fixed at Kananaskis. They were focused on solutions to the questions of nonproliferation, disarmament, the fight against terrorism, and ensuring nuclear safety. The first priorities of work were the destruction of chemical weapons, dismantlement of decommissioned nuclear submarines as well as the disposition of fissile material and the employment of former weapon scientists.

The Global Partnership has almost passed its halfway mark. How would you evaluate progress of the programs since the decision at Kananaskis? Has it met your expectations? In what way, in your view, should the dynamic of the Global Partnership be supported, and accelerate its practical realization in a number of directions?

We have established cooperation with all the donors of the GP. We have especially good cooperation with Germany, UK, USA, Canada, and Norway. At the same

time, it is not less important that there are many other countries that contribute, even with modest means, to our GP priorities—chemical weapons destruction and the decommissioning of nuclear submarines.

We have practically completed the establishment of legal frameworks for the GP. In 2003, Russia signed and ratified the Multilateral Nuclear Environmental Program in Russia (MNEPR) agreement. On this foundation, we concluded agreements in 2003-2004 with the UK, Germany, Italy, Switzerland, and Canada. In February 2006, two agreements were signed with France. Agreements with Japan and the U.S. had been signed earlier.

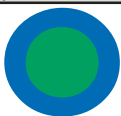
From 2002-2005, Russia received more than \$540 million for its priorities (\$287 million for submarine decommissioning, \$261 million for chemical weapons destruction). With the partners' help, the chemical weapons destruction facility at Gorny, Saratov region, was constructed and began work. Construction was begun at the facility at Kambarka, Udmurtsk Republic. The Schuchy'e facility in the Kurgan region is actively being built (to open by the end of December 2007). Since 2002, with international assistance 17 nuclear-powered submarines have been decommissioned (altogether 61 have been destroyed).

It is necessary to also note Russia's role. Since 2002, the Russian federal budget has spent \$997 million on chemical disarmament and \$206 million on decommissioning of nuclear-powered submarines (with that amount 44 subs were decommissioned).

Overall, we can say that the GP continues to develop, and the cooperation is useful. At the same time, it is far from simple. The most important problem, from our point of view, is that declarations of assistance are realized slowly.

As is well known, at Kananaskis the GP members pledged \$20 billion over ten years. In this way, after Kananaskis we might have calculated that from 2002 to 2005, Russia would have received a sum of more than 5 billion dollars for cooperative work. In reality a lot less has been

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allocated. In other words, the promises of resources to Russia at Kananaskis have not at all come to pass.

Therefore during our Presidency we still see our main goal to be translating the political agreements to practical cooperation. The Russian theme for the Global Partnership this year is—“from promises to realization”.

At the G8 Kananaskis Summit, the decision was taken to start Global Partnership work in Russia. Now Ukraine has become a recipient country. How do you see the prospective geographic widening of the Global Partnership, and will Russia use its experience to cooperate with other countries? For example, do you see a possibility for Russian participation in this work in the DPRK for the halt of its nuclear program through the Global Partnership framework?

In principle, we support the addition of the CIS countries to the Global Partnership—this adheres to the letter and the spirit of Kananaskis. We propose that the candidate countries must have prepared projects that match GP objectives. In addition, they must participate in international nonproliferation regimes. Russia is ready to assist them in preparing needed projects and sharing our experience in cooperating with other G8 participants. Regarding the DPRK, they have not yet raised the question of participation in the GP.

How would you evaluate the present level of Russian-American cooperative threat reduction activities? How do you evaluate progress and success in solving long-term problems such as nuclear liability and access to sensitive nuclear facilities? Is there now more understanding between the two countries on these questions? How do you evaluate the future of bilateral cooperation?

The relationship with the American side is steadily developing. The Russian side has taken a decision in principle to extend the CTR agreement of 17 June 1992 for the next 7 years (until 2013). At present, we are developing the extension protocol language with the American side.

At the Bratislava Summit, Presidents Putin and Bush agreed to develop a partnership and cooperation work in the nuclear security area, the prevention of nuclear terrorism, and the realization of UN Security Council Resolution 1540, and the conversion of research reactors from highly enriched to low-enriched uranium fuel. What progress has been made in this sphere since the two Presidents met in Slovakia?

Recently, we have made good progress in realizing the decisions of the Bratislava Summit.

A bilateral Senior Interagency Working group to address issues of cooperation on nuclear security (including the

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decommissioned submarine at the site was dismantled and its fuel removed. France has allocated 4 million Euros of its Global Partnership pledge to this project.

***Germany** has indicated that extensive research is underway into its likely participation in the construction of a chemical weapons elimination plant at Leonidovka in the future.

*A legislative framework between **Italy** and Russia was completed in the fall of 2005. Under the framework Italian companies will be engaged in the dismantlement of decommissioned Russian nuclear submarines and surface ships, transportation and storage of spent nuclear fuel,

and rehabilitation of areas contaminated with radioactive waste.

*In November, **Japan** agreed to help Russia dismantle five nuclear submarines decommissioned from the Pacific Fleet at the cost of \$5 million to \$15 million per submarine.

***New Zealand** announced in December that it will contribute an additional NZ\$700,000 (US\$430,000) to chemical weapons destruction in Russia this year. A portion of these funds will go to infrastructure projects benefiting the local community. New Zealand will also give NZ\$500,000 (US\$307,000) to assist with decommissioning Russia's last plutonium-producing nuclear reactor at

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PIR Global Partnership Guide

The Center for Policy Studies in Russia (PIR), a Moscow-based SGP consortium partner, has published an English-language version of its Guidebook, “*Global Partnership Against the Spread of Weapons of Mass Destruction.*” On February 2, 2006, PIR held a press conference in Moscow to recognize the publication. As PIR Center Deputy Director Anton V. Khlopkov noted, “Russia’s G8 presidency is indeed one of the key foreign policy events of 2006 in large part due to the topical issues of energy security and the fight against infectious disease proposed for discussion at the G8 summit. Nonproliferation and Global Partnership issues will also be high on the summit agenda. Publication of the English edition of the Global Partnership Guidebook is aimed at facilitating and promoting fruitful discussions of these issues.”

The Guidebook describes the history of Cooperative Threat Reduction (CTR) programs, including the Global Partnership initiative, and analyzes challenges and prospects for program implementation. It also provides useful insights into Russia’s vision of the Global Partnership.

The Russian edition was published and presented in March 2005 and the English edition was updated and published in January 2006. An event will also be held at CSIS in Washington, DC on March 1. To order a copy of the Guidebook please contact Nadezhda Medvedeva by phone + 7-495- 234-05-25 or by e-mail: medvedeva@pircenter.org. You can view a detailed table of contents for the Guidebook at http://www.pircenter.org/data/news/OGL_PIR_Spravotsnik_eng.pdf

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Zheleznogorsk. Funding will be directed toward ensuring that the replacement fossil fuel plant meets high environmental standards.

* Norway allocated 110 million crowns (\$16.3 million) for nuclear cleanup work in northwest Russia this year. This includes the December announcement that Norway will spend more than 3 million Norwegian crowns (\$458,000) on the dismantlement of 10 radioactive thermoelectric generators (RTG). The RTGs have been shipped to the Moscow-based All-Russian Scientific Research Institute of Technical Physics and Automatization (VNITFA), where they will be disassembled and the radiation source will be removed.

*In March, the **Norwegians** and Russians signed a contract for the scrapping of another nuclear submarine - the K-367 of the Project 671 series at the Nerpa ship repair yard (at Snezhnogorsk) , scheduled for completion in autumn 2006.

*On March 1, 2006 **Russia** launched a second chemical weapons destruction plant at Kambarka, Udmurt Republic. The new plant is capable of scrapping up to 2,500 tons of lewisite annually. By 2007 the facility is expected to have scrapped about 4,000 tons of chemical weapons and if it continues at the same rate all reserves of lewisite will have been destroyed by 2010. Operations are expected to begin at Russia’s Maradykovskiy facility in the Kirov

region by the end of the second quarter in 2006. This facility is designed to destroy chemical artillery and warheads for tactical and shorter range missiles. The facility is also expected to destroy 4,300 tons of VX nerve agent.

*Russia has nearly tripled its own GP Budget for CW destruction from \$186 million in 2004 to a projected \$644 million in 2006.

*Sergei Antipov, the deputy head of Rosatom, said in February that **Russia** is to dispose of 17 decommissioned nuclear submarines in 2006. According to Antipov, foreign partners have promised financial aid totaling \$1.42 billion for the disposal of nuclear submarines in the framework of the Global Partnership. As of September 2005, Russia had signed contracts worth \$354 million and allocated \$210 million of its own funds.

*On October 21, 2005, the **Russian** Duma ratified the Convention on Safe Management of Spent Fuel and Radioactive Waste. The Convention calls member states to provide “effective means of protection from potential dangers at all stages of the management of spent fuel and radioactive waste.”

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*Two **Russian** agencies—the Federal Agency of Atomic Energy and the Fund of Ecological Safety and Energy—signed a contract in October 2005 detailing the development of a second stage of the Strategic Master Plan for submarine dismantlement in northwest Russia. As of spring 2006, the study is working to develop an integrated program for problems of decommissioning and environmental rehabilitation. Specific studies are being conducted on issues of managing alpha-class spent nuclear fuel (to be submitted by August 2006), what to do with damaged spent nuclear fuel, options for non-reprocessable spent nuclear fuel, disposal of toxic waste and criteria for environmental remediation. This work is funded through the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD).

*On December 20, 2005, following ratification by the Duma and Federation Council, Russian President Putin signed into federal law the supplementary agreement to the nuclear cooperation agreement between **Russia** and the **UK** which was originally signed in 2003. The agreement facilitates cooperation in the dismantlement of decommissioned nuclear submarines and the treatment of spent nuclear fuel and nuclear waste.

*In August 2005 **Ukraine** and the **United States** signed an agreement to allow the U.S. to extend Cooperative Threat Reduction funds to Ukraine for the protection of biological pathogens and the destruction of strategic offensive arms. An anti-plague institute in Odessa is one of the labs to receive funds under the pact.

*The **United States** Congress authorized a total of \$416 million for Cooperative Threat Reduction programs in the former Soviet Union. Of the \$416 million for CTR, conferees authorized \$79 million to fund strategic offensive arms elimination in Russia; \$74 million for Russian nuclear weapons storage security; and \$30 million for nuclear weapons transportation security in the FSU states. ❖

SIPRI Report on EU Nonproliferation Assistance

Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI), an SGP consortium partner, has published a series of reports to help guide the European Union's decision-making on nonproliferation and disarmament assistance for the 2007-2013 budget cycle. The study's findings were presented on December 7-8, 2005 at an international conference, "Strengthening European Action on Non Proliferation and Disarmament: How can Community Instruments contribute?" in Brussels. SIPRI performed this set of research studies to provide input to the European Commission and the UK Presidency of the EU for future programming of European Community Actions.

In the first part of the conference, these reports were discussed by conference participants, which included experts from EU Member States, non-EU countries, the European Commission, the European Council Secretariat, and from specialized institutions (including the OPCW and the IAEA), as well as non-governmental experts.

The second part of the event took the form of an Inter-Parliamentary Conference organized under the auspices of the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the European Parliament. Both members of the European Parliament and national parliamentarians attended.

The reports, which cover a full range of Global Partnership topics, can be found on the SIPRI website: <http://www.sipri.org/contents/expcon/euppconfmaterials.html>.



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disposition of fissile material no longer needed for defense purposes) was established and is chaired by the heads of Rosatom and the U.S. Department of Energy (currently Sergei Kirienko and Samuel Bodman).

In 2005, a five-year plan was agreed upon to return all highly enriched fuel from Russian and U.S. origin research reactors in third countries. Russian-origin fuel is in 17 countries, 14 of which have agreed to return the fuel, except Egypt, DPRK and China. At present, fresh fuel has been returned from 7 countries. Countries that have nuclear reactors operating with highly enriched uranium are asking for help with conversion to low-enriched fuel. Russia and the United States have conducted an active dialogue about the question of implementing UNSC Resolution 1540, including in the Security Council committee meetings, in the G-8, and in the framework on nonproliferation and export control forums. One of the central questions in this dialogue at the moment is the extension of the mandate of the 1540 committee for another two years (until April 28, 2008). 1540 is an important instrument of cooperation and needs to be fulfilled by all states.

Do you see a possibility for the UN member states, as they fulfill their 1540 obligations, to gain assistance from the Global Partnership (for example, funding for this work in addition to the pledged \$20 billion)?

In principle, we are ready to examine what can be done using the potential of the Global Partnership in order to help states fulfill their obligations under UNSC Resolution 1540 (for example, as regards the physical security of nuclear and other WMD-related materials). At the same time, to give a general answer to a general question is an unthankful task. Everything depends on whether the concrete needs and requests by potential recipients match the goals and principles of the Global Partnership. ❖

GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP ISSUE BRIEFS

The SGP project publishes a series of “Issue Briefs” to highlight Global Partnership implementation challenges. Recent topics have included global cleanout of civil nuclear material, bioterrorism prevention, implementing chemical weapons destruction and addressing the “human factor” in threat reduction efforts. They can be found on the SGP project website at http://www.sgpproject.org/publications/publications_index.html#SGPIssueBriefs.

More about the *Strengthening the Global Partnership Project*

The Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) leads the Strengthening Global Partnership project, a consortium of 24 research institutes in 19 European, Asian, and North American countries working to build support for the G8 Global Partnership Against the Spread of Weapons and Materials of Mass Destruction. The Nuclear Threat Initiative is the primary sponsor of the project. For documents, facts, figures, and analysis on the Global Partnership, visit the project website at www.sgpproject.org.

