

IAEA reaffirms peaceful nature of Iran's nuclear energy program

By [Global Research](#)

Global Research, February 26, 2011

Mehr News Agency 26 February 2011

Region: [Middle East & North Africa](#)
In-depth Report: [IRAN: THE NEXT WAR?](#)

The International Atomic Energy Agency has once again confirmed the peaceful nature of Iran's nuclear energy program.

In an IAEA report issued on Friday, the agency reaffirmed that Iran's nuclear program has never been diverted to nuclear weapons production, the Press TV correspondent in Vienna reported.

But the report still says Tehran must halt its uranium enrichment activities, as demanded by four United Nations Security Council resolutions.

Iran's ambassador to the IAEA, Ali Asghar Soltanieh, stated that the demand is politically motivated, saying, "When all nuclear activities are accounted for and there is no diversion to military purposes... then what is the justification for referring to an old obsolete request of suspension."

The report also claimed that Iran has not been abiding by some of its obligations, an allegation Iran strongly rejects.

Soltanieh told Press TV that all nuclear activities in Iran are under the full-scope safeguards of the IAEA and that Tehran has been cooperating with the agency far beyond its legal obligations.

"The report is on the implementation of safeguards in Iran and therefore those parts referring to other things, like the Security Council or the Additional Protocol, are beyond the mandate of such a report," the Iranian envoy said.

The report also maintains that Iran's nuclear facilities have not been affected by the Stuxnet computer virus since the country's production of low-enriched uranium is higher than it was last fall.

In July 2010, media reports claimed that Stuxnet had targeted industrial computers around the globe, with Iran being the main target of the attack. They said the Bushehr nuclear power plant was at the center of the cyber attack.

The document, prepared by IAEA Director General Yukiya Amano, is a prelude to the upcoming IAEA Board of Governors meeting, which opens on March 7.

On June 9, 2010, the UN ratified a US-engineered resolution imposing new sanctions on Iran

over the allegations that Tehran is concealing a clandestine nuclear weapons program.

Tehran has vehemently rejected the allegations of diversion, saying it needs nuclear energy to meet its growing domestic demand for electricity and to provide fuel for the Tehran research reactor, which produces medical isotopes for cancer treatment.

Iran is a signatory to the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and thus has the right to enrich uranium to produce fuel.

80% of report confirms Iran's cooperation with IAEA

Soltanieh also told the Mehr News Agency on Saturday that 80 percent of the report confirms that Iran is cooperating with the IAEA.

"For the 26th time, the IAEA confirmed that there is no diversion in Iran's nuclear program," he stated, adding that the good point about the IAEA report is that it is comprised of two parts.

"Over the past eight years... this is the first time that the format of the report of the IAEA director general has changed and the report is comprised of two parts. One part is devoted to Iran's commitments under the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and shows that Iran's (nuclear) activities... are under the safeguards agreement," he said.

"The second part contains the requirements stated by Amano based on the UN sanctions resolution, while we... have many times proved that the sanctions lack legal weight and must not be implemented," Soltanieh added.

Soltanieh also stated that the report says Iran is not reprocessing plutonium, but the latest UN sanctions resolution requires Iran to halt the reprocessing of plutonium and this indicates that the UN sanctions resolution is contradictory.

The original source of this article is Mehr News Agency
Copyright © [Global Research](#), Mehr News Agency, 2011

[Comment on Global Research Articles on our Facebook page](#)

[Become a Member of Global Research](#)

Articles by: [Global Research](#)

Disclaimer: The contents of this article are of sole responsibility of the author(s). The Centre for Research on Globalization will not be responsible for any inaccurate or incorrect statement in this article. The Centre of Research on Globalization grants permission to cross-post Global Research articles on community internet sites as long the source and copyright are acknowledged together with a hyperlink to the original Global Research article. For publication of Global Research articles in print or other forms including commercial internet sites, contact: publications@globalresearch.ca

www.globalresearch.ca contains copyrighted material the use of which has not always been specifically authorized by the copyright owner. We are making such material available to our readers under the provisions of "fair use" in an effort to advance a better understanding of political, economic and social issues. The material on this site is distributed without profit to those who have expressed a prior interest in receiving it for research and educational purposes. If you wish to use copyrighted

material for purposes other than "fair use" you must request permission from the copyright owner.

For media inquiries: publications@globalresearch.ca