

19. Global Partnership: Non-Proliferation [306]

Commitment

"We remain committed to our pledges in Kananaskis to raise up to \$20 billion through 2012 for the Global Partnership, initially in Russia, to support projects to address priority areas identified in Kananaskis and to continue to turn these pledges into concrete actions."⁹⁵²

*St. Petersburg Statement on Non-Proliferation*⁹⁵³

Background

Introduced at the 2002 Kananaskis Summit, the Global Partnership against the Proliferation of WMD is aimed at assisting Russia and former member states of the USSR in decommissioning excess nuclear, biological and chemical weapon stocks. This initiative was spearheaded by the United States under the auspices of threat reduction measures intended to minimize the potential of rogue states and terrorist organizations to acquire access to large, often poorly guarded, stocks of weapons of mass destruction, or the materials needed to develop such weapons.

Given that these weapons stocks are improperly or insufficiently secured primarily due to prohibitive disarmament costs, G8 member states pledged to collectively raise USD20 billion over ten years to fund Global Partnership program initiatives. At the Gleneagles summit and again at St. Petersburg the G8 member states renewed their commitment to their 2002 pledge. The pledges made at Kananaskis to the Global Partnership are as follows:

<u>Member State</u>	<u>Original Currency</u>	<u>2002 US Dollars*</u>	<u>2006 US Dollars†</u>
Canada	CAD1 billion	\$637 million	\$882 million
France	€1 billion	\$941 million	\$1.24 billion
Germany	€1.5 billion	\$1.4 billion	\$1.86 billion
Italy	€1 billion	\$941 million	\$1.2 billion
Japan	USD200 million	\$200 million	\$200 million
Russia	USD2 billion	\$2 billion	\$2 billion
United Kingdom	€750 million	\$706 million	\$932 million
United States	USD10 billion	\$10 billion	\$10 billion
European Union	€1 billion	\$941 million	\$1.2 billion

Source: G8 Senior Officials Group Annual Report presented at the Annual Summit of the G8 Heads of State and Government, Evian, June 2003.

** Using the IMF's average market exchange rate for 2002*

† Using the IMF's average market exchange rate for Q1 through Q3 2006

Team Leader: Cliff Vanderlinden

⁹⁵² Statement on Non-Proliferation, G8 Presidency of the Russian Federation in 2006, (St. Petersburg), 16 July 2006. Date of Access: 12 January 2007. en.g8russia.ru/docs/20.html.

⁹⁵³ Statement on Non-Proliferation, G8 Presidency of the Russian Federation in 2006, (St. Petersburg), 16 July 2006. Date of Access: 12 January 2007. en.g8russia.ru/docs/20.html.

⁹⁵⁴ Global Partnership Against the Spread of Weapons and Materials of Mass Destruction Annual Report, G8 Senior Officials Group, (Evian), June 2003. Date of Access: 12 January 2007. www.g8.fr/evian/english/navigation/2003_g8_summit/summit_documents/global_partnership_against_the_spread_of_weapons_and_materials_of_mass_destruction_-_g8_senior_officials_group_-_annual_report.html.

Assessment

Interim Compliance Score			
	Lack of Compliance	Work in Progress	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
Italy		0	
Japan			+1
Russia			+1*
United Kingdom			+1
United States		0	
European Union			+1
Overall			+0.67

* Note: The Toronto team score for Russia is 0.

Canada: +1

Canada registers full compliance with its 2002 commitment made in Kananaskis to engage in nuclear non-proliferation activities.

Canada has prioritized the safe disposal of nuclear materials as part of its non proliferation strategy, following through with consistent allocation of funds. On 17 July 2006, Canada announced a planned contribution of CAD100 million toward the construction of chemical weapons destruction facilities in Russia.⁹⁵⁵ The announcement included a pledge of CAD24 million to defuel and dismantle three nuclear submarines in northwestern Russia, bringing the total number of submarines dismantled with Canada's cooperation to nine.⁹⁵⁶ It also included CAD4.3 million for 15 new research projects at research institutes in Russia and other countries of the former Soviet Union aimed at providing "peaceful, sustainable employment opportunities for former weapons scientists."⁹⁵⁷

In early November 2006, the Zvezdochka shipyard in Severodvinsk in Russia began disposal of the B-244 Viktor III class multipurpose nuclear submarine with Canadian funding that is part of a CAD100 million funding package aimed at the disposal of 12 multi-purpose nuclear powered submarines at Zvezdochka.⁹⁵⁸

Analyst: Hana Dhanji

France: +1

France registers full compliance in its commitment to fulfilling its 2002 pledge made in Kananaskis to support non-proliferation initiatives.

France has committed itself to the refitting of the nuclear waste incinerator in the Zvezdochka shipyard located in Russia, a project which it will fund up to EUR7 million going into 2008.⁹⁵⁹

On 30 Decemeber 2006 Russian President Vladimir Putin signed a federal law ratifying the Russian-French intergovernmental agreement on cooperation in the disposal of chemical weapons in Russia,

⁹⁵⁵ Canada announces projects to secure and eliminate weapons and materials of mass destruction, Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada, (Ottawa), 17 July 2006. Date of Access: 9 December 2006. geo.international.gc.ca/cip-pic/library/17july2006-en.asp.

⁹⁵⁶ Canada announces projects to secure and eliminate weapons and materials of mass destruction, Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada, (Ottawa), 17 July 2006. Date of Access: 9 December 2006. geo.international.gc.ca/cip-pic/library/17july2006-en.asp.

⁹⁵⁷ Canada announces projects to secure and eliminate weapons and materials of mass destruction, Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada, (Ottawa), 17 July 2006. Date of Access: 9 December 2006. geo.international.gc.ca/cip-pic/library/17july2006-en.asp.

⁹⁵⁸ Global Partnership Update: Fall Edition, Strengthening the Global Partnership Project, (Washington DC), December 2006. Date of Access: 9 December 2006. sgpproject.org/publications/GPUupdates/Fall%202006%20Update.pdf.

⁹⁵⁹ Annex to the Global Partnership Report, G8 Summit, (St. Petersburg), 16 July 2006. Date of Access: 17 December 2006. en.g8russia.ru/docs/22.html.

which was signed in Moscow on 14 February 2006.⁹⁶⁰ The agreement outlines the “practical use of a free financial and technical aid by France in order to implement the Russian prioritized programmes of destroying the Russian chemical weapons stock, creation and maintenance of facilities for the disposal of these weapons, and to solve accompanying ecological problems.”⁹⁶¹ During the implementation of the agreement France will take part in the launching of an ecological monitoring project at the chemical weapons disposal plant in Shchuch’ye, a project to which France will make an initial commitment of EUR6 million.⁹⁶²

Analyst: Hana Dhanji

Germany: + 1

Germany registers full compliance with its St. Petersburg commitment to continue supporting the Global Partnership Program.

On the 2 August 2006, the first stage of a EUR125 million storage facility for nuclear submarine reactors in Saida Bay in the Murmansk region was completed. The project was financed by Germany.⁹⁶³

Furthermore, German officials worked together with the United States and Russia in a secret operation to transfer almost 600 pounds of abandoned, Soviet-made nuclear material from a former East German research lab to a secure site in Russia on 22 December 2006.⁹⁶⁴ This operation was carried out under the Global Threat Reduction Initiative, a Bush administration program launched in 2004 to combine and speed-up efforts to lock down nuclear materials and weapons around the world.⁹⁶⁵

Analyst: Sandro Gianella and Igor Churkin

Italy: 0

The government of Italy has continued to support its Global Partnership commitments reiterated at the 2006 G8 Summit in St. Petersburg, although there were no new financial commitments registered by the Italian government since the summit. However, the decommissioning of the Kirov-class nuclear-powered battle cruiser *Admiral Ushakov* – a project funded by Italy – is expected to begin in 2007.

On 9 October 2006, talks between an Italian delegation and the Zvydochka project in Severodvinski were held. The talks concerned the unloading of spent nuclear fuel from the decommissioned cruiser.⁹⁶⁶ In November 2004 Italy had expressed its readiness to allot EUR60 million for the dismantlement of the *Admiral Ushakov*.⁹⁶⁷ On 25 January 2005 Italian sources reported that SOGIN (Società Gestione Impianti Nucleari or the Society for the Management of Nuclear Systems) had come to a preliminary agreement with the Russian Atomic Energy Agency to commit EUR66 million to fund dismantlement of three Victor-class submarines and the *Admiral Ushakov*.⁹⁶⁸ The Italian parliament was expected to take about two years to approve the project and commit the pledged funds.⁹⁶⁹

⁹⁶⁰ Putin signs law ratifying RF-France chemical weapons dumping agreement, Green Cross, (Moscow), 30 December 2006. Date of Access: 24 January 2007.

⁹⁶¹ Putin signs law ratifying RF-France chemical weapons dumping agreement, Green Cross, (Moscow), 30 December 2006. Date of Access: 24 January 2007.

⁹⁶² Putin signs law ratifying RF-France chemical weapons dumping agreement, Green Cross, (Moscow), 30 December 2006. Date of Access: 24 January 2007.

⁹⁶³ The First Part of a Facility for Storage of Reactor Compartments of Nuclear Submarines Put into Operation in Murmansk Region, Defense and Security, (Moscow), 2 August 2006. Date of Access: 16 November 2006
www.sgpproject.org/Personal%20Use%20Only/murmansk08.02.06.htm.

⁹⁶⁴ Lock away nukes, Orlando Sentinel, (Orlando), 22 December 2006. Date of Access: 3 January 2006.

⁹⁶⁵ Lock away nukes, Orlando Sentinel, (Orlando), 22 December 2006. Date of Access: 3 January 2006.

⁹⁶⁶ Italian delegation to discuss nuclear cruiser scrapping prospects in Severodvinski, Strengthening the Global Partnership, (Washington DC), 9 October 2006. Date of Access: 27 December 2006.
www.sgpproject.org/Personal%20Use%20Only/101206italycruiser.htm.

⁹⁶⁷ Russia: International Assistance Programs: Italy, Nuclear Threat Initiative, (Washington DC), 7 December 2004. Date of Access: 24 January 2007. www.nti.org/db/nisprofs/russia/forasst/intnatl/italy.htm.

⁹⁶⁸ Russia: International Assistance Programs: Italy, Nuclear Threat Initiative, (Washington DC), 7 December 2004. Date of Access: 24 January 2007. www.nti.org/db/nisprofs/russia/forasst/intnatl/italy.htm.

⁹⁶⁹ Russia: International Assistance Programs: Italy, Nuclear Threat Initiative, (Washington DC), 7 December 2004. Date of Access: 24 January 2007. www.nti.org/db/nisprofs/russia/forasst/intnatl/italy.htm.

According to a Zvyozdochka project spokesman, the unloading of spent nuclear fuel from the *Admiral Ushakov* is expected to begin in 2007.⁹⁷⁰

Analyst: Joseph Tabago

Japan: +1

The government of Japan has registered full compliance in meeting the Global Partnership commitments reiterated at the 2006 G8 Summit in St. Petersburg.

On 12 September 2006, Deputy Foreign Minister Shintaro Ito announced at a press conference in Vladivostok that Japan had allocated JPY20 billion in a joint project with Russia to dismantle five Victor-class nuclear submarines by 2010.⁹⁷¹ The project will be conducted under the Star of Hope program, which was adopted during Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi's visit to Russia on 11 January 2003. The first Victor class submarine will be decommissioned in Zvezda Shipyard in the upcoming months and will take approximately 10 months to complete.⁹⁷²

On 30 August 2006, the chief of Russia's Federal Atomic Agency (Rosatom) Sergei Kiriienko and Japan's Katsutoshi Kaneda discussed cooperation in the area of nuclear-powered submarine recycling. As part of an agreement, Japan agreed to finance the construction of a floating complex worth USD35 million to process liquid radioactive waste.⁹⁷³

Japan has also continued to demonstrate its strong support for international agreements concerning nuclear non-proliferation. On 20 September 2006, Shintaro Ito reiterated Japan's commitment to the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty, noting that "Japan is taking every diplomatic opportunity to facilitate the entry into force of the Treaty."⁹⁷⁴ In addition to conducting bilateral consultations with emerging nuclear states such as India, Pakistan and Israel, Japan has also provided developing countries with training in monitoring seismological activity.⁹⁷⁵ This is in an attempt to improve international detection and verification capacity around nuclear testing.

Analyst: Joseph Tabago

Russia: +1

Russia has registered full compliance with the Global Partnership initiative. Following the G8 Summit at St. Petersburg, Russia proposed establishing international uranium-enrichment centres that would offer nuclear fuel to all law-abiding signatories and where all countries wishing to develop their nuclear energy industry under International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) control can participate on equal terms.⁹⁷⁶ The first of these centres is slated to open in Siberia in 2007. Russian officials have pledged that the centres would operate under International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards to prevent civil materials and technologies from being diverted to military purposes.⁹⁷⁷

On 13 November 2006, Russia initiated actions to dismantle a rail-borne missile system at a facility for the liquidation of strategic weapons in Bryansk.⁹⁷⁸ Funds for the liquidation were issued from the Russian federal budget and under US-financed joint programme of reduction of risks.⁹⁷⁹ However,

⁹⁷⁰ Italian delegation to discuss nuclear cruiser scrapping prospects in Severodvinski, Strengthening the Global Partnership, (Washington DC), 9 October 2006. Date of Access: 27 December 2006. www.sgppproject.org/Personal%20Use%20Only/101206italycruiser.htm.

⁹⁷¹ Japan to begin dismantling 5 subs under a Moscow-Tokyo deal, Bellona, (Moscow), 12 September 2006. Date Accessed: 27 December 2006. www.bellona.org/news/japan_victordis.

⁹⁷² Japan to begin dismantling 5 subs under a Moscow-Tokyo deal, Bellona, (Moscow), 12 September 2006. Date Accessed: 27 December 2006. www.bellona.org/news/japan_victordis.

⁹⁷³ Russia and Japan discuss nuclear submarine recycling, Strengthening the Global Partnership, (Washington). 30 August 2006. Date of Access: 27 December 2006. www.sgppproject.org/Personal%20Use%20Only/RusJapanSub8.30.06.htm.

⁹⁷⁴ Remarks by H. E. Mr. Shintaro Ito, Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs at the Third CTBT Ministerial Meeting, The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, (Tokyo) 20 September 2006. Date of Access: 27 December 2006. www.mofa.go.jp/policy/un/disarmament/ctbt/remark0609.html.

⁹⁷⁵ Remarks by H. E. Mr. Shintaro Ito, Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs at the Third CTBT Ministerial Meeting, The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, (Tokyo) 20 September 2006. Date of Access: 27 December 2006. www.mofa.go.jp/policy/un/disarmament/ctbt/remark0609.html.

⁹⁷⁶ Russia ready to provide capacities for international nuclear fuel centre - Kiriienko, G8 Summit 2006 News, 12 September 2006. Date of Access: 31 October 2006. en.g8russia.ru/news/20060912/1259000.html.

⁹⁷⁷ Looks to Tighten U.S. Nuclear Ties, Arms Control Association: Arms Control Today, November 2006. Date of Access: 21 November 2006. www.armscontrol.org/act/2006_11/RussiaTies.asp.

⁹⁷⁸ Rail missile launcher scrapped in Russia city, ITAR-TASS, 13 November 2006. Date of Access: 21 November 2006. www.sgppproject.org/Personal%20Use%20Only/111306missilelaunch.htm.

⁹⁷⁹ Rail missile launcher scrapped in Russia city, ITAR-TASS, 13 November 2006. Date of Access: 21 November 2006. www.sgppproject.org/Personal%20Use%20Only/111306missilelaunch.htm.

Russia decided to keep its heaviest intercontinental ballistic missiles, the RS-20V missiles in service for another decade.⁹⁸⁰ It was reported that Russia's strategic forces have conducted regular test launches of Soviet-built ballistic missiles to check their performance and extend their time on duty because of the lack of funding to replace them with new missiles.⁹⁸¹

On 5 December 2006 Russia's atomic energy agency, Rosatom, signed a new five-year agreement with Norway to assist with the dismantling of Russian nuclear power submarines. Norway will offer technological, financial and technical assistance, as well as providing safe storage of reactor compartments and spent nuclear fuel. Russia has dismantled 145 of its 197 decommissioned Soviet-era nuclear submarines, and that the remaining 50-odd vessels will be scrapped by 2010.⁹⁸²

On 6 December 2006, Viktor Kholstov announced that at present Russia has eliminated over 15 percent of its total chemical weapon stockpiles. He also made a prediction that 8,000 tonnes of chemical warfare agents would be destroyed by 29 April 2007.⁹⁸³ However, on 12 December 2006, Russia announced that lower-than-expected foreign funding could slow the country's chemical weapons destruction efforts. The international community agreed to extend the deadline to 2012 because of funding problems, and the destruction program has depended on large injections of foreign funds. The funding shortfall "could disrupt the schedule to put three chemical weapons destruction plants into operation in 2008."⁹⁸⁴

Analyst: Elena Bylina and Ekaterina Mamontova

United Kingdom: +1

The United Kingdom has registered a high level of compliance with regards to its commitments made at the G8 Summit in St. Petersburg. In 2006 the UK made substantial progress on dismantling Russian nuclear submarines, redirecting former nuclear weapons scientists, increasing the security of nuclear materials, and establishing of a co-operative programme for the transportation and storage of spent nuclear fuel from the Aktau reactor.⁹⁸⁵

The United Kingdom is also working with the Nuclear Safety Programme (NSP) with the aim of promoting the adoption of internationally recognized nuclear safety and regulatory standards within the civil nuclear industry in the Former Soviet Union and Central and Eastern Europe in order to minimize the potential for nuclear mismanagement.⁹⁸⁶ The Department of Trade and Industry, together with British Nuclear Group as project managers, are working closely with beneficiary organizations to develop project proposals that address their nuclear safety priorities.⁹⁸⁷

On 18 July 2006 the Ministry of Defense announced that it will continue to play a significant role in the international effort to destroy chemical weapons in Russia by helping to build a second destruction facility in Kizner, which, like the facility in Shchuch'ye, will be a key Russian facility for the destruction of lethal nerve agents.⁹⁸⁸ The Minister of State for the Armed Forces stated, that "together, working with Russia and other international donors, we are making a real difference, helping to make the world safer by eliminating these terrible weapons."⁹⁸⁹ According to the Ministry of Defense, up to USD100 million of the United Kingdom's EUR750 million Global Partnership pledge will be made available to

⁹⁸⁰ Russia to keep its heaviest ICBM in service for another decade, Moscow News, (Moscow), 12 November 2006. Date of Access: 21 November 2006. <http://www.sgpproject.org/Personal%20Use%20Only/111206icbm.htm>.

⁹⁸¹ Russia to keep its heaviest ICBM in service for another decade, Strengthening the Global Partnership, (Washington DC), 12 November 2006. Date of Access: 21 November 2006. www.sgpproject.org/Personal%20Use%20Only/111206icbm.htm.

⁹⁸² Russia, Norway to continue cooperation in scrapping nuclear subs, Strengthening the Global Partnership, (Washington DC), 5 December 2006. Date of Access: 2 January, 2007. www.sgpproject.org/Personal%20Use%20Only/120506norwaysub.htm.

⁹⁸³ Russia eliminates over 15% of chemical wpns stockpiles, Strengthening the Global Partnership, (Washington DC), 6 December 2006. Date of Access: 2 January, 2007. www.sgpproject.org/Personal%20Use%20Only/120606cwdestruct.htm.

⁹⁸⁴ Low foreign funding could slow Russian chemical weapons destruction program, 12 December 2006, Strengthening the Global Partnership, (Washington DC), Date of Access: 2 January, 2007. www.sgpproject.org/Personal%20Use%20Only/121206cwfundinglow.htm.

⁹⁸⁵ Global Partnership Nuclear Non-Proliferation – Government Policy, Department of Trade and Industry, (London), Date of Access: 3 January 2007. www.dti.gov.uk/energy/environment/soviet-nuclear-legacy/uk-policy/page13280.html.

⁹⁸⁶ Nuclear Safety, Department of Trade and Industry, (London), Date of Access: 3 January 2007. www.dti.gov.uk/energy/environment/soviet-nuclear-legacy/programme-portfolio/nsp/index.html.

⁹⁸⁷ Nuclear Safety, Department of Trade and Industry, (London), Date of Access: 3 January 2007.

www.dti.gov.uk/energy/environment/soviet-nuclear-legacy/programme-portfolio/nsp/index.html.

⁹⁸⁸ MOD helps destroy more chemical weapons in Russia, Ministry of Defence, (London), 19 July 2006. Date of Access: 16 November 2006.

www.mod.uk/DefenceInternet/DefenceNews/DefencePolicyAndBusiness/ModHelpsDestroyMoreChemicalWeaponsInRussia.html.

⁹⁸⁹ MOD helps destroy more chemical weapons in Russia, Ministry of Defence, (London), 19 July 2006. Date of Access: 16 November 2006.

www.mod.uk/DefenceInternet/DefenceNews/DefencePolicyAndBusiness/ModHelpsDestroyMoreChemicalWeaponsInRussia.html.

Russia for the destruction of its chemical weapons stockpile.⁹⁹⁰

The Department of Trade and Industry announced on 29 September 2006 that, with the help of GBP21 million in British funds, a new facility to safely store nuclear fuel was built at the Amflot site in Murmansk.⁹⁹¹ This is the largest completed project to date under the United Kingdom's Global Partnership commitments. The facility provides safe storage for 3,500 spent fuel rods in 50 storage cases.⁹⁹²

Analyst: Sandro Gianella

United States: 0

The United States has registered a sufficient level of compliance with the Strategic Global Partnership initiative.

On 1 November 2006, US Cooperative Threat Reduction officials met with their Russian counterparts in Moscow to discuss a new strategy to resume work on the unfinished chemical weapon destruction plant at Shchuch'ye, one of seven planned chemical weapons destruction facilities in Russia aimed at eliminating Russia's chemical weapon stockpiles. The facility was originally scheduled for completion by 2005, but the timeframe was pushed back to 2008. The US made the most significant pledge towards the facility of all G8 member states and hopes to retain oversight over the project and release funds only as work is completed to satisfaction. Both the US and Russia aim to reduce their respective stockpiles by 20 percent by April 2007, 45 percent by the end of 2009, and the entire stock of chemical weapons eradicated by April 2012.⁹⁹³

On 29 September 2006, the US Department of Energy and the Nuclear Threat Initiative (NTI) reached an important agreement-in-principle with the Government of Kazakhstan to move forward with the down-blending of highly enriched uranium (HEU) currently stored at Kazakhstan's Institute of Nuclear Physics.⁹⁹⁴ The project will be administered through the Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA). NNSA's Global Threat Reduction Initiative (GTRI) will work with Kazakhstan and will contribute at least USD4 million to the threat reduction initiative.⁹⁹⁵ The mission of GTRI is to identify, secure, recover and facilitate the final disposal of high-risk vulnerable nuclear and radiological materials around the world as quickly as possible.⁹⁹⁶

The Defence Authorization Act FY2007 became law on 17 October 2006 and included several provisions in the area of non-proliferation and cooperative threat reduction. It authorized USD1.7 billion for the Department of Energy (DOE) non-proliferation programs. The act acknowledged the President's authority to waive – on an annual basis – the conditions that must be met before CTR funds can be earmarked for the Shchuch'ye chemical weapons demilitarization facility in Russia. It also included a provision requiring an independent cost estimate for the U.S. plutonium disposition facility.⁹⁹⁷

Analyst: Ekaterina Mamontova

European Union: +1

The European Union has registered a respectable level of compliance with its EUR1 billion pledge to the Global Partnership. The EU pledge is concentrated in several key areas, including EUR125 million for ISTC/STCU former weapons scientist assistance and EUR550 million for nuclear safety assistance,

⁹⁹⁰ MOD helps destroy more chemical weapons in Russia, Ministry of Defence, (London), 19 July 2006. Date of Access: 16 November 2006.

www.mod.uk/DefenceInternet/DefenceNews/DefencePolicyAndBusiness/ModHelpsDestroyMoreChemicalWeaponsInRussia.html.

⁹⁹¹ UK funds GBP21m safe store for historic Soviet spent nuclear fuel, Government News Network, (London), 29 September 2006. Date of Access: 16 November 2006.

www.gnn.gov.uk/environment/detail.asp?ReleaseID=230672&NewsAreaID=2&NavigatedFromDepartment=False.

⁹⁹² UK funds GBP21m safe store for historic Soviet spent nuclear fuel, Government News Network, (London), 29 September 2006. Date of Access: 16 November 2006.

www.gnn.gov.uk/environment/detail.asp?ReleaseID=230672&NewsAreaID=2&NavigatedFromDepartment=False.

⁹⁹³ Russia, U.S. Discuss New Path for CW Disposal Plan, Global Security Newswire, 2 November 2006. Date of Access: 21 November 2006. www.sgpproject.org/Personal%20Use%20Only/110206cwdestruction.htm.

⁹⁹⁴ U.S. Department of Energy and NTI Announce Key Non-proliferation Project with Kazakhstan, DOE Press Release, 29 September 2006. Date of Access: 31 October 2006. www.sgpproject.org/Personal%20Use%20Only/092906kazakhstan.htm.

⁹⁹⁵ U.S. Department of Energy and NTI Announce Key Non-proliferation Project with Kazakhstan, DOE Press Release, 29 September 2006. Date of Access: 31 October 2006. www.sgpproject.org/Personal%20Use%20Only/092906kazakhstan.htm.

⁹⁹⁶ U.S. Department of Energy and NTI Announce Key Non-proliferation Project with Kazakhstan, DOE Press Release, 29 September 2006. Date of Access: 31 October 2006. www.sgpproject.org/Personal%20Use%20Only/092906kazakhstan.htm.

⁹⁹⁷ Bill Summary, Defence Authorization Act FY2007, Office of Senator John Warner, Press Release, 29 September 2006. Date of Access: 31 October 2006. www.sgpproject.org/Personal%20Use%20Only/092906warner.htm.

which includes EUR50 million for nuclear submarine dismantlement and EUR23 million for fissile material safeguards.⁹⁹⁸ The pledge is managed by the European Council's Joint Action program and the European Commission's TACIS program, which provides grant-financed technical assistance to Eastern Europe and Central Asia.⁹⁹⁹

TACIS is currently funding the USD30 million dismantlement of the *Lepse*, a retired service vessel for the nuclear-powered ice-breaker fleet operated by Murmansk Shipping Company. The *Lepse* contains 640 spent nuclear fuel assemblies which are assumed to be in poor condition. Protected by concrete to reduce radiation, the radioactivity within the hull of the *Lepse* has been estimated as high as 28,000 TBq (750,000 Ci).¹⁰⁰⁰

The EU budget cycle ended in 2006. New allocations will be made in 2007 and consultations around new concepts and regulations for the TACIS program are currently underway.¹⁰⁰¹

Analyst: Cliff Vanderlinden

⁹⁹⁸ Donor Factsheet: EU, Strengthening the Global Partnership Project, (Washington DC), 2004. Date of Access: 12 January 2007. www.sgppproject.org/Donor%20Factsheets/EU.html.

⁹⁹⁹ The EU's relations with Eastern Europe & Central Asia, External Relations, (Brussels). Date of Access: 12 January 2007. ec.europa.eu/comm/external_relations/ceeca/tacis/.

¹⁰⁰⁰ The *Lepse* project, Bellona, (Oslo), June 1997. Date of Access: 12 January 2007. www.bellona.org/english_import_area/international/russia/status/4107.

¹⁰⁰¹ The EU's relations with Eastern Europe & Central Asia, External Relations, (Brussels). Date of Access: 12 January 2007. ec.europa.eu/comm/external_relations/ceeca/tacis/.