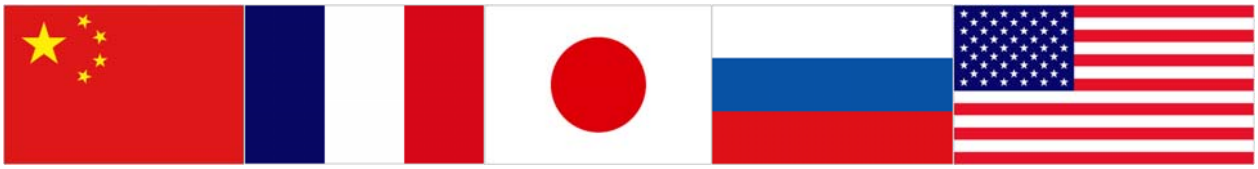

Joint Statement on the
Global Nuclear Energy Partnership and
Nuclear Energy Cooperation
Washington, D.C.
May 21, 2007

Ministers and other senior officials representing the respective governmental agencies of China, France, Japan, Russia, and the United States met in Washington, D.C., on May 21, 2007 to address the prospects for international cooperation in peaceful uses of nuclear energy, including technical aspects, especially in the framework of the Global Nuclear Energy Partnership (GNEP). The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) also attended as an observer.

At the meeting, representatives exchanged views on the GNEP and their vision for nuclear energy cooperation to enable the safe and secure expansion of civilian nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, to discourage the spread of sensitive nuclear fuel cycle technologies, and to afford other nations currently without nuclear power the opportunity to realize the benefits of nuclear energy as a clean, reliable source of energy that does not emit greenhouse gases harmful to our climate.

The GNEP vision was described in broad terms to allow for diversity of technologies and solutions to help states effectively meet the growing global energy needs through increased use of nuclear energy while heeding the requirements for responsible management of long term duties. The participants believe in order to implement the GNEP without prejudice to other corresponding initiatives, a number of near- and long-term technical challenges must be met. They include development of advanced, more proliferation resistant fuel cycle approaches and reactor technologies that will preserve existing international market regulations.

The participants recognized that national priorities, legislation and capabilities result in each country having unique nuclear energy needs and challenges and that a variety of approaches and technical pathways may be necessary to achieve their long-term goals. The participants share a common view that a long-term vision of the global nuclear fuel cycle cannot be achieved without broader cooperation and partnerships involving nations that currently utilize, or are planning to develop, civilian nuclear energy.

The participants reached common recognition at this meeting that, while recognizing the need for a variety of approaches and technical pathways in achieving long-term vision of the future global civilian nuclear fuel cycle, the cooperation in the following areas will be developed to support it:

- Work to support the expansion of nuclear power, realizing its contribution to sustainable development and assistance in meeting the world-wide growing energy demand, while encouraging a closed fuel cycle which supports minimization of waste volumes and radioactivity as well as effectively managing global nuclear resource;
- Pursue the development and demonstration of the advanced technologies for recycling spent nuclear fuel that meet our energy and nonproliferation goals;
- Incorporate the highest levels of safety, security and safeguards, while working to address proliferation concerns;
- Develop, demonstrate and deploy advanced fast reactors;
- Promote the development of grid-appropriate power reactors suitable for regional use;
- Ensure materials and technologies utilized in the civilian fuel cycle are used only for peaceful purposes.

The participants decided that they will work for broader cooperation and partnership, including convening a follow on conference. They recognize the need to take advantage of existing international fora to foster a broad-based dialogue on the issue.