JOINT DECLARATION BY INDIA AND THE UNITED KINGDOM ON CIVIL NUCLEAR CO-OPERATION

Recalling their deep friendship and as major democracies and global actors in the multipolar world;

Noting that the rapidly growing flows of two-way trade and investment between India and the United Kingdom reflect the strengthening of their bilateral ties;

Recognising that proliferation of weapons of mass destruction will make the world a more dangerous and unstable place, and committing to work together with the international community to advance our common objective of disarmament and non-proliferation;

Acknowledging that India and the United Kingdom are States with advanced nuclear technology;

Desiring to promote extensive co-operation in nuclear energy for peaceful purposes;

Recognising the new opportunities that have emerged following approval by the IAEA on 1 August, 2008 of the "Agreement between the Government of India and the IAEA for the Application of Safeguards to Civilian Nuclear Facilities";

Emphasising the importance of the adoption by the Nuclear Suppliers Group of the "Statement on Civil Nuclear Cooperation with India" [INFCIRC 734 (Corrected) of September 19, 2008];

Reaffirming our shared belief in a world free of nuclear weapons and the positive steps that can be taken by responsible states with advanced nuclear technology towards that end;

Considering the importance of science and technology for economic and social development and desiring to establish a formal basis for co-operation in scientific and technological research which will extend and strengthen the conduct of cooperative activities in the fields of common interest in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and encourage the application of the results of such co-operation to economic and social benefit;

Recalling their past exchanges on civil nuclear co-operation and taking into account respective national policies, India and the United Kingdom seek to intensify their bilateral scientific and civil nuclear collaboration in accordance with their respective international obligations and commitments;
Reaffirming the strong commitment of the Government of India and the Government of the United Kingdom to disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation including the efficient application of the related safeguards and export control standards under which cooperation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy between India and the United Kingdom should be carried out;

Concluding that they should move ahead on this path;

the Governments of India and the United Kingdom declare that they will:

1. allow the promotion and facilitation of nuclear trade and other commercial activities between India and the United Kingdom relating to civil uses of nuclear energy and taking full account of their respective international commitments and obligations;

2. actively encourage our nuclear scientific institutions (including universities, laboratories and private sector) to establish greater links between Indian and UK nuclear scientific institutions and to develop co-operation in nuclear research and development for civil uses of nuclear energy between themselves or their agencies in areas of mutual interest within the ambit of respective national policies;

3. co-operate in developing human resources in the area of civil nuclear energy;

4. include in the activities specified in Paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Declaration the following areas -

   (a) nuclear science and technology in line with our international obligations and commitments;

   (b) civil nuclear power generation;

   (c) nuclear safety and radiation protection;

   (d) emergency preparedness and response in case of a nuclear accident;

   (e) management of radioactive waste and spent fuel for peaceful and non-explosive civil uses;

   (f) decommissioning of nuclear installations;

   (g) environmental considerations in respect of nuclear energy;

   (h) consultations and co-operation on issues related to physical protection and safeguards in relevant international fora; and
(i) other areas of co-operation as may be mutually decided upon by the Governments of India and the United Kingdom.

5. take forward these activities by all appropriate means, including the possible negotiation of a Nuclear Co-operation Agreement/Memorandum of Understanding, subject to their respective international obligations and commitments.

Done at New Delhi on 11 February, 2010 in the English language.

For the Republic of India

SITARAM BANERJEE,
CHAIRMAN,
ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION &
SECRETARY,
DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY

For the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

SIR RICHARD STAGG,
BRITISH HIGH COMMISSIONER,
NEW DELHI