

AGREEMENT

Between the Government of the Republic of Armenia and the Government of the Argentine Republic for cooperation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy

The Government of the Republic of Armenia and the Government of the Argentine Republic, hereinafter referred to as "Parties",

recognizing the right of all states to develop all peaceful applications of nuclear energy, according to their own priorities and needs, as well as the right to possess nuclear technology for such purposes,

being aware that the use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes is a social and economic development of both countries,

being convinced that the extensive co-operation between the two countries in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy contributes to the further development of their friendly and cooperative relations,

have agreed upon the following:

Article 1

The Parties shall encourage the development and strengthening of cooperation between both countries in the area of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, in accordance with this Agreement and their respective national legislation.

Article 2

The Parties agree to cooperate particularly in the following areas:

- a) basic and applied research related to the peaceful uses of nuclear energy;
- b) research, development, design, construction and operation of nuclear research and power reactors and facilities of the nuclear fuel cycle;
- c) technology in the nuclear fuel cycle, starting from and including exploration and exploitation of nuclear ores, and the production of nuclear fuel elements up to disposal of radioactive wastes;
- d) industrial production of components and materials needed for use in nuclear reactors and their nuclear fuel cycle;
- e) production of radioisotopes and their applications;
- f) radiological protection, nuclear safety and the assessment of the radiological impact of nuclear energy and its nuclear fuel cycle;
- g) rendering of services in the above-mentioned areas;
- h) nuclear medicine;
- i) other technological aspects of the peaceful use of nuclear energy which the Parties may deem as a matter of mutual interest.

Article 3

The cooperation agreed upon under Article 2 shall be effected through:

- a) mutual assistance related to education and training of scientific and technical personnel;
- b) exchange of experts;
- c) exchange of lecturers, experts and technicians for courses and seminars;
- d) stipend and scholarships;
- e) reciprocal consultations on scientific and technological problems;
- f) setting up of joint working groups to carry out specific studies and projects on scientific research and technological development;
- g) reciprocal deliveries of materials, equipment and services related to the areas mentioned in Article 2;
- h) exchange of information and documentation relating to the above-mentioned areas;
- i) other forms of cooperation agreed upon between the Parties, including those within the framework of the mechanisms under Article 4.

Article 4

The cooperation within the framework of this Agreement shall be carried out between the competent agencies designated by the Parties. Such agencies may conclude separate arrangements determining costs, programs and other specific conditions of cooperation as well as their respective rights and obligations.

Article 5

The Parties may freely use any information exchanged in conformity with the provisions of Article 3, subsection h), of this Agreement, except for the cases when the Party providing such information had previously made known in writing the restrictions and reservations concerning its use and transfer. If information and documentation intended for exchange is protected by a patent of one of the Parties, the conditions of their use and transfer shall be subject to the respective internal legal regulations.

Article 6

The Parties, in conformity with their internal legislation, shall facilitate the transfer of materials, technology, equipment and services needed for carrying out joint or national development programs in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

Article 7

1. Any nuclear material, as well as any equipment specially designed or prepared for treating, using or producing special fissionable material, transferred under this Agreement, shall not be used to develop or manufacture nuclear weapons or other explosive nuclear devices.

2. Any nuclear material transferred under this Agreement, as well as the nuclear material used in any material or equipment transferred - or the nuclear material produced through such material or equipment - shall be verified in the case of the Argentine Republic pursuant to the Agreement between Argentina, Brazil and the Argentine-Brazilian Agency for Accounting and Control of Nuclear Materials (ABRACEN) and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) for the application of safeguards (IAEA Document INFCIRC/435), and in the case of the Republic of Armenia, pursuant to the Agreement between the Republic of Armenia and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) for the application of safeguards in connection with the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (IAEA Document INFCIRC/455).

Article 8

Neither Party may transfer to a third Party any material, equipment or technology received under this Agreement, unless agreed in writing with the other Party prior to the transfer.

Article 9

Any nuclear material transferred under this Agreement or used in or produced through the use of material or equipment so transferred, shall be enriched to twenty (20) percent or more in the isotope U235 or reprocessed when agreed in writing between the Parties prior to enrichment or reprocessing.

Article 10

The Parties shall take appropriate measures in order to provide the nuclear material transferred under this Agreement with physical protection at a level not lower than that recommended by IAEA Document INFCIRC/225/Rev.3.

Article 11

The Parties shall inform each other on the progress of projects executed under this Agreement and shall encourage cooperation between the competent agencies appointed by the Parties in accordance with Article 4 in the implementation of this Agreement.

Article 12

The Parties will consult with each other on matters they deal with at the international level concerning the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, which are of their common interest, with a view to harmonizing their positions in appropriate situations.

Article 13

Any dispute between the Parties arising out of the interpretation or implementation of this Agreement shall be settled through negotiations or consultations.

Article 14

1. This Agreement shall be ratified and shall enter into force on the date the ratification instruments are exchanged.

2. This Agreement shall be valid for ten-year period and shall be automatically extended from year to year, unless either Party notifies the other Party of its intention to terminate this Agreement six months prior to the expiration date.

3. The provisions of this Agreement shall be applicable even after its termination to any specific arrangements concluded under this Agreement which are still outstanding.

4. This Agreement may be terminated any time by the written consent of the Parties. Any amendment hereto shall enter into force in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 1 of this Article.

5. Either Party may terminate this Agreement at any time. Such termination will be effective six months after the date of submission to the other Party of a written request for its termination.

Done at Yerevan, on 30th June 1998, in two original copies, each of them in Armenian, Spanish and English languages, all texts being equally authentic. In case of any divergence in the interpretation of the Armenian and Spanish texts, the English text will prevail.

The Agreement has entered into force on September 7, 2001.