

EGYPT

1. LOCATION AND CAPABILITY OF NUCLEAR FACILITIES

Egypt acquired its first nuclear reactor from the Soviet Union in 1961. Spent fuel from this reactor, too insignificant for a weapons program, was controlled by the USSR.

In the 1960s, an agreement with the US for the construction of 8 nuclear power plants fell through when the US unilaterally changed the terms of the agreement. This unmaterialized agreement prompted Egypt to sign the NPT in 1968 as a way to receive nuclear technology.

Today, Egypt still does not have operating nuclear power facilities, though Electricity Minister Hassan Youis expects Egypt's first nuclear power plant to be operational by 2010. In addition, Egypt continues serious work on developing nuclear potential designated for use in power engineering, agriculture, medicine, biotechnology, and genetics. <http://www.globalsecurity.org/wmd/world/egypt/nuke.htm>

Research Reactors

Operational: 2

Shut down: 0

Decommissioned: 0

Planned: 0

<http://www.iaea.or.at/worldatom/rpdb/>

Power Reactors- 0

Uranium Mines

Egypt's Nuclear Materials Authority estimates 15,000 tons of untapped uranium in Egypt, with explorations mostly focusing in the Eastern Desert and in Sinai.

<http://www.worldenergy.org/wec-geis/publications/reports/ser/uranium/uranium.asp>

Industrial incorporation of four explored uranium deposits is planned, including the extraction and enrichment of uranium for subsequent use as fuel for nuclear power plants.

<http://www.globalsecurity.org/wmd/world/egypt/nuke.htm>

Egypt is currently working towards the industrial incorporation of uranium deposits, which will involve uranium extraction and enrichment for use in power plants.

<http://www.globalsecurity.org/wmd/world/egypt/nuke.htm>

Fuel Fabrication

Egypt has no declared reprocessing capabilities, though some reprocessing related activities are conducted at the Atomic Energy Authority's facilities, including a site at Inshas.

<http://projects.sipri.se/nuclear/cnsc5egy.htm>

2. FISSILE MATERIAL HOLDINGS

Radioactive waste disposal

A repository for low- and intermediate-level wastes at Inshas was commissioned in 2000.

<http://www.world-nuclear.org/waste/report99/annex2.htm>

3. NUCLEAR ACTIVITIES

Research Centers

Atomic Energy Authority Egyptian Nuclear Energy Authority

ICF: The Inshas Cyclotron Facility

NCCR: The National Center for Radiation Research and Technology

NPPA: Nuclear Materials Authority Nuclear Power Plants Authority

NRC: Nuclear Research Center

http://www.iaea.or.at/inis/ws/nuclear_authorities/egypt.html; <http://projects.sipri.se/nuclear/cnsc5egy.htm>

Nuclear Cooperation

Since 1990 Egypt has been one of eleven members of the Arab Power Engineering Organization. A number of Egyptian scientific projects are carried out under the aegis of the IAEA.

Russia: In early 2005, Egypt and Russia signed a new agreement to revive Egypt's plans for a nuclear power and desalination plant. http://www.world-nuclear.org/news/nl_jan-feb2005.htm

In 1961, Russia provided Egypt with a research reactor. Russia also serviced and supported a research reactor from Argentina, which started up in 1997. A feasibility study for a cogeneration plant for electricity and potable water at El-Dabaa, on the Mediterranean coast, has recently been undertaken.

China, South Korea: Nuclear cooperation agreements (2002) <http://www.world-nuclear.org/nb/nb02/nb0219.htm>

Argentina: In early 1992, a deal was made for Argentina to deliver an additional reactor with a capacity of 22 megawatts to Egypt.

UK, India: Agreements to provide assistance in training national cadres for scientific research and work on the country's atomic enterprises.

<http://www.globalsecurity.org/wmd/world/egypt/nuke.htm>

Jordan: Egypt agreed to assist in establishing a Jordanian Atomic Agency and training for radiological detection and survey staff. <http://www.arabicnews.com/ansub/Daily/Day/010607/2001060735.html>

4. INTERNATIONAL NONPROLIFERATION EFFORTS

Treaties Signed and Ratified, date of deposit

Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, 26 February 1981

Outer Space Treaty, 23 January 1968

Treaty of Pelindaba, not yet deposited

Egypt has not yet signed the IAEA Additional Protocol.

Multilateral Groups

Conference on Disarmament

5. POSITIONS TAKEN IN INTERNATIONAL FORA ON VARIOUS ISSUES OF NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT

Nuclear Weapons: "The main threat to the Middle East, and perhaps adjacent regions as well, flows from the continued acquisition by some of nuclear weapons. While we all agree on the dangers of those weapons, and the need to halt their proliferation, as a step towards their elimination and ridding humanity of the threats they pose, the international community continues to be selective in addressing the question of WMD. The international community seeks to impose a firm regime to monitor the imports of all member states of the nonproliferation regime, among them are all the Arab states. The same international community, however, turns a blind eye at the continued stockpiling of nuclear capabilities by one party in the region." - Statement by H.E. Mr. Ahmed Aboul Gheit, Minister for Foreign Affairs, to the 59th session of the General Assembly, 24 September 2004.

<http://www.un.org/webcast/ga/59/statements/egyeng040924.pdf>

Disarmament: "[a]n unequivocal commitment was undertaken by all NPT States Parties in 2000 to the accomplishment of nuclear disarmament and thirteen steps were agreed upon to lead us to this objec-

tive. The responsibility of the five nuclear weapon States to pursue the elimination of their nuclear arsenals is both a moral and a legal one, and it is within this logic that Egypt... addresses, among other issues, the laxity that has crept into nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation efforts since May 2000.” - **Statement by Counsellor Alaa Isaa addressing the 57th session of the General Assembly First Committee on Disarmament and International Security, 7 October 2002.** <http://www.reachingcriticalwill.org/political/1com/1com02/speeches/2/egy100702.pdf>

Nuclear weapon-free zones: “We welcome the endeavors of the five Central Asian States to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in their region which we hope will add impetus to the establishment of such zones in other areas of the world... we shall continue to pursue...in the General Assembly...a resolution calling for the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free-zone in the Middle East and another that calls upon Israel, the only state in the Middle East that has not yet acceded to the NPT, to accede to the Treaty.”- **Statement by Counsellor Alaa Isaa addressing the 57th session of the General Assembly First Committee on Disarmament and International Security, 7 October 2002.** <http://www.reachingcriticalwill.org/political/1com/1com02/speeches/2/egy100702.pdf>