

## Democratic Republic of Congo

### 1. Location and Capability of Nuclear Facilities

Although the Democratic Republic of Congo has no nuclear power program, its uranium resources have been used by other countries pursuing nuclear weapons programs. Under the Belgian colonial rule Congolese uranium mines provided the necessary material for nuclear bombs dropped by USA on Nagasaki and Hiroshima.

**Power Reactors - 0**

#### **Research Reactors**

Operational - 1: TRICO II

Shut Down - 1: TRICO I

Decommissioned - 0

Under Construction - 0

Planned - 0

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

#### **Uranium Mines**

*Decommissioned (still used for cobalt and copper compounds mining)*

Shinkolobwe

<http://www.antenna.nl/wise/uranium/uddafr.html#CD>

The IAEA suspects that the Shinkolobwe mine is illegally queried and raw uranium exported without adherence to control measures. Currently, IAEA has asked DRK government to provide additional information regarding mining activities at this site.

Under Belgian colonial rule, the Shinkolobwe mine provided uranium for bombs dropped by USA on Nagasaki and Hiroshima.

<http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/L25590601.htm>

Congo has been repeatedly implicated in the illegal transfer and transport of radioactive materials. In March 2004, Congolese authorities seized radioactive shipments of uranium smuggled into the country illegally, bypassing international regulations and violating international conventions.

<http://www.planetark.com/dailynewsstory.cfm/newsid/24428/story.htm>

### 2. Nuclear Activities and Cooperation

#### **Nuclear Cooperation**

*North Korea:* In 1999, sent a team of engineers to the Shinkolobwe mine; engineers were asked to leave under pressure from USA.

<http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/L25590601.htm>

*Iran:* Reportedly sold small numbers of Scud missiles (D & C) to DRK in 1999; missiles were detected by US intelligence at the end of 1999.

<http://www.globalsecurity.org/wmd/world/congo/index.html>

### 3. International Nonproliferation Efforts

#### **Treaties Signed and Ratified, Date of Deposit**

Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty, *not yet deposited*

Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, 4 August 1970

Outer Space Treaty, *not yet deposited*

Partial Test Ban Treaty, 28 October 1965

Pelindaba Treaty, *not yet deposited*

DRC has not yet signed the IAEA Additional Protocol.

### 4. Positions Taken in International Fora on Various Issues of Nuclear Disarmament

When representatives of the DRC have spoken in disarmament fora the focus has been on small arms.