

*Tenth International Export Control Conference  
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### **Day Three: Export Control Cooperation and Outreach**

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Australia plays a prominent role in the development and implementation of regional and global arms control, non-proliferation and disarmament architecture in relation to small arms and light weapons (SALW) and weapons of mass destruction (WMD).

This architecture has several layers: (1) the treaty framework and related instruments, which form the bedrock of global norms and objectives; (2) UN measures, including sanctions; (3) export controls, including the export control regimes; (4) dialogue and initiatives such as the Proliferation Security Initiative; and (5) targeted advocacy such as that carried out by the International Commission on Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament.

Australia's cooperation and outreach covers all these layers, and aims to accelerate the deepening and broadening of measures to enhance regional and international security. Australia's activities are directed at all levels of government and all relevant agencies, with a focus on the Asia Pacific region.

Some examples of Australia's international cooperation and outreach follow.

#### ***Treaty implementation***

Australia advocates the negotiation, universalisation and implementation of practical arms control and non-proliferation treaties and related instruments. On nuclear issues, this includes seeking the signing or ratification of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (CTBT), and efforts to improve safeguards on nuclear facilities and material within the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and elsewhere.

The Australian Safeguards and Non-Proliferation Office (ASNO) cooperates with Asia Pacific countries on nuclear physical protection, safeguards and related export controls. This often originates through requests from regional countries, especially the IAEA. For example, ASNO and the IAEA hosted a regional training workshop on the physical protection of nuclear research reactors in Sydney in June 2009.

#### ***UN Security Council resolution 1540***

Australia supports a firmer and more active UN Security Council (UNSC) role on non-proliferation, including in relation to the North Korea and Iran nuclear issues. Implementing fully the UNSC resolutions against North Korea and Iran, as well as UNSC resolution 1540 on WMD non-proliferation, is critical in supporting efforts for a peaceful and diplomatic outcome to the North Korea and Iran nuclear issues.

Australia contributes to regional implementation of UNSC resolution 1540 through providing bilateral assistance where requested and assisting with seminars including those organised by the 1540 Committee, EU countries and the United States. In May 2009, Australia contributed to training in Port Vila for Pacific Island countries.

### ***Export control regimes***

Australia is permanent chair of the Australia Group, which harmonises export controls to counter the spread of chemical and biological weapons. Australia is also currently chair of the Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR), which harmonises export controls to prevent the proliferation of delivery systems for WMD.

As chair of these regimes, Australia leads and contributes to outreach to improve transparency and to bring non-participant countries up-to-date on developments in the regimes. Australia Group outreach is conducted to over 50 countries every year. MTCR outreach in 2009 is focusing on visits to a number of countries in East Asia, South Asia and the Middle East to conduct in-depth discussions.

### ***Small arms and light weapons***

Australia engages actively with Pacific Island states and organisations to implement the UN Programme of Action (PoA) on SALW. In June 2009 Australia, in partnership with the UN of Disarmament Affairs, hosted a Pacific Regional Meeting in Sydney which examined ways of progressing a regional implementation plan for the SALW Programme of Action.

Australia has also sought to raise awareness about the threat from lightweight anti-aircraft weapons known as Man-Portable Air-Defence Systems (MANPADS). Australia has promoted efforts regionally and in UN and other bodies to secure MANPADS stocks, mitigate the risk to aircraft, and to bolster export controls.

### ***Related counter-terrorism activities***

Australia conducts extensive cooperation and outreach on counter-terrorism, of which some is relevant to export controls. To help to prevent terrorist acquisition and use of chemical weapons, Australia hosted an Asia-Pacific seminar on chemical safety and security in Canberra in June 2009, which covered trade security measures.

As part of its work in support of the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism, Australia hosted a seminar on radiation incidents - avoidance, surveillance and response and an exercise called 'DISCEX Blue Glow' in Canberra in May 2009. These focused on improving technical measures to detect nuclear materials, regulatory frameworks, and international information exchange and assistance networks.

### ***Regional security of radioactive sources***

Since 2004, the Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation (ANSTO) has assisted South East Asian and Pacific countries to reduce the likelihood of, and consequences from, unauthorised or malevolent use of radioactive sources. This Regional Security of Radioactive Sources (RSRS) project, undertaken in collaboration

with the IAEA and US agencies, has led to tangible improvements in radiation safety and source security, including trade security and reduced trafficking risk in this area.

In May 2009, Australia made a grant of \$A450,000 to the IAEA nuclear security fund to be directed to projects that will strengthen the security of nuclear and radioactive materials in South East Asia.

***International Commission on Non-Proliferation and Disarmament***

The International Commission on Non-Proliferation and Disarmament, an Australian and Japanese initiative formed in mid-2008, aims to reinvigorate global efforts to curb nuclear weapons proliferation and to secure further advances in nuclear disarmament.

The Commission is seeking to encourage productive debate on international nuclear issues between nuclear weapon states, developed and developing countries, and build momentum to reinvigorate the nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament agenda. The Commission will deliver a major report in the lead-up to the May 2010 Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) Review Conference.

The Commission is holding plenary meetings in 2008-2009 in Sydney, Washington, Moscow and Hiroshima, and regional meetings in Santiago, Beijing, New Delhi and Cairo. Further information about the Commission is available at [www.icnnd.org](http://www.icnnd.org).