The NPT and an Arab Fuel Cycle: Potentials & Challenges

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Without a doubt, developing countries, including the Arab states, face many challenges concerning the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. The IAEA has a major and important role in assisting State parties, particularly developing States, in planning for and using nuclear science and technology. To sustain and further enhance their scientific and technological capabilities, nuclear knowledge sharing and the transfer of nuclear technology to developing countries is of utmost importance, and will contribute to their socio-economic development. There should be an obligation of developed countries to promote the legitimate need of the developing countries to nuclear energy, by fully respecting this right with a view to achieving the widest benefits and applying pertinent elements of sustainable development in their activities, in consistence with article IV of the NPT Treaty. Moreover, the activities of IAEA in the field of technical cooperation, nuclear power and non-power applications contribute in an important way to meeting energy needs, improving human health, including the application of nuclear technology in cancer therapy, combating poverty, protecting the environment, developing agriculture, managing the use of water resources and optimizing industrial processes, contribute to achieving the objectives set forth in the NPT Treaty. Developing an Arab fuel cycle requires closer coordination and harmonization among the Arab stakeholders of the cycle.
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