

## **No. 50254**

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### **Multilateral**

**Framework Agreement for International Collaboration on Research and Development of Generation IV Nuclear Energy Systems (with annex). Washington, 28 February 2005**

**Entry into force:** *28 February 2005, in accordance with article XII*

**Authentic texts:** *English and French*

**Registration with the Secretariat of the United Nations:** *Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, 14 December 2012*

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### **Multilatéral**

**Accord-cadre sur la collaboration internationale en matière de recherche et de développement des systèmes d'énergie nucléaire de génération IV (avec annexe). Washington, 28 février 2005**

**Entrée en vigueur :** *28 février 2005, conformément à l'article XII*

**Textes authentiques :** *anglais et français*

**Enregistrement auprès du Secrétariat des Nations Unies :** *Organisation de coopération et de développement économiques, 14 décembre 2012*

<b>Participant</b>	<b>Ratification, acceptance (A), approval (AA) and definitive signature (s)</b>		
Canada	28 Feb.	2005	s
France	28 Feb.	2005	s
Japan	28 Feb.	2005	s
United States of America	28 Feb.	2005	s

<b>Participant</b>	<b>Ratification, acceptation (A), approbation (AA) et signature définitive (s)</b>		
Canada	28 févr.	2005	s
États-Unis d'Amérique	28 févr.	2005	s
France	28 févr.	2005	s
Japon	28 févr.	2005	s

[ ENGLISH TEXT – TEXTE ANGLAIS ]

**FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT  
FOR  
INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION  
ON RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT OF  
GENERATION IV NUCLEAR ENERGY SYSTEMS**

The Parties to the present Framework Agreement,

**CONSIDERING** the expected increase in energy demand worldwide, and the contribution that the development and deployment of innovative technologies and fuels can make to meet future global energy demand in a sustainable manner;

**CONSIDERING** that collaboration on research and development by many countries on the development of advanced next generation nuclear energy systems will aid progress toward the realization of such systems;

**CONSIDERING** that Parties or their ministries, departments, agencies or other entities have signed a Charter for the Generation IV International Forum (hereinafter referred to as “GIF”) as a basis for international collaboration on research and development for the next generation of nuclear energy systems (hereinafter referred to as “Generation IV Systems”);

**CONSIDERING** that GIF members have created a standing governance structure composed of a Policy Group, Experts Group, and Secretariat, to implement the Charter;

**CONSIDERING** that the GIF has completed “A Technology Roadmap for Generation IV Nuclear Energy Systems: Technical Roadmap Report” (December 2002) (hereinafter referred to as “Technology Roadmap”) which identifies the six most promising Generation IV Systems as well as the research and development necessary to advance these Systems to technical maturity;

**NOTING** that the Generation IV Systems are: Gas-Cooled Fast Reactor System, Lead-Cooled Fast Reactor System, Molten Salt Reactor System, Sodium-Cooled Fast Reactor System, Supercritical-Water-Cooled Reactor System, and Very-High-Temperature Reactor System;

**DESIRING** to facilitate the pursuit of collaborative research and development of the Generation IV Systems by the Parties and their ministries, departments, agencies and other entities, together with the industrial, academic, governmental and non-governmental sectors of the international research community, to advance the Generation IV Systems identified in the Technology Roadmap; and

**NOTING** the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property of 20 March 1883, as revised and amended;

**HAVE AGREED** as follows:

**Article I**  
**Objective**

- 1) The objective of this Framework Agreement is to establish a framework for international collaboration to foster and facilitate achievement of the purpose and vision of the GIF: the development of concepts for one or more Generation IV Systems that can be licensed, constructed, and operated in a manner that will provide a competitively-priced and reliable supply of energy to the country(ies) where such systems may be deployed, while satisfactorily addressing nuclear safety, waste, proliferation and public perception concerns.
- 2) Collaboration under this Framework Agreement shall be conducted only for peaceful purposes and in accordance with non-proliferation objectives and the Parties' international obligations relating thereto; and on the basis of equality, mutual benefit, and reciprocity.

**Article II**  
**Forms of Collaboration**

The forms of collaboration under this Framework Agreement may include, but are not limited to:

- a) joint research and technology development;
- b) exchange of technical information and data on scientific and technical activities and methods and results of research and development;
- c) support for the organization of technological demonstrations;
- d) conduct of joint trials/experiments;
- e) participation of staff (including scientists, engineers, and other specialists) in experiments, analysis, design and other research and development activities conducted at research centres, academic institutions, laboratories and other facilities;
- f) exchange or loan of samples, materials and equipment for experiments, testing and evaluation;
- g) organization of, and participation in, seminars, scientific conferences and other meetings;
- h) monetary contributions to the deployment of necessary experimental facilities; and
- i) training and enhancing the skills of scientists and technical experts.

**Article III**  
**Implementation**

- 1) The Parties shall encourage and facilitate, where appropriate, the development of direct contacts and collaboration between government agencies, academies of science, universities, science and research centres, institutes and institutions, private sector firms, and intergovernmental organizations.
- 2) Each Party shall, upon signature or deposit of an instrument of accession, designate itself or one or more of its ministries, departments, agencies or other entities as its Implementing Agent(s) to accomplish the objective set forth in Article I of this Framework Agreement. The Implementing Agents are identified in the Annex, which constitutes an integral part of this Framework Agreement.

- 3) A Party may designate additional Implementing Agent(s) or change its Implementing Agent(s) by written notification to the Depositary (identified in Article XI). The additional or changed Implementing Agent designations shall take effect in accordance with paragraph 4 of Article XII.

#### **Article IV** **System Arrangements**

- 1) Implementing Agents of two or more Parties may enter into a System Arrangement for each of the six Generation IV Systems identified in the Technology Roadmap; provided, however, that:
  - a) there shall be only one System Arrangement for each Generation IV System; and
  - b) if a Party has more than one Implementing Agent, only one of them may be a signatory to a System Arrangement.
- 2) Each System Arrangement, which shall be consistent with and governed by the provisions of this Framework Agreement, shall establish a framework for collaboration to plan and conduct the research and development work necessary to establish the viability and performance of the Generation IV System concerned.
- 3) Each System Arrangement shall include implementing provisions concerning, *inter alia*:
  - a) collaboration to be undertaken;
  - b) management of the research and development activities undertaken to realize the objective of the GIF;
  - c) financial arrangements;
  - d) protection, use and disclosure of background proprietary information; and
  - e) adequate and effective protection and allocation of intellectual property created or furnished in the course of the collaboration under this Framework Agreement, including provisions for the resolution of disputes concerning intellectual property rights.
- 4) In the event of any inconsistency between a System Arrangement and this Framework Agreement, the provisions of this Framework Agreement shall prevail.

#### **Article V** **Project Arrangements**

- 1) Each System Arrangement will be implemented through one or more Project Arrangements for research and development (R&D) projects designed to contribute to establishment of the viability and performance of the Generation IV System to which the project relates.
- 2) Implementing Agents may be signatories to Project Arrangements. Other entities in the public and private sectors may be signatories to Project Arrangements subject to the unanimous approval of a System Steering Committee to be established by the signatories to each System Arrangement to manage R&D collaboration for each Generation IV System.