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## IAEA Press Releases

Press Release 2004/03

### IAEA to Implement Safeguards Additional Protocols in the EU

Vienna, 30 April 2004 | IAEA Director General Mohamed ElBaradei welcomed the entry into force today of the Additional Protocols for 15 States of the European Union - France, the United Kingdom and the 13 non-nuclear weapon States of the EU - and the European Atomic Energy Community (EURATOM). The Protocols, which provide the Agency with better tools to verify compliance with nuclear non-proliferation commitments, entered into force when the European Commission informed the Agency that EURATOM's own requirements for entry into force had been met. The 15 States had provided similar notifications over the past years since signing the Protocols in 1998.

The simultaneous entry into force of Additional Protocols for the 15 EU States is "a very positive development and a milestone in our efforts to strengthen the verification regime", said Dr. ElBaradei. "In my view, the Additional Protocol should become the standard for verification under the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT)." He added that the Agency had been preparing for the entry into force of the EU protocols and was confident that, in co-operation with the 15 States and EURATOM, it would be able to ensure effective and efficient implementation in the EU States.

The Model Additional Protocol was developed following the discovery of Iraq's clandestine nuclear weapons programme to ensure that the IAEA is given the information and access it needs for timely discovery of any similar activities in States that have pledged not to use nuclear material and activities for weapons purposes. In the past year, Additional Protocols entered into force for 22 countries, and the Agency will now implement Additional Protocols in 58 States, which includes the 15 EU States.

The 10 countries joining the EU on 1 May 2004 - seven of which already have brought into force Additional Protocols to their respective safeguards agreements - are expected to gradually accede to the Safeguards Agreement and Additional Protocol covering the non-nuclear weapon States of the EU.

#### Related Resources:

- » [Status of Additional Protocols](#)
- » [Text of Model Additional Protocol](#) [pdf]
- » [IAEA Action Plan on Additional Protocols](#) [pdf]
- » [Safeguards Background](#)

- » [Factsheets](#)
- » [EU Additional Protocols](#)
- » [NPT Focus Pages](#)
- » [Nuclear Energy in EU](#)

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## About the IAEA

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) serves as the world's foremost intergovernmental forum for scientific and technical co-operation in the peaceful use of nuclear technology. Established as an autonomous organization under the United Nations (UN) in 1957, the IAEA carries out programmes to maximize the useful contribution of nuclear technology to society while verifying its peaceful use.

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