

## Nuclear Security Cooperation Between Russia and the United States

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United States Energy Secretary Samuel Bodman and Russian Federal Atomic Energy Agency Director Sergey Kiriyyenko, have submitted to Presidents Bush and Putin the third report of the Senior Interagency Working Group on implementation of the February 2005 Bratislava Checklist. The report highlights progress in all five checklist areas over the past six months, including agreement to:

- Conduct a joint field exercise in Russia in late 2006 focused on a search for radioactive materials and elimination of consequences resulting from a nuclear or radiological emergency.
- Continue discussion of mutual “best practices” with regard to maintaining the security of sensitive nuclear facilities.
- Adopt a joint definition of “Security Culture” and to develop principles and evaluation criteria by the end of 2006.
- Maintain the aggressive timeline of prioritized repatriation of fresh and spent HEU fuel and conversion of research reactors in third countries. Both sides noted the successful shipments of spent highly enriched uranium fuel of U.S. and Russian origin to the United States and Russia, respectively.
- Continue the implementation of the bilateral Joint Action Plans to improve the level of physical protection, control and accountability of nuclear weapons and materials stored at Russian Ministry of Defense and Rosatom facilities.

The Senior Interagency Working Group will submit its next report in December 2006.