Mexico

1. Location and Capability of Nuclear Facilities

The two operational power reactors in Mexico provide for 0.6% of Mexico's energy consumption, with 72.3% derived from crude oil and condensates. With such a heavy dependence on hydrocarbon fuels, the Mexican government implemented an energy policy based on four pillars:

- Structural reform of energy sector
- Modernization of public utilities
- Environmental protection
- Conservation

The IAEA reports that diversification has been heavily promoted, including the promotion of geothermal energy, nuclear energy, and solar and wind energy for rural areas isolated from the electrical grid.
http://www-pub.iaea.org/MTCD/publications/PDF/cnpp2002/Documents/Documents/Mexico%202002.pdf

Power Reactors
Operational- 2: Laguna Verde 1 and 2

Research Reactors
Operational- 3: (Chicago Modelo 9000; Nuclear Chicago Mod 2000; Sur-100 UNAM; Triga Mark III)
Shut down- 0
Decommissioned- 1
Planned- 0
Under Construction- 0

Uranium Mines
There are currently no operating uranium mines in Mexico, although the IAEA estimates that 2,000 tons of untapped uranium reserves remain in the country, but are too expensive to exploit.

2. Fissile Material Holdings

Cumulative Plutonium Discharges from Civilian Power Reactors: 2.2 metric tons

Radioactive Waste Management
In the absence of a long-term storage option, all spent nuclear fuel is stored in the reactor's pools, which have been "re-racked" in order to increase the pools' original capacity.
http://www-pub.iaea.org/MTCD/publications/PDF/cnpp2002/Documents/Documents/Mexico%202002.pdf

According to the IAEA the repository for all low and intermediate level wastes will be closed in the near future "to avoid social problems due to the population growth in the vicinity."

A storage facility for LLW and ILW is currently being examined at the Laguna Verde Plant, based on the "triple barrier" design of France.

3. Nuclear Activities

Research Programs
ININ: The National Institute of Nuclear Research
IIE: The Electric Research Institute

All research and development activities are carried out jointly with other countries, including the U.S. and Cuba.

Nuclear Cooperation Programs
The main components of the Laguna Verde plant were acquired abroad, mainly from the U.S. Operator training for the Laguna Verde plant was held in Spain and the U.S., although now training is done locally.

Mexico has a long-term contract with France to convert concentrated hexafluoride to useable hexafluoride.

Mexico also has a long term contract with the U.S.'s DoE, which provides all necessary enrichment processes and fuel fabrication is done by General Electric. A variety of other corporations, including Siemens, are involved in fuel assemblies at Laguna Verde.

On February 28, 1992, Mexico signed a bilateral agreement with Australia concerning cooperation in peaceful (sic) uses of nuclear energy and the transfer of nuclear material.

4. International Nonproliferation Efforts

Treaties Signed and Ratified, date of deposit
APM Convention, 9 June 1998
Biological Weapons convention, 8 April 1974
Certain Conventional Weapons Convention, 11 February 1982
Chemical Weapons Convention, 29 August 1994
Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, 5 October, 1999
Inter-American Convention on Transparency, 7 June 1999
Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, 21 January 1969
Outer Space Treaty, 31 January 1969
Partial Test Ban Treaty 27 December 1963
Sea Bed Treaty, 23 March 1984
Treaty of Tlatelolco, 20 September 1967
Mexico signed the Additional Protocol in March, 2004.

Multilateral Groups
Conference on Disarmament
Hague Code of Conduct

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

Multilateralism and disarmament: "We firmly believe in the progressive development of international law as the best way to promote international peace and security, especially in the field of arms limitation, disarmament and non-proliferation. We also strongly believe that this draft resolution, while lacking an explicit reference to it, only reinforces our conviction on the necessity to redouble our efforts to multilaterally strengthen the international legal architecture in this field, and that we should endeavor ourselves in ensuring a virtuous circle between compliance and the negotiation and conclusion of additional agreements on arms limitations, disarmament and non-proliferation."- **Explanation of Vote on draft GA resolution 57/L.54, "Compliance with arms limitation and disarmament and non proliferation agreements," 23 October 2002.**

Nuclear disarmament: "La trayectoria de mi país en material de desarme se basa en la firma convicción de que la mera existencia de las armas nucleares representa una seria amenaza para la paz y la seguridad internacionales. El desarme nuclear sigue siendo prioritario, y lo seguira siendo en tanto no se logre la eliminación total de esos artefactos de destrucción masiva." – **Mexican Ambassador to the CD, March 16, 2004.**