

DAILY TRACKER

NUCLEAR ISSUES

1. Canadian Nuclear Laboratories (CNL), Canada's premier nuclear science and technology organization, is pleased to announce that it has issued a call for proposals for the third round of its Canadian Nuclear Research Initiative (CNRI) program. Launched in 2019, the CNRI program was established by CNL to accelerate the deployment of small modular reactor (SMRs) and advanced reactor (AR) designs, including next-generation on-grid reactors and fusion technologies. The deadline for this round of submissions is December 22, 2021, and projects will be selected in the spring of 2022.

Source: <https://www.globenewswire.com/news-release/2021/09/29/2305598/0/en/CNL-Issues-Call-for-Proposals-for-Canadian-Nuclear-Research-Initiative.html> **29 September 2021**

2. The new law, approved by a large majority in the Chamber of Deputies on 16 September, allows a state-owned company to purchase electricity from new nuclear plants at a fixed rate for at least 30 years, with the possibility of extension. The power will be resold on the wholesale market and any profit or loss translated into an adjustment to power bills, although the government said it will set an upper limit on any extra cost. It is known as *Lex Dukovany*, after the power plant site where a new build is planned. Zeman officially signed the law yesterday, bringing it into effect. The Czech government and the International Energy Agency have both said this addresses market failures that inhibit the construction of both nuclear and renewable capacity.

Source: <https://world-nuclear-news.org/Articles/Czech-support-for-nuclear-becomes-law> **29 September 2021**

3. The ruling Liberal Democratic Party of Japan (LDP) today picked ex-foreign minister Fumio Kishida as its new party head and imminent Japanese premier, who is in favour of restarting safe nuclear reactors and considering replacing ageing reactors to push ahead with the country's 2050 carbon-neutral goal. Kishida beat current vaccine minister Taro Kono in today's run-off election, after all four candidates failed to secure a majority in the first round of voting. Kishida is likely to be appointed Japan's new premier on 4 October when an extraordinary session of the diet will be held, replacing current premier Yoshihide Suga.

Source: <https://www.argusmedia.com/en/news/2258608-japans-potential-new-premier-supports-nuclear-power> **29 September 2021**

4. Iran on Wednesday stated that beyond its obligations, cooperation with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) is voluntary, Mehr news agency reported. The source quoted statements by Iranian Representative to the IAEA Kazem Gharibabadi, who reiterated that expanding inspections at nuclear sites of his country depends on the UN atomic agency's conduct.

Source: <https://thebulletin.org/2021/09/ready-aim-fired-can-biden-rescue-the-nuclear-posture-review/> 29 September 2021

NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION

1. The Chinese envoy to the United Nations on Monday expounded Beijing's position regarding the recent cooperation of "relevant countries "on nuclear submarines and urged them "to faithfully fulfill their international nuclear nonproliferation obligations". Zhang Jun, China's permanent representative to the UN, told a Security Council high-level meeting on the nonproliferation of weapons of mass destruction that China opposes double standards on nuclear nonproliferation issues. Both the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty, or CTBT, and the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, or NPT, are important pillars of the international nuclear disarmament and nuclear nonproliferation regime.

Source: <http://www.ecns.cn/news/2021-09-29/detail-iharmkpe0572463.shtml> 29 September 2021

2. The new Taliban-led administration in Afghanistan has inherited an entire nation to run, and with it a wide range of responsibilities, one of them being a fledgling peaceful nuclear agency established a decade ago under the previous government. With the naming of a new atomic chief, the Taliban appears poised to press forward in this field. That has raised questions as to whether the Islamic Emirate could seek to militarize nuclear energy to develop a weapon of mass destruction, though experts remain deeply skeptical of such an endeavor at this juncture.

Source: <https://www.newsweek.com/naming-new-atomic-chief-nuclear-taliban-possible-1633694> 29 September 2021

MISSILES/BIO WEAPONS



1. North Korea has claimed that it successfully tested a new hypersonic missile called Hwasong-8 on Tuesday. State media said the new missile was one of the "five most important" new weapons systems laid out in its five-year military development plan. They called the missile a "strategic weapon", which usually means it has nuclear capabilities. Tuesday's launch is another indication of Pyongyang's growing weapons technology amid strict sanctions. "The development of this weapons system...[has increased] the nation's capabilities for self-defence in every way," North Korean state news outlet KCNA said. Tuesday's launch also saw North Korea introduce missile fuel ampoules for the first time - described by North Korea analyst Ankit Panda as a "significant milestone".

Source: <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-58729701> 29 September 2021

2. North Korea on Tuesday claimed to have tested the hypersonic Hwasong-8 missile which is a cause of worry to the world, particularly in east Asia. Here we try to understand why there is a need for any country to worry about North Korea testing a missile. If North Korea can successfully produce and deploy a hypersonic weapon, analysts say it could even change the military equation in the region. Before we delve into the answer let us first understand what is a hypersonic missile and how it functions? Experts are of the opinion that the hypersonic missile North Korea claims to have tested on Tuesday has the potential to be one of the world's fastest and most accurate weapons. This missile can be fitted with a nuclear warhead.

Source: <https://www.flightglobal.com/fixed-wing/darpas-hawc-scrumjet-missile-goes-hypersonic-in-successful-test/145647.article> 29 September 2021

3. North Korea on Tuesday tested a hypersonic "glide vehicle" – a projectile boosted to high altitude or even into space before detaching from its rocket and manoeuvring to a target using its wings while hurtling to earth at colossal speed, according to state news reports.

Source: <https://www.thenationalnews.com/world/us-news/2021/09/29/missiles-from-a-falling-box-and-hypersonic-flight-us-steps-up-arms-testing/> 29 September 2021

4. CHINA carried out Nazi-style bioweapons and nuclear experiments on "human Guinea pigs", a defector has claimed in a bombshell new book. The Communist Party are alleged to have sanctioned sick tests such as infecting people with diseases and exposing them to nuclear radiation during the 1960s.



Source:<https://www.thesun.co.uk/news/16276931/china-nazi-style-experiments-human-guinea-pigs/> 29 September 2021

UN REFORMS

1. But Tor Wennesland also asked for a greater effort by the international community to address the “worrying situation on the ground”, including negative trends in the Occupied Palestinian Territory and fragile conditions inside the Hamas-controlled Gaza Strip. “We must re-energize efforts now to establish a legitimate political horizon that will end the occupation in line with relevant United Nations resolutions, international law and bilateral agreements in pursuit of achieving the vision of two States,” the Special Coordinator said. Mr. Wennesland was presenting his briefing on the implementation of Security Council resolution 2334 (2016), covering the period from 12 June to 27 September.

Source:<https://www.firstpost.com/india/india-at-un-security-council-meet-isis-hayat-tahrir-al-sham-terrorist-groups-gaining-strength-in-syria-10011001.html> 29 September 2021

2. United Nations aid chief Martin Griffiths said on Tuesday he assumes famine has taken hold in Ethiopia's Tigray where a nearly three-month long "de-facto blockade" has restricted aid deliveries to 10% of what is needed in the war-torn region.

Source:<https://www.reuters.com/world/africa/un-aid-chief-ethiopia-famine-tigray-get-those-trucks-moving-2021-09-28/> 29 September 2021

3. The U.N. special envoy for Syria announced Tuesday that invitations have been issued for a sixth meeting of the committee charged with producing a new constitution for war-torn Syria in October. After the failure of the five previous meetings of Syrian government, opposition and civil society representatives, Geir Pedersen told the U.N. Security Council: “We should all now expect the constitutional committee to begin to work seriously on a process of drafting — not just preparing — a constitutional reform.” “If it does that, then we will have a different and credible constitutional process,” he said.

Source:<https://apnews.com/article/europe-geneva-united-nations-constitutions-8a2e58297a5c4a80a3123c828937da09> 29 September 2021

4. World leaders thanked India for its help and support in combating the coronavirus pandemic through "early and meaningful" shipments of COVID-19 vaccine doses, as they addressed the high-level UN General Assembly session this year. Several world leaders expressed their gratitude to India and other nations for the help provided through exports of vaccines and other critical medical supplies in their national statements at the 76th UNGA session's General Debate that ran through September 21-27.



RED
LANTERN
ANALYTICA

29 Sep 2021

Source: <https://www.ndtv.com/india-news/at-high-level-un-meet-world-leaders-thank-india-for-covid-19-vaccine-shipments-2558088> *29 September 2021*