

13th GIF-IAEA Interface Meeting

Opening Remarks

Monday, 18 March 2019, 09:30

Vienna, Austria

C Building, 7th Floor, C-6

Mikhail Chudakov

Deputy Director General and

Head of the Department of Nuclear Energy

INPRO Project Manager



IAEA

International Atomic Energy Agency

Dear Participants, Colleagues, **KAMIDE-San**,

A very good morning!

On behalf of the International Atomic Energy Agency, I warmly welcome you all to the 13th GIF-IAEA Interface Meeting.

We have participants from the Member States, the European Commission and the secretariat of the Generation IV International Forum, Of course we have colleagues from my Department of Nuclear Energy and from the Department of Nuclear Safety and Security and the Department of Safeguards.

This meeting is an excellent venue to exchange information on next generation reactor development activities and to review the status of cooperation between the GIF and the IAEA.....

For many years, this interface meeting focused on the synergies between the IAEA INPRO Project and GIF. But over time, more collaboration activities were identified on advanced reactor technologies, falling within the scope of our Nuclear Power Technology Development Section (NPTDS). Cooperation then expanded into several areas including economic analysis, nuclear safety, security and safeguards. We have therefore concluded that the name "GIF-IAEA interface meeting" reflects this reality better than "INPRO-GIF Interface Meeting". And thus, since 2018, the GIF-IAEA Interface Meetings are organized jointly by our INPRO Section and the Nuclear Power Technology Development Section.

At this meeting, we will look into action items from the last Interface Meeting held in March 2018, and into possible new areas of cooperation.

We look forward to hearing about the progress in the development of 6 advanced reactor concepts under GIF. And our presentations will focus on our activities in the IAEA, particularly those of the Nuclear Power Technology Development Section.

Interest in Small Modular Reactors continue to grow and many of these reactor designs are based on the advanced reactor technologies we will discuss this week. For example

- the IAEA will conduct a Technical Meeting on the Benefits and Challenges of Fast Reactors of SMR Type in September, and
- the joint ICTP/IAEA workshop in October will be on Physics and Technology of Innovative High Temperature Nuclear Energy Systems.

Dear Colleagues,

We further look forward to discussing cooperation in several cross-cutting areas, such as the opportunities and challenges for advanced nuclear reactors in future power markets. In line with Sustainable Development Goal 7 on "affordable & clean energy", it is clear that nuclear energy can play a huge role that will help Member States achieve the other goals. Here, I should mention one of our prime events for the year, the 'International Conference on Climate Change and the Role of Nuclear Power', which we will host in October. The event will also highlight that advanced reactor technologies also have an important future role to play.

I also take note of the Eighth Joint IAEA–GIF Technical Meeting on the Safety of Liquid Metal Cooled Fast Reactors that will take place later this week. A similar cooperation, but on High Temperature Gas Cooled Reactors, may be initiated with a first meeting proposed by the end of this year.

Ladies & Gentlemen,

The Interface Meetings held so far testify to continued mutual interest and steady cooperation between GIF and the IAEA. This dialogue creates an important link between the Agency's diverse efforts to support Member States and an important international R&D collaboration among several leading nuclear technology nations.

I appreciate contributions from the Department of Nuclear Safety and Security, and the Department of Safeguards. We hope that our efforts to expand the scope of cooperation topics to be explored will also bear good fruit. This diversity and input make this meeting certainly more informative and productive.

Hoping that our discussions over the next two days strengthen the cooperation between GIF and the IAEA, I wish you all a successful meeting and a pleasant stay in Vienna.....

Thank you!



*Hideki Kamide was elected **Chair of the GIF Policy Group** for the period 2019-2021, succeeding Francois Gauché in this role. He was previously Vice Chair of the Policy Group. He is the Deputy Director General of the Sector for Fast Reactor and Advanced Reactor Research and Development at the Japan Atomic Energy Agency.*